



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Respect Effort Responsibility

School Vision: Every student will be supported through high quality teaching and learning practices in achieving successful outcomes and a pathway of their choice.

Strive for Success – Attend Today Achieve Tomorrow

The past few weeks have been very busy around the college, the year 12 students finished their exams and celebrated the end of their year 12 with a Valedictory Dinner at Moonee Valley. It was a fantastic night for families and friends to join with the college community to both celebrate the outstanding achievements of this cohort of young adults and to wish them well for the next part of their journey. As I write this report our VCE students will be receiving their results and their ATAR scores, opening up new opportunities for them in 2020, our VCAL students are already pursuing pathways options in apprenticeships, training and further education. I wish each one of our students the very best for their futures and ask them to keep in touch with the college. Next year we will have an Alumni Program Coordinator contacting past students and asking them to join the Alumni Program, I would enjoy seeing our past students back in the college presenting to the 2020 cohort of year 12's and sharing their experiences and wisdom with them.

The year 11 and year 10 students have also finished their exams and completed their orientation programs for 2020. It was very rewarding to see the year 11 students commence their year 12 programs with such enthusiasm, there was a very positive feeling and sense of endeavour amongst the students. The year 10 students completed their work experience week and then returned to the college to commence their orientation program, again the enthusiasm and commitment was evident. In the second week of the program they shared the college with the year 9 students who will be our year 10's in 2020, it was an opportunity for the new year 11's to step up and demonstrate their leadership skills which they did successfully.

Over the break we hope to have some work done installing a shade cloth area at the end of the 600 building to provide a shaded passive seating environment for students to enjoy. We are also installing an electronic notice board at the front of the school on Boardwalk Blvd, so be on the lookout for those developments as you drive by.

It has been an outstanding year for PCSSC, we have achieved improvement in all our data sets, and this could not have been achieved without the hard work and support of the School Council. Thank you to all the parent representatives for your time throughout the year, especially those councillors who were on sub committees, you gave us double the commitment and effort.

I would like to wish all members of the school community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Have a safe holiday break whether you're staying at home or venturing away, I look forward to working with you in 2020 as we continue to improve the outcomes for each of the students at PCSSC.

Christopher Mooney
Principal



Congratulations to Jingran Zhu - Point Cook Senior Dux 2019 with an ATAR score of 96.35.

together we are creating a healthy school

achievement program





Year 12 Last Assembly

On Monday 21st of October, the school community had the opportunity to farewell the departing Year 12 cohort. An assembly was held where the Year 12 students were introduced to the school and had their final farewells. Mr Flannery had the responsibility of calling students in one by one from 12A to 12S. Once students had entered the assembly, Mr Flannery spoke about how proud he was of the students and how they had matured in young adults. Mr Flannery thanked Mr Schorback, Mrs Ryan and Miss Simpson for their hard work in leading the students in Year 10 and Year 11. Mrs Kennedy then spoke to the students about what may lay ahead and thanked the students for three wonderful years. The school captains Logan and Ada spoke to the students for the final time and wished the students all the best. One final photo was taken of the cohort and it was back to class for the rest of the day.





Year 12 Celebration Day

On Tuesday 22nd October, Year 12 students arrived at school bright and early for their last day of Year 12. Students arrived in colourful outfits, costumes and fancy dress to celebrate 13 years of schooling. Their advisory teachers dressed up also, coming to school as 'cliché' tourists. An hour long bust trip awaited, and we left the school at 8.30am headed for Fun Fields in Whittlesea. The bus was awash with excitement as it dawned on students that they would not have to get up early to head to school tomorrow. Once at Fun Fields and one last chat by Mr Flannery on the safety aspects and what time lunch was, students were off and running ready to hit to rides, water slides, mini golf and go karts. Once the day had ended, we headed back to school and the start of revision for exams could begin.





