# Casula Connects

# February 2025

#### **Up-Coming Events**

March 2025

4th Zone Swimming

7th Community Café

10th SSW Swimming 11th Future Space Excursion 12th – 24th NAPLAN

April 2025

4th Zoo Excursion

### Senior Executive Corner

#### 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 Garven and Ms Brechin 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. We believe in creating an environment where everyone feels valued and empowered to succeed.

#### **Year Advisors**

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 welfare team. Please make contact with our Year Advisors regarding supporting your child:

Year 7 Ms Garven



Year 10: Mr Roberts



Ms Ellis-Byrne

Year 8



Year 11 Mr Dubria



Year 9 Ms Weeding



Year 12 Mr Markovski



New staff

We would like to welcome our new staff members who have joined our Casula family this year. They are passionate and excited to be supporting and working with our students: Ms Crawford joins the senior executive as an additional Deputy Principal, Ms Dillon in Secondary Studies, Ms Neesha in Science, Mr Mahfouz and Mr Poniatowski in HSIE, Ms Rogers in Special Education, Ms Dhadge, Ms Bakha and Ms Macmillan in English, Ms Coglan, Mr Stewart and Ms Zurawska in PE. We know our community will make our new staff feel welcome.

Ms Crawford

Ms Dillon Deputy Yrs 8+11 Secondary Studies Ms Neesha Science



Mr Poniatowski **HSIE** 



Mr Mahfouz **HSIE** 



Ms Dhadge **English** 



Ms Bakha **English** 



Ms Macmillan **English** 



Mr Stewart English/PDHPE



Ms Coglan **PDHPE** 



Ms Rogers **Special Education** 



Ms Zurawska **PDHPE** 





Year 7 Meet The Teachers BBQ & Year 6 Open Night

Our passionate teachers connected with our Year 7 students and families on Monday 24th February for our Year 7 meet the teacher BBQ from 4:30pm - 6:30pm. Families had the opportunity to connect with their child's teachers, staff from the Learning Support Faculty, Welfare Team, year advisor and senior executive. We look forward to working together as a team in supporting your child throughout their educational journey at high school.

Our Year 6 open night also took place on Monday 24th February at 5:50pm. It was wonderful hosting so many prospective students and their families as they take part in our school tours. Our staff had the opportunity to meeting our new and returning families as they

embarked 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 13th March - Monday 24th 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 the assessment period. Any concerns or worries about NAPLAN can be directed to the school and support will be provided.

#### **SHARP Students**

At Casula High School we communicate expectations through our positive behaviour and intervention systems, namely our SHARP expectations. Students are expected to demonstrate the values of Safety, High Expectations, Achievement, Respect and Prepared at all times. We teach to these values and reinforce them in all settings here at school. We commend out students on their demonstration of these values to start the year and encourage them to maintain these high standards.

We want to positively acknowledge our SHARP students and encourage all to engage with our merit system. Starting with our instant rewards, SHARP awards, and moving all the way up to our Principal Awards there are lots of opportunities for students to be positively acknowledged. Students that demonstrate these values are invited to be a part of recognition assemblies, excursion and rewards events and our very special presentation night at the end of the year.

#### **Attendance Matters**

The evidence is clear that consistent attendance is the essential first step for your child to have a positive experience at school. Students are expected to arrive on time for their first class at 8:50am.

Every day matters 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 maths 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. 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.

#### Minutes lost = days lost per year





#### **Community Café**

We extend a warm welcome to our families and look forward to connecting at our Community Café on Friday 7th March 9:15am - 10:15am. Community Café is an opportunity for families to connect with staff and learn more about the learning opportunities our students engage in, support structures available in growing our students and exciting new capital projects around the school. Each Community Café has a specific theme. The focus for this terms Community Café is on NAPLAN, Sentral and Attendance. We look forward to meeting new parents and welcoming back our existing families.

