



## Kia Ora,

We are now well into Term 3 with winter tournament approaching and senior exams after that. Thank you in advance to the managers and other volunteers helping to take our teams away.

### KBB Success

Congratulations to Mr Lile and our music students, who won three medals at the recent KBB Music Festival. The results for our groups were as follows:

- The String Ensemble Band ... Bronze Medal
- The Big Band ... Silver Medal
- The Concert Band ... Silver Medal

This is an excellent result that reflects the talent and work of our music staff and students. Well done to everyone involved.

### Construction Work

By the end of term, we will commence two significant projects – our new weights room and garages, and our new science block. Mrs Hewetson has provided some more information about these projects below.

These projects will be disruptive. While the construction areas will be fenced off from the college, they will impact on access to the college, and at times, our operations. We will endeavour to keep you informed about what is happening, and thank you (and our students) for your patience and support around this. It is exciting to see these much anticipated projects become a reality.

### Learning Support

You may have heard the recent announcement by the coalition government to increase investment in Learning Support across New Zealand schools. This is being done in a series of 'tranches'. Glendowie College, along with our contributing schools (Churchill Park, Glendowie Primary and St Heliers) have fortunately been included in the first tranche. The college is currently advertising for two full-time Learning Support Coordinators to begin at the college next year. It is great to be part of this initiative with our contributing schools.

### Level 1 NCEA

In consultation with the Board of Trustees, the college has decided to develop its own year 11 curriculum and assessment to replace Level 1 NCEA from 2021. This curriculum will provide a rigorous course of study, designed by college staff, that will better prepare students for Levels 2 and 3 NCEA, and NZ Scholarship. We have made this decision for the following reasons:

- Level of Challenge  
Over 80% of our students now achieve Level 1 NCEA with a merit or excellence endorsement. We believe that we can deliver a more challenging curriculum and assessment programme that better prepares Glendowie College students for Levels 2 and 3 NCEA, and NZ Scholarship.



## Upcoming Events:

### September

2-6	Winter Tournament Week
11-18	Senior Exams
12	Parents' Association Meeting (7pm-9pm, Staffroom)
18	Board of Trustees Meeting (6pm-9pm, Boardroom)
19	Year 11 Media Film Festival (7pm-10pm, Hall)
22-24	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Tramp
23	Year 12 Media Film Festival (7pm-10pm, Hall)
24	Taurere Whānau Hui (6:30pm-7:30pm, Library)
24	Year 13 Media Film Festival (7pm-10pm, Hall)
25	Media Awards Ceremony (7pm-10pm, Hall)
26	Arts Awards (7pm-10pm, Hall)
27	End of Term 3

(For a full list of upcoming events, please refer to the calendar on the college website.)



# glendowie news

- **More Time for Learning**  
Our students leave for study and exams at the end of week 3 in Term 4. This means they miss nearly six weeks of teaching time. If time lost through the year to NCEA administration is also counted, this decision will increase students' learning time by approximately 8 weeks over the academic year, as year 11 students will remain at school through to December and the final day at the end of the year.
- **More Time for Teaching**  
NCEA creates a lot of administration for teachers. I want to see teachers spend less time on administration and compliance, and more on preparing quality lessons for their students.
- **Wellbeing**  
The structure of NCEA means that students work constantly on high-stake assessments through the year, as well as sitting exams at the year-end. We see students increasingly suffering from assessment burnout and anxiety by year 13, impacting on their most important qualification. We are also seeing an impact on staff wellbeing.
- **Level 1 is Unnecessary for Glendowie Students**  
Over 90% of Glendowie College students stay through to year 13 and achieve Level 3 NCEA. Those who do not stay at the college transfer to other schools or shift overseas. Level 1 NCEA is no longer an exit qualification for our students.

This decision is in line with similar schools and the recent NCEA review. Further on in this newsletter, I have included answers to some FAQ's that parents are likely to have, and given a timeline for the implementation of this decision.

## **Cellphone-free Policy**

Also in consultation with the Board of Trustees, the college has decided go 'cellphone-free' for juniors later in 2019 after the senior students have left for NCEA, and for all students from the start of 2020.