Valedictory

On November 17th 2019 we saw our Year 12 students, alongside their families and friends, attend Mooney Valley Racecourse for their Valedictory. The night was filled with laughter and cheers as we watched 170 of our Year 12 students walk across the stage and collect their commemorative certificates and achievement awards throughout the evening. A huge thank you is needed for Kate Kennedy who was the MC of the night, along with Chris Mooney, Bryce Flannery and our school leaders for delivering insightful and touching speeches. We would also like to acknowledge all of the hard work our Year 12 students have put in this year towards their studies. It was evident from this night how much these students have matured from the first day of Year 10 and it was wonderful to see how they have created their own little family within the school. Going forward, we wish them nothing but the best in life and that they achieve everything they put their hearts towards.

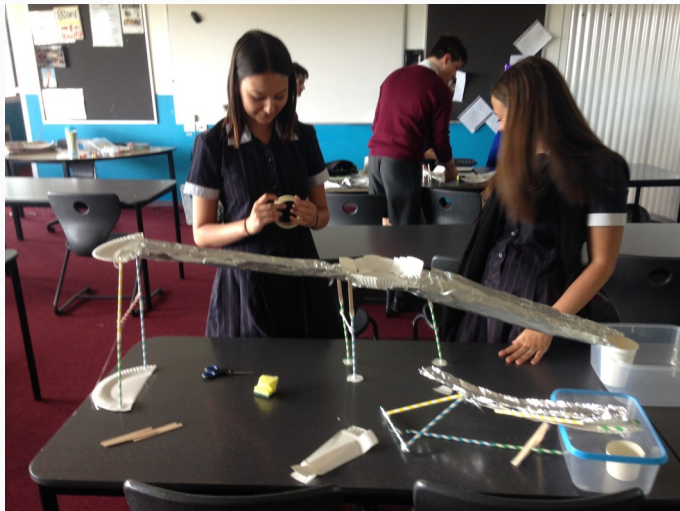
High achieving students awards





Personal Development Skills

Students in Mr Flannery and Ms McClelland's Personal Development Skills class put their STEM skills into action in Week 5 by trying to make a waterslide. **STEM** embraces the 4 C's identified as key in 21st Century education: Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Communication. Most importantly by incorporating these skills, STEM Builds resilience, encourages experimentation, encourages teamwork, encourages knowledge application, encourages tech use & teaches problem-solving. The students' task was to create a unique waterslide with the goal to create a slide that takes the longest time to complete (because of course no one wants a ride to be over quickly! The group that created a water slide that took the longest time to complete won the challenge. Bryce Flannery, VCAL Co-ordinator.



Job Camp

Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 students recently completed a 'job camp' which provided our students access to essential Foundations Skills & Compliance Certificates necessary to remove barriers to gain employment. The job camp was delivered at school in the centre of excellent and provided students with modules in -Employment industry expectations, Resume building; Presentation and interview skills. Students also completed and were accredited national units of competence HLTAID003 Provide first aid; HLTAID001 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation; SITHFAB002 Provide responsible service of alcohol and SITXFSA001 Use hygienic practices for food safety. Students are now able to work in the hospitality industry with their relevant certificates.

