



# School Prospectus 2026

Integrity | Rigour | Empathy



# Principal's Welcome Message

It is with a warm and open heart, that we welcome you to Blakehurst High School.

Starting a new school is an important moment in life, that is filled with nervousness, and anticipation. However, it is with great certainty that I can say that all of these emotions will quickly evolve into happiness and excitement.

Our staff, including your Year Advisors will ensure you transition well. Your learning and wellbeing is our priority. Your peers will embrace you and ensure you feel part of our school community. Blakehurst High School is a very vibrant school – there is much happening all the time – fun, engaging lessons, peer interactions and many groups and clubs to be part of. I encourage you to be involved in as much as you can and to come to school with an open mind.

At Blakehurst High School we have high expectations of both staff and our students. We expect you to have pride in yourselves!

The uniform is compulsory, and mobile phones are not to be used whilst at school. Most importantly though, we expect all of our students to take every learning opportunity seriously. Immerse yourself in the lesson at hand; be prepared for learning, be focused and motivated. We expect you to complete your class work and assessments as best as you can, we expect you to think about your learning and ask questions, so you improve each day. We expect you to always demonstrate exemplary behaviour towards others.

The three school expectations and values that we espouse in all that we do are ***Integrity, Rigour and Empathy***. We reiterate these expectations at every opportunity as our school mission is to ***inspire students to excel as critical thinkers and learners, who are champions of diversity and who have a positive impact on their world***. We believe in all of our students and know that by having the above goal in mind and by demonstrating *Integrity, Rigour and Empathy* you will develop the frame of mind and skills to be highly successful in life.

I am looking forward to our positive journey together and getting to know both you and your families.

Always remember, that I will always be available for you and that I will always believe in you. **You are now a BLAKEHURSTIAN!**

Best wishes, always  
Alexandra Skelton



# School Information

**Address:** Blakehurst High School  
270A Woniara Road  
BLAKEHURST NSW 2221

**Email:** [blakehurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:blakehurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Telephone:** 02 9546 3281

**Office Hours:** Student Enquiries 7:45am-3:15pm  
Parent/carer Enquiries 8:30am-3:15pm

**Appointments:** Appointments to see any staff member must be booked beforehand. Please call or email prior to coming to the school.

## School Contact

Blakehurst High School is committed to partnering with families to support student growth. When there are concerns, a discussion with your child's Year Advisor is advised. If the matter is more serious you should contact the Stage Deputy of the specific year group or the Principal.

The best way to contact the school is via an email with the student's name and year so that it can be forwarded to the correct person in a timely manner.

## Staying Connected

Our school website allows parents/carers and community members to access information and keep up to date with school events.

Our Publicity and Events Coordinator updates the following sites regularly with event highlights.

You can follow our school on:

**Website:** [blakehurst-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://blakehurst-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**Facebook/Instagram:** [blakehursthighschool](#)



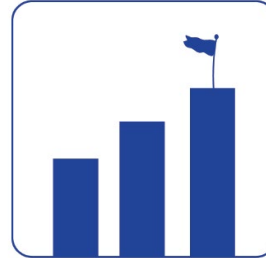
# BHS School Values



## INTEGRITY



## RIGOUR



## EMPATHY



	INTEGRITY	RIGOUR	EMPATHY
IN CLASS	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>taking responsibility for your own learning</li> <li>actively following school rules</li> <li>maintaining a safe learning environment by:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>arriving to class on time</li> <li>remaining seated</li> <li>being attentive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>having phones off and out of sight</li> <li>using class time effectively</li> <li>achieving the lesson success criteria</li> <li>challenging yourself to achieve excellence</li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>respecting the learning of others</li> <li>respecting teacher directions</li> <li>understanding and respecting diversity</li> </ul>
WHOLE SCHOOL	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>having self-pride and pride in our school</li> <li>displaying honesty in all that you say and do</li> <li>respecting students, teachers and school property</li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>achieving high standards in all that you do</li> <li>striving for your personal best</li> <li>applying diligence in all that you do</li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>considering and accepting others</li> <li>showing, fairness, care and cooperation for all</li> <li>appreciating individual differences</li> </ul>
COMMUNITY	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>having pride in appearance, conduct, school and self</li> <li>being honest and taking responsibility for your own actions</li> <li>practicing strong moral principles</li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>respecting members of the community and their property</li> <li>showing respect by using appropriate language</li> <li>following and obeying laws and safety rules</li> </ul>	<p>Demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>supporting and being proactive to the needs of others</li> <li>understanding of all cultural beliefs and appreciating members in the community</li> <li>actively involved in the school and broader community</li> </ul>

*AT BHS, we inspire students to excel as critical learners, thinkers and champions of diversity who have a positive impact on their world*

# Our staff

The teaching staff at Blakehurst High School are professional, passionate about teaching and exceptional teachers in their chosen field. They are hardworking, focused and committed to ensuring all students are:

- Engaged in their learning
- Extended to improve their mind sets and skills
- Progressive and critical thinkers

We have a staffing mix of highly experienced and early career teachers, with many of our teachers being HSC Markers and HSC Supervisors. This enables for extensive professional dialogue which leads to the academic success we are renowned for.

