

9th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to every member of our Oran Park High School community and I trust you shared an enjoyable Christmas break with family and friends. Though we still have many weeks of the school holidays to go I thought it might be worth reminding everyone at this point of some important things for the school year ahead.

- For the first time Oran Park High School will be welcoming Year 11 students to the school. **Year 11's first day at school is Tuesday 31st January.** Year 11 students will need to be in the new senior uniform which can be purchased from Lowes at Narellan Town Centre.
- Our incoming Year 7 cohort will also start school on Tuesday 31st January.
- Year 8, 9 and 10 students will return to school on Wednesday 1st February.

Oran Park High School was founded three years ago with strong support from our parent group (and later the P&C) on the basis that the school had a distinctive uniform that our community could be proud of and compliance with wearing that uniform would be enforced both at home and at school. At the end of the last school year I was disappointed to see that there had been something of a deterioration in our high uniform standards and I would ask for your support in addressing that as we move into the 2023 school year. In terms of this:

- Full school uniform is to be worn on every school day. That includes black leather school shoes and ties for the boys; please remind your child that these are not optional.
- The only exception to this is on your child's designated sports day, when they are permitted to wear their sports uniform to school. Other variations such as tights or bike shorts are not permitted. Students will find out their sports day after they return to school at the end of January. The school executive will review this practice at the end of Term 1 to determine if it is negatively impacting our uniform standards, so it is important that sport uniform is not worn on any other day.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING

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• We ask that you supply a note if your child is out of uniform for any reason. However, these notes are only intended to cover missing uniform items in the short term. For example, notes covering uniform for more than a week or two are not acceptable unless your situation has been discussed with the relevant Deputy Principal.

Please note that the school is always happy to work alongside our parents and carers for the benefit of our students, so if your financial situation is making buying uniform difficult, don't hesitate to speak to your child's Deputy Principal about the assistance we can offer. Also, this year the NSW Government is offering 'Premier's Back to School NSW Vouchers' which provides \$150 for every child who attends a school in NSW to purchase uniforms, shoes, bags and books from a registered business. You can apply for the vouchers <u>here</u> or via the Service NSW app. I would urge every parent or carer from our school community to take advantage of this offer which will assist in sending every student back to school fully prepared for the year ahead.

Regards,

Brad Mitchell Principal