Bryce Flannery, VCAL Coordinator





Year 11 into Year 12 VCAL Orientation

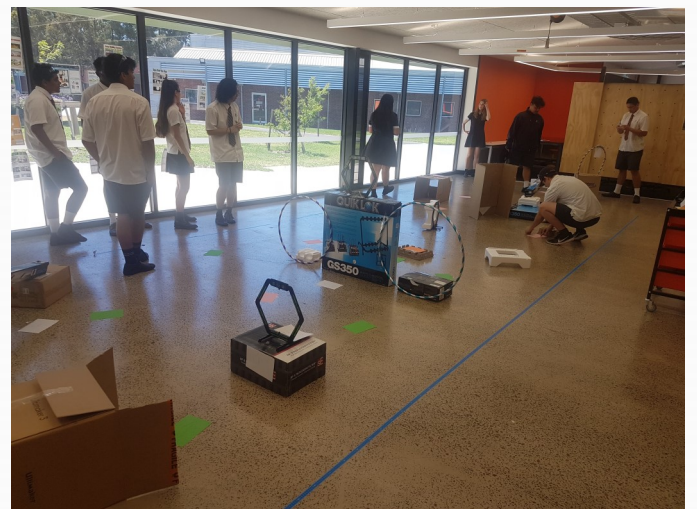
On the 25th and 26th November, Year 11 into 12 VCAL students participated in a leadership program developed by the Centre for Multicultural Youth. The two day program improved students communication and leadership skills through youth-led discussion, team work and collaboration on individual and communal values. The two days were hosted at the Wyndham Tech School and students were encouraged to step out of their comfort zones by participating in youth-led workshops.



Work Related Skills

On the 29th of October students in Year 11 Work Related Skills (VCAL) class went on an excursion to the Wyndham Tech School. The students took part in one of their foundation programs, 'Flight School - Unmanned Aerial Vehicles' which gave them the opportunity to fly drones. Students created an obstacle course that they needed to fly their drones around, it was fantastic to see students applying themselves and completing a challenging task. For more information on Wyndham Tech School and the programs they offer you can visit the following website <https://wyndhamtechschool.vic.edu.au>

Miss John
VCAL Work Related Skills Teacher





Year 10 CAEP Projects

Students vs Staff Basketball Tournament

CAEP is a way to give back to the community and help bring people together as a whole. We work in small groups to overcome tasks, contribute to society and come together to create an event or way to raise money or awareness for a certain issue or charity. As a group, we submitted two projects but both were declined. We then decided on a teacher's vs student's basketball game to bring our school together and to have some fun before many students started exams. Our project was very successful as we had a gym full of students coming to watch the game and had 30 students and 10 teachers signed up to play. It was a good game and everyone enjoyed themselves and played fair. The final score was 39 - 13 with the teachers winning the game. Some quotes coming from the students and teachers from the day include "It was fun and sweaty." "It was a good game, no one was physical and everyone was nice. When are you running another game?" We hope to run another game soon.

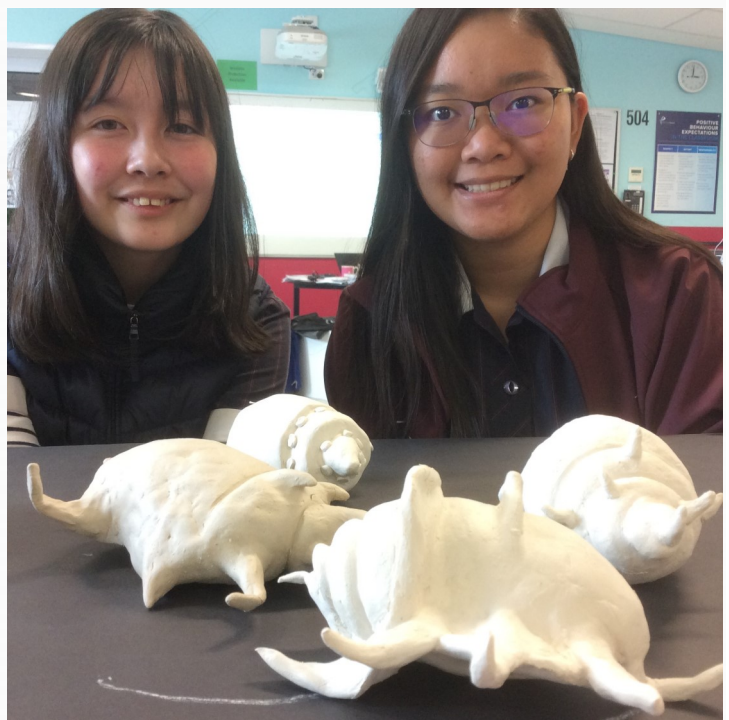
Jessica Pace, Georgia Zuber, Ryan Robinson, Paris Luziac



Studio arts

Year 11 Studio Arts and Year 10 Art students recently developed their clay modelling skills and produced individually designed 3 dimensional stoneware sea shells. They used the pinch pot technique to hand build their shells and will be photographing their artworks to digitally enhance the organic forms.

