



5th September 2021

## Communication to Community

Tēnā koutou katoa e te whānau whānui o Rangitoto,

I hope you have all been able to enjoy some of the sunshine that has accompanied the start of spring. This week has seen the Ministry of Education and NZQA make some welcome decisions on exams and qualifications. The College is now in a much more informed position, and we have been able to adjust our systems and timelines accordingly. Please see below for a number of important announcements that parents and students need to be aware of.

### **NCEA changes**

Exam dates: NCEA exams, including scholarship, will now run from Monday 22nd November to Tuesday 14th December. The updated examination schedule can be viewed [here](#).

### *Qualification requirements:*

COVID-19 lockdown has affected learning and assessment. Due to this, changes have been made to NCEA University Entrance. These changes help give Rangitoto students a fair opportunity to gain the qualification they are aiming for.

### *What does this mean for students?*

The more credits you achieve the more you are entitled to.

- For every 5 credits you achieve through internal or external assessment, you are entitled to 1 extra credit. These extra credits are called Learning Recognition Credits (LRCs)
- Up to 10 of your LRCs earned this year can be used towards the 80 you need for NCEA Level 3.
- Up to 8 LRCs earned this year can be used towards the 60 you need at Level 2 and Level 3.

### *Endorsements:*

- To get a certificate endorsement, students will need 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, instead of the usual 50. These are key targets for many Rangitoto students.
- To get an individual course endorsement, students will need 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course, rather than 14. Students still need to achieve at least 3 credits in externals and 3 in internals.
- LRCs don't come with Merit or Excellence, so they can't count towards an endorsement.

### *University Entrance:*

- For 2021 the UE requirements have been adjusted from 14 down to 12 credits in three UE-approved subjects. You still need to have NCEA Level 3 and the usual literacy and numeracy standards.

### *Rank Scores for Degree Entry:*

- The entry for specialised bachelor's degrees have not changed. Y13 students will still have to meet these requirements and should be focussing on achieving as highly as possible in each of their assessments in order to generate the rank scores necessary to guarantee an offer of admission.

### **Student Wellbeing**

The online extended model of lockdown learning intends to retain teacher and class relationships while giving students a reduced class load in order to reduce their screen time. We have encouraged students to get a balance throughout this time by ensuring they form healthy routines, sleep well, eat well and exercise. Should you have concerns over the balance of learning and down time for your child, please do not hesitate to contact their dean or tutor teacher.

We would also encourage students to contact our Guidance team through the Ranginet booking system, [click here](#) should they be struggling to cope at any stage through this lockdown period.

### **Parent Support**

The latest Special Report from SchoolTV outlines how parents and guardians can help instil hope and offer support in times of uncertainty. We hope you are able to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report. [SPECIAL REPORT: Instilling Hope In Uncertain Times | Rangitoto College \(schooltv.me\)](#)

### **Careers Advice & Pathways Virtual Experience**

Year 13 students are strongly advised to book an online appointment with our Head of Careers, Mrs Fenton. This will allow each student to make informed decisions at a critical point in their education. Please [click here](#) to access bookings.

For those parents of, and students in, Y10 and 11 who are yet to access the Virtual Pathways Experience, we encourage you to utilise [these online resources](#) to help make informed subject choices for 2022.

### **Online Assemblies**

Year level assemblies will again go out this Wednesday morning in an email link to students. The focus of this week's assembly messaging will be 3 tips for students to support themselves independently in an online learning environment.

### **Date changes**

1) Entrance Exams for Y11-13 have been moved to the first Tuesday of term 4 and will run from October 19th to October 29th. These exams are extremely beneficial in preparing our students for the NCEA exams and will enable us to generate authentic evidence to use for NZQA derived grade applications should we return to Lockdown in November. On the first day of term 4, we will run a 6 period day so all students will see each of their teachers; timetable details will be given later this term.

2) Year 13 School Ball: Due to concerns that we are only able to host the ball at Alert Level 1 the original booking for 2nd October has been cancelled and the ball rescheduled to 15th October. A back-up booking for 14th November has also been made. We understand the importance of this event, given the Year 12 ball was cancelled in 2020; we are doing everything in our power to make this happen.

3) Dance Showcase: Our exceptional annual dance showcase at the Bruce Mason Centre has been deferred once again and is now scheduled to take place in term 4. We will provide a specific date when the venue has confirmed our booking.

4) Awards events:

Arts Awards - Tuesday 9th November

Sports Awards - Wednesday 10th November

Māori and Pasifika Success Evening - Thursday 11th November

Y12 & 13 Senior Prize Giving - November 17th - evening.

Year 11 Prize Giving - November 19th

5) Junior Exams 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> November (English, Maths, Science & JSS only)

Thank you for taking the time to read this lengthy update.

Best wishes



Patrick Gale  
**PRINCIPAL**