While cellphones have many positive uses, there is growing concern around the need for adolescents to have some space from their phones. The book 'Teenage Brain' by David Gillespie is good book to read on this. This research matches our experience of cellphones, and their impact on students' wellbeing and academic engagement in class. We have also received a growing number of requests from parents for restrictions on students' use of cellphones at the college.

Cellphone use has become ubiquitous at the college, based on an informal count, at least 50% of students have them out or use them at interval or lunchtime. Students are currently free to use phones during interval and lunch, and may use them in class at the discretion of their teacher.

When we go cellphone free, students will be able to have a cellphone in their bag, but may not use it at school (in or out of class) between 8.00am and 3.20pm.

Over the next few weeks/months, we will talk with students about this and gather their feedback before determining how we best implement this. We will explain the procedures to students and parents closer to the time.

We are doing this because we are concerned about our students' wellbeing and believe that adolescents need space from their cellphones, not because cellphones are bad. I appreciate that this will impact on parents and whānau, and so have included more information on this decision further on in this newsletter.

**Ngā mihi nui,  
Richard Dykes  
Principal**



## Digital Exams

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### Information for Students and Parents/Caregivers re Digital Examinations 2019

Our young people are living and learning in a global, digitally connected world. NZQA wants to ensure we support our young people to have the skills they need to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Our vision is for learners to 'Qualify for the future world: Kia noho takatū ki tō āmua ao'.

NZQA is changing how students can do their NCEA exams – from hand-written papers to online, using a PC or laptop. This reflects the way students already interact with the world, and how they are doing much of their learning, this helps to prepare them for their next steps after school, and we know that for some students, this is their preferred way to sit their examinations.

This is our first year of offering digital examinations in some subjects:

- Level 1 Te Reo Maori
- Level 1 English (one class)
- Level 1 Business Studies (one class)
- Level 1, 2 & 3 Media Studies

There are systems in place to ensure that students will not be disadvantaged if something technically goes wrong, as the backup process is clearly laid out. If there is a digital examination for a student's subject(s), their teacher will talk to them about how they will process the student's decision as to whether they write or type their responses.

Finally, if your child already has special assessment provisions, please talk to the Learning Assistance Department before you make any decisions in relation to digital examinations.

A letter with more information should have been sent to every family where a child is in a subject class intending to do that subject exam digitally. Please contact me ([cha@gdc.school.nz](mailto:cha@gdc.school.nz)) if you have not received this.

***Mr Praveen Chand, Deputy Principal – Curriculum and Assessment***

## Building Projects

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Further to Mr Dykes' mention above, construction will commence on two building projects next week. The first project will take place adjacent to the Old Gym, which will become a large driveway area with new storage and garaging. The old weights room will be converted into a garage and a caretaker office.

The second project is the new weights room, which will be built on the north side of the Moore Gym. This will cause some disruption for students who would normally enter the school through the gate on Mt Taylor Drive as this will no longer be accessible for students. From Monday, 2 September 2019, this gate will be closed as it will be used as an entrance for contractors working on both projects.

Construction of the new Science block will also commence shortly. Preliminary work is scheduled to start on Monday, 16 September 2019. Gate 3 will be used for construction traffic, so it is expected that this gate will also be unavailable to be used as a school entrance from that date.

***Mrs Sharon Hewetson, Deputy Principal***



## Student Job Directory

'MoneyHub' has published a comprehensive directory of student jobs for summer 2019-2020. With over 50 well-known employers listed and links to their student job application details, there is something for everyone! **Getting a summer job is a lot easier with this guide**, which is exclusive to MoneyHub.

To access the guide, please visit the [MoneyHub Student Job Directory](#) or [GC Net \(Careers Page\)](#) – Topic 6 'Job Opportunities Database'.

## Helping Children in Step Families

### Blended Family Success: Expert Advice

**ONE DAY ONLY.** Essential information for every couple on how to create a united, supportive home life and help children adjust in a step family.

This is a workshop that provides advice on how to overcome challenges and learn practical strategies that really work, so you can live happily ever after in your step family!

**Date:** 7 September 2019 (Saturday)

**Time:** 8.30am – 3.30pm

**Venue:** The Parenting Place, 300 Great South Road, Greenlane, Auckland

This is the last workshop for this year. Numbers are limited, so please book your tickets early to avoid missing out!

