



# PARENT BULLETIN

## AUGUST 2019

### Upcoming Events

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Aug 5-6   | Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing                |
| Aug 5-9   | Chinese Study Tour Visiting                      |
| Aug 6     | P&C Meeting                                      |
| Aug 6-7   | SSW Athletics                                    |
| Aug 6-8   | In the Spotlight Drama Festival                  |
| Aug 7     | Year Assemblies                                  |
| Aug 8     | Recognition Assemblies Year 9-10                 |
| Aug 8-9   | Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing                |
| Aug 9     | Recognition Assemblies Year 7-8                  |
| Aug 9     | Year 8 Pathways to Dreaming Workshop             |
| Aug 12    | HSC Dance Marking Begins                         |
| Aug 14    | Dance Calendar Photos                            |
| Aug 14    | 7-12 Assembly                                    |
| Aug 14    | HSC Dance  |
| Aug 15    | Jeans for Genes Mufti Day                        |
| Aug 16    | Year 9/10 Pathways to Dreaming Workshop          |
| Aug 16    | HSC Minimum Standards Testing Year 11            |
| Aug 19    | VET Awards Ceremony                              |
| Aug 19    | Minimum Standards Catch Up Day Year 11           |
| Aug 19    | RSPCA Cupcake Sale                               |
| Aug 20-23 | EHS Snow Trip                                    |
| Aug 20    | Pathways to Dreaming Mentor Visit                |
| Aug 21    | 7-12 Assembly                                    |
| Aug 26    | Narellan AECG Meeting                            |
| Aug 28    | Year Assemblies                                  |
| Sep 2     | Emergency Evacuation Drill                       |
| Sep 3     | P&C Meeting                                      |
| Sep 3     | Dance Transition                                 |
| Sep 4-6   | CHS Athletics                                    |
| Sep 4     | 7-12 Assembly                                    |
| Sep 6     | Final date for HSC & Determination Notifications |
| Sep 6     | Year 12 Business Studies Conference              |

*See back page for more details*

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### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to Term 3!

#### Staffing News

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Jennifer Villanueva to our team. Mrs Villanueva joins us as Relieving Deputy Principal and will be an excellent complement to our current Senior Executive. Like many schools, Elderslie High School is adding to our staffing with the appointment of a third Deputy Principal and at this stage, Mrs Villanueva will be with us for the rest of the year. She will be working closely with Year 7 and Year 10 in particular.

As many parents would know, we farewelled Mr Robert Hall at the end of Week 1. Mr Hall had been with us for four years as a teacher of Technological and Applied Studies (Industrial Arts). We are very fortunate to have been able to secure the services of Mr Peter Dettino to take his place in a temporary capacity. Mr Dettino is a highly experienced teacher who brings a wealth of knowledge to our school.

#### Student Success

As we approach Education Week in Week 3, we were thrilled to learn that one of our outstanding Year 11 students, Breanna Craig was selected for the highly prestigious Secretary for a Day program. The Secretary for a Day program gives the opportunity to a handful of very select students from across the state to shadow senior Department staff and participate in planning forums where the perspectives of students are heard. Breanna had to go through a very intense selection process. We know that Breanna's articulate and thoughtful ideas will be a big hit as she rubs shoulders with some illustrious company.

#### HSC Minimum Standard Testing

As many parents will remember, the NSW government has introduced an HSC Minimum Standard which students must reach before their HSC credential is released. The HSC Minimum Standard is part of an effort to improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes of students. From 2020, students in NSW will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive their HSC. The HSC Minimum Standard is a way of supporting and ensuring students have a functional level of literacy and numeracy. In coming weeks, our Year 10 and 11 students will participate in an information session about the Minimum Standard with their Deputy Principals. I have included a fact sheet about the HSC Minimum Standard for your information in this bulletin.

**Chinese Study Tour**

In Week 3, Elderslie High School will welcome a group of 11 Chinese students and their teachers for a study tour. Students and staff will billet these students and give them a taste of both school and family life in Australia. Elderslie High School is most fortunate to have an opportunity to host these Chinese students and we firmly believe that such experiences are also great for our students. We look forward to their arrival. I would like to thank Mr Tan and Ms Dokmanovic for all their hard work in preparing for these students.

**Parent & Citizens Association**

Our next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 6 at 7pm in the library. All parents are welcome and we encourage you to come to find out about school related issues that may impact your child.

Kind regards,

**Mrs Jenny Lawrence**

**FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS****Natalie Martin (DP Years 8, 10 & 12)****Edrolo**

The school has organised a free trial of EDROLO for all of Term 3 for all students in Year 11 and 12.