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

#### Sincerely,

Mr Smith	Principal	
Mr O'Donnell	Deputy Principal Years 7+ 10	
Ms Signorini	Deputy Principal Years 9 + 12	
Ms Pasalic Ms Crawford	Deputy Principal Years 8 + 11	



#### Shine a Light on Wellness

Saturday 8 March 2025 10:30 am to 1:30 pm 64 Macquarie Street, Liverpool

Join us this International Women's Day (IWD) for a special community gathering supporting women's health and wellbeing. Connect, learn, and celebrate with inspiring activities, health resources, and culturexperiences.

#### What's On:

- Health & Wellbeing Information Stalls
  Fun & Interactive Activities Weaving, Yarning Circle, Music/Didirri
  Free High Tea Sandwiches, scones, coffee cart
  & IWD cupcakes
  Lucky Door Prizes

All are welcome! Bring your friends, family & community!

RSVP Essential for catering purposes Scan the QR code or contact reception on **02 9602 5280** or Reception@glalc.org.au to confirm your attendance.

Contact Us: Gandangara Health Services, 64 Macquarie St, Liverpool NSW 2170 Tel: (02) 9601 0700 | Email: health@glalc.org.au | www.gandangara.org.au

Connect. Belong. Thrive.

O/glok O/Gandengera

### Koori Korner

Warami ngani - (hello, you good),

A big warm welcome back to all students and I hope you all had a nice break and are ready for the new year. I am sure families are happy to be sending their children back to school after an extended break.

This year we will be running the same programs aimed at supporting our students through high school and beyond. Building a greater sense of identity and confidence, so they may be better prepared for the life that awaits them.

This year we will be setting up a Google Classroom group for our students and families. The platform will be a safe space and another way to communicate to families of the exciting things we are doing at the school to support our Aboriginal students. Invites to parents and carers will be sent out soon.

The programs we aim to get up and running this year:

- Souths Cares starting Week 5 Tuesday period 4. Our good friends from Souths will be working with students running various activities and workshops
- Pathways to Dreaming some dates to be finalised. But we are looking at an excursion to Sydney Zoo this term.
- Tutor Squads Held fortnightly Friday period 5 where we provide extra support from our students with staff giving up their time to help students with any work they wish to do or catch up on.

We are also inviting parents and carers to join us on the Google classroom for Aboriginal students and community. This will be safe space for our students and where families will update on upcoming events at the school and community events.

#### COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Upcoming Community event happening:** 

- 8th March Gandangara Local Land council is organising "Shine a Light on Wellness" Community Gathering at Liverpool.
- 17th April Appin Massacre Memorial Service at Cataract Dam Picnic Area. Read the flyer for more details.





# Year Advisor Reports

#### YEAR 7 ADVISORS REPORT

WELCOME TO HIGH SCHOOL!!!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our Year 7 students and their families; we are so excited for the year ahead. Year 7 have settled into their new school amazingly. All classes have begun working on their new units of work and begun the preparation for assessment tasks. The My Strengths program was held where students participated in workshops to identify their strengths and how they can help them in their future endeavours. It was lovely to meet everyone at the BBQ night and for you to have an opportunity to see where all the amazing learning happens.

Congratulations to all students who have been receiving SHARP awards. Remember to collect 5 and submit them to your roll call teacher to receive your Merit award.

CAMP IS COMING! Year 7 will be heading down to Stanwell next term as part of our Wellbeing program. Further information will come out in the next couple of weeks regarding payments and dates. We encourage all students to attend camp. It is a great way to get to know peers outside of school and an opportunity to build lifelong friendships.

We are so proud how well everyone has settled and is representing themselves and Casula High. Let's keep up the awesome standard!!!

Ms Garven / Ms Brechan

#### YEAR 8 ADVISORS REPORT

Hi Year 8.

