

PROCEDURES SHOULD HSC EXAMS BE DISRUPTED

Dear Year 12 Students and Parents,

As you may have heard a number of schools experienced a bomb threat yesterday that had an impact on the HSC examinations. I have spoken to the NESAs Presiding Officer (Mrs Edwina Pederson) in regards to our school and NESAs management strategies should this occur at Mater Maria. Below is a brief outline of the procedures to keep our students safe:

We will follow our normal procedures by evacuating the school community to oval and contacting the police and relevant staff at Catholic Schools Broken Bay. The school community (including Year 12 students and exam supervisors) will remain isolated from the buildings until the police have investigated and given us the all-clear.

If the threat is received before the start of the HSC exam -

Students will be evacuated to the oval and the start of the exam can be delayed for up to one hour. After this point students will be dismissed and the results will be estimated.

If the threat is received during an exam -

Students will be directed to evacuate immediately and under exam conditions will be isolated on the oval. The NESAs exam supervisors will ensure that students do not communicate with each other or anyone else. Students will not be able to use any form of technology to communicate with others at this time.

If the site can be declared safe relatively quickly, students will be able to return to the exam rooms to complete their exams and the full amount of time will be given. My advice is to stay calm and follow the directions of the NESAs supervisors. We will also have our staff on the oval to support students.

Please be assured that should any issues like this occur throughout the HSC examinations, students will be supported through the misadventure processes NESAs has in place to avoid being disadvantaged. The good news is that the exam supervisors have reported that our students appear to be well prepared, doing their best and are very polite.

Well done and best wishes for any exams that you have left.

Regards



Marc Reicher