**What is Edrolo?**

Edrolo is a comprehensive, online, interactive video and exam simulation resource for Year 11 and HSC students. This resource will be a fantastic tool for our senior students. You can see Edrolo in action by visiting this link: [edrolo.com.au/parents/](http://edrolo.com.au/parents/)

**How will our students and teachers use Edrolo?**

We will use Edrolo as a tool to further enhance what our teachers are doing day-to-day.

Our teachers have been provided with training on how to best utilise the resource, and you should expect them to guide students to make full use of Edrolo in a range of ways across the year, including:

- holiday homework;
- pre-class work;
- post-class consolidation;
- assessment preparation; and
- exam revision.

We are actively communicating with students regarding how to access Edrolo.

Edrolo is an outstanding support resource, providing our students with the best opportunity to perform to their potential.

**Parent Teacher Night**

The whole school parent teacher night was held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July. This was an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's academic progress after they received their reports at the end of Term 2. A large number of students from Year 7-12 with their parents attended this evening.

**Year 8 and 10**

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July Year 8 and Year 10 participated in an information session delivered by our New Police Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Mel Sumerta. The information focus for each group was the safe and responsible use of mobile phones. Year 8 were reminded of the concerns that exist in society around students sending or receiving inappropriate images or photographs while Year 10 were reminded about harassment or bullying online. Parents also need to discuss appropriate use of mobile phones with their children. If students repeatedly fail to follow the school mobile phone procedures they will be given consequences for their actions by the school.

**Year 12**

Year 12 students should have received their Trial HSC results from their teacher. It is very important that all students take on board the feedback provided by their teachers in order to achieve the results they are capable of achieving in the HSC. Miss Wilson is our Senior Studies Mentor who is available in private study periods to assist students with academic and emotional support. Students can access support from their Year Adviser, the Head Teacher Secondary Studies or myself for any academic, social or emotional concern.

**Joanne Amos (DP Years 7, 9 & 11)****Mobile Phone Policy Update**

We have recently made some changes to update the school's Mobile Phone Policy to include an opening statement to refer to current types of technology, streamline the format of the document so that it is easier to read and include classroom procedures that are aligned to current practice. A more detailed update of the policy will occur in the future when further Department of Education recommendations from the review led by Dr Michael Carr-Gregg are released. A copy of the updated Mobile Phone Policy is now available on the school's website.

**School Uniform & Clothing Pool**

Students are regularly reminded at whole school assemblies to wear the correct school uniform. With the cooler weather students need to dress to keep warm by wearing layers of the school uniform and under no circumstances are hoodies permitted. Our school policy if a student is out of uniform is to swap it with a piece of clothing from a clothing pool if a suitable item is available. Students are required to comply with this procedure, as it fosters a positive school learning environment.

Some boys have been seen wearing the old khaki shorts or pants with elasticised ankles, which **are not** school uniform and should not be worn to school. If your child has grown out of their uniform, new items can be purchased from our school uniform shop or online at the following website:

<http://www.daylightsportswear.com/elderslie/>

Parents can refer to the school website for more information about our policy and uniform shop opening hours. The link below is the online ordering for the uniform shop.

If any families have items of school uniform that they have outgrown, please consider donating the items to the school clothing pool by leaving them at the student office. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Kind Regards,  
**Joanne Amos**

### Jennifer Villanueva (DP 7, 10)

I'd like to introduce myself to Elderslie High School staff, students, parents and carers and thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful school community. I have 27 years of teaching experience and I am a passionate teacher of Science. I am very much looking forward to supporting the wellbeing and learning of students of Years 7 and 10 in my role as Deputy Principal and to working with the students of 70 as my first teaching class at Elderslie High School! I am sure they will teach me the ropes of how the school runs and have it on good authority that they are a lovely group of students.

My first experience with students at Elderslie High School was in fact, quite surprising to me. When introduced at the morning assembly by Mrs Lawrence, the students spontaneously broke into applause to welcome me. They then clapped again when prompted by Mrs Lawrence. After the assembly I helped to supervise the Year 7 students getting their new timetables and introduced myself to them, offering for them to come and talk to me in the playground or if they saw me walking around the buildings or in the office. I again got another resounding clap and when the group was dismissed, I had a number of students come up to me to say hello. This may not seem like much, but to be honest, I was very surprised and pleased with the beautiful manners and accepting, welcoming nature of the EHS students. Well done parents/carers! You have raised lovely children. I am really happy to be a part of this school community, to be able to support the wellbeing and personal growth of students in Years 7 and 10 throughout their years of learning here at Elderslie High School.