Welcome back to another year at Casula, where you are now growing in comfort and confidence. Your classes might look a little different this year but rest assured that you will make new friends and extend your existing relationships with both staff and students if you behave respectfully and kindly. There are also some new programs running this year, so listen carefully to announcements in Roll Call and from the Wellbeing Team. We would love to see even more Year 7 students taking advantage of Homework Centre, which runs on a Monday from 3pm until 4.30pm, offering help with assignments and homework as you need it.

Remember that you can find both your Year Advisors in the English staffroom if needed.

Ms Ellis-Byrne / Mr Punales

#### YEAR 9 ADVISORS REPORT

Welcome back, Year 9,

We hope you had a restful and enjoyable holiday break and are ready for Year 9. It's been great to see everyone back at school, refreshed and eager to get started with the busy and exciting months ahead.

Just a reminder, all elective choices for this year have now been finalised. Students will not be able to switch between electives at this point. We encourage everyone to dive into the subjects they've chosen, as this is a great opportunity to explore new areas of interest and develop skills that will help you in future years.

We're thrilled to announce that Year 9 Camp is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for the 5th and 6th of May, as this will be an exciting opportunity for students to bond, try new activities, and enjoy the great outdoors. More details about the camp schedule and what to bring will be shared soon, so stay tuned!

Homework Centre is on again this year - reminder it is on Monday afternoons from 3pm - 4:30pm. Please use schoolbytes to sign the permission note or come and see us in the PDHPE staffroom.

Ms Weeding / Mr Church

#### YEAR 10 ADVISORS REPORT

Welcome back to Year 10.

This year will present you with some amazing opportunities for future directions in 2026 and beyond.

Students are to be reminded that all assessment tasks and classroom needs to be completed to the best of their ability in order to be eligible for their Year 10 RoSA. Satisfactory attendance is also a requirement.

Students are strongly encouraged to speak with their teachers about Year 11 subjects now. Subject selection is an important part of deciding the best pathway to success in the senior years.

If students need any assistance, please contact Mr Roberts in the English staffroom and Mr Steedman in the PDHPE staffroom.

Here is to a fantastic year ahead!

Mr Roberts / Mr Steedman

#### YEAR 11 ADVISORS REPORT

Dear Year 11 Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break. Year 11 is a pivotal year, and we are thrilled to have you all back.

Year 11 Parent Information Night

We would like to thank students who attended the Year 11 Parent Information Night last week. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, engaging with the expectations, goals, and support systems in place for the next two years.

Catch-Up Minimum Standards and "All My Own Work"

A reminder to all students that some of you still need to complete Minimum Standards and All My Own Work program. These are essential requirements for your academic progress and participation in Year 11. If you have not yet completed these, please ensure you do so as soon as possible. Mr. Dubria and Ms. Milliken will be available to provide guidance and support, so don't hesitate to ask for help if needed.

High Expectations for Year 11

Year 11 is a critical stepping step towards Year 12, and we have high expectations for each and every one of you. This year, you will be challenged academically, encouraged to think critically, and supported to grow as independent learners. Remember, success in Year 11 is not just about grades – it's about developing resilience, time management skills, and a positive attitude toward learning.

We encourage all students to:

- Stay organised and plan ahead for assessments and deadlines.
- Seek help from teachers or peers if you're struggling with any subject.
- Take advantage of the resources and support available at school.

 Maintain a healthy balance between study, extracurricular activities, and personal well-being.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Mr Dubria / Mr Fok

#### YEAR 12 ADVISORS REPORT

Welcome back Year 12. We hope you had a restful holiday and are ready to get back into preparing for your last year of high school. Just a reminder that if you haven't already, now is the time to start developing your HSC notes. If you have received any N-Warnings, please make sure you aim to resolve these as soon as possible. Reach out to us or your teachers if you need any support.

