

# Casula Connects

March 2026

## Up-Coming Events

**Central parent calendar link:**

<https://casula-h.sentral.com.au/s-e5JmxQ/webcal/calendar/3>

**Casula High School Website**

[Casula High School](#)

**March 2026**

11<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> NAPLAN

23<sup>rd</sup> Year 7 Meet the Teacher BBQ

23<sup>rd</sup> CHS Open Night

**April 2026**

1<sup>st</sup> Athletics Carnival

## Senior Executive Corner

### Our Vision and Values

Our school's vision is to nurture a supportive and inclusive community where students are motivated to excel in all areas of potential; intellectually, creatively, physically, socially and emotionally. We maintain our core student values of **Safety, High Expectations, Achievement, Respect, and Prepared** (SHARP), promoting a culture of mutual respect, responsibility, and resilience. When students feel safe, valued, and connected, they are empowered to make learning their number one priority every day and every lesson.

### High Expectations Culture

At Casula High School, this philosophy guides everything we do. High expectations mean setting clear standards around learning, attendance, behaviour, uniform, and classroom engagement.

- **Student learning:** Every student is to make learning their number one priority and not interfere with the teachers right to teach and the students rights to learn.
- **Attendance and Punctuality:** Every student is expected to attend school and classes on time each day because consistent attendance is fundamental to learning and achievement.
- **Uniform:** Wearing the full school uniform with pride fosters a sense of belonging and community. It also reflects respect for ourselves and others.

- **Respectful Behaviour:** We uphold a respectful and positive learning environment where all students and staff treat each other with kindness and consideration.
- **Electronic Devices:** Responsible use of technology is critical. Our school has clear policies to ensure devices support learning rather than disrupt it.

### Welcome Year 7

Welcome to our newly arrived students in Year 7. We're thrilled to have you as part of our vibrant community. A new year always brings new students, and they add to the fabric of our school. We love to talk of community within our school and it is always wonderful to see new community members join us and have such a positive start. We congratulate Ms Regent and Ms Johnston our Year 7 Advisory Team, in supporting the transition of our students to high school. We are delighted to see our new Year 7 students join us this term. These students have joined us and shown the ability to integrate into our community. The feedback from staff has been positive and we look forward to getting to know our Year 7 cohort. We all value relationships at Casula High School and we encourage Year 7 students to work on developing their own positive relationships with their teachers and students. Our teachers, staff, and fellow students are here to help support our Year 7 students transition to High School, make new friends, and thrive academically and personally.

**Wellbeing Team**

Our Year Advisors are the first point of contact for parents and students when seeking advice or communicating important information. They are a vital part of our wellbeing team and expertly led and supported by our Head Teacher Wellbeing's. Please contact our Year Advisors regarding supporting your child:



**Year 7**  
Ms Regent



**Year 8**  
Ms Garven



**Year 9**  
Mr Punaes



**Year 10**  
Mr Church



**Year 11**  
Mr Steedman



**Year 12**  
Mr Dubria

### HT Wellbeing



**Year 9, 10 & 12**  
Mr Chanaoui



**Year 7, 8 & 11**  
Ms Ellis-Byrne



**Year 7, 8 & 11**  
Ms Regent

### New Staff

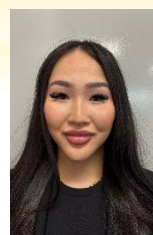


Firstly, we would like to welcome Mr Scott Belgre, Principal. Mr Belgre brings a wealth of leadership experience and through an extensive merit selection process he was identified as the preferred candidate to take on this important leadership role.

We would also like to welcome our new staff members who have joined our Casula family this year in different faculties. They are passionate and excited to be supporting and working with our students.



Ms Quach  
English



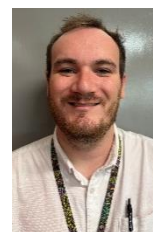
Ms Nguyen  
English



Ms Marsis  
English



Ms Solomon  
Maths



Mr Mann  
Science



Ms Tran  
HSIE



Ms Tiliakos  
HSIE

We are excited to see our family of teachers grow and look forward to the amazing work that Mr Belgre and the new staff will do with our students.

### Year 7 Meet the Teachers BBQ & Year 6 Open Night

Our passionate teachers look forward to connecting with our Year 7 students and families on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March for our Year 7 meet the teacher BBQ from 4:30pm – 6:30pm. Families will have the opportunity to connect with their child's teachers, staff from the Learning Support Faculty, Welfare Team and Senior Executive. Further information about the BBQ will be sent home to families soon.

