

Up-Coming Events

(Please note these are subject to change; please contact the school for more details)

March 2022

24th ILIH Gala Day

29th Cross Country

Senior Executive Corner

Welcome to 2022

Welcome back to our Casula High School community and we would like to wish all our students and parents the best as we embark on another year of schooling. It has been a positive start to the term as we navigated our way back to school with the most recent set of changes and guidelines of the COVID pandemic. Attendance at school has been pleasing and all students adhering to the COVID SMART measures we have put in place to create a safe environment for all.

Year 12, Class of 2021

Congratulations to our class of 2021 in the completion of the Higher School Certificate. We are very proud of the way our Year 12 students responded to the ongoing changes throughout their senior schooling. They made the most out of a difficult situation and their resilience and diligence resulted our class of 2021 producing the best HSC results we have seen.

Attendance Matters

We want all our students to succeed in 2022, to be the best version of themselves. One key aspect to our students achieving success and potential is by attending school. We know attendance matters and we expect all our students to be at school every day doing their personal best. We want our students to be aiming for 95% attendance for the entire year. Frequent absences can have a dramatic impact on a child's learning and impact on their ability to reach their true potential. Just one absence a week equates to 8 weeks of absence over a year where students will have missed out on valuable learning. Attending school every day helps grow our students and allows them to develop skill sets to support success beyond school. We understand that students'

levels of motivation and other factors can have an impact on a child attending school. Casula High School has an extensive and committed wellbeing team to support our students and we encourage our families to reach out for support on 9602 4320. We look forward to celebrating our student's attendance achievements throughout the year.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills

education.nsw.gov.au



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

Projects Update

We are very proud of the 2022 projects that are taking shape so that our students have access to state-of-the-art facilities to support learning beyond the classroom. Over the holidays we resurfaced our HSIE and TAS blocks for our students to appreciate during recess and lunch.

We are pleased with the progress our new artificial turf field is making on the back oval this term and are looking forward to our PE, Sport classes and students using this new space during break time.

Works will commence shortly on our new COLA. This new facility will provide our students with an additional outdoor learning space and for recreational use during breaks. We are always really proud of the respect our students demonstrate towards the additions and beautifications to our school.

New Staff

We would like to welcome our new staff members who have joined us in 2022. We welcome Mr Chanaoui, our Head Teacher Welfare, and congratulate Mrs Witherly on her appointment to the role of Head Teacher Learning Support. We also welcome our new Mathematics teacher Mr Abdallah, Science teachers Ms Johnston and Mr Singh, PE teachers Ms Dimino and Ms Herington, English teachers Ms Byrne, Ms Samanova and Ms Stamelos, HSIE teacher Ms Taha., Learning and Support Ms Joy and Mr Pudevski from Special Education to Casula High School.

 Mr Chanaoui Head Teacher Welfare	 Ms Byrne English	 Ms Samanova English
 Ms Stamelos English	 Ms Taha HSIE	 Ms Joy Learning and Support

Senior Executive

Mr G Smith	Principal
Ms D Pasalic	Deputy Principal Year 8 and 12
Mr S O'Donnell	Deputy Principal Year 7 and 10
Ms E Signorini	Deputy Principal Year 9 and 11

 Ms Dimino PDHPE	 Ms Herington PDHPE	 Mr Abdallah Mathematics
 Ms Johnston Science	 Mr Singh Science	 Mr Pudevski Special Education

Welcome to Year 7

We have been delighted to see our new Year 7 students join us this term. A new year always bring new students and they add to the fabric of our school. We love to talk of community within our school and it is always wonderful to see new community members join us and have such a positive start. These students have joined us and shown the ability to integrate into our community. The feedback from staff has been positive and we hope it has been a good start for all involved. We all value relationships at Casula High School and we encourage Year 7 students to work on developing their own positive relationships with staff and students.

We look forward to working with our community in supporting our students throughout 2022 and we encourage our parents to contact our respective deputy principals for the growth of your child.

Contact Us

Casula Connects is available on the Parent Portal of the Millennium website. For any details about the newsletter or any other school events please contact the school on:

Phone: 9602 4320
Email: casula-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CasulaHighSchool
Twitter: @Casula_High

LEARNING AND SUPPORT

In 2022 the Learning and Support team are continuing to provide support to students across the school. As well as supporting individual students with additional learning and support needs, we will also be supporting Years 7-9 through several different programs, including whole year group and small group interventions. These programs are outlined below.

In Numeracy Skills we run the Comprehensive Assessment of Mathematics Strategies (CAMS) program in Years 7-9. All students are working at their own identified levels to build numeracy skills. Individual numeracy planning is completed to ensure that all students are working towards improving the strategies that they need support with.

To support reading we run MacqLit. MacqLit is an explicit intervention program for small groups designed in improved reading proficiency. The objective is that these students will be able to use these improved skills across all their KLAs. Students in Years 7-9 will be considered based on need.

QuickSmart is a numeracy program that aims to increase student capabilities in fundamental numeracy. Student numeracy levels will be individually targeted to increase automaticity surrounding basic skills for students to grow within the regular classroom. Again, Years 7-9 students are targeted for this program.

The COVID Intensive Learning Support Program is continuing in 2022. To start with we are working with students in Years 8 and 9 to help students to catch up and close any gaps that may have developed due to the COVID-19 lockdowns. Students in this program are completing literacy and numeracy programs that are specifically tailored to individual needs. As the Year progresses groups will change and students in other year groups will also be selected to participate.

In addition to providing learning support the team will also be facilitating the HSC Minimum Standards testing. No matter what path students are taking when they leave school, they need a level of literacy and numeracy skills. All students in NSW are required to sit the HSC Minimum Standards test and this is part of a wider plan to improve literacy and numeracy across all schools in NSW. In 2022 the learning and support team will be facilitating the testing of all Year 10 students and students in Years 11 and 12 who have yet to achieve the HSC Minimum Standard. Testing will begin in Term 1 with catch up sessions happening throughout the year. Students who do not meet the Minimum Standard will be offered small group interventions to build their capacity.

We look forward to working with the students during 2022.

Ms Witherly

STAFF ROLES

TITLE	NAME	TITLE	NAME
Principal	Mr Smith	Year 7 Advisor	Mr Roberts
Deputy Principal	Ms Pasalic Yrs 8 + 12	Year 8 Advisor	Mr Dubria
Deputy Principal	Mr O'Donnell Yrs 7 + 10	Year 9 Advisor	Ms Neill
Deputy Principal	Ms Signorini Yrs 9 +11	Year 10 Advisor	Ms Smith
Head Teacher Wellbeing	Mr Chanaoui	Year 11 Advisor	Ms Popovic
Head Teacher Admin	Mr Bond	Year 12 Advisor	Ms Lei
Head Teacher CAPA	Ms Georgiou	Careers Advisor	Mr Adio
Head Teacher English	Mr Stojkanovic	Librarian	Ms Milliken
Head Teacher HSIE	Mr Gandiaga	Technical Support	Mr McLeod
Head Teacher Instructional Leader	Mr Carter	Student Support Officer	Ms O'Donnell
Head Teacher Learning & Support	Ms Witherly		
Head Teacher Maths	Ms Campbell		
Head Teacher PDHPE	Ms Walter		
Head Teacher Science	Ms Nasour		
Head Teacher Secondary Studies	Mr Cary		
Head Teacher Special Ed	Ms Singh		
Head Teacher TAS	Ms Celic		

Staying SHARP

Casula High School is a proud Positive Behaviour for Learning school. We have created a series of behavioural expectations that suit our unique school population. We use these expectations to support and reward our students.

As mentioned previously we look forward to celebrating our Deputy Principal's award ceremonies. Students can use the instant SHARP awards to contribute to a Merit Award. They can hand their 5 SHARP awards to their Year Advisor and they will receive a Merit Award.

Once a student has collected 5 Merit Awards they can hand them in for a Deputy Principal's award. A number of those were handed out last Year at our Special Recognition assemblies. These award winners will be invited to attend a celebration early next year.

Students that achieve multiple Deputy Principal Awards may be eligible for a Principal's Award and invited to receive that award at our annual Presentation Ceremony. We look forward to seeing many award recipients on that night. Students that achieve these higher awards reflect the values that we would like our student body to demonstrate. Their leadership is showing other students what our expectations look like in a variety of different settings is something we are proud of celebrating.



