



# Peel High School NEWSLETTER

WEEK 6 , TERM 1, 2021

## Year 7 Camp Fun



### REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS & CARERS

As a safety precaution, should you need to drop any items off to your child during school hours please drop them into the front office.

Students are not permitted to meet you outside school grounds or wait near the front or back gates/fence to collect items from you.

This is a safety issue.

### Parents please note:

Before School our playgrounds are unsupervised until 8.30am each morning and then only minimal supervision until Roll Call at 9.00 am.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 11      Selective School Test  
March 15      P&C Meeting - 6pm - All welcome

In the Library each Week - After School

- Tuesdays - Senior Study sessions
- Wednesdays - Homework Centre

Front Office Hours (Mon-Fri)  
8am to 3.45pm

Payment Office  
8.30am to 3.30pm





## **Year 7 Camp**

The Year 7 Camp was in Week 3. We left bright and early on Monday 8th February and travelled down to Active Education at Morisset. The students participated in 3 days of activities including kayaking, mud world obstacle course, and a range of thrill seeking activities such as the leap of faith, high ropes course, and a 200m flying fox.

Everyone had a ball, the staff included. The students were well behaved and represented the school admirably.

**Mr Brett Jarrett - Year 7 Advisor**



**Our School Captains elect for 2021**

(Left to Right) Vice-Captains Oliver McGill, Jacquelyn Sayabath, Mr Jones with Captains Piper Allen & Tom Ellis

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Peel High School for 2021. It was great to see so many of our students return to school and we especially welcome our Year 7 students and their parents and also Year 11 into the Senior School.

At present, the following numbers of students in each group are as follows with their Year Advisor:

Yr 7 166 – Year Advisor  
Brett Jarrett

Yr 8 – 170 – Year Advisor  
Laura Ness

Yr 9 – 158 – Year Advisor  
Nicola Burmester

Yr 10 – 142 – Year Advisor  
Shaun Bett

Yr 11 – 95 – Year Advisor  
Naarah Scholes

Yr 12 – 80 – Year Advisor  
Marnie Gleeson

We have welcomed a number of new staff to our school this year and they are as follows. For new parents to our school I have also added the Head Teachers for each faculty in red.

**Deputy Principals:**  
Wendy Robinson, Kristen Miller,  
Chris Keenan

**English:** Erin Stewart,  
Leanne Grant

**Maths:** Byron Smith

**Science:** Amy Johnson,  
Michelle Fairall, Michelle Lane  
(Farm Assistant)

**HSIE:** Chris Rankmore

**TAS:** Nor Chareunsouk-Hartley,  
Michael Wenman

**PDHPE:** Robert Carter,  
Zac Deahm, Sally Woodhouse

**CAPA:** Jessica Sherlock,  
Amanda Willey

**Special Education:** Tom Gasson,  
Lily Kipp, Emily Moore, Jack  
McVey, Robyn Ausling (SLSO)

**Learning & Support:** Vicki Saville  
(Lit/Num Coordinator), Kaysha  
Gale, Jenny Steepe, Emma Sing,  
SLSO's – Rhiannon Nigro, Jess  
Warren-Trindall.

**Administration:** Christine Ivin,  
Katrina Masters  
SLSO's Jessica Allan, Isabella  
Dominick, Sharon Hartigan,  
Paris Knox, Curtis Wolrige.

**Aboriginal Learning &  
Engagement Centre:**  
Matt Wilson, Amy Strong, Jake  
Way (SLSO)

**Business Manager:** Kerrin  
Dominick

**Head Teacher Administration/  
Attendance:** Lisa Panton

**Head Teacher Teaching &  
Learning:** Donna Burges

**Head Teacher Special Projects:**  
Keya Stevenson

**Head Teacher Wellbeing**  
Bel Stein

### COVID Check in for Visitors

For all visitors or contractors coming into our school, you must check-in using the Service NSW QR code, sign our visitor's book and also fill in the COVID form on the front counter. I know this seems a lot, but we are just following procedures so everyone can be kept safe and contact tracing, if necessary, can be efficient. Thank you for your support with this.