Our Year 6 Open Night will also take place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. We look forward to hosting so many prospective students and their families as they take part in our school tours. Our staff look forward to meeting our new and returning families as they embark on tours of our extensive facilities and learn about opportunities provided to our students.

## NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Year 7 and 9 sit each year. As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy. NAPLAN provides families with the opportunity to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

The NAPLAN assessment period for students in Year 7 and 9 is Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Parents can support their child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is part of every school's program and to do their personal best. Students will be issued timetables at least 2 weeks prior to the assessment period. Any concerns regarding NAPLAN can be directed to the school and support will be provided.

### Attendance Matters

The evidence is clear that consistent attendance is the essential first step for your child to have a positive experience at school. **The school day starts at 8:50am** and all students are expected to be on time ready for learning every day.

**Everyday Matters And Everyone Minute Counts** for your child's learning. In recent years we've seen too many students miss a day of school here and there. Missing school for students means missing assignments, time with friends, an important math lesson or getting picked for a sports team. With days missed, years are lost.

Students are required to attend school every day, whether it's the first or last day of the term, Mondays, Fridays or days dedicated to sports carnivals, school excursions and incursions. Help us make sure your child is achieving their best and stays ahead in their learning with regular school attendance. The more time your child attends school, the greater their opportunity to learn, make new friends and improve their wellbeing. Together, let's build positive attendance habits for a lifetime.

If your child is absent from school, please let us know why as soon as possible. We understand there will be times when your child is unable to be at school (like when they are unwell). Medical appointments should take place outside school hours where possible and family holidays should be taken in term breaks.

If your child is feeling anxious about coming to school and you need support, please reach out to your child's Year Advisor or the Senior Executive (Deputis). Our staff are here to support you and your child to help them attend school each and every day. There are also helpful

resources for parents and carers on the [Every Day Matters website](#).

We look forward to another productive and successful year ahead as we work together in supporting your children, as they learn, grow and thrive.

*Working hand in hand with families, we create a powerful force that nurtures and empowers our children to reach their potential.*

Sincerely,



Mr Belgre  
Principal



Ms Signorini  
Deputy Principal  
Years 7+10



Mr O'Donnell  
Deputy Principal  
Years 8+11



Ms Crawford  
Deputy Principal  
Years 9+12

Warami budyari (hello, you good)



Aboriginal Education continues to be a valued and celebrated part of our school community. We are proud to support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through strong cultural connections, inclusive programs and meaningful learning opportunities.

Initiatives such as Pathways to Dreaming and partnerships with community organisations such as Souths Cares help strengthen cultural identity, belonging and academic success. Our students are encouraged to celebrate culture, share stories and take pride in their heritage, while building pathways for future success.

We have our Open Night coming up in Week 9 (Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March), invites will be going out to families shortly for a catch up and a chance to have a face to face chat. We always value input from community and this night we will be able to showcase the things we aim to do with our students and how we intend to upskill staff in building cultural competence.

One easy communication tool which went online last year is for students to join our Google Classroom group and invite parents/carers to the group as well. This platform is then used not only to promote programs in the school but to help pass on information about any local community events and employment opportunities for teenagers and adults.

Looking forward to working with families again this year. We recognise that strong partnerships with families are essential to student success. By building positive, respectful relationships with parents and carers, we create a shared commitment to each student's learning journey.

Yanu (bye)

We're excited to begin another year of enrichment, challenge, and opportunity for our students at Casula High School with a range of initiatives underway:

- This year marks the introduction of *Casula High School's Volunteer Recognition Program*, an initiative designed to acknowledge students who contribute their time and skills to the school and wider community. Year 9 and 10 students have received information about the program and students can now begin recording their volunteering hours. Students are encouraged to take initiative by engaging in volunteering opportunities offered at school and exploring opportunities in the wider community.
- We have seen an overwhelming number of students express interest in joining our debating teams this year. It's great to see so many students eager to develop their critical thinking, public speaking, and teamwork skills. More information about team selections and the Premier's Debating Challenge will be shared with students soon.

What else is ahead:

- **Year 8 HPGE Challenge:** Selected Year 8 students will take part in an inter-school extension challenge designed to stretch their thinking and problem-solving skills
- **Game Changer Challenge:** Selected Year 9 students will have the opportunity to take part in the Department of Education Game Changer Challenge, working together to solve a "wicked problem."
- **ICAS Assessments** will also be offered again this year to selected classes, with registration information to be provided later this term.



