

## School Calendar 2017

### TERM 4

**Monday 6 November to Friday 10 November**

Year 8 VALID8 Science Assessment

**Wednesday 8 November**

Year 6 Transition Primary to High

**Friday 10 November**

Year 12 Formal

**Monday 13 November to Friday 17 November**

Years 7 and 10 Exams

**Thursday 16 November**

Year 7 Vaccinations and catch-up vaccinations

**Monday 20 November to Friday 24 November**

Years 8 and 9 Exams

**Wednesday 22 November**

Year 6 Transition Primary to High  
Hunter Boys Cricket Trial Maitland

PLEASE SEE OUR SCHOOL CALENDAR ON  
OUR WEB PAGE FOR FURTHER EVENTS

### CANTEEN - Phone 65589963

**Monday 6 November**  
Elona

**Tuesday 7 November**  
No Volunteer

**Wednesday 8 November**  
No Volunteer

**Thursday 9 November**  
Merrilyn Snape

**Friday 10 November**  
Elona

**Monday 13 November**  
Elona

**Tuesday 14 November**  
Jen Scarborough

**Wednesday 15 November**  
No Volunteer

**Thursday 16 November**  
Elona

**Friday 17 November**  
Christina

## STUDENTS ATTEND UPPER HUNTER BEEF BONANZA AT SCONE



The school's steer placed first in the lightweight class,  
led by Andrew Hughes and bred by A and C Luscombe

**Grand Champion  
Parader, Jordyn  
Snape.**

**Jordyn also  
came second in  
the 17/18 Years  
Cattle Judging  
Competition.**

**Congratulations  
Jordyn on  
your amazing  
achievement.**



**Care Achievement Respect Effort Responsibility**

129 Ravenshaw Street, Gloucester NSW 2422 / P 02 6558 1605 / F 02 6558 1229  
[www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au) / [gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to week 5.

It had been a long time in the planning but we now have the new electronic sign at the front of the school. We are waiting for the electrical work to be completed and hope we can turn it on in the next few weeks. Thanks to the School Promotion Team for the planning and to Mr Pat Cavanagh for prioritising this in the budget during the last few years.

Our Agriculture team had a very successful time at the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza at Scone with a number of our students being placed out of a large contingent of student entries. Congratulations to the team and many thanks to our supportive parents and friends who assisted students and staff over the 4 days.

Last weekend Mr Seale, Mrs Moulds and Mr Cavanagh led the new Duke of Ed team on a three day trek across the Barrington Tops and onto Moonan Brook as part of the Bronze Level requirements. Fourteen very enthusiastic students signed up for this event. Again, I would like to thank family and friends who assisted with transportation of students and staff. Thank you also to staff and Mr Cavanagh (who came back especially for the trip) for giving up their weekend to support our students in this worthwhile program that is an important part of our extra curriculum.

A reminder to families that the junior students will begin revision of work in readiness for their yearly examinations. If you would like advice in supporting your child with a study routine, please contact your child's Year Adviser to discuss strategies to assist.

Mrs Trudi Edman, Relieving Principal



## STUDENTS SUPPORT LEGACY

Sarah Benson, Andrew Hughes, Esmee Rose, Emme Moulds and Bryce Lacey recently assisted Legacy with their sale of merchandise to raise funds for Legacy. Students received a certificate from Legacy for assisting them on the day.



## YEARLY EXAMINATIONS

Yearly Examinations to be held on the following dates:

Years 7 and 10 (Week 6) - week commencing Monday 13 November 2017

Years 8 and 9 (Week 7) - week commencing Monday 20 November 2017

Students have received a copy of their Examination Timetable. They are also available on the school website.

Year 7 link: [http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year\\_7\\_yearly\\_exams\\_2017\\_.pdf](http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year_7_yearly_exams_2017_.pdf)

Year 8 link: [http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year\\_8\\_yearly\\_exams\\_2017\\_.pdf](http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year_8_yearly_exams_2017_.pdf)

Year 9 link: [http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year\\_9\\_yearly\\_exams\\_2017.pdf](http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year_9_yearly_exams_2017.pdf)

Year 10 link: [http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year\\_10\\_yearly\\_exams\\_2017\\_.pdf](http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/5807549/5813452/year_10_yearly_exams_2017_.pdf)



## UPPER HUNTER BEEF BONANZA AT SCONE

On Thursday 26 October, 17 Agriculture and Primary Industry students travelled to Scone for the annual Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza, accompanied by teachers Mr McCann, Miss Ross and a group of parent helpers. 838 students from 82 schools across the State participated in this cattle showing event, gaining skills in cattle assessment, cattle handling and caring for animals. There were over 400 head of cattle on parade.