Ms Johnson
Art Teacher





Year 10 Queensland Camp

On Tuesday 12th November 52 Year 10 students headed off to Queensland for our end of year school camp. Students had been looking forward to our trip all year and were very excited to have a break from homework and their usual classes. All students enjoyed going on the rides at the theme parks and had a wonderful time with their friends. Students are to be commended for their excellent behaviour – well done. A very special thank you to our dedicated staff members Simon Schorback, Jessica Gruer, Kerry Rosser and Callan McDonald, your help is greatly appreciated.





Year 10 Formal

On Friday the 8th of November, 165 Year 10 students attended the amazing Year 10 Formal. Braving the strong winds and hail, students had a great night on the Victoria Star cruise filled with laughs and delicious snacks. Thankfully, the only falling that students did was into good times and not the sea. Thank you to all the staff who supervised the event, and we hope this night created plenty of beautiful memories for the students.





Science Fair

Our wonderful Science Fair was held on Thursday 24th September. Year 10 students had spent months developing a hypothesis, conducting their experiments and analysing their results. The Science building was full of colourful posters and exciting demonstrations put on by our lab technicians Janusz and Simon.

Our judges – Mr Schorback, Ms Doh, Ms Bunworth and Mr Phelan – had a very difficult job choosing the winners amongst so many clever entries. First prize was awarded to “Bioluminescence” by Jed, Sophia and Joy. Congratulations! Second prize went to “Does your eyesight affect how you taste?” by Ella, Aandjraya-Marie and Ransom. Annie and Rosalind were third with “Rainbow Paper”. Assistant Principal Kennedy also chose “Hand Sanitiser FIRE” by Sahur, Hannah and Wendy for the Principal Award. A big thank you to all participants!



together we are creating a healthy school

achievement program





School Sport Victoria Track and Field State Championships

We had two talented students represent our school and district recently at the State Track and Field Championships. Moses Toangutu completed in the shot put and threw a personal best. Soumeya Biao from Year 11 trains regularly with the local athletics club and puts in a lot of time and effort into her sport of sprinting. This competition was held at Lakeside Stadium and is conducted as a very professional event. Soumeya ran in the 100m and 200m, collecting a silver medal in the 100m and gold medal in the 200m. In both races, Soumeya set new personal best times. The college congratulates Soumeya and Moses on their outstanding achievement of making this event and looks forward to even more success in the future.



Health & Human Developing

Year 12 Health & Human Development students attending lecture run by Lynda Ellis (Assistant Chief Assessor of Health course).



12A enjoying a bowling excursion together to celebrate Year 12 coming to an end



*together we are creating a
healthy school*

achievement
program





Point Cook Senior College participated in RU OK? on Friday 13th September 2019. The purpose of this event was to raise awareness of mental health among the school community.

“Trust the signs! Ask are you okay?” was the theme for this year’s event.

PCS Morning Tea

We hosted a morning tea in the LRC at recess with entertainment provided by one of our Year 12 students Daniella performing her own songs.



The morning tea was an opportunity to bring the school community together and encourage everyone to meaningfully connect with the people around them and start a conversation with anyone who may be struggling with life.



It was great to see a number of staff and students gathered in the LRC to share morning tea and listen to some inspiring music.



A big thank you to the VCAL students who assisted with preparing the food for morning tea.

Lunchtime Concert – *Letters to Amara*

At lunch, the local band *Letters to Amara* (<https://www.facebook.com/letterstoamara/>) returned to PCS to perform which saw a large number of students across the college enjoy an engaging performance with strong positive messages.



