

27 August 2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Families,

This morning, the NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Education announced changes to the HSC commencement date and priority vaccinations for Year 12 HSC students. The Catholic Schools Office is working closely with Catholic Schools NSW to provide clarity and certainty to you and Year 12 students as quickly as possible.

### **HSC**

HSC written exams will now commence on Tuesday, 9 November 2021. NESA will release further details and the new examination timetable in September.

At this point in time, we have not been informed of changes to the submission dates for HSC major works or performances.

Students will receive their HSC results in January 2022. The university sector has participated in this scheduling and the delayed HSC dates will be factored into the university admissions process.

### **Priority Vaccinations**

The NSW Government has stated that all students sitting their HSC will receive priority vaccination if they are eligible. The NSW Government is strongly encouraging HSC students to book an appointment however this is not mandatory.

NESA will contact Year 12 HSC students next week with the offer to access priority vaccinations. Students will be provided with a link and instructions on how to book in for a vaccination. Our understanding is appointments for both doses of the vaccine will be made through this booking link. Information regarding which vaccine, times and locations have not yet been provided by NSW Health. We expect this information will be included in the email students receive directly from NESA next week.

These two years have been particularly difficult for this Year 12 cohort as they have faced additional adversities on top of what is traditionally the most challenging two years of their secondary schooling. We continue to hold our Year 12 students and their families in our prayers. We also hope all students can achieve the best possible outcomes in these uncertain times and that schools and families can work together to support our young people to respond with resilience to the challenges that may lie ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Sally Towns  
*Director of Catholic Schools*