### Sport

We have changed the way sport operates this year in an attempt to stop the large numbers of students signing out during Sport lessons. For Stage 4 (Yr. 7 & 8) sport is now on Mondays during periods 3 & 4. For Stage 5 (Yr. 9 & 10) sport is on Wednesdays during periods 3 & 4. I must point out that Sport is compulsory for Yrs. 7 – 10 and it is mandated by the Department of Education and also NESAs as part of the Stage 4 & 5 curriculum. Please do not make appointments during this time and do not allow your child/ren to tell you that they do not have to do sport. That is simply not true. Yr. 11 and 12 are the only years not required to do school sport.

### Uniform

Our uniform is a nice one and I expect all students to wear it. Year 7 & 8 can wear the green shirt on Mondays for sport and Yr. 9 & 10 can wear the green shirt on Wednesdays. At all other times, all students should wear the white school shirt. Could I ask all parents and carers to support me and have

their child/ren in the approved school uniform.

### Mobile Phones

These continue to be a major problem at school. When students bring their mobile phone to school it is their responsibility to keep it safe. Our procedures are quite simple, mobiles will be turned off and away during class time. Students can have their phones on during break times. If a student is on their phone during class time their teacher will ask them to hand it over and they will get it back at the end of the lesson. If students wish to argue or defy the teacher's instructions then there will be penalties placed upon them. **Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES are students permitted to film or record any staff member or any other student without their expressed permission.** This is illegal and action will be taken against any student who does this.

### P & C Meeting

Our P&C meetings have been given approval to recommence this year with COVID safe practices. Our next meeting will be in the Staff Common room at 6:00pm, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March. These meetings are scheduled for the third Monday of the month and all are welcome to attend.

### Year 7 Welcome

#### Meet & Greet BBQ

The Year 7 Welcome Meet & Greet BBQ was held on Wednesday 3rd of March.

The evening saw many families take advantage of the opportunity to meet and chat with staff and students in a relaxed friendly atmosphere.

PHS senior students & leaders were on hand to help during the evening. Adding to the fun for the younger students.



## Peel's Breaky Hub

It's shocking to know that around 3 kids in every classroom across Australia are going to school hungry. Our program is kindly sponsored by PHS P&C and Food Bank Australia.

This year our focus is to provide a 'Grab & Go' breakfast program. Students can simply come up to the Breaky Hub choose to sit down or simply take a meal with them. We found students were more likely to make a meal and take it with them back to the playground.

Staff kindly volunteer their time of morning to set up, make breaky and ensure all students have access to food!



The School Breakfast 4 Health program has four key benefits to the students:

### Health

- ✓ Improves nutrition and eating habits
- ✓ Improves mental and physical health
- ✓ Helps combat childhood obesity

### Learning

- ✓ Improves readiness to learn and cognitive function
- ✓ Improves educational outcomes
- ✓ May assist test results (e.g. NAPLAN)

### Participation

- ✓ Reduces absenteeism and improves punctuality
- ✓ Enhances engagement and productivity in the classroom
- ✓ Improves concentration and behaviour

### Social Development

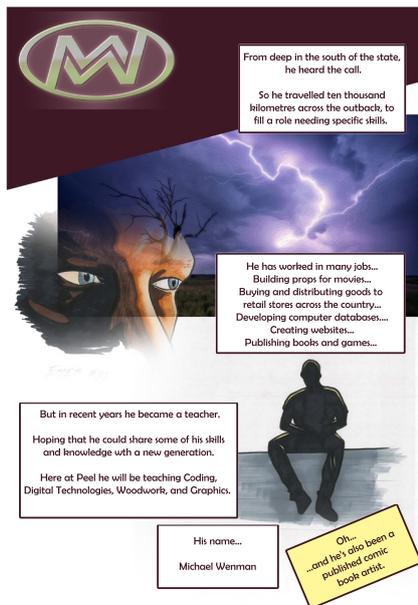
- ✓ Develops social and leadership skills
- ✓ Widens social networks and builds friendships
- ✓ Builds stronger relationships between students and staff



