



ESPERANCE RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE TERM 1 NEWSLETTER 2022

Important Dates for Term 2, 2022

Monday 25th April	Anzac Day public holiday.
Tuesday 26th April	College opens for Term 2 at 3pm.
Wednesday 27th April	School resumes for Term 2
Monday 9th-13th May	Mural painting the dining room with Pauline and Carol.
Tuesday 10th-20th May	Naplan for year 7's and 9's.
Monday 30th May	Year 11 and 12 VET students work placement block week.
Thursday 26th May	Year 11 and 12 exams.
Monday 6th June	Public holiday for WA day.
Monday 27th June	Country week starts.
Friday 1st July	Last day of school. College closes for Term 2 at 5.00pm.
Sunday 17th July	College opens at 3.00pm for Term 3.

Dear parents/carers

Term 1 has been a challenging time for us all, but I've been proud to see the resilience and kindness our students and community have shown. Thank you for your support this term as we have worked within the public health and social measures to keep our facility open and our staff and students safe.

During the school holidays, we ask that parents and carers do not report close contacts or positive cases to the residential facility. There is still a requirement to report any positive RAT results to healthy-wa.wa.gov.au/ratregister. You can also visit wa.gov.au/covid19 for further COVID-19 information and guidance.

To help staff prepare for when your child is to return in Term 2, please contact us via email to Esperance.ResCol@education.wa.edu.au on Monday 25 April if they are required to isolate or quarantine at home due to being:

- symptomatic
- a close contact (household or non-household)
- COVID-19 positive.

Please note we encourage all students to have their vaccination to reduce the risk of omicron, but it also reduces its spread within the College community.

We wish our students safe travels home for the holidays and we look forward to seeing them back next term.

Pete Jarzabek
College Manager

Orientation weekend



College COVID measures

With Covid firmly taking hold in our community, the College has been putting in place measures that keep our students and our staff as safe as possible. From removing couches from the main common areas, limiting the amount of students in the dining room and at the dining tables at meals and having copious amounts of PPE available for staff and students to access, we have been managing the virus fairly well.

Our main concern is that we have a substantial outbreak and have multiple students and staff affected. Following our guidelines for social distancing and mask wearing etc will hopefully keep that from eventuating. We do have the t-sections in the unoccupied junior dorms set aside as quarantine areas as well as the teacher flats, but that is a stop-gap to isolate them away from the main student body until they can be picked up by their parents or emergency contact.

The couple of positive cases that we've had have been traced back to the communal areas in the dorms and common rooms. To further the reduction of spread, we have removed the couches from the dorm areas too, and replaced them with single chairs to assist the students with keeping their social distance guidelines.

Vaping - Information and Guidelines

An alarming trend has been growing recently throughout WA in our youth. Vaping is the lesser cousin of smoking and is seen as less harmful and addicting and is therefore less dangerous than smoking cigarettes. Unfortunately the truth is the opposite. As it is a heat induced chemical that is being inhaled it is causing far more damage to lungs than actually smoking. In Australia it is illegal to buy or sell nicotine-containing vape cartridges without a prescription.

Taken from health.gov.au

Are e-cigarettes safe?

No. Even though scientists are still learning about e-cigarettes, they do not consider them safe.

Hazardous substances have been found in e-cigarette liquids and in the aerosol produced by e-cigarettes, including these known cancer-causing agents:

- formaldehyde
- acetaldehyde
- acrolein.

Some chemicals in e-cigarette aerosols can also cause DNA damage.

E-cigarettes do not produce the tar produced by conventional cigarettes which is the main cause of lung cancer. However, many scientists are concerned that using e-cigarettes could increase risk of lung disease, heart disease and cancer.

Research also shows:

- a strong association between the use of e-cigarettes by non-smoking youth and future smoking that many e-cigarette users appear to be continuing to use conventional tobacco products at the same time (dual users). However, this is not a safe way to improve health. Dual users may be exposing themselves to even higher levels of toxicants compared to people who solely use conventional tobacco products.

Students will face consequences of suspension for having either vape pens (e-cigarettes) or the corresponding cartridges. In our parent handbook it states:

Student room searches

To ensure the health and safety of students, residential college staff may search student rooms if they have a reasonable suspicion that:

- A student is at risk of self-harm.
- Dangerous or banned items or illegal substances may have been brought into the residential college.
- A student may be in possession of stolen property.
- Or any other reason where the college manager has sufficient reason to do so.

Any items confiscated will be given to you or returned to your child to take home, unless it has been delivered into the custody of the Police.

It is never a pleasant task having to conduct room searches on students and it would be appreciated if you could have a chat to your student/s about bringing contraband into the College. As it is illegal to have or supply the cartridges that have nicotine in them, they are considered an illegal item and will be confiscated when found. The student will face suspension if caught with any of the products mentioned above.

College Murals



We have been really lucky to be able to work with Community Arts programs and have had the lovely Pauline and Carol Bonney on hand to help design and paint some of the blank walls in the College. First port-of-call was the downstairs boys common area, with the ladies helping the boys design and then paint the wall behind the couches. Iconic Esperance themed colours and locations was the choice, and the 'most photographed rock in the world' took pride of place on the wall. The beautiful blue water, white sand and Frenchman Peak were all represented too and it was finished off with some positive re-affirmation statements for the boys to reflect on.

Next term the ladies will be back and will help transform our dining room walls into something that represents life here in the College and the Esperance area. All students are invited to have an input into what they think the mural should look like and help paint it on the wall. We will have photos of the work, which starts in Week 3 of Term 2, up on our Facebook page and in our weekly news to show the progress and the finished mural.

Outstanding fees for 2022

Parents please ensure your students boarding fees are up to date at the start of Term 2.

Please note that the College has EFTPOS facilities available.

For online bank transfers our **Bank details are Bankwest**
BSB: 306037 ACC: 4730452

**College reopens for
Term 2**

**Tuesday 26th April @
3.00pm**

In order to assist staff in helping the students,
please organise a local doctor for your child.



Banksia House	90711511
Genpar Surgery	90711956
Recherche Practise	90717799
Esperance Family Practice	90713100