**Mrs Jennifer Villanueva**

### Public Speaking & Debating Update

Congratulations to Breanna Craig from Year 11 on her fantastic effort in the **Quota Club of Macarthur Student of the Year** event held at the Camden Civic Centre on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019.



Congratulations to Hanan Maraboui and Claire Stanley from Year 8 on their selection to host for the **In The Spotlight Drama Festival** at NIDA Parade Theatres in August. Well done to both girls!

**The Year 11 Debating Team**, consisting of Lachlan Taylor, Cassandra McMurdo, Breanna Craig and Taylor Sheridan won their Round 1 Debate against Hurlstone Agricultural High School, their Round 2 Debate against Elizabeth Macarthur High School and their Round 3 Debate against



Sarah Redfern High School. Good luck to the team in the State Quarter Finals!

**The Year 9 & 10 Teams** have completed their workshop and are ready for their round debates in the next couple of weeks.

**Year 7 & 8 Debating teams** will be starting their 2019 campaign in the next few weeks. So stay tuned for updates on our progress!

Best of luck to all of our teams in the coming weeks!!

**Ms Dennis**



## CAPA Update

On Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019 the **Year 12 CAPA** students presented their HSC performances and projects to an audience of parents and friends.

The **next CAPA Evening will be Year 7 & 8 on Thursday, 26th September 2019**. Please come along and support the Music, Visual Arts classes, as well as the Dance Ensemble and Junior Drama Ensemble.

The **CAPA Calendar Photo Day** will be on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 for all students involved in a CAPA Ensemble.

The **Speaking 4 The Planet** is an annual event held by the local council. The competition was held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at the Australian Botanical Gardens. This year Estelle Hollinshead and Zayne Lewis from Year 10 and Chloe Pasterfield, Charlotte Inglis and Allyra Rodriguez from Year 9 represented Elderslie High School in the Drama section. Thank you to Bree Barlow, Jeremiah Armstrong and Grace Davies from Year 8 for their beautiful artworks.



The **Shakespeare Carnival** was held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Jamieson High School. Congratulations to Estelle Hollinshead, Zayne Lewis, Lachlan Lane, Kirra Vandersteen, Liv Carter-Smith and Katelyn Sinclair on their fantastic effort. Our students tried very hard to tackle the difficult Shakespearean language to compete in the festival.



**Elderslie High School's Dance Spectacular** will be held on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in the School Hall from 7.00pm. Tickets will be on sale at the door. Our Partner Primary Schools will be invited to see the show during Period 3 on that day and the whole school will be invited to attend during Period 4. This is an event not to miss!

Late in June, the Dance Company represented Elderslie High School at the **In The Spotlight Dance Festival** at the Seymour Centre. The students performed extremely well and enjoyed the experience. Thank you to Miss Rysko for her support of the group. (Add Photo)

On Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019 the Dance Ensemble and Dance Company are performing in the **Sydney Eisteddfod** at the Science Theatre, University of NSW. Best of luck to both groups in NSW's number one eisteddfod.

Congratulations to our Year 10 Drama students and the Camden Network Year 11 Drama class on their selection for the **In The Spotlight Drama Festival** at NIDA Parade Theatres in August. The students are very excited to present their pieces titled "Eeny, Meeny, Miny Moe" and "Shakespeare's Philosophers" on the evening.

Girls in the **Vocal Ensemble need to finalise their skirt orders by the end of the term**. See Ms Prigg for the Order Form. We are looking forward to seeing the ensembles all dressed up and ready to perform.

The **HSC CAPA Practical Examinations** are approaching. Good luck to all the Year 12 students involved.

### CAPA Faculty

## Catching Up With Our Alumni

### Miss Lysaught Class of 2005

#### Achievements at Elderslie High School

One of the main highlights of my time at school was participating in all the great opportunities provided by CAPA. Our first Musical was an amazing experience, our yearly CAPA nights were always great fun, and I got a taste of what it was like to work in the industry when the school organised for my work experience at the Sydney Theatre Company. Ms. Dennis and the CAPA staff were dedicated to helping all students achieve their best and enjoy their time at Elderslie High School.

The wonderful English and History faculties also provided several life-changing opportunities for me. Mr. Raeburn and Mr. Cutrupi developed my passion for these subjects and without their guidance I would never have ended up where I am.