# Year Advisor Reports

## Year 7 Advisors Report

Year 7 students have begun their high school journey with a positive and successful start. On their first day, students participated in a range of welcoming activities designed to help them get to know their teachers, classmates, and the school environment. These experiences supported a smooth transition into high school by building confidence, encouraging new friendships, and fostering a sense of belonging.

Across all subject areas, students are being supported to adapt to new routines, expectations, and learning styles while developing independence and resilience.

In their classes, Year 7 students are engaging in a broad and balanced curriculum. In Visual Arts, students are strengthening their creative skills by learning about the



Elements of Art—line, shape, form, texture, colour, value, and space—and applying these through colour wheel studies, hot and cold colour paintings, and shading techniques, before moving



into Aboriginal art and lino printmaking later in the term. PDH/PE focuses on the theme New Challenges, New Beginnings, exploring identity, belonging, diversity, and body image through theory lessons, while practical lessons develop fundamental movement skills, teamwork through Indigenous games, and athletic activities. In Science, students are learning about the nature and practice of science by developing skills in observation, questioning, investigation, and communication. Mathematics lessons focus on building essential numeracy skills through computation with integers and fractions, decimals, and percentages, preparing students for real-world problem-solving. History students have begun investigating the past, learning how historians and archaeologists use sources, evidence, and timelines to understand history. In Technology, students are learning about safety in practical spaces while beginning studies in Digital Technologies and Engineering Systems.

Together, these learning experiences are helping Year 7 students build strong foundations for a successful high school experience. We can't wait to see what achievements Year 7 will have during their first year of high school at Casula High School.

Ms Regent / Ms Johnston

## Year 8 Advisors Report

A great big howdy and hello to all our Year 8 students, both returning and new. Can we just say how very fabulous you are all looking? Fresh haircuts, splendid uniforms, and beautiful smiles ready to learn.

Year 8 will be even more thrilling than Year 7, with new experiences and challenges along the way. Begin your journey learning Japanese in your brand new class called LOTE and enjoy the wonder of creating your own tunes as you start Music class. What's that? You also get to do cooking in TEC, the beep test in PDHPE, and pick your Year 9 elective classes. Wow! All of this on top of no longer being the youngest year group in the school, and you're all well on your way to crushing 2026.

We can't wait to see how much more you grow this year, both as young adults and learners. Keep up the amazing work, eat your breakfast, and most important of all – look after yourself and your friends!

Ms Garven / Ms Montgomery

## Year 9 Advisors Report

Welcome back Year 9 to another massive year. This year sees our Year 9 make the transition from students who are still learning their way around to the next phase of their schooling life. This year means that you will be trying out new subjects and having a feel for what you might want to do when you reach your senior years.

Notable dates to be mindful of is NAPLAN in week 7 and the ATHLETICS CARNIVAL in week 10.

Ms Bell and I are so excited to continue this journey with you, and we can't wait to see you grow. Please remember to find us if you need anything and please remember that back to school means correct uniform taking on opportunities to grow.

Mr Punales / Ms Bell

## ***Year 10 Advisors Report***

We warmly welcome all Year 10 students back to school and congratulate them on their positive start to the year. It has been great to see students return ready to learn, and we look forward to a successful and rewarding year ahead.

Year 10 is an important year of preparation for senior studies. Students are reminded that regular attendance, active participation in class, and the timely completion of all assessment tasks are essential. Failure to meet attendance, classwork, or assessment requirements may result in N-warnings and N-determinations. We encourage students to seek support early if needed.

A reminder that students must wear the correct school uniform each day, including all black shoes. Wearing the uniform correctly reflects pride in our school community.

We are excited to see all that Year 10 will achieve this year.

Mr Church / Mr Abdallah

## ***Year 11 Advisors Report***

Welcome back to school Year 11, and welcome to the beginning of your Preliminary Year. As you start this new stage of your senior school journey, you may experience a range of emotions — excitement, nerves, or uncertainty — and all of these feelings are completely normal and valid.

Beginning Year 11 can feel challenging at times, but it is also one of the most exciting periods of your schooling. It is a time when you will grow in independence, develop new skills and create many lasting memories with your peers.