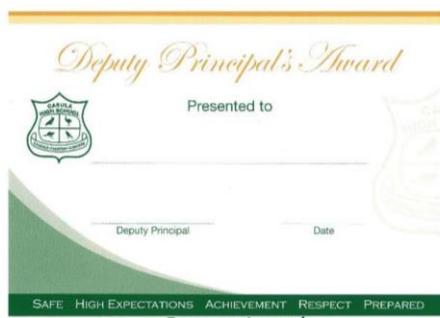
SHARP Award



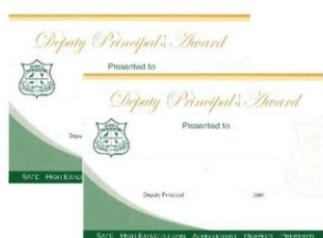
Merit Award



Merit Award



Deputy Award



Deputy Award



Principal Award

Year Advisor Reports

YEAR 7 ADVISORS REPORT

Year 7 have made a very positive start to this year. The students have made a smooth transition to secondary education. Students have been enjoying the variety of learning opportunities that Casula High School has to offer. Ms Weeding (the Assistant Year Advisor) and I (as well as your children's classroom teachers) are looking forward to meeting you in person. Well done Year 7!

Mr Roberts

YEAR 8 ADVISORS REPORT

Welcome back to what should be another great year at Casula High School. Students have settled in well, adjusting to their new classes and subjects.

Year 8 brings a range of new possibilities and opportunities for students to perform, grow and excel in their learning and personal development.

This year students have access to a range of school performances such as International Day and CASPERS showcase. For Year 8 students who are seeking additional help with their school work and assessments, Homework Centre is set to return every Thursday afternoon in the library. Furthermore, Breakfast Club is to come back every morning before 8:30am for students who need an additional energy boost to kick start their day.

We look forward to 2022 and plenty of positive and memorable experiences for our students. I highly recommend all Year 8 students to get involved and embrace the many wonderful opportunities that Casula High School has to offer.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Mr Dubria

YEAR 9 ADVISORS REPORT

Year 9 are off to a strong 2022 and it is great to see the students focused and learning throughout the day. Year 9 have been enjoying their chosen electives and it's great to see them explore new subjects and follow their passions in their chosen field. After a couple of years of disruptions, we are excited to announce school camp will be going ahead for Year 9. Notes will be handed out shortly. Furthermore, every student has now received

their school diary which will help keep students organised with upcoming homework and assignments. Looking forward to the continued support of your child throughout Year 9.

Ms Neill

YEAR 10 ADVISORS REPORT

It has been great to see the corridors filled with laughter and learning occurring in the classroom. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our new families to our wonderful school. Year 10 have enjoyed a settled start to year and are enjoying the opportunity to be in new classes and get to know new teachers. 2022 will be a big year for Year 10. Students will have the opportunity to choose subjects for senior school and explore post school options. Students will also have the opportunity to engage in a variety of programs including League in Harmony, Fast Forward, ABCN interview to impress, my strengths among many others.

To my Year 10s,

Make this the year about you and your learning. As you have seen the expectations placed upon you are higher than previous years. It is important that you remain focused, submit all assessment and most importantly try your best in class. You know support will be available when needed and Mr Wallace and myself are here to assist you along the journey. While this year will bring some big changes, just remember you have got this. Every single one of you are more capable than you believe.

Let's make this year's goal to finish the year by giving it your best shot!

Ms Smith

YEAR 11 ADVISORS REPORT

Year 11 are already halfway through term 1, and what a busy term it has been! So many events have taken place during the last few weeks, most notably, our swimming carnival and Valentine's Day fundraiser. Adding to these school-based events, selected Year 11 students have also had the chance to participate in numerous extra-curricular programs around the school, such as, work experience and Productivity Bootcamp sessions. In addition to these amazing achievements, I would also

like to remind Year 11 and parents/caregivers of the importance of arriving to school on time, best before 8:40am. Attendance and participation in learning in senior years is always mandatory. Full school uniform should also be upheld to a high standard during term 1. If any student requires additional support, make sure they immediately see me or Ms. Reddy for further assistance. We encourage all students to always aim high, try their best and strive for success during term 1 and beyond!

Miss Popovic

YEAR 12 ADVISORS REPORT

Our Year 12 cohort started 2022 with a bang, immediately planning their first fundraiser for Valentine's Day. With help from our Year 12 students, the fundraising committee sold over 300 red and pink roses and chocolates, as well as a lolly guessing jar and raffle tickets. Students from our year group generously donated chocolates, candles, plush bears and many other Valentine's Day themed items for our raffle hampers and for the first time in many years, we had enough prizes for four hampers to be won by students and staff. Many students put their hands in to help in the lead up to Valentine's Day and even more came to make our flower deliveries in FOR. A big thank you to Ms Miliken who worked tirelessly to ensure we had

enough stock to sell and taking charge of this year's fundraiser!