We started off the term with our first fundraiser, which was Valentine's Day! The fundraising committee did an excellent job by dedicating their recess and lunch to selling and organising roses as well as gift bags. The photo booth set up by Year 12 on the day was a huge success and looked amazing (pictured below). We also sold out of our limited gift bags, and had a winner for our 'guess the number of jellybeans' contest (congratulations

to Ms Georgiou who guessed the exact amount of 544 jellybeans!). We hope our next fundraiser at the Athletics Carnival will be another success!



Mr Markovski / Ms Prasad

# Faculty Feedback

#### TAS



Safety is top priority in the TAS Faculty. At the beginning of every year the TAS Staff do a fantastic job in organising students to complete safety tests and have our students create great safety presentations.





#### **CAPA**

Welcome to 2025. 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 2025 including art express, CASPERS, music clubs, 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.

Our visual art's students are very excited and anxiously awaiting this year's excursion in March as they prepare for their own major works.

#### **ENGLISH**

As we embark on another exciting school year, the English Faculty is thrilled to welcome back our returning students and extend a special greeting to our new Year 7 students! We are excited to have you join our vibrant

school community, and we look forward to supporting you as you begin your high school journey.

This year promises to be filled with engaging literature, creative writing, and critical thinking. Students across all year groups will dive into a variety of texts, exploring themes and ideas that resonate with their experiences while also honing their writing skills across different styles.

Year 7 students will be introduced to the ALARM (A Learning and Responding Matrix) framework to help them write effective essays. This structured approach will guide them in developing their ideas, constructing coherent arguments, and enhancing their writing skills.

We look forward to an engaging year filled with learning, creativity, and growth for all our students!

#### **MATHS - STEM - ENGINEERING STUDIES**

Welcome to a New Year in the Mathematics Department.

We are thrilled to welcome all our students back for another exciting year in the Mathematics Department! Our teachers are eager to dive into a range of engaging and challenging topics designed to inspire curiosity and foster a deeper understanding of the world of mathematics.

What's Ahead: Topics & Assessments

Throughout this term, our dedicated teaching staff will be guiding students through an enriching curriculum. From algebra and geometry to statistics and calculus, we are committed to making each lesson an opportunity for growth. As we progress, students will have the chance to tackle exciting real-world problems, enhance their problem-solving skills, and develop a lifelong appreciation for math.

Assessments this term will primarily take place in the last few weeks. This allows our students plenty of time to master the material and ask questions as needed. Additionally, take-home assessments will be issued in the middle weeks of the term to provide a chance for independent learning and reflection on the topics covered.

Special Welcome to Year 7

A special shout-out to our Year 7 students who have had a fantastic start to the year! You have settled in

beautifully, and it's been wonderful to see you exploring the many resources available in our math classrooms. From using interactive resources to discovering online tools, you're quickly learning how to navigate these resources, which will enhance your learning experience. We are excited to see all of you grow throughout the year!

Year 9 STEM: A New School Record!



A big congratulations to our Year 9 STEM class, who have just made history by breaking the school record for the most number of textbooks suspended

above the ground using a single piece of A3 paper! This impressive achievement not only highlights their creativity and teamwork but also showcases the power of scientific and mathematical thinking. Well done, Year 9 – we can't wait to see what other amazing feats you accomplish this year!

We look forward to an exciting and productive term ahead. Here's to a year full of learning, growth, and achievements in the Mathematics Department!

#### **SCIENCE**

Year 11 Chemistry

Students are analysing a mixed sample of compounds and breaking it down into its individual components. By learning fundamental analytical skills in the science laboratory, they gain valuable knowledge that can be applied in various industries, including chemicals, agriculture, mining and water treatment. These skills will not only enhance their understanding of chemistry but prepare them for future careers in these fields.





Year 9

Modelling detoxification by leaching

Aboriginal Australians have developed sophisticated methods to detoxify food, allowing them to safely consume plants and animals that would otherwise be toxic. These methods include leaching, fermentation, cooking, and soaking. Here are some key techniques:

Leaching (Water Soaking)

Many toxic plants, such as cycads and some nuts, contain harmful chemicals like cycasin, which can cause illness.