It was great to see the students taking time out to enjoy the music in the second last week of term 3. We were fortunate to hear one of the band members share their own story about their battle with mental health. The band member’s story about overcoming their mental health battle was well received by all. Remember, you don’t need to be an expert to reach out - just a good friend and a great listener.

Start a conversation with these four steps:

1. Ask R U OK?
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in

If you would like more information, please check out <https://www.ruok.org.au/>.

Dionne Hose
Chaplain



Year 11 English Play

Ms Lambrianidis' Year 11 English class created a play that explores youth issues, such as racism, peer pressure and drugs. Students collaboratively planned and wrote the play and then performed it for the whole year level. All students were challenged in terms of their writing and speaking skills and thoroughly enjoyed participating.



Year 10 Bowling and Laser Tag Excursion



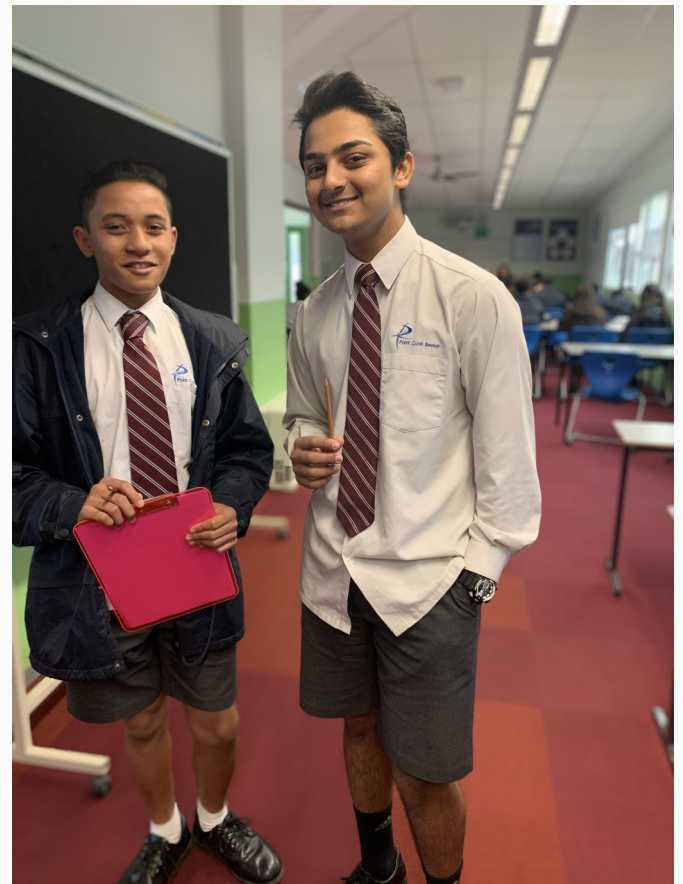
Student Involvement in Learning Walks

During week four and five, the Year 10 Advisory Captains had the opportunity to attend Year 10 and 11 classes to review the learning strategies being used by teachers and students. During the learning walks, we asked the students where they were at in the learning cycle. We also observed what High Impact Teaching Strategies (HITS) and learning techniques were being used, such as collaborative learning, feedback and differentiated learning.

The information we gathered with the teachers will be used in the future to further engage students, improve student agency and help develop better teaching and learning methods for everybody in the school community. The teachers will use the feedback as focus areas to improve the way they teach next year.

Attending these classes has taught us so much about the value of education, and how our school using learning techniques to advance our learning. We gained a much better understanding of the learning cycle, and we can use our knowledge of the cycle to learn at a higher level in our classes over the next two years. We enjoyed it because it gave us insight into how teachers make classes engaging, and hopefully we'll see more of these HITS in future years to come.

Casey Southern and Ranveer Harsh





STAMP

In 15TH October, the Year 11 STAMP students had an excursion to The University of Melbourne and Melbourne CBD. In the morning, a presentation, conducted by a staff member from the onshore recruitment team, provided with an overview of the university including course information, admission requirements, scholarship details and information about the academic and social aspect of university life. This was then followed by a guided campus tours, hosted by a current university student. The STAMP students were impressed about what Melbourne University could offer them and they were motivated to study harder at school for their exams in their coming Year 12. After that, students had the opportunity to explore beautiful Melbourne CBD for one hour. In the afternoon, they went to Kingpin for one-hour session of arcade games. Students had great fun playing the games and they deserved it because of their hard working in 2019. This also improved their general wellbeing by helping to reduce their pressure from learning at school.





Careers

Week 8: Year 10 Work Experience will commence Monday November 25-29. Students will be heading all over Victoria to complete their exciting week of work. Please ensure your child: Wears the correct work attire as assigned by their individual workplace, they are punctual and represent the college in a positive manner. We look forward to hearing about all their exciting learning opportunities upon their return.

Year 12

Year 12 VTAC University/TAFE Application Fees are now due, Please pay this fee on your VTAC account by December 1 2019.

ATAR scores released: Thursday December 12:07 am

Change of Preference Course Counselling support will be available at Point Cook Senior:

Thursday December 12: 11am - 4pm

Friday December 13: 9am - 4pm

Saturday December 14: 9am - 11am

Call for donations for uniform to Point Cook Senior

Hi Point Cook Senior Community. If you have a child that has recently finished Year 12, or are in fact a Year 12 student that will soon be finishing with us, we are in great need of uniform donations. If you have any old uniform that you are willing to donate to the school, please drop it off at our reception. Thank you so much!

Year 10 Orientation Program

From the 2nd-5th December Point Cook Senior hosted our four-day Orientation Program for the 2020 Year 10 cohort. The four-day program encompassed an extensive Advisory program, including scavenger hunt around the school and team building activities, as well as providing students with a meaningful and extended introduction to the College and its culture.



Compass Portal

Just a brief reminder that the majority of our communications with parents at PCSSC are made through the Compass Parent Portal. All parents have a portal account that provides access to reports, attendance information, absence requests and approvals, school photo ordering, teacher email contact, booking for parent-teacher interviews, calendar of events, excursion consent/permissions and news items to keep you update with what is going on.

If you are a CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund) recipient, please contact the school before consenting to any event so that we can adjust the costing.

To access your account:

go to the College's homepage www.pointcooksenior.vic.edu.au and click on the Compass Portal icon.




Compass Portal

Click here to login to the Point Cook Senior Compass Portal

or directly go to Compass login

<https://pointcooksenior.vic.jdlf.com.au/Login.aspx>

**Point Cook Senior
Secondary College**



Username

Remember me

[Can't access your account?](#)

If you are having trouble accessing your account, click on the "**Can't access your account**" and follow the prompts to access it using your username, email address or mobile number. If you need guidance on how to navigate the Compass Portal, please contact the school.



Breakfast Club

Where: Room 312

When: Fridays

Time : 8.00am - 8.30am

All welcome



Our Breakfast Program has now been running for 8 years. We have been beneficial in supporting those students in need and also developing relationships between staff and students. The program also improves student wellbeing, supporting their outcomes. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a free breakfast and a fun and enjoyable environment to start their school day.

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance information is available on Compass, including the option to approve absences and input requests to leave early for an appointment. Students are required to provide a medical certificate when absent from a VCE class or assessment.

Late Arrival to School - Students are requested to use Compass card to sign in at Kiosk at the front of the school. Students who do not have cards can report to the attendance office.

Early Leave - Parent approval is required for any student requesting to leave early. This can be done either by parent entering approval on Compass or contacting the attendance office.