Please remember that you are not alone, and there is a great deal of support available at school if you ever feel overwhelmed. Support options include your Year Advisors, Mr Steedman and Ms Jammias, the Wellbeing Team, the Homework Centre on Monday afternoons, the library study space on Tuesdays at 1:40 pm, and of course your classroom teachers. All staff are here to support you and help you achieve success throughout your senior years.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding year ahead for all Year 11 students.

Mr Steedman / Ms Jammias

## ***Year 12 Advisors Report***

Welcome back to school, and welcome to your final year of high school — Year 12.

This is an important year, but it doesn't need to feel overwhelming. The HSC is simply the next step in your education, and like any challenge, it can be managed with steady effort, organisation, and a positive mindset. There will be busy periods and deadlines to meet, but there will also be opportunities to improve, achieve, and feel proud of your progress.

Remember that success looks different for everyone. Some of you are aiming for a specific ATAR, others are planning for university, apprenticeships, work, or different pathways. Whatever your goals are, focus on consistency. Completing work on time, asking for help when needed, and staying organised will make a real difference over the course of the year.

Support one another, respect the process, and take care of your wellbeing along the way.

I wish you all a productive, positive, and successful final year. Approach it with maturity and determination, and you'll give yourself every opportunity to finish Year 12 feeling accomplished and confident about what comes next.

Mr Dubria / Mr Fok

# Faculty Feedback

## TAS

**Year 7** are exploring coding and web design, as well as electrical engineering by creating an ECO designed home.

**Year 8** are exploring mixed materials where they are making a timber project from their individual designs, and food and agriculture where they are going to make a recycled herb planter. Students in Year 7 and 8 are learning about Digital Technologies and Engineering Technologies where their first step is to learn how to remain safe in the computer lab, kitchens and wood workshop. By completing the safety test and creating safety posters it will help their technology classes run smoothly throughout the year. Students are learning about safe work procedures and basic safety practices for the correct usage of a variety of tools.

**Year 9 and 10** electives have started off great with learning new skills during practical and theory lessons.

**Year 11 and 12 Industrial Technology** have been busy working on their Industry Study task using ALARM and using industrial related manufacturing technologies during the production of their minor and major projects.

**Year 11 and 12 Hospitality** students are starting the year off with a great start at developing their practical skills.

The TAS Faculty welcomes all students, new and returning in 2026.

## CAPA

Welcome to 2026. The CAPA faculty would like to warmly welcome our new Year 7 students to Casula High School. We have lots of new and exciting ventures that we are eager to showcase in 2026 including Art Express, CASPERS, Music Club, International Day performances, the HSC major works workshops and of course our amazing MADD showcase to end the year with a bang.

We begin our year with the Art Express excursion organised by our amazing art teachers. Held at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney's CBD, Art Express showcases a selection of outstanding HSC major works from a broad range of expressive forms including ceramics, drawings, graphic design, painting, photo media and printing. Attending Art Express aims to give our students a detailed look at the process involved in the HSC major works and often inspires them in their own creative journey.

## ENGLISH

The English Faculty warmly welcomes all students and families to a new school year.

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our Year 7 students as they begin their high school journey. We are especially excited to introduce them to ALARM (A Learning And Responding Matrix), a structured approach to extended response writing that will help students build confidence, organise their ideas clearly, and develop strong analytical skills. ALARM provides a scaffold that supports students in moving from simple responses to more sophisticated, thoughtful writing.

Our returning students will continue refining and strengthening their extended response writing skills. This year, we will focus on deepening analysis, enhancing clarity of expression, and encouraging students to think critically about texts and ideas.

We are looking forward to a year filled with rich discussions and creative thinking.

## MATHS

Welcome back to another exciting year from the Maths Department. We're thrilled to see students returning to class with curiosity and enthusiasm, ready to tackle new mathematical challenges and build on their skills.

**Year 7:** Our newest high school students are off to a fantastic start. This term, Year 7 are consolidating their primary school maths knowledge and beginning to explore more formal mathematics concepts. As they settle into high school routines, we are supporting them in developing good study habits and a positive approach to learning.

**Year 8:** Students are investigating numerical and visual data. They are learning to analyse information from charts, graphs, and tables, gaining valuable skills in interpreting and presenting data. This foundational work helps prepare them for deeper mathematical reasoning in later years.

**Year 9:** Financial maths is the focus for Year 9 this term. Students are exploring real-world applications, including how to calculate wages and tax. These important skills not only prepare them for future study but also empower them to understand and manage their own finances with confidence.

**Year 10:** Are diving into linear relationships, using time and distance graphs to discover how gradients can represent speed and change. By applying these

concepts to practical scenarios, students are honing their analytical abilities and preparing for senior maths.

## STEM & ENGINEERING

**Year 9 STEM** have started off the year strong competing in a range of challenges, from building houses of cards, towers, and designing basic online games.



**Year 10 STEM** have started out the year looking into the history of aeroplanes, competing in a paper plane challenge and making their own returning boomerangs.

**Year 11 Engineering Studies** have discovered the basic mathematics needed to investigate the mechanics behind how things move, while also building models of simple machines.



## PDHPE

The PDHPE team is pumped for a big year ahead, with heaps of exciting activities and events coming up for our students. We've got sporting carnivals, hands-on workshops, and wellbeing programs in the works, all aimed at getting everyone moving, feeling confident, and having a go. We're all about participation, teamwork, and having fun while building healthy habits, and we can't wait to make 2026 a great year for our PDHPE community.

## SCIENCE

2026 has started with energy and enthusiasm in the Science Faculty, with students across all year groups diving into engaging and thought-provoking topics.



This year marks an exciting transition for our **Year 7** and **Year 9** students as they begin learning under the new curriculum. These programs have introduced a range of hands-on investigations, collaborative learning experiences, and real-world applications of science concepts. Students are already responding positively to the increased focus on inquiry, critical thinking, and practical skill development.



**Year 7** Science students conducting experiments to observe energy transfer and transformations. They investigated how kinetic energy can be transferred



from one object to another and describe the changes they observe.

**Year 8 and Year 10** students have also begun the year strongly, exploring challenging and engaging content. Lessons are designed to build deep understanding while continuing to strengthen scientific literacy and analytical skills.

**Year 10** students have already commenced their Independent Research Project, demonstrating impressive initiative and curiosity. This project allows students to investigate a scientific question of personal interest, design and conduct research, analyse data, and communicate their findings — an excellent preparation for senior science courses.

**Year 12 Physics** students using chocolate and a microwave to determine the speed of light. They were able to achieve the value very close to the theoretical value of speed of light.

We look forward to a year filled with discovery, innovation, and continued scientific growth across all year levels.



## SPECIAL ED

Welcome to 2026! Our Support Unit has had an exciting start to Term 1. Students have already settled in beautifully into routines, built some new friendships and engaged in rich learning. In HSIE, classes are exploring the Ancient Egyptian civilisation. Science lessons are focused on investigating Energy, and in PDHPE, students are working through New Challenges and Beginnings while developing their fundamental movement skills.

We've also been celebrating student success through our Head Teacher Awards and Student of the Week acknowledgements for attendance, uniform and positive behaviour. Please keep an eye out for our announcement of Student of the Term soon. Students with strong or improved attendance will also be invited to our attendance excursion later this term.

We encourage families to continue using the **school diary** as a key communication tool to help us stay connected and support each student with any changes each day.

We look forward to working with all our families and continuing this positivity throughout the rest of the year as we move through the term!



## HSIE

The HSIE Faculty is excited for the year ahead across History, Geography and Commerce in our junior years and the wide and varied subjects we offer to our senior students. Through engaging lessons and upcoming excursions, students will connect classroom learning with real-world experiences. History students will explore the stories and events that have shaped our world, Geography students will investigate environments and global connections, and Commerce students will examine the economic and legal systems that influence everyday life. These experiences aim to build critical thinking, informed citizenship and practical skills,

ensuring students are well prepared to understand and contribute thoughtfully to their communities.

Some upcoming excursions early this year:

- **Stage 5 Commerce** excursion to NSW Parliament House. Visiting Parliament House provides students with a valuable opportunity to see democracy in action, deepening their understanding of Australia's political system and civic participation.
- **Year 11 Geography** Field Study Day at Simmos Beach. Students carry out various tests and making judgements on how the natural systems are being impacted by human activities.

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

We are excited to begin the year with a newly formed Student Representative Council, bringing together passionate and motivated students from across the school. This new group is eager to represent their peers, strengthen student voice, and contribute positively to our school community through a range of initiatives and events.

Congratulations to our 2026 SRC representatives:

**Year 8:** Sofia, Divya, Zyra, Jaeslyn, Allisah, Indiana, Lucas, Isabella, Taaniko.

**Year 9:** Mary-Jane, Rhylainn, Amora, Tiffany, Narges, Freddy, Mohammad, Emily, Anastasija.

**Year 10:** Linda, Emma, Sophia, Xavier, Veronica, Julie, Baylee, Elma, Zahraa, Jason.

**Year 11:** Mary, Jasper, Emira, Aleah, Kate, Neveen, Sibel, Aliyah, Tajana, Raphael.

We look forward to working with this dynamic team and seeing the ideas, leadership, and energy they bring to the year ahead.

## SECONDARY STUDIES

Welcome to the start of a new school year. The Secondary Studies team would like to warmly welcome all students and families back and extend a special welcome to those joining our school community for the first time.

The beginning of the year is always an exciting time—full of fresh goals, new opportunities and renewed energy. Our focus remains on supporting students to engage positively with their learning, develop strong routines, and build confidence in their academic and personal growth throughout the year.

*A Message to Our Senior Students – Year 11 and 12*

This year is an important and formative stage of your schooling journey. Whether you are commencing the HSC course or entering your final year, we encourage you to approach the year with purpose, balance and commitment.

We recognise that senior studies can be both rewarding and challenging. Please remember that you are not expected to manage this journey alone. Our school offers a wide range of support services, including subject Teachers, Year Advisers, Careers and Transitions Support, Wellbeing Staff and the Secondary Studies team. We strongly encourage students to ask questions early, seek guidance when needed and make use of the support available.

Maintaining regular attendance, staying organised and communicating openly with staff will play a key role in achieving success. Just as importantly, looking after your wellbeing—sleep, balance and healthy routines—will support sustained effort across the year.

#### *Working Together*

Strong partnerships between students, families and staff are central to student success. We thank parents and carers for their ongoing support and encourage open communication throughout the year.

The Secondary Studies team looks forward to working closely with our school community to ensure every student feels supported, challenged and encouraged to reach their potential.

We wish all students a positive and successful start to the year.

## **CAREERS**

### *A Message from the Careers Advisor*

As we begin the school year, I would like to encourage students and families to keep their eyes and ears open for the many career-focused opportunities that will be shared throughout the year.

At Casula High School, we are committed to supporting students as they explore future pathways beyond school. Throughout the year, students will be notified about a wide range of opportunities designed to build skills, confidence and employability. These may include White Card training, barista training, careers expos, TAFE NSW courses, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, work experience opportunities, and information sessions with industry providers.

Many of these opportunities are time-sensitive and may require quick responses or parent permission. For this reason, it is important that students regularly check

school emails, announcements and messages, and that parents and carers remain engaged with school communication channels.

I strongly encourage students to take initiative—ask questions, attend sessions, and have conversations about their interests and goals. Even opportunities that seem small can open doors to future pathways, valuable skills and real-world experience.

If students or families would like guidance, support or individual career advice, they are always welcome to make an appointment to discuss options and next steps.

I look forward to working with our school community to help students make informed, confident decisions about their futures.

*Mr Cary*

*Relieving Careers Advisor*

## **STUDENT SUPPORT - WELLBEING – ENGAGEMENT**

Welcome to 2026 at CHS,

The Wellbeing Faculty is here to support all students with emotional and social needs while at school so that you can focus on what you do best – learn in the classroom.

There have been some staff changes this year so here's an overview of who to expect when you drop in:

- **Mr Chanaoui:** Head Teacher Wellbeing
- **Ms Regent:** Head Teacher Wellbeing (Mon & Fri)
- **Ms Ellis-Byrne:** Head Teacher Wellbeing (Tues, Wed & Thurs)
- **Mrs Dewhirst:** Student Support Officer
- **Ms O'Donnell:** Student Support Officer

We are found in the Wellbeing Hub, located above the hall. The Hub offers a space to quietly reflect, play games and check in with staff and is open during one break time each day. Drop in to the Hub for more information and maybe an ice block if you know the answer to Ms O'Donnell's quiz questions.

Breakfast Club has resumed for 2026 and is open before school Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. A lovely team of volunteer teachers are looking forward to seeing you from 8am - 8.40am in the morning for toast, cereal and juice.

Programs are now commencing for Term 1:

- Top Blokes
- Aspire
- New Beginnings,
- Study Without Stress and more

If you are lucky enough to join in, make sure you return your permission note to the relevant teacher in the Hub.

If you're feeling stressed, overwhelmed or just want a chat, you will always find a space in the Hub.

## LIBRARY



In February, we celebrated Library Lovers' Month with a series of creative, love-themed activities that brought plenty of colour and charm to our Library space. Students enjoyed crafting Victorian Valentine's puzzle purses, designing love-shaped letters, and creating their own heart-shaped bookmarks.