Aboriginal Australians often soak these plants in running water (streams or rivers) for days or even weeks to leach out toxins.







#### SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPORT

We are thrilled to share that our Year 7 students have settled in exceptionally well this term! It has been a pleasure getting to know our new students, and we hope they feel warmly welcomed into our school community. A highlight of our week is the Special Education faculty's rewards assembly, held every Friday. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together and celebrate the achievements of our students. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about any awards they may have received. Many families find joy in displaying these certificates of recognition on their fridges, creating a collection throughout the year. At the end of each term, we will review student achievements and announce a 'Student of the Term' for each class, along with the prestigious trophy award.



As we look ahead, we are excited for another successful, busy, and fun year at Casula High School. Thank you for your continued support!

#### **PDHPE**

As we start a new year, the PDHPE faculty would like to express our appreciation to the long-standing substantive Head Teacher, Ms Walter, and wish her all the best in her future career and welcome Mr Dib as Relieving Head Teacher PDHPE.

We would like to welcome our Year 7 cohort. We are very excited to work with you all and to get those hearts racing.

The new school year brings exciting changes for our Stage 6 course as we embark on teaching the new curriculum, Health and Movement Science. This course fosters collaboration and provides opportunities for students to engage in rich learning activities and assessment.

PDHPE contributes to the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development of students by providing an experiential curriculum that is contemporary, relevant, challenging, and physically active. Within PDHPE, our learning experiences are contextualised to reflect the diverse needs of students within the school and provide students with authentic foundations to lead and promote healthy, safe, and active lives.

In 2025, the PDHPE faculty will continue to provide opportunities for students to expand on our school representation within sport across our Zone and within State competitions. Students can look forward to the following events: School Carnivals (Term 1 - Cross Country, Term 2 - Athletics Carnival, and Term 4 - Swimming Carnival), Regional Futsal Championships, In League In Harmony, all knockout sporting competitions for juniors and seniors, Rugby League, Premier's Sporting Challenge, HPGE week, inter-school gala days, and much more! Be sure to stay tuned for all sporting announcements during assembly and year meetings.

We look forward to celebrating everyone's successes in what promises to be an exciting 2025.

#### **HSIE**

As we step into a brand-new school year, let us embrace this exciting chapter with open hearts and eager minds. A new year brings fresh opportunities to learn, grow, and achieve together. It's a time to rekindle friendships, set new goals, and build on the foundation of knowledge and character.

To our students, dive into your studies with curiosity, participate actively, and don't be afraid to dream big. Each day is a chance to discover something new about the world and yourself.

To parents and guardians, thank you for your unwavering support and trust. Together, we will guide and nurture these bright minds toward their fullest potential.

Some things that have happened already in the short time we have been back...

Year 12 Ancient History

Mr Cary's Ancient History class were challenged to a Spartan citizenship test as a way of learning about their education system known as the Agoge.

Students needed to survive the following stages:

- Birth and elder judgement
- A dancing marathon
- A communal poetry recital
- An athletic circuit
- The formation of Phalanx



If students demonstrated excellence in this challenge they were rewarded with Spartan Citizenship.





















Upcoming excursions that are being planned and finalised for Term 1:

#### Stage 5 Commerce

Year 9 and 10 students will be going to NSW Parliament house by the end of this term. To learn about how governments operate with a tour of the house, doing a role play and maybe meeting a minister or two.

#### 11 Legal Studies & 10 Commerce

Crime Investigation incursion in Week 9 Term 1.

#### 11 Geography

Students will be doing a field study day on the 25<sup>th</sup> March to Simmos Beach which will be tied to their first assessment task

#### 12 Geography

Students will also do a field study. Starting in the Liverpool area and making our way to Campbelltown to identify and analyse the urban processes that are occurring in Southwest Sydney.

