



Swansea High School

*Striving for personal best,
serving with honour.*

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School Operation from Friday August 6 till Friday August 13

Good Evening Parents,

We have been informed by the NSW Premier that the entire Hunter Region will be in lockdown from 5pm today, until Friday August 13. This means that all schools in the Hunter Region will be at Level 4 Restrictions. Schools have been asked to reduce staff on site. Due to the reduction in staff at school we are asking all parents to keep children at home unless they need to be at school. We will have a small number of casual teachers available to supervise students at school. For those families who have to send their child to school, please know that there will be no canteen.

The following information will outline what this means for students from Swansea High School.

Friday 6th August: There will be no online learning on Friday 6th August. Teachers will be using this time to prepare for online learning which will commence on Monday 9th August.

Week 5 Commencing Monday 9th August: Students will be learning online via our schoolwide platform, Google Classroom. Today, students in Years 7-10 received a copy of the Google Classroom codes for each class in every subject. We will publish this information to parents tomorrow so you have the essential access codes for your child. Students will be following their normal timetable from Monday. This means that if your child has Geography during Period 1 & 2 on Monday morning, they will need to access their Google Classroom for Geography during this time. The teacher of this subject will be available to assist students in working through the set classwork and answer any questions that may arise. We will provide a link to the school bell times on our school website prior to Monday. If students have a practical subject on their timetable like PE or sport, their teacher will set a fun practical type activity.

NB: From the feedback we received last year it has been stressed to teachers not to feel pressured to prepare excessive amounts of work for students. Likewise, with students, we understand that all students work at different levels and they should not feel pressured to be sitting at a computer for hours on end. If some students feel they would like some extension work, they can simply ask their teacher on Google Classroom. We will attempt to get the balance right in terms of the amount of work we provide for students.

Access to technology: We have gathered information from students regarding their ability to access Google Classroom from home. If you have concerns regarding your child's ability to access technology/internet, please contact the school and we will endeavour to get the necessary work to your child.

Year 11: Students in Year 11 should be aware of their Google Classroom codes for each subject. If they do not have these, please contact the school and we will get this information to you. At this stage, Year 11 students should be working towards their Yearly Examinations scheduled for Weeks 9 & 10 this term and students will be expected to participate in the necessary coursework for all Year 11 subjects.

Year 12 Trial HSC Examinations: These have been postponed. At this stage I can't give any definitive information to students regarding when these exams will resume. There will be no classes on Friday 6th August. Year 12 lessons will resume on Monday 9th August via Google Classroom. To our knowledge, all students have access to a device and internet. Please inform the school if this is not the case.

Year 12 Meeting: We are planning to host a Q and A Zoom meeting for all Year 12 students and parents early next week where we will be able to explain the latest advice and answer the many questions you have. I will inform you of the specific details of this meeting early next week. The Department of Education is providing us with information specific to Year 12 in a meeting tomorrow.

Wellbeing: We are very aware that our students, parents, and staff are all impacted in different ways by this horrible pandemic. We may share different views to how this should be managed across the state and in our community. As a school, we are guided by the Department of Education Guidelines. Please know that we are striving to support our school community in the most compassionate way. We have an outstanding Wellbeing Team and Learning Support Team here at the school and we have already discussed ways we can support our students. We will keep you updated as much as possible.

Front Office and Administrative Support Staff: We have outstanding Office staff who always do an amazing job fielding questions from parents. Please be mindful that they will do their best to answer questions and direct you to the most appropriate teacher or personnel to help you if you require assistance tomorrow or next week.

Take care, staff safe and please contact the school if you have any concerns.

Yours Sincerely,



Andrew Pesle
Principal