IMPORTANT DATES

28 Jan - Term 1 Commences

29 Jan - Students Commence

29 Jan - VET Classes B + C Commence

03 - 04 Feb - School Photos

05 Feb - VET Classes Commence

11 Feb - Year 10/11/12 Parent Information Night

14 Feb - Advisory Orientation Program Day 1

24 Feb - Swimming Trials for competitors and officials

25 Feb - School Photos catch-up

28 Feb - Intermediate Summer Interschool Sports

02 Mar - Senior Summer Interschool Sports

05 Mar - Hobsons Bay Division Swimming Carnival

09 Mar - Labour Day Public Holiday

10 Mar - Curriculum Day - Students Free Day

20 Mar - National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

26 Mar - Western Metro Swimming Carnival

26 Mar - Parent Teacher Interviews (evening)

27 Mar - Parent Teacher Interviews (morning)

27 Mar - Year 12 Further Maths SAC

27 Mar - Term 1 Ends

13 Apr - Term 2 Commences

13 Apr - Easter Monday Public Holiday

16 Apr - Athletics Trials for competitors and officials



NEW Point Cook Senior Facebook page

We are excited to announce the new Facebook page for Point Cook Senior. We are inviting parents, guardians and students to visit the page and see some of the things happening around the college. It can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/PointCookSenior/>
Please visit, see some of the photos and like the page.





Point Cook Senior Secondary College Attendance FAQ's

Why do I have to report my child's absence?

Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6 – 17 years unless an exemption has been granted through the Department of Education and Training.

The Department of Education and Training as well as parents/guardians have a legal obligation to ensure students' whereabouts are recorded during school hours and the explanation meets the responsibilities under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*.

What is the attendance percentage students are expected to adhere to?

Students at Point Cook Senior are expected to maintain an attendance percentage of 100%. Where students exceed the school's minimum 90% attendance requirement due to documented extenuating circumstances or prolonged illness (supported by medical certificates), students may be provided with modified assessment conditions in order to satisfactorily authenticate work and demonstrate their knowledge of outcomes.

What if my child is ill, do I need to get a medical certificate?

Students are required to supply a medical certificate if they are absent due to illness or medical reasons, it is important to submit the medical certificate when they return to school.

If the student has missed a Student Assessed Coursework (SAC), Student Assessed Task (SAT) or exam and not supplied a medical certificate they will receive a zero for that piece of assessment (as mandated by VCAA).

- Students who **do** supply a medical certificate will have their absence marked as 'Department approved absence' which is VCE compliant;
- Students who **do not** supply a medical certificate will have their absence entered as a 'non-department approved absence' which will count against their attendance requirement.

How do I report my child absent?

COMPASS – PREFERRED

Parents/guardians have access to Compass through the parent portal; it is the preferred method for logging a student's absence. If you have forgotten your login details, please contact the office; parent/guardian login details will not be provided to students.

PLEASE DO NOT GIVE YOUR CHILD THE LOGIN DETAILS FOR THE PARENT PORTAL. If your child gains access, please contact the school to reset your login details.

PHONE

If you're unable to log into Compass you can contact the school and follow the phone prompts to the attendance line; when leaving a message, please slowly and clearly state your child's full name, advisory group and reason for absence.



Point Cook Senior Secondary College Attendance FAQ's

If I need to pick up my child how do I sign them out?

If you need to collect your child during school hours, the school requires a parent/guardian to log onto compass and enter an 'attendance note' for your child and explain the reason for their early departure.

Alternatively, a parent/guardian or emergency contact can come into the office and sign their child out; student may only be collected by an 'authorised' adult and photo ID is required.

Please ensure the contact details for parents/guardian or emergency contacts are kept up to date.

My child is not wanting to attend school, what can I do? What support is available?

The school recognises that attending school every day is more challenging for some than it is for others. There is a range of support available through the school to assist students feeling disengaged and to help parents/guardians support their child to attend school. School counsellor, engagement social worker and careers and pathways coordinator can assist students with positive education strategies or to access alternative schooling/careers pathways.

If you feel your child is in need of support please contact the school as early as possible and ask to speak to your child's advisory teacher.