In week 3, Year 12 were invited to the school swimming carnival to support our competitive swimmers at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre. All student who attended dressed up in theme, donning Hawaiian shirts and other beach themed attire. To keep the fundraising ball rolling, Year 12 also organised a pizza drive, selling slices of pizza to all attendees and making sure everyone was fed and watered before cooling off in the pool. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Productivity Bootcamp is a great opportunity for students in Stage 6 to learn hands on skills in various trades such as plumbing, carpentry, electrical work and many more. Students participating in the 8 week program at the purpose-built training site also learn skills in WHS to ensure they have the work experience needed to gain an apprenticeship by the end of the program. We currently have a small group of Year 12 boys who are successfully part of the program. The next intake for this amazing opportunity is on March 28th; if you are interested please contact Ms Lei (Year Advisor) or Mr Adio (Careers Advisor) for more information.

Ms Lei

HOMEWORK CENTRE RETURNS!

We are excited to announce that the Homework Centre will be returning every Thursday between 3.00pm and 4.30pm, starting on March 10th.

The Homework Centre will be coordinated by Mr Walsh this year and include a diverse range of Casula High School teaching staff from across all faculties within the school.

The opportunity to come together each Thursday and work on classwork, homework, assessment tasks or revision-based activities is an amazing opportunity for all our students from Years 7 - 12.

We have had a great deal of success with this program in past years and we look forward to continuing to have a positive and meaningful impact on all our student who sign up. Please collect a note from the front office and return to Mr Walsh in the Wellbeing Hub.

Mr Walsh

Homework Centre Coordinator

Faculty Feedback

TAS

Students in Year 9 Food Tech had a good start to practical lessons. They made Mexican pizza with a variety of ingredients and learnt new cooking skills. Attached are some samples of their work.



Ms Garg

CAPA

The CAPA faculty would like to warmly welcome our Year 7 cohort to Casula High School. Our Year 7 students have kicked off their high school adventure with Visual Arts. Students will explore the works of several important artists ranging from global superstars such as Vincent Van Gogh and Claude Monet to local Australian artists like Albert Namatjira and Russell Drysdale. Through practical lessons, students will experience various forms of art making such as clay work, portraits, lino carvings, urban landscapes and many more.

The CAPA faculty is very excited to offer such a diverse and dynamic subject at Casula High School and we look forward to working with Year 7 to capture and nurture their creative talents.

Mr Boguszewicz

LIBRARY

Welcome to the Library in 2022! We're really looking forward to the year ahead and have some special events planned. In the meantime, our regularly occurring events, which are open to all students, include:

- Tuesday – (Computer) Game Day – recess and lunchtime.

- Wednesday – Wellbeing Wednesday – last Wednesday of every month, at lunchtime.
- Thursday – Chess Club – lunchtime.

We're open to staff and students from 8:10am Monday to Thursday, including during recess and lunch. On Fridays, we're closed to students before school, but open normally at recess and lunch.

You can follow us on Instagram @CasulaHSLibrary to stay up to date with all Library and book related news.

Come and visit us to find out what else we offer. We look forward to seeing you.

Ms Miliken

ENGLISH

Our faculty welcomes all students back to school for a new year of reading, writing and much more in English.

No fresh start would be complete without a reflection on where we have been, and we are thrilled to congratulate our Year 12 2021 cohort on their amazing success in HSC English last year. In particular, a huge congratulations to Haya Yousef for her Band 6 in Advanced English and Dhoha Nejem for her Band 6 in Standard English. You have both made us so proud! Casula High School students can clearly achieve anything they set their minds to.

This term, our Year 9 students launch straight into Stephen King's *The Body*, which is an exciting and sometimes nerve-wracking narrative about the challenges of growing up. A few speedy readers have already finished the novella and have moved on to other Stephen King novels or different texts in the horror and bildungsroman genres. Students are using *The Body* to examine the choices an author makes in order to make their story scary, hilarious, calming or confronting. Year 9 teachers are enjoying helping their students work through new vocabulary and plot twists to help prepare them for an A.L.A.R.M. task later in the term.

We wish all students a positive start to the school year,

Ms Byrne

SCIENCE

To introduce our Year 7 students to the world of science we have been learning how to use scientific equipment, starting with everyone's favourite, the Bunsen Burner! It

was an exciting moment for a lot of them, conquering their fears and using a match for the first time on their own.