Some of the awards our teaching staff have received in the past 2 years include:

- Excellence in Student Support and Wellbeing
- Supportive and Encouraging Award
- Sydney East SSA Outstanding Service Award
- Teacher Network Recognition Awards
- Teacher In Deaf Education: Recognition of Outstanding and Continuous Commitment to Students with Hearing Loss

Our teaching staff are committed to continual improvement in teaching and learning in order to achieve the best educational outcomes for their students. All school staff are involved in ongoing, targeted professional learning.



# Subjects Offered

## Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8)

English  
Maths  
Science  
PDHPE  
Visual Art  
Music

Languages  
(French/Greek/Chinese/Italian/Japanese)  
Geography  
History  
Technology Mandatory Industrial Arts  
Technology Mandatory Home Economics

## Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)

English  
Maths  
Science  
PDHPE  
Geography

History  
Music  
Visual Arts  
Photography

### **Electives offered:**

Child Studies  
Chinese  
Computing Technology  
Commerce  
Dance  
Design Innovation STEM  
Drama  
French  
Food Technology  
Global Studies  
Graphics Technology  
Histories Mysteries

Industrial Technology – Timber  
Italian  
Japanese  
Modern Greek  
Music  
Textiles Technology  
Photographic & Digital Media  
Physical Activity & Sports Studies Elective 1  
Physical Activity & Sports Studies Elective 2  
Visual Arts  
Visual Design

*Blakehurst High School reserves the right to withdraw subjects offered.*

## Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

### English Courses (compulsory)

English Advanced  
English Standard  
EAL/D

English Studies  
English Extension 1 and Extension 2

### In addition to the above:

Ancient History  
Business Studies  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Chinese and Literature  
Chinese Beginners  
Chinese Continuers  
Chinese in Context  
Community and Family Studies  
Design & Technology  
Drama  
Earth and Environmental Science  
Economics  
Engineering Studies  
Food Technology  
French Beginners  
French Continuers  
Geography  
Hospitality – Food and Beverage (VET)  
Health and Movement Science  
History Extension  
Industrial Technology – Timber Products and Furniture Technologies  
Italian Beginners

Italian Continuers  
Japanese Beginners  
Japanese Continuers  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Standard 1  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Mathematics Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2  
Modern Greek Beginners  
Modern Greek Continuers  
Modern History  
Music 1  
Music 2  
Physics  
Textiles & Design  
Physics  
Society and Culture  
Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation  
Sports Coaching  
Visual Arts  
Work Studies  
VET Courses (at TAFE)

*Blakehurst High School reserves the right to withdraw subjects offered.*



# High Potential and Gifted Education

Blakehurst High School promotes engagement and challenges for every student across intellectual, creative, social-emotional and physical domains of High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE). School offers opportunity to all students with challenging academically rigorous program suited to individual ability and talent based on differentiated curriculum, project-based learning and the 4Cs, where students develop greater depth of knowledge and apply abstract reasoning skills to complex topics. Across the school we aim to provide an intellectually stimulating learning environment which challenges and inspires students and fosters their love of learning.

We aim to develop our students to have:

- Creative and critical thinking
- Intrinsic motivation and be goal driven, particularly in their area of interest
- An advanced level of observation to foster critical thinking
- High levels of excitement with new ideas and skill development in areas of interest
- Independent thinking
- Curiosity
- An ease of learning that is fast paced utilising teacher scaffolds and student exemplar samples
- Perseverance
- Intense concentration in new learning or areas of interest



We systematically adjust content, process and product in order to meet the needs of high potential learners. We ensure the curriculum is engaging, relevant and challenging as well as developmentally appropriate with a particular focus on the continuum of learning. Students have access to range of opportunities and specialist teachers to further extend their learning through initiative such as:

- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) oriented projects and activities in all year groups
- Project Based Learning through the Industrial Arts and TAS faculty with Technology Mandatory, Design and Technology, Engineering, English and HSIE Faculties
- Creative and performing arts – Musical performance Nights, Drama and Dance

