

THE *Davidson* Dispatch

Term 2 2020

A community school, Davidson High School is committed to providing an inclusive educational environment that is supportive, innovative and engaging. We believe that by working strategically and collaboratively we will inspire and develop future focused students who are active and connected learners and critical and creative thinkers.

Moving forward.....

Mr David Rule, Principal

With Term 2 drawing to a close there is much to reflect upon.

Firstly I would like to acknowledge staffing changes for Term 3.

Ms Mavromatis has been the relieving Head Teacher for CAPA since the departure of Mrs Lane at the beginning of the year. She has fulfilled the role with great enthusiasm and professionalism.

Term 3 will see Ms Adelaide Eastley take up the permanent role of Head Teacher CAPA. We are excited to have her coming to our school and are very thankful to have had Ms Mavromatis supporting the transition. She will remain with us until the end of the year which is great.

Reports will all have been issued by the end of Term 2. Having read all student reports I can say with confidence that we have some amazing students in our school and they make it a great place to come to work each day.

Students who are achieving excellent results or constantly seeking to do the best and try as hard as they can should be commended and be very proud of their school reports.

I would like to wish Year 12 good luck in their Trial HSC exams that begin immediately after the holidays. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to gauge where they are at.

I encourage all students to apply themselves with diligence and effort over the break to give themselves every chance to be successful in the exams. It is never too late to start and it is never too late to make that extra effort.

The resilience of these students has been so impressive during recent months and they deserve

credit for the way they have conducted themselves through the online learning.

It has been a term like no other for staff, students and families alike. I am proud of the way we, as a community have worked through the challenges thrown at us all and while it is certainly not over by any means, I am confident that the school and students will move forward.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and it has been incredibly enjoyable working with so many families to support their children in their learning and growth as young men and women.

I trust everyone will have a safe and enjoyable break and I look forward to seeing students and staff back at school reinvigorated for Term 3.



**Dream it.
Believe it.
Achieve it.**

Deputy Principal's Report

Mrs Alexia Martin, Deputy Principal

Character Strengths and Positive Education

What do we, as parents and educators, want most for our children? I am sure that you would agree that the answer to this question is for them to be happy, healthy and have positive life satisfaction.

At Davidson High School, we have been having ongoing professional conversations about how to find the balance between the rigour of our academic syllabuses, classroom behaviour and increasing the positive wellbeing of our students. We have identified that we would like to increase the resilience, confidence and perseverance of our learners so that they can be more independent thinkers, who embrace challenges, have a stronger sense of self and are accountable for their actions. To this end, we will be building the skills of positive emotions, engagement, relationships and accomplishment through a focus of character strengths and the work of Martin Seligman, founder of positive psychology.

The research indicates that children who feel more optimistic and positive about themselves are more likely to be open to, and take risks with, their learning and therefore more likely to achieve higher academic success.

In order to begin this journey in the school, we are focusing on the character strengths. There are **24 character strengths** that were described by Chris Peterson and Martin Seligman.

Intuitively, the idea of focusing on the strengths is

considered to be a respectful and meaningful starting point in supporting positive change. We will be working hard to identify, acknowledge and work with strengths of students as a starting point for change.

As this is not a program that is being implemented but a cultural shift in the school focus, there will be gradual changes over the next 3 -4 years. You will start to see these character strengths in the artefacts around the school such as signage, noticeboards and through Dispatch. You will also see it appear in the language used in lessons and assessments, as well as the school reports. Character strengths will also appear in the discipline process as well as the revamped merit system and recognition/presentation assemblies. Explicit teaching of a range of skills will continue to occur through the welfare lessons on Wednesdays.

Over this period of time, we aim to focus on and support:

- a strengthening of the positive relationships between members of the school community – students, staff & parents
- more consistent classroom expectations and management
- an increase in the level of resilience of our students
- an increase in the growth mindset of students who embrace challenges
- an increase in the academic performance of all our students
- students to have an increased positive outlook on life and their future.

WISDOM	Creativity Original, seeing and doing things in different ways	COURAGE	Bravery Not shrinking from challenge, facing fears, speaking up for what's right	HUMANITY	Love Valuing close relations with others, genuine warmth	TEMPERANCE	Forgiveness Mercy, giving people a second chance, letting go of hurt	TRANSCENDENCE	Appreciation of Beauty & Excellence Awe/wonder for beauty, admiration of skill
	Curiosity Interest, openness to experience		Perseverance Persistence, finishing what one starts, overcoming obstacles		Kindness Generosity, care, compassion, doing for others		Humility Modesty, letting accomplishments speak for themselves		Gratitude Thankful for the good, expressing thanks
	Judgement Critical thinking, thinking through all sides, not jumping to conclusions		Honesty Authenticity, being true to oneself, integrity		Social Intelligence Aware of motives and feelings of oneself and others		Prudence Careful about one's choices, cautious, not taking undue risks		Hope Optimism, expecting the best & working to achieve it
	Love of Learning Mastering new skills/topics, adding to knowledge		Zest Vitality, enthusiasm for life, not doing things half-heartedly		Teamwork Citizenship, social responsibility, contributing to a group effort		Self-Regulation Disciplined, self-control, managing impulses, emotions and vices		Humour bringing smiles to others, seeing the lighter side
	Perspective Wisdom, taking big picture view				Fairness Adhering to principles of justice				Spirituality Connecting with purpose and meaning
				JUSTICE	Leadership Organizing group activities, positively influencing others				

Deputy Principal's Report

Mrs Meghan Ferguson, Deputy Principal

Winter Uniform

Please ensure your students are adequately resourced with the appropriate uniform. Navy Davidson woollen jumpers, sloppy joes and jackets are available from the canteen for purchase. The uniform shop will deliver orders to your child at school, or you may wish to purchase directly from the canteen on a Wednesday morning.

Students who wear the incorrect uniform, and do not provide a note to explain this, will be placed on uniform detention. Students will progress through the level system if they do not try to improve their uniform.

Please see the following page of the school website to check the winter uniform requirements for all students or to place an order with the canteen.

<https://davidson-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/uniform.html>

The girls' junior winter uniform consists of:

- ◆ Davidson High winter tunic
- ◆ White shirt with pointed collar and *Davidson* embroidered
- ◆ Plain white ankle socks or black stockings
- ◆ Black leather lace-up shoes
- ◆ Davidson High navy blue jumper OR Davidson High zip-up jacket



The boys' junior winter uniform consists of:

- ◆ White shirt with pointed collar and *Davidson* embroidered
- ◆ Mid grey trousers/long pants (no cargo pants) or school shorts
- ◆ Plain white ankle socks
- ◆ Davidson High navy blue jumper OR Davidson High zip-up jacket



Can you help?

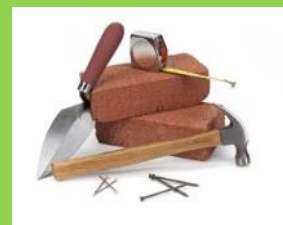
Do you have a small business that is in a position to offer work experience placements for Davidson High students?

Examples, but not limited to, would be:

Builder
Landscaper
Electrician
Beauty Therapist
Hairdresser
Real Estate

to name a few.....

Please contact Mr David Everingham on David.Everingham3@det.nsw.edu.au for more information.



Music

CAPA

Davidson Music Ensembles During Remote Learning

The recent COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Creative Arts all over the world. While concerts and gigs may be cancelled, art galleries closed, creative thinking and upgrades to technology have allowed for music tutorials to continue, dance classes to happen over zoom, and creative people (including many of the Davidson community) sharing live music from their living rooms.

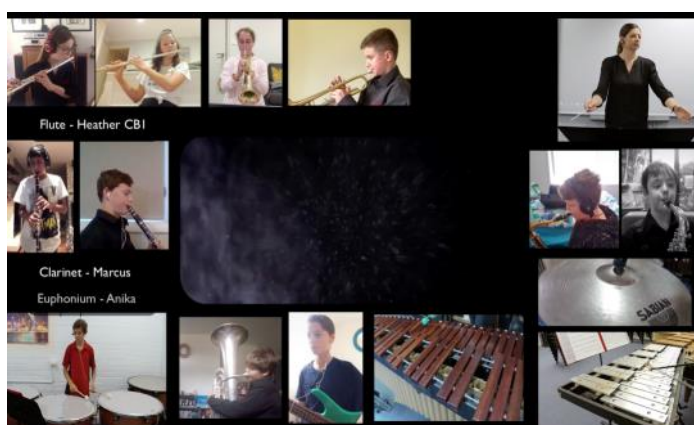
For our students, with SOPA and other performing opportunities cancelled, the CAPA teachers have been providing opportunities where possible for students to continue their ensembles online. While playing together is difficult, this has been an opportunity for students to work on other skills.