## TAS Faculty 2021

The TAS Faculty are pleased to welcome back all students to Peel High School this year. What a wonderfully exciting time we have ahead of us. So many changes with the environmental landscape of our student's educational journey that we are having to adjust to. Please be reminded that Elective Subject Fees are back on the agenda and we appreciate every student who makes payment contributions towards them during each term. Students will be invoiced soon for the subjects they are studying.

Our faculty would also like to welcome back Mrs Newmarch from her maternity leave in Home Economics. Mrs Newmarch will be with us 2 days per week (Monday and Tuesday). Sharing her teaching load with Mrs Townsend (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday). We also welcome a new Industrial Arts teacher, Mr Wenman who will be with us this year.



The Year 2020 was a very tough year, whereby many routines and expectations of our students were adjusted accordingly. However, the quality of the HSC Major Design Projects in Design and Technology, and Industrial Technology were still maintained. We had a wide range of designs and products that demonstrated skill and knowledge in working with a variety of materials to meet the end use of the item/product. Congratulations to all our Year 12 2020 students for overcoming the obstacles and challenges of the year that was.



Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10) Textiles Technology students worked on a creative and exciting Textile Arts Unit themed "Under the Sea" and "Outside My Window". Students were to design and create a textile wall hanging that were true to these concepts with their own imagery and design ideas. The creativity came in areas of their materials selection and ways of dealing with fabrics, embellishments and fabric decoration techniques to replicate their designs.

Our Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8) Technology Mandatory will cover the 4 Technology areas over 2 years: Food and Agriculture, E-Textiles, Wood/Metals and Coding. Each semester, students are given tasters into their future elective subjects in Stage 5. These mandatory subjects from the TAS key learning areas give students the unique opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will empower them to create, shape, select and use technology for the improvement of their quality of life.



## TAS Faculty 2021

### Year 12 Food Technology

Year 12 Food Technology have been busy learning about Food Preservation. In this lesson, they are attempting to replicate food preservation and manufacturing to a commercial standard. Once they complete this experiment, they have an assessment task which entails writing an essay and analysing the differences between domestic and commercial food manufacturing.

Mrs Newmarch



## Basketball Results

### 2020 Basketball Teams

Last year a single extended season of basketball was held at the Sports Dome.

Students from Peel High School played on a total of 8 teams.

- Benjamin Pearce (2020 Graduate) played in "Harden Up" in Mens A Grade and his team came 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Alex Tucker (2020 Graduate) and Josh Collins (Year 12) played for "The Motives" in Mens B Grade and came 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Year 12 students Jaiden Spreadborough, Mason Edmonds, Mark Ocampo, Carl Navarro and Aiden Cromie played on "Heat Check" in Mens B Grade and came 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The 9/10 Boys team "Warriors", led by Lachlan McDonald, came 7<sup>th</sup> in B grade.
- The 9/10 Girls team came 7<sup>th</sup> in A Grade, playing with a great attitude against many experienced and talented players.
- The 7/8 Girls team came 4<sup>th</sup> in A grade. The team never gave up and improved greatly every week.
- There were two 7/8 Boys teams. The B grade team persevered against tough opponents, eventually winning many of their matches. They came 7<sup>th</sup> in the regular season. The C grade team, Peel Bucket Squad, dominated the competition and came 1<sup>st</sup>.

Congratulations to all players!

### 2021 Basketball Teams

The following teams are playing in the 2021 Winter Competition (Terms 1 & 2). Games are held on Wednesdays at the Sports Dome.