# English

The English faculty is a progressive faculty that strives to engage and enrich student learning. We offer a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular learning experiences that provide students with opportunities in:

- Communicating confidently and effectively in a range of contexts
- Exploring film and learning about the techniques used by composers
- Participating in writing and poetry competitions (SLAM)
- Developing persuasive writing and spelling skills
- Learning to be analytical and independent thinkers
- Fostering an appreciation of literature and love of lifelong learning
- Working co-operatively and contributing positively to the learning of others
- Building literary and language skills
- Being part of a school drama and musical production

## We offer diverse learning experiences

- Advance class placement in Stage 4 and Stage 5 (Years 7-10)
- Communication skills, giving students opportunity to contribute to student publications
- HSC Extension 1 and Extension 2 English
- EAL/D classes in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12) and targeted EAL/D support in Stage 4 & 5 (Years 7-10)

## We encourage students to

- Become more informed about the way composers use language to make their writing more effective
- Use these techniques to improve their own compositions
- Continually develop literary and communication skills
- Represent the school and their year group in the District Debating Competition
- Read a variety of different texts each year and immerse themselves in other worlds
- Develop their oral presentation skills and have the opportunity to represent their class in cross form public speaking competitions
- Use technology to present their compositions, edit films and research a variety of topics
- Critically analyse media texts and understand how persuasive language is used
- Attend excursions and enrichment activities to further understanding
- Debating Challenges in Stage 4 and Stage 5 (Years 7-10)
- Utilise the school library's extensive book resources to engage in the Premier's Reading Challenge
- Interact with guest presenters and expert speakers in a range of literary fields

# Mathematics

Mathematics is an essential and relevant part of life. The study of mathematics provides opportunities for students to appreciate the elegance and power of mathematical reasoning and to apply mathematical understanding creatively and efficiently.

At Blakehurst High School our programs take into account the diverse learning needs of all students, including students with disability, gifted and talented students, and students learning English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D).



## We aim to develop our students in

- Critical and creative thinking. Students are encouraged to participate in cross-curricular school projects and external competitions and workshops organised by the UNSW Engineering Faculty and UoW Surveying Faculty and the Mathematics Association of NSW
- Information and communication technology capabilities. Students facilitate digital technologies to explore and access new tools and software programs and utilise Google Suite to communicate with their teachers and their peers outside of the classroom
- Perseverance in undertaking mathematical challenges and becoming self-motivated learners. We want our students to obtain enjoyment from mathematics and be able to confidently demonstrate the application of mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding to solve everyday problems

## We offer

- Experienced and maths trained teachers who are interested in sharing their enjoyment and deep knowledge of mathematics
- Updated resources and learning environments
- An increased and positive trend in NAPLAN and HSC results
- Many and varied opportunities for our students to apply and share their knowledge and skills beyond the classroom

*Mathematics is as much an aspect of culture as it is a collection of algorithms.*

Carl Boyer

# Science

Science education at Blakehurst High School provides students with the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the world around them. Learning Science is important as it develops knowledge, experimentation, problem solving skills, boost critical thinking, cultivates a passion for learning, uplifts many disciplines and holds the key to the future and technology.

Science provides learning experiences for students that will develop:

- A framework for interpreting and analysing the world around us
- Knowledge and skills needed to make decisions about the environment & technology
- An appreciation of scientists and how they work
- Positive attitudes of scientists and how they work
- Positive attitudes about ourselves, others, learning, science and the environment
- Literacy and numeracy proficiency
- Safe practices in the Laboratory (Risk Assessment)

## Students will learn about

- History and philosophy of science
- How scientists work
- Uses of science and investigations
- Implications of science on the environment
- Current issues in science
- Models, theories and laws of science
- How we interact with the world around us
- Problem solving and analysis
- Advances in science

## We offer

- Six fully equipped laboratories
- Technology - data loggers and computers/laptops
- Field Trips/Incursions
- Hands-on learning
- Experiments (scientific investigations)
- Variety of enriched and extended learning experiences
- Environmental Studies
- Participation in International science competitions (ICAS)
- Online Interactive science (STILE and Atomi)
- Model making

## Senior Courses

Preliminary and HSC courses in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

- Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- Earth and Environmental Science

# Human Society & Its Environment (HSIE)

At Blakehurst High School, Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) fires our students' curiosity and imagination, moving and inspiring them with the dilemmas, choices and challenges of the modern world and its past. It prepares our students for the future, equipping them with knowledge and skills that are prized in adult life, enhancing employability, and developing an ability to take part in a democratic society. It encourages mutual understanding of the origins of our ethnic and cultural diversity, and helps students become confident and questioning individuals.