#### SECONDARY STUDIES

Secondary Studies have welcomed a new staff member Ms Dillon to our team for 2025. She will be working closely with Stage 6 students. She has settled in nicely to the school and is eager to support all of our wonderful students.

All of our Year 11 and 12 students have access to a sensational online resource for a multitude of subjects to support them through their HSC. It is called Edrolo.

These are the subjects that Edrolo has resources for:

- Advanced English Yr 12
- Standard English Yr 12
- English Studies Yr 12
- Biology Yr 11 and 12
- Business Studies Yr 11 and 12
- Chemistry Yr 11 and 12
- CAFS Yr 11 and 12
- Economics Yr 11 and 12
- Investigating Science Yr 11 and 12
- Legal Studies Yr 11 and 12
- Mathematics Advanced Yr 12
- Mathematics Standard Yr 12
- Mathematics Extension Yr 12
- Modern History Yr 12
- PDHPE Yr 12
- Physics Yr 11 and 12

If students need information on how to access their accounts, they can speak to Mr Cary or visit their Communication Google Classrooms.

#### **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

To begin the year, teachers have undertaken further Professional Learning focused on Reading and Numeracy Protocols - In-Reading processes. Mr Markovski, Ms Garven, Ms Weeding and Ms Prasad showed staff various examples of In-Reading Protocols and shared their successes. All staff were then given opportunities to build the protocols into their teaching and learning programs.

#### SRC

Serving on the Student Representative Council is a great privilege and opportunity for students to exercise their voice and play an active role in decision-making at school. Students are typically self-nominated from each grade and then democratically elected by their peers into one of the positions available. Your representatives for the 2025 school year are as follows.

Year 8	Year 9
Mary-Jane Ah-Kan Sawsan Albunni Rhylainn Cooper-Bertram Courtney Hook Linda Mandawi Tiffany Prajitno Narges Razmi Freddy Roberts Mohammad Saleh Emily Stuart	Veronica Danials Julia Diomis Baylee Dwyer Elma Jerebicanin Tahlia Orzecki Zahraa Raheel Raam Sharma
Year 10	Year 11

1001 10

Gretta Camstello
Jasper C.
Emira Dharmawan
Kate Howarth
Aliyah Jane Macalinao
Emma Nguyen
Ngoc Nguyen
Tajana Terzic
Raphael Zolim

Kiea Ali Samuel Alkhatib Shayna Hassan Linda Lavilavi

Sabrina Liong
Krishan Sharma

#### Year 12 Captains

- Gabriella Naji School Captain
- Ameera Tufano School Captain
- Salar Sami Vice-Captain
- Aaliyah Thirakul Vice-Captain
- Aya Bedran CAPA Captain
- Christine Diomis Academic Captain
- Nena Filipovic Sport Captain
- Yousuf Taugeer Community Captain

#### **CAREERS NEWS**

Year 12 Fast Forward Conference at University of Western Sydney, Parramatta Campus

10 Year 12 students attended the Parramatta campus of the University of Western Sydney for a Fast Forward program conference. While there, students experienced taster lectures in their choice of university courses which align with their future career aspirations. They also interacted with university lecturers and staff who provided guidance and advice for any questions they had.

#### **TVET Courses 2025**

Congratulations to all our TVET students who commenced their TAFE courses at various TAFE Colleges in Western Sydney. We wish them well and hope they will all have positive experience with their studies.

White-Card Training (Term 4, 2024)

Congratulations to all students who successfully completed the White card training in week 9 of Term 4, last year. All students have been issued with their White cards from Safework NSW

Careers Information and announcement

Students should be aware of and check the following school communication platforms for daily careers related information and announcement.

- Google-classrooms (Communication) Year 10 -12.
- Sentral dashboard for student notice
- FOR class
- Year assemblies
- Careers Office Top of the library

Various information relating to employment opportunities, apprenticeship and traineeship programs, careers expo and visit, university open days and programs, VET and other tertiary courses and programs are provided.