Although the events have now wrapped up, it was wonderful to see so many students embracing the opportunity to get creative, connect with others, and celebrate their love of reading in such a joyful way. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make Library Lovers' Month such a success!



## LEARNING AND SUPPORT

The role of the Learning Support Faculty is to provide support to students and teachers alike so that our school can continue to thrive and flourish. The ways in which we provide this support are vast and we wear many hats, including but not limited to:

- Testing of year groups to identify areas of growth
- In-class support for students with additional learning needs
- Small-group interventions for literacy and numeracy.

We would love to tell you a bit more about what we do to help students be all that they can be.

**QuickSmart** is a targeted numeracy program that supports students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Students in the program work closely with Learning Support staff to build their capacity in fundamental mathematics. We have already begun testing across these years to identify students who may benefit from this program and will be sending permission notes home with these students with further information.

**MaqLit** is a 10-week reading program developed by Macquarie University to build reading capacity and confidence in students. After initial literacy testing is completed with Year 7, our staff will identify students who may benefit from additional support and issue them with permission notes containing further information about the program.

Our **Small Group Tutoring Program** provides small-group tuition to students in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Our tutors are currently working with students in Years 7 and 8 and are targeting key skills in Year 9 for the upcoming NAPLAN assessment. This program will continue throughout the year and will focus on building student's capacity for literacy and numeracy.

The **NAPLAN Assessment** will take place this term from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Students in Years 7 and 9 will complete one test per day, beginning with writing. Learning Support will make contact with families of students who may require additional support during this testing period. If you have any questions regarding the NAPLAN assessment, or believe your student may require additional support, please contact a member of the Learning Support team.

Students in Year 10 will begin undertaking the **Minimum Standards Assessment** this term. To show they meet the HSC minimum standard, students need to achieve level 3 or 4 in short online literacy and numeracy tests of skills for everyday life. Students are required to meet this standard in order to receive their HSC credential at the completion of Year 12. Students in Years 11 and 12 who have yet to meet the minimum standards will be required to take the test on an early departure day during period 5. Students will receive a test notification informing them of when this will occur. Some students with disability studying Life Skills courses may be exempt from meeting the minimum standard to receive their HSC credential. Learning Support will make contact with families of students who may be exempt or require additional support during this assessment.

The Learning Support team welcomes all students, new and returning, to what we are sure will be a wonderful 2026.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

Staff have engaged in Professional Learning focused on extending our Reading and Numeracy Protocols. Ms Weeding, Ms Prasad and Ms Garven lead staff through data analysis and reflection, 'Maths Story' and 'CAP Protocol'. All staff began embedding these practices into 2026 programs, with an emphasis on extending students past their current capabilities.

## COUNSELLOR

*How can parents, carers and educators protect children and young people using online AI?*

Some parents, carers and educators worry that raising awareness about AI (Artificial Intelligence) companions could encourage their children to be curious instead of cautious. However, avoiding these hard to have conversations is not the answer.

It's best to ask children and young people about their online interactions, help them to recognise the risks, and remind them they are not alone – you will always help them, even if they think what they did may have been wrong.

Explain how overuse of AI companions can overstimulate the brain's reward pathways, creating a reliance on them that's similar to other problematic dependencies.

Discuss the differences between artificial and genuine relationships, emphasising the importance of respect, boundaries and consent.

Access eSafety's [AI companion advice for educators](#), with more information about the risks and benefits.

Use critical thinking and digital literacy skills – be cautious when using AI websites and apps, as some pretend to be AI tools for education, but are fake. These may display adult ads.

Talk about things that may be triggers – such as loneliness, boredom and stress – which can lead to reliance on AI companions – and encourage them to explore healthier alternatives. You can check [The eSafety Guide](#) for information about safety in AI chatbots and companions, particularly how to protect personal information and report abuse.

### *Practical strategies*

**Set clear limits:** Use [parental controls](#) on devices, in app stores and in search engines (as well as in the companion apps, if they are available) and set boundaries for app usage with children and young people.

**Identify triggers:** Help them recognise the things that may prompt them into unhealthy use of AI companions, so they know to stop and think at those times.

**Promote healthy alternatives:** Provide alternative forms of age appropriate and evidence-based information on the topics they want to know about. Encourage hobbies, exercise and social activities.

**Foster connections:** Support in-person friendships, family activities and age-appropriate relationships to strengthen emotional [resilience](#).