For more details and to book your tickets, please visit this link: [www.blendedfamilysuccess.nz/events](http://www.blendedfamilysuccess.nz/events)

Please email Adele Cornish on [adele@stepfamilyhelp.info](mailto:adele@stepfamilyhelp.info) if you have any further queries.

## 'CloudMass' heading to Thailand

We are thrilled to announce that Adam Jonkers (12SRM) will be representing 'CloudMass' at the BizVenture Programme in Thailand during the October term break this year. Adam, together with 9 other Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) colleagues, will learn about sustainability, local culture and develop business connections in the region.

'CloudMass' is one of the five YES businesses participating in the Global Kaitiakitanga Project, a 14-month programme of international collaboration. The winners will travel to World Expo 2020 in Dubai to showcase their business on the world stage. This is an exciting opportunity for 'CloudMass', and Adam has a strong support from his 'CloudMass' team – Sean Gibbs (12PTW) and Matthew Bilby (TBS). We wish Adam all the best in his venture to Thailand.

**Mrs Pritika Harduar, Young Enterprise Scheme Teacher-in-charge**





# glendowie news

## KBB Music Festival 2019

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The annual KBB Music Festival included three entries this year from Glendowie College, with more than 50 of our students participating. The calibre of performances was high, with 143 ensembles of over 4000 students from Auckland, Palmerston North and Kaitiaki.



On the afternoon of Tuesday 13 August, the Glendowie College 'String Ensemble' performed a varied programme of Vivaldi, Bartok, Sibelius and Balmages under the baton of Ms Joanne Johnston. Their improvement in standard continues, from last year's commendation to a Bronze Award this year. Their rendition of Balmages '*It Takes One to Tango*', featuring Damon Herlihy-O'Brien (11LWS) as cello soloist, was one of only three pieces in the entire festival that earned a Chairperson's nomination for 'Command Performance' – an outstanding achievement for a young and up-and-coming ensemble.

The Glendowie College 'Big Band' earned a well-deserved Silver Award with their programme of jazz featuring solos from saxophonists Toby Smit (12COO), Quenton Yeo (12MCB), Joshua Sain (12SRM) and percussionists, Caitlin Buchanan (12SRM) and Damon Herlihy-O'Brien (11LWS). Again, this is a steady improvement on last year's non-competitive participation award, so our appreciation goes to Mr Callum Passells for steering the group to their success.

Our Glendowie College 'Concert Band' also achieved a Silver Award at the KBB Festival after competing earlier in the month at the New Zealand Concert Bands' Association Festival at Diocesan School for Girls and receiving a Bronze Award. They continued this year's Glendowie College trend of improvement with their programme of old favourites (Robert Sheldon's '*Choreography*' and the movie music '*Pirates of the Caribbean*') and a possible New Zealand premiere of Adam Gorb's '*Sunrise and Safari*'.

Special mention goes to Callum Collier (13LIU), Mayna Tse (13IFR) and Damon Herlihy-O'Brien (11LWS) for being selected for the KBB Honours Symphony Orchestra, and Joshua Sain (12SRM) for being selected for the KBB Honours Big Band. Both groups convened for an intensive three hours of rehearsal before performing an impressive and polished programme of music on Friday, 16 August 2019.



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## Dance Showcase 2019

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On Wednesday 28 August 2019, 89 students went on the stage to showcase their work from curricular and co-curricular dance this year. The students were greeted by a large and enthusiastic audience, and rose to the challenge impressively. Performances included pieces from the YouDance Festival, Scholarship Dance submissions, and lots of fun works in Jazz, Contemporary, Musical Theatre, Hip-Hop, and Samoan Sasa.

Special thanks to Mr Oliver Humphries and Miss Clare Thomson for their hard work towards, and on, the evening. Congratulations to everyone involved, and particularly our Year 12 and 13 Dance students, who performed 10 dances between them!



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## 1960's Alumni Reunion

On the evening of Friday 16 August 2019, the college hall was alive with the sounds of 1960's Alumni reuniting.

What an amazing night! It was fantastic to see so many former students connecting again – upwards of 160 Alumni from the 1960's were present. 7 Alumni travelled from Australia, 1 from the USA and more than 20 from outside Auckland attended the event. Many former students had not seen each other for years, or decades. It was wonderful to hear all the stories of days gone by and see people so delighted to catch up.