Careers and Transition Plan

Careers office is available to help students for the following services:

Advise on future careers and pathways

- Employment preparation (Resume, Cover letter, Job applications, Job search)
- Work experience coordination
- Parental /student meeting to support students' transition plans

School -Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT)

Layla Dinclik and Taj Brooks have successfully completed the first year of their SBAT last year. They are continuing with their respective apprenticeship programs in Real Estate and Automotive Industries this year.

School based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBATs) provide students with the opportunity to attain a nationally recognised Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification and their Higher School Certificate (HSC) while gaining valuable work skills and experience through paid employment.

There are some SBAT opportunities available now for Year 10 students. If you are interested and want to know more, please see Mr Adio, the Careers Adviser.

#### STUDENT SUPPORT/WELLBEING/ENGAGEMENT

Welcome back to Casula High School. We hope this message finds you well and ready for another exciting academic year. A special warm welcome to our Year 7 students and their families, as well as to all new students and families joining us in Years 8 to 12. We are delighted to have you as part of our school community.

As we begin this new chapter, the Student Wellbeing Team would like to extend our support and encouragement to every student. We understand that the start of a school year can bring a mix of emotions: excitement, anticipation, and perhaps a little nervousness. Rest assured, we are here to help make this transition as smooth and positive as possible.

At Casula High School, we are committed not only to academic excellence but also to fostering the overall wellbeing of our students. A supportive and inclusive school environment is key to promoting positive mental health, personal growth, and success.

Throughout the year, the Student Wellbeing Team will be working closely with students, parents, and staff to provide a range of support services and initiatives. From individual counselling and mentoring to group workshops and community events, our goal is to ensure that every

student feels valued, supported, and empowered to thrive.

For those unfamiliar with our team, the Student Wellbeing Team consists of:

- Head Teacher Welfare: Mr. Chanaoui and Ns Neill
- Student Support Officers (SSOs): Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Magallanes

#### Our Role

Head Teachers of Welfare/Wellbeing oversee student wellbeing, supporting mental health, behaviour, and engagement. We work closely with students, staff, and families to address pastoral care needs, implement wellbeing programs, manage behaviour support strategies, and ensure a safe, inclusive school environment. We also collaborate with external services and guide staff on welfare-related matters.

Student Support Officers (SSOs) provide direct wellbeing support to students through mentoring, guidance, and referrals to appropriate services. They assist with social and emotional challenges, foster a positive school environment, and work alongside teachers, school counsellors, and external agencies to enhance student welfare and engagement.

We encourage all students and parents to reach out to us with any questions, concerns, or simply for a chat. Your wellbeing is our priority, and we are here to listen, support, and guide you every step of the way.

We look forward to an inspiring year ahead, filled with learning, growth, and success. Together, let's embrace new opportunities, overcome challenges, and create lasting memories at Casula High School.

Once again, welcome back, and here's to a fantastic year ahead!

#### 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, and 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 (previously known as the COVID Intensive Learning Support Program) provides small-group tuition to students in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Our tutors are currently working with students in Years 7, 8 and 9, and are targeting key skills 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 12th March to Monday 24th March. Students in Years 7 and 9 will receive personalised timetables detailing when they will undertake each test. Learning Support will contact 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 in their literacy skills classes. To show they meet the HSC minimum standard. students need to achieve Level 3 or 4 in short online reading, writing 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. Some students with disability studying Life Skills courses may be exempt from meeting the minimum standard to receive their HSC credential. Learning

Support will contact 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 2025.

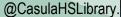
#### **LIBRARY**

The Library at Casula High School is the heart of the school. Located just off the main playground, hundreds of students pass through the doors every day, whether it be because they have a class schedule in one of the learning spaces contained within, or because they simply want a place to hang out with friends or browse the bookshelves. Like so many modern libraries, our library has had to evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of our students.

