Dear Westminster Parents and Caregivers

Thank you to those of you who attended the Week 2 information session on School Star, our new School App, and SEQTA, our new Learning Management System. Both School Star and SEQTA represent significant changes in our communication with you about your child's learning, activities and wellbeing, as well as important School and community news.

Over the last eight months, we have carried out an extensive review of our Learning Management System (LMS). This resulted in us introducing SEQTA and we have been busy training our staff to integrate the system into daily School life. SEQTA will allow us to track all of our students' work, communication with their teachers and the ability to provide and receive feedback. Importantly, it allows us to have pastoral care information in the same system as academic information, enabling us to develop our student profiles in a consistent manner in one location.

We will be using SEQTA across the whole School rather than a variety of platforms in the Preparatory School and D2L in the Senior School. Similarly, School Star will look after whole School, Senior and Preparatory communication, including co-curricular that covers teams, groups, committees and cohorts.

Academic and pastoral communications specifically about your child will be handled through SEQTA, which (on a mobile or ipad) can be accessed via School Star. SEQTA includes a direct line to your child's teachers, Heads of House, School support staff and more.

Instructions on how to log on, supported by a video, will be sent via this week's eNews (T1 Edition 2), email and School Star updates. We also intend to share Q&A's, as they arise via the same platforms.

Some schools have not allowed parent access to SEQTA for up to a year following implementation, wanting it to be 'perfect', but we feel this defeats the purpose of providing timely, relevant information and feedback about your child and their progress. Many of you used D2L to monitor your child's learning and we do not want to interrupt the online flow you know and rely on. Consequently, you are sharing the same learning curve as that of staff and students. Week by week, you will see your child's learning journey at Westminster being built in SEQTA.

Within SEQTA, we are implementing a School-wide learning ladder based on a whole School behaviour management policy that will allow our students consistency and clarity around behaviour and expectations.

Westminster School is committed to SEQTA and helping our community fully embrace this new program. We therefore want to clarify some points to guide you through this new process:

- Everyone – students, parents and staff – will learn at different rates and discover how powerful SEQTA is as a student management system; as SEQTA settles in, the learning wrinkles will be smoothed out and gradually all will make sense, we hope!
- Students have been provided with training and will improve rapidly with their daily use but if their feedback at home suggests any uncertainty, please ensure their class teacher/tutor knows.
- When you receive your sign on instructions, your SEQTA sign on is your D2L user name and password – if you are not sure of your password, you can reset your password via tomorrow's instructions. If you are still experiencing difficulties, please email wsseqta@westminster.sa.edu.au
- SEQTA has introduced a SEQTA Engage App for mobile device access. Through School Star, you are linked to the mobile optimised SEQTA website but not their app (this is not possible at this time). If you prefer to use their app, you can download this for direct access to SEQTA via the QR code that you will receive.

Please remember that School Star will contain all of your more general communications from Westminster, which SEQTA will not do. If you haven't already done so (and nearly half of you have!), you can download the School Star App at any time from the Google Play or App Stores – your mobile will be automatically authenticated against our database to give you access. In time, School Star will provide links for eCommerce to include our canteens, uniform shop and bill payments. We are exploring ways with our service providers to bring both School Star and the SEQTA App together for our 'perfect' solution as there is no perfect School app that can do everything we need.

As with all change, we will have challenges. Having been through this process as a parent and a Principal before, these upgrades will ultimately be very worthwhile for all of us, including our students.

Warm regards,

Simon Shepherd
Principal

Westminster is an Early Learning to Year 12 coeducational day and boarding Uniting Church school,

and a member of Round Square, an international association of schools.