A big thank you to:

- Brian Maginness, 1960's alumni, for all his successful networking to ensure that everyone knew about the reunion;
- Richard Dykes, Principal, and Sharon Hewetson, Deputy Principal, for supporting the growth of the Alumni, and especially Sharon for her hard work on the night;
- Current and former students – Tom Kinley, Jacob Smith, Emma Hewetson, Holly van der Merwe (12TBS), Maggie Gibson (12COO), and Alex Reid (12SRM) for their help with the bar and serving on the night;
- All the support staff who helped out behind the scenes;
- All 1960's Alumni who made the effort to come along. Their continuous support and donations are very much appreciated.



If you are a former student, parent or staff member, we would love you to sign up to our Alumni database. Please click here: [alumni signup](#), and we will keep in touch and let you know of our future events. We look forward to seeing our Alumni at future events.

**Ms Nicole Parish, Alumni Advancement Co-ordinator**

## International Culture and Language Week

Last week, we had our International Culture and Language Week. There were events held in the library and daily form class challenges. Activities included a language Kahoot, origami, chopstick race and a talent show. Congratulations to 9GLT who can count to 10 in 9 different languages, Lisa Schubert (10WNS) who can do it in 6 languages and 9GRY who told me they loved me in 8 different languages – I love you too!

A huge thank you to the prefects who helped organise the week, and to the wonderful students who came along and supported the week, and especially to those who performed for us at lunchtime. It was wonderful to see so many beautiful cultures and languages represented and celebrated at Glendowie College.



**Ms Anna Vincent, Faculty Leader Languages**



## Sports Update

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### Basketball



Congratulations to our U17 Girls Basketball team. After qualifying from our Zone, the girls played in the Auckland-wide Championship. Good wins over Aorere and Rangitoto Colleges, saw the team top their pool. Our girls finished in third position after a narrow loss in the semi-final to champions Carmel College.

### Underwater Hockey



Congratulations to Jackson Godfrey (13WBR) who competed in the recent Underwater Hockey World Championships, representing the NZ U19 Men's team. The team won the Gold Medal and Jackson was awarded the Tournament MVP (Most Valuable Player). A great achievement!!!

For more information, please visit this link: [underwater\\_hockey championships](https://www.underwaterhockey.org.nz/championships)

### Rugby



Congratulations to Cairo Stark (13JAN), who was selected to play for the Auckland U18 Barbarians Rugby team. The team will play in the Northern Region U18 Tournament against Provincial Representative teams from Northland, Bay of Plenty and Waikato. We wish Cairo all the best.

Well done to Tevivi Tuarae (12CHP), Miami Taula (10NAI), Richard Faleono (CNR) and Anthony Pome'e (11HEN) who have also been invited to attend various Auckland Rugby Representative sessions.

### Sports Awards

With the annual Sports Awards evening approaching fast, we ask that any trophy winners from last year please return their trophies to the Sports Office as soon as possible.

### Tournament Week

We wish all teams heading away next week the best of luck. Have a great week, and do yourselves and the school proud.

**Mr Jeremy Adams, Sport Co-ordinator**



## 2019 International Market Day

The International Market Day was held last Friday, 23 August 2019. Year 11 Business Studies students implemented their business inquiry projects and presented a range of cuisines from many countries, including Brazil, South Africa, China, Japan, Vietnam, Korea and Mexico.

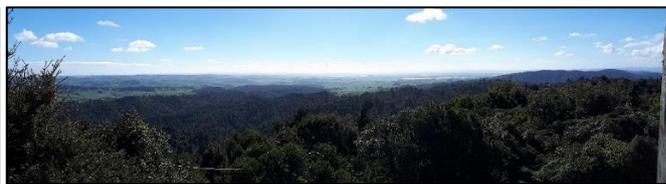
The costumes, stall decorations and cultural facts enhanced the customer experience and increased the awareness of the diversity in Auckland. We are so proud of these students for their effort in making the day so successful. We wish the students well as they reflect on their planning and implementation this week to secure their NCEA credits.



