



Term 4 School News 2024

A message from our principal

Date: 19 December 2024



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colyton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au
colyton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au





Principal matters

It has been a whirlwind first term at the school for me and I can say that I have thoroughly enjoyed every day since joining the Colyton community. I am very thankful for the warm welcome I have received from students, staff and our community.

Our students have achieved so much over the past months. From academic accomplishments to creative endeavours, from athletic victories to acts of kindness and leadership, they have demonstrated the qualities that make our community so special. We are immensely proud of their efforts and the progress they have made.

We have also shared many memorable moments as a school community — Unified Day, Year 12 Graduation, and many other performances, projects, and celebrations that have brought us together and highlighted the talents and spirit of our students. These experiences remind us of the importance of connection and the power of working together toward shared goals.

On behalf of the entire staff, thank you for entrusting us with the privilege of educating your children. We are grateful for the trust you place in us and the collaboration that makes our school such a vibrant and supportive community.

Wishing you and your family a safe, joyful, and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new school year.

It's vital that we have correct details for every one of our students, and this includes emergency contact details in case we need to contact someone in an emergency. If your details have changed, including your mailing address, you can update this in the Sentral parent app. In a digital age, we rarely send home paper notes; our communication is via the Sentral Parent App or by email, so please take a moment to check your details so you don't miss something important.

Important Dates

Student holiday dates

Thursday 19 December 2024
and return to school on
Thursday 6 February 2025

Staff return to school

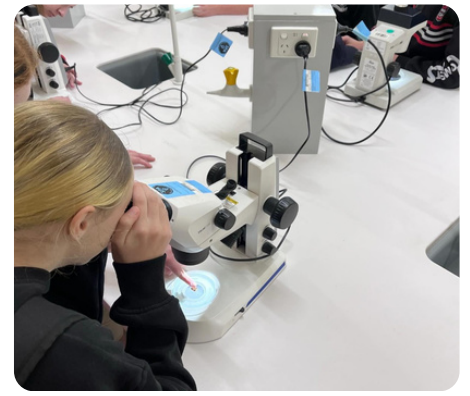
Friday 31 January 2025

2024 HSC Results

Hats off to our incredible Year 12 students! You've conquered the HSC, and we couldn't be prouder. Wishing you all the success and happiness in the world as you embark on the next chapter.

School Bus 4637 - PM Service

Commencing Day 1 of Term 1 2025; afternoon School Bus 4637 will operate revised times to comply with Colyton High School's adjusted bell times as detailed below. There will be no changes to the path of these services



School news

Changes to bell times/rollcall

After much discussion, the school will be making an adjustment to our bell times in 2025. We will be starting the school day 5 minutes earlier at 8.30am so that we can incorporate a 10 minute roll call at the start of each day.

Roll call is vitally important starting point in the school day. It provides students with a consistent teacher to check in with each morning and allows us to start the day focused on student wellbeing. This ten minute period also gives us the opportunity to share important information about the day ahead, upcoming events and a chance for students to check in with their Year Adviser if needed.

As previously advised Colyton High School is introducing an early finish day, in line with other schools around us. Students will finish at 1.05pm on Fridays from the start of 2025. School bus services will continue to be provided at this early leave time. Please see the attached letter from Busways about this. While students will be leaving school at an earlier time, for the remainder of the day staff will be engaged in professional learning time, the fruits of which students will benefit from throughout the year.

Returning to Sentral and Schoolbytes

In 2024 the school moved to the Compass student management program. After working with this for the last year and based on considerable staff feedback, the school has returned to using Sentral. This represents considerable cost savings for the school and Sentral is a more efficient platform for staff to use in their everyday work.

We know that a great many families have taken onboard our move to Compass and have been communicating with us through the Compass parent app and we apologise for any confusion or inconvenience this causes. Emails have been sent to guide parents to download the Sentral parent app so that you can continue to communicate with us about your child's absences, access reports and see important messages. If you did not receive an email about connecting to the Sentral Parent App, please contact the school and this can be resent.

We have also connected with Schoolbytes as our school platform for managing payments. You will notice that when excursion notes are sent out there will be a link to Schoolbytes for you to give permission and pay for the excursion.

Preparing to return to school

You do not need a separate app for this, clicking on the link in the letter will take you straight to the payment/permission portal.

If you experience any issues with accessing either Sentral or Schoolbytes, please contact us on 02 9623 2789 for assistance.

2025 Return to School

Some aspects of the return to school in 2025 have changed. There are now 4 staff development days at the start of the year. In prior years there have been 2 days at the start of the year and 2 days at the end of term 4, this has been changed to 4 days at the start of the year and no staff development days at the end of term 4. Please see our return to school dates below:

Friday January 31 – Staff return to school

Thursday February 6 – students in all grades return to school.

You can access the [2025 term dates here](#). We'd like for you to take note of these dates when planning trips. Students are required to attend school every day of the school year unless they are unwell or there is a significant reason for their absence. Students who regularly miss school are much more likely to fall behind in their studies and not meet their potential at school, which has a clear impact on their future opportunities.

Preparing to return to school

Please take time in the holidays to check that your child has all the uniform requirements they need. Students must be in full school uniform every day. Students are not permitted to wear non-uniform items as this presents a safety risk. This term, the uniform standard has slipped considerably with many students presenting to school completely out of uniform. Students will have their uniform checked in roll call each day and if they are out of uniform, they will be provided with alternative items to wear for the day. Students who arrive late to school will also have their uniform checked and be provided with alternative items should they be out of uniform.

We understand that uniform can be expensive and back to school preparations can be a burden on families. If you require assistance with uniform, please contact the school for assistance.



Communicating with the school over the holidays

School staff begin their annual leave on Friday December 19 and return to school on Friday January 31, 2025. Across this period our phones will not be monitored. Should you need to communicate with the school, please do so via email – this will be checked at various times across the break.

Staff Farewells

Sadly, a number of our staff are leaving us this year for other schools. We are grateful for the support they have provided our students and wish them the best in 2025.

Ms J. Peruzzo
Ms S. Aslam
Mr D Corias
Ms J Mitchell
Mr W Liu
Ms M Von Zum Hof
Ms C Burrell
Ms B Eze
Mr H Lancaster
Mr S Stratford
Ms J Setefano (maternity leave)

On behalf of the staff of Colyton High School I wish you a happy and safe holiday period. I hope that you are able to enjoy time with your families and loved ones. We look forward to seeing all of our students again in 2025 for another great year.