



Term 3 Update

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Members of the Hallam Community,

The reinstatement of remote/home based learning for Term 3 has certainly thrown further challenges to all students, staff and those supporting students at home. At the college level, the move has meant a reshaping of the college calendar and the deferral or cancellation of a number of events. These include:

- Parent Teacher Interviews deferred until Term 4
- 2021- student subject choices – selection process - moved to online
- College Course Information sessions – move to online
<http://www.hallamssc.vic.edu.au/2021-course-counselling-parent-information/>
- Enrolment timelines – for general admission and academy admission – timeline has been extended. <http://www.hallamssc.vic.edu.au/students-parents/enrolments/>
- VCE Unit 4 subjects – VCAA has adjusted the end of year timeline including the timing of the GAT.
- End of Year exams and course submissions for all Year 10 and VCE/VCAL and VET units – reshaped timelines.

Getting use to remote learning is again a challenge however the initial feedback from the staff is that students are better prepared and taking up the various learning modes in greater proportions than in the March Shutdown.

I spoke to 30 staff members by phone on Friday (as part of my check in on staff) and the general response is that there is significant take up of on line processes by students and buy in to the Webex on line lessons.

While we are in remote shutdown, there are a number of key understandings.

1. The school will be open but not generally accessible for the wider college community.
2. The IT team will have at least 1 member at school each day and accessible for assistance. Most IT issues can be remotely accessed so call the college 97031266 during school hours for assistance.
3. The office is open each day. If any student or parent needs assistance then contact the office between 9am and 3pm on 97031266.

What the Minister for Education announced

James Melino, MP, the Minister for Education made the following statements in relation to changes in schooling for the next remote learning period. He focussed largely on the year 12 students. “We need to support our students in their last year of schooling”

- We have time to catch up all the other students (Years Prep – 11) in the coming years
- This is an unprecedented year and we need to support our students in an unprecedented way

continued

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For Year 12 VCE students - Special consideration in 2020 will be comprehensive - every single Unit 3 & 4 student will be INDIVIDUALLY assessed for special consideration in every study, taking into account:

- School closures
- Long absences
- Significant increases in family responsibilities
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Students should go into their VCE exams knowing that it will be a fair reflection of the year
- They should be confident their final scores will take into account their individual circumstances.

Schools will be asked to provide the following, based on the items below to assess the situation for each student

- Each VCE Unit 3/4 teacher in each study will be asked to provide a study score rank for two situations
- Rank where each student in their class is this year
- Rank where each student in their class would have been if COVID 19 had not happened
- The GAT results
- The VCE exam results

The VCAA will use all the 4 data points available to assess whether the scores put in are realistic. Results can be statistically moderated to ensure they fit the explanation of why results should be adjusted. (if a school increases scores without evidence of dramatic impact, explanations will be sought and interrogated.)

ATARS will be calculated by VTAC (as per normal) based on the adjusted study scores provided by VCAA following the process above. The Minister said there will be no change to the timeline of VCE, with release of results on 30 December 2020.

Reports for Semester 1

With Remote Learning Mark 1 impacting significantly on Semester 1 learning outcomes for all students, Semester 1 Reports have been finalised and have been uploaded and provided to all students and parents via the compass portal. The reports can be accessed via:

The screenshot shows the Compass portal interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a user profile for Greg MCMAHON. Below this, the student's name is displayed as 'Student @ Hallam Senior College' with an 'Active' status. A navigation menu includes 'Dashboard', 'Schedule', 'Personal', 'Learning Tasks', 'Attendance', 'Reports', 'Analytics', and 'Insights'. A blue arrow points from the 'Reports' tab in the main navigation to a detailed view of the 'Reports' section. This section contains a table with the following data:

Reporting Cycle	School
2020 - Progress Reports Cycle 2	Hallam Senior College
2020 - Progress Reports Cycle 1	Hallam Senior College
2020 - Edupass Logons	Hallam Senior College
2019 - Semester 2	Hallam Senior College
2019 - Semester 1	Hallam Senior College
2019 - Progress Reports Cycle 4	Hallam Senior College
2019 - Progress Reports Cycle 3	Hallam Senior College
2019 - Progress Reports Cycle 2	Hallam Senior College
2019 - Progress Reports Cycle 1	Hallam Senior College
2018 - Semester 2	Hallam Senior College
2018 - Semester 1	Hallam Senior College
2018 - Progress Reports Cycle 4	Hallam Senior College
2018 - Progress Reports Cycle 3	Hallam Senior College
2018 - Progress Reports Cycle 2	Hallam Senior College
2018 - Progress Reports Cycle 1	Hallam Senior College

The reports were written at the end of Semester 1. With the impact of Covid 19 and remote learning, some students did not complete all assessment tasks. The College is highly aware that the disruption of term 2 has impacted significantly on a number of students. Consequently, many assessments due in term 2 will flow into term 3 and the second reporting period. A letter explaining how this will impact on the Semester 1 reports will be uploaded to Compass with the reports.

Wellbeing of Each Individual

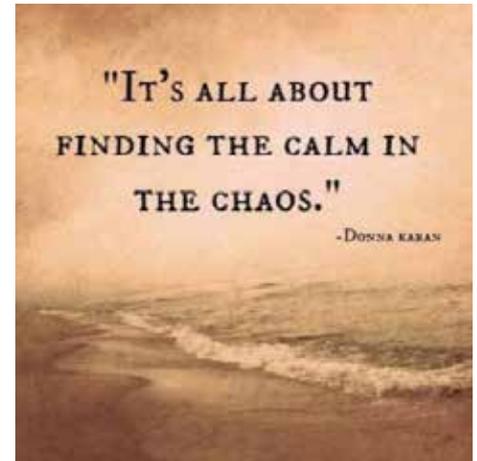
Over the next 5 weeks, my greatest concerns relate to students accessing and keeping up with work and the impact of remote learning on each person's wellbeing. Two key information sources provide some sage advice on how to deal with such circumstances. Berry Street Educational Model (BSEM) is shaping our work at Hallam College and is used extensively at neighbouring schools such as Doveton College. BSEM provides an understanding of times of uncertainty and strategies to cope. Andrew Fuller is a well-respected educational psychologist and provides advice for all during these times.

Learnings and Appreciations of our Times

I do not underestimate how hard lockdown may be for some. There are things we can take from the research of BSEM and Psychologists such as Andrew Fuller. We can also develop and recognise an armoury of understandings for ourselves and students.

These are some of the elements from these readings:

- Recognise and Appreciate during these times
- You are working hard just in a different way
- You will be reshaping relationships with those around you. Expect some change.
- You can keep connected albeit using different formats and platforms
- This time needs predictable quality routines. Consistency provides confidence.
- Don't expect to be perfectionists – students, brothers/sisters, colleagues, professionals, partners, Mums, Dads... – Yes – Perfectionists No.
- It will not be easy at times for everyone. Reach out when you need assistance.
- At times you will undertake things that you are not trained in, or even comfortable with. Others will know the answers – just ask.
- It is hard to plan for longer periods when you don't know what is coming – plans for the next few weeks at a time.
- It can be challenging and physically and emotionally draining working on a screen and a phone all day. Work breaks into your day.
- It is difficult when you can't work with people face to face – make regular check in times with friends and colleagues.
- Managing home and work/study is stressful – find the way that works for you.



The one overwhelming learning that Berry Street has provided to me over the years is that period of trauma and uncertainty can lead to escalations in stress for ourselves and others around us and challenges to our important relationships – thus the need for routines and agreed processes to enable some semblance of certainty.

To assist with the time at home I have included the BSEM link. Tom Brunzell provides a reflection on the current times.
<https://learning.berrystreet.org.au/focus-areas/berry-street-education-model>

Understand that all of us will go through periods of uncertainty – Andrew Fuller Calls this the *Trial, Turbulence and Transition Phases*

Trial

We are all going through an incredible alteration of lifestyles. This has brought with it increased stress and times of exhaustion. While these feelings may lessen in the coming months, they will still occur, though hopefully less frequently.

Turbulence

The cycle of feelings that most people go through during these times: *Fear and Bewilderment, Anger, Are we there yet?* These phases of reaction may repeat several times before we are through these times.

Transition

As if we haven't had enough jolts and changes already, we all need to ultimately adapt back into in-school learning. The issue is we don't know exactly when this will be – will it be at the end of 6 weeks, or earlier like last time or even later if numbers don't drop as the Health Officials hope. We can't control what we can't control, so worrying about the transition is not high on our current agenda. We can take solace in the knowledge that we were able to transition quickly and effectively last time and we will be even better this time.

Andrew Fuller identifies the following self-care needs for all of us:

Priority No. 1: The sleep cycle

Sleep changes are a common effect of the recent times. Getting your sleep cycle back into sync with the work day improves learning and mental health.

Priority No. 2: Can't wait to see you

One of the main things that helps us all to cope now and ultimately transition back is having good links to family, friends and colleagues. We all look forward to catching up with good people and having some fun. Reaching out and making contact with friends and colleagues is important – Yes on line can be effective. Don't be a hermit.

Priority No. 3: Safe and certain

We are all in the care of one another. In these times, ambiguity is our enemy and will increase anxiety. Clarity is our friend. The College wellbeing team is available to those who need any assistance.

Priority No. 4: Restart the year and Plan for success

We are not looking at a resumption of the year. Most of us have had quite enough of 2020 already. What we are looking for is a restart. We need to keep reassuring that all students in Victoria are in the same boat – all have been impacted to some degree and this year is like no other year. For the year 12's this means adjustments being made to VCE and hopefully VCAL and VET. For senior students the risk is feeling that the year has got away from them and they feel they cannot succeed. Clearly this is not true. Firstly, they have all experienced the same setbacks. Secondly, there is time to catch up and succeed.

Priority No. 5: Less really is more

Given the upheaval of past months, rushing too much or putting too much in place is a recipe for exhaustion, disenchantment and disengagement. Taking our time now through consistent routines will help rebuild a sense of remote learning success.

School Access

While the College has to remain open during the "shutdown" period, it is only accessible to those students who meet specific categories of vulnerability. These include;

- children whose parents are permitted workers and for whom no other arrangements can be made
- vulnerable children including:
 - children in out-of-home care
 - children deemed by Child Protection and/or Family Services to be at risk of harm
 - children identified by the school as vulnerable (including via referral from a family violence agency, homelessness or youth justice service or mental health or other health service)
 - children with a disability where the family is experiencing severe stress.

The Principal Class will be located at the school each day and can be contacted on 9703 1266.

HINTS FOR REMOTE LEARNING



STICK TO A ROUTINE.

SHOWER, DRESS AND BREAKFAST EVERYDAY

START EVERYDAY AT THE SAME TIME

ROUTINES CAN HELP KEEP THINGS TOGETHER



HAVE A DEDICATED WORKSPACE

IT'S GOOD TO HAVE A SPACE JUST FOR STUDYING, EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONE CORNER OF YOUR ROOM

STICK TO THE SCHOOL TIMETABLE

THIS CAN KEEP YOU ON TRACK FOR WORK AND YOUR CLASS
WEBEX MEETINGS



PLAN YOUR LUNCH AND SNACKS

THIS CAN KEEP YOU FROM GRAZING AND STANDING IN FRONT OF THE FRIDGE OR CUPBOARD SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING TO EAT

GET OUTSIDE

GO FOR A WALK, LAY ON THE GRASS,
STARE AT THE CLOUDS, ENJOY NATURE



DO SOME EXERCISE

RUN, WALK, YOGA, KICK A BALL ABOUT
HAVE A DANCE, RIDE YOUR BIKE, CLIMB A TREE
JUST DO SOMETHING... ANYTHING

PLAN SOMETHING FUN

VIDEO CHAT FRIENDS, PLAY A GAME WITH YOUR FAMILY
PLAY WITH YOUR PET, DO A JIGSAW
PLAN A ONE-DAY HOLIDAY