Concert Band 2 and the Acapella ensemble were both able to put together a “virtual” performance video. You may have seen many of these professionally developed over the course of being at home and we can tell you this looks a lot easier than what it is! Each student needs to perform and record their own part against a click or backing track. Each track is then edited using a music software program, then the individual videos are also put together using separate video software and paired with the final music track.

For Concert Band 2, we had been working on two songs, *Seven Nation Army* and *Cyclone* and then used these as our virtual video.

Concert Band 2 had only been playing together for around 7 weeks before rehearsals had to be cancelled and it was great to be able to record some of their progress quite quickly. One of the difficult things for students in playing this way is that the student is required to manage dynamics, breathing, tone and pitch - all testing their listening skills without the live band to support them.

The Acapella ensemble produced *Imagine* and this experienced group further stepped up the challenge. As they normally perform without any accompaniment, in true acapella style they also recorded using only a click track to maintain tempo with no backing melody to guide them. Again this is even more difficult when recording on your own as you don't have the rest of the group to keep in tune. Amazing!



Music

CAPA

For the first time the Music Department ran an online Acapella Challenge that was open to all students.

Students were required to record themselves performing any piece they liked, but they had to perform at least 4 layers of the piece, made possible by using music software that allows you to record multiple layers, such as the Acapella App.

Prizes were awarded for the top three entries judged by the CAPA department.

There were some fantastic and creative entries which made our job very difficult! The winners however were:

1st Place

Jack C (Yr12) – who incorporated shoes, body percussion, a light switch, guitars, water glasses to name a few in his version of “Take on me”

2nd Place

Emily H (Yr12) – her own acapella version of “Mr. Sandman”

3rd Place

Sarah M (Yr10) – an arrangement of her own composition, “Somedays”



We want to thank all the students involved in these projects as without them spending time and being involved, these great things would not be possible. Especially during a time of extreme change and remote learning, their commitment and effort was wonderful to see. If you're wondering where you can see these amazing videos please join our private Davidson High Creative and Performing Arts Facebook page.

Matthew Simmonds

Finally a big congratulations to Matthew Simmonds who was chosen to be part of a 17 piece 'remote' online youth Jazz ensemble being put together by 5 time Grammy award winner and Jazz legend Gordon Goodwin!! Matthew will be the group's drummer and will participate in weekly rehearsal sessions with Gordon and the rest of the chosen ensemble members from around the world to produce some amazing repertoire. What an amazing opportunity!

So while many things have been missed, many opportunities have also been gained. We think the acapella competition will be here to stay and for Concert Band 1, they have been looking at things in another way, deep diving into their repertoire by looking at the musicological side of things and planning out parts with their conductor Mr Steinmann holding regular zoom sessions.

We look forward to once again returning to face to face rehearsals and perhaps planning a few live stream concerts to help bring a friendly audience back to the performances, even if it's virtual for now.

Dance

Ms Angelique Mavromatis

HSC Performance Evening Tuesday 30th June

Year 12 Dance, Drama & Music students would like to invite you to a private screening of their HSC Major Works.

Students will be showcasing some of their HSC Major Works through our private CAPA Facebook page 'DHS CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS'.

The live stream will commence at **6pm** and is an opportunity for students to perform and share all their hard work and talent with you right from the comfort of your own home!

Whilst we wish we could have your support in person, we understand the importance these performance opportunities are for students in order to help prepare and polish their Major Works for their upcoming HSC.

This performance evening is an opportunity for these creative students to come together and celebrate all their hard work.

We look forward to sharing with you and hope to see you online!

