



Year 7 2020

# Orientation Booklet

Respect Integrity Diligence Compassion

## To the Student

Changing schools is not easy and you will feel a bit strange at first, take your time to settle in, get to know people, and join in groups or clubs inside and outside school. This booklet may answer some of the questions you may have in the lead up to your first day as a Year 7 student at our school and help you feel a little more at ease before you start in 2020.

Our induction evening is designed to begin your transition from the self-contained environment of the primary classroom with a singular teacher, to a department-based environment in high school with a number of teachers who specialise in the teaching of different subjects. Our school aims to develop you as an independent learner and ensure that you are prepared and confident in your secondary schooling.

As you will see from the information in this booklet, our school offers many academic and extracurricular opportunities. Over time, you will become immersed in the culture of Benowa State High School and get to know your teachers, members of your year group and many of the older students in a supportive and positive environment. We look forward to working with you to help your learning and development in the coming years.

## To the Parent/Caregiver

We also welcome you to Benowa State High School. We hope that you also take the time to read this booklet so that you can engage with your child during their preparation for high school. We have included some ideas to help assist your child to have a successful start to their high-schooling life. We are here to help you educate your child and see them succeed in high school by providing the best pathway in a caring and supportive environment.

## ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL:

Executive Principal	Mr M Rickard
Director of School Organisation	Mrs S Douglas
Director of International Education	Mrs L Rimbaut
Director Teaching and Learning	Mr G Chippendale
Director of Studies	Mr B Wolski
Business Manager	Ms M Black

## HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (HOD):

The Arts – Ms B Stuart
English – Mr M Pickersgill
Health & PE – Mr I Hutchison
HOSES – Mrs K Ryan
Humanities – Mr J Hinton
Design and Technologies – Mr B McErlean
LOTE/International – Ms C Cooper
Mathematics – Mr B Callum
Science – Dr J Grignon
Social Justice (Junior Secondary) – Mr A Larkin
Social Justice (Senior Secondary) – Mrs T Mackay

## PROGRAM COORDINATORS:

Director of Sport – Miss A Passmore
International Baccalaureate - TBA
Responsible Thinking Room – Mrs K Thomson
French Immersion – Mrs F Escot
International Program – Mrs J Goldfinch
International Homestays – Mrs T Feveyear

## TERM DATES 2020

<b>SEMESTER ONE:</b>	Term 1	Tuesday, 28 January – Friday, 3 April 2020
	Term 2	Monday, 20 April – Friday, 26 June 2020
<b>SEMESTER TWO:</b>	Term 3	Monday, 13 July – Friday, 18 September 2020
	Term 4	Tuesday, 6 October – Friday, 11 December 2020
<b>2020 Year Concludes:</b>	Years 7, 8 & 9	Friday, 11 December 2020

## Our Junior Secondary Learning Philosophy

Benowa State High School is committed to the seamless transition of students from primary school to engaging and supportive Junior Secondary school classrooms that optimise student learning at every opportunity.

Adolescent learners are experiencing an unmatched period of cognitive, physical, social, emotional change and growth. Students are beginning to think more broadly about issues beyond the home and family; they want to engage in authentic, meaningful learning in a modern global context.

We strive to provide a learning environment that is responsive and developmentally appropriate to the full range of needs, interests and achievements of young adolescent learners so that they will make a smooth transition into Senior Secondary school and their future pathways.

Teachers of Junior Secondary are committed to providing learning opportunities that develop a diverse range of skills and offer knowledge and experiences in a safe, healthy and caring environment. This learning environment will meet the challenges associated with transition between primary and secondary school cultures whilst improving student performance. It will allow all students to achieve their personal best, strengthen relationships with teachers, students, parents and teach a curriculum that is rigorous and engaging.