Year 8 students have been building on their report writing skills using a variety of experiments, including dissolving aspirin tablets in various temperatures of water, and finding out the best surface for the ultimate game of handball.



Preliminary Biology students have had the opportunity to study their school local environment to calculate grass abundance. This has allowed students to expand on their understanding of biological concepts that can be identified through careful analysis of the biotic and abiotic factors operating.

The Science Faculty

HSIE

In 2022 the HSIE faculty is happy to be back to face-to-face teaching. Not only are we aiming to have engaging lessons in our classrooms but staff even at the end of last year were looking for opportunities to provide our students with learning experience outside the classroom.

We have the Geography & History Competitions coming up soon to provide our gifted and talented students a challenge to test their abilities against other students across the state.

Year 12 Geography Excursion - students had a field study day at Wanda Beach and the Cronulla foreshore. Analysing how the area has changed over the centuries and the impact of human activity has had on the natural environment and assessing the management strategies out in place in the area.



Year 7 History students have been doing an archaeological dig trying to discover the choc chips out of cookies.



Mr Cary who never gives up an opportunity to dress up for his students provided his Stage 6 Ancient History students with an escape room challenge



Considering how wet it has been lately, some Year 9 Geography students have been using rain gauges measuring how wet Casula has been getting



Coming up, we have more excursions planned for the year as we start to see Covid restrictions ease and Sydney starts to open up more. Talk Law will happen again this year and more. We just hope 2022 allows us to provide our students with more opportunities to engage with not only their teachers but with external agencies that help support your child's education.

Mr Gandiaga

MATHS



Welcome back to 2022! We would like to welcome Mr Abdallah to Casula High School and Mr Fox who is joining our faculty this year. It has been a busy start to 2022 in Mathematics. Year 12 have been rocking through the analysis of network diagrams and are preparing to submit their take home assessment task. Year 11 have settled into the expectations of Stage 6 and a busily preparing for upcoming assessments. Year 9 are preparing for NAPLAN by harnessing their Numeracy skills and time management. Year 8 have been confirming Pythagoras's theorem using manipulative and Year 7 have smashed the first few weeks of High School exploring the intricate rules and skills of computation with integers. Our advanced classes have also been busy further developing their algebra knowledge with Year 10 proving their skills against the equations breakout 'a day of maths' and Year 9 showing their strength with expanding and factorising quadratic equations.

STEM

How does a plane fly? How do you make a fist? Well STEM has the answer! Year 10 have been exploring and experimenting with the forces of flight completing their paper plane challenge and Year 9 have been working on

hydraulic claws to see how well they understand basic motion.



Ms Garven

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The return to school for the Special Ed Faculty has been a fun and exciting one. Our students have been working hard in their core subject areas of Maths, English, Science, PDHPE and Visual Arts. The students have also made a return to TAS with some classes getting in the kitchen and cooking and others in the wood workshops, working on various projects. Here is a picture of the safety posters made by students in J25.



Mr Purdevski

PDHPE

The PDHPE staff would like to welcome all new students, returning students and their families to Casula High School for 2022. We also like to formally welcome Ms Dimino and Ms Herington to the team, they bring a wealth of knowledge and experience and are passionate about health and physical education.

Sporting Facilities

Construction has begun on our synthetic state-of-the-art multi-purpose field that will provide students with greater opportunities to participate in physical activity. The field will be utilised during practical lessons, break times and as a training facility for our many sporting teams. It is expected to be ready by the start of Term 2.

Swimming Carnival

The annual Swimming Carnival was held at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre on Friday the 18th of February. Due to Covid Guidelines competitors and Year 12 were the only students permitted to attend the carnival, nevertheless, it was a great day that was enjoyed by all.

Cross Country

The annual Cross Country Carnival will be held at Lake Gillawarna Reserve on the 29th of March 2022.

Knockout Sport

Knockout sport is back! The staff at Casula High School are looking forward to allowing students the opportunity

to represent the school in several sports throughout the year. We pride ourselves on our sportsmanship and competitiveness out on the field. It is always an enjoyable day out participating against other schools in the local area and seeing the sporting talent within the school community.

