



# WADALBA NEWS

Term 2, 2025 | Week 4

UNLOCKING THE BRILLIANCE IN EACH OF US

## From Our Principal | Carlie Wells

### ANZAC DAY

Our student leaders conducted a beautiful ANZAC ceremony in the last week of school and represented proudly at the Wyong ANZAC service. Jasmine spoke with passion when delivering the ANZAC address and our Drum Corps kept the beat and stood tall thanks to the leadership of Mr Mealor.

### School Development Days Term 2

We had a fantastic SDD which focused on the implementation of High Potential Gifted Education. The Department provided some great resources and the HGPE team led by Mrs Mace who did an exceptional job in facilitating discussion and planning for the future.

### Student Behaviour Presentations

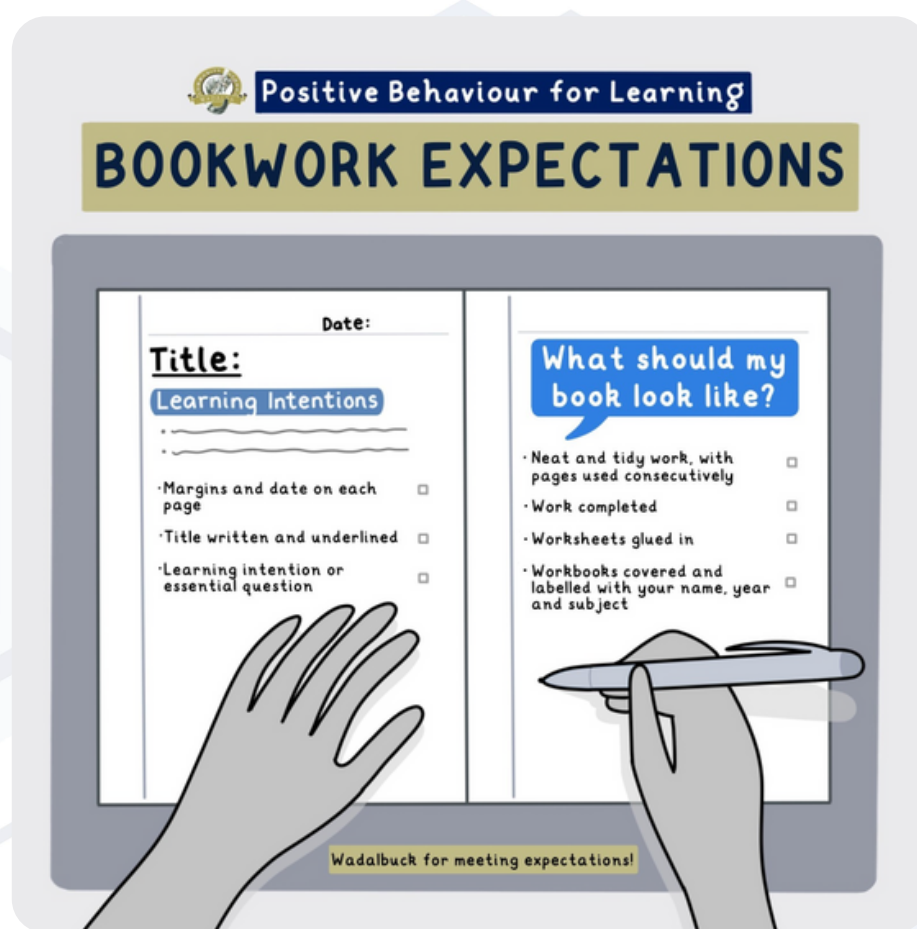
Parents and carers were emailed information about our Student Behaviour Presentations and we are very pleased with the settled start to this term. We have high expectations and we will not tolerate disruptive, unsafe, or disrespectful behaviour in classrooms, the playground or the wider community. These expectations are in place to ensure:

- Teachers can teach
  - Students can learn
  - Our school community can thrive and continue to build a strong reputation
- To support positive learning outcomes, it is essential that all students arrive at school ready to learn each day. This includes bringing the necessary equipment for every lesson, such as:
- A covered exercise book for each subject
  - A fully stocked pencil case, including pens, pencils, a ruler, and glue stick

We explicitly teach and model the behaviours we value in our students and encourage you to work in partnership with us by reinforcing these expectations at home. Regularly reviewing your child's workbooks is a wonderful way to stay informed about what they are learning and to help reinforce those lessons at home. This practice not only helps you understand your child's progress but also shows your child that you value their education. At WCS we have high expectations for student bookwork.