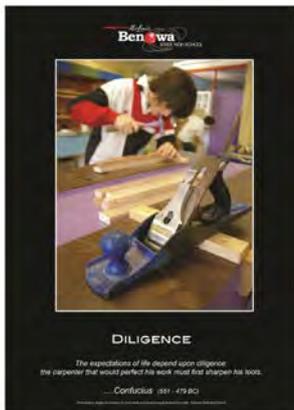
# Language of our Values



*The value of compassion cannot be over-emphasized. Anyone can criticize; it takes a true believer to be compassionate. No greater burden can be borne by an individual than to know that no-one cares or understands.*

*... Arthur K Steinbeck*

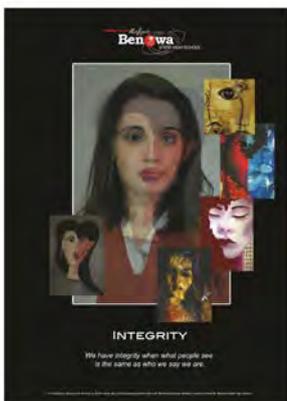
Compassion is ingrained in our brains, our bodies, and in the most basic ways we communicate. As a school we place great value on our students' appreciation of others' suffering and a desire to remedy that suffering.



*The expectations of life depend upon diligence: The carpenter that would perfect his work must first sharpen his tools.*

*... Confucious (551-479 BC)*

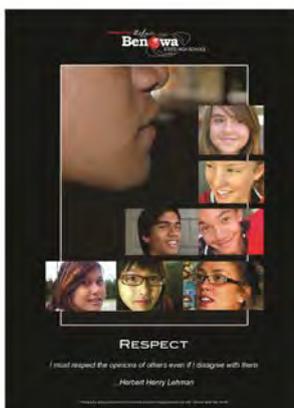
There is no greater key to success in this life than being able to produce "an honest day's work." If you develop diligence now in every application of school - and as you begin your work career or continue to University, you will have an established pattern of success.



*We have integrity when what people see is the same as who we say we are.*

*... Don Galer*

Integrity is important in every facet of life. Truthfulness or dishonesty determine how people interact with you at work, at home and socially. If people cannot trust you, they will not include you. As a student at Benowa State High School we expect you to act with integrity to maintain the school's good order and management.



*I must respect the opinions of others even if I disagree with them.*

*... Herbert Henry Lehman*

Respect is an important courtesy to give and to receive. Respect is important because it allows people to communicate and live in harmony. If we offer respect to each other, even when we don't agree with what is being said or done, we don't make nasty comments or try to make the lives of others more difficult.

## Our School Houses



### Bandler House

Named after Faith Bandler, an Australian civil rights activist and campaigner for the rights of Indigenous Australians. Faith Bandler was best known for her leadership in the campaign for the 1967 referendum on Aboriginal Australians. She was awarded the Human Rights Medal in 1997.

Mascot:	Dragons
Housemaster:	Mr Andrew Taylor
Colour:	Red
Assembly Area:	Sports Hall
Associated Director:	Mr Glenn Chippendale



### Florey House

Named after Howard Florey, an Australian pharmacologist who in 1945 won a shared Nobel prize in Medicine for his role in the development of penicillin. Florey's research team investigated the large-scale production of the mould and efficient extraction of the active ingredient, succeeding to a point where, by 1945, penicillin production was an industrial process for the Allies in WWII.

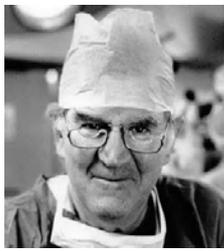
Mascot:	Phoenixes
Housemaster:	Mr Matthew Anderson
Colour:	Purple
Assembly Area:	First Level W Block
Associated Director:	Ms Sarah Douglas



### Hinkler House

Named after Herbert Hinkler, a pioneer Australian aviator and inventor. He designed and built early aircrafts before being the first person to fly solo from England to Australia, and the first person to fly solo across the Southern Atlantic Ocean. Hinkler was an exceptional mathematician and inventor and made a lot of aviation instruments which were in use up until the Second World War.

Mascot:	Flamingos
Housemaster:	Mrs Kylie Diviak
Colour:	Hot Pink
Assembly Area:	K05
Associated Director:	Mr Brendon Wolski



## Hollows House

Named after Fred Hollows, a humanitarian and eye surgeon who has helped restore eyesight to thousands of people in Australia and overseas. He always pushed for change and, because of that, put in motion a legacy to end avoidable blindness.



Mascot:	Owls
Housemaster:	Mr Andrew McKee
Colour:	Orange
Assembly Area:	Under W Block
Associated Director:	Mrs Lieve Rimbaut



## Laver House

Named after Rod Laver, an Australian tennis player widely regarded as one of the greatest in history. He was the number One ranked amateur in 1961 and 1962 and the number One ranked professional from 1964 to 1970. He also won eight Pro Slam titles and contributed to five Davis Cup titles for Australia.



