



Wednesday 25 March 2020

## ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies

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### A message from the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies for students and parents/carers

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#### **The ACT Senior Secondary Certificate to be awarded in 2020**

The Board is committed to the support of all students and their schools as they work towards the completion of the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate. This is a very complex, challenging and worrying time for all students, their families and school communities. The Board wants you succeed. We want you to know that we are committed to your education and well-being.

There is no intention to arbitrarily extend the period of study for all year 12 students into 2021. Learning and assessment will continue although your schools may adapt the modes of learning and assessment due to the new circumstances.

ACT schools are expert in the application of academic and health and well-being supports that are responsive to student experiences of illness or misadventure. The ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies policies and procedures are designed to enable schools to be open and adaptable to the needs of their students. The policies and procedures of the Board as implemented by schools are designed to provide support and equity.

The Board is in regular contact with each school sector, the ACT Government, all other state curriculum authorities, and most importantly schools where explicit advice and guidance is being provided. We are committed to providing ongoing, timely and targeted guidance to all schools for the benefit of all students as they face the challenges of 2020. The Board will provide advice to Principals and schools to support flexibility in the delivery of assessment. Schools will then be in a position to consult with students and inform them of any changes in a timely and supportive way.

The ACT Senior Secondary Certificate will be awarded to all year 12 students who meet requirements in 2020.

Tertiary Entrance Statements will be awarded to eligible students in 2020. The ATAR for ACT students is determined in conjunction with the University Admissions Centre and NSW. If standard processes take place, the Tertiary Entrance Statement will include an ATAR. An intensive research and review process is currently underway to develop contingencies that if required will ensure there will be no disadvantage to ACT students relative to students in other states.

We have a senior secondary system that is second to none. It will meet the challenges before it on behalf of all students and the wider Canberra community. I encourage all students to remain committed and engaged with all learning opportunities and their assessments. Our students will have the right of passage from school to their lives beyond the years of school education.

Roberta McRae, OAM  
Chair  
ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies