

Junior Secondary Strategies

We believe that Junior Secondary is the platform for a successful journey through high school starting with a seamless transition through to preparing for the senior years.



Engage

Partner School Transition Program

We work closely with Arundel, Biggera Waters and Coombabah State Schools to ensure students in Year 6 are confident about their move to high school.

We visit Year 6 students regularly throughout the year and provide opportunities for students to familiarise with our school environment.

Partner School Relationships

We are genuinely invested in our relationships with our Partner Schools and enjoy the opportunities to work together to provide the best education possible for our local children.

Posbee Passport to Success

The Passport is a tool to assist students to take responsibility for their own learning.

They will use the Passport to track their attendance and undertake reflection and goal setting based on each Semesters' results.

Strive Classes

Targeted intervention beginning at Year 7 for students who are performing significantly below the expected standard in Mathematics and English.

Junior Secondary Engagement Charter

We believe that all students have the ability to be successful at school and that highly effective teaching is the key to improving student learning.

The Charter outlines the standards we expect to ensure students are engaged, challenged and learning successfully.

Inspire

Timetable Structure

Our timetable is designed to cater for a wide range of academic needs.

The key features of the timetable for Year 7-9 include:

- Core class composition – students travel together for core classes (gradual reduction Year 7-9)
- English/Humanities class – one teacher across the two classes
- Extension Core Classes (iGniTe Academic Excellence)
- Strive Class (Students working well below level at the end of Year 6)
- Specialist Programs – iGniTe Sport and Exercise Science, iGniTe Performing
- Arts, High Performance Sports Academy, Rugby League Excellence
- Electives: Year 7/8- Rotate through Visual Art, Performing Arts, Home Economics, ITD and Music (a Focus Elective for practicing musicians)
- Year 9 – Choice of Electives
- 4 x 55 minute lessons for most subjects each week

Narrow Focus Pastoral Care Programs

The Pastoral Care program for each year level supports the a specific focus.

- Year 7 – Transition
- Year 8 – Engagement at School; Engagement in School and Community
- Year 9 – Readiness for Senior School (Social and Emotional, Valuing Education, Senior School Plan)

Achieve

Parent Engagement Activities

A wealth of Data supports the notion that students achieve higher outcomes when their parents are engaged in their education.

A range of opportunities exists to allow parents to engage with us and learn about what their children are doing at school.

These include parent-teacher interviews, email communication, FaceBook, QSchools, newsletter, parent information sessions, celebrations and P&C.

Learning Support

When students are referred to the STLaN for Learning Support, data is collected from a wide range of sources to determine support provisions.

Learning Outcomes Tracking

We expect that all students should be able to achieve successful outcomes across the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities.

We track student progress across these subjects and provide support to students who are not on track to pass all of these subjects.

Our Meaningful Data

- Confident to move to high school
- Attendance
- Learning Outcomes
- Effort and Behaviour
- PB4L Data
- School/Community Engagement
- Social and Emotional Wellbeing
- Completion of Senior School Plan

Junior Secondary

We believe that Junior Secondary is the platform for a successful journey through high school starting with a seamless transition through to preparing for the senior years.



Year 7

The focus of Year 7 is a successful transition to high school. The move from Year 6 to Year 7 is seamless and students generally feel confident.

Throughout Year 7, students settle into the routine of high school and feel comfortable in their new surroundings.

Students are introduced to our requirements in terms of their effort and behaviour in class¹ and our high expectations of their behaviour within the school and as members of the school community².

Key Strategies

- Genuine relationships with partner schools
- Year 6 Partner School Transition Program
- Timetable structure that supports transition
- Junior Secondary Engagement Charter (1)
- Pastoral care program – Transition and PB4L (2)
- Learning Outcomes- Tracking and Intervention
- Posbee Passport to Success
- Parent engagement activities
- ID Day
- Celebrations

Year 8

During Year 8 students will build on the foundations established in Year 7 with a focus on high levels of engagement in their studies¹.

Students are learning the value of getting involved in school and community activities³.

Key Strategies

- Timetable structure appropriate to Year 8
- Junior Secondary Engagement Charter (1)
- Pastoral Care Program- Belonging to a Community/ Getting Involved (3)
- Learning Outcomes- Tracking and Intervention
- Posbee Passport to Success
- My Community Project (3)
- Celebrations

Year 9

By the end of Year 9, students will be ready to enter the senior phase of school. They will be literate and numerate evidenced by their academic achievement in English and Mathematics. Students will know what is required of them and execute those tasks well¹.

The Year 9 pastoral care program will focus on preparing students for Senior School in terms of social and emotional wellbeing, understanding of the value of education and making a plan for the senior school years⁴.

Key Strategies

- Timetable structure allowing students to choose elective subjects
- Junior Secondary Engagement Charter (1)
- Pastoral care program – Valuing Education, Senior School Plan (4)
- Learning Outcomes- Tracking and Intervention
- Posbee Passport to Success
- Senior School Plan (4)
- Celebrations

Key Staff work closely with students in the pursuit of achieving the highest outcomes possible.

- Director of Junior Secondary
- Deans – Year 7, 8 and 9
- Heads of Department – Mathematics and English
- Guidance Officer
- Junior Secondary ‘Advisory Teachers’
- Partner school Principals and Deputy Principals

Data is used to measure the success of the strategies implemented.

- Year 7 – How well have students transitioned?
- Year 8 – How well are students engaging in their learning and community?
- Year 9 – Are students ready for the move to Year 10?

Our targets:

- 95% Confident about moving to high school
- 90% A-C Academic Outcomes
- 95% Attendance
- 90% A-C Effort and Behaviour
- 100% Students recognised for Positive Behaviour
- 90% Students engaged in community
- 100% Year 9 Students completed Senior School Plan.