

TASSO NEWS



KEY DATES

Term 1

Schools 9 February – 13 April

Colleges 9 February – 14 April

Break 15 April – 1 May

Term 2

Schools 2 May – 8 July

Colleges 2 May – 8 July

Break 9 July – 24 July

Term 3

Schools 26 July – 30 September

Colleges 25 July – 30 September

Break 1 October – 16 October

Term 4

Schools 17 October – 21 December

Colleges 17 October – Written exams commence 8 November

“TASSO is the recognised peak state body and a not-for-profit community organisation representing Tasmanian state schools and colleges. We also provide guidance and support to parents, students, communities and School Associations.”



President's Address

Hello and welcome to a new year of school. A year that is unfamiliar territory, a year that we will need to be adaptable, co-operate and work together to see our students receive the education they deserve.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge and thank the team at DOE, that have been committed and working tirelessly behind the scenes during the school break. Trying to work on and deliver plans in keeping our children safe whilst still being able to learn through education.

Also, my fellow board members and staff at TASSO, for the dedication and time committed to trying to seek information, clarity and make suggestions to ensure that our school families and staff who we represent remain safe.

Recently our Minister of education, Sarah Courtney resigned from her position. We would like to thank Sarah and wish her all the best in her future endeavours and respect her for the decision she has made.

Looking forward, most schools should be holding their AGM's soon (sorry to bring that up). Hopefully, discussions and planning have taken place but if not, Chairperson's please have a conversation with your principal soon. If you have any concerns regarding AGM's please contact our office and we can offer support and advice.

I can say to anyone who is considering nominating for a school association position, go for it. It is rewarding to sit back and see the achievements and benefits that school associations bring to a school, knowing you were a part of it.

School associations will need to be adaptable going forward also. To remain safe, you might like to think about moving a meeting outside or providing an online option. If not an adequate space at your school to hold meetings, potentially look at off-site venues, such as a hall, sports club, neighbourhood house, park or tavern.

In terms of fundraising, possibly investigate options that have low interaction and not requiring people on site. If wanting to hold a larger event, hold off until later in the year but understand that it could be cancelled due to the uncertain times. We would love to hear and share any changes that your school association has made or fundraising ideas, that may also benefit others.

Keep positive,

Natham Reynolds.



LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS

How do you go answering those??

true.org.au has a wonderful resource for parents to help you answer tricky questions kids are so good at asking. There are paid online classes for teachers/parents, but also heaps of free resources - check it out

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GET ORGANISED

Don't pay too much. Families with a Health Care Card should be eligible.



[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3UBEZJF](https://bit.ly/3UBEZJF)



A new code of conduct has been published for the year 2022. It contains the requirements for all students to follow when travelling to and from school. It is important for all students to agree to this and act accordingly.

[Read here](#)

President

Applications Open for Youth Advisory Council

For the first time, eSafety is looking for 20 young Australians to join a new Youth Advisory Council - an opportunity to represent young people and create a safer online world for our future.

Last year on December 15, the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, announced that Australia would establish an Online Safety Youth Advisory Council. The Council will comprise up to 20 young Australians, aged 13 to 24. It will give young people a direct voice to government on the challenges and solutions to online safety issues that impact them.

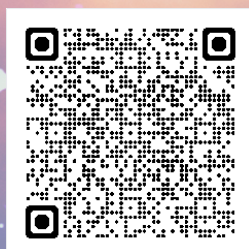
Not only will young people get a direct voice to government, they will also help design programs and content so people their age can stay safe and happy when they're online.

eSafety is thrilled to start this journey which will allow us to genuinely engage with and hear the voices of young people. For more information about the Council and registration process visit esafety.gov.au.

Thanks again for your support, and we hope you can share this exciting opportunity with your children, family and friends.

The eSafety Commissioner

[More Info](#)



[Apply](#)

Achieving Asthma Goals at School

Atback to schooltime, there's an unusual spike in asthma symptoms and hospitalisations in school aged kids. With Omicron and vaccine rollouts being a major focus, it's important to keep kids safe when it comes to their asthma by having an up-to-date written Asthma Action Plan, School Care Plan, spacer and reliever puffer ready for school.

We believe in giving kids the tools to shield themselves and overcome their asthma villains to become the Lung Legend we know they can be. We are excited to share our new ASTHMA ADVENTURE GAME . This game lets kids set their very own asthma goal for school and work towards achieving it, whilst having fun along the way!



HAS YOUR CHILD SET THEIR ASTHMA GOAL FOR SCHOOL?

Download, print and play!

[PLAY HERE](#)



"My asthma goal is to win cross country without having an asthma attack."

Maddy, 10



"OF ALL THE PEOPLE WE SURVEYED THAT WERE LOOKING FOR COVID INFORMATION ONLINE, ONLY 62% FOUND ANSWERS.

27.5% SPECIFICALLY ASKED FOR MORE INFORMATION."

Commonwealth Bank
Teaching Awards

**Nurturing young minds
for a bright future.**



Schools Plus 



2022 Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards – Applications Open 7 February 2022

Let's celebrate the teachers who help students thrive.

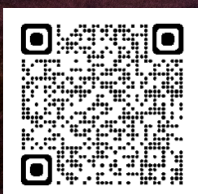
Schools Plus is seeking nominations and applications for the Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards.

Each year, twelve outstanding teachers or school leaders are chosen for a prestigious Teaching Fellowship valued at \$45,000 including funds for professional development, a strategic school project and a unique 12-month professional learning program.

For the 2022 Teaching Awards, there will also be a new category for teachers in their first 5 years in the profession. Up to 10 Early Career Teachers will receive \$10,000 for professional development and an exclusive leadership and mentoring program.

From experienced educators to new teachers making a real difference in the lives of our children, we want to hear their stories.

Nominate or apply by 27 March 2022. Visit www.teachingawards.com.au



WHAT WE LEARNED

recent surveys

TASSO have hit the ground running in 2022 and we haven't done it on our own. We have to thank all of you in community, all **738** of you, who have contributed to, what may seem like 'another TASSO survey.'

There is of course reason behind it all and with a large proportion of the community concerned about the start of the new school year we thought it would help to get your perspective.

It all starts with how many of you feel safe about sending your kids to school and its tight.

54% of people uneasy about the return.
55% of all children returning to school will be vaccinated **21%** will not. The rest are made up of 'some are, some aren't' families and 'rather not say'

Something the TASSO crew noticed considerably was just how many people were having difficulty finding credible information online. Of the **738** people surveyed only **62%** found the answers

to their questions. Of the **62%** that found answers, just **44%** found them directly from a government source. Unfortunately as many as **34%** got their information from social media.

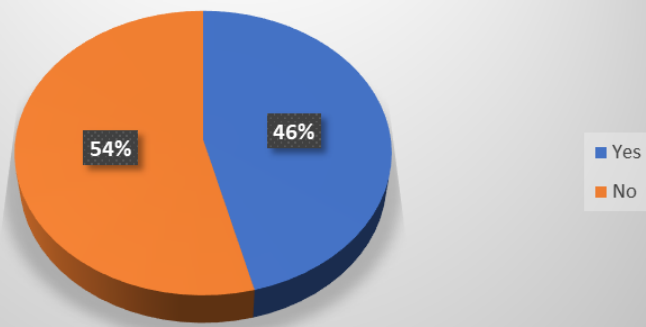
Whilst there is a chance some of it may be correct, would you back you and your family's health on it?

No matter how you look at it, by those figures alone, you'd have to say the government or other professional sources have to consider how they get the information out there - **97.5%** of you agree.

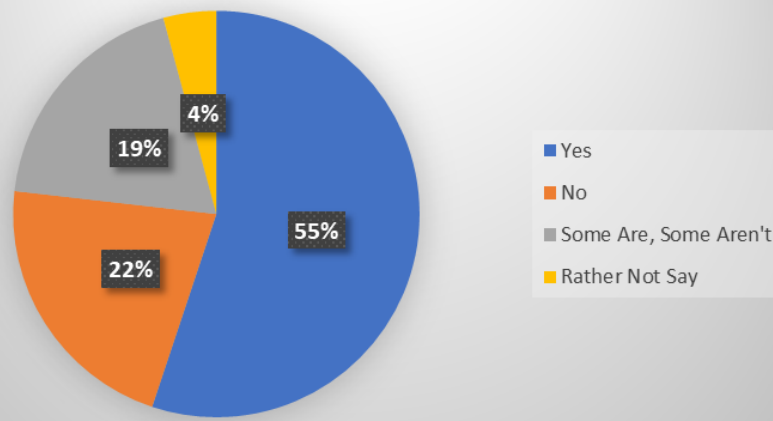
Whilst numbers are great, some of the most meaningful information gathered came in the open comment sections of the survey.

248 of you spoke up with your own cares and concerns and opened our minds. Parents made up **80%** of the comments and staff (some of whom are also parents) made **25%**.

Do you feel safe sending you kids to school on Feb the 9th



Are your children vaccinated?



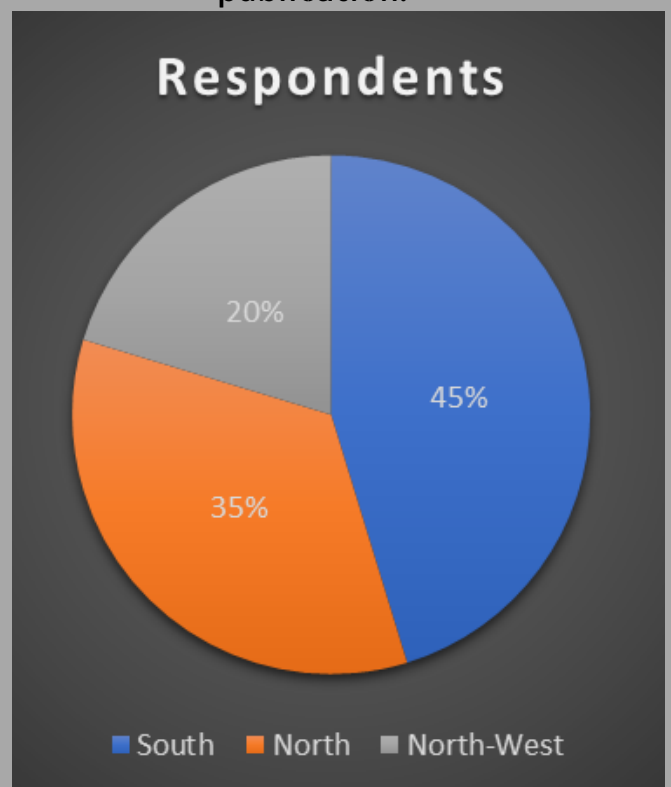
With the prospect of needing to isolate at home reasonably high, it's likely that your children will have to do their schooling online at some point. This is backed up by the following stat - **74% of you would like full feature online learning as an option anytime.** At this time online learning will only be available when isolating and for a maximum duration of two weeks.

When it comes to where you access and where you would like to access your COVID related school news its a broad spectrum with our busy lives and the sheer number of media sources doesn't help - at the end of the day, the overwhelming majority **78%** want to get it from the school.

This is probably due to the frustrating inconsistency in information and rules from school to school, even between primary and high schools sharing the same name.

One of the rules that I'm referring to was whether or not parents/community members/volunteers etc. should be allowed on site or to accompany students on excursions. The numbers here shocked us a little - a whopping **86%** of respondents were ok with this.

It's important to recognise just how much the COVID landscape has changed even since the publication of this survey. Figures were accurate at the time the time of publication.



Dept of Education

COVID FAQ

We hope some of you have navigated your way through the Education Department's website to the COVID FAQ document. They have spent some time now addressing questions fielded both directly to them and those that you've asked us and compiled the answers.

While the document is pretty comprehensive already, it is being added to constantly and existing answers are being changed all the time ,so please make sure you check back regularly.



FAQs Document (PDF, 1.5mb)

Latest information about COVID-19



SCOTTSDALE CELEBRATIONS PUT ON HOLD

Due to COVIDS' effect on the area it has been recommended by the School Association Committee organising the event, that the celebration be held off

Looks like it may be November...



VISION

FOR VOCATIONAL LEARNING AND VET* IN TASMANIAN SCHOOLS TO 2030

* Vocational Education and Training (VET)

By 2030, all learners in Years 9 to 12 will have access to high quality personalised, customised and localised vocational learning and VET opportunities to support their career and life aspirations.

WHAT WE'VE HEARD AND WHERE WE'RE HEADED

Customisation

- > School and system design to reflect the new work reality
- > Focused **workforce development** for teachers and trainers
- > **Future oriented** VET programs in priority industries
- > Greater recognition of **General Capabilities** in Vocational Learning
- > **Pathway maps** for each industry sector, from Year 9 to PhD

Localisation

- > Support for **work-based learning** to build skills and attitudes and assist transition to employment
- > Support for **localised solutions** to build on regional strengths
- > Sharing of **good practice** for quality VET delivery
- > Strengthened approach to **school-based apprenticeships**
- > **Education to Employment** working groups in regional areas

Personalisation

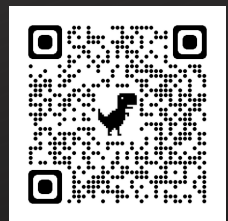
- > Embedded and effective **careers education**
- > A dedicated **careers portal** to support student choice
- > **Strengthened industry liaison** to link young people with opportunities
- > Clearer pathways between **VET and university** and beyond





- Nominations are now open for the Tasmanian Volunteering Awards 2022. With 297,000 Tasmanians volunteering every year, everyone knows someone making a difference. Whom will you nominate? #NVW2022 #TasVolunteerAwards #VolunteeringTasmania
- The Tasmanian Volunteering Awards 2022 are now open for nominations! After another challenging year for many people, there is no better time to thank, recognise, and acknowledge the incredible efforts of volunteers. Their contributions keep Tasmanian communities supported and connected. #NVW2022 #TasVolunteerAwards #VolunteeringTasmania
- Whom will you nominate in this year's #TasVolunteerAwards? Winners will be announced during National Volunteer Week at a special event. #NVW2022 #VolunteeringTasmania
- There are ten award categories in this year's Tasmanian Volunteering Awards. Do you know someone volunteering their time? Show your appreciation by nominating them today. Nominations close 14 March. #NVW2022 #TasVolunteerAwards #VolunteeringTasmania

<https://www.volunteeringtas.org.au/2022-tasmanian-volunteer-awards/>



ANYTHING TO SHARE?

We're always keen to help schools get their info whether it be an event, sport fundraising...whatever!
email: comms@tasso.org.au

Know Your Entitlements



DISCOUNTS & CONCESSIONS

<https://www.concessions.tas.gov.au/concessions/transport>



TRANSPORT



[Home](#) > [TRANSPORT](#)

Below is the list of concessions available in the transport category. To view each concession, click on its name. To expand or collapse the information for every concession use the buttons below:

[Expand All](#) or [Collapse All](#)

STUDENT TRAVEL

- [Student bus fares - urban areas](#)
- [Student bus fares - non-urban areas](#)
- [Adult student bus fares - urban areas](#)
- [Adult student bus fares - urban fringe and rural areas](#)
- [Student free travel - urban, urban fringe and rural areas](#)
- [Adult student transport concessions - special circumstance](#)
- [Apprentice and trainee travel allowances for off-the-job training](#)
- [Conveyance allowance](#)

