

From the Principal

Dear students and families,

We have had a smooth start to term 3. Classes have resumed and Year 12 AST students have commenced their preparation workshops in earnest. Please note that Moderation Day is Thursday 20 August. On Moderation Day, Year 12 AST students will be sitting their last trial exam before the real AST on Tuesday 2 & Wednesday 3 September. This re-scheduling has occurred because of COVID-19 disruption to the AST preparation program last semester. For all other students, Moderation Day is pupil free and students should use this time productively to catch up on coursework and assignments.

Please find specific information in this update on the School Satisfaction Survey. As a school we value the feedback of our students, parents and staff, so please help us improve or affirm our good work by completing the survey when it opens on 10 August.

Kind Regards

Craig Edwards

2020 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey

Each year, the Directorate surveys all parents/carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their satisfaction with public education. The 2020 surveys will be available online from **10 to 31 August**.

I am writing to ask for your help by allowing your child/ren to participate in the **student survey**.

Why are we doing the survey?

The data are used to inform government policy and underpin school improvement practices. The results will also help us to identify what we do well as a school and where we can improve.

What is involved?

The **student survey** is administered as a classroom task and takes 15-20 minutes to complete. In addition to items developed to measure satisfaction, the survey includes a school climate module that forms part of a longitudinal study being conducted in partnership with researchers at the Australian National University (ANU).

Key elements of school climate include school identification (a sense of belonging and connection to school), academic emphasis (support and encouragement of learning and success), relationships (feeling valued and respected in dealings with others) and a sense of shared mission, rules and processes in the school, which are important indicators of educational outcomes and quality of the learning environment.

How will privacy be managed?

At the start of the survey, student identification numbers will be used to confirm the identity of students and enable survey responses to be linked over time and with administrative and performance data. Linking data in this way will help researchers to assess relationships between improvements in school climate and educational outcomes and enable a better understanding of patterns over time.

All personal information will be handled in accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2014*. Details about how personal information is stored and used are available in our *Privacy Policy* (available at <http://education.act.gov.au>). **No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college.**

What do I do now?

If, after reading this letter, you do not want your child to do the survey, please contact the front office by Friday 7 August so that your child can be excluded.

Thank you for considering this request. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Frequently Asked Questions regarding School satisfaction & Climate Survey – see attachment

Important Dates

Thursday 20 August	Moderation Day (Last Year 12 AST Trial)
Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 September	Year 12 AST
Wednesday 9 - Friday 11 September	Cross line Testing
Thursday 17 & Friday 18 September	Pupil Free – (moderation of term 3 assessment)
Friday 18 September	Mid Semester Reports emailed
Thursday 24 September	Parent Teacher Evening
Friday 25 September	Last day Term 3
Monday 12 October	Start Term 4
Tuesday 3 November	NAIDOC Assembly
Thursday 19 November	Last day of classes for Semester 2
Friday 20 – Tuesday 24 November	Crossline Testing period for Semester 2
Wednesday 25 November	Year 11 AST Trial
Thursday 26 November	Handback Day
Wednesday 2 December	Year 12 Brunch and Year 12 formal
Thursday 17 December	Year 12 Graduation.

FLASH SALE – DC T-SHIRTS

Dickson College will be holding a “FLASH SALE” on our DC T-shirts. For the next two weeks; from 3 August - 14 August 2020. You can grab a bargain !

Two T-shirts for the price of one!

\$15 for two T-shirts !! What a bargain !!!



DC Hoodies

To help keep you warm during the chilly months, the DC Hoodies are back!!! For a small investment of \$60 you too can be the proud owner of the much sought after, high quality DC hoodie!

They are available from the front office and there is limited stock so get in quick.