The Peer Tutor Reading course was also a highlight, since it gave me an insight into what it was like to help students who needed literacy support.

#### Achievements since

Because of the wonderful teachers I had at Elderslie High School, I was able to successfully study English and History at Sydney University and be the first person in my family to get into university. My Honours Degree in Ancient History allowed me to study under some of the best academics in this field.

I am also very lucky that I've had the opportunity to travel all around the world, and I love bringing my personal experiences into the lessons that I teach.

Of course, my most life-changing event was my successful application to work at Elderslie High School, and I'm proud to teach in the classrooms where I once sat as a student beside the teachers who were instrumental in shaping the person I am today.



## SPORT REPORT

### Macarthur Zone Athletics Carnival

The 2019 Macarthur Zone Athletics Carnival was held at the Campbelltown Athletics Stadium on the 2nd and 3rd of July. After the end of two days of very close competition Elderslie High School was named the champion school for 2019 by the narrowest of margins. It truly was a team effort in the end. Congratulations to all students who participated and a very proud thank you to all the students who went above and beyond to compete in extra events when others could not. Special congratulations go to Mackenzie Court in Year 9 who broke a 30 year old zone record in her pet event of the 15 girls 400m. The 16 Girls 4x100m relay team consisting of Shae Elguindy, Tia Keighran, Kiara Bloor and Erin Bloor also broke the zone record in this event also. Special accolades also went to Charli Isherwood (12 years girls), Shae Elguindy (16 years girls) and Angus Powell (17+ boys) who were all

named zone age champions. Elderslie High School are the 2019 Zone Carnival Champions for 2019!

### Open Girls Netball Knockout Team

The Open Girls Netball Knockout Team have progressed to day two of the South Western Sydney Competition. The team performed with strength and ease against the initial teams. As always, the group of students showed excellent team work and school spirit to represent EHS with pride.

### Ms Golden

### Open Girls Knockout Soccer Team

The Open Girls Soccer team has had a great season so far this year. Our first game against Moorebank High School saw us win 4 – 1! Our next game was against John Edmondson High School, who we defeated 2 – 0. This progressed the girls onto Central Venue. Our first game was a tough game against Fairvale High School. We were down 3 – 0 during the game and the girls played hard to finish the game with a full time score of 3 – 3. We scored in the last couple of minutes of extra time defeating Fairvale 4 – 3. Our second game for the day was against East Hills Girls Technology High School. We won 1 – 0.

On Thursday 4th and Friday 5th July the Open Girls Knockout Football team travelled to Tamworth to play Oxley High School. Reaching the final 16 for the state is an amazing achievement and all of the girls played with skill, sportsmanship and competed till the final whistle. The final score was 2-0 to Oxley. Thank you to the parents, grandparents and siblings who travelled with and supported the team.

An outstanding effort by all the girls who played in the team throughout the knockout competition:

Laura Gardiner, Emelia Dell, Leyla Tupkovic, Claire McDonald, Jayla Silbery, Ameira Soubra, Ella Hunt, Briannan Eggert, Abby Lenard, Ashlea McGee-Uren, Brooke Quinn, Samantha Rouland, Tameyka Verter, Veronica Williams, Ryleigh Wilson, Akirra Worthington, Claudia Geiger, Caitlin O'Flynn, Chelsea Polsen

### Miss Rysko & Miss Wilson



### Boys U15 Knockout Basketball Team

On the 31<sup>st</sup> May, the boys U15's Knockout Basketball team played their first two rounds of the SSW Basketball Knockout at the Bankstown Basketball Stadium. Their passing accuracy, dribbling, attacking as well as defending was unmatched by Sarah Redfern and then Moorebank High Schools. They successfully won both games to move into the next rounds.

The team returned to Bankstown Basketball Stadium on the 24<sup>th</sup> July to compete in the Elite 8 SSW Basketball Knockout. They played with enthusiasm and determination up until the final whistle. Unfortunately EHS was defeated by 3 points.

I would like to congratulate Adam Malak, Jahdon, Lachlan Butler, Jasper Browne, Tino Tavana, Douglas Cazalet, Phoenix Pollard and Jack Abboud on their outstanding sportsmanship and representation of 'Excellence, Honour and Service'.

*Ms Jeffries*

### Cross Country Update

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, students participated in the Elderslie High School Cross Country Carnival at Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Centre. As well as participating in the run, students will have the opportunity to participate in the novelty Colour Run, to help encourage physical activity and the maintenance of physical fitness for good health. Well done to all students who participated on the day. It was a very fun and rewarding day for all students involved. Congratulations to all the students who qualified for the Zone Cross Country.