COMMUNICATION

# FROM OUR PRINCIPAL



## Student Learning Conferences Years 8, 9, 10 & 11

Parent Teacher Evening has been renamed to Student Learning Conferences and is a cornerstone of home-school communication. The teachers provide you with insights into your child's academic behaviour, areas of strength, and aspects that might need more attention and you have the opportunity to discuss your child's learning and wellbeing progress. Student Learning Conferences Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 are scheduled for Wednesday 2nd July from 3:30pm and we strongly encourage all parents to attend.

Carlie Wells | Principal

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEPUTIES



As we move through Term 2, the Deputy Principal team would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for your continued support and partnership in upholding the high standards and expectations we set at Wadalba Community School.

At Wadalba, we are committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and focused learning environment for all students. Our students embody the values of Respect, Responsibility and Excellence. As such, we would like to take a moment to remind families of a few important expectations:

## **Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Rewards Trading**

We are excited to continue our PBL Rewards Trading this term. Students have been earning Wadalbucks for displaying our core values and can trade these for exciting rewards. It's fantastic to see so many students engaging positively with this initiative.

## **Uniform Expectations**

A reminder that full school uniform is to be worn each day, with pride. Our uniform reflects our school identity and supports a sense of community. As we are moving into the colder months please ensure we maintain our high standards and ensure all students are wearing the correct jumper and trackpants. We appreciate the support of parents and carers in ensuring students arrive at school each day dressed appropriately.

## **Bookwork Expectations**

Consistent, high-quality bookwork is a key part of academic success. Students are expected to maintain neat, organised and complete classwork across all subjects. Teachers will continue to support students with clear guidelines and feedback, and we ask families to encourage students to take pride in their work. Regular checks by the Executive and Senior Executive teams showcase the amazing teaching and learning that is happening in our classes every day, and we would like to congratulate our students for their efforts with their learning.

## **Absences and Late Arrivals**

Being on time to school is essential for student learning and success. Arriving by 8:20am ensures that students are present for important notices, settled, prepared and ready to engage in their learning from the first bell. Please support your child in establishing strong morning routines to ensure they are at school and ready to learn by the start of the school day. If your child is late or absent for the day, please provide the school with an explanation for the absence. This can be done by calling the office, responding to the absence text, or sending in a written note.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEPUTIES

## **Mobile Phones and Yondr Pouches**

As part of our mobile phone policy, all phones, AirPods and Smart Watches are to be placed in Yondr pouches upon arrival at school and are not to be used during school hours. This policy helps to maintain a focused and distraction-free learning environment. We appreciate your ongoing cooperation in supporting this important initiative. Students are regularly reminded of the expectations of the Mobile Phone and our Digital Device policy.

## **Arrival and Departure Expectations**

Students are to arrive on site and remain at school until the end of the day. They are not to leave the school grounds to visit shops before or after school. This is a matter of student safety and wellbeing, and we appreciate your support in reinforcing this expectation.

## **Year 7 Camp Congratulations**

A huge congratulations to our Year 7 students on their outstanding conduct and enthusiasm during their recent camp at the Great Aussie Bush Camp?. Staff were incredibly impressed with the way students represented our school values and built strong connections with their peers and teachers. Well done, Year 7!

Thank you again for your continued support in ensuring Wadalba Community School remains a place of high expectations, achievement, and belonging. We continue to work together to best prepare each student to meet their potential and achieve success.