Please join the CAPA Facebook page called

'DHS CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS'

You will need to answer some short questions to gain approval to join.

HSC MAJOR WORKS
LIVE STREAM ON FACEBOOK
TUESDAY 30TH JUNE
6PM
DANCE



DRAMA



MUSIC



DAVIDSON HIGH
SCHOOL

Duke of Ed

Ms Leanne Warwick

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded their bronze level Duke of Edinburgh Award:

Gemma Collett
Tilly Sutton
Sophie Warrington
Jess Bull
Rhyse Williams

These students have been working toward their award for over 12 months, completing 13 hours of community service, 13 hours of physical recreation, and 13 hours of skill development.



Students are required to 'major' in one of these areas and double the hours completed to 26 hours. In addition, the students planned, trained for and undertook two, one-night adventurous journeys where they navigated their way through the unfamiliar bushland, completing 12 hours of 'meaningful work' on each of the four days of their trip. In addition to the students mentioned here, there is another 15 who are in the final stages of completing this award.

Information about the Silver level award will be sent out in the coming weeks, once dates and costs have been finalised.

Sport Report

Ms Leanne Warwick

Welcome back to school sport!

It was really pleasing to see so many of our students keeping active during the break from regular schooling.

We are still waiting for someone to take on Mr Pocott's challenge to Year 10 to complete as many burpees as possible in one minute! The current record is 24.

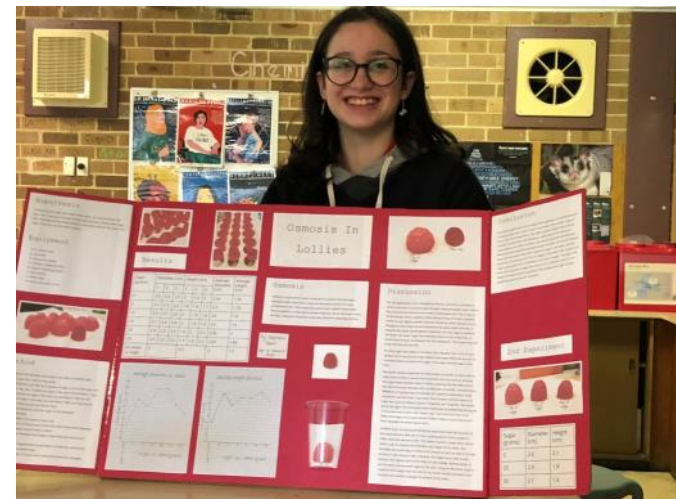
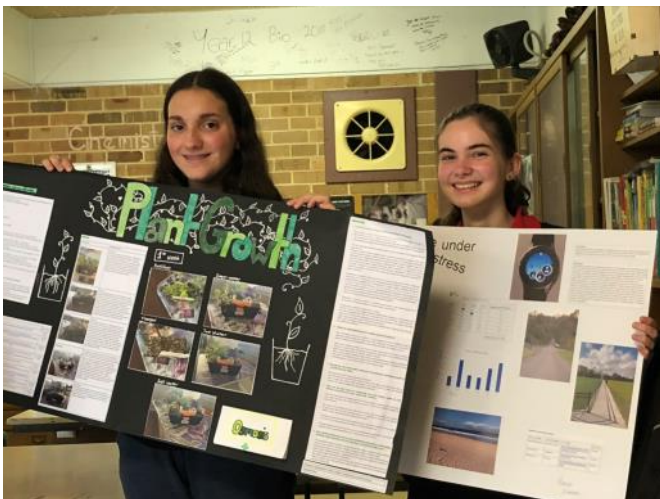
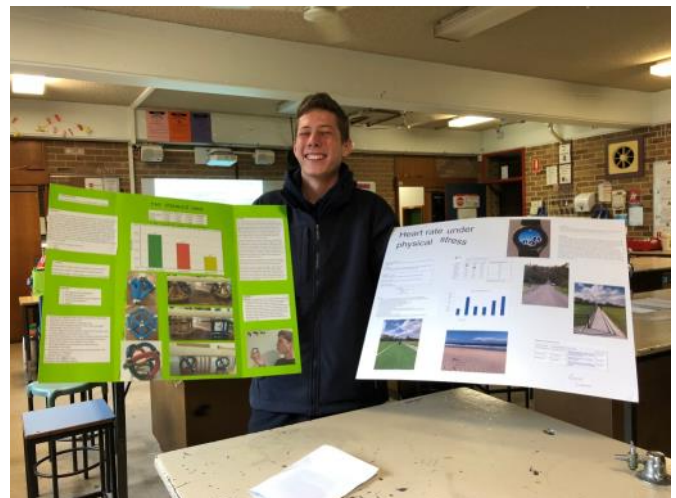
We hope all students in Years 7 – 10 have enjoyed the sport options the school has been able to provide considering the current restrictions on team sports.

