

Friday, 3 September 2021

Kia ora koutou

We have now made it through to the end of week 6 and the school year seems to be quickly moving on. Today's communication includes an update for NCEA, and information in relation to next week's teaching and learning programme, course selection for 2022 and engagement reports.

NCEA - Update

The New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA) has provided us with an update to changes in NCEA for 2021. **The details of this are provided below.**

The key is that these changes will only take place after 20 days of closure due to COVID-19 at Alert Level 3 or 4 during this year. By the end of next Tuesday (7/9/21), our region will be at 15 days. The information can also be found via this link

www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19/ which includes versions of the communication in Samoan, Tongan, Cook Islands Māori and Niuean.

Week 7 Face-to-Face timetable

The timetable shown below, for our face-to-face google meets, is in place again as we continue to work remotely during Week 7. To help manage both staff and student wellbeing, Monday and Friday are days where students can work independently through materials already provided by their teachers. Please be mindful that if our COVID Alert Level changes, then we will be in contact with a revised plan.

Format of Term 3, Week 7 (Monday 6 - Friday 10 September School-Wide Timetable for online "Face-to-Face" Sessions - Google Meet)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9.00 am	STUDENTS work independently on remote learning activities <i>NB some teachers may run optional face-to-face sessions. Students will be contacted directly.</i> STAFF planning & preparation day	SENIORS Monday P1 Class	SENIORS Monday P2 Class	SENIORS Monday P3 Class	STUDENTS work independently on remote learning activities <i>NB some teachers may run optional face-to-face sessions. Students will be contacted directly.</i> STAFF planning & preparation day
10.00 am		Year 10 SST Year 9 SCI	Year 10 ENG Year 9 OPT	Year 10 HPE Year 9 ENG	
11.00 am		SENIORS Monday P4 Class	SENIORS Monday P5 Class	SENIORS Monday P6 Class	
1.00 pm		Year 10 OPT(83) (Mon P5&6, Fri P4) Year 9 MAT	Year 10 OPT(81) (Wed P1&2, Fri P5) Year 9 SST	Year 10 OPT(82) (Thurs P3&4, Tue P2) Year 9 HPE	
2.00 pm		Year 10 SCI Year 9 ARTS	Year 10 MAT Year 9 TECH		

Senior Course Selection

Today we held our senior course selection information day for our current Year 11 and 12 students. We hope that students found the day informative.

On Monday and Tuesday evenings next week, the Careers team are holding two parent 'question and answer' sessions to further clarify any queries you may have relating to course selection. These will be facilitated by James Stewart (Senior Course Tutor) and Kerren Langdon (Careers Advisor, Year 12 Dean). These links have been emailed to parents.

Monday 6/09 7:00-8:00pm Via Zoom

Tuesday 7/09 7:00- 8:00pm Via Google Meets

A reminder that this [link](#) also provides you with information to support course selection. Current Year 11 and 12 students need to complete their 2022 course selection by Friday, 10 September.

Engagement reports

Today we have sent out engagement reports to feedback on how well students have engaged during this period of learning from home. We understand that learning from home is challenging for some families. We will be looking for further ways to support students with low engagement scores as we either return to school or continue learning from home. If you would like to talk further about your child's engagement during lockdown then please contact their form teacher or dean.

Once again we will be looking forward to Monday's government announcement on an update for Alert Levels for our region and are hopeful of a move to Alert Level 2.

Keep safe and take care.

He waka eke noa - We are all in this together

Ngā mihi nui

Jeff Smith

Principal - Tumuaki

NZQA and the Ministry of Education has provided the following information for students and whānau in relation to Changes to NCEA for 2021

Because being in COVID-19 lockdown has affected learning and assessment, changes have been made to NCEA, NZ Scholarship and University Entrance. These changes help give students a fair opportunity to gain the qualification they are aiming for.

These changes will take effect if your school is in Alert Level 3 or 4 for a total of 20 or more school days this year.

What does this mean for students?

The more credits you achieve the more you are entitled to.

- For every 5 credits you achieve through internal or external assessment, you are entitled to 1 extra credit. These extra credits are called Learning Recognition Credits (LRCs)
 - Up to 10 of your LRC's earned this year can be used towards the 80 you need for NCEA Level 1.
 - Up to 8 LRC's earned this year can be used towards the 60 you need at Level 2 and Level 3.

Endorsements are still achievable.

- To get a **certificate endorsement** you will need 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, instead of the usual 50.
- To get a **course endorsement** you will need 12 credits at Achieved or Merit or Excellence level in a course, rather than 14. You still need to achieve at least 3 credits in externals and 3 in internals.
- Your LRCs don't come with Merit or Excellence, so they can't count towards an endorsement.

University Entrance has been adjusted.

- For 2021 the UE requirements have been adjusted from 14 down to 12 credits in three [UE-approved subjects](#). You still need to have NCEA Level 3 and the usual [literacy and numeracy standards](#).

You've got more time to study.

- Most portfolio due dates and exams for NCEA and Scholarship have been moved later, to give more time for students to learn and prepare.

New Exam Timetable

- Make sure that you know when your portfolios are due, and double-check the [new exam timetable](#).

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