

Dear Parent / Caregiver

**2012 Subject Selection Process
Information for Parents of Year 9, 10 and 11 Students**

Later this term your son or daughter will make his or her subject selections for 2012. This is an exciting time, but it can also be daunting. We have planned a set of activities to support students and parents to make these choices with confidence.

- Carefully read the relevant sections of the Curriculum Guide** that will be available electronically on the school website within a fortnight. The Guide contains important information about the curriculum requirements for each year level. It also provides detailed descriptions of each course offered in each of the different learning areas. If you have difficulties accessing the school website please contact Reception for assistance. On Thursday 4 August your son or daughter will receive their subject selection sheet. This contains all of the subject offerings for each year level arranged on pre-determined lines.
- Select a Curriculum Pathway.** A curriculum pathway identifies the likely direction a student will take once their schooling is completed. The pathway could be university, a TAFE course, apprenticeship or other employment or training options. Once a pathway has been identified, Home Group teachers will provide support to assist with the selection of a set of subjects that best prepares your son or daughter for their goal.
- Conduct some research** to find out what the requirements are for the chosen pathway. For example, students could consult resources located in the Student Counselling Area such as the Job Guide, University Course Handbooks and the SATAC University Entrance Guide. Alternatively, University and TAFE websites and other employment and training websites are rich sources of information. Students should find out as much as they can about their pathway to enable them to make informed, confident decisions. Students in Year 10 should also use the information and planning they have done in their Personal Learning Plan (PLP) subject.

Over the next few weeks Home Group teachers will provide students with guidance about how to complete the subject selection process. Subject teachers will provide recommendations about subjects that would be suitable for your son or daughter in their particular learning area.

Two different Parent Information nights are planned.

1) Parent Information Night (for parents of students in Year 9 or 10):

The information night will be held on **Tuesday 9 August** from 6:30pm until 8:00pm and will be repeated again on **Thursday 11 August**. It will be held in the PAC. **Parents/caregivers and their son or daughter will only need to attend one of the sessions.** The night will begin with a general session covering important information about how to select a curriculum pathway, the new SACE and the Subject Selection Process. Parents/caregivers will then have the option of attending information sessions about VET courses or the IB Diploma. Alternatively parents can remain after the general session to ask questions and follow up with individual staff members.

2) Parent Information Night (for parents of students in Year 11):

The information night will be held on **Thursday 18 August** and is intended for **parents/caregivers of Year 11 students who will be completing the SACE in 2012.** It will be held in the PAC and will run from 6:30 pm until 7:30pm. This session will cover the Year 12 requirements of the new SACE, the new rules relating to university entrance, TAFE selection processes and VET courses. Time will be provided for parents to ask questions and to follow up with individual staff members as required.



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Department of Education and
Children's Services T/A South
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Please note that we are not holding a separate Parent Information Night for parents of Year 11 IB Diploma students as the subjects studied by the students in Year 11 continue directly into Year 12. However, if you have any questions or concerns related to the IB Diploma please contact the IB Coordinator, Mark Grantham.

Attached to this letter is a **RSVP form** for the two information nights. **Please complete the form** indicating whether you will be attending one or both of the nights and **return it to school** via your son or daughter's home group teacher by **Friday 5 August**.

Subject Selection Confirmation Meetings will occur for each year level on:

- **Year 9 – Wednesday 31 August**
- **Year 10 – Thursday 1 September (part of the Year 10 PLP Pathway Planning Day)**
- **Year 11 – Tuesday 30 August**

Normal lessons will be cancelled for the year level on their particular Subject Selection Confirmation day. Instead each student (and his or her parent/caregiver) will need to attend a 15 minute meeting with the Home Group teacher.

At this meeting the student presents his or her choice of curriculum pathway, the reasons behind the choice and the subjects that have been selected to support the chosen pathway. The Home Group teacher will check that the curriculum pathway is appropriate and that appropriate subjects have been selected. They will also check that the particular year level curriculum pattern (as described in the Curriculum Guide) and any Requirements for Success have been met.

In the week prior to the Subject Selection Confirmation meeting each student will be required to enter their proposed subject selections online. Detailed written information about how to enter the subject selections online will be sent home to families shortly. Included with that information will be the PTO login details (username and password) that families will need to use to book their Subject Selection Confirmation meeting time (this is the same system that families used earlier this year to book their Parent Teacher interview).

If you have any questions or require more information please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate Year Level Leader:

- Year 12 – Alex Turnbull (alex.turnbull@gihs.sa.edu.au)
- Year 11 – Brenton Brooks (brenton.brooks@gihs.sa.edu.au)
- Year 10 – Gennaro Marino (gennaro.marino@gihs.sa.edu.au)
- Year 9 – Andy Mewett (andy.mewett@gihs.sa.edu.au)
- Year 8 – Mike Jones (mike.jones@gihs.sa.edu.au)

Yours sincerely



Peter Kuss
Director of Studies



Jeremy Cogan
Deputy Principal

Wendy Johnson
Principal



Principal
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RSVP – PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

Please complete and return to the Home Group Teacher by
Friday 5 August 2011

STUDENT NAME: _____ HOME GROUP: _____

Parent Information Night (for students currently in Year 9 and 10)

I **will / will not be** attending the Parent Information Night for parents of Year 9 and 10 students on:

- Tuesday 9 August, 2011
- Thursday 11 August, 2011

The evening begins with a general session from 6:30pm – 7:30pm covering the requirements of the new SACE and the Subject Selection process.

From 7:30pm – 8:00pm parents are able to attend one of the following optional sessions. Please indicate which session (if any) you will be attending:

- IB Diploma
- VET
- General Enquiries – questions and answers

Please indicate the number of people attending: _____

Parent Information Night (for students currently doing Year 11 SACE) Thursday 18 August 2011

The evening begins at 6:30pm and should conclude by 7:30pm. It will cover the requirements of Stage 2 in the new SACE, the new Australian Tertiary Admissions Ranking (ATAR) requirements and the Subject Selection process.

I **will / will not be** attending the Parent Information Night for parents of Year 11 SACE students.

Please indicate the number of people attending: _____



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