



Friday, 3rd September 2021

Kia Ora Tātou

These are interesting times. As a school we are having to meet the immediate learning needs of our students while still planning for school and student needs for the rest of this year and next. All while in lockdown and not knowing when it will end.

I can understand the anxiety some students, particularly those in Years 12 and 13, must be feeling about their academic progress and the impact on exams. I want to offer reassurance. Teaching staff know what the essential learning needs to be, and through Google Classroom and Zoom meetings are sharing these with students. If any modifications to programmes are required, they will be made and students informed. Staff and students are familiar with online learning.

While online learning is not ideal, I am confident in the ability of the staff and the quality of the programmes they deliver. From the experience of last year, I know our students are well served and will be well prepared when compared with the country as a whole.

NZQA are planning for all possibilities. The NCEA exams have been delayed two weeks to compensate for the time lost. Further changes such as modifying University Entrance requirements and introducing Learner Recognition Credits are outlined later in this newsletter. The college has postponed the Year 12 & 13 school exams until the start of term 4 as a lead up to the external exams. These exams may also be used if a derived grade process is needed. If you are a Year 12 or 13 parent, please book for the parent interviews next week. The discussion involving your child(ren) is important to identify learning priorities for the rest of the year.

My advice is that worrying about something that is out of our control is wasted emotional energy. Try to keep students engaged in their learning and up to date with assessment requirements. We are aware of wellbeing needs, so please contact our pastoral team if you have any concerns.

Resignation of Liz Gunn

I received formal notification last Friday that Liz Gunn has resigned as Principal of Churchill Park School effective from the end of the year. Liz has been a wonderful person to work with and has been very supportive of the college. She has a genuine interest in our students and has been a great leader. Her contribution to the Glendowie Kāhui Ako has been huge. I wish her well for her retirement.

This means that all three primary Principals in the Kāhui Ako and Glendowie area are resigning at the end of the year. I'm not taking it personally. It will be interesting to meet the new Principals when they are appointed and to build a positive relationship with them.



Upcoming Events:

Please note these events are subject to change based on the government's lockdown status announcement

September

- 7 Year 12 & Year 13 Parent/Subject Teacher/ Student Zoom Interviews (2:40pm-6:30pm)
- 15-21 Year 12 & 13 Senior Exams (postponed to Term 4)
- 20-22 North Island Ski Championships
- 22 Board Meeting (6pm-9pm, Boardroom)
- 24 Film Festival (7pm-10pm, Hall)
- 27 Film Festival (7pm-10pm, Hall)
- 27-30 Cultural Celebration Festival
- 28 Film Festival (7pm-10pm, Hall)
- 29 Film Awards Night (7pm-10pm, Hall)
- 30 Leavers' Concert (7pm-10pm, Hall)

October

- 1 End of Term 3
- 18 Start of Term 4

(For a full list of upcoming events, please visit the [calendar](#) on the college website.)



Changes to 2022 Out of Zone Enrolment Deadlines

The deadline for 2022 out of zone enrolments has been extended to Wednesday 22 September 2021. The ballot will now take place on Wednesday 29 September 2021. If in-zone and out of zone enrolments are able to be submitted electronically, can this please be undertaken as soon as possible. When Auckland moves to level 3 restrictions although the college will be closed for instruction, enrolment forms will be able to be dropped off.

Recommendations of the Advanced Learning Programme Task Group

This year a staff task group met to review the nature of the college's Advanced Learning Programme. The structure of this programme has been the same for over thirty years, so it was time to determine whether the needs of all the students in the college were being met. The current structure is that there are two extension classes created in Year 9 and 10. They cover the same curriculum as the other classes in Mathematics, English, Science, Social Studies and Health. Options are not streamed. Identified students may be invited to accelerate a year ahead in selected subjects from Year 10.

The recommendations of the task group has been shared with the Glendowie College Board and with staff. The following changes will take place from 2022.

Recommendations

1. There are no designated Year 9 ALP classes for 2022. All classes will be mixed ability.
2. There will be two Year 10 ALP classes in 2022 but Year 10 ALP classes will be discontinued from 2023.
3. There will be the opportunity for students to be invited to be accelerated a year level from Year 10 in selected subjects or to meet specific individual needs.
4. Mathematics will run an accelerate (Year 11) class in Year 10. All other classes will be mixed ability.
5. Extra Mathematics and English classes will continue to be offered as part of the option structure at Year 9 and 10 to support those students with literacy and numeracy learning needs.
6. In 2022 current thinking is that Year 9 form classes will also be subject classes. All students in these classes will belong to the same house. In 2023 these form/subject classes will progress through to Year 10.
7. CAM testing of Year 8 students will continue as in previous years. The data will be available for teachers to identify the strengths and weaknesses of all students in their subject classes to help address individual learning needs.
8. A stocktake of all extension activities/opportunities will be undertaken for all subjects. These activities/opportunities will be shared with the students and parents so that all will have the opportunity to participate.

Rationale

1. Academic Performance

Research has found that placing students in class by academic ability (streaming, setting) has an insignificant or negative impact on student achievement. For high achieving students, there is no or minimal difference in performance between streamed and non-streamed settings, however, for average or low achieving students there are positive effects on student achievement if classes are not streamed.

2. Student Wellbeing

There is considerable research that streamed class placement affects student motivation. Non-streamed environments don't have the same limits on expected levels of performance.



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In an extension class there is evidence of students experiencing performance anxiety. There are greater comparisons with others and the desire for perfectionism rather than the focus being on learning and improving. There is the resultant burnout, stress, and anxiety. Research has shown this to be less in mixed ability classes.

3. Equity

An important value of the college is to ensure that there is equity of opportunity for all students. Certain groups (ethnic, low socio-economic, immigrant groups) are underrepresented in ALP classes. If the college is to be inclusive for all learners, equal opportunities should be provided to maximise learner aspirations and reduce barriers to education.

4. Impact of MYP on the need for ALP classes

The pedagogy behind MYP of having more student agency and open-ended assessments means that students in any class can be extended without having to rely on a teacher centred approach. Skills such as thinking, applying knowledge and self-management have greater impact on academic success. This is shown in the aggregated data at the end of Year 9 for the past three years.

5. Year 9 class placement not accurately predicting performance

Traditionally entrance testing for Mathematics, English and Reasoning is undertaken, and ALP classes identified based on the test performance. Test results have proven not to be an accurate indicator of academic performance in Year 9 and 10. Reviewing the performance of Year 9 over the past three years has shown that between 26% and 37% of the top ranked 56 students (ALP equivalent) were not from the ALP classes but from mixed ability classes.

The entrance tests indicate a student's potential to achieve academic success but do not take into account effort, self-management, and motivation to achieve, and disadvantage those students who are capable but experience learning challenges.

Approximately 77% of students in Years 9 and 10 are not in ALP classes. NCEA Level 1 results for 2019 and 2020 show that approximately 80% of students gained merit or excellence endorsement. Being in an ALP class is not a pre-requisite for academic success.

6. Limited use of ALP across students' schooling

Primary schools do not run specific ALP classes. At Years 11-13, students self-select the subjects they wish to take, so there are no ALP classes at those levels. That leaves only Year 9 and 10 where some form of streaming operates. Within Year 9 and 10 ALP classes are run in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Health. This accounts for 17 periods out of a 30-period cycle or just over half the teaching time.

7. Availability of alternatives to extend students

Rather than limit extension opportunities to a restricted number of students over English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Health, the school prefers to offer a wider range of opportunities over all subject areas that all students can participate in if they wish. Learning support should not only be for students with learning difficulties but also for those students that are academically talented.

These changes will not affect students currently at the college as they will be implemented for next year. Ultimately student academic success is largely determined by their key competencies or learner attributes such as application, self-management, and organisation rather than which class they are placed in.

Ngā mihi nui
Gordon Robertson
Principal

phone: +64 9 575 9128

email: info@gdc.school.nz

website: www.gdc.school.nz



Glendowie College Board Update

Dear Glendowie College Community

We hope you are all well, and managing through this latest lockdown.

While it is a lesser substitute for face-to-face learning, the College has switched to remote learning seamlessly.

With refinements from the experiences of previous lockdowns, this now seems to be working well. We fully acknowledge this is not easy, and wish to extend our thanks especially to the staff for switching so quickly, but also to the students and parents for their support.

The Board met via Zoom on 25 August 2021. We received a very interesting presentation from Lydia Brown, Director of Sport, on the activities of the Sports Department. While it is unfortunate the lockdown arrived before most of the winter sports could finish their season, at least they had a much fuller season than last year. The Department aims to provide as wide a range and level of sports as feasible. This is reflected in the very high participation rate we have, as well as a number of team and individual achievements this year. Lydia also stressed their great appreciation for the essential support from parents – whether coaching, managing, transporting or supporting – and welcomed anyone interested in helping to make contact.

We also reflected on some of the memorable recent events, especially the Gala Musical Concert and Cultural Night, which were both greatly enjoyed by all concerned.

Also the college Open Day, when staff and students give up a Saturday morning to showcase the college so effectively to potential new students and their parents.

It is important to remember these events, and look forward to being able to resume normal college life as soon as possible.

Tangohia tiaki - take care everyone

Matthew Veal, Board Chair

Years 12 & 13 – Parent/Subject Teacher/Student Interviews

Interview bookings are still open for the upcoming interviews.

Parents of students in Year 12 and 13 classes can make bookings until Monday 6 September 2021 at 5:00pm, please use the booking code emailed to you.

Zoom interviews will take place on Tuesday 7 September 2021 from 2.40pm – 6.30pm. These interviews are with the subject teachers and discussions will include a focus on participation in online learning, upcoming examinations, and progress towards NCEA.

Deans, Kaiārahi and Careers staff will also be available for interview bookings.

Please note that, for all students, online learning will finish by 1.40pm on Tuesday, 7 September.

Mr Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal



Changes to NCEA for 2021

Because being in COVID-19 lockdown has affected learning and assessment, changes have been made to NCEA, NZ Scholarship and University Entrance. These changes help give students a fair opportunity to gain the qualification they are aiming for. These changes affect all schools that are in Alert Level 3 or 4 for a total of 20 or more school days this year.

What does this mean for students?

The more credits you achieve the more you are entitled to.

- For every 5 credits you achieve through internal or external assessment, you are entitled to 1 extra credit. These extra credits are called Learning Recognition Credits (LRCs)
 - Up to 10 of your LRC's earned this year can be used towards the 80 you need for NCEA Level 1.
 - Up to 8 LRC's earned this year can be used towards the 60 you need at Level 2 and Level 3.
- **Endorsements are still achievable.**
 - To get a **certificate endorsement** you will need 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, instead of the usual 50.
 - To get a **course endorsement** you will need 12 credits at Achieved or Merit or Excellence level in a course, rather than 14. You still need to achieve at least 3 credits in externals and 3 in internals.
 - Your LRCs don't come with Merit or Excellence, so they can't count towards an endorsement.
- **University Entrance has been adjusted.**
 - For 2021 the UE requirements have been adjusted from 14 down to 12 credits in three [UE-approved subjects](#). You still need to have NCEA Level 3 and the usual [literacy and numeracy standards](#).
- **You've got more time to study.**
 - The examination period has been shifted by two weeks. It is now scheduled for Monday 22 November 2021 until Tuesday 14 December 2021.
 - Most portfolio due dates and exams for NCEA and Scholarship have been moved later, to give more time for students to learn and prepare. Please check with your teacher for your new submission dates.
 - The Mathematics Common Assessment Task has moved from 14 September 2021 to 28 September 2021.
 - Visual Arts portfolio submission dates are now due on 3 November 2021 (Level 2) and 16 November 2021 (Level 3).

What do you need to do?

- Keep working to make sure that you achieve as many standards as you can. Your teachers will help you to track your progress.
- You don't need to do anything else to get your LRCs. NZQA will do the calculations before you get your results.
- Make sure that you know when your portfolios are due, and double check the [new exam timetable](#).
- If you need any more information, talk to your Dean or Mr Worsnop or ring NZQA on 0800 697 296.

Mr Andre Worsnop, Deputy Principal



Exam Assistant Volunteers Needed

Are you interested in helping students with Special Assessment Conditions? Are you available during **the first two weeks of Term 4? (18 – 29 October 2021)**. *These times may change depending on lockdown levels.*

We are looking for volunteers to help out **during practice exams in term 4** and possibly the **NCEA exams at the end of the year**.

This position could include the following:

- Supervision of a group of students
- Reading exams out to students
- Writing / typing out students' answers
- Both reading and writing for a student.

To be an Exam Assistant, patience, empathy, and a good grasp of the English language are needed. There will be a training session held at the college once we are back at appropriate levels.

If you think you could help out or would like more information, please email Sarah Bassin bas@gdc.school.nz or Celia Finn fin@gdc.school.nz

Ms Sarah Bassin, Learning Support Coordinator

Glendowie College Board – Student Representative



Do you want to make a difference in your school?

Then why not stand for election as the Student Representative on your School Board?

As a board member, you'll learn new skills, be able to have your say on important issues and make a positive contribution to your school and community.

For more information, go to www.trustee-election.co.nz.

If you would like further information on the Glendowie College Board – Student Representative position, please contact Mrs Fraser at fra@gdc.schoo.nz or check out the website www.trustee-election.co.nz



Do you want to influence the future of your school?

Then why not stand for election as the Student Representative on your School Board?

As well as having a voice on how your school is governed, being a school board member will provide valuable knowledge and experience for your future – it will look great on your CV!

For more information, go to www.trustee-election.co.nz.

Unfortunately, the election process is currently on hold and will take place when we return to school.

Mrs Joanne Fraser, Deputy Principal



Fancy yourself as a future Prime Minister of New Zealand?

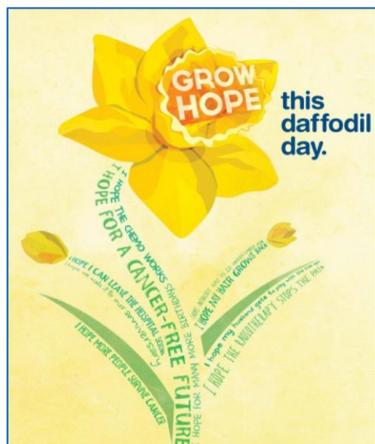
The first election Jacinda Ardern won was as the Student Representative on her school board.

Now's your chance to follow in her footsteps! We're holding Student Representative elections in September.

For more information, go to www.trustee-election.co.nz.



Glendowie College Interact Club Champions Daffodil Day



Despite the lockdown, 71 people are diagnosed with cancer every day in New Zealand and the Cancer Society supports patients and whānau through the challenges they face. Interact Club at GDC has set up a way to help our community support the Cancer Society - our whānau to theirs.....

HELP GLENDOWIE COLLEGE REACH OUR \$500 TARGET by clicking on this link <https://www.daffodilday.org.nz/glendowiecollege> and donate if you can.

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Cancer doesn't stop. So we won't either.

Sports Department Update

Thank you to our Student Coaches!!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our student coaches and umpires who have helped facilitate our Sports programme in 2021.

Sports Awards 2021 – All 2020 winners, please return the trophies to the Main School Office as soon as we are back at school.

Term 4 Junior Sports (Volleyball and Cricket), please be ready for registrations/pre-season/trainings when we return to school.

Remember to follow **GDCSport** on Instagram and Glendowie College Sport on Facebook for updates, challenges, and inspiration!

General Housekeeping:

- Please return all uniforms to the Sports Office as soon as we are back at school.
- Please ensure all Sports Fees are paid.

Mrs Lydia Brown, Director of Sports

Netsafe's Online Safety Parent Toolkit



'Netsafe's Staying Safe Online Guide' is a handy lockdown resource as we all rely on the internet a little more. The internet offers many benefits, but it also comes with nuisances and risks, from spam to the theft of personal information. This guide helps protect people of all ages. It is available in different languages and contains top tips from some of the world's biggest online platforms from Facebook to Google, Netflix to Trade Me. {Source: [netsafe.org.nz](https://www.netsafe.org.nz), Feb. 2021, *Staying Safe Online*}

Link to Netsafe's Online Guide web page (downloads available in 5 languages): <https://bit.ly/3t1imne>

Vicki Mercer, ICT Manager



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Glendowie College eBook & Audiobook Library



If you or your whānau have run out of reading material the GDC online library via the [Wheelers ePlatform](#) is open 24/7 for use. The Wheelers ePlatform provides access to a wide and entertaining variety of eBooks and eAudiobooks. All students have a login to use this library and should email the librarian for help if they've forgotten their password. If students would like help choosing a book the librarian is happy to curate a personalised reading list for them, students should contact the librarian for this service. Family members are also welcome to use the online library. Please email the librarian, gyn@gdc.school.nz, and she will organise access for anyone in your family who would like to use this library.

The Wheelers ePlatform can be read on a desktop, tablet, or phone. For tablets or phones download [ePlatform Wheelers app](#), and select Glendowie College from the list of schools. If you need any help, please contact the librarian.

Jody Gayton, Library Manager

Rūaumoko Charity – Auckland City Mission



Over Weeks 1 to 3 this term, Rūaumoko has been proud to support the Auckland City Mission. We have had great success in our efforts – raised a total of \$1,664 and collected 1,458 non-perishable items. With these donations, we were able to purchase 14 family food parcels, donate the remaining \$430 and collected food items from students for Auckland City Mission. These came from our Mufti Day in week 2 where everyone sported their best red outfit, and from the Gala Concert, the bake sale and the 'Value of the Box' competition. These various activities allowed students to get involved in a different way to support the Auckland City Mission. We are so stoked with the results of our fundraising!

Congratulations to Ryuchi Ochiai (12DHY) who won the 'Value of the Box' competition and to form class 11CNR who won the Auckland City Mission quiz. The form classes that donated the most items this year were Rūaumoko – 11GRY, Tanē Mahuta – 12HRD, Tangaroa – 9SRM and Tawhirimātea – 13SIM. I would like to acknowledge everyone who donated, the support was amazing!

A big thank you to Ms Harduar, Mr Galt, and the Rūaumoko Service Committee for all your support and to the wider students, staff and Glendowie Community for your fantastic support and generous donations.

Molly Madill (13MET), Rūaumoko Service Prefect





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Parents' Association

Due to the current lockdown and the uncertainty of future alert levels, this event has been cancelled.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Nathan Wallis' Talk

nathanwallis
conscious intelligence

Cancelled
Tickets will be refunded by the event organiser.

2021 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm
tickets at eventfinda.co.nz

@nathanwallis
@nathanwallisxfactoreducation

2021 Entertainment Book

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2021 Parents' Association Meetings

Due to the current lockdown and uncertainty of future alert levels, there will be no meetings for the remainder of the year.

A BIG thank you to everyone (parents, staff, wider community) who has helped us over the past year. We wish you all well and stay safe!

Sara Haddon, Parents' Association Chairperson

<https://www.facebook.com/GlendowieCollegeParentsAssociation/> or Gdcparents@gmail.com

phone: +64 9 575 9128

email: info@gdc.school.nz

website: www.gdc.school.nz