For months students have been preparing their cattle to be in prime condition for this event, and did a fantastic job. Andrew Hughes and Kieran Schneider were the main students feeding the steers on weekends and in the holidays. Thank you for your dedication.

The students spent the first day travelling, setting up their camps and settling the five head of cattle into their stalls. They then spent the next three days participating in events. Luckily they packed spare ropes, as the camp experienced a storm on the first night! Thankfully, the next day, all their tents and gazebos were still anchored to the ground.

Friday, students woke at 5.30 am to wash, groom and prepare the cattle ready for the competition, and then were organised into age groups to attend workshops. Students rotated between an array of different workshops ie cattle judging skills, meat judging skills, interview strategies and more. These workshops were very beneficial and allowed students to hone their skills ready for judging classes the next day.

Maddy Bignell represented Gloucester High in the School Steer Challenge Paraders class, where she was placed 4th in a competitive class.



Saturday commenced with led steer and heifer classes, with Andrew Hughes, Miranda Riley, Tom Murray, Kieran Schneider and Cameron Dunlop leading the school's animals. The Angus Limousin cross steer in the light weight section, led by Andrew Hughes, was successful and placed first in his class, bringing home a blue ribbon. This was one of two steers purchased from Alan and Carole Luscombe who came to support the students. Jordyn Snape also entered two steers in the middle weight class section and gained a fourth place ribbon for one of her steers in its class.

Saturday afternoon Lilly Ryll and Tayla Hartley represented the school in paraders. This is where the students show off their steer/heifer to the judge by ensuring both the animal and themselves are presented correctly.

Saturday night was a fun, competitive night with students, teachers and parents being a part of the interactive judging at the Scone Saleyards. Students observe





## UPPER HUNTER BEEF BONANZA continued.....

three different groups of cattle and order them from 1-4. These scores were then compared with the judges, determining the winner of this activity. Students were provided the opportunity to share their own judging comments on the cattle. Cael Hickman was asked to share his judging comments with the other schools and committee members present.

The final day was all hands on deck as they packed up, competed in the junior judging competition and washed and groomed cattle for the final paraders classes. Students progressed through different yards judging groups of different cattle which were then compared to the official judges scores. Jordyn Snape in the 17/18 years and Cameron Dunlop in the 15 years were in the top 9 of their age judging class and were asked to compete in the oral presentations. This stage of judging requires students to speak on how they placed the livestock and why. Jordyn and Cameron spoke extremely well, with Jordyn Snape coming second in her age group.

The paraders classes consisted of; Jordyn Snape, Madeline Blanch, Amelia Carson, Chloe Garnham, Ariel Hill, Isabella Erasmus, Cael Hickman and Miranda Riley. Congratulations to Miranda who placed third in her paraders class and to Jordyn Snape who placed first in her class and Champion Parader overall. Congratulations Jordyn on this remarkable and deserving prize.

Each student who represented Gloucester High School was a credit to the school and should be very proud of both their achievements and effort. A special mention to Kieran Schneider and the other Year 11/12 students who took on a lot of the preparation roles, and assisted and taught the younger students.

The students now await the results of how their animals went on the hook. Some brave faces were seen as they said goodbye to the cattle they had grown very fond of.

The Ag Team would like to thank the teachers for giving up their weekend and the amazing parent helpers; Rachel Blanch, Ross and Bridget Edwards, Julian Schneider, Leonie Hughes, David and Narelle Bignell.

Click on this link to see more about Beef Bonanza <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pC7X31f9UGk>





## YEAR 10 FOOD TECHNOLOGY - A Cultural Celebration

A recent assessment task for Year 10 Food Technology has revealed an excellent knowledge of the special preparations made by people in various countries in celebration of some spectacular events. The topics included “Harbin Ice”, “The Day of the Dead”, “New York Strawberry Festival”, “Bastille Day” and “Monkey Buffet”, among others.

Each student had to research the history of the festival and the relevance of food in the celebrations, as well as create a video link plus some puzzles or games, and make a power point and/or verbal presentation. The final activity was to choose a recipe from their celebration and reproduce it in a major practical lesson. As you can see, the results were outstanding!