### Zone Cross Country

The Elderslie High School team competed at the Camden Equestrian Centre on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May. I would like to thank and congratulate all students who competed at this carnival. Due to your determination and contribution to our school team, Elderslie High School was awarded first place at this carnival for 2019. An extra thank you to our senior students who stepped up to ensure we had all ages represented at the carnival.

### Regional Cross Country

Well done to all students who competed at the SSW Regional Cross Country on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Congratulations to the following students who will be representing the SSW Region at the CHS Cross Country Carnival early next term:

- Mackenzie Court
- Bianca Chauvin
- Shae Elguindy
- Estelle Hollinshead
- Ellie Baer-Tomlinson

*Miss Rysko*

### UBS Finance and Innovation Academy

Throughout the first week of the school holidays, Mahnoor Imran and myself participated in the UBS Finance and Innovation Academy 2019. During the week we met and heard from executives from companies such as PayPal and Afterpay, and learnt about what UBS does as a global investment bank. We also learned about the finance industry and explored entrepreneurship and innovation. It was a fantastic four days that enabled us to collaborate with talented people, broaden our knowledge of the finance industry and discover new career paths and future ideas. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at the UBS Finance and Innovation Academy and feel fortunate to partake in such a fabulous program.

*Lachlan Taylor, Year 11*

### Student Wellbeing Initiatives

#### Student Wellbeing Officer

Elderslie High School would like to welcome Sally Russell as our new Student Wellbeing Support Officer. Sally will be working closely with the Wellbeing Team, including the Year Advisers. She will be at school every Monday and Tuesday facilitating group sessions and individual case management of identified students. Sally will also be addressing some of the main principles around MindMatters, including building resilience and connectedness.

Sally has extensive experience working with youth in schools and works across a number of local schools in the area. We are very pleased to have her here at Elderslie.

**The main roles of the student wellbeing support officer include the following:**

- Working closely with, and/or as part of the school learning and support team and/or wellbeing team and delivering student resilience and wellbeing services.
- Supporting the social and emotional wellbeing of students.
- Developing relationships with, and referring students to specialist services within the school or externally, under the supervision of the school principal.
- Organising individual or group sessions with students and staff.
- Attending Parents & Citizens' or equivalent parent body meetings as required to provide details of the program and the services that are available.
- Facilitating community partnership programs between the school and the wider community, under the supervision of the school principal.

We look forward to working on new ideas, projects and workshops to enhance the wellbeing of our students and help to provide them with the support that they need to achieve their personal best.



## Year 10 Student Wellbeing Initiative

### Cheap Thrills

On Thursday 28th June, Year 10 attended the Brainstorm theatre production of Cheap Thrills. This educational theatre production addressed the consequences of risk taking behaviours and substance abuse. The fast paced one man show addressed the concept that a split second decision when students reach a crossroad, make a choice, can possibly change their lives forever.

Year 10 went on an emotional roller coaster as the lead character experienced the consequences of drugs, alcohol and risky behaviour. Year 10 were presented with a scenario and were asked to think about making better decisions and how that one poor decision can result with negative consequences affecting many people around them now and into the future.

The production concluded after a question and answer session, where Year 10 were asked a number of questions in group discussion and talked openly about the consequences, including what alternative/better decisions that could have been made. Year 10 left with an understanding of how their choice of friends and their ability to make good decisions has a dramatic and lasting effect on their lives.

### Cheap Thrills Student Wellbeing Program Covered the topics of:

- ✓ Risk Taking
- ✓ Substance Abuse
- ✓ Alcohol
- ✓ Cigarettes
- ✓ Safe Partying
- ✓ Drugs
- ✓ Choices
- ✓ Consequences
- ✓ Student Wellbeing

Brainstorm Productions is certified to provide Online Safety Programs by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner. More information and reviews on the production can be found on the following link:

<https://www.brainstormproductions.edu.au/high-school-shows/cheap-thrills>



## Student Wellbeing Initiative - Year 9

### Cyberia Production

On Monday 25th June, Year 9 participated in the Brainstorm theatre production of Cyberia. This educational theatre production addressed cyber bullying in schools and aimed to help improve student mental health and wellbeing.

Students were led through the online experiences of the character, Ruby who loses her moral compass using digital social media including, blogs, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and MSN. From her negative actions on social media, she is then instantly banished to "Cyberia" where she meets Tim. Tim is in Cyberia through self-imposed exile playing online games.

