



7th September, 2020

Dear Year 8 Parent or Carer,

VALID SCIENCE 8 TEST

The *Validation of Assessment for Learning & Individual Development* (VALID) test for Year 8 students will be held between **Monday 26th October and Friday 6th November 2020**. The *VALID Science 8* test takes approximately 70 minutes in the format of an interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer.

VALID Science 8 contains multiple choice, short response and extended response tasks that are grouped around real-world issues, including scientific investigations. This is a diagnostic test, with tasks framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the NSW *Science Years K-10 Syllabus*.

Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas

Students will also complete a survey about their opinions, attitudes and values about science.

If your child has a disability that needs special consideration or has been educated in English for less than one year, please contact Ms Worsley to discuss special provisions or possible exemption from the test.

Since students complete *VALID Science 8* on a computer, each student needs to bring **headphones or earbuds** that plug into a school computer. Earbuds for an iPod or portable player are suitable.

Results from the test will be available during Term 1 2021. Information about each student is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that the right to privacy of all students is maintained. A personalised electronic report describing the knowledge and skills demonstrated by your child in the test will be available. There will also be information about how your child's results compare with overall performance of all students in the test.

Ms Worsley, Relieving Head Teacher (Science), will be able to provide you with more details about the VALID program if you require additional information.

Yours sincerely,

B Hugo
Principal

R Worsley
Rel.Head Teacher (Science)

