

24th July 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

An exciting opportunity has arisen for boys at Scotch to be part of a research project in Mental Health and Substance Use run by the University of Sydney and funded by Movember. This allows us to run the well-established, evidence-based “OurFutures” program for students in Years 9 and 10 during tutor group time, focusing on Alcohol and Cannabis in Year 9 and MDMA and Emerging Drugs in Year 10.

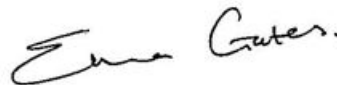
While all students will benefit from the content of the courses, through pre and post surveys, the research project is considering how the program can be expanded further in an effective way. We will seek their feedback regarding the program and also be interested in the way they interact with the materials provided. More details pertaining to the research project are attached. *Also included in this document is an option to opt out of the research component, which should be returned by **Monday 29th July** if you wish to opt out, to your son’s Head of House.*

We have looked through the material, which is full of factual information, conveyed in an engaging way through a storyboard, and believe this is an excellent way for our boys to be informed, which we hope will lead them ultimately to make good decisions around Alcohol and Drugs. Fact sheets linked to the topics will be available in *The Torch* over coming editions.

Yours sincerely,



David J Brown
Dean of Students



Emma Gates
Director of Years 9 and 10