Mascot:	Lions
Housemaster:	Mr Adrian Comiskey
Colour:	Blue
Assembly Area:	K03
Associated Director:	Mr Brendon Wolski



## Murdoch House

Named after Elisabeth Murdoch, an Australian philanthropist who was appointed a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1963 for her charity work in Australia and overseas. She was a life Governor of the Royal Women's Hospital, patron of the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and of the Australian American Association along with patron and founding member of a disability organisation EW Tipping Foundation and founding member of the Deafness Foundation of Victoria.



Mascot:	Minotaurs
Housemaster:	Ms Mandy Howden
Colour:	Green
Assembly Area:	First Level W Block
Associated Director:	Ms Sarah Douglas



## Wake House

Named after Nancy Wake, also known as the “White Mouse” in World War II. She worked as a nurse from age 16 and later trained herself as a journalist which she worked as a European correspondent in the 1930’s. In 1940 she became a courier for the French Resistance and a key player in the escape network. Nancy Wake became instrumental in recruiting members and led attacks on German installations and the local Gestapo.

Mascot:	Wolverines
Housemaster:	Ms Dee Thorsborne
Colour:	Aqua
Assembly Area:	Top of W Block
Associated Director:	Mrs Lieve Rimbaut



## Wright House

Named after Judith Wright, the second Australian to receive the Queen’s Gold Medal for Poetry. She was a founding member and President of the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and fought to conserve the Great Barrier Reef. Judith Wright was also an ardent supporter for the Aboriginal land rights movement.

Mascot:	Griffins
Housemaster:	Miss Alex Armour
Colour:	Yellow
Assembly Area:	Tennis Courts/Sports Hall
Associated Director:	Mr Glenn Chippendale



## Pastoral Care

The social-emotional wellbeing of students is a high priority at Benowa State High School. Your House group and House Group Teacher are important elements of stability and support for students. The relationship with the House Group Teacher is central to student learning and wellbeing. In the first few days of school significant time is spent in House groups, developing a group identity so that the issues of early adolescence can be dealt with within a secure environment.

In Year 7, the House Group Teacher is the first person to approach for help or advice. If after a few weeks you are continuing to find it difficult to settle in make an appointment to speak with your Head of House, a Guidance Officer, the Chaplain or the School-Based Health Worker or the Head of Department Social Justice – Junior Secondary.

Year 7 TIP is a program where selected Year 12 students are trained to meet regularly across Semester 1 with small groups of Year 7 students in their Houses. The primary purpose of the program is to assist Year 7 students to adjust to the culture of high school and to develop a support network in their early adolescence to help guide and shape thinking and action.

Year 7 Peer Support is run by a group of trained peer mentors in Terms 1, 2 and 3. These students assist Year 7 students in joining Benowa State High School by facilitating a range of activities, personal development and extra-curricular programs.

## Student Support Services

### **Solo – Therapy Dog**

Solo is many student's favourite staff member. He can be found nosing around the Collaboration Centre, Access Centre or in the Administration building.

Solo is a two-year old chocolate Labrador who has become an integral part of our Support Services Team since starting his job at Benowa SHS. Solo was an instant hit in the school community, offering a comforting shoulder to lean on.

### **Head of Social Justice Junior Secondary**

The Head of Social Justice Junior Secondary is available to help with any problems or concerns and can be contacted by students and/or parents. Please refer to the school website for contact details.

### **The Guidance Officers**

At Benowa State High School we have two Guidance Officers, Mr David Ramsay and Mrs Jane Mitchell-Watson. Both provide support for the school community, particularly students, their parents and/or caregivers. This is achieved by providing a confidential counselling service for both students, parents or caregivers.

Support may be provided in the following areas:

- a) School – subject selection, time management, study skills, social issues.
- b) Personal – relationship issues, issues at home, coping with stress, social or peer issues.
- c) Vocational – information about post school options, course and career selection.

### **School Chaplain**

Our School Chaplain, Mrs Naomi Dawkins, provides emotional and spiritual support for staff and students. As well as organising peer support groups and lunchtime programs. The School Chaplain works closely with the existing school support services, predominantly with the Guidance Officers. Our Chaplain provides another relational link in the school between student and family, and student and community support services.