When they indulge in cyber bullying and anti-social behaviour it creates havoc in the real world. They suddenly realise they can't just press the "undo" button to retrieve their relationships, reputation, dignity and most of all their privacy. Students were led on a thought provoking experience of how their actions online can have adverse effects offline, and can impact many of those around them.

In consultation with IT, education and mental health experts, this production presented true stories of Generation Y/Z's internet experiences. Cyberia posed questions about how the digital age is affecting our brains, our humanity and our future.

Cyberia Cyber Bullying Program Covered the following topics:

- ✓ Cyber Bullying
- ✓ Digital Citizenship
- ✓ Social Websites
- ✓ Internet Security
- ✓ Exclusion
- ✓ Alienation
- ✓ Isolation
- ✓ Responsible Use of Technology
- ✓ Internet Addiction
- ✓ Impulse Control
- ✓ Online Reputation

Brainstorm Productions is certified to provide Online Safety Programs by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.

More information and reviews on the production can be found on the following link:

<https://www.brainstormproductions.edu.au/high-school-shows/cyberia>

**Mr B Townsend**  
**Head Teacher Welfare**



## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# HSC minimum standard

## Information for parents and carers

### What is the HSC minimum standard?

The HSC minimum standard was created to help ensure that students have the key literacy and numeracy skills for life after school. Students in New South Wales will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC credential from 2020.

The HSC minimum standard is set at level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). These skills are essential for everyday tasks and learning after school such as writing a letter for a job application or understanding a mobile phone plan.

The standard is assessed through online tests across three areas: reading, writing and numeracy.

The minimum standard online tests are 45 minutes long and include a multiple choice reading test, a multiple choice numeracy test and a short writing test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt.

Examples of the tests are available on the **NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website**.

Practice tests are available for students to sit at school to help them become familiar with the online test structure and for schools to help determine student readiness to meet the minimum standard.

### Who needs to complete minimum standard online tests?

Students who are completing the HSC in 2019 do not need to sit the NESA HSC minimum standard online tests.

### Students who complete the HSC in 2020:

- Students who are completing the HSC in 2020 and achieved a Band 8 or above in Reading, Writing and Numeracy in their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN results, do not need to sit the NESA HSC minimum standard online test.
- Students who did not achieve a Band 8 in any one of the 3 areas of their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN, but who have subsequently sat and passed the HSC minimum standard online tests in 2018 or 2019, have met the standard.
- Students who did not achieve a Band 8 in any one of the 3 dimensions of their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN, and have not yet sat the HSC minimum standard online tests must sit the tests in 2019, 2020 or during the first few years after school.

### Students who will complete the HSC in 2021 and beyond:

All students must sit the NESA HSC minimum standard online tests in reading, writing and numeracy.

### When can students take the HSC minimum standard online tests and who will administer them?

Students will have two opportunities per year to sit the minimum standard online tests in each area of Reading, Numeracy and Writing, in Year 10, 11 and 12. Students will also have up to 5 years from the time they start the HSC courses to sit the minimum standard online tests.

The tests must be administered by schools via a lockdown browser.

### Disability provisions and exemptions:

Students with additional learning needs may be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests or be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard in order to receive their HSC. Parents should contact the school to find out more information.

Life Skills courses are designed to provide an equitable pathway to the HSC. Students taking four or more Life Skills courses can be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard. Please contact your school for more information.

### Further Information

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard>





## WHAT MUST SCHOOLS DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students have the right to a quality learning experience at school.

Students with disability must be able to take part in education without discrimination and on the same basis as other students. To ensure this, schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed for students with disability. Educators, students, parents, guardians, carers and others (eg health professionals) must work together to ensure that students with disability can take part in education.

The [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) and the [Disability Standards for Education 2005](#) describe schools' responsibilities.

## WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is an action to help a student with disability take part in education on the same basis as other students.

Adjustments can be made across the whole school (eg ramps into school buildings). They can be in the classroom (eg adapting teaching methods). They can also be for individual student need (eg providing personal care support).

The school assesses the needs of each student with disability. The school provides adjustments in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers.

Schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed. The Disability Standards for Education 2005 define 'reasonable adjustment' as an adjustment that balances the interests of all parties affected.

## WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NCCD?

The definition of disability for the NCCD is based on the broad definition under the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#).

The following students are examples of those who may be included in the NCCD if they need monitoring and adjustments:

- students with learning difficulties (such as dyslexia)
- students with chronic health conditions (such as epilepsy or diabetes).

## WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NCCD?

Schools identify which students will be counted in the NCCD. They base their decisions on the following:

- adjustments provided for the student (after consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers)
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnoses
- other relevant information.

School principals must ensure that information for the NCCD is accurate.

## WHAT INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

A student is counted in the NCCD if they receive reasonable adjustments at school due to disability.

Each year, schools collect the following information about the student, including:

- their year of schooling
- the level of adjustment received
- the broad type of disability.

For students who have more than one disability, the school uses professional judgement to choose one category of disability. They choose the category that most affects the student's access to education and for which adjustments are being provided.

A high level summary of the NCCD data is available to all Australian state and territory governments to improve policies and programs for students with disability.





## HOW IS THIS DATA USED?

The NCCD data informs funding and work by schools and sectors. It ensures that support for students with disability becomes routine in the day-to-day practice of schools. The NCCD also supports students in the following ways.

- The NCCD helps schools better understand their legislative obligations and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.
- Schools focus on the individual adjustments that support students with disability. This encourages them to reflect on students' needs and to better support students.
- The NCCD facilitates a collaborative and coordinated approach to supporting students with disability. It also encourages improvements in school documentation.
- The NCCD improves communication about students' needs between schools, parents, guardians, carers and the community.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) annually publishes high-level, non-identifying NCCD data.

## WHEN DOES THE NCCD TAKE PLACE?

The NCCD takes place in August each year.

## IS THE NCCD COMPULSORY?

Yes. All schools must collect and submit information each year for the NCCD. This is detailed in the *Australian Education Regulation 2013*. For more information, ask your school principal or the relevant education authority.

## HOW IS STUDENTS' PRIVACY PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students is an essential part of the NCCD.

Data is collected within each school. Personal details, such as student names or student identifiers, are not provided to federal education authorities. Learn more about privacy in the [Public information notice](#).

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your school if you have questions about the NCCD. You can also visit the [NCCD Portal](#).

There is also a free [e-learning resource](#) about the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and Disability Standards for Education 2005.

This document must be attributed as *Fact sheet for parents, guardians and carers*.

# Depression in adolescents & young people



## What this fact sheet covers:

- Signs of depression in adolescence
- Where to get help for an adolescent
- Key points to remember
- Where to get more information

## Introduction

One in four young people are living with a mental disorder and 9% of young people (16-24 years old) experience high to very high levels of psychological distress (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2007). People aged 18-24 years have the highest prevalence of mental disorders of any other age group and youth suicide is the leading cause of death in young people aged 15-24 years (ABS, 2012).

Onset of depression is typically around mid-to-late adolescence and it is important to recognise the early warning signs and symptoms. Early intervention can often prevent the development of a severe depressive illness.

## Developmental Impact

The teenage years are a time when individuals develop their identity and sense of self. If a depression is left to develop, it can lead to isolation from family and friends, risktaking behaviours such as reckless driving, inappropriate sexual involvements and drug and alcohol abuse. It can also impact on school performance and study, which can have downstream effects on later career or study options.

Both biological and developmental factors contribute to depression in adolescence. If bipolar disorder or psychosis is suspected, an assessment by a health professional is recommended. See our Fact Sheet **Bipolar Disorder in Young People** for more information.

## Signs of depression in an adolescent

An adolescent who is depressed may not show obvious signs of depression. It is often hard to distinguish adolescent turmoil from depressive illness, especially when the young person is forging new roles within the family and struggling with independence, and having to make academic and career decisions.

Signs of a depressed mood include:

- lowered self-esteem (or self-worth)
- changes in sleep patterns, that is, insomnia (inability to sleep), hypersomnia (excessive sleep) or broken sleep
- changes in appetite or weight
- inability to control emotions such as pessimism, anger, guilt, irritability and anxiety

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- varying emotions throughout the day for example, feeling worse in the morning and better as the day progresses
- reduced capacity to experience pleasure: inability to enjoy what's happening now, not looking forward to anything with pleasure such as hobbies or activities
- reduced pain tolerance: decreased tolerance for minor aches and pains
- changed sex drive: absent or reduced
- poor concentration and memory
- reduced motivation to carry out usual tasks
- lowered energy levels.

### Where to get help for an adolescent

If you think your son or daughter or someone you are close to, might be depressed, the first step is to either take them to a general practitioner (GP) or to the local Community Health Centre. The GP will either conduct an assessment or refer to a mental health worker who specialises in children and adolescents.

Other initial sources of help are school counsellors and trusted close family members to whom the young person feels comfortable talking.