## **Year 8**

While most students are connecting and engaging with learning and lesson activities, we would like to remind parents, carers and families of the importance of students being prepared and ready for learning. We have been focusing recently on PBL initiatives including using respectful language and allowing others to learn without distraction. Students are encouraged to continue engage with our PBL initiatives and earn Wadalbucks to redeem them for positive rewards and experiences.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEPUTIES

## Year 10 – Work Experience Reminder

As part of our Careers program, all Year 10 students are required to complete compulsory work experience with the same employer during Term 2 Week 9 (23–27 June 2025) and Term 4 Week 8 (1–5 December 2025). An optional extension is also available in Term 4 Week 9 (8–12 December 2025). There will be no scheduled classes during this time. All students must submit a completed online Student Placement Record by Friday 9th May 2025 (Week 2, Term 2). This includes full employer details and evidence of employer agreement. Students working on construction or trade sites must also provide a valid White Card. Access the form via the barcode provided below. For questions, please contact the school on 4356 2888 or email Ms Swanson ([margaret.r.swanson@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:margaret.r.swanson@det.nsw.edu.au)) or Mrs Forster ([kath.forster@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kath.forster@det.nsw.edu.au)).



## Year 11

With Year 11 courses nearly two thirds of the way completion, students are encouraged to continue preparing for tasks, assessments and examinations to meet Year 11 and NESA requirements. Students with outstanding N warnings or who have not yet met Minimum Standard NESA requirements are required to resolve tasks and complete assessments in order to progress to Year 12 HSC. Year 11 Students will be engaging with our planned LifeReady course program over the coming months and students will be expected to engage effectively to meet requirements.

Deanna Beecroft, Rebecca Mace, Matthew Sawyer & Samantha Martin | Secondary Deputies

# ANTI-RACISM



The Anti-Racism Team at our school is committed to fostering an equitable, respectful, and culturally inclusive environment where all students thrive. We strive to empower our community by educating staff and students about Australia's rich cultural diversity and the importance of mutual respect. Our mission is to proactively prevent and address racism, creating a safe space for dialogue and understanding. Through collaborative efforts, we aim to ensure that every student is valued and inspired to reach their full potential.

**At Wadalba Community School we...**



**Stand up for  
diversity and  
inclusion.**



**Speak out  
against racism.**



# ANTI-RACISM



If a student experiences racism, they should inform a member of the anti-racism team. The poster below explains who these members of staff are.



**Safe, Respectful 'Inclusive' Behaviour**

## WHAT IS AN ARCO?

ARCO is an acronym for Anti-Racism Contact Officer. These people are members of staff to whom you as a student(s), parent(s) caregiver(s) and teaching staff can bring complaints about racism to.

This means that some complaints are brought to ARCO(s) by students, who may be the victim or a bystander. Some complaints are reported to us by staff or students' family members.

As a student, we would appreciate that you inform your teacher or an ARCO if you experience racism yourself or witness racism towards other students.



**Racism - See it? Hear it? Report it!**

# ANTI-RACISM



Lastly, if you see racism, hear racism, you need to report racism.



Safe. Respectful 'Inclusive' Behaviour

## RACISM

See it?



Hear it?



Report it!



I want to report something I heard...

Tell your teacher or ARCO



Racism - See it? Hear it? Report it!