## School Based Youth Health Nurse (SBYHN)

The SBYHN, Mrs Annie Wainwright, supports students, their families and the school community by providing individual appointments for students and referrals to appropriate health services or community agencies. The SBYHN is also involved in health promotion initiatives and creating a supportive, healthy school environments for students and staff.

## Uniform Requirements

Our school uniform is to be worn in its complete form at school and when travelling to and from school. Girls are permitted to wear black tights with their skirt but not a sheer black stocking. From 2019 girls have had the option to wear shorts tailored for girls.

Winter dress pants are allowed and can be purchased from the Uniform Shop. Boys trousers will take a few days to arrive after ordering, girls trousers (being tailored) will take up to two weeks.

Shoes are to be totally black leather, enclosed and lace-up in style.

Sports uniform (pictured below right) is to be worn for Health & PE (HPE) classes. Students are also required to wear the school sports uniform and hat. Students are to change into their sports uniform at the beginning of the HPE lesson and change back into formal dress uniform immediately after the lesson.



The Uniform Shop is the sole supplier of the school's uniform. A copy of uniform prices can be found on the school's website by clicking Facilities – Uniform shop. The price list is located on the right, under the heading 'Related links'.

## Uniform Shop Extended Trading Times

The Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) operate the Uniform Shop situated in G Block near the Canteen. The Uniform Shop offers extended trading to better meet the needs of families.

**2019 Extended Trading Hours** – Monday, 2 December to Wednesday, 11 December – 7.30am to 4.00pm weekdays.

**2020 Extra Trading Days** – Monday, 20 January to Friday, 24 January – 7.30am to 2.00pm.

Closed Australia Day Holiday, Monday, 27 January 2020.

## Parent Communication

We value open communication between parents and our school. The first line of communication is through the Student Diary or informally by telephone or email. In addition to this, the following opportunities for communication exist:

- **Benowa State High School Newsletter**  
Our school's newsletter is accessible through the Schoolzine e-newsletter at <http://benowashs.schoolzineplus.com/latest> or the link on the school's website. Essential information is provided here and it is important to read the newsletter. The newsletter also provides a colourful record of the rich variety of activities during the course of the year.
- **Benowa State High School Semester Calendar of events**  
A calendar of events for Semester 1 and 2 are published via the school website and included in the Schoolzine newsletter, this is a valuable reference for diary dates. Students will be provided a hardcopy of the semester calendar early each semester.
- **Benowa State High School Website**  
<https://www.benowashs.qld.edu.au>
- **Benowa State High School Twitter Account**  
<https://twitter.com/BenowaStateHigh>
- **Benowa State High School Facebook Account**  
<https://www.facebook.com/BenowaSHS/>

## Formal Reporting

**Academic reporting** involves communicating information to parents, carers and students about student achievement and progress for each learning area/subject undertaken, at a point in time. At Benowa State High School we use the Department of Educational template to complete written reports to parents. These report student achievement for each learning area/subject studied in the reporting period, against the relevant achievement standards. Student effort and behaviour is also reported.

- **Semester 1 Report – Achievement, Effort and Behaviour**
- **Semester 2 Report – Achievement, Effort and Behaviour**
- All reporting is issued electronically. Please ensure you are registered on QParents to be able to assess and download your student's Semester Reports.

In addition to providing written reports at least twice a year, we offer parents opportunities to discuss their child's educational performance at the school with their child's teacher(s). Bookings for teachers are made through SOBs. The school offers two opportunities for you to discuss your learner's educational performance.

- **Parent/Teacher Interviews** are held early in Term 2, giving parents the opportunity to speak with their child's teacher.
- **Parent/Teacher Interviews** for Semester 1 reports are held in Term 3, giving parents the opportunity to speak with their student's teachers across all subject areas.

## The Curriculum

### **Hours of Instruction**

Each day begins at 8.45am, usually with House Group where attendance is marked, student notices are read, messages are given and students are reminded of events happening during the day and week. The school day concludes at 2.45pm. There are 4 x 70 minute periods in a day. If a student arrives at school after 8.45am or leaves before 2.45pm, they are required to sign in or out through the Student Services office located in Administration.