Overview for Parents/Students

Introducing Free Pads and Tampons in Government Schools

The Victorian Government is providing free sanitary pads and tampons in every government school because being able to access sanitary products shouldn't be a barrier for girls and young women to getting the most out of their education.

This initiative aims to:

- provide students with the confidence that sanitary items will be readily accessible at school
- relieve students of the stigma, anxiety and discomfort that can be associated with menstruation and its management
- ease the cost of living for families.



Lack of easy access to sanitary items can negatively affect attitudes, behaviours and equal participation in sport and everyday school activities. By providing access to sanitary items these barriers can be reduced.

The Government's investment will ensure sanitary pads and tampons are available at school to help female students to manage their periods with greater ease and less embarrassment and to normalise periods as a healthy part of growing up.

Product Information

Students will be able to choose from two Libra Products

1. Libra Tampons – Regular
2. Libra Ultrathin Pads with Wings – Regular



Why these products were chosen:

Libra's product usage study (females 10-18) showed that pads (day) are the most popular, with Ultrathin Regular pads with wings the most used amongst girls this age. For tampons, non-applicator tampons are preferred, with regular absorbency tampon most used.

Information about these products can be found: <https://lovelibra.com/products>

How will the sanitary items be accessed?

Dispensers will be allocated and installed within the nominated school bathrooms to allow easy access for students.

Dimensions: 45cm W x 55cm L



The use of sanitary items provided at school will be entirely voluntary.

Providing both sanitary pads and tampons allows students to make a choice based on their own needs, cultural beliefs, maturity and parental preferences.

Overview for Parents/Students

Looking for information to share with your child

Information available from the following websites may help to guide your conversations:

The Love Libra website

<https://lovelibra.com/educators/>

The Australian Parenting Website (suitable for 9 – 15 year olds) <https://raisingchildren.net.au/pre-teens/development/periods-hygiene/periods>

Jean Hailes for Women's Health

<https://jeanhailes.org.au/health-a-z/periods>

Jean Hailes Yarning About Periods

[https://jeanhailes.org.au/contents/documents/Resources/Fact sheets/Yarning about periods.pdf](https://jeanhailes.org.au/contents/documents/Resources/Fact%20sheets/Yarning%20about%20periods.pdf)

Contact Us

Asaleo Care Contact Details

All general enquiries can be directed to Asaleo Care via email or phone, details are below:



Email: libraschools@asaleocare.com



Phone: 1800 234 613



HUDDLE UP HOLIDAYS

THE HUDDLE WYNDHAM

WEEK 1



Barista Course

The Huddle, Chirnside Park
Wednesday, January 15
11am-3pm



Kayaking

Front Beach, Torquay
Thursday, January 16
10am-12pm



**Huddle Slam (Female) Basketball Tournament

Eagle Stadium, Werribee
Friday, January 17
10.30am-3pm

WEEK 2



Escape Rooms & Laser Tag

Strike, Highpoint
Monday, January 20
12pm-3pm



Virtual Reality

VIRI, Melbourne
Tuesday, January 21
12pm-2pm



Professional Waiter Course

The Huddle,
Chirnside Park
Wednesday, January 22
11am-3pm



Learn to Surf

Urquhart Bluff,
Anglesea
Thursday, January 23
12pm-3pm



**Huddle Slam (Male) Basketball Tournament

Eagle Stadium,
Werribee
Friday, January 24
10.30am-3pm

AGES: 15-18 YEARS OLD

Transport* and lunch included for all excursions!

*Pickup/drop-off locations and times will be provided to all registered participants in the new year (2020)

**Please contact Kynan to register a team for the tournament.

SIGN UP NOW

Register Here: tinyurl.com/huddleholidays

Email: Kynan.Barnes@nmfc.com.au

Phone: 0429 543 100



Don't bag your recycling

wyndham.vic.gov.au/recycleright