Year 7/8 Girls

Year 9/10 Girls

Year 7 Boys

Year 8 Boys

Year 9/10 Boys

Year 11/12 Boys

Games are starting now so register quickly! Contact [alex.baird2@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:alex.baird2@det.nsw.edu.au) for more information.

Alex Baird  
Basketball Organiser



Pictured: Peel Bucket Squad players, with their coaches Jaiden Spreadborough and Mason Edmonds, after winning their grand final 33-31.

## For the Love of Reading

**Did you know** that as a student of Peel High School you have access to an extensive online library of audiobooks and e-books that you are able to access from your own phone/electronic device?

Peel High School currently holds a subscription for 'e-Platforms by Wheelers'. All you need is the app (or computer) and your school log-in details. In three simple steps you are able to access this online library from your very own device.

Step 1: Download the App/open the 'e-platform by Wheelers' website

Step 2: find your library (Peel High School)

Step 3: sign in using your school log-in.

Then simply browse, borrow and enjoy!

## Homework Centre 2021

Do you need assistance with your Homework? Do you require access to the internet or printing? Then Homework Centre might be for you!

**WHEN:** Most Wednesday Afternoons from 3:30pm to 5pm

**WHERE:** Peel High School Library

**WHO:** Homework Centre is open for all students in Years 7 to 12.

**DETAILS:** Homework Centre provides you with at least two teachers who can assist you with your work as well as access to the computers and internet. A small afternoon tea will be provided for students.

**PICK UP:** Students who live in Westdale, West Tamworth, South Tamworth and Coledale have the option of catching the school bus home. Anyone living outside these suburbs will need to be collected from the front of the school at 5pm.

If you are interested in attending Homework Centre or would like more information please collect a permission note from Mrs Clark or Mrs Hocquard in the Library.

## NSW Premier's Reading Challenge 2021

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual event held for school children from Kindergarten to Year 10. This is not a competition, rather, an initiative developed by the NSW State Government that aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure.

In order to complete the challenge, students are provided book lists from which they must choose. This promotes students to read a wider range of quality literature than they may ordinarily choose. The challenge sets a minimum number of books that must be read.

Upon completion of the challenge students are awarded a certificate of their participation as well as the wealth of knowledge and improved confidence and literacy they will have gained from reading.

The 2021 Challenge dates are as follows:

Challenge opens: Monday March 1, 2021

Challenge closes for students: Friday August 20, 2021

If you are interested in participating or would like more information please come and see Mrs Clark in the Library.

## Senior Study Breakfast Sessions

**When: Wednesday Mornings**

**Where: PE Block Time: 8am**

The PE block is open from 8am on Wednesday mornings for all Year 12 PDHPE, CAFS or Fitness students. Ms Panton & Mrs Gleeson are on hand to help during this focused study time.

Senior students doing these subjects can come in to work on study notes, exam questions, syllabus revision or catch up on any missed content.

A light breakfast (toast & spreads) is also available to students.





# Compulsory School Attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





# School Community Charter

**Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

## What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

**The best education happens when parents and schools work together.**

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022.



## Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- to be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- to be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

We treat each other with respect

We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work together with the school

**Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.**



We create  
**collaborative**  
learning  
environments

We  
all play  
**a part**

We work  
**in partnership**  
to promote  
student  
learning

### Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process: [education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students](https://education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students)

### Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.



### Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



**Collaborative.**  
**Respectful.**  
**Communication.**

**School Community Charter**

[education.nsw.gov.au](https://education.nsw.gov.au)