### **The Learning Program**

Students follow a program of learning which exposes them to a variety of learning areas which have been developed using the Australian Curriculum. Our diverse programs provide adolescent learners with a strong foundation in the knowledge, skills and strategies required in later studies. Our aim is for students to have a wide variety of experiences in Year 7 to assist them to make more informed decisions about pathways they will take in subsequent years. In Year 9, students can choose an elective from a range of exciting possibilities ranging from Business Education to the Arts, Languages to Industrial Technology.

Students are encouraged to develop independence in and responsibility for their learning during Year 7. The delivery of the curriculum is supported through dynamic practices such as peer collaboration, integration and direct teaching aligned with our school's Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Principles.

### **Support and Extension**

Classes in Year 7 are usually diverse which allows for happy social interaction while providing a robust academic program that delivers the expectations of the Australian Curriculum content descriptors and elaborations. Our special support and extension programs may withdraw students for some lessons to provide extra opportunities to further meet the individual learning needs of students. Any student with a diagnosed additional or alternative learning need may be referred to the Support Teachers in Literacy and Numeracy, or Study Centre.

## Student Diary

A cornerstone of the Pastoral Care System is the Student Diary. It is an important form of communication between the school, the student and parents/caregivers, as well as a record of homework for the student. The diary contains a wealth of information on frequently asked questions, expected student behaviour in different areas of school life, the Collaboration Centre, homework, school policies and more.

Students who use the diary effectively demonstrate organisational skills and have more control over their learning. It is the student's responsibility to write homework and important dates in the diary.

The diary is issued to students in the first few days of the year. It must be taken to every lesson, every day.

The House Group teacher signs the diary weekly before the student takes it home for parents to sign and add comments or questions.

It is the student's responsibility to have the diary **signed each week by a parent or caregiver**. This enables parents/caregivers to be aware of the workload of their child, to monitor homework and other expectations, and also ensures that any messages sent from the school to parents/caregivers are noted.

## Sport

At Benowa State High School we have a sporting program designed to cater for a broad range of interests and abilities. The main objectives are to foster participation, team spirit and a sense of fair play. Students gain many physical and social benefits from involvement.

From 2020 the school will participate in Cluster Sports Days. A variety of sports are available and these are chosen to suit the age of the students and to allow maximum participation. In 2020 the Cluster Days are as follows:

Round 1: Term 1 – Week 7 (11th March)

Round 2: Term 2 – Week 2 (29th April)

Round 3: Term 2 – Week 7 (3rd June)

Round 4 – Term 3 – Week 2 (22nd July)

Round 5 – Term 3 – Week 4 (5th August)

Students are urged to speak with their Physical Education teacher and/or the Sports Coordinator regarding their involvement in all activities. We encourage all students to participate in the House Group swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals and other team sports as they provide a wonderful opportunity for students to meet others, as well as a chance to meet staff and get to know them.



## Leadership

Formal opportunities for positions of responsibility exist with all Year 7 students able to participate in House Council. House Council Representatives hold the positions for the year to allow the development of leadership skills. Details of these opportunities will be provided to students early in Term 1 after the students have had time to settle in.

In Year 9, students are given the opportunity to become part of the Junior Secondary Leadership Team. The nomination process for these positions is rigorous and begins in Term 4, Year 8. Students considering applying for these positions should demonstrate strong ability in academic, sporting or cultural areas, as well as be involved in the school and wider community.



## Extracurricular/Co-Curricular Activities

A wide range of extracurricular activities are available to students. Details of these are published in the daily Student Notices and vary from year to year depending upon staff expertise. Extra academic help is also available after school throughout the week in some learning areas and through Homework Club.

A range of Inter-House competitions, including swimming, cross country and athletics are specifically tailored for Junior Secondary students. Heads of House ask for volunteers for various events at the House meetings. Additionally, the school is recognised as a School of Excellence in Volleyball and Touch Football. Students are encouraged to explore these opportunities.

The Music Department has both instrumental and choral ensembles which cater for Junior Secondary students. Senior Secondary students take responsibility for choreographing and organising many of the extracurricular dance groups. The annual Music and Dance Concerts and Music soirees held throughout the year showcase the work of these groups.

We encourage students to participate in a number of extracurricular activities as it is our experience that this greatly enhances their transition into the Senior Secondary. Such activities widen friendship groups and can provide support and extension where needed, enabling students to more confidently cope in the classroom.