# YEAR 7 CAMP

MAY 2025

## THE EXPERIENCE

From May 12th to 14th, our adventurous Year 7 students swapped their classrooms for the wilds of Morisset, diving headfirst into the exhilarating experiences offered by the Great Aussie Bush Camp. Over three action packed days, they embraced challenges, forged new friendships, and created memories that will last a lifetime. The camp's high ropes course tested their nerves as they navigated suspended obstacles, while the giant swing provided an adrenaline rush like no other. Students soared through the air on the flying fox, tackled the survivor challenge with teamwork and determination, and showcased their engineering skills during raft building sessions. The gully crossing demanded balance and bravery, pushing many out of their comfort zones. Evenings were no less thrilling. The "Commando" spotlight challenge had students crawling, climbing, and laughing their way through a muddy obstacle course under the cover of darkness. The sounds of laughter and the sight of muddy, smiling faces were testament to the fun had by all. Beyond the physical challenges, the camp fostered personal growth. Students supported each other, celebrated successes, and learned the value of perseverance. As one student aptly put it, "I faced my fears and had the best time doing it!" A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff and the incredible team at the Great Aussie Bush Camp for making this unforgettable experience possible.

Jodie Walker | Year Advisor





# ENGLISH

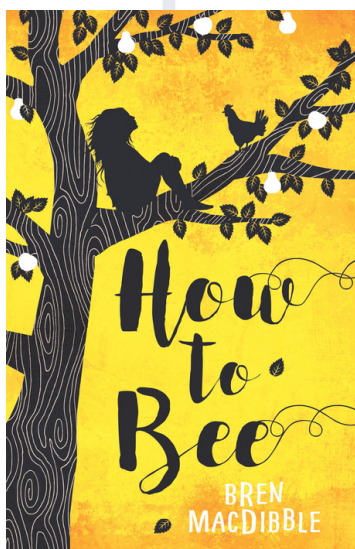


Welcome to Term 2 English!

English and literacy development are essential to the success of all students at WCS. In keeping with our school's overall focus on study skills, English is encouraging Year 7, 8 & 9 students to regularly log into Writer's Toolbox to continue practicing their skills beyond the classroom. For students in 10, 11 and 12 we encourage consistent revision of notes and course materials, as well as the completion of outstanding tasks. By using the tools available to them, all students can develop homework routines that give them the extra time they need to master concepts and become confident writers.

This term in English we are excited to start new units of work with each year group:

**Year 7** have begun looking at Fractured Fairytales where they will explore texts like The Grimm Brothers Spectaculum and Hoodwinked to understand narrative elements like setting, plot, and sub-plot.



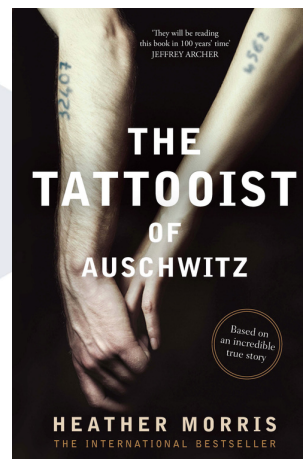
**Year 8** have started their unit on Sustainable Stories where they will analyse the novel 'How to Bee' to understand its themes and ideas, using personal experiences to deepen their insights into sustainability.



**Year 9** are working on the unit Speculative Fiction. In this unit students will explore the structural conventions of 'Tomorrow, When the War Began', to understand how these conventions are used to develop complex characters, conflicts, and themes.



**Year 10** have begun their study of Holocaust Stories. In this unit students learn about characterisation, point of view, connotation, imagery, and symbolism through stories like *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*.

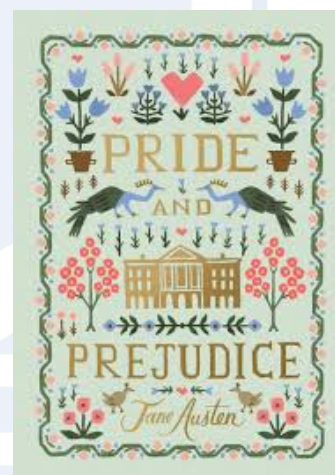


**Year 11 Standard** are working on Module B: Contemporary Possibilities. As part of this unit students study the film 'Searching' to explore ideas and stories about new and emerging technologies.