Mrs Harris/Mrs A Andrews



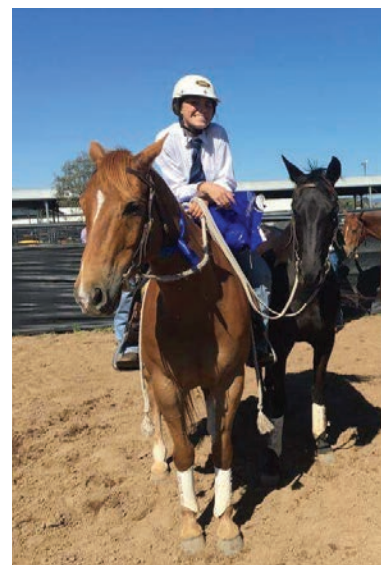
## TAMWORTH INTERSCHOOLS HORSE EXTRAVAGANZA 13 – 16 OCTOBER

Jordyn Snape recently represented Gloucester High School in the Interschools Horse Extravaganza at Tamworth.

Congratulations Jordyn on achieving a first place in the campdrafting event.

## SCHOOL CANTEEN

Helpers are urgently needed. Please phone Mandy at the Canteen on 65589963.



## ICAS MATHEMATICS

Congratulations to all students who participated in the ICAS Mathematics and produced some very good results. Special acknowledgement goes to Ethan Bird who finished in the top 5% of entrants and received a Distinction, as well as the Principal's Award.

ICAS caters for students in Years 3 to 12 and assesses students skills in Computer Skills (now Digital Technologies), English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. ICAS are conducted annually in Australia and in over 20 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Pacific countries, and America.



Mr Phil Dowle, Head Teacher Science

## YEAR 8 - VALID SCIENCE 8 TEST - IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS/ CARERS

The Validation of Assessment 4 Learning & Individual Development (VALID) test for Year 8 students will be held between **Monday 6 November and Friday 10 November 2017**. The test takes approximately 80 minutes. The VALID Science 8 test is an interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer.

VALID Science 8 contains multiple choice, short response and extended response tasks that are grouped around real-world issues, including scientific investigations. This is a diagnostic test, with tasks framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the NSW Science Years K–10 Syllabus. Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas.

Students also complete a survey about their opinions, attitudes and values.

Since students complete VALID Science 8 on a computer, **EACH STUDENT NEEDS TO BRING HEADPHONES OR EARBUDS THAT PLUG INTO A SCHOOL COMPUTER. EARBUDS FOR AN IPOD OR PORTABLE PLAYER ARE SUITABLE.**

If your child has a disability that needs special consideration or has been educated in English for less than one year, please contact your child's school to discuss special provisions or possible exemption from the test.

Results of the test will be available during Term 1 2018. Information about each student is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that the right to privacy of all students is maintained. A personal report for each student will be sent to parents/carers to describe the science knowledge and skills demonstrated by the student in the test. There will also be information about how your child's results compare with overall performance of all students in the test.

If you would like to be provided with more details about the VALID program or you require additional information please contact the school on 65581605.

Mr Shane McNerney, Head Teacher Science



## YEAR 9 SCIENCE CLASS - Renewable Energy Topic

Year 9 students built solar cars to see how solar energy is converted into kinetic energy. The students were very engaged with building the cars and tried to modify their cars to run faster.



## SRC CRAZY HAIR DAY AND BAKE SALE

SRC held a Crazy Hair and Bake Sale day on Friday 3 November as a charity fundraiser for the SRC. The SRC have a fundraising project for the coming year to raise lots of money to buy “life straws” for Third World children. Life straws are able to filter water to potable standards enabling anyone to drink dirty or contaminated water from its source.

There were some fantastic hair designs created by the students, Emily Walker of Year 7 was a winner.

The SRC also held a lolly guessing competition which was won by Darcy Allardice.







# 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](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

# CAREERS NEWS

## Year 10 Careers Classes:

This term, during Careers lessons, all students MUST complete the Mandatory Board of Studies requirements for the , “All My Own Work” (AMOW) Program. The HSC: All My Own Work program is designed to help Higher School Certificate students to follow the principles and practices of good scholarship. This includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies.

The program has been developed as part of the NSW Government's Respect and Responsibility strategy and complements other approaches such as brochures for teachers, students and parents and strengthened student and teacher declarations for the HSC.

The HSC: All My Own Work program is integrated with other NSW syllabuses and programs. The program is designed to be delivered flexibly as self-paced learning modules.

The program's content is divided into five modules:

1. Scholarship Principles and Practices
2. Acknowledging Sources
3. Plagiarism
4. Copyright
5. Working with others

Each module contains:

- Information and advice on the module focus questions
- Quiz questions
- Summary
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Link to a glossary
- Links to relevant websites.

