

# CHS Keeping In Touch 2024 Term 3 Week 5

What's on 2024

Monday 2 September - Preliminary HSC examinations begin Thursday 5 September - Year 7 and Year 10 catch up vaccination day Friday 6 September - Legacy Badge day Tuesday 24 September Year 12 Graduation ceremony at Waterview in Bicentennial Park Wednesday 25 September - Friday 27 September Year 11 School Camp Friday 27 September - Last day of Term 3 for students

# Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Carers, Student and Staff,

**Major Build** 

Due to commence next week Monday 26th August

Estimated completion date is Mid-2026; however, we anticipate occupying the new buildings from the start of the 2026 school year.

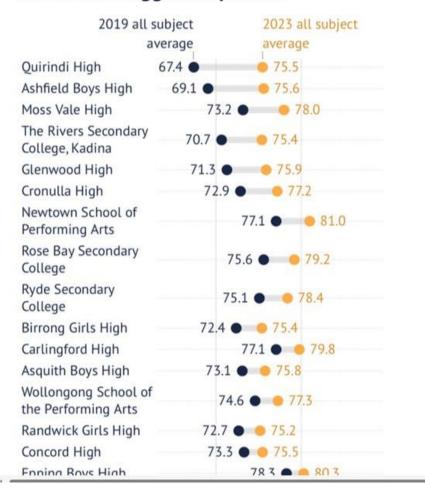
#### What will this mean for our school community?

- We will have a messy 18 months BUT we will continue to prioritise teaching and learning, together with student and staff wellbeing throughout the process.
- The end result will be well worth it. Our school will be upgraded, modernised and future-proofed for many years to come.
- We will have state of the art teaching and learning spaces, a new school hall, dedicated Creative and Performing Arts spaces, a new health and fitness space, a support unit for students with additional learning needs and a dedicated Student Wellbeing Hub.

Some important considerations Traffic and Parking – The main vehicle access to the construction site will be from Stanley Street. Stanley street will remain our main bus drop off and pick up point. Although Stanley Street will remain an option for families to drop off and pick up, this will NOT be recommended. Pedestrian access is being created from St Lukes Oval directly into the school, via the rear of the temporary canteen. This will be covered, lit, all weather access. We would encourage all families to use the Crane Street access. Safety – Student and staff safety will be a paramount consideration during the build period. We will be keeping vehicle movement into the school clearly separated from pedestrian movement. To support this we will be restricting access for students around the Crane St demountable area of the school. This will create new out-of-bounds areas that will be clearly communicated to students. We will be seeking parent and carer support with the implementation of these areas. Noise and Dust - The contractors have a WHS Management Plan in place to minimise these factors. We anticipate that the majority of the major demolition works will be completed during the spring school holidays. Upgrade of Existing Facilities The tender process has now closed. We anticipate that a contractor will be appointed to this job in mid-September, and works are likely to commence during the spring school holidays. Recognition of Amazing Growth and Achievement Recently the Sydney Morning Herald published a table of schools in the state that achieved the greatest growth in HSC results between 2019-2023. This was measured by the change in average course HSC mark. The table below shows Concord High as being 15th out of 507 schools where students sit the HSC exams across NSW. An amazing achievement and testimony to our dedicated teaching staff, incredible students and outstanding levels of family support that we enjoy here at Concord High.

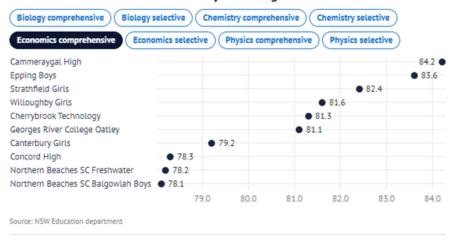


# **HSC 2023: Biggest improvers**



In another article, the top 10 comprehensive school were listed in a range of subject areas in the 2023 HSC. In the academically demanding 2unit Economics course. **Our school was listed in 8th place across the state.** Well-earned recognition to the class teacher, Craig Anderson and the Economics class of 2023.