**CYBER-SAFETY.....**

**Here are eight easy ways to help your kids stay out of trouble in cyberspace.**

**At a glance**

- Don't let your child post photos of themselves wearing their school uniform – it can be enough to identify your child's school.
  - Ensure your child never organises to meet up with any strangers they have met online.
  - Talk about what websites are appropriate with your child so they understand and make the right choice.
  - By publishing without thinking, your child's innocent work online may be something that comes back later to haunt them.
  - If your child starts being secretive about what they are doing online, check it out.
1. **Keep computers out in the open**  
Your child may think twice about looking at inappropriate websites and won't be able to chat to their friends all night while you think they are doing their homework.
  2. **Mind your business**  
Remind your child to keep information such as their name, address, phone number, school and even your credit card number to themselves. When signing up to a chat room, they should use a screen name that is a nickname and not easy to work out. The same goes for choosing passwords – don't make them easy to figure out. If your child is going to put photos on the internet, ensure they don't show them wearing their school uniform – this can be enough to identify your child's school. Also ensure that any photos are not the type that would attract unwanted attention from strangers.
  3. **Just because it's on the internet, it doesn't mean it's true**  
Make sure your child uses multiple sources for research, and is careful not to plagiarise.
  4. **Stranger danger is online, too**  
Ensure your child never organises to meet up with any strangers they have met online. If they really want to meet up, encourage them to talk to you about it first and insist on going along with them. Remind your children to also be wary opening emails from strangers. They could contain spam (online junk mail), a virus (which will harm your computer), or be from a stranger looking for trouble.
  5. **Get a filter**  
Internet filters can help block inappropriate sites for children. None are completely reliable and it's best if you talk about what websites are appropriate with your child so they understand and make the right choice on their own.
  6. **Encourage your child to talk with you about their online experiences – good and bad**  
This will make it easier for them if they see something inappropriate or are emailed something unsuitable. If they are embarrassed to tell you, persuade them to at least tell a teacher or another trusted adult.
  7. **Good manners also exist online**  
Talk about this with your child and it may lead to a decline in bullying behaviour, not to mention the many disagreements that children have with each other.
  8. **Forever is a long time**  
A lot of blogs and websites maintain information as part of cyberspace forever. By publishing without thinking of the future, your child's innocent work online may be something that comes up later on and may negatively impact their career and personal life.

**Danger signs**

- Your child constantly sits on the computer in chat rooms or instant messaging, from straight after school to very late at night.
- Your child begins showing unexplained money or items that come from "a friend you don't know".
- Your child starts being secretive about what they are doing online – this could include anything from minimising screens as you walk past, to not letting you see their blogs/chat/social media sites.

**ARRIVAL ON TIME:**

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students don't miss out on the important learning activities scheduled early in the day when the students are most alert
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class and therefore,
- Reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as partial absence and must be explained by parents or carers in the same way as other forms of absence.

**MUST MY CHILD ATTEND ALL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING SPORT)?**

YES. Sport and other physical activities help the healthy physical and mental development of children. Sport and sports carnivals are normal school activities and students must attend.

Students are NOT encouraged to use sport afternoon to attend appointments. Participation in sport is an important part of their development and education.

Should a student be absent from sport, a note or primary carer phone call must be received by the Back Office prior to 12pm. Students who consistently fail to attend sport may receive a request for documentation to justify absences during sport. **If documentation can't be presented to the school, the absences may be recorded as unjustified.**

**CONSEQUENCES:**

At Peel High School the consequences or impacts of unexplained or unjustified absences might include the following:

- Ineligibility to represent school in sporting teams
- Ineligibility to represent school in extra-curricular activities
- Exclusion from Year Days and non-mandatory excursions, and;
- Exclusion from school functions such as school discos.
- As per Peel High School policies, students who have paid deposits, or part thereof, for excursions may not be able to have any money refunded if their behaviour or attendance is unacceptable.

**ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS:**

All students should:

- Aim for 100% attendance
- When absent, provide a justified reason for the absence
- Be on time and ready for all school activities and lessons
- When late, make sure you sign in at the Back Office
- Ensure they go through the Back Office if sick and need to go home early



## Attendance Policy

### **School Attendance – “It’s not OK to be away”**

All children have a right to an education. Only by regular school attendance can students make the most of educational opportunities, leading to greater social and economic outcomes.

