



## YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL

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### Students and Staff Welcome Back to School for Term 4

Welcome back after a difficult end to Term 3 for our entire community. After the incredible work of our Hilltops Community the current restrictions in the Hilltop LGA will be eased as planned from 12:01am on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021. This means that our school will return to operating under Level 3 conditions as part of our COVID-safe return to school roadmap.

I would like to thank our school community for your support and follow up after our school was made non-operational on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September for onsite attendance of staff and students due to a member of the community testing positive to COVID-19. The NSW Department of Education and NSW Health have been working closely to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff is maintained. The school was thoroughly cleaned at the beginning of the holiday period and our school site has been operational since Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

Under Level 3 conditions, our students are expected back for face-to-face learning on day 1 of Term 4 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Any students who live in an area still under stay-at-home orders are also expected back at school for face-to-face learning and this is allowed under the public health order. The best learning environment for students is in the classroom and we are looking forward to welcoming back all of our staff and students.

As a reminder, here's what our families and students can expect when returning to school under COVID-safe Level 3 conditions:

- Staff will be required to wear masks indoors and outdoors while on school grounds.
- Students in Year 7 and above will also be required to wear masks indoors on school grounds. Masks are recommended outdoors.
- We will reduce overall mingling of our different student years which means no school assemblies or sport (outside of existing PDHPE classes), excursions or field trips. Bell times and day structures have been altered (see below)
- Only essential visitors will be allowed on site and will be required to check in and wear masks at all times.
- Canteens are open with appropriate hygiene measures in place. Students will be required to place orders for food before school and during the recess break at the canteen.
- Parents and carers will need to remain outside of school grounds, follow physical distancing and avoid gathering for drop-offs and pick-ups.
- There will be enhanced daily cleaning of the school and wherever possible we will ensure classrooms will be well-ventilated with open windows.

### Arrival to school each morning

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October students are to move directly to the following areas when they arrive to school. There will be a staff member at each of the gates to assist and direct students.

- Year 7 to Year 7 area (wet weather move directly to CC classroom)
- Year 8 to senior area (wet weather GPA)
- Years 9 and 10 to AWS (wet weather AWS)

EVERY STUDENT MATTERS  
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- Year 11 to the ICT area (wet weather undercover area near new canteen and hospitality area)
- Year 12 to go to the front steps of A block (wet weather library)

All other morning's students are to make their way to the following areas before period 1:

- Year 7 – the Year 7 front lawn area (wet weather GPA)
- Year 8 – to senior area / front lawn (wet weather – undercover canteen/hospitality area)
- Years 9 and 10 - AWS
- Year 11 and 12 – to move directly to period 1 classroom / learning areas

### Break time changes

To reduce mingling of student cohorts, the break times have been adjusted and areas of the school have been allocated for break times. Break times have been scheduled as follows:

<b>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday break times:</b>	<b>Wednesday times</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RECESS:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10.30am – 10.57am: Years 7, 11 and 12</li> <li>- 10.57am – 11.24am: Years 8, 9 and 10</li> </ul> </li> <li>• LUNCH:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1.04pm – 1.34pm: Years 7, 11 and 12</li> <li>- 1.54pm – 2.24pm: Years 8, 9 and 10</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RECESS:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10.30am – 11.00am: Years 7 - 10</li> </ul> </li> <li>• LUNCH:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12.52pm – 1.22pm: Years 7 – 10</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

We have worked closely with NSW Health in developing our return to school roadmap and COVID-safe school plan. NSW Health will continue to monitor vaccination rates and transmission levels in our LGA and will advise us if settings need re-evaluation.

We are continuing to work closely with NSW Health and other relevant authorities to support our school staff to receive 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccination by 8 November. This will help protect our staff and students.

All students are expected - and will be supported - to return to school for face-to-face learning. I encourage you to get in touch with us directly and visit the [Wellbeing for students and families page](https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/wellbeing-for-students-and-families) - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/wellbeing-for-students-and-families> for support materials.

Please have a look at the [helpful tips for secondary students](https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/wellbeing-for-students-and-families) - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/wellbeing-for-students-and-families> to support them in preparing to start the term. When student return, they will have access to the wellbeing pathways we have at YHS – Year Advisors, Boys and Girls Advisors, Care Connect, Student Support Officer and the School Counselling service.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday.

Anna Barker  
Principal