



## Rangiora High School



Whakautea  
**RESPECT**



Tohaina  
**CONTRIBUTE**



Wawatahia  
**ASPIRE**

**Tangata ako ana i te whare, te turanga ki te marae, tau ana**  
*A person who is taught at home, will stand collected on the marae*

A child who learns values at home and is cherished within their family, will not only behave well amongst the family but also within society and throughout their life.

### Newsletter to parents/caregivers/whānau/akonga

8 September 2021

Kia ora koutou,

We understand Year 12 students' disappointment when they read that the Semi-Formal has been cancelled. I thought it important that now we are ready for school tomorrow, I write to you all and explain the reasoning behind our decision. This is one of many events that have been cancelled by us, and by regional and national bodies, due to the uncertainty of Alert Level 2 status and restrictions that may apply.

Also, as you are aware NZQA has shifted the dates for NCEA external examinations. This along with having been in lockdown for the last three weeks means that we have had to shift our Derived Grade examinations. They now run from Wednesday 22 September to Wednesday 29 September (during periods 1-2). These periods will include timetabled classes for senior students who do not have examinations and teachers will use this as an opportunity to collect evidence should Derived Grades be required later this year.

Preparation for the Derived Grade examinations must be the focus for both students and teachers in the next three weeks.

We cannot underestimate the importance of these next three weeks to our Year 12 students' futures. Should Aotearoa New Zealand be moved back into Alert Level 3 or 4 when NCEA external examinations are scheduled to be held, the Derived Grade examination results will inform the information we send to NZQA which is used to determine your child's final external results. Year 12 results are critical for those students going on to tertiary study as these results determine whether your child will be provisionally accepted into courses and Halls of Residence in the latter part of their Year 13 year.

As part of our review of the calendar as a result of NZQA's decision we have also had to shift the Year 11-12 Prizegiving to 18 November. This date is much earlier than we would normally hold the prizegiving but this is due to when the 'big examinations' (i.e. those with large numbers of students entered) fall. Planning prizegivings and the 2022 timetable and learning programmes along with preparing Year 11-13 students for external examinations are our priorities for Term 4.

We would encourage our young people to think about alternative ways they can get together with their friends during the October holidays.

Karen Stewart  
**Principal / Tumuaki**