



# BLACKTOWN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

*A Partially Selective Girls High School*

Fifth Avenue  
PO Box 6009  
Blacktown 2148  
T 02 9831 7577  
F 02 9831 7838

Dear Parents and Families,

I hope this finds you and your family well.

Over the last few days you may have heard the NSW Premier and Education Minister's announcements regarding school operations for NSW public schools in Term 2.

Please find a brief overview below, which is based on all available information at this time.

School Development Days Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th April are for Staff only. Term 2 commences for students on Wednesday 29th April Week 1-2. Online learning continues in weeks 1 and 2 of this term, students will continue to 'learn from home' as they did at the end of Term 1.

Students will return to online learning via Google Classroom. The school will remain open for students who need to attend. Supervision will be available for these students, and they will engage in the same learning as the students 'learning at home'. As also announced by the NSW Premier, parents are encouraged 'to keep their children at home'. The Department of Education has requested one mode of learning, so please be assured that both students 'learning at school' and 'learning at home' will receive the same level of instruction and materials. Students are still expected to follow their "regular" timetable.

Weeks 3-10 'Phased Managed Return' to School NSW Public Schools are looking to increase face-to-face teaching through a gradual return to school for students during Term 2. This will be done through a staged approach. From Week 3, every student will have the opportunity to start attending school one day a week. At Blacktown Girls High School we will manage the structure of this 'Phased Managed Return' to suit our context. We will also continue to adjust our plans based on any new advice we receive from the NSW Department of Education.

## **This phased return is:**

**Phase 0: Week 1 and 2:** All students working from home in online learning, unless they need to attend school as stated earlier.

## **Phase 1: Week 3, Monday May 11 until further notice:**

- Monday - All Year 12 students + Year 7-11 Chisholm house students only onsite
- Tuesday - All Year 12 students + Year 7-11 Fraser house students only onsite
- Wednesday - All students offsite online learning, unless they need to attend school as stated earlier.
- Thursday - All Year 12 students + Year 7-11 Reiby house students only onsite
- Friday - All Year 12 students + Year 7-11 Oodgeroo house students only onsite

*Year Advisers will publish student house lists on Google classroom so students can check house groups during week 1 and 2.*

*Making a difference in the education of young women*

E [blacktowng-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:blacktowng-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
W [blacktowng-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://blacktowng-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)



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The Premier has stated that in Phase 1 children should be kept at home except for their 'rostered day' and has asked parents to 'respect the guidelines' that will be established by the school. Please note that this does not apply to those students who need to attend. We tracked the data of these students the last 3 weeks of Term 1 and this will be factored into ensuring that approximately only 25% of students are on site on any given day.

Here are some other initial **FAQ:**

**Uniform:** We are aware what some students do not have winter uniform but the uniform shop will begin operating again. Please give your child a note to explain the reason for out of uniform and coordinate with Ms Simm HT Wellbeing or their Year Adviser if purchasing a winter uniform is not a viable option at the moment.

**Canteen:** We are in negotiation with the canteen operators and expect the canteen to be open on days that students are at school (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri)

**Year 12 Trial HSC exams:** These are still expected to run in the scheduled sessions (Term 2, Weeks 9 & 10) this may be adjusted based on any new advice we receive from the NSW Department of Education.

**Reports:** We await further advice from the Department and NESA.

**Parents/Visitors to school:** We ask that you call the school before attending.

**Attendance SMS:** Please note that absent text messages will not be sent during this time. Please call the school on 9831 7577 should you wish to confirm your daughter's attendance on the day.

Staff of Blacktown Girls High School know how challenging this time has been for our students and their families. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the extraordinary teaching and administration teams of our school who have gone above and beyond to learn new technology platforms when designing and creating new lessons and/or administrative processes in a short time period to ensure our students and families are known, valued and cared for in these extraordinary times.

Kind regards

The school leadership team.

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