

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you had a welcome change of pace over the holiday break and some time together without having to balance learning from home with other demands.

Term 4 returns with learning from home

As our school is in an LGA that is still under stay-at-home rules we will continue to learn from home for the start of Term 4. It is important that you continue to keep your children home if you are able to work from home. While we are planning for our return to face-to-face learning and our teachers are completing their COVID-19 vaccinations there will only be minimal supervision for students on site and all students will be provided with the same work as they would be completing at home.

I know we are all excited about the coming freedoms available to those in NSW but I ask every family to hold on just a few weeks if your child is able to continue to work from home, to give us the time we need to complete our planning for your child's safe return.

Return to school roadmap for Term 4

In Term 4, where stay-at-home rules are still in place but high community vaccination and low transmission conditions are met, students will return to school in a staggered approach for prioritised cohorts, with no mingling or on-site activities.

In the majority of schools students will return to face-to-face learning with NSW Health-approved COVID-safe [Level 3 plus](#) settings on school sites in the following order as announced by the Premier on 30 September:

- **From 18 October 2021: Year 12 for HSC examinable subjects only (optional attendance)**
- **From 25 October 2021: Year 11 (Year 12-2022)**
- **From 1 November 2021: Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.**

Tomaree High School

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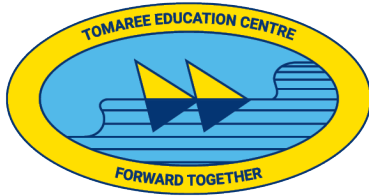
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The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order and additional advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent advice on the Department site [Advice for families page](#).

For those families who have siblings across year groups I know it will be difficult to keep some at home while others are back on site. But to re-iterate the message above – we need this time to prepare our school and operations for having all our students back so it's essential that you only send your children to school in line with our set plan.

HSC

From the beginning of Term 4, Year 12/HSC students can continue to attend school for revision, learning and wellbeing support and to have access to their teachers in a limited way.

We'd like to remind our students and families that from 18 October, all Year 12(2021) and HSC students will have access to school campuses and their teachers. This will support them in the lead up to their exams.

HSC exams will proceed for all students from 9 November 2021 in a COVID-safe way, in line with NSW Health advice.

Learning from Home

For families who are continuing to learn from home, [the learning from home page](#) has a wide range of curriculum-based activities to further support your child's learning, if needed.

Thank you again for your understanding and support during what is going to be both an exciting, but also potentially an anxious time over the coming Term.

Please take some time to check out the site: [wellbeing resources for students and families](#). You'll find useful tools for mental health and Term 4 preparation. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for the return to face-to-face learning or if you have any concerns about the return to school.

We are spending the first week back at school finalising our COVID-safe plans for a return to face-to-face learning and I hope to share these plans with you in the coming week. This will

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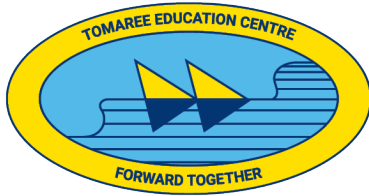
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include information on possible staggered start and finish times for the first weeks while we settle in and canteen ordering to reduce mingling and other actions that may be required to meet the requirements.

I have received some emails from parents concerned that the school has mandated vaccinations for students. Information previously sent was for you to make your own decision based on your own family needs, with no expectation and I am sorry if it appeared that way - that was not the intent. Many families have appreciated the access to a vaccine, others do not wish to - it is up to you to decide. I need to be very clear - there is no program of vaccination for any student. The only mandated vaccination is for staff under the recent Public Health Order. I also understand that some may not agree with that order, but again it is not a school-based decision.

Should the situation change and we return even earlier, I will let you know as soon as I know - although the information released through social media is often at the same time as I am advised. In the meantime, I look forward to the 1 November when we have all students back on site.

Yours sincerely

Sue Xenos | Principal

6 October 2021

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