## Homework Club

Homework Club is designed to help students set some specific time aside to get homework done or receive extra support in attaining personal learning goals. The program is not meant to replace all time spent on homework at home, but to help develop the habit of giving dedicated time to meeting their responsibility to complete their homework. Experience confirms that routine and habit is the most effective way to complete school work. Details for Homework Club will be released early in 2020.

## Collaboration Centre

The Collaboration Centre is a friendly place where students can access help with their research. The computer catalogue can be used to locate the various resources needed for assignments. In addition, reading for enjoyment is encouraged through various literature promotion activities. Students are welcome to use the Collaboration Centre for recreational reading.

The Collaboration Centre is open between 8.00am to 8.40am each school day, at break times and 2.45pm to 3.30pm Monday to Friday.

## DAY ONE FOR 2020 YEAR 7 STUDENTS

**Tuesday, 28 January 2020**

The morning is planned so that parents/caregivers and students can begin to familiarise themselves with the school; information to assist with the year ahead will be provided. Students will then participate in a number of activities to make them feel a part of our school community.

Students need to wear the full dress uniform, including black leather shoes as pictured below.



Junior Secondary students are required to wear a Benowa SHS hat as part of *"Sun Safety in Secondary Schools Guidelines"*.



**Students will meet their House Group Teacher and House Group in the Sports Hall at 9.00am.**

**House Group allocations will be displayed in areas surrounding the Sports Hall from 7.30am.**

## Starting High School

The transition from primary to secondary school is an exciting, yet challenging time for most young people. Students have to adapt to new environments, make new friends, adapt to different teaching methods and moving from class to class. They also have to adjust to being the 'new kids on the block' after being school leaders in Year 6. For some students, the move from Year 6 to Year 7 may be a difficult experience. Students move from a familiar and secure environment to a new and challenging environment. At Benowa State High School we strive to minimise the following concerns that worry many Year 6 students:

- Getting lost.
- Being picked on, or bullied, by others.
- Doing poorly in high school or not keeping up with the school work.
- Not 'fitting in' and being socially isolated.

Should any of these concerns arise please do not hesitate to contact your child's House Group Teacher or Head of House.

### **How Parents/Caregivers Can Help**

Tips for parents/Caregivers to help smooth the transition:

- Reassure your child that it is normal to feel uncertain, anxious and excited.
- Make sure travel arrangements to and from school are organised.
- Learn the school rules, routines and timetables.
- Help your child to develop good study habits.
- Help your child to set up a suitable place at home to study.
- Practise organisational skills.
- Encourage your child to become more self-reliant by increasing their level of responsibility and your expectations of them.
- Ensure your child has the correct uniform, and all the necessary equipment required for school.
- Ask your child questions about school such as:
  - What were three great things that happened today?
  - What did you learn today?
  - What challenged you today?
  - Tell me about something you read in class today?
  - Can you show me something you learned today?
  - What are you looking forward to this week?
  - What are your goals in Maths this week?
  - Why have you chosen to do this homework tonight?
  - Tell me the names of two people that you met today?
  - Tell me something interesting you learnt about one of your teachers today?

## Being Organised in Year 7

**Being organised** for the wide range of classes students attend each week can lead to greater success. **Being organised** can go a long way towards creating a positive and successful learning experience for Year 7 students during their transition from primary to secondary school.

Helpful strategies for being organised includes:

- Allocating a workbook for each subject (this will ensure that no important assessment sheets or course outlines are lost).
- Regularly removing old school work from work books, USBs and school bags.
- Having enough paper with you in case you need to hand in a short classroom activity.
- Carrying only workbooks needed for the subjects on that day to minimize weight in your bag.
- Bringing a small pencil case containing a minimum of stationery items. For example: 3 blue pens, 2 red pens, 2 lead pencils, 1 eraser, 1 sharpener and a packet of 12 coloured pencils.
- Keeping schoolwork on a separate USB from games & videos.

### **What Parents/Caregivers Can Do To Help**

The transition from having everything in one classroom to moving between classrooms with different teachers is something that most Year 7 students enjoy. However, it also adds pressure to pack up quickly in one class and move into the next class prepared. You can help your student to stay organised by:

- Checking their workbooks and bag nightly or weekly, this way any 'stray' handouts can be filed in the appropriate workbook and supplies of paper etc. can be checked.
- Students' workbooks take a 'battering' throughout the term. They go in and out of their bags up to four times a day. Consequently books are frequently lost or damaged. Please check that books are in good working order.
- Keep a good supply of paper and plastic sheets at home so your student can fill up their folders as they run out. It is also a good idea to keep a spare workbook, as well as a supply of red and blue pens and lead pencils.
- Make use of the school supplied diary to check for homework and assessment work and any notes from the teachers. Add any notes to the diary for the teachers as well, or email or phone anytime.
- Ensure your student has a USB to use at school and at home.