*Ms Pritika Harduar, Social Sciences Faculty*



## World Challenge Nepal 2019 – Training Weekend



Last week, the World Challenge 2019 Nepal Group went on a 2-day training weekend to Waingaro Scout Camp / Hakarimata Reserve. This was in preparation for the expedition to Nepal coming up at the end of this year. Our team of 20 met with Mike Grimmer, Expedition Leader, and tested out the new gear, which we had splurged on at the recent Kathmandu sale!



The day started with a 7am call-in. For the young Challengers, this meant there were no sleep-ins on the Saturday morning agenda! The troops tramped through 9km with good weather. Each of us took turn playing four key roles while trekking – the ‘Leader’, the ‘Navigator,’ the ‘Middle Man’ and the ‘Tail-end Charlie.’ We worked together as a team and developed our own leadership skills.

With the assistance from Ivor, World Challenge Leader, we pitched our tents and put together a delicious vegetarian curry for dinner. The Challengers then finished off the day with a game of ‘Cards against Humanity’ and a few rounds of ‘Spotlight’.

Although we were sad to leave the next day, we are excited about the upcoming expedition and keen to start preparing for our journey to Nepal. Overall, it was a very successful weekend, and the Challengers became a tight-knit bunch! A huge thank you to Ms Smith, Mr McKie, Mike and Ivor for putting together such an awesome trip for the group!

**Laura Oh (12CHP), Nepal Challenger**

## Qingdao International Optimist Sailing Regatta



Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to travel to China, with six other Kiwi sailors, to represent New Zealand in the 11<sup>th</sup> Qingdao International Optimist Sailing Regatta. It was an amazing experience on and off the water, with lots of new friends made and challenging sailing. We even experienced a typhoon! Overall, China was really enjoyable and I am very happy with my result of 12<sup>th</sup> out of 63 boats. Thanks to Mr Shi for the tips about Qingdao and for teaching me a few helpful words to help me communicate more easily with the locals!

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# glendowie news

## Parents' Association

A huge thanks to all those who made THE BIG WINE OUT event a great success, including Cherise Stone, our MC, Matt from Good George, Liquorland Kohimarama, Heather our quiz master, our generous auction item families and sponsors, our incredible Parents' Association team, and all who attended.





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# glendowie news

## Glendowie College Fun Run April 2020

Keep an eye out for more information about our 5km/10km Walk or Run. There will be an entry fee of \$10 and you will be able to enjoy brunch after the walk/run at our Parents' Association Cafe.



We are always looking for sponsors, raffle items and volunteers. If you are able to help, please email [gdcparents@gmail.com](mailto:gdcparents@gmail.com), and Sara will be in touch.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 12 September 2019 in the staffroom. We hope to see you there!

### Upcoming Events

Parents' Association Meeting	Thursday, 12 September 2019	7:00pm – 9:00pm, Staffroom
Fun Walk-Run	April 2020	TBC

**Sara Haddon, Parents' Association Chairperson**

<https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/> or [Gdcparents@gmail.com](mailto:Gdcparents@gmail.com)

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website: [www.gdc.school.nz](http://www.gdc.school.nz)



## Year 11 Curriculum & Assessment - FAQ's

### **As a state school, does Glendowie College have to offer Level 1 NCEA?**

No. Schools have never been obliged to offer Level 1, and the recent changes to NCEA acknowledge that more schools are not offering Level 1 NCEA.

### **Are other schools doing likewise?**

Other schools similar to Glendowie College are dropping Level 1 NCEA. For example, Macleans College, Auckland Grammar and Epsom Girls Grammar are replacing NCEA (and Cambridge exams) with their own internal assessments in year 11. Schools in communities where students are less likely to remain through to year 13 are currently choosing to retain Level 1.

### **How will Glendowie College ensure the quality of this course?**

Glendowie College is fortunate to have staff experienced in course design and with the assessments used through New Zealand and overseas. This is evidenced by our students' outstanding results at all levels of NCEA and NZ Scholarship. We will use this experience to write rigorous and engaging courses that challenge and extend our students.

### **Will there be a financial cost for families to introduce this course?**

No. The course design and all assessments will be funded through the school's existing budget.

### **Will the school introduce the IB MYP qualification instead?**

No. We are extremely pleased with the impact of the IB MYP on our students' learning in years 9 and 10. We may use elements of MYP teaching practices in year 11 as appropriate, however, we are not introducing a senior IB qualification.

### **How will students gain numeracy and literacy requirements for NCEA and University Entrance?**

This course will allow us to better target literacy and numeracy at the college. Our goal will be to ensure 100% of our students leave the school with NCEA numeracy and literacy. This is supported by the recent announcement of extra Learning Support Coordinators at the college.

### **What about extension/accelerate students?**

Extension and acceleration of students at Glendowie College is about ensuring that students learn at the appropriate level of challenge. Students in any year group will continue to be able to study a year ahead (or more) as appropriate and as agreed with their parents and caregivers.

### **What about less academic students?**

The college will continue to offer a selection of courses to cater for the full range of students' ability. Only a very small number of students leave the college with only Level 1 NCEA. These students are well supported in their learning and transition to study or work beyond school. Beyond this, students of all academic abilities will benefit from the extra learning time in year 11 and the extra investment in learning support at the college.



# glendowie news

## **What subjects will be available?**

The current wide range of subjects will continue to be offered in year 11, enabling students to select a programme that prepares them well for years 12 and 13.

## **What will the new courses look like?**

The college will establish a work group of senior leaders and experienced curriculum leaders to oversee the design of the new Glendowie College course and assessments. The exact design of each course has yet to be decided. Some subjects may base their new course on existing programmes, while other subjects may decide to include elements of the Level 2 NCEA course and teach this over 2 years. Either way, students' ability to progress or enter courses at years 12 and 13 will not be affected.

## **How will students be assessed in Year 11?**

Students will continue to be assessed in a range of ways, including internal assignments, portfolios, tests, and exams.

## **What if my child leaves Glendowie College before the end of Year 12?**

The new curriculum will be fully based on the New Zealand curriculum in preparation for sitting Level 2 NCEA. Students transferring to other NZ schools will be able to pick up their studies and sit NCEA at their new school. As other education systems do not have a year 11 assessment, students transferring overseas will not be disadvantaged.

For the very small number of students leaving school to enter an apprenticeship or other similar courses, we will work with them individually through careers or learning support to place them in an appropriate tertiary course that will give them a suitable qualification for their future.

## **Don't we need Level 1 NCEA to motivate students and prepare them for Level 2?**

No. New Zealand is one of the few (if only) countries in the OECD to have 3 years of high stakes national assessment in high school. Quality teaching, engaging courses, and self-motivated students with supportive families are the biggest factors in the success of Glendowie College students. This will continue.

## **How will entry into Year 12 courses be determined?**

Students' results in their year 11 course will matter. Their entry into year 12 courses will be determined by their grades in year 11.

## Timeline

2019	Taskgroup established to oversee design of the Glendowie College Year 11 course.
2020	Year 11 students will sit Level 1 NCEA for the final time. Staff will develop an alternative school-based year 11 assessment framework.
2021	Year 11 students will sit Glendowie College Year 11 courses and assessment.



## Cellphone Free Policy - Rationale & FAQ's

Research shows that the majority of cellphone use by adolescents is positive. For example, over 70% of online communication is with people that adolescents know and see regularly in real life, and the majority of this interaction is positive. The devices can also be used well personally and educationally, e.g. to manage an online diary, to take notes, to create a video, etc. If used well, cellphones are a positive tool for adolescents.

However, the challenge of cellphones is that they are not just a phone ... or camera ... or music player. You cannot easily separate a smart phone from emails, from internet access, from social media, etc. This has led to students feeling (the need to be) constantly connected. In a recent article in the New York Times, columnist Maggie Doherty wrote:

*“Social media makes us [millennials] feel as if we’re perpetually onstage; we can never break character or take off our costumes.”*

*Maggie Doherty, New York Times, 4 August 2019*

In his recent book ‘Teenage Brain’, Australian author David Gillespie argues that ‘screens are making your teenager depressed, anxious and prone to lifelong addictive illnesses’. Hyperbole aside, he and other commentators convincingly argue that phones and apps are designed to addict users, and that adolescents are especially susceptible to this.

Our teachers are increasingly feeding back that they spend more and more class time asking students to put phones away, turn them off, etc. This is time away from learning. We are seeing students’ use of phones impact on their personal wellbeing, as they try to navigate social media through the day – in and out of class. We are also seeing the outside world intrude more on students at school, such as work managers calling or texting students during the day and expecting an immediate response.

Phones have many good uses, but they have also become highly distracting and intrusive for our students at school, and their conflation of functions makes it harder for teachers to manage. If you have tried to find out whether your child is using their device at home to ... work on an essay ... or ... talk with friends (about the essay?) ... or play a game ... or ... use social media ... or ... all of the above ... you will understand this dilemma.

I am also concerned at the relatively small, but growing number of students on their devices alone during interval or lunch, playing games or scrolling through social media feeds. I want to see our students interacting with others ... talking with friends, playing card or board games in the library, playing sport, participating in an arts or music group. There is a space for our student leaders to promote this. They say that boredom is the parent of creativity. Let’s not be afraid of our adolescents getting bored.

Finally, there is a concern about the content that students can easily access via their phone. If students have their own data plan, we currently have no oversight of what they do at interval or lunchtime.

Nigel Latta commissioned Colmar Brunton to research adolescents’ use of the internet. They found that 82% of 16-18 year old New Zealanders have accessed pornography, and 31% of 16-18 year old boys watch pornography several times weekly. They also found that 30% of young NZ women think sexting is expected of them in a relationship and that 38% have sent a sexual image of themselves. Our guidance staff are dealing with similar issues, especially increases in online bullying, sexting and online relationship issues that would be better addressed in person.



# glendowie news

Again, cellphones have many positives, but like other things in our lives they need boundaries. That is the purpose of this policy – to create a phone-free space for students to focus on school, learn to manage themselves and interact with others without phones, and to have some time in their day away from the urgency of being digitally connected.

## Resources:

- Teenage Brain (David Gillespie)
- The Hard Stuff with Nigel Latta – Screenagers: Living Online (TVNZ On Demand, Season 2)
- iGen: Why Today's Super-Connected Kids are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy - and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood – and What That Means for the Rest of Us (Jean Twenge)
- Glow Kids (Nicholas Kardaras)

## FAQ's

### **Why not educate students how to use their cellphones and let them to manage it?**

Students will continue to have cellphones (at the discretion of their parents and whānau) and use them out of school. The purpose of this policy is to give our students some space away from their cellphones during their day. This is to help them learn without distraction and to help them interact with others.

It is also to give students space from the growing commercial pressure from businesses to hook users into their apps. Young adolescents are highly susceptible to this pressure and we believe we need to restrict adolescent's access to cellphones to protect their wellbeing, similar to how society restricts access to driving and alcohol.

This policy will be matched with lessons in our junior health programme around digital devices and social media, as well as the new 'wellbeing framework' that the college is developing.

### **What about the adults?**

Adults also need to manage their technology. I now require all devices to be closed at staff briefings and have banned devices from some other meetings where appropriate. Adults also face challenges around use of technology, and we need to model good use of technology to adolescents.

### **Can students bring a phone to school?**

Yes. Students may have a phone in their bag, but they may not use it between 8.00am and 3.20pm.

### **How will I contact my child?**

Parents may contact the school and we will pass on messages to students as urgently as needed.

### **What happens if a parent phones a student during school?**

Students may not use their phone at school. This includes receiving calls, texts or messages from parents and whānau. If you want to contact your child at school, phone Reception and we will get the message to your child as soon as required. This includes contacting a student immediately if needed.



# glendowie news

## **What happens if a work manager wants to contact a student during school?**

They should not. A student is at school to learn, not work. This includes organising work. If it is urgent, then the employer may contact the school and we will pass on the message as urgently as required.

## **What about other devices such as laptops and digital watches?**

This policy does not currently cover these. These are also cause for concern and will be looked at. For now, we are addressing the immediate impact of cellphones.

## **What are other schools doing?**

Victoria, a leading Australian state in the use of ICT, has recently announced that all primary and secondary schools will go cellphone-free in 2020. The Ontario education system in Canada is making all schools cellphone-free from September 2019. They are joining a number of other systems, such as France, that are already cellphone-free. In New Zealand, schools have different approaches. In my role as President of ASSPA, I am hearing more principals talk of going cellphone-free.

## **Timeline**

2019	Implement cellphone-free policy for juniors after NCEA exams start
2020	Implement cellphone-free policy for whole school