Our first knockout competition of the year is the Open Boys Cricket, the team is looking to enact 'revenge' against Holsworthy who defeated the boys in a nailbiter last year. Mr Jankowski has taken over as head coach with Mr Walsh retaining his position as assistant coach. Mr Jankowski's appointment will boost the side's chances of progressing to the next round, he has an excellent 'cricket brain' and is noted for his attacking tactics, so do not be surprised to see men around the bat in the first over of the day.

Our Boys and Girls Basketball teams lead by Mr Grieve and Miss Herington are also gearing up for action in the coming weeks. Both teams have been training hard at recess and lunch with both teams looking to 'rebound' after some close losses at last year's central venue day.

Lastly, Ms Josephs has set the bar high for our volleyballers, as they aim to improve on last year's result. Our volleyball teams have been quite successful over the last few years and look in good stead to continue serving up good performances.

Students are encouraged to listen to announcements as trials for sports teams continue to take place.

Special Mention

A special mention goes to Mohamad Alsodany in Year 11 who was the sole representative for the Hume Zone at the 2022 Sydney South West Open Boys Tennis Championships held at Fairfield Tennis Centre on the 18th of February. Mohammad should be proud of his efforts, losing to the eventual bronze medallist in the early stages of the tournament.

Mr Wallace

CAREERS NEWS

TVET courses for 2022 have commenced on 14th February, 2022

Congratulations to all Year 11 and 12 TVET students who have commenced their TAFE courses this year. Please ensure you maintain a regular attendance and full

engagement with your TAFE courses. If you have any issue with your studies at TAFE, please discuss and try to resolve the issues with your TAFE teacher in the first instance. If you need further support please speak to the Careers Adviser.

Good luck to all of you in your studies.

White-Card Training

The first White-card training for this year is being organised and is scheduled to occur at the last week of term 1. Students who have indicated their Expression of Interest (EOI) will receive further information about the training very soon. If any students are interested and have not indicated their EOI, please visit the Careers Adviser's office to register your interest.

Work Experience

Congratulations to our students who have started their 8 weeks pre- apprenticeship program in the Construction Industry with the Productivity Booth Camp (PBC). We wish them good luck as they complete the program.

School -Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT)

Congratulations to Batgerel Dorjbat and Randah Alsakka who are commencing their Certificate III in Retail Services Traineeship programs with their host employers. School based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBATs) provide students with the opportunity to attain a nationally recognised Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification and their Higher School Certificate (HSC) while gaining valuable work skills and experience through paid employment.

There are some SBAT opportunities available now for Year 10 students. If you are interested and want to know more please see Mr Adio, the Careers Adviser.

Mr Adio

STUDENT SUPPORT/WELLBEING

Warm and sincere greetings to our students, parents and caregivers. My name is Mr Chanaoui and I am the new Head Teacher Welfare at Casula High School. I officially began in this role at the beginning of the 2022 academic year. I am honoured to join such an amazing team of dedicated teachers and support staff who work extremely hard to ensure students always get the best out of their learning. I wish to acknowledge the huge amount of effort that has been put in by Mr Walsh (Acting

Head Teacher Welfare) and Ms O'Donnell (Student Support Officer), prior to me joining the school, but especially during the many challenges of the COVID lockdown period of 2021. You would be aware that both Mr Walsh and Ms O'Donnell have done an amazing job in leading a range of student wellbeing programs across the school. They have also provided support to a dedicated team of Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers in Years 7-12 to help our students Connect, Thrive and Succeed. I am pleased to inform you that Mr Walsh and I will continue to work closely in leading the Wellbeing faculty for the foreseeable future, and this will allow the school to implement a range of initiatives and programs to enhance student wellbeing and learning outcomes. There will also be no changes to Ms O'Donnell's role, and she will continue to be available to support our students and community as she has done so well in the past as part of the Wellbeing faculty. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our amazing team of School Counsellors, Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers for the vital role they have played and will continue to play in supporting, guiding and nurturing our students here at Casula. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our parents and caregivers for the important role they play in shaping our students' lives, and for always looking out for their safety and wellbeing. I look forward to meeting you all soon.

The wellbeing team has been involved in organising several exciting and innovative initiatives to kick start the 2022 school year. These initiatives include:

- League In Harmony - a program run in partnership with the NRL to promote positive and respectful values amongst our youth. It also aims to develop young leaders by giving them opportunities to attend leadership based sessions and workshops with some high profile NRL personalities.
- Write It Out Journal Groups - a program offering students the opportunity to practice gratitude and journal writing on Wednesday's and Friday's during FOR.
- RAGE - a program to help young people understand anger and work through healthy strategies to problem solve efficiently.
- MyStrengths - MyStrengths facilitators will be visiting our school to work with our Year 7, 10 and 11

students to help our students understand their personal strengths and have greater knowledge around wellbeing, resilience and goal setting.