**Year 11 Studies** have started working on a new module, 'Playing the Game'. In this module students develop understanding and proficiency in the use of language related to recreational and professional sport at a local, national and international level

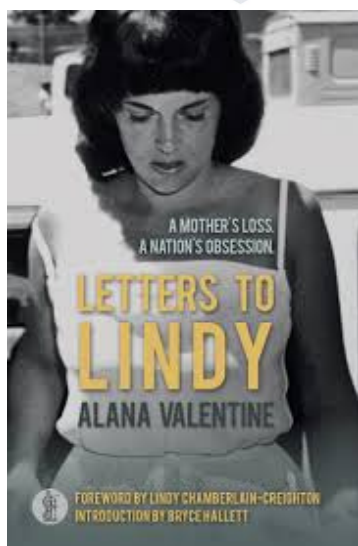


**Year 11 Advanced** will embark on an exciting exploration of storytelling through the lens of two iconic texts: Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" and Helen Fielding's "Bridget Jones's Diary." Through this comparative study, students will investigate how composers reimagine classic narratives to reflect changing values, audiences, and contexts.



**Year 12 Standard** are working on Module A: Language, Identity and Culture. In this unit students study the collected works of Indigenous poet Ali Cobby Eckermann to explore individual and collective identity.

**Year 12 Studies** have begun their module 'The Way We Were'. In this module, students develop understanding and proficiency in the use of language related to history, with a specific focus on the ways history is presented through text like *Letters to Lindy*.



# ENRICHMENT



Year 7 students continue to work on their projects. Student projects range from videos, interviews and social media campaigns to promote Wadalba Community School and the excellence that is here at the school.

Students are in control of their projects. They have set the deadlines, developed, practised and posed interview questions and edited the footage. The aim is for students to learn project management skills.

Students organising interviews have been studying the skills of Leigh Sales and how she asks questions to get to know the real person behind the celebrity. Students have been supportive of each other when learning to use new technology like lapel microphones and have consistently demonstrated our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Excellence.

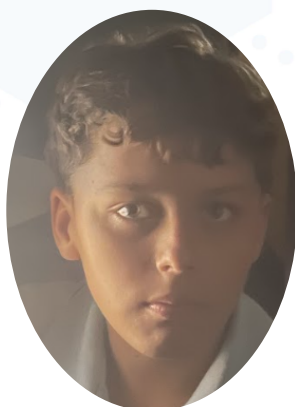
**7FEN3** and **7FEN9** are creating a video montage of Year 7 Camp. With the supervision of their teachers, they have been made aware of publishing permissions and how to set up interesting photos and videos to create a sense of excitement. Not only have students been learning about setting up shots, but they have also been learning about why rerecording audio is often important.

**7FEN5** have been working on a commission from the ARCO team to promote the work the team does. Malia, Melody, Mia and Summer will be interviewing the Wadalba Pasifika group and producing a video to promote this group. Miley, Rylee and Sophie will be interviewing Mr Hutchinson about the ARCO team and the anti-racism strategies at Wadalba Community School.

**7FENL** are writing a short film and have been learning about the impacts of lighting on the emotional response of the audience. Jordan volunteered to be our lighting model and students saw first hand the impacts lighting has on the mood of a piece. The class will now write a plot and continue on to work on a script for three short acts to create a short film. Students have worked together to name their piece "What Lurks Beneath"



**innocence**



**sadness**



**wonder**

All Enrichment classes have been working hard on their class projects to make a positive impact on the community.

Class projects will soon be released on our school social media pages.

Samantha Burton | Head Teacher

# MATHS



## Maths Update – Term 1 Highlights

Term 1 has been a fantastic start to the year in the Mathematics faculty! There's been plenty of excitement and learning happening across all year groups.

We celebrated World Maths Day with enthusiasm.

Throughout the term, our teachers have also focused on explicit instruction, helping students build strong foundations and confidence in their mathematical understanding.

One of the big highlights this term was the chance to use our revamped Maths rooms – bright, modern spaces that have created a more dynamic and comfortable learning environment for our students.

