

SEVEN HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

A VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PATHWAYS SCHOOL

NEWS



APRIL 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 3 April:** Harmony Week Begins at Seven Hills High School
- 6 April:** Easter Show Excursion
- 7 April:** School Holidays Begin
- 24 April:** Staff Development Day
- 26 April:** School Returns
School Photos - [Click here for order details](#)
- 27 April:** Athletics Carnival

MAY

- 3 May:** Years 7-10 Parent/Teacher Night
- 5 May:** Year 7 Vaccinations
- 5 May:** Zone Cross Country
- 8 - 19 May:** Years 7 and 8 Examinations
- 10 May:** Year 11 2024 Open Night - 6pm in the Hall
- 12 May:** Mother's Day Breakfast
- 15 - 28 May:** Years 9 and 10 Examinations
- 24 May:** Senior Open Night
- 29 May:** Year 11 Reports Distributed
- 31 May:** Years 11 and 12 Parent/Teacher Night

Contact Details

Address: Johnson Avenue, Seven Hills
Telephone: 02 9624 3329 | Email: sevenhills-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: sevenhills-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Making the most of every opportunity

Learning new skills and achieving success is connected to the amount of time we set aside for practice and revision. For a student acquiring new knowledge, this is achieved by participating in the learning experiences in the classroom. If they attend school every day, they have the ability to build on concepts sequentially and at a pace that suits their learning style. When a lesson is missed the reinforcement and review of concepts is lost. Parents and carers are encouraged to promote regular attendance to their child so that they make the most of every learning opportunity and develop a sound understanding of what is taught. If your child is absent, and there are occasions when their wellbeing is a priority, then we encourage them to see their teacher at recess or lunch to gain an overview of what was taught, an explanation of the tasks undertaken and a practice activity to build on their knowledge. This will ensure growth in understanding of course material as well as develop greater self-responsibility for learning.



At Seven Hills High School we are moving towards providing more opportunities for our students. This includes offering Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses that allow students to receive industry-standard training onsite to develop the skills required to pursue careers in: Community and Health Services, Construction (Electrotechnology and Plumbing), and Transport, Logistics and Warehousing.

You may have noticed that the school header on the newsletter now includes the by-line 'A Vocational Education Pathways School' as well as a new building (Vocational Innovation Centre) in the phase of construction on our site. Regular updates will be provided on the progress made to integrate VET courses within our school and curriculum.

As an aside, I would like to welcome Andrew Kerr to the Seven Hills High School Senior Executive Team. He will be undertaking the role of Deputy Principal Skills and Pathways. Andrew has a wealth of knowledge on the delivery of Vocational Education and Training courses and he will play a key role in implementing initiatives that best meet the needs of our community, collegiate and neighbouring schools.

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills

Days missed = years lost

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

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per **fortnight**
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

1 day per **week**
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

Attendance FOCUS

At Seven Hills High School we are committed to ensuring our students achieve the best possible outcome throughout their education, and this starts with school attendance.

When your child attends school everyday learning becomes easier, they progress with their education, are more engaged and develop a sense of belonging. Supporting positive school attendance is a shared responsibility – everyone has a role to play. Missing a day here or there may not seem like a lot, however when your child misses one day a week over a year, that's 40 days of school, 8 weeks of lessons and 2.5 years over their school life lost.

It is a legal obligation for parents/carers to ensure that children between the ages of six and seventeen attend school on each day that the school is open for instruction. Parents/carers must provide a reason for any absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Reasons may include; sick, attending a funeral, misadventure or unforeseen events, participation in special events not related to school and recognised religious festivals or ceremonies. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day time frame, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's record.

It is important to understand that the Department may take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school.

Medical Certificates Requirements: If your child(ren) is sick for 5 consecutive school days, a Medical Certificate is required.

Holidays and Travel Requirements: We encourage families to travel during official school holidays, however if you are traveling during school terms, an Application for extended leave - travel must be completed and returned to Seven Hills High School.

Absentee **PROCESS**

Seven Hills High School Absentee Process

If your child is absent from school, please follow one of the following methods to notify the school:



Phone: Contact Seven Hills High School on 02 9624 3329. You will be able to leave a message or speak with someone from our Administration Team. If you are leaving a message, please ensure you name the student, the time they will be off and the reason why they are absent.



Email: Send an email to: sevenhills-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au. Please ensure you name the student, the time they will be off and the reason why they are absent.



Text Message: If your child is absent and the school hasn't been notified, you will receive a text message on the day. This message asks you to respond with the reason for their absence, or phone the school.

Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Help your child establish positive nighttime and morning routines, ensuring their uniform and school bag is organised
- Encourage your child to attend school every day unless they are sick
- Avoid arranging family holidays during the school term or doctor's appointments during school hours

We understand that some families face challenges in getting their child to school for a variety of reasons. Please contact your child's Year Adviser if you are facing any difficulties so we can work together on implementing positive initiatives.

A LOOK BACK ON *Term 1*



We'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday. We look forward to welcoming students back in Term 2.

Don't forget to follow our Facebook page!



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