### **Homework**

Students in Year 7 should be completing at least one hour of homework every night. If your student claims to have no homework, this is simply not so! Besides formally assigned homework, there are always the following items to be done:

- Silent reading for 20 to 30 minutes.
- Revision of Maths activities.
- Read over notes taken in classes that day.
- File handouts given in class.
- Start researching for the next assignment.
- Study for tests.
- Tidy bag: dirty uniform in the wash; lunch box in the sink; notes given to parents/caregivers.
- Sharpen pencils; ensure all pens are in working order.
- Finish off any work not completed in class time.
- Prepare 'good' copy of assignments.
- Charge laptop and ensure it is in good working order ready for the next day of learning.

## Some Questions you may have...

### **What happens at the beginning of next year?**

On the first day, you and your parents or caregivers arrive at school by 9.00am meeting in our Sports Hall. Here you will be welcomed to the school by our Executive Principal, various teachers, HODs, Directors, Support Staff and Heads of House. You will get a lot of information to help you through the day and learn how our school works. You will be put in your House Group and go with your House Group Teacher to receive your timetable and diary (which includes a map of the school so you don't get lost!). You will also meet some Year 12 student leaders who are there to help you in your first days at Benowa.

### **What do I do if I get lost?**

There is a map in your diary which you will receive on your first day to help you find your way around. If you get lost, then ask a teacher for help. If you can't find a teacher, then go to the main administration office and the staff there will be able to help you.

### **Where do I get my school resources?**

Parents are directly responsible for providing textbooks and other personal resources for their children while attending school. In recognition that these costs can be high, the school operates a Student Resource Scheme (the "scheme") that enables a parent to enter into an agreement with the school that, for a specified annual participation fee, provides for the temporary use by the student of prescribed textbooks and/or other resources, and/or the purchase of consumables and materials for the student.

### **What is a Student Resource Scheme (SRS)?**

As a service to assist parents with the cost of educational resources, Benowa State High School choose to operate a student resource scheme (SRS). The SRS is a scheme that provides participants with a cost effective alternative to purchasing textbooks, resource materials, practical equipment and/or consumables, for student's use while attending school. This substantially reduces the financial burden to parents purchasing expensive resources. Our scheme is fully endorsed by the Benowa State High School Parents and Citizens Association.

### **When will I get the school resources?**

Students will be timetabled to receive their resources in the first two weeks of Term 1 2020. Every student in Year 7 will also receive a calculator and diary. All other consumables and inclusions are outlined in the lists for each year level available on the school website. Please review the list of inclusions for each year level that is now available on our school website.

<https://benowashs.eq.edu.au/support-and-resources/student-resources>

### **What is I don't want to participate in the SRS?**

Participation in the SRS is voluntary. A parent who does not wish to participate in the Student Resource Scheme should inform the school by completing the Participation Agreement Form and email to [srs@benowashs.eq.edu.au](mailto:srs@benowashs.eq.edu.au) or drop the form back to the Student Services window. A parent who chooses not to participate in the scheme is responsible for providing the student with all items that would otherwise be provided to the student by the scheme as detailed in the Student Resource Scheme list for the relevant year level.

### **What about stationery?**

The school has gone to market to seek quotes from a number of stationery suppliers for home delivered stationery packs. The successful supplier is Kookaburra Educational Resources. Information on how to order and purchase will be available on our school website in Week 6.

<https://benowashs.eq.edu.au/support-and-resources/student-resources>

Details are:

1. Go to our website to view the 2020 Stationery lists (By year level and subject) see link above
2. Go to [www.kookaburra.com.au/login](http://www.kookaburra.com.au/login) to place an order
3. The cut off date for orders is 18 December 2019
4. Delivery date is 21 January 2020 to your nominated address

## **How will I know which class to go to?**

You will receive a timetable on your first day. This details your classes, teachers, the rooms you are to go to, and the times for your lessons.