Looking ahead to Term 3 we are hoping to broaden the range of sports on offer to continue to cater to the diverse sporting interests within the student cohort.

Volleyball training is back! Join us in the MPC every Wednesday morning from 7.30am.



Science Fair - Year 10



Year 12 Engineering

Mr Brad Thornton

Aeronautics is the study of how objects use the air streams to produce lift. It has been an age old pursuit for man to fly.

Year 12 Engineering students study aeronautical engineering and are required to design and build prototype gliders and independent wings for testing.

The first test is the flight test of the gliders. These are designed to use the pressure of the air stream across their wings to gain lift as they are thrown across the school oval.

Brandon Choi, the unlikely but distinct winner, gained a 22m flight in icy conditions. Well done.

The second test is the wind tunnel. This tunnel, powered by an industrial fan enables students to measure their wing designs for lift and drag.

Students alter the angle of their wings to get the greatest lift to drag ratio.

The winner gets the greatest ratio. Well done Ben Bradbent.

This is an exciting challenge that demands experimentation and deep learning in flight principles.



SRC

Mr Blake Roderick

It's undoubtedly been a quiet few months recently for the SRC, but we are excited to be back at it again and thinking of new projects to implement within the school.

Last term, to celebrate International Happiness Day on 20th March, an uplifting playlist of music was put on at lunch in the quad, which is yet another way the SRC helps to boost the school spirit on a regular basis.

As mentioned in the previous Dispatch article, we are working on conducting a waste audit within the school, which will enable us to develop strategies for how we more effectively manage waste in the school grounds. Stay tuned for more updates on this throughout the year!

Those wanting to see what the SRC does or to join are always welcome to attend our meetings at Monday lunch in Room 61.

NCCD Notification

Leanne Tosi and Dianne Bligh (Learning and Support Teachers)

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on school students with disability - 2020

Our school is participating in the National Collection of Data this year that collects data on students who require Learning Support or who have a disability. The process is the same as last year. Information will be collected about the support that is being provided to students within the school. Better data will help the Government plan for student learning.

Please note, the data collection will have no direct impact on your child and they will **not** be involved in any testing process. The NSW Department of Education and Communities will provide data to the Australian Government from all NSW public schools in such a way that no individual student or school will be able to be identified. In this way, privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured.

All information is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. Information about the Australian Government's Privacy Policy can be found here: <http://education.gov.au/condensed-privacy-policy>. Information about the NSW Government's privacy policies can be found here: <http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/>.

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection or have further questions, would you please contact Leanne Tosi or Dianne Bligh (Learning and Support Teachers) via phone or email ASAP. A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive.

Further information about the data collection can be found on the Australian Government Department of Education website: <http://education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>.

Garden & Grounds Committee

Garden Renovation

A lot of the wonderful work undertaken by our dedicated Garden and Grounds Committee goes unnoticed.

Here is some of the great work recently completed by Graham Johnson, Gail Phillips, Anahita Olsen, Sally Aslett and Patricia Blemith.

Thank you, it looks amazing.



Rotary Corner

Mr Kos Psaltis, Youth Service Director, Belrose Rotary



At Belrose Rotary, during COVID 19 our meetings have been via zoom. We've now realised that there are some benefits with this style of meeting. Our attendances have been higher than previous meetings. People that may have difficulties in coming to traditional meetings find it much easier and less time consuming to join in a zoom meeting.

Only last week we had one of Davidson's captain's, Alicia Humphrey join in for 20 minutes and then was able to get back to her HSC studies.

We've also had previous inbound exchange students such as recently returned Vittoria Bregant (Italy), and Terry Lai (Taiwan) join in our zoom meetings.

We are hopeful that 2 events involving Davidson High school students which had to be cancelled, can take place later in the year as social distancing measures ease.

One of these is where Davidson student leaders run our Rotary meeting. The other being the Davidson High School Public Speaking Competition. This is for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 and is always a very impressive and an entertaining evening.

From July, we will probably have a mixture of traditional meetings at our 'new home', The Dutch Club at Frenchs Forest, and also zoom meetings.

If you are interested in finding out what we do, please give me a call (mobile 0402 205 628).

Kos Psaltis

Belrose Rotary

Youth Service Director

Mobile 0402 205 628



Vittoria Bregant, our exchange student from Italy who returned home due to COVID 19. Vittoria was in Year 12 at Davidson High School.

Because of COVID-19, we had to take online class for six weeks. We couldn't see friends, we couldn't go anywhere, we couldn't do anything freely. For the first four weeks, I felt blue. After online classes were finished, I didn't do anything special. I watched movies or YouTube for a few hours. I couldn't get out of my crappy life. But by the fifth week, I could move on with my life. I don't remember why I changed my mind but I thought I had to change.



Arata Yagi

First, I started to exercise every morning. Second, I tried to listen English as much as possible so I watched movies carefully, I spent a time with my host family and listened English music. As a result, I quickly became to feel happy. My host family took me to lots of different places when the regulations became easier. Time flew so quickly and finally, school started. I was really impressed on the first day. I noticed that our ordinary school days were the happiest thing and I am blessed so much. I had a good time that day.

From that day on, I started to do a lot of thing that I couldn't do when school was closed. For example, I talked with my friends, go out and play with my friends, go shopping, eat out and so on.

From the end of March, our life changed so suddenly. I thought it is so easy to lose our ordinary life like this. I was very disappointed and I hated my fate. Actually, I couldn't reset myself. However, I thought I have to change something and going to do something. After that, I became happy. The Corona break told me that if I don't take action, I couldn't change the current situation. I don't want to have the experience like that life in the future and I'll never forget this experience.

School finally started, but it's not the same as before. We have to use sanitizer when we enter the classroom and we should keep a distance. There were all annoying, but I thought there were important for us because the teacher told us so many times.

The elective class was going on during our online class so I heard that we don't have the next term but we were able to take part in the elective classes from the day the school opened.

I enjoyed school after a long time away. There were some elective classes that I could understand and others that I couldn't understand during an online class, but my teachers taught me in an easy to understand way.



Mei Oga

Coronavirus was confirmed in Wuhan, China from around January this year. The effects have given tremendous surprise and anxiety throughout the world. It had a great impact on many restaurants and clothing stores. Due to this influence, income will not be received and bankruptcy will occur.

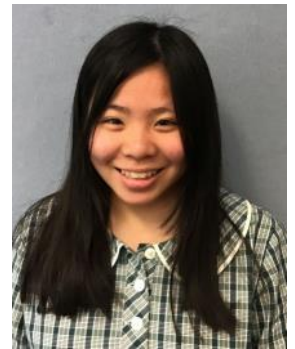
Increasingly, the world fell into turmoil of anxiety. Meanwhile, our school was closed and a project was about to start. This project was the start of online classes.

At first, I was very excited about online classes because this was the first time in my life. However, life in an online class was not so much fun. I thought it would be better to have a regular class. It was difficult to regularly attend online classes due to poor internet connection and PC malfunctions.

In addition, it is difficult to ask questions to the teacher during the class, and I do not feel that I can participate in the class too much. Once you get used to it, it should be more enjoyable.

There are lots of difficulties, but we're glad we had this valuable experience!

In addition, I don't know where this experience will be in my future life, but it can be.

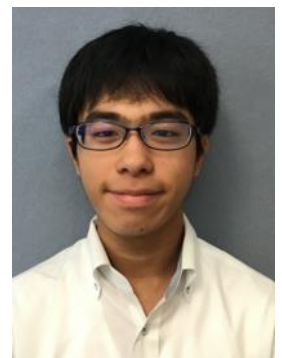


Yuto Fujikawa

Since the first week of online classes, it was hard to say in a word. Sometimes I lost my Internet connection and when I left and joined later, I didn't know what the class was talking about.

In our regular classroom, if I couldn't understand I could immediately ask a friend next to me, but online it was very difficult for me that I couldn't listen to and there were many things I didn't understand.

With this experience, I was able to learn how good it is to go to school and take classes.



Kureha Shimizu

Which drugs
are young
people
using?

How would
you know if
your child
was using
drugs?

What are
the signs of
drug use?

How could
you talk to
your child
about
drugs?



Presents

Parents Prepared

Starting the conversation with young people about drugs

When: Wednesday 12th August, 2020

Time: 4.00-6.00pm

Where: online via [Zoom](#)

Cost: \$10 per ticket

Presenters:

Belinda Volkov, Clinical Coordinator
Hayley Bowen, Master of Social Work Student

RSVP: visit <https://www.trybooking.com/BJXZR>
to register

To find out more about SDECC, visit www.sdecc.org.au

Supported by the Sydney North Health Network

Community Information

Bikes and Road Safety

Wearing a helmet is the Law



Bicycle riders are required by law to wear an approved helmet securely fitted and fastened. In NSW there are **no exemptions** from wearing an approved bicycle helmet. Students that do not wear a helmet will not be permitted to ride their bike out of the school grounds.

Be considerate of pedestrians and cars

Children under 16 years of age are allowed to ride on a footpath. When riding on a footpath, students must:

- keep left and give way to pedestrians
- allow pedestrians a metre of space on shared paths, where possible.
- always travel at a speed that is safe for you and the pedestrians you encounter

Children that ride their bikes on the road **must give way to cars.**

There have been a number of near accidents when students have moved onto the roadway in front of cars on the way to and from school. Please stay safe and watch out for traffic.

Students who ride on the road must:

- ride in a predictable manner so that other road users do not have to react suddenly to your movements
- always obey the **road rules**, including traffic lights, stop signs and give way signs
- always be in control of your bicycle - It is an offence to ride with both hands off the handlebars, feet off the pedals or to carry anything that prevents you from having control.



Community Information



School Zones

They keep our children safe

School zones operate between 8 - 9.30am and 2.30 - 4pm on school days.

The speed limit is 40km in all school zones.

We aim to improve road safety in school zone areas to protect children on their way to and from school.

It's important to understand the road conditions and signage in school zone areas. Please assist us by keeping our roads safe and educating your children to be safe around traffic.

Child safety is paramount and we make no apology for issuing infringements to drivers illegally parked in school zones. We are continuously conducting patrols during school terms to ensure child safety around our schools.



No Parking

No Parking zones can be used to **drop off** and **pick up** children



- Drivers may stop to drop off or pick up passengers or goods for a maximum of 2 minutes.
- The driver must remain in or within 3 metres of the car
- Do not leave the vehicle unattended

Penalty \$191 and two demerit points

No Stopping

Stopping is not permitted at any time.



- Dropping off or picking up passengers is not permitted in these areas.
- A continuous yellow line on the edge of the road also indicates a No Stopping zone.

Penalty \$191 and two demerit points

Driveways

Do not park across or on a driveway or any other vehicle access way.



Penalty \$344 and two demerit points

Bus Zone

Stopping is not permitted at any time.



- Drivers are not permitted to stop in a bus zone at any time. Unless, the sign shows times of operation, then the restriction only applies during those times.

Penalty \$344 and two demerit points

Double Parking

Double parking reduces visibility for other motorists and pedestrians.



- Vehicles must not stop next to legally parked vehicles, even for a short time.
- It is illegal to park within three metres of double white centre lines

Penalty \$344 and two demerit points

Please note:

Correct as at 1 July 2019 but are subject to change. Demerit points can increase the cost of your Greenslip.

COVID-19 Alert

Quick Parking

2 minutes

School Days Only
Drop off: 8 - 9.30am
Pick up: 2.30 - 4pm

 northern
beaches
council

Section 50 Road Transport
(Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999
By Order of General Manager