Schools, in partnership with parents/carers, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff and the Peel High School Head Teacher of Attendance, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL WHEREVER POSSIBLE:**

- Provide a safe learning environment enabling students to achieve the best possible outcomes
- Work with parents, carers and the local community to increase student attendance
- Monitor all student attendance and work with students and parents/carers to improve attendance where a concern has been raised
- Provide support through the school Welfare Team to address concerns leading to poor attendance
- Promote the benefits of regular school attendance
- Deliver quality curriculum based lessons
- Implement a reward system for 100% attendance and improved attendance
- Provide parents/carers timely feedback on all daily absences and fractional truancy

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT:**

- Attend school consistently and actively participate in learning opportunities
- Whilst present at school attend all lessons promptly
- Attend school wearing the correct school uniform
- To comply with the school's welfare and discipline code

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS/CARERS:**

- The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents (including carers) ensure that children are enrolled at and regularly attend school.
- Provide written or verbal confirmation regarding student absences. If a student has more than 3 unexplained/ unjustified absences in the previous 5 week period, that student will be placed on the Attendance List and will be unable to participate in extra-curricular activities until attendance improves.
- Work alongside Peel High School to promote 100% attendance.

### **WHAT IS A JUSTIFIED REASON FOR BEING ABSENT FROM SCHOOL?**

Justified reasons for absences may include the student:

- Having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Being required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstances (such as attending a funeral)
- Being sick, or having an infectious disease
- Any other leave permitted by a doctor or psychologist for ongoing mental health or general health concerns (documentation must be provided to the school to support this leave)

**ABSENCES FOR REASONS SUCH AS SOME OF THE FOLLOWING MAY NOT BE JUSTIFIED:**

- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts

**LATE ARRIVAL NOTICE TO PARENTS:**

Peel High School sends out mobile text messages to primary carers when students arrive late to school. This is to ensure parents/carer's are aware of their child's late attendance on any given day.

Parents and carer's can now promptly respond to explain their child's late arrival to school.

Mobile text messages will also be sent to primary carers indicating a student's absence if communication has not been received by the school that morning explaining the absence.

We thank all parents and carers for their ongoing support of the Peel High Attendance Program and our efforts to provide positive learning outcomes for our students.

**KEEPING THE SCHOOL INFORMED:**

If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for the absence. To explain an absence the **student's primary carer may:**

- Send a note or email to the school
- Telephone the school's Back Office
- Visit the school and speak to someone in person
- Respond to the text message sent by the school

**The Principal (or delegate) of the school has the right to question an explanation given for a child's absence from school. Where a pattern of absence is identified, the Principal (or delegate) may request parents/carers to submit documentation justifying absences in the future. If documentation can't be presented to the school, the absences may be recorded as unjustified.**

**HOLIDAYS:**

Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. If this is necessary parents should discuss these absences with the Head Teacher of Attendance at which point an Attendance Exemption from attendance at school may be put in place. This will ensure that these absences are not permanently recorded as unjustified.



# EVERY DAY COUNTS...

**A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...**

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

*Give your child every chance to succeed...*

**Every day counts!**



## Peel High School Variation of Routine Report Proforma

We have included a copy of our VOR report for the purpose of informing parents/carers and students that we would like the opportunity to report on students involvement and successes in activities outside of school events, such as sporting representations and community service involvements.

As the school is not always aware of participation in events outside of school, for them to be acknowledged it is the students responsibility to collect a copy of this form from the front office prior to the event and return it to the office after participation in your activity including information that is outlined on the form.



## Peel High School VOR Report

### DETAILS OF EXCURSION

Name of Excursion / Visit			
Learning Area		Teacher in Charge	
Other Staff Attending			
Dates and Times			To

*Orientation States:* who was involved in the event, what it was, where and when it happened.

*Sequence of events:* States a series of events that happened from start of the retelling. The events are retold in the time order that they occurred.