



## Principal's Update 11 November 2021

Following the government's announcement about the return of year 9 and 10 students to face-to-face learning, we want to outline the programme for all year levels for the remainder of the year. Our priority is maintaining the safety and wellbeing of students and staff as we provide the best possible learning programme for all students.

We are committed to completing the senior onsite programme to enable preparation for NCEA external exams. Information shared with students about UEGs (Unexpected Event Grades) is outlined below. The senior onsite programme will finish on Thursday 18 November. Friday November 19 will be a Ministry of Education allocated NCEA Accord day for teachers. No students will be on site.

We will welcome our Year 9 and 10 students back onsite on **Monday 22 November** once seniors have completed their formal timetable. School will begin at 9.30am and finish at 2.00pm. Students will have four face to face lessons (periods 1 to 4) each day enabling them to consolidate their recent learning. The last day of term on site will be Wednesday December 8. Junior prizegiving will be online on Thursday December 9.

In next week's newsletter we will remind families of our health and safety protocols and provide detailed arrangements for the return of our year 9 and 10 students. We are looking forward to reconnecting with our year 9 and 10 students in face-to-face learning to enable a smooth transition for them into 2022.

Programme	
Monday 15 November	All seniors onsite.
Tuesday 16 November	All seniors onsite.
Wednesday 17 November	All seniors on site. Last day for years 11 and 12. All senior students will receive their NZQA information for exams.
Thursday 18 November	Last day for year 13.
Friday 19 November	Ministry of Education allocated NCEA Accord Day (teachers only).
Monday 22 November	Year 9 and 10 students return to face-to-face learning onsite. The weekly programme of learning will also be posted online at the start of every week.  Selected senior students in Pathways onsite. Most senior students on study leave or attending NZQA external exams.
Wednesday 8 December	Last day of term on site.
Thursday 9 December	Junior Prizegiving video released.

## NCEA UEGs

Teachers have calculated an unexpected event grade (UEG) for all external NCEA assessments, using either the practice exams or alternative evidence generated during online learning.

NZQA is advising students in Auckland, Waikato and Northland that they should attend NCEA exams as normal. However, UEGs will be available to those students who can't attend an exam due to COVID-specific reasons, such as:

- isolating following medical or public health advice; being at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and not fully vaccinated;
- experiencing significant personal or family related anxiety about exposure to COVID;
- or having an illness or injury which in other situations would normally require a Derived Grade.

The UEG calculation will be applied automatically, and students will receive the higher of either the grade they earn in the exam or the UEG. **Students who cannot attend the exam for covid related reasons such as those listed above, will receive the UEG.** If their school has been unable to provide a grade to NZQA, only the actual grade achieved on a student's exam can be awarded.

All students in Northland, Auckland and Waikato who are entered for NCEA exams are eligible for a UEG without requiring an application from the student or school.

The Government's intention is not for exams to be seen by students as optional, but to give students comfort that they will be able to receive a grade if there is a specific COVID reason that means they can't attend an exam.

Ngā manaakitanga

Greg Watson  
Tumuaki | Principal