

NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

Term 2, June 2025



Mr Anson MAK JP

A Message from National Managing Director

It has definitely been a cold couple of weeks as we near the end of Term 2 2025. We hope that you and your family are staying happy and healthy through this time.

The increasing availability and use of AI in education continues to be a prevalent topic affecting not only adults but students alike. During the last few years, the way we work, learn, teach and report in the classroom has gradually changed, and it will continue to change, as the role of technology and AI becomes more prevalent in our day to day lives. At North Shore Coaching College, we are very mindful of improving our programs and the way we impart knowledge to ensure our students are resilient, flexible, and future ready, in a society where problem solving, critical thinking skills and higher order thinking and reasoning skills will become more important.

Al also brings a lot of risk for our future generations. There is a danger of relying on shortcuts for everything and not understanding how things are derived from first principles. So it is important to ensure our students continue to be curious about things and about the world around them, encouraging them to ask what, where, why and how something comes about rather than just chasing for the answer. Understand mental arithmetic and the steps of problem solving, rather than just giving an answer. Understand how to write an essay and its structure, rather than automatically asking Al to generate an answer for you. At North Shore Coaching College, we have a zero tolerance approach to Al-generated homework assignments.

Also importantly, continue to harness meaningful human relationships and in person interactions. Individuals with all roundedness and strong soft skills will no doubt have an edge in a future society where AI will take increasing prevalence.

Our Winter holiday programs and Term 3 program timetables are now available online. Enrol early for attractive discounts and to secure your spot. We look forward to seeing you back for our programs.

Our own SWAT Mock Exam, designed for current Years 3, 4 and 5 students will be on Saturday 5 July 2025. SWAT isn't just about preparing for official exams—it's about measuring progress, identifying next steps, and reinforcing skills. If your child intends to sit the OC or Selective Placement Exam in 2026, SWAT offers a real exam experience and detailed feedback to help them move forward confidently. It identifies gaps in skills and knowledge that matter most. Sit the computer-based exam at one of our participating campuses or at home. Visit www.swatexam.com.au for more information.

Middle of the year is also the time when universities start to run their **open days**. For our Year 9 -12 students especially, if you have not done so before, I would highly recommend that you visit a university and participate in their open day to learn about available courses, which will guide your subject selections and university course choices.

Thank you to all our parents, students, teachers and staff for your ongoing support of North Shore Coaching College!

Al - Friend or Foe?

MR TONY HANLON NSW Principal

"May you live in interesting times" is an English expression that is claimed to be a translation of a traditional Chinese curse. In this expression, the word, "interesting" actually means "troubling".

Despite being so common in English as to be known as the "Chinese curse", the saying is of doubtful authenticity as no actual Chinese source has ever been produced. The most likely connection to Chinese culture may be deduced from analysis of the late-19th-century speeches of Joseph Chamberlain – the father of the British prime minister Neville Chamberlain.

We are certainly living in "interesting" times.

There are many tensions rising in the world – threats to free trade, geo-political tensions with the superpowers and the list goes on. Adding to the concerns of everyday Australians is the growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) – how it will affect our jobs, our lifestyle and our children.

The continuous march of technology affects all our lives, and it can seem almost impossible to keep up with the advances being made. No one is immune to this rapid pace of change - not even our children. We have to keep up with the progress or be left behind.

Possibly the most "challenging" of all technological changes is in the field of artificial intelligence.

For all the benefits that AI may bring us, there are some notable concerns. As I have previously mentioned it will affect the most significant aspects of our lives. For educators the most unsettling concern is ensuring student work is original and not 'machine-generated'.

At North Shore Coaching College, we are increasingly aware that students are using AI to generate their school homework and assignments. Whilst AI will provide quick answers, it will not ensure the student is actually learning - that they are developing skills and knowledge. When they are faced with an exam, especially an important one to gain admission to a selective school or secure a scholarship, students will be at a disadvantage if they have not actually learnt the important concepts and skills.

Zero Tolerance:

For that reason, North Shore Coaching College has a zero-tolerance approach to Al-generated homework assignments. We see this as no different to getting someone else to do your homework or copying slabs of information from Google or a website.



True learning requires effort. It requires a commitment to acquiring skills and knowledge. It requires growth and development. It gives us the ability to better understand our world and operate more efficiently within it.

Al generated homework provides none of these.

It can be said that the reliance on AI actually disadvantages students - ultimately robbing them of skills and knowledge that will allow them access to the better high schools and universities.

Our Al Policy:

Please understand that if we believe a student's work has been generated in part or wholly by AI, we may request a resubmission of work or mark the homework as "incomplete".

We know you will appreciate our policy is in the **best interests** of YOUR child. That your child's original, personal homework efforts are acknowledged and valued. That they are not disadvantaged by other students using Al, or to put it bluntly, 'Al cheating'. That your children have a *brighter academic future* through *genuine application* to their studies.

It can be said that there are some interesting examples of teachers using AI in a reverse engineering mode in a number of schools across Sydney. For example, students presented with an essay written by AI and then the students must decide what instruction the bot was given to produce such an essay. This type of activity certainly has its place in education but it is limited – it is not a replacement for actual teaching and learning.

For over 30 years, parents and students have put their trust in North Shore Coaching College to do what is right in the interest of a superior education for our students. We will continue to act in their best interests and support our families to the full extent of our abilities.

Thank you for the trust you place in North Shore Coaching College. Partnering your child on their learning journey is a privilege.

Have a wonderful week knowing we will survive and indeed, thrive, during these "interesting" times.



Tony Hanlon Principal - NSW Operations

NORTH SHORE HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Where Holidays Meet Possibility



At North Shore Coaching College, our face-to-face Holiday Program is designed to keep young minds inspired — with one engaging lesson per day across the school holidays.

Whether it's revising key concepts, getting ahead, or simply staying **inspired** — each lesson is designed to **make the most of the break**.

✓ One lesson per day

- ✓ Small group, face-to-face learning
- ✓ Tailored by year level and subject ✓ Runs during public school holidays

Let's make the most of the break — together.

Tenrol now at your local campus **Q** 02 9415 1860

north-shore.com.au



CORE PROGRAMS

Build Strong Academic Foundations

Our Core Programs lay the foundation for academic excellence, helping Pre-School to Year 12 students master English, Mathematics, Thinking Skills, and Science. Through structured learning, they build key concepts, sharpen problem-solving, and develop critical thinking to stay ahead.

Key Features

- Comprehensive Learning Strengthens core subjects to ensure a solid academic foundation.
- Confidence & Independence Encourages self-motivation and a love for learning.
- ✓ Lifelong Study Habits Equips students with skills for continued success.

At North Shore, we don't just teach—we inspire. Join us in building a brighter future for your child!

BOOSTER PROGRAMS

• Targeted Support for Academic Success

Is your child struggling with schoolwork or needing extra help in key subjects? Our Booster Programs offer targeted support to help students catch up, reinforce concepts, and strengthen specific skills like writing. Designed for accelerated learning, it ensures students gain confidence and improve their academic performance.







EXAM PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Maximise Exam Success

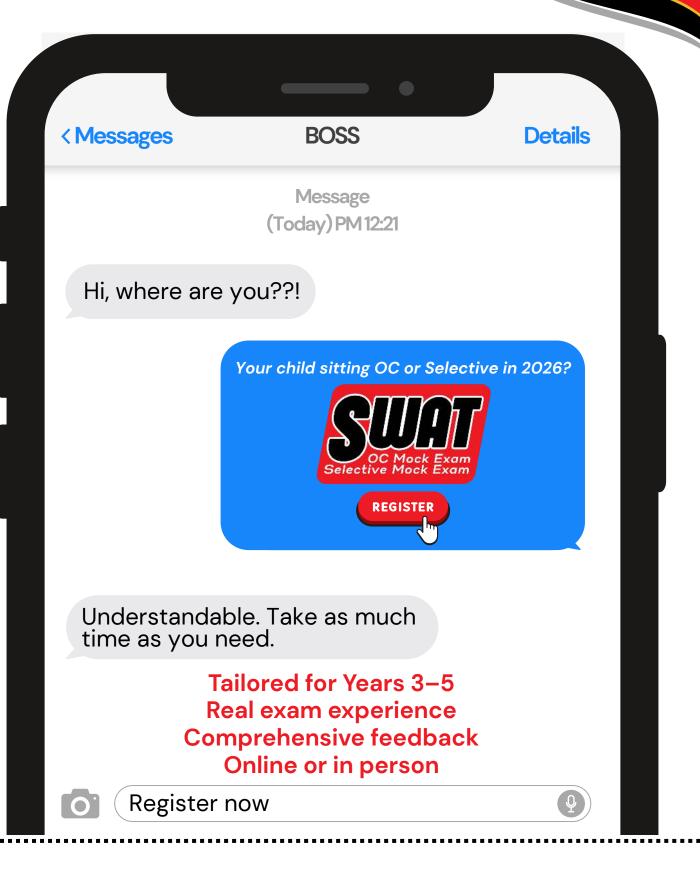
Our Exam Preparation Programs are designed by expert educators to help students master exam structures, question patterns, and marking criteria.

Students gain advanced problem-solving techniques, exam strategies, and time management skills, ensuring they perform at their best. With mock exams, feedback sessions, and targeted practice, they build confidence and excel under pressure.

Perfect For:

Students sitting high-stakes exams, including:

- OC Placement Test
- ▼ Selective High School Placement Test
- ✓ NAPLAN
- ✓ Private School Scholarship Exams



swatexam.com.au Q

SWAT Mock Exam — 5 July Register by 28 June

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, Year 4 and Year 5 students.

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

- Complete computer-based homework tasks
- Q 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

Founded in 2020 in memory of Mrs Demi Mak, the North Shore Coaching College Charity Foundation continues her legacy of philanthropy, generosity, and commitment to education.

As part of our mission, the Foundation supports Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) organisations and projects that align with North Shore Coaching College's broader values—advancing educational opportunities and contributing to cancer research and support services.

This financial year, we're proud to support a range of impactful organisations and initiatives, including Jesuit Mission, Caritas Australia, Breast Cancer Network Australia, and CanRevive. Our contributions extended to programs that make a real difference in the lives of children and families, such as:

- St Edmund's School for the Blind & Visually Impaired
- Art Gallery of NSW Starting with Art Program
- Save the Children Hands on Learning Program
- Ardoch Limited Broadening Horizons Project
- Breast Cancer Trials
- The Run Beyond Project Limited
- The Kids' Cancer Project FutureCure Project (Brain Cancer)

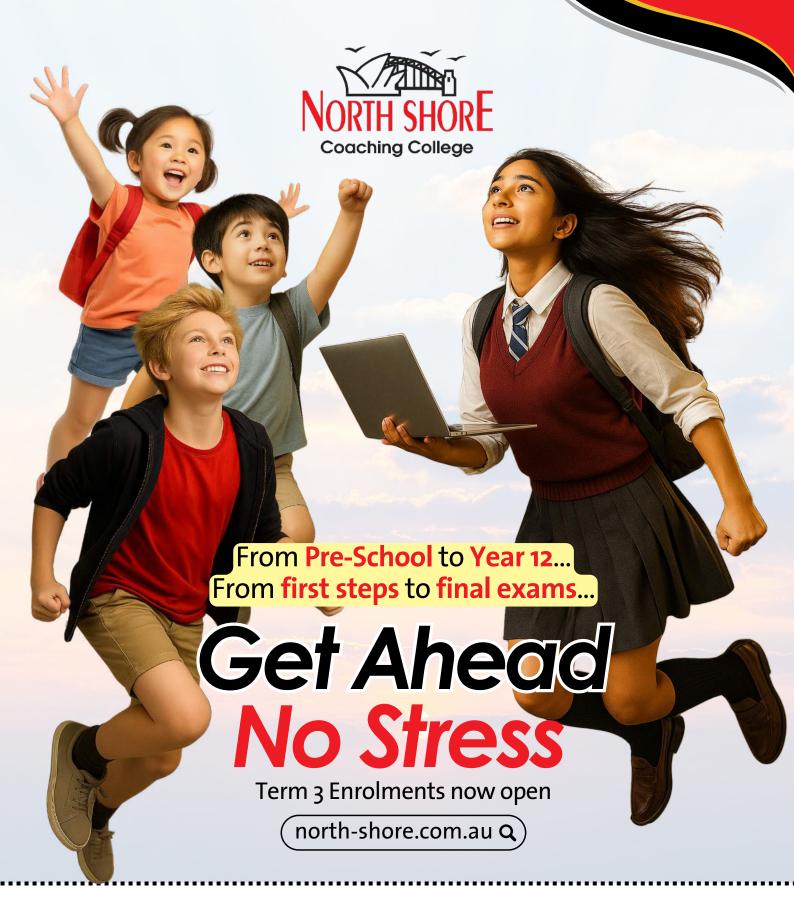
BREAST CANCER TRIALS

THE PROJECT

THE PROJECT

Through this support, we aim to uplift those facing adversity and ensure that access to education and vital health services continues to grow.

At North Shore Coaching College, we believe education is a lifelong gift. Your continued support allows us to contribute meaningfully to organisations that share our vision and values.



Stay Connected



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North Shore Coaching College



@north.shore.coaching