

26 August 2020

Dear Parents and Students Year 11-13

We are rescheduling our practice/mock examinations for **21-25 September (Term 3 Week 10)** now that we know we will be back onsite next week as from 31 August.

We know that these are valuable as an essential part of students' learning and preparation for their final external examinations. We also are aware that in the case of certain exceptional circumstances, these results may be necessary to support a derived grade application.

Scheduled times for Art students to come in during the exam week to continue with their essential work will also be arranged.

Please be aware that there will unlikely be any opportunity to reschedule a missed mock examination.

MCAT and DCAT (external examinations) dates are set by NZQA and remain as originally scheduled.

Message from the Student Support Team for our NCEA students:

Learning is a journey not a destination and we would strongly encourage you that every step along the journey is a worthwhile step.

NCEA is designed to cope with the types of challenges we are facing this year with Covid-19.

There is flexibility in the system which we hope you can see and that that helps you stay motivated for your next step in the journey.

Some examples of the flexibility might be:

- If you don't complete Level 1 or Level 2 this year, you can continue onto the following year level and your credits you get next year backfill to give you the Level 1 or 2 qualification.
- Whatever learning you do in a subject sets you up better for next year's challenges, so working hard and even "just missing" the grade you are after (whether that is Achieved/Merit or Excellence) will set you up better for the coming year...you will have more baseline knowledge when you tackle the similar topic next year.
- If you are worried about getting the Level 3 credits you need, Te Kura (Correspondence School) offers a Summer School bridging programme to help you get those last few credits towards your numeracy, literacy, or UE.

So please be encouraged to get stuck in and just take your next step on the journey...we understand that it seems like the distance is the same but someone dialled up the incline so it may feel much harder. We are here to support you. Please feel free to contact your teachers, tutor teachers, whanau leader, careers or counselling team if you need help knowing what your next step is or motivating yourself to take that next step on your learning journey.

Kind regards
Ngā mihi

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