## **Do I have to do homework and assessment?**

YES!! All students in all year levels are expected to do homework and complete set assessment. You may receive detentions or other consequences if you do not complete by the due dates work that is set. Read the guide in this booklet, or refer to your diary for more information.

## **What happens on a normal school day?**

All days after the first one follow the same routine. You will arrive at school no later than 8.40am and go to your House Group, where you will have your name marked and be given any notices or other information that is important for you. You will then go to your first two lesson called Periods 1 - 2, then to Morning Tea (1st Break), then back to class for Period 3. You will then have Lunch (2nd Break) followed by your last lesson for the day, Period 4. A bell sounds at each break time so you can move quickly between classes or from the playground and back to class.

## **What if I have to catch a bus to and from school?**

Contact Surfside Buslines to arrange a bus pass and to find out which bus to catch and at what time. We have a bus bay area where you will be dropped off and picked up by your bus; on the first day you will have a special meeting just for students who catch buses to find out exactly what to do.

## **What if I ride a bike to and from school?**

You are permitted to ride a bike, but you are not permitted to ride scooters or skateboards as these are banned from school. If you do choose to ride your bike it is at your own risk, so if anything happens to it whilst at school, you are responsible for it and not the school. However, to assist you in keeping your bike safe, the school has a designated bike enclosure located between Mediterranean Drive and E Block. This is locked during the school day. Please remember that once you are in the school, you must not ride your bike on school grounds, you must walk it through the school. It is also preferable that you only use the entrance adjacent to E Block to access the bike enclosure.

## **What kind of school bag should I use?**

Your school bag should be practical and not just fashionable. It should be big enough to fit large text books, your folders and workbooks and maybe even a laptop, as well as your lunch and other equipment or HPE gear. A large multi pocket backpack is recommended. Fashion handbags, totes, knapsacks etc. are not a good option as they do not allow you to carry the necessary items for you to succeed at school.

## **What is there to do at morning tea and lunch?**

- You can sit and chat with your friends.
- You may talk to teachers about your school work or any issues you may have.
- You may go to the Collaboration Centre and read, study or use your computer for learning purposes.
- You may borrow sports equipment from the sports department in the school hall and play a game on the oval, basketball courts, tennis courts.
- You may participate in a variety of other activities organised by the school's Student Support Services, including music concerts and live bands, food stalls and talent quests to name just a few.

## **Do I have to wear the school uniform?**

Yes! Wearing of school uniform is compulsory. For safety reasons, we can identify you as part of our school community, of which we are all proud. You are required to wear the dress uniform each day and change into your sports uniform for HPE lessons only.

Please read the uniform policy carefully before you buy your school shoes. Your shoes must **be leather, all black, and lace up with a tongue**. You may also have a separate pair of sports shoes for HPE. Your enrolment pack has pictures of acceptable shoes. The Uniform Shop is open for your convenience from 8.00am to 12.00pm daily.

### **What do I do if I get sick at school?**

If you are feeling sick please let your teacher know. If necessary, they will send you to the First Aid room which is located in the main Administration building. The school will ring your parent/caregiver if you need to go home, otherwise you may rest in sick bay until you feel better. If you get sick or injured during morning tea or lunch, you can also come to the sick bay and the staff will help you – you can send a friend if you cannot make it to the Administration building on your own and a staff member will come to you.

### **What do I do if I'm late or away from school?**

If you are late to school, you must go straight to the Student Services window located outside of Administration and get a late pass – your teacher will not let you into your first lesson unless you present them with this late pass. You must have a note from your parent/caregiver explaining your lateness, which you must present on the day it occurs (note that these are pre-printed in your diary). Sleeping in, missing the bus, alarms not working etc. are not reasonable excuses.

If you are away, have to attend an appointment or leave school for other reasons during the school day, your parent or caregiver must inform the school either by phoning the school or sending a note with you. If you have a note explaining your absence you must give this to your House Group Teacher, or if you have a note to leave school, you must present this note to a Director for signing, and then take the note to the Student Services window to get a leave pass, this allows your teachers to know that you have permission from home and from the school to leave at a certain time.

We will request confirmation of student attendance at an appointment including health professional appointments that cause a student to be removed from school during the period of instruction including sport. We hold student attendance in the highest priority and the role of parents/caregivers in ensuring that compulsory attendance is achieved is a key focus for our Heads of House.





## Contact Us

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