We also held our annual Maths Poster Competition, and we're excited to announce that the winner of the Golden Calculator was Hannah in Year 12! 🏆 Her creative and visually striking poster wowed the judges – well done, Hannah!



Year 12 have had a particularly busy term, completing their half-yearly exams – an important step in preparing for the HSC. They also participated in a Meet the HSC Marker Day, where students from both Advanced and Standard Maths courses gained valuable insights into what markers are looking for and how to maximise their performance.

Across all years, students have now completed their first assessment tasks and will soon be receiving feedback from their teachers to guide their learning and growth.

Meanwhile, Year 8 students took part in the UNI STEPS Day, where they used their problem-solving skills to tackle real-world scenarios using mathematics. It was a great opportunity to see how maths applies beyond the classroom.

We're incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by our students and staff this term.

We're looking forward to continuing this excellent momentum into the next three terms!

## Term 2 Highlights

The Maths Block is buzzing with excitement this term as students across all years dive into new topics and celebrate their achievements.

### 🎯 Magi Maths – Year 12 Support with a Bonus!

To help Year 12 students prepare for the HSC, Magi Maths is running every Tuesday during Period 4. This dedicated study session is designed to boost understanding and results, with teachers on hand to support students through challenging topics. As an added bonus, all attendees will be rewarded with free noodles – brain food for those working hard!

### 🏆 Celebrating Success – Top 10 Wall

We're recognising outstanding effort and achievement with our new Top 10 Wall. After every assessment, the top 10 students from each year group will have their names proudly displayed in the Maths Block. It's a great way to celebrate success and inspire others to aim high.

### 📚 What We're Learning This Term

Our students are tackling some exciting and important topics:

- Year 7: Exploring the world of Algebra, learning how to use symbols and solve equations.
- Year 8: Continuing with Algebra and discovering how to calculate the area of a circle.
- Year 9: Working through Trigonometry and tackling equations.
- Year 10: Focusing on both Equations and more advanced Trigonometry skills.

We're proud of the effort students are putting into their learning and are excited to see their progress throughout the term.

Keep up the great work, everyone!

Trent Willis | Head Teacher





Wadalba Softball Quarterfinal action versus Terrigal. The boys came out firing from the start with Alex hitting a homerun on the first pitch. They quickly went up 6-0 in the first inning and we were on our way to 7 runs when Alex had the play of the year when he was so excited hitting in the 7th run that he forgot to run to first base instead deciding to go celebrate with his team and was tagged out for not running to first! Michael was a pitching machine striking out 7 batters over 3 innings. Every batter on the team had at least 1 hit. Most of the boys never played softball before and showed great skills in taking down Terrigal 18-2. It a fun day by both teams. The three stars of the game were:

- Michael with 4 hits and 7 strikeouts on the mound
- Josh with 4 hits, one being a homerun
- Declan with 2 hits and his entertaining commentary in the dugout.

Boys next game will be the semifinals versus a strong Asquith Boys who have numerous Rep players for NSW and Australia.



# CAREER AND TRANSITION - SBAT



YEAR 10 STUDENTS ...

Are you interested in a

## SBAT?

START HERE



## School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs)

are a great way for you to get a head start on your career while still at school.

By choosing to do an SBAT, you are combining **PAID WORK + TRAINING + SCHOOL.**

Not only will you get your HSC, you will also gain a nationally recognised qualification.

With over lots of SBAT qualifications to choose from, there is something for everyone.

For more information contact your schools Career Advisor or SBAT Engagement Officer,

**Ashlee Vulaono on 0460 030 611**  
or email [ashlee.vulaono2@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ashlee.vulaono2@det.nsw.edu.au)



To find out more about the Educational Pathways Program, visit [education.nsw.gov.au/educational-pathways](http://education.nsw.gov.au/educational-pathways)



Please Contact Mrs Church in Staffroom 2 for further information

# SUPPORT



## Support High School Students Brew Up New Skills at Breakthru Café!

Some of our amazing Year 9 and 10 Gudumang and Murunda students have kicked off their work experience at the fabulous Breakthru Café – and what a fantastic start it's been! From learning the ropes of customer service with big smiles, to mastering cleaning routines and getting a handle on essential OH&S procedures, these students are jumping into real-world skills with enthusiasm and confidence.

This opportunity is more than just work experience – it's a chance to build independence, teamwork, and pride in what they do. We can't wait to see how they grow over the coming weeks – and maybe even sneak in a cuppa while we're there! Go team!



## Year 7 Take on the Great Outdoors!

What an unforgettable adventure! Our Year 7 students recently returned from an action-packed camp full of laughs, challenges, and muddy shoes! From conquering the giant pole climb and swinging high on the giant swing, to getting messy in the survivor mud course and paddling through kayaking and raft-building fun – they gave it their all!

Evenings were just as exciting, with a buzzing disco and animal-spotting adventures under the stars. The camp was the perfect way for students to build friendships, push their limits, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Well done, Year 7 – you were brave, bold, and brilliant!



# SUPPORT

## Celebrating our Magnificent Mums

The Support Unit was filled with love, laughter, and delicious treats as students hosted a very special Mother's Day Afternoon Tea! Our amazing students had a wonderful time cooking up a storm – from sweet slices to savoury delights – all made with care to celebrate the incredible mums and carers in their lives.



This term, Bibidja and Giribil have been lucky enough to join in on a gymnastics program. It has been an awesome opportunity for us to learn a new skill and burn off some energy. We are all looking forward to continuing the program!



# LEARNING AND SUPPORT

## Provisions

HSC students who are eligible have been applying for HSC disability provisions. Please refer to the NESA site for more information: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/hsc/disability-provisions/guide>

Some applications are requiring a medical form. For provisions to be applied for, this form must be returned to Learning and Support ASAP.

If you believe your child should be entitled to provisions and you have not heard about an application, please reach out to Learning and Support ASAP so we can review their situation and get all applications in.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team.

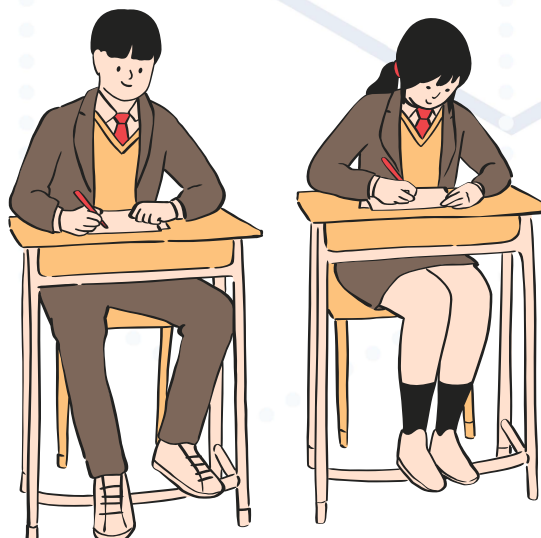
## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the NCCD guidelines (2019).

If your child receives adjustments in school (for a range of reasons), you may receive a letter informing you of their inclusion in the data collection.

If you do not receive a letter but your child needs additional supports at school, please reach out and let us know in Learning and Support so we can ensure the appropriate supports are in place.

If you have any questions at any time, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Learning and Support team and we can talk through the process or any concerns.



# Benefits of DRINKING WATER



**THIRSTY?  
CHOOSE  
WATER!**

[choosewater.com.au](http://choosewater.com.au)



## THE DANGERS OF ENERGY DRINKS FOR TEENAGERS

### HEART PROBLEMS



Rapid heart rate  
and increased  
blood pressure

### SLEEP ISSUES



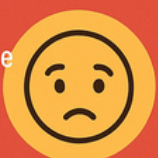
Insomnia  
and poor  
sleep quality

### ADDICTION



Dependence  
on energy  
drinks

### ANXIETY



Increased  
anxiety and  
restlessness

