

PRINCIPAL'S POST – Friday, 15th May 2020

The sacrifice we make as individuals is about protecting everyone within our community. There is a fine line as we attempt to balance schools reopening with protecting our communities' health. As we gradually have Tumut High School more accessible to our students, please know, the health crisis is far from over and is likely to have many 'twists and turns to come'.



What we know:

- Year 12 have returned this week to full time face to face schooling.
- Year 11 students from **Next Monday, 18th May (Week 4)** will attend full time face to face schooling.
- Year 7 – 10 Days of attendance commencing Monday, May 18th are as follows:
Year 7 Monday - Year 8 Wednesday - Year 9 Thursday - Year 10 Friday
- At school, students continue to work on the '**one unit of work**' per subject (see attached timetable which students should be following when at home and when at school).
- Not all staff have been able to return to school because of individual health risks associated with COVID -19.
- The number of students attending each day impacts on our ability to have adults and students physically distanced. A safe and successful phased return to school will rely on having **only** the students required at school, to be at school. Please assist us by only sending sons and/or daughters to school on their designated day.
- **School Reports** will be issued in **Semester 1** but will **not report** using Grades A to E. **Semester 2 reports will be reporting** on outcomes using Grades A to E.
- Enhanced cleaning continues at the school throughout each school day and students wash their hands with sanitisers before entering every class.

What we don't know:

- Although improving, we still are unaware of how long it will take for this health crisis to be over and we are unaware of any 'date' for schools to return to 'normal operations'.
- We don't know when Year 7-10 students will begin attending **more** than one day a week or when we will finally move away from '**one unit of work**' designed to be completed at home.

What we will be doing:

- Doing our best to provide a safe environment for students and staff by; expecting physical distancing behaviour; implementing enhanced cleaning; and by requiring hand washing. This week each Year group was given clear expectations on how to keep safe. Students not meeting these expectations may be sent home.
- Providing online learning with one unit of work for students who are learning at home or at school. Please contact Mr Taylor if you require assistance to access online learning including access to laptops. Unfortunately, we can no longer assist with WiFi access.
- Contacting parents/carers where student engagement in home learning is not happening. Students may be recorded as having unauthorised absences if they are not engaging in the learning.
- Keeping a focus on student wellbeing. Please contact Mr Somerville if you have any concerns regarding your son or daughter's wellbeing.

What we need you to do:

- Refer to the attached document 'COVID -19 Response at Tumut High School' and make sure your daughter and/or son is aware of what their responsibilities are in helping protect the safety of others at school during COVID -19.
- Understand that if your son and/or daughter **does not take responsibility** to keep others safe they may be sent home as part of managing this health crisis.
- To only send your daughter and/or son to school on the designated days **unless absolutely essential**. In these unusual times, our ability to keep the school safe is impacted by how many students are in attendance.
- Embrace the differences and opportunities in learning at home. We need to ensure every student is engaged and challenged to continue to learn.
- Stay up to date with Tumut High School through our Facebook page and Skoolbag App.
Also check out our school website for news and resources.

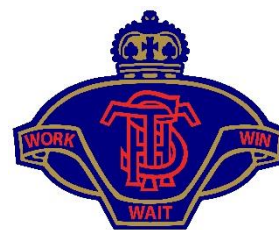
Please let us know if you need our support - Our number is 6947 0600

Respect Responsibility Safety

COVID-19 Response at Tumut High School

Why do we need to social distance? Social distancing means we reduce the number of close physical and social contacts we have. Combined with good personal hygiene, social distancing can slow the spread of a pandemic through the community.

This helps protect the most vulnerable members of the community and reduces the impact of the pandemic on essential, life-saving health services. There are many actions individuals, employers and organisations can take now to promote social distancing and help reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection in our community.



For more details <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/social-distancing>

How can we reduce exposure and stay healthy at THS?

NSW Health Recommendations	How this can be applied to teachers at THS	How this can be applied to students at THS
Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitiser.	Staff to use soap provided to wash hands. When in classrooms use hand sanitisers.	Students to wash hands with sanitisers as they enter each classroom. This is dispensed by class teacher at arm's length from student.
Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.	Staff to model behaviour.	PBL Lesson clearly articulating behaviour.
Stay home if you are sick and don't expose others.	Staff to model behaviour.	Students identified with flu like symptoms are to be sent to the office where parents/carers will be called to take student home.
Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and then throw used tissues in the bin and clean your hands with soap and water or sanitiser. If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into a flexed elbow.	Staff to model behaviour. Tissues provided to each KLA.	PBL Lesson clearly articulating behaviour asked for. Tissues provided to each KLA.
Keep a distance of 1.5 m between yourself and other people.	Do not shake hands. Keep 1.5m from others. Self-regulate, or if directed by a supervisor, work in an alternate space if needed. Maintain seating arrangements which adhere to 1.5m. Generally, no more than 15 students in a classroom depending on its size.	Inside: Students need to maintain a 1.5 m distance from the teacher's instructional space (ie desk and smart board area). They need to be aware of how close they are to other students and distance themselves where possible. Outside: Normal playground activities involving no intentional physical contact is allowed. Sitting in large groups (more than approximately 10 students) is not allowed.