

September 2020

| NSW Department of Education

COVID-19 safe expectations during HSC written examinations

This information will assist students understand the COVID-19 safe arrangements in place when attending their HSC examination. The safety and wellbeing of students and staff in attendance is of paramount importance to us and as such we ask all students to co-operate with these arrangements at all times.

Screening for students with symptoms

- Students must not attend the exam if they are unwell
- Students will be asked upon arrival if they have any flu-like symptoms or if they should be in self-isolation under direction by NSW Health
- Students displaying flu-like symptoms or who advise they are unwell will be asked to leave the school and arrange to have a COVID-19 test
- Students with a clinical history or known illness that may appear like COVID-19 symptoms should be planning now and speak to their doctor (GP). The GP can provide written assurance – e.g. the student presents this symptom on a normal basis.

Flu-like symptoms

Flu-like symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste, and loss of smell. Additional information about COVID-19 symptoms can be found on the [NSW Health website](#).

Students who are displaying even mild flu-like symptoms should leave immediately and not return until they have a negative COVID-19 test and are symptom-free.

Fast track COVID-19 test results

HSC students can fast-track their COVID-19 test results.

To do this they must:

- say they are a HSC student when taking a test
- ensure the nurse or doctor doing the test marks their referral 'urgent — HSC'
- self-isolate until a negative result is received
- show their school the negative result
- call the contact number provided by the clinic if results are not received within 36 hours.

Minimising the risk of transmission

- Students should wash their hands or use hand sanitiser prior to commencing the exam.
- Maintain good personal hygiene practices during the exam including covering a cough or sneeze by coughing or sneezing into their elbow or a tissue, disposing of tissues at the end of the exam.
- Avoid shaking hands or hugging other students on exam days.
- Hygiene supplies that will be available at all exam venues are:
 - Sanitiser
 - Wipes
- A student may wipe down their table before they begin their exam if they choose to.
- Students should not mingle in large groups prior to or after the exam.
- Exam rooms will be cleaned each day.

Arrival and sign-on arrangements

- Students should arrive no more than 20 minutes prior to the exam and report directly to the designated exam room for screening and sign-on.
- Students will be asked to sign an attendance sheet confirming attendance at the exam, providing contact details and that they do not have flu-like symptoms.

Alternative examination locations

Your school has identified an alternative examination location in the event that the examination is unable to proceed in the planned location. This information will be provided to you on your personal examination timetable so it is readily available at short notice in case it is required.

This is a backup only and students should attend the planned location unless advised by the school. Do not attend a proposed alternative location if you have not been told to do so by the school.

Confirmed cases of COVID-19

If, during the examination period, the school is advised by NSW Health that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 which will impact the school, arrangements are in place to minimise disruption where possible. The school may advise you the day before that the examination will be relocated to the alternative venue detailed in your timetable or the exam may be cancelled.

Illness/Misadventure

Students who do not attend an exam due to having symptoms, or who are turned away as a result of screening will be eligible for an illness/misadventure claim. Your school will assist you through this process where required.

Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need further information please call your school principal. If you need an interpreter to assist you with your enquiry please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. This service will be free of charge to you