

# Why choose a public high school?

Information for parents and carers



Public high schools prepare young people to lead full and satisfying adult lives, and to handle the challenges of the contemporary world.

## Quality teaching and learning

Schools within the NSW public education system use the NSW Quality Teaching Framework to provide engaging, relevant and challenging teaching and learning. Our teachers are fully trained and tertiary qualified. Our schools also have access to specialist consultants who provide advice and training to teachers on a regular basis to ensure that teaching and learning in the classroom remains of the highest standard.

## Extensive curriculum opportunities

NSW public high schools provide students with a breadth of subjects, opportunities and expertise. Through vocational education and training opportunities, our students not only study a wide range of school subjects, they also have access to a variety of courses, many provided in conjunction with TAFE Institutes. Senior students can also study university-level subjects linked to the HSC. Many schools in rural and remote areas use computer link-ups to provide additional subjects.

## Strong values

Your local public high school will continue the important values education that began in your child's primary school. It is imperative that our students understand the importance of respect, responsibility, integrity, excellence, open-mindedness,

cooperation, participation, care, fairness and democracy. In this way, we can help your child to:

- develop a love of learning
- pursue excellence and high standards
- develop care and respect for themselves and others
- take pride in their work
- exhibit a strong sense of fairness and social justice
- have an appreciation of Australia's history and multicultural society
- actively participate as citizens.

## Excellent support services

One of the core strengths of the public school system is the vast network of people who work to ensure that every

child successfully adapts to their new school environment. The wide range of support services that help students manage their change to high school include:

- student advisers
- careers advisers
- student welfare teams
- qualified school counsellors
- support teachers for students with learning difficulties
- English as a second language teachers
- Aboriginal education assistants
- community information and liaison officers.

## A focus on the middle years (Years 5 to 9)

Helping children in their 'middle years' has been identified as a priority across public education in NSW. Schools have developed highly successful middle years programs to make sure the move for students and parents to high school is as easy and comfortable as possible.

High academic outcomes, quality teaching and learning, extensive curriculum opportunities, strong values, excellent support services and a focus on middle years – six good reasons to enrol your child in a public high school.

## Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact your Principal, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on telephone number 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the Principal and will stay on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

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Public Schools