

Bacchus Marsh Grammar

January 2018

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Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing to inform you of some structural changes to the way the school will operate from 2018. These changes will affect who you speak to about your child's progress or issues of concern. Equally, the structure provides more resources that are focussed on improving student outcomes.

The key component of the change is that the school which is currently based on a traditional division into a Junior and a Senior School will be altered to one based on three sub-schools:

Junior School Prep to Year 4
Middle School Year 5 to Year 8
Senior School Year 9 to Year 12

This division enables the development of coherent curriculum and pastoral care models at distinct phases of students' development and growth. Each sub-school will have its own Head of School and Deputy Head of School. They will report to the newly created positions of Senior Vice Principal – Head of School Operations and Vice Principal Head of Pastoral Care. Those positions will be filled by Mr Kevin Richardson and Mrs Jenny Jovanovic.

As the school commences the establishment of Woodlea there will over the next few years be an enormous amount of work required to commence the school and ensure consistency between it and current operations at Maddingley.

Mrs Liz O'Day will be the Senior Vice Principal in charge of establishing the Woodlea operations over the next few years. Equally, when Woodlea is established the combined enrolment of students will be one of the largest primary cohorts in the State. Mrs O'Day will have a function as the Executive Principal, Primary to oversee policy relating to curriculum, pastoral care and staff development in the primary components of the school. Mrs O'Day will oversee those Woodlea classes which are to operate at Maddingley in 2018. These will be coordinated by Mr Luke Symes with assistance from Maddison Darcy.

Expanded curriculum support, data management and student services areas will report directly to me as will the Vice Principal – Head of School Operations (Mr Richardson) and the Vice Principal – Head of Pastoral Care (Mrs Jovanovic).

The new Heads and Deputy Heads of School will be:

Junior School

Head of School Jan Loftus
Deputy Head of School Nici Deller

Bacchus Marsh Grammar Inc.

An Independent Ecumenical School for Girls and Boys

CRICOS No. 02911M Reg. No. 1919 ABN:24 128 531 07

Middle School

Head of School Dean Pepplinkhouse

Deputy Head of School Ros Pittard

Senior School

Head of School Debra Ogston
Deputy Head of School Erin Thornton

Within each of these areas parents will use Year Level Coordinators as they have in the past. For more important issues or a point of initial escalation, the Heads and Deputy Heads of School will be the most appropriate contact points. Obviously, existing senior staff will be still be within the school and available to meet and discuss concerns with parents, however, the most appropriate and quickest point of access to the school will be the class room teacher, Year Level Coordinator followed by the relevant Head of Deputy Head of School.

In speaking with parents, one of the things that they appreciate is that the school is approachable and deals with issues quickly. The new structure is designed to enhance that process. Equally, it is designed to enable, over time, the establishment of quite distinct community of learners focused on age specific methods and procedures but which at the same time is preparing students for the next phase of their learning; whilst ensuring that there is a consistent Bacchus Marsh Grammar culture and approach.

If you have any queries about the new structure, I am happy to discuss any matter further.

Yours sincerely

Andrew A. Neal

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Principal