**Encourage gradual reduction:** Help them regain control by slowly reducing their AI companion app time to foster healthier habits.

**Teach mindfulness:** Introduce deep breathing, meditation and grounding exercises to help children and young people manage urges and refocus their attention.

**Reach out for support:** Support is also available through services including:

- [Kids Helpline](#)[External link](#)
- [headspace](#)[External link](#)
- [Lifeline](#)[External link](#)
- You can also check our list of other [counselling and support services](#).

Note: Some online services may use chatbots to help you find useful information or select the best person to connect you with.

### Related eSafety links

- Dealing with [sextortion](#)
- Using your [neurodivergent](#) mind to thrive online

# Contact Us

Casula Connects is available on the Parent Portal of the Sentral website, as well as on the Casula High School website. For any details about the newsletter or any other school events please contact the school on:

Phone: 9602 4320  
Email: [casula-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:casula-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [Casula High School](https://casula-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CasulaHighSchool](https://www.facebook.com/CasulaHighSchool)  
X: [@Casula\\_High](https://twitter.com/Casula_High)

## STAFF ROLES

TITLE	NAME
Principal	Mr Belgre
Deputy Principal Years 8+ 11	Mr O'Donnell
Deputy Principal Years 7 + 10	Ms Signorini
Deputy Principal Years 9 + 12	Ms Crawford
Year 7 Advisor	Ms Regent
Year 8 Advisor	Ms Garven
Year 9 Advisor	Mr Punales
Year 10 Advisor	Mr Church
Year 11 Advisor	Mr Steedman
Year 12 Advisor	Mr Dubria
Careers Advisor	Mr Cary
Librarian	Ms Milliken
Technical Support	Mr Scorgie
Student Support	Ms O'Donnell Mrs Dewhirst
Head Teacher Administration	Ms Holdsworth
Head Teacher CAPA	Ms Georgiou
Head Teacher English	Ms Kolar
Head Teacher HSIE	Mr Gandiaga
Head Teacher Learning & Support	Ms Witherly
Head Teacher Maths	Ms Campbell
Head Teacher PDHPE	Mr Dib
Head Teacher Secondary Studies	Mr Cary
Head Teacher Science	Ms Sami
Head Teacher Special Education	Ms Brechin Ms Mathews
Head Teacher Teaching & Learning	Mr Carter Ms Weeding
Head Teacher TAS	Ms Celic
Head Teacher Welfare	Mr Chanaoui Ms Ellis-Byrne Ms Regent

# Uniform Policy

## GIRLS UNIFORM

### Years 7 - 10

- **Skirt** - Bottle green (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Shorts** – Bottle green (shorts are knee length with a cuff, 2 pockets, 1 button, zip front and belt loop. These shorts are the **ONLY** option for girls to wear).
- **Shirt** - White polo or white blouse with school logo

### Years 11 - 12

- **Skirt** - Green tartan (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Shorts** – Bottle green (shorts are knee length with a cuff, 2 pockets, 1 button, zip front and belt loop. These shorts are the **ONLY** option for girls to wear).
- **Shirt** - White polo or white blouse with school logo

### All Years

- **Trousers** - Black tailored (*no track suit pants*)
- **Pullover** - Bottle green with school logo
- **Jumper** - Bottle green with school logo
- **Jacket** - Bottle green over-jacket with school logo
- **Tie** - Bottle green
- **Shoes** - Black leather, leatherette or suede
- **Socks** – White
- **Headwear** – (including caps and hijabs) if worn, must be in school colours, which are white, black and bottle green

## BOYS UNIFORM

### Years 7 - 10

- **Shorts** – Grey (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Trousers** – Grey tailored (*no track suit pants*)
- **Shirt** - White polo or white business shirt with school logo

### Years 11 - 12

- **Shorts** – Grey (*appropriate size and length*)
- **Trousers** - Grey tailored (*no track suit pants*)
- **Shirt** - White polo or white business shirt with school logo

### All Years

- **Pullover** - Bottle green with school logo
- **Jacket** – Bottle green over-jacket with school logo
- **Tie** - Bottle green
- **Shoes** - Black leather, leatherette or suede
- **Socks** – White
- **Headwear** – (including caps) if worn, must be in school colours, which are white, black and bottle green

## PE / SPORT UNIFORM

### All Students All Years

- Summer black sports shorts (*appropriate size and length*), school sports polo, sports shoes
- Winter black track suit pants with no logos, school sports polo, sports shoes