Memorandum to

Secondary principals

Central school principals

2021 HSC Monitoring advice

Dear Colleagues

We recognise that this year’s HSC has been like no other. We appreciate the effort and support you have put into ensuring a successful and smoothly run HSC this year. We now turn to next year’s HSC.

Principals have a responsibility to ensure that teachers, students and parents/carers understand the requirements of the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) for the award of the Higher School Certificate (HSC).

The attached document ‘2021 HSC monitoring advice’ will assist principals in meeting their responsibilities. To ensure that all executive members and teachers of HSC courses understand the requirements please arrange for the document to be distributed to the appropriate staff.

Principals will need to take care to ensure the correct syllabuses and prescribed texts are being used to teach Stage 6 courses. This is particularly important where schools have:

* a compressed curriculum delivery model for one or more Stage 6 courses, and/or
* students accumulating and/or accelerating in one or more Stage 6 courses.

For the 2021 HSC, the following should be entered into SPaRO:

* the principal confirmation and Director, Educational Leadership endorsement of the HSC monitoring declaration (see Appendix 2)
* the HSC teacher support data collection for inexperienced or unsupervised teachers.

Schools with inexperienced teachers of HSC subjects, or those with unsupervised teachers of HSC subjects, are more likely to need additional support. The HSC teacher support electronic data collection assists to identify the need for support by subject and/or geographical location. It enables consistent identification of support requirements at both the local and system level.

Advice and support for principals

For advice and support in monitoring HSC requirements, principals can contact their Director, Educational Leadership; the NESA Liaison Officer; the Director, Curriculum Secondary Learners or the Director, Inclusive Education. Support may also be accessed from Curriculum Advisors located in Strategic Delivery teams.

The attached documentation has been developed in consultation with NESA, the NSW Secondary Principals’ Council and the NSW Teachers Federation.

Thank you to all principals and their staff for demonstrating commitment and hard work in meeting the requirements of the Higher School Certificate. We wish all students and their teachers every success for the coming year.

Regards

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