- Headspace - Our Year 7 students have had headspace facilitators join their creative learning classes via zoom to talk through building our students mental health literacy and understanding. They also talked through and acknowledged the challenges associated with starting high school

Mr Chanaoui

SKILLS

Years 7, 8 and 9 have been focusing on building vocabulary through reading. Students have been working hard build their vocabulary across a range of contexts.

Year 10 have been working on crafting their writing skills through ALARM.

Mr Carter

KOORI KORNER

Warami ngani (hello, how are you)

A big hello to the community out there. Welcome back to 2022 and as we may see restrictions ease we are looking forward to inviting the community back into our school. Things happening this term:

- Souths Cares is still going on. The team from Souths cares is keen to be able to come into school and do the face-to-face workshops again with our students. Students are excited as well (I think we're all Zoomed out). Can I ask students to bring in those Souths Cares form into Mr Gandiaga. First session we had was a meet n greet session, with doing some crafts with cut-outs of Australia and then eating some bush tucker - lomandra - even Mrs. Singh got into the tucker, munching on the lomandra.

Message to parents & carers - PLP reviews and goal setting for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will commence in Term 1. The school will be

reaching out to parents & carers to be part of this process.

There is an Education, Employment and Wellbeing Expo coming up for Year 9 -12 students on the 23rd March at the Whitlam Leisure centre. Those students interested need to bring in their notes to either Ms Hussein or Mr Gandiaga. There is no cost for students to be part of this event.

Tutor squads are also going to start again soon, dates and times to be confirmed (at this stage most likely on Day 9 of student's timetable P5-6). We also encourage all our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to take advantage of the "Homework Centre" which start again soon.



Mr Gandiaga

UNIFORM POLICY

GIRLS UNIFORM

Years 7 - 10

- **Skirt** - Bottle green (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Shorts** – Bottle green (shorts are knee length with a cuff, 2 pockets, 1 button, zip front and belt loop. These shorts are the **ONLY** option for girls to wear).
- **Shirt** - White polo or white blouse with school logo

Years 11 - 12

- **Skirt** - Green tartan (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Shorts** – Bottle green (shorts are knee length with a cuff, 2 pockets, 1 button, zip front and belt loop. These shorts are the **ONLY** option for girls to wear).
- **Shirt** - White polo or white blouse with school logo

All Years

- **Trousers** - Black tailored (*no track suit pants*)
- **Pullover** - Bottle green with school logo
- **Jumper** - Bottle green with school logo
- **Jacket** - Bottle green over-jacket with school logo
- **Tie** - Bottle green
- **Shoes** - Black leather, leatherette or suede
- **Socks** – White

- **Headwear** – (including caps and hijabs) if worn, must be in school colours, which are white, black and bottle green.

PE / Sport Uniform

- Black sports shorts (*appropriate size and length*), school sports polo, sports shoes

BOYS UNIFORM

Years 7 - 10

- **Shorts** – Grey (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Trousers** – Grey tailored (*no track suit pants*)
- **Shirt** - White polo or white business shirt with school logo

Years 11 - 12

- **Shorts** – Grey (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Trousers** - Grey tailored (*no track suit pants*)
- **Shirt** - White polo or white business shirt with school logo

All Years

- **Pullover** - Bottle green with school logo
- **Jacket** – Bottle green over-jacket with school logo
- **Tie** - Bottle green
- **Shoes** - Black leather, leatherette or suede
- **Socks** – White
- **Headwear** – (including caps) if worn, must be in school colours, which are white, black and bottle green.

PE / Sport Uniform

- Black sports shorts (*appropriate size and length*), school sports polo, sports shoes

SOUTHS CARES
Liverpool Opportunity Hub
Indigenous Education, Employment and Wellbeing Expo
10am - 2pm Wednesday 23 March 2022
Whitlam Leisure Centre, 90 Memorial Avenue Liverpool



*Employment & Training Opportunities *Raffles & Giveaways
*Free Lunch & Refreshments *Health Promotions

Register here



For more info or help registering please call our office on
02 8107 6907 or email: bwilliams@rabbitohs.com.au

Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities