



14 October 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I hope that this email finds you and your whanau safe and well. Whilst all the current changes and uncertainty have the ability to cause heightened stress, particularly for our senior students, please be reassured that we are working towards finding and implementing solutions that will ultimately see the students of Long Bay College well positioned to have successful 2021 outcomes.

Please see below some important information relating to changes to our programmes in Term 4.

### **Information for NCEA Students**

Following the announcement that remote learning would continue in the first week of term four, we have reviewed how we will support students in preparing for the November NCEA exams.

With the intention of best supporting our students in securing their learning ahead of NCEA examinations we will be moving to a block of **'Term 4 Assessments'**. **These will be taking place instead of our traditional School formative examinations and will occur in weeks 2 and 3.**

Term 4 Assessments will be supported by a student's normal timetabled classes whereby our students will be completing assignments set by and coordinated by our Heads of Subject that directly support and evidence their learning relating to specific NCEA standards.

This will take place either remotely or on site (depending on whether a return to school has been signalled by the Ministry) and will support our students in:

- Reinforcing this year's learning in preparation for 2022 courses.
- Recognising what students have learnt/achieved.
- Focusing study towards NCEA external assessments.

These assignments can also be used as supportive evidence of a student's learning in the event that there is further disruption and the November NCEA examinations are effected.

We have taken this approach as an appropriate alternative to our traditional school exams. Much of the learning relating to the November assessments has occurred earlier in the year and given the flexibility of NCEA we are able to best support our learners by tailoring our approach to their needs and the current circumstances. Our approach allows our teachers to identify specific parts of NCEA standards that students may need additional support with and to provide supportive feedback that allows a student to then evidence their understanding.

It gives our students the best opportunity we have to secure success and to demonstrate their learning and prepare for examinations in November.

**Senior Study Leave:** It is now our intention to run our programmes of study through to the end of Week 5 of Term 4 for our senior students in the hope that long before this stage we are back in face-to-face learning environments. This additional learning time for students and teachers is crucial and invaluable at this stage. Further details will follow as the situation develops.

### **Information for Junior Exams**

As a consequence of our senior's study leave changing and teaching programmes being extended, junior exams will now take place in week 6 of the term. More details will follow.

### **Vaccination records**

As you will already be aware, it is now a legal requirement that we hold a Covid-19 Vaccination Register for all eligible students and staff. We have devised a quick and easy system for collating this information, which will comply with the Privacy Act (2020). We are just waiting on guidance from the MOE as to the required protocols before issuing to you. We hope to do this as soon as possible.

We ask that you continue to support your children in engaging purposefully with the upcoming 'Term 4 Assessment' weeks. Our attendance rates for on-line learning have been exceptional and strengthen our belief that our students are tracking positively. We thank you for supporting our learners with ongoing diligence, discipline and a commitment to their studies, safeguarding their wellbeing and supporting their future pathways as we also support them in navigating the challenges of NCEA assessment.

I am confident that together, as a school, as students and supporting whanau we will again, as we did in 2020, deliver excellent outcomes for our community.

Here's to seeing you all in person sooner rather than later.

Ngā mihi



CJ Healey  
Principal