In a nutshell, AMOW provides students with a contemporary and relevant understanding of how to avoid plagiarism. Please note: Students are unable to be enrolled as Year 11 Students until this requirement is fulfilled. All students will need to complete all 5 Module Quizzes. It is important that each Quiz Report has the student's full name on it. The quizzes can either be printed off as a hard copy, or emailed directly to: [michael.deangelis@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:michael.deangelis@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Thinking About Job Trends

The Australian Jobs 2017 report from the Australian Government Department of Employment gives a summary of employment trends in Australia. It has important messages about career and study planning for young Australians. The report describes the challenges faced by young people in getting a job. Even though youth unemployment fell marginally in 2016, the rate of 12.3% for January 2017 is well above the 8% of 2008.

### Qualifications and Experience Matter

Study and training after Year 10 link to better employment prospects – the higher the level of study, the higher the chance of participation in employment across adult life:

Bachelor degree 86.9%

Diploma 84.4%

Certificate III or IV 85.3%



## CAREERS NEWS CONTINUED.....

Year 12 or equivalent 76.2%

Year 11 66.6%

Year 10 55.7%

This means that there are real gains to be made from taking up study or training options after Year 10 – and highlights the value of VET qualifications alongside academic choices. The report also showed that workers with higher qualifications are likely to earn higher incomes.

Employers are increasingly looking for experienced workers – more than half of the employers were requiring some level of experience when advertising for positions. This may mean that young people's part time work and volunteering choices could be an important aspect of their future career planning.

### Where are the jobs?

The report listed the following as the largest employing industries: health care and social assistance; retail trade; construction and professional, scientific and technical services. Industries which have created the largest numbers of new jobs were: health care and social services; professional, scientific and technical services; education and training and accommodation and food services.

[Australian Jobs 2017 link to full report](#)

### A Job with a Difference!

#### Engineering Psychologist

We usually think of psychology as having to do with people – but engineering psychologists focus on machines and technology. They work with architects and designers of consumer products like telephones, cameras and home appliances to determine such features as the size and placement of operating buttons on the appliances. They also look at the design of tools and workplaces that are important to performance and personal safety.



### Employability Skills

#### What are Employability Skills?

Employability skills are personal, transferable skills that are important to employers. Young people gain employability skills at school, work, and when volunteering or participating in sport or cultural activities. The Australian Jobs Guide 2017 gives “people skills” (how we relate to others), as the employability skills most important to employers in Australia.

Youth Central (a great website for young people by the Victorian Government), explains 8 employability skills:

**Communication:** being confident to speak with others and in written letters, notes and customer documents. Every group task, oral presentation and assignment at school helps this one!

**Teamwork:** being able to work well with others and support the team by doing your allocated tasks well. Volunteering and part-time work can help you to learn these skills.

**Problem-solving:** being able to find solutions in a new situation or task. You work on this when you do school assignments and, for example, handling customer complaints in your part-time job.

**Initiative and Enterprise:** being able to think creatively and make improvements to the way things are. Think about joining a service group at school to develop this skill.

## CAREERS NEWS CONTINUED.....

**Planning and Organising:** being able to plan, prioritise and meet deadlines. You do this every day as you meet school deadlines and organise all the activities you do.

**Self-Management:** being able to get on with your work without someone having to check on you. Learning how to work independently is a very important work skill.

**Learning is life-long.** Taking opportunities at work to learn new things, undertaking study so that you have the capacity to advance in your work or take up new, higher-level jobs is a part of every successful worker's life.

**Technology and Using Tools:** having the capacity to use a word processor, spreadsheet and email (and using the tools of your trade) are core things at work. You need to feel comfortable to try new programs, learn to trouble-shoot and show that you are keen to learn for this skill.

### Why are employability skills important for young people at school?

The Australian Jobs 2017 report states that about 2/3 of employers put more emphasis on employability skills when they are hiring employees than they do on technical skills.

A Seek article on transferable skills tells us that, as workplaces and jobs change over time – with some jobs ceasing to exist and new ones developing, it is the transferable skills we have which will make us flexible, employable, and able to adapt to change.

Mr De Angelis, Careers Teacher

### STRATFORD COAL EDUCATION SUPPORT FUND



#### Education and Training Grants 2018

Applications are invited from interested persons and businesses for financial assistance grants for 2018 in the following categories:

**Tertiary Assistance Grants** – \$2000 per grant. For intending or currently enrolled university applicants who have not previously received a grant.

**TAFE Course Benefits** - \$1000 per benefit.

**Apprenticeships/Traineeships Subsidies** – Up to \$6000 over three years to assist local businesses to employ an apprentice or trainee.

#### Criteria

University and TAFE applicants need to have completed six years of their schooling at a Gloucester basin School ( Booral to Barrington ). For the business subsidies, applicants need to be locally owned or operated businesses.

#### Note

All grants, benefits, scholarships and subsidies will be awarded on the basis of the quality of the written application.

**APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL AND COUNCIL'S ADMINISTRATION CENTRE FROM THURSDAY 16/11/17.**

For further information contact: John Walton ☎(02) 65588272

**Applications close on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2018.**



# CAMBODIA TRIP 2018



Church on the Hill is planning to travel to Cambodia in May 2018. They will give some assistance to Cambodian Care, a Christian charity in Cambodia who are working with some of the poorest communities there.



To find out more about these issues and this trip, please come along to an Info Hour at Ty and Sare's place (5 Wright Close, Gloucester), on **Sunday November 5th at 11am**. Give us a ring (65582080) or email ([ty@churchonthehill.com.au](mailto:ty@churchonthehill.com.au)) if you'd like to know more.



## Feast For Funding

Help the Rotary Club of Gloucester raise funds to assist Interplast in the South Pacific Region.

*Dear Fellow Rotarians*

*I want to Challenge you to help Interplast in their life-changing work during the month of November!*

*I would like each of you to host a dinner either yourself or in teams of 2 Rotarians and partners. I am asking that you ask your guests to donate \$50 per couple for this great cause (and hopefully a great evening!). You are welcome to take your costs out if you wish.*

*The Challenge is that I want no more than 50% of your guests to have been to your house for dinner before!*

*Make sure that you tell them about the important work of Interplast during the evening. (I will supply material).*

*This offers a many fold opportunity to network, build friendships, promote Rotary and Interplast, and also involve our partners in this important fundraiser.*

*I leave it to you to arrange dates and guests. Just contact myself or Ashleigh for Interplast material.*

*Yours in Rotary*

*Peter Markey.*



# HSC MINIMUM STANDARD

## PARENT INFORMATION ON THE TRIAL ONLINE TESTS

October 2017

**Schools are trialling the online tests that will be used by students to demonstrate they have met the HSC minimum standard.**



Current Year 9 students are the first cohort that need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy in order to receive their HSC.

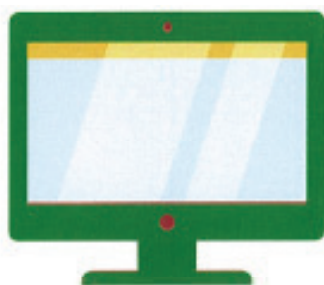
Most students will show they've met the standard through new online tests that can be taken during Years 10, 11 or 12. Students who achieved NAPLAN Band 8 in Year 9 have met the standard early and don't need to take the tests.

### HOW THE TRIAL TESTS HELP NESA

To prepare for the tests in 2018, NESA needs to check the suitability of the questions. To do this, they have invited all current Year 9 students to trial the online tests in 2017.

Although Year 10 students do not need to demonstrate the HSC minimum standard to receive their HSC, NESA has also asked Year 10 students to help with the trial, in order to test the questions with a wider number of students.

### HOW THE TRIAL TESTS BENEFIT YOUR CHILD



The trial assessments will take place at school and will:

- ✓ Allow Year 9 students to gain an early understanding of the test format
- ✓ Provide Year 10 students with experience of online test environments

As the 2017 tests are a trial, the results do not contribute towards your child's HSC minimum standard. However, schools will receive feedback on students' performance.



## THE ONLINE TESTS FROM 2018



To meet the HSC minimum standard, current Year 9 students will have two opportunities a year from Year 10 to pass each online test.

Starting in 2018, these 45 minute tests will include:

- ✓ multiple choice reading test
- ✓ multiple choice numeracy test
- ✓ 500 word writing test

## Sample test questions are available on the NESA website

<https://hsliteracynumeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

The online test dates (school days only) for 2018 are:

- Term 1: 19 February to 23 March 2018
- Term 2: 21 May to 22 June 2018
- Term 3: 13 August to 14 September 2018
- Term 4: 5 November to 7 December 2018



## MORE INFORMATION

Contact your school principal for more detailed information about the HSC minimum standard or visit the NESA website:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au>

## STAY UP TO DATE



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[strongerHSC@nesa.nsw.edu.au](mailto:strongerHSC@nesa.nsw.edu.au)



## SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Gloucester High School aims to develop a supportive learning environment that engages all students,  
Teachers and community in the pursuit of excellence.



Education &  
Communities

Relieving Principal  
Relieving Deputy Principal  
Address:  
Telephone:  
Email:  
Web:

Mrs Trudi Edman  
Mr Mik Wisely  
129 Ravenshaw Street, Gloucester NSW 2422  
6558 1605 Fax: 6558 1229  
[gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)