We teach our students to embrace deep thinking required to apply the knowledge that they learn in the classroom. Student learning is sequenced under enquiry questions which helps them explore the disciplinary concepts in our subjects such as cause and effect in History and interconnections in Geography. By organising their learning in this way students regularly practice the process of gathering and analysing information, reaching judgements, and communicating their ideas in a variety of ways. This will enable them to develop skill sets that are essential for their next steps in education.

## We offer

- An outstanding, highly motivated staff with great expertise in the wide range of subjects offered
- A focus on student centred learning and engagement
- A range of learning experiences both within and beyond the classroom including field trips to The Great Barrier Reef, medieval days, visits to parliament and courts, study days and coastal fieldwork
- Engaging programming that incorporates ICT to support authentic learning
- A history of outstanding HSC results across the range of subjects offered

## Subject Available – Junior

- History Mandatory in Stage 4 and Stage 5 (Years 7-10)
- Geography Mandatory in Stage 4 and Stage 5 (Years 7-10)
- Global Studies Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10) Elective
- Commerce Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10) Elective
- Histories Mysteries Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10) Elective

## Senior Courses

- Ancient History
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Geography
- History Extension
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Society & Culture

# Personal Development, Health & Physical Education (PDHPE)

The Personal Development, Health & Physical Education faculty provides opportunities for students to learn about and practice ways of adopting and maintaining a healthy, productive and active lifestyle. It involves students learning through movement experiences that are both challenging and enjoyable and aims to focus on issues which impact on the development of the whole person.

Blakehurst High School has a proud tradition in sport. We offer students a comprehensive range of competitive and recreational sports to further develop their athletic and personal skills. We compete on a weekly basis in the St George Zone and enter a range of sports in the NSW Combined High School (CHS) inter-school knockout program.

We offer:

- Dedicated staff with a passion for teaching and learning in the wide range of contexts studied.
- A range of learning experiences incorporating project based and personal interest.
- Engaging programming that incorporates ICT to support authentic learning
- Subjects that offer a wide range of post school career opportunities and skills for life.

Issues explored in PDHPE:

- Sense of self
- Changes, challenges, Bullying and respectful relationships
- Drug safety education and Mental Health
- Impacts of body image
- Nutrition, physical fitness and Sexual Health
- Assessing health products and consumer protection
- Driver education and road safety

**Net court games** – Badminton, Table Tennis, Paddle Tennis, Volleyball, Tennis.

**Invasion games** – Touch Football, European Handball, Soccer, Futsal, Oz tag, AFL.

**Striking and Fielding Games** – Cricket, T- ball, Softball

**Target games** – Dodgeball, Netball, Basketball, Bucket Golf, Ultimate Frisbee.

Subjects Offered:

- PDHPE in Years 7-10
- PASS (Physical Activity & Sports Science) in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Child Studies in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Health and Movement Science (2 Unit) in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation (2 Unit) in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Community and Family Studies (2 Unit) in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

# Languages

The study of Languages enables the student to adapt to our rapidly changing world and provides students with the skills to respond positively to the opportunities and challenges they may face. They are exposed to many linguistic and cultural experiences as they are immersed in their language of choice.

## The study of Languages promotes

- Cross-cultural understanding
- An understanding of different attitudes and values
- Literacy and general knowledge

## We offer 5 Languages at Blakehurst High School

- Japanese
- Chinese
- Italian
- French
- Modern Greek

## The study of Languages

- Compulsory in Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8)
- An Elective choice in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Elective Continuers and Beginners in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

Blakehurst High School Languages faculty is committed to providing students with quality education through excellent resources and engaging teaching strategies.

Students participate in a range of cultural activities to further enhance their learning experience.

## Cultural Activities

- Exhibitions
- Theatre and cinema
- Restaurant visits
- Cooking and food tasting
- Dancing
- Celebrating festivals
- Crafts
- Relevant cultural activities in the local community
- Languages Day for Year 8
- Languages Camp for Year 9

# Creative & Performing Arts

The Creative and Performing Arts faculty includes Visual Arts, Visual Design, Photography, Drama and Music. We offer students the opportunity to explore creative expression through the development of their individual talents as well as learning practical and problem-solving skills.

The facilities at Blakehurst High School include sophisticated digital photographic equipment and a darkroom. Additionally, students develop their skills in design through the medium of clay.

Our staff are specialists in their teaching area with a commitment to excellence in the areas of Visual Arts, Music, Drama, Design and Photography.

## Music

In Music