There are various events that the Library runs throughout the year to encourage students to engage with the many services and programs we offer. Examples include the Premier's Reading Challenge, which runs from February to September and promotes reading for enjoyment, and Book Week in August. Book Week is by far our biggest event and every year we celebrate as a means of encouraging students' imaginations and joy for reading. We go all out with decorating. Over the past several years, the Library has transfigured into the Great Hall from Hogwarts, fallen down the rabbit hole to Wonderland and hosted Bilbo Baggin's birthday party. From avid readers to those looking to newly discover the wonder of books, there's something for everyone during this week-long event, including art competitions, reading challenges, scavenger hunts, breakout boxes, and special-themed library lessons. We're already planning for 2025 and are sure it will be our best (and biggest) year yet!

To support student learning needs and interests, we are constantly looking for recommendations for books to add to our collection. If we don't have a book your child wants to read, we will get it! New titles that we have already added to our shelves this year include:

To stay up-to-date with Library news, including new books and upcoming events, follow us on Instagram





#### **COUNSELLOR**

DoE: Mental health and wellbeing support

Education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/health-and-physical-care/mental-health-and-wellbeing#Mental 1

#### Mental health and wellbeing support

Practical advice and information to learn more about mental health, help your child and care for your wellbeing.





# headspace Edmondson Park social groups 2025

ladies night in

nラ headspace GU Edmondson Park



women aged 18-25 13th February, 13th March, 10th April sign up via our instagram page

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youth aged 12-25
20th February, 20th March, 17th April
sign up via the code or our instagram
page



youth aged 12-25 27th February, 27th March, 24th April sign up via the code or our instagram page



jamming out

youth aged 12-25 invite upon request. sign up via the code or our instagram page





#### Free support for parents of teens

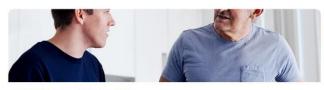
Helping you to support them, whatever challenge your teen is facing. Free expert advice, coaching and support for parents and carers in Australia.





What to do when your teen withdraws from you

Learn why your teenager is withdrawn, how to help them and how to figure out when they need further support.



Supporting teens with their sexuality

While you can't make your teen talk to you about their sexuality, you can help them feel supported



Practical strategies to help you manage your teen's school refusal

Learn more practical strategies you can use to support your child through school refusal, and help them have a better relationship
with school.



Help your teen build pride in their Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander culture

Culture is an important part of social and emotional wellbeing (SEW8). Help your young person learn about their culture and by proud of who they are.

All articles (+)



Free professional help for parents and carers of 12-18 year olds in Australia, with a trained parenting coach.

# Uniform Policy

### Contact Us

#### **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

 Black sports shorts (appropriate size and length), school sports polo, sports shoes 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: <a href="mailto:casula-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au">casula-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au</a>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CasulaHighSchool

Twitter: @Casula\_High

#### **STAFF ROLES**

<u> </u>	
TITLE	NAME
Principal	Mr Smith
Deputy Principal Years 7+ 10	Mr O'Donnell
Deputy Principal Years 9 + 12	Ms Signorini
Deputy Principal Years 8 + 11	Ms Pasalic Ms Crawford
Year 7 Advisor	Ms Garven
Year 8 Advisor	Ms Ellis-Byrne
Year 9 Advisor	Ms Weeding
Year 10 Advisor	Mr Roberts
Year 11 Advisor	Mr Dubria
Year 12 Advisor	Mr Markovski
Careers Advisor	Mr Adio
Librarian	Ms Milliken
Technical Support	Mr McLeod
Student Support Officer	Ms O'Donnell Mr Magallanes
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 Matthews
Head Teacher Teaching & Learning	Mr Carter
Head Teacher TAS	Ms Celic
Head Teacher Welfare	Mr Chanaoui Ms Neill