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Dear Year 12 student

ADVICE FOR 2021 YEAR 12 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ATAR COURSES

As you settle into your final full term prior to completion of Year 12, we hope that you are balancing healthy lifestyle habits while maintaining the workload in your courses. This includes establishing a routine that allows you to balance the study and revision that you do, along with the assessments you are yet to submit.

We understand that some of you may have already received early offers into University courses based on your Year 11 results. While these offers may provide you with a sense of security about what you will be doing next year, we urge you to fully commit to your studies and to your examinations in order to achieve the very best result possible for your Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA). The WASSA is your permanent record of your senior secondary academic achievements. You will carry it with you for future applications and endeavours.

Completing your ATAR course work to the best of your ability, including full engagement in examinations is of the utmost importance. Year 12 ATAR course expectations, along with completion of the examination process, will provide you with the best preparation and grounding for the rigours of further study. Learning to manage your diary, to complete assignments and submit them when they are due, allocating time for study and revision, and learning to prepare for examinations are all skills you will need to successfully engage with university study if that is your preferred pathway. They will also stand you in good stead for further education, training and employment.

Universities in Western Australia require the achievement of the WACE as a pre-requisite for the purpose of direct entry. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority has published the *2021 Year 12 Information Handbook* on its website. The *Handbook* explains that if you are enrolled in a Year 12 ATAR course you must sit the ATAR course examination in that course. If you do not sit the ATAR course examination and do not have an approved *Sickness/Misadventure application*, you will not have a course mark or grade recorded on your WASSA for that course. This may result in you not achieving your WACE.

You will probably be familiar with, and have logged into the student portal by now. When you log in, you will be prompted to provide a mobile number. Should we need to contact you urgently via SMS during the examination period, we will contact you on this mobile number. A test message will be sent out prior to the examination period commencing. In addition, we have established an ATAR Examinations COVID-19 advice line – 9273 6708 which will be available from 22 September 2021.

We know that your teachers and families will be supporting you over the coming few months as you complete your final assessments and prepare for your examinations. If you are unsure about anything or need any extra support, speak with your teachers and the student services staff at your school, they want you to do well.

Best wishes for your future endeavours, we wish you every success.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Garnett', written in a cursive style.

PATRICK GARNETT
CHAIR, SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY

26 August 2021