If the young person does not want to seek help, it is best to explain your concerns and to provide them with some information to read about depression.

There are also some excellent websites designed for young people, as well as confidential online and telephone counselling services. Please see our list of services at the end of this fact sheet.

It's important for young people to know that depression is a common problem and that there are people who can help.

If there is any mention of suicide this should be taken seriously and immediate help sought from a mental health professional.

### Key points to remember

- One in four young people experience a mental disorder with depression being one of the most common problems.
- Depression in young people is associated with social withdrawal, drops in performance at school, drug or alcohol use and engaging in risky behaviour.
- It can be hard to distinguish depression from adolescent turmoil; if depression is suspected, an assessment should be sought from a GP or other mental health professional.
- Immediate help should be sought if a young person talks of suicide.

### Contact Us

Email: [blackdog@blackdog.org.au](mailto:blackdog@blackdog.org.au)  
Phone: (02) 9382 4530

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For information: [www.blackdoginstitute.org.au](http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au)



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| Wk | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   |
|----|--|---|--|--|--|
| 2B | <b>Jul 29</b><br>Parent Teacher Night  | <b>Jul 30</b><br>HSC CAPA Evening   | <b>Jul 31</b><br>CAPA Photo Day<br>7-12 Assembly   | <b>Aug 1</b><br>HSC Minimum Standards Practice Test Year 12<br><br>Elevate Session Ace your exams - Year 11  | <b>Aug 2</b><br>Yr 11 Ancient History Task 2<br><br>Year 11/12 Pathways to Dreaming Workshop<br><br>Sunday 4th August - Sydney Eisteddfod 2019 - G Rysko & A Grimston Eason<br><br>Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award 2019 - 8.30 - 1.00pm S Dennis |
|    | <b>Aug 5</b><br>Chinese Study Tour Visiting<br><br>Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing                                     | <b>Aug 6</b><br>SSW Athletics<br>P&C Meeting<br>In the Spotlight Drama Festival<br><br>Chinese Study Tour Visiting<br><br>Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing | <b>Aug 7</b><br>SSW Athletics<br>In the Spotlight Drama Festival<br><br>Year Assemblies<br><br>Chinese Study Tour Visiting | <b>Aug 8</b><br>In the Spotlight Drama Festival<br><br>Recognition Assemblies Yr 9 P1 & Yr 10 P2<br><br>Chinese Study Tour Visiting<br><br>Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing | <b>Aug 9</b><br>Recognition Assemblies Yr 7 P1 & Yr 8 P2<br><br>Year 8 Pathways to Dreaming Workshop<br><br>Chinese Study Tour Visiting<br><br>Year 10 Minimum Standards Testing   |
| 4B | <b>Aug 12</b><br>HSC Dance Marking begins  | <b>Aug 13</b>   | <b>Aug 14</b><br>Dance Calendar Photos<br>7-12 Assembly  | <b>Aug 15</b><br>Jeans for Genes - Mufti Day   | <b>Aug 16</b><br>Year 9/10 Pathways to Dreaming Workshop<br><br>HSC Minimum Standards Testing Year 11  |
| 5A | <b>Aug 19</b><br>VET Awards Ceremony<br><br>Minimum Standards Catch up day Year 11<br><br>RSPCA Cupcake Sale<br>Recess 2 | <b>Aug 20</b><br>EHS Snow Trip<br><br>Pathways to Dreaming Mentor Visits  | <b>Aug 21</b><br>EHS Snow Trip<br>7-12 Assembly  | <b>Aug 22</b><br>EHS Snow Trip   | <b>Aug 23</b><br>EHS Snow Trip   |
| 6B | <b>Aug 26</b><br>NARELLAN AECG Meet  | <b>Aug 27</b>   | <b>Aug 28</b><br>Year Assemblies   | <b>Aug 29</b>  | <b>Aug 30</b>  |
| 7A | <b>Sep 2</b>   | <b>Sep 3</b><br>P&C Meeting<br><br>Dance Transition   | <b>Sep 4</b><br>CHS Athletics<br>7-12 Assembly   | <b>Sep 5</b><br>CHS Athletics  | <b>Sep 6</b><br>CHS Athletics  |

**PROPOSED CALENDAR – More detailed Calendar events can be found on our school website**

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[www.elderslie-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.elderslie-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

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## P & C MEETINGS 2019

**ALL** parents of students and interested members of the Elderslie community are invited to attend these meetings.

Our Meeting for 2019 will be:

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 at 7pm**