To keep up to date with all the amazing things happening at Concord High School please follow us on our social media platforms at:

facebook.com/ConcordHighSchoolNSW

www.instagram.com/concordhighschoolofficial

Until next fortnight,

Victor Newby

Principal

A Successful World's Greatest Shave at Concord High School We are thrilled to share the success of this year's World's Greatest Shave event, held on Thursday, August 22nd. The day was filled with excitement, courage, and an overwhelming sense of community spirit as our students and staff came together to support an important cause. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible team at Scanlon Hair, who generously volunteered their time and expertise to cut and shave hair for our brave participants. Their professionalism and enthusiasm helped make the event a truly memorable experience for everyone involved. The students and staff who took part were thrilled to have such skilled professionals on hand, and the results were nothing short of amazing! A special thank you goes out to Mr Mee for his outstanding coordination and dedication, which were key to the success of this event, and to Ms Bekheet, our Head Teacher of Student Leadership, for her continuous support and guidance throughout the planning and execution. Their combined efforts ensured everything ran smoothly, rallying our students and fostering a strong sense of purpose and teamwork. We are fortunate to have them both as integral parts of our school community. Together, we have raised both awareness and funds for the fight against blood cancer, and we couldn't be more proud of the collective effort put forth

by our students, staff, and the wider community. Thank you to everyone who participated, supported, and donated to this important cause. Your contributions have made a difference, and we look forward to continuing this tradition in the years to come.













































#### Careers Corner

#### Term 3 is a busy term in Careers:

- \* Year 10 completed their Subject Selections in Week 3. Some students have also undertaken work experience.
- \* Year 12 are busy applying for early entry schemes, scholarships, special access schemes; attending university Open Days, and webinars; as well as some students completing their major works all this in amongst completing their Trial exams.
- \* Year 11 and Year 12 are continuing with Careers interviews. Please ensure your child attends, especially when scheduled for Period 1 or Period 6 late arrivals and early leavers may miss out on an appointment, if they do not attend when they have been scheduled.

#### Important UAC information and key dates

- Applications for university courses are done through the University Admissions Centre (UAC).
- Applying for a UAC account costs \$80 and increases to \$215 from the 1st of October.
  - Domestic students apply here: <a href="https://www5.uac.edu.au/uacug/">https://www5.uac.edu.au/uacug/</a>
  - International students apply here: https://www9.uac.edu.au/uacos/
- The UAC account is where students:
  - Choose their university course preferences
  - Once they choose their preferred university courses, students should be actively managing their university course
     preferences <a href="https://youtu.be/1eHhnOrYyko?si=3bktEqPqKIhBYU\_z">https://youtu.be/1eHhnOrYyko?si=3bktEqPqKIhBYU\_z</a>
  - They can change the order of their university course preferences at any time monitor
    the due dates (see below) for any early entry schemes they have applied for
    <a href="https://www.uac.edu.au/current-applicants/undergraduate-applications-and-offers/early-offer-schemes-for-year-12-students">https://www.uac.edu.au/current-applicants/undergraduate-applications-and-offers/early-offer-schemes-for-year-12-students</a> and change preferences accordingly.
  - Domestic students can apply for the Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS) this is one example of an early entry scheme. Locate it at the bottom section of their UAC account home page (after paying for their UAC account) SRS closes on the 16th of September (offers made on the 8th of November).
  - Domestic students who have been impacted by long-term adversity or disadvantage throughout Year 11 or Year 12 can apply for the Educational Access Scheme (EAS).
  - EAS closes on the 21st of November, but students should complete their application as soon as possible, as EAS is taken into consideration for some early entry schemes.
  - The ATARs are released on the 18th of December, from 9am.

- Once ATAR results are known, students may change preferences for the main round ("December Round 2"). Do this by midnight on 18th of December.
- Main round offers are released on 23rd of December. This is also when any early entry conditional offers are converted into unconditional offers.
- If students do not get an offer for their preferred university course, they should accept another offer but can try again for their preferred course in the next round (January main round).
- The January main round of offers (January Round 1) are released on the 9th of January 2025.
- There is another smaller round in February offers are released on the 7th of February.
- If students are having any issues or have specific questions, they should contact UAC directly: <a href="https://www.uac.edu.au/about/contact">https://www.uac.edu.au/about/contact</a>
- Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS)
- Many universities participate in the UAC early entry scheme called Schools Recommendation
   Scheme (SRS)
- In the SRS scheme, early offers are made by some universities, based on students' Year 11 results AND the selection criteria/ ratings, based on the school's recommendation.
- For a list of universities participating in the SRS scheme, search here:
   https://www.uac.edu.au/future-applicants/scholarships-and-schemes/schools-recommendation-schemes/institution-specific-srs-criteria
   Macquarie, WSU and ACU are just some of the universities participating in this early entry scheme.
- UTS participates in SRS for those students whose parent receives a Centrelink Family Tax Benefit Payment Part A.
- The closing date for SRS is 16th of September.
- SRS offers (first round) are made on 8 November, after the HSC has finished (but before ATARs are released).
- Further SRS offers are released on 21st of November and 5th of December (prior to ATARs being released).
- Educational Access Scheme (EAS)
  - EAS aims to help students whose education has been negatively impacted during Year 11 and /or Year 12. International students are not eligible to apply.
  - Students access the EAS application via their UAC account (EAS tab).
  - EAS categories of disadvantage can be found in this document
     <a href="https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/eas/eas-application-guide.pdf">https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/eas/eas-application-guide.pdf</a>

- Categories include:
  - Disrupted schooling
  - Financial challenges (includes Family Tax Benefit Payment Part A)
  - Severe family disruption (includes death of a family member, parent separation, severe illness of a family member)
  - Excessive family responsibilities (includes care of a family member in the same household)
  - English language difficulty
  - Personal illness / disability (includes, but is not limited to, students receiving NESA Disability Provisions)
  - Refugee and humanitarian status
- Students intending to apply for EAS need to complete their EAS application as soon as possible. In many instances they must include an Educational Impact Statement (written by a school staff member) to support their application. This should be completed by one of the School Counsellors or Year 12 Advisers by the end of Week 7 in Term 3. Make an appointment as soon as possible take your EAS application with you to your appointment.
- Early entry programs, cadetship opportunities and scholarships
- Early entry programs, and relevant dates for these can be found on each university's webpage or
   on the UAC website here: <a href="https://www.uac.edu.au/current-applicants/undergraduate-applications-and-offers/early-offer-schemes-for-year-12-students">https://www.uac.edu.au/current-applicants/undergraduate-applications-and-offers/early-offer-schemes-for-year-12-students</a>
   This link includes the relevant cut off dates for these early entry schemes and how to apply.
- These early entry schemes include but are not limited to:
  - **ACU Guarantee** closes 16th of September
  - Macquarie Leaders and Achievers Early Entry Scheme closes 30th of August
  - University of Sydney Creative Arts Special Admissions Scheme (CASAS) –
  - Visual Arts pathway Visual Arts portfolios due 31st of August;
  - Music pathway see USyd website for details
     https://www.sydney.edu.au/music/study-music/undergraduate-courses-and-admission/creative-arts-special-admission-scheme-casas.html
  - UTS Early Entry Program closes 9th of September
  - UNSW Gateway Admission Pathway
  - Round 1 applications closed 24th of July

- Round 2 applications close 11th of November
- Western Sydney University (WSU) HSC True Rewards 13th of November (Year 11 results) and 11 December (Year 12 results) visit the HSC True Reward website for application closing details and offer dates for each round <a href="https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward">https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward</a>
- There are usually conditions to these early offers minimum ATAR requirements, (however some early entry offers come without conditions).
- If students get an early offer, students should accept the offer but keep track of what offers they accept if they decide later that they don't want the offer they must withdraw before the census date. <a href="https://www.education.gov.au/higher-education-publications/higher-education-administrative-information-providers-october-2021/7-census-dates">https://www.education.gov.au/higher-education-publications/higher-education-administrative-information-providers-october-2021/7-census-dates</a>
- Do not accept an offer if they know they will definitely not want to do the course.
  - Students should stay committed and maintain their efforts for the final HSC exams –
    final HSC exam results can significantly impact whether they get the ATAR they need to
    enter their preferred course.
  - Do not enrol into any course until after the ATARs have been released otherwise they will be liable for the fees (unless they withdraw before the university's census date).
- UTS offers Cadetship opportunities for Computing Science and for Cybersecurity, through their Industry Degree Academy (IDeA) program. <a href="https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology/programs-and-scholarships/courses-cadetships">https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology/programs-and-scholarships/courses-cadetships</a> Applicants must apply for these via UTS and UAC. The closing date for these is 15th of September, 2024.
  - Universities advertise their scholarships on their websites some universities have a one-stop scholarship portal to apply for all their available scholarships. Alternatively, students can find scholarships by researching on the Good Universities Guide see the "scholarships" tab <a href="https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/">https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/</a> TAFE, apprenticeships and traineeships
- TAFE applications for Semester 1 2025 usually open in October check the TAFE website for details and look at the entry requirements when applying for a course <a href="https://www.tafensw.edu.au/course-areas">https://www.tafensw.edu.au/course-areas</a>
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses can also be researched via the Your Career website <a href="https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/learn-and-train/courses">https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/learn-and-train/courses</a>
- Students looking for apprenticeships / traineeships should start looking for these now for 2025. They can find their own apprenticeship by researching on any job website (eg on the Indeed website, search "first year carpentry apprenticeship") or by contacting a Group Training Organisation (GTO) who specialises in their industry area of interest:
   <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/apprentices-and-trainees/employers/find-agto-nsw">https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/apprentices-and-trainees/employers/find-agto-nsw</a>

### Peer Support

**Peer Support Term 3 Update** I'm thrilled to share the fantastic work that our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders have been involved in this term, along with some upcoming events that are sure to inspire and engage our Year 7 students. **Promoting The World's Greatest Shave Event** 

• Our creative Peer Support Leaders have been hard at work designing an Instagram photo frame and eye-catching posters to promote this important event. Their efforts are helping to raise awareness and excitement around the school, encouraging participation and support.

#### **Year 7 Wellbeing Assembly Presentation**

Mark your calendars for Monday, 2nd September (Period 5, Week 7) when our leaders will be
presenting a PowerPoint titled "The Best Version of You" during the Year 7 Wellbeing Assembly.
This presentation is aimed at inspiring our younger students to reflect on their personal growth
and the positive impact they can have on their peers.

#### **Academic Peer Support for Year 7**

• On Wednesday, 4th September (Period 2, Week 7), the Peer Support Leaders will be involved in an Academic Peer Support session with Year 7 students. This session will provide valuable guidance and encouragement to help our Year 7s navigate their studies with confidence.

Please feel free to acknowledge the dedication and leadership our Year 10's are demonstrating. Their commitment to fostering a supportive and positive school environment is truly commendable. **Our 2024 Year 10 Peer Support Leaders are:** Scott Mcintyre Grace Beckham Liam Lenord Sarah Lam Christian Basile Kalliya Nicolaou Max Sullivan Samuel Leon Caitlin Collins Anique Michel Kai Krishna Dax Boyle Zac Kiernicki Isaiah Smith Mikaela Simor Caristiona Mackenzie Allura Romero Elizabeth Bayargun Kathleen Dawson Arabel Best Steven Saleh Georgia Szewcow Sasha Sirr Dasol Lee Thank you for your continued support of the Peer Support program. Best regards, Anita Hawkins Peer Support Coordinator

#### PDHPF News

#### Regional Athletics Carnival - Results

Congratulations to all our students who competed at the Sydney North Regional Athletics Carnival on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th of July.

This is notoriously a very competitive event so all students should be proud of their achievements and performances.

Laquisha Vaenono – 12yrs	100m – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Summer Griffiths - 12yrs	200m – 12 <sup>th</sup>
-	Discus – 10 <sup>th</sup>
Sophie Ciregna – 12yrs	800m – 9 <sup>th</sup>
,	1500m – 11 <sup>th</sup>
Alexia Mantle – 14yrs	800m – 10 <sup>th</sup>
Hazel Blackwood – 15yrs	800m 6 <sup>th</sup>
	1500m – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Maisy Wright-Smith – 17-18yrs	800m – 1 <sup>st</sup>
	1500m – 1 <sup>st</sup>
	3000m – 1st
Abigail Wollen – 17-19yrs	Shot put – 9 <sup>th</sup>
	Javelin – 9 <sup>th</sup>
Benjamin Succar – 15yrs	100m – 11 <sup>th</sup>
Joshua Ciregna – 12-15yrs Multi-class	100m – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
	200m – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
	800m – 1 <sup>st</sup>
	Long jump – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Shot put – 5 <sup>th</sup>
	Discus – 3rd
Justin Le – 16yrs	400m – 6 <sup>th</sup>
Riley Andrews – 15yrs	800m 11 <sup>th</sup>
Jake Ciregna – 17-19yrs	800m – 5 <sup>th</sup>
	1500m – 4 <sup>th</sup>
Harley Buchan – 16yrs	1500m – 9 <sup>th</sup>
Ryan Camarda – 12yrs	High jump – 4 <sup>th</sup>
	Long jump – 11 <sup>th</sup>
John Lawson – 16yrs	High jump – 1 <sup>st</sup>
	Triple jump – 4 <sup>th</sup>
Jacob Grant – 17-19yrs	High jump – 4 <sup>th</sup>
Aaron Li – 14yrs	Long jump – 1 <sup>st</sup>
Thomas Wooden – 12-15yrs	Triple jump – 12 <sup>th</sup>
Samuel Leon – 16yrs	Shot put – 6 <sup>th</sup>
	Discus – 9 <sup>th</sup>
Vereimi Levula – 13yrs	Discus – 10 <sup>th</sup>

12yrs Girls 4x100m relay – 9th place	16yrs Boys 4x100m relay – 4th place
Laquisha Vaeono	Justin Le
Summer Griffiths	Luke Akutsu-Hughes
Sophie Ciregna	Jacob Hardy
Mya Tran	John Lawson

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the NSWCHSSA State Athletics Championships:

- John Lawson (Year 10)
- Aaron Li (Year 9)
- Joshua Ciregna (Year 9)
- Maisy Wright-Smith (Year 12)

Alanah Butler PDHPE Teacher Sport Coordinator Year 7 Co-Advisor

**NSW Badminton Championships** Congratulations to Rishi Boopathy Year 9 and his team who won the NSW National Under 19 years Badminton Championships (CP Maddern) Team Event Trophy in the last school holidays in Perth. Rishi was a team member of the NSW team. Rishi and his team represented NSW against the other states to successfully become champions during the team event of the competition. Well done Rishi and his team mates.















#### **NSW State Champion Taekwondo**

Leonardo Angell won gold in the 63-68kg junior (15-17yrs) black belt division at the NSW State Championships. On his way to gold he beat a current national team member who is going to the world championships in October.

This is great result for Leonardo in his first year as a junior. He will represent NSW at the national championships in November.

Well done Leonardo





#### Welfare News

#### **Brainstorm Productions**

On Monday, Year 8 watched a presentation about Mental Health presented by Brainstorm Productions. There were 2 characters, one was being bullied at school, the other character was being overwhelmed by school work and relationships. Throughout the presentation, the 2 characters helped each other find ways to cope, such as downloading mindfulness Apps and confiding in the School Counsellor. The presentation was about mental health and how to seek help when struggling.

Sara Lamotta Year 8 Class Leader

#### Year 11

**Yearly Examinations Information** Year 11 Yearly Examinations are fast approaching and will be occurring during Week 7 and Week 8 (Monday 2nd September-Friday 13th September). Please see the examination timetable posted on the Year 11 Google Classroom for the times your child's examination will be held. Due to the new build, examinations with large number of students will be held at Concord Community Centre so please check and note the location of the examination in advance. If your child is sick on the day of their exam and unable to attend, please follow the policies and procedures found in the Year 11 Assessment Handbook, including contacting the school and providing medical documentation: https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/chs-y11-assessment-

2024/home Examination periods can be source of significant stress for students and their families. If you would like some advice on how to help your child manage this stressful time period, information and tips can be found on the ReachOut website: <a href="https://schools.au.reachout.com/study-stress?">https://schools.au.reachout.com/study-stress?</a>
<a href="https://schools.studyStress">utm medium=email&utm campaign=MKTG%20240814</a> Schools StudyStress MZ&utm content=MKTG
%20240814 Schools StudyStress MZ+CID ec4c77af6506d37470364b203d89b3c1&utm source=ROem
<a href="mailCM&utm term=Access%20our%20action%20pack">ailCM&utm term=Access%20our%20action%20pack</a> If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Toner or Mr. Nachar through the school email or phone number.

#### **Phoebe Toner** (she/her)

Year 11 Co-Adviser Senior Student Leadership Coordinator Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator English Faculty

#### Year 12

Preparation for the HSC Written Examinations Last Friday saw the Trial HSC Examinations completed at CHS and we must congratulate our students for their mature attitude and approach to them. Our HSC students must use the remaining time as they prepare for the HSC written examinations, to maintain their health and wellbeing as they undertake a thorough revision regimen. The remainder of the term will be an eventful time for our students as they celebrate the end of their schooling. Some important dates coming up include:

Graduation at Waterview on Tuesday 24 September Students are required to meet at the venue for a 9:30am start to the rehearsal. Parents invited to attend the ceremony starting at 11:00 am. More details to come.

HSC exams take place over 4 weeks:

- Week 1 Tuesday 15 October to Friday 18 October
- Week 2 Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October
- Week 3 Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November
- Week 4 Monday 4 November to Friday 8 November

Formal at Amora Hotel Jamison Sydney on Friday 15 September To pay for formal please use the following link: <a href="https://events.humanitix.com/ch1224">https://events.humanitix.com/ch1224</a> Cost: \$148

Kathy Kalachian & Marianne Laggis Year Advisors



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- Submit your email address to create an account.
- Confirm your email address via the registration email.
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- Add your students to your account.



Lunch ordering available Mon-Fri, please place your orders by 8:30am.



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#### From the P&C



#### Trivia night success

The trivia night in June raised \$6,381.00 for our school. We were supported by the generous donation of food for the night by Outback Steakhouse North Strathfield and Concord Crust Pizza. We also had lots of generous donations of vouchers from local businesses. Thank you to all who attended and all who donated.

We also had an EOFY drive to raise funds for the bench seating with tax deductible donations into the building fund. We raised \$1,162. All funds raised are going towards additional bench seating in the playground which will provide students with more options to sit and eat.

#### **P&C AGM**

A new P&C Executive will be elected at the upcoming September P&C AGM on 17/9. We would like to invite parents to attend any of our upcoming meetings on 17/9, 5/11, 10/12. We would value a broader parent voice and are keen to hear your views.

Email: pandcassociationconcordhigh@gmail.com

**Facebook:** facebook.com/groups/concordhighschoolpandc

Website: concordhspandc.com.au

Concord High School P&C Executive Team - Alison, Amy, Amber, Chris, Anna

#### **CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL P&C MEETINGS**



#### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

**NEXT MEETING** 

6:30pm Tuesday 17th September

#### **GENERAL MEETING DATES 2024**

Held at Concord High School Library

Term 3 2024

6:30pm Tuesday 17th September (AGM)

#### Term 4 2024

6:30pm Tuesday 5th November

6:30pm Tuesday 10th December

Please remember, paying your \$2 P&C membership allows you to vote in P&C meetings

#### How long is my membership valid for?

The Membership year is from the close of the AGM (6:23pm, Tuesday 5 September 2023) until the close of the 2024 AGM (date and time tba)

# **Community Announcements**



#### Principal Mr Victor Newby

3 Stanley Street, **CONCORD**, NSW, 2137 **Phone**: 97453777 **Website**: <a href="www.concord-h.nsw.edu.au">www.concord-h.nsw.edu.au</a> **Email**: <a href="mailto:concord-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au">concord-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au</a> **Facebook**: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/ConcordHighSchoolNSW">facebook.com/ConcordHighSchoolNSW</a> **Instagram**: <a href="mailto:www.instagram.com/concordhighschoolofficial">www.instagram.com/concordhighschoolofficial</a>

