

NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

Term 1, February 2025



Mr Anson MAK JP

A Message from National Managing Director

Welcome to our first issue of the North Shore Coaching College newsletter for 2025. I hope you had a restful Christmas and January, ahead of what is expected to be a busy school year ahead for both parents and students! To those who celebrate the Lunar New Year, I would like to wish you a happy and healthy year of great learning, peace, prosperity, growth and positive change.

The start of the year is a great time to set new goals and to ensure we maintain a good balance of different activities to ensure a healthy mind and body.

NAPLAN is fast approaching for Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students from 12 – 24 March for this year. We are building essential skills during our term programs. Parents wanting additional exam style practice and confidence boosting for their child should enquire about our NAPLAN Exam Preparation Program at your Campus. Our program ensures students familiarise with the adaptive testing exam format. Each student will receive a tailored test report and be able to review incorrectly answered questions. The [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#) also provides parents with access to some sample questions to ensure familiarisation with the expected test format.

A friendly reminder that applications for OC Placement Test and Selective School Placement Test will close on 21 February 2025 for entry in 2026, with testing to occur from 2 - 4 May 2025. Feel free to read our [Comprehensive Guide to Selective High Schools](#) or [Comprehensive Guide to Opportunity Class \(OC\) Schools](#) for more information. Scholarship exam season is kicking off with ACER exams occurring on 22 February for this year and other exams around this date. If there are any other questions that you may have, for example in relation to school selection or school choice, feel free to speak to us for more information.

Year 5 and 6 students can consider enrolling into our newly developed Writing for Selective School Exam course which is only one hour each week and aims to develop writing skills and competencies, effective planning, writing and editing skills; writing within a time limit under online exam conditions; developing skills and competencies in responding to previously unseen stimulus questions; and reinforcing knowledge of various text types that appear in writing exams. We also have other writing courses for students wanting to boost their writing skills, which is an important life skill to develop early on. Speak to our Campus customer care consultants for more information.

We always welcome any feedback where there is an opportunity to improve and/or celebrate your great experience with us. We appreciate your reviews on Google and/or any social media!

Wishing you all a great year ahead for 2025!

Follow the 5!

MR TONY HANLON
NSW Principal

It has been an exciting start to the 2025 school year. It's wonderful to see our returning students as well as so many new faces. Our growth is gratifying because it is driven, to a large part, by our existing families, through word of mouth. We thank you for your support and we do not take it for granted.



We have an exciting year ahead and we will be rolling out a number of initiatives and improvements across all aspects of our operations.

One of the new and practical developments this term is the reimagining of our classroom rules. In reimagining the rules, we undertook quite a journey of reflection.

First Consideration:

The College holds a clear and steadfast belief in the **right to learn in a safe environment**. The **primacy of teaching** and the right of the learner **to excel** are central tenets of our approach.

Second Consideration:

After more than 30 years in the provision of quality education we are convinced that two elements are essential for a student to realise their potential:

- a. Clear expectations of both student and teacher
- b. A classroom environment in which learning is not a possibility but an **expectation**

It is true to say that effective classroom rules are at the heart of realising student potential. Having taken the above into consideration, we have crafted our new classroom rules.

Classroom Rules - Follow the 5

1. Your teacher has the **right** to teach.
2. You have the **right** to learn.
3. Your classmates have the **right** to learn.
4. You must **respect** other people's property.
5. You must **not bully**.

These rules now appear in every classroom above the whiteboards, in clear sight lines of every student and teacher.

More than Rules - A Philosophy:

We live in a very cynical age. We have developed a 'here we go again' approach to that which is new. This is often accompanied by an eye roll.

Our cynicism is due to an endless parade of organisations and official departments that make headline announcements of what amazing new initiatives they are rolling out. There are advertising campaigns and 'feel good' messages that, in a matter of weeks or months, can often amount to **nothing - all glitz but no substance.**

This is not the case with our new classroom rules. They are more than just words on paper stuck to the wall of a classroom - they are indeed **organic**, requiring students and teachers alike to ensure the rules become embedded in the very experience of the lesson.



Throughout the history of western education, phrases such as 'stop talking', 'pay attention' and 'don't do that' could be heard echoing down school corridors. True, inappropriate behaviour interrupts the learning process, but such phrases only **indicate the behaviour** without **explaining the impact on others.**

Looking at this idea more closely:

Classroom Scenario One:



Teacher: "Jason, stop talking and do your work."

Jason in all likelihood stops talking for now but then resumes once the teacher's head is turned. Inappropriate behaviour momentarily stopped but will recur many times in the future if this approach to classroom management remains unchanged.

Classroom Scenario Two:

Teacher: "Jason, when you talk at the wrong time, you interrupt my right to teach, your right to learn and the right of your classmates to learn. That is why now is a listening, not a talking time."

Jason has now been made aware of the impact his behaviour is having on others. There is now a context provided to make him aware of his responsibility to his teacher, himself and his classmates.

There is a significantly reduced likelihood in the inappropriate behaviour recurring with the same frequency.

Student Empowerment through Rules:



The key takeaways are the **primacy of teaching**, the **right to engage in the learning process** and the concept of **respect.**

Equally important is empowering students to take responsibility for their own engagement in the learning process. With the right to learn comes the responsibility for the learner to exercise self-discipline; to keep themselves on track and not be distracted.



If they are being disturbed by a classmate,

they are encouraged to call out that person's behaviour by referring them to the classroom rules. Our K to 6 students are being taught to say 'Follow the 5' to direct the other student's attention to the fact they are breaking a class rule. This way all participants in the classroom environment have a responsibility to ensure the classroom is a place of learning.



It should be noted that the teacher will continue to be responsible for a well run and disciplined learning environment, but our students are no longer mute or passive participants in this process. They have a right to learn and are being shown **how to let others know** they have the right to learn. Should a classmate disturb them by, let's say, talking to them while they are working, they will respond with "**Follow the 5**".

It is a quick and efficient way of saying follow the rules, I'm trying to do my work.

Of course, the teacher will intervene should the talking continue.

So, new classroom rules with a new approach to empowerment of the learners. By '**following the 5**' we will build on an already successful and enjoyable classroom experience for our students.

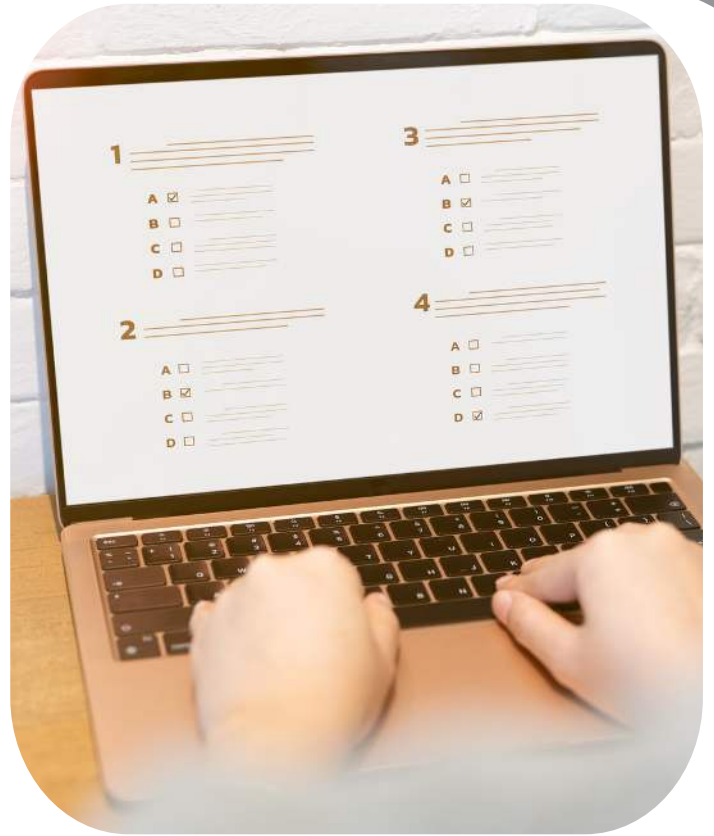
Have a wonderful day.



WRITING FOR SELECTIVE SCHOOL EXAMS

Are you ready to excel in the Writing for Selective High School Placement Test? Strong writing skills are the key to standing out – and we are here to help!

Enrol in this Program



Master Exam Techniques

Learn how to plan, structure, and write high-scoring essays and creative responses.



Develop Critical Thinking

Sharpen analytical and problem-solving skills to craft compelling arguments.



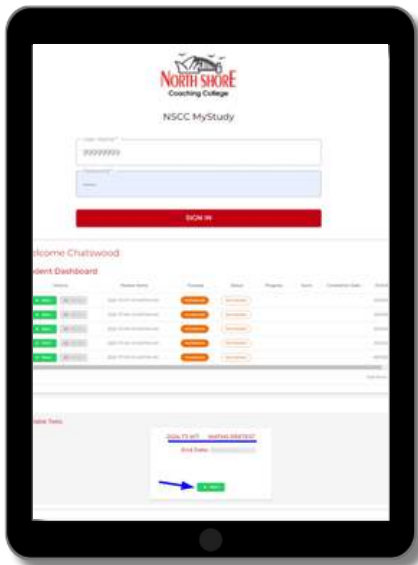
Time Management Strategies

Practice timed writing tasks to improve speed and accuracy under pressure.

By studying this program, you will get the skills and strategies needed to write with confidence, clarity, and creativity under exam conditions

north-shore.com.au

Enhance your child's learning with North Shore Coaching College's Digital Learning Platforms!



My Study

MyStudy, North Shore Coaching College's new digital Learning Platform, is currently available to year 3 and 4 students.

Benefits of North Shore Coaching College's MyStudy Learning Platform:

- 📄 Complete computer-based homework tasks
- 🔍 Identify areas needing extra focus with educator support
- 🔄 Review and attempt questions at your own pace online
- 💪 Build confidence for digital assessments
- 📊 Improve student learning & reporting



NORTH SHORE COACHING COLLEGE CHARITY FOUNDATION

North Shore Coaching College Charity Foundation in Memory of Mrs Demi Mak was founded in 2020 to continue Mrs Mak's philanthropic legacy, generous heart and desire to make a difference in the education space.

Our Charity Foundation recently supported the following 2 organisations:

- Breast Cancer Network Australia (BCNA) – Supporting Metastatic Breast Cancer Advocacy in Australia and global leadership of the ABC Global Alliance. Metastatic (or advanced) breast cancer is breast cancer that has spread beyond the breast to other organs. It is treatable but not curable. BCNA is progressing advocacy priorities pertaining to metastatic breast cancer, aligned with a focus on living well with breast cancer, including a strong Metastatic Breast Cancer Lived Experience Reference Group that supports their work.
- Canrevive - a not for profit organisation supporting the work of the Canrevive Cancer Support Service. This organisation believes that no one should face cancer alone and provides direct relief of stress and sufferings of cancer patients and their carers by offering emotional support and information services. Our Chatswood Head office also serves as the Northern Sydney Centre for cancer patients and carers to build up friendship, share feelings and develop coping skills through mutual support and survival experiences via a series of group sessions.





CORE PROGRAM

- **Build Strong Academic Foundations**

Our Core Programs are the building blocks of academic excellence. Skilfully designed for students from Pre-School to Year 12, they focus on developing strong foundations in English, Mathematics, Thinking Skills and General Ability. These programs allow students to stay ahead in school by developing and reinforcing key concepts, improving problem-solving skills, and fostering critical thinking.

- **Key Features**

At North Shore we don't just teach—we inspire a love for learning.

We nurture students to build confidence, independence, and lifelong study habits.

- **Why Parents Love it:**

Why Parents Love It:

"My child not only improved academically but also became more confident and motivated to learn. The results speak for themselves!"

BOOST PROGRAM

Is your child struggling to keep up with schoolwork or falling behind in key subjects? Are they looking to strengthen a specific skill such as writing? The Booster Program is designed to provide targeted support and accelerated learning for students who need to catch up, reinforce concepts, or boost their academic performance.



EXAM PREPARATION PROGRAMS

- **Maximise Exam Success with Proven Strategies**

Our Exam Preparation Programs are crafted by expert educators with a deep understanding of exam structures, question patterns, and marking criteria.

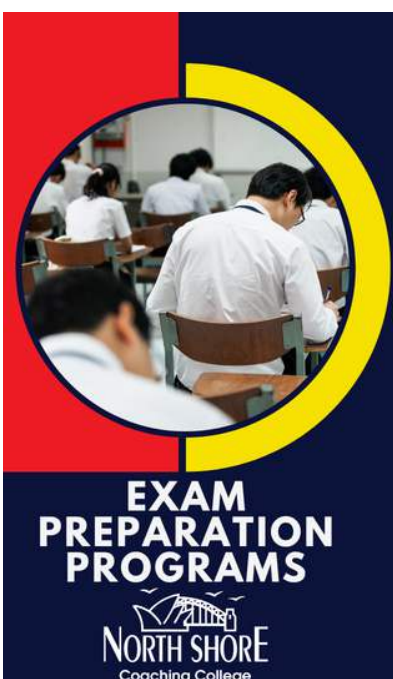
We equip students with advanced problem-solving techniques, exam strategies, and time management skills to empower them to achieve top results. With regular mock exams, feedback sessions, and targeted practice, students develop the confidence and skills needed to excel under exam conditions.

- **Why Parents Love it:**

"My child's Selective School score improved dramatically after joining this program. The exam techniques taught made all the difference!"

- **Perfect For:**

Students preparing for high stakes entrance exams such as OC Placement Test, Selective High School Placement Test, NAPLAN, Private School Scholarship Exams, Ignite Program, SEAL, Queensland Academies Entrance Test, GATE, and Victorian Selective Entry High Schools Examination.



THANK YOU FOR READING!



As part of the North Shore family, you'll receive exclusive academic insights, expert study tips, special offers, and the latest updates on our programs. Whether your child is preparing for Selective School, OC, HSC, NAPLAN, or simply looking to excel in their studies, we're here to support their journey every step of the way.

Stay tuned for valuable resources designed to boost confidence, enhance learning, and unlock academic success! We can't wait to help your child achieve their best!