



TERM 4 WEEKS 3 AND 4

27 October – 7 November 2025

Important Dates – Term 4 2025

W3	Tuesday 28 October	School Council Meeting 6pm, online
W4	Friday 7 November	HSC Examinations conclude
W5	Monday 10 November	Year 12 Sign Out Day #1
W5	Tuesday 11 November	Remembrance Day Ceremony
W5	Wednesday 12 November	Year 12 Sign Out Day #2
W5	Thursday 13 November	Year 12 2024 Formal
W7	Tuesday 26 November	School Council Meeting 6pm, online
W9	Monday 8 December	Confirmation of Entry Day, Year 11 2026
W9	Thursday 11 December	2025 School Presentation Day
W10	Friday 19 December	Final day of school, Year 12 2025

Principal's Report

The Higher School Certificate examinations have been going very smoothly and will continue for another two weeks. Thank you to Year 12 2026 students who have ensured that the school environment has supported students complete the examinations free from noise and interruptions.

A reminder that the sign out days for Year 12 2025 will take place over two days; Monday 10 November and Wednesday 12 November. Students are asked to return their textbooks before the sign out days to allow for the process to run as efficiently as possible. Our teams are working diligently on Year 12 references for students.

Year 11 or should I say Year 12, 2026 are now well into their Higher School Certificate courses. It will only be a couple of weeks and the first of our classes will complete their first assessment task of the Higher School Certificate course. It is vital that you ensure you are well organised to support your studies over the next twelve months. This includes planners – which we have available in the Learning Centre – as well as a space

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Inclusive ~ Aspirational ~ Respectful

Principal's Report continued

to study at home and a focus on life balance, including your own wellbeing, sleep, exercise, healthy eating and social support.

This term our Academic Counselling Program will commence for students completing their Higher School Certificate in 2026. This program is an opt in support program designed to set academic goals and put in place strategies to meet these goals using individual data sets from assessment results. Our expanded team of Academic Counsellors look forward to working with the next cohort of students.

Our Enrolment Evenings for Year 11 2026 took place on Wednesday and Thursday evenings of Week 1 this term. These are long evenings and I thank our students and our staff for their time on these evenings. The small group approach allows us to personalise the experience as much as possible for our incoming students and their families. We had a great turn out and we look forward to working with our new students in 2026. A reminder that our incoming students are asked to attend Confirmation Day on Monday 8 December. If you are unable to attend, please contact Kathy Karavias (Enrolment Secretary) in our Administration Office on 02 9623 8333.

Thank you again to everyone for their ongoing support of our learning community.

Sally Smithard

Principal





2025 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAM TIMETABLE

Thursday 16 October to Friday 7 November

Important information about your written exam timetable

This document provides important information about your written HSC exams. NESA has already distributed details about oral exams for languages, performance exams and submitted works. Details of your performance exams or projects such as title of work or category (supplied by your school) are also available via *Students Online*. If you are undertaking oral or performance exams, we will post the time and venue on *Students Online* later this year. If there are errors or omissions in the exams you are entered for, contact your school immediately to supply us with the correct information. Take special care if you are entered for a VET course that has an HSC exam. If the exam does not appear on your personal timetable, you have not been entered for it. You must be entered separately for the exam if you expect to sit for it.

Your personal exam timetable

Your personal exam timetable is available from studentonline.nesa.nsw.edu.au. This timetable lists your written exams and where you will sit for them (usually at your school). It also lists any other exams you are entered for, including oral exams for languages, performance exams and submitted works. Details of your performance exams or projects such as title of work or category (supplied by your school) are also available via *Students Online*. If you are undertaking oral or performance exams, we will post the time and venue on *Students Online* later this year. If there are errors or omissions in the exams you are entered for, contact your school immediately to supply us with the correct information. Take special care if you are entered for a VET course that has an HSC exam. If the exam does not appear on your personal timetable, you have not been entered for it. You must be entered separately for the exam if you expect to sit for it.

Preparing for your exams

When preparing for your exams, find out what to expect in the exam room and the exam paper, including where to write your answers. For each course you are studying, know the rules and requirements, and what to expect in each exam. More information can be found at: nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/student-guide/preparing-for-exams

Information about the HSC exams

Make sure you have read and understand the *2025 Higher School Certificate Rules and Procedures* guide. You should have received a guide from your school and can also access it at: nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/rules-and-procedures/2025-guide

There are serious consequences for:

- cheating in an exam
- disobeying NESA's rules for exam conduct
- not making a serious attempt across a range of questions in each exam.

Any of these offences may result in reduced marks, course cancellation or loss of your HSC.

The exam starting time in the timetable is when reading time begins. Arrive at your exam venue well before the time specified. Further information about your HSC exams is available on *Students Online*.

Disability provisions

If you have a disability that affects reading exam questions or responding to them under exam conditions, your school can submit an application for provisions to help you. If you have not already done so, speak to your school if you think this applies to you.

Exam equipment list

It is expected that you come prepared to the exam room with the required approved equipment in working order:

- ✓ black pens to write with (recommended) – ensure to bring spare pens to each exam
- ✓ ruler
- ✓ highlighters
- ✓ pencils (at least 2B)
- ✓ sharpener
- ✓ water in a clear label-free bottle.

You can wear a watch, but it should be taken off and placed in clear view on your desk once you sit down for your exam. Please note that programmable watches (eg. Smart watches) are not permitted in the exam room.

All equipment you bring is subject to inspection on entry. Make sure any equipment you are allowed to bring, such as a calculator, is in good working order because an appeal under misadventure provisions for equipment failure will not be upheld.

What you **cannot** bring into your exam room

- ✗ A mobile phone. Mobile phones are not permitted in an exam room under any circumstances.
- ✗ A programmable watch, eg. a smart watch.
- ✗ Other electronic devices (except a calculator or wired headphones where permitted). This includes any other communication devices, organisers, tablets (eg. iPads), wireless earphones/headphones (eg. AirPods), electronic dictionaries, and music players.
- ✗ Paper or any printed or written material. You can ask your presiding officer for working paper.
- ✗ Print dictionaries, except where permitted in language exams.
- ✗ Correction fluid.

You are not allowed to borrow equipment during exams.

Equipment for specific HSC exams

The following list shows the exams for which you are to bring specific equipment, as there may be some exam questions that require the use of this equipment. If an item is listed as optional, it means that there will be no exam questions for which the item is essential, however you may bring and use it

if you wish. Only those exams that require specific equipment are listed. See the list of [approved calculators](https://nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/student-guide/preparing-for-exams) for the HSC examinations.

Agriculture

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pencil

Automotive (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Biology

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pencil

Business Services (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Business Studies

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Chemistry

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pencil

Construction (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Earth and Environmental Science

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pair of compasses
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ Protractor
- ✓ Set squares

Economics

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Electrotechnology (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Engineering Studies

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pair of compasses
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ Protractor
- ✓ Set squares
- ✓ Circle templates
- ✓ Isometric/ellipse templates

Enterprise Computing

- ✓ A supported device (desktop or laptop) with the NESA lockdown browser pre-installed
- ✓ Full battery life to last the entire exam (for laptops)

- ✓ Wired headphones (no Bluetooth allowed) to listen to audio stimulus for questions

- ✓ A wired or wireless physical keyboard

- ✓ A mouse

For more information see [Online HSC exams](https://nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/rules-and-procedures/2025-guide).

Entertainment Industry (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Financial Services (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Geography

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pair of dividers
- ✓ Pair of compasses
- ✓ Protractor
- ✓ Coloured pencils and/or coloured felt pens
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ (Optional) a handheld magnifying glass
- ✓ (Optional) a piece of string or thread for measuring

Hospitality (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Human Services (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Industrial Technology

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pair of compasses
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ Protractor
- ✓ Set squares

Information and Digital Technology (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Investigating Science

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pencil

Languages

- ✓ Unannotated monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries are permitted in the HSC external examination for all Modern languages courses and Latin. This includes Beginners, Continuers, Extension, [Language] in Context and [Language] and Literature courses. Bilingual print dictionaries of any language combination are permitted.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted in Classical Greek or Classical Hebrew exams.

Specialist dictionaries such as grammar dictionaries, dictionaries of idioms or syllabary dictionaries are **not** permitted. Digital dictionaries are **not** permitted.

Mathematics Standard 1, Mathematics Standard 2

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Ruler

Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 2

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Ruler

Physics

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ Pencil

Primary Industries (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Retail Services (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator

Science Extension

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator
- ✓ A supported device (desktop or laptop) with the NESA lockdown browser pre-installed
- ✓ Full battery life to last the entire exam (for laptops)
- ✓ Wired headphones (no Bluetooth allowed) to listen to audio stimulus for questions
- ✓ A wired or wireless physical keyboard
- ✓ A mouse

For more information, see [Science Extension online exam](https://nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/rules-and-procedures/2025-guide).

Software Engineering

- ✓ A supported device (desktop or laptop) with the NESA lockdown browser pre-installed
- ✓ Full battery life to last the entire exam (for laptops)
- ✓ Wired headphones (no Bluetooth allowed) to listen to audio stimulus for questions
- ✓ A wired or wireless physical keyboard
- ✓ A mouse

For more information see [Online HSC exams](https://nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/rules-and-procedures/2025-guide).

Tourism, Travel and Events (VET)

- ✓ NESA-approved calculator



2025 HSC Written Exam Timetable • Week 3

	Monday 27 October	Tuesday 28 October	Wednesday 29 October	Thursday 30 October	Friday 31 October
	HSC Day 8	HSC Day 9	HSC Day 10	HSC Day 11	HSC Day 12
AM	Legal Studies 9.25 am – 12.30 pm	Construction (VET) 9.25 am – 11.30 am Financial Services (VET) 9.25 am – 11.30 am Indonesian Extension 9.30 am – 11.30 am Korean and Literature 9.30 am – 12.30 pm Korean Continuers 9.30 am – 12.30 pm Korean in Context 9.30 am – 12.10 pm Science Extension 9.50 am – 12 noon	Business Studies 9.25 am – 12.30 pm	Automotive (VET) 9.25 am – 11.30 am Chemistry 9.25 am – 12.30 pm	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education 9.25 am – 12.30 pm Indonesian Continuers 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
PM	Mathematics Extension 1 1.50 pm – 4.00 pm Business Services (VET) 1.55 pm – 4.00 pm	Economics 1.55 pm – 5.00 pm Entertainment Industry (VET) 1.55 pm – 4.00 pm	Software Engineering 1.50 pm – 4.20 pm Human Services (VET) 1.55 pm – 4.00 pm Arabic Extension 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm Modern Greek Beginners 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm Modern Greek Continuers 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Electrotechnology (VET) 1.55 pm – 4.00 pm Visual Arts Art Criticism and Art History 1.55 pm – 3.30 pm Spanish Extension 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Enterprise Computing 1.50 pm – 4.20 pm Indonesian Beginners 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm Italian Continuers 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm Korean Beginners 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm Modern Greek Extension 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

2025 HSC Written Exam Timetable • Week 4

	Monday 3 November	Tuesday 4 November	Wednesday 5 November	Thursday 6 November	Friday 7 November
	HSC Day 13	HSC Day 14	HSC Day 15	HSC Day 16	HSC Day 17
AM	Geography 9.25 am – 12.35 pm French Extension 9.30 am – 11.30 am	Agriculture 9.25 am – 12.30 pm Textiles and Design 9.25 am – 11.00 am	Engineering Studies 9.25 am – 12.30 pm Society and Culture 9.25 am – 11.30 am	Earth and Environmental Science 9.25 am – 12.30 pm Information and Digital Technology (VET) 9.25 am – 11.30 am Italian Extension 9.30 am – 11.30 am	Physics 9.25 am – 12.30 pm Dance Section I Core Appreciation 9.25 am – 10.30 am Dance Section II Major Study Appreciation 10.40 am – 12 noon
PM	Industrial Technology 1.55 pm – 3.30 pm Automotive Technologies Electronics Technologies Graphics Technologies Metal and Engineering Technologies Multimedia Technologies Timber and Furniture Technologies French Beginners 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm Italian Beginners 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm	English Extension 1 1.50 pm – 4.00 pm Retail Services (VET) 1.55 pm – 4.00 pm Spanish Continuers 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Drama 1.55 pm – 3.30 pm Spanish Beginners 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm	Community and Family Studies 1.55 pm – 5.00 pm French Continuers 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Food Technology 1.55 pm – 5.00 pm



SMSHS – SOURCES OF SUPPORT



School phone: 02 9623 8333	School email: stmaryssen-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
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Year 12 2026 Student Adviser, Surnames A-G	Jacqui Crawhall	Jacqueline.crawhall@det.nsw.edu.au
Year 12 2026 Student Adviser, Surnames H-O	Wendi Kambolli	wendi.kambolli@det.nsw.edu.au
Year 12 2026 Student Adviser, Surnames P-Z	Luigi Serra	luigi.serra@det.nsw.edu.au
Year 11 2026 Student Adviser, Surnames A-G	TBA	TBA
Year 11 2026 Student Adviser, Surnames H-O	TBA	TBA
Year 11 2026 Student Adviser, Surnames P-Z	TBA	TBA
Head Teacher, Wellbeing	Melissa Jacka	melissa.jacka@det.nsw.edu.au
Learning Support Team	Carmel Harriden (M, T) Carly McPherson (T, W, T) Anne-Maree Magi (Th, F) Ashlee Pleffer (M, T, W)	carmel.harriden@det.nsw.edu.au carly.mcpherson@det.nsw.edu.au annemaree.magi@det.nsw.edu.au ashlee.pleffer@det.nsw.edu.au
School Counsellors	Tracey Axisa Bilge Yigit	Please text the counsellor phone on 0417228192 during school hours to organise an appointment
Student Support Officer (Rel)	Isidro Alfonso	Isidro.alfonso1@det.nsw.edu.au
Careers Adviser	Cheryll Ruskin	Cheryll.ruskin@det.nsw.edu.au
Deputy Principal Year 12 2026	Danielle Ervine	danielle.ervine@det.nsw.edu.au
Deputy Principal Year 11 2026	Leah Havord	leah.havord@det.nsw.edu.au



Term 4 Weeks 1A and 2B 2025 @ SMSHS

Monday 27 Oct	Tuesday 28 Oct	Wednesday 29 Oct	Thursday 30 Oct	Friday 31 Oct
HSC Examinations	HSC Examinations School Council Meeting, 6pm online	HSC Examinations	HSC Examinations Bandanna Day!	HSC Examinations Halloween! World Teachers Day
Monday 3 Nov	Tuesday 4 Nov	Wednesday 5 Nov	Thursday 6 Nov	Friday 7 Nov
HSC Examinations	HSC Examinations	HSC Examinations	HSC Examinations Year 12 Business Services, Task 4 due	Last day of HSC Examinations

Our Teams

Principal:	Sally Smithard
School Council President:	Sonia Matthews
School Captains:	Sherman Phull Mia Victorino
School Executive:	
- Deputy Principal (Year 12 2026)	Danielle Ervine
- Deputy Principal (Year 11 2026)	Leah Havord
- English (Rel)	Prithy Chaudhary
- Mathematics	Simone Pett
- Science	Lidija Radovancevic
- Commercial Studies	Salochna Reddy
- CAPA	Nicole Bonfield
- HSIE	Shara Walsh
- LOTE	Luigi Serra
- TAS / Computing (Rel)	Raymond Montalban
- TAS / PDHPE	Sharon Francis
- Secondary Studies	Lucas Widdison
- Wellbeing	Melissa Jacka
- First Australians	Leah Havord
- Business Manager (Acting)	Angela Demaio
- School Administrative Manager (Rel)	Amanda Falzon
Student Advisers:	
- Year 12 2026, Surnames A-G	Jacqui Crawhall
- Year 12 2026, Surnames H-O	Wendi Kambolli
- Year 12 2026, Surnames P-Z	Luigi Serra
- Year 11 2026, Surnames A-G	TBC
- Year 11 2026, Surnames H-O	TBC
- Year 11 2026, Surnames P-Z	TBC
Learning Support:	Carmel Harriden (M, T) Carly McPherson (T, W, T) Ashlee Pleffer (M, T)
Student Support Officer:	Isidro Alfonso
Careers Adviser:	Cheryl Ruskin

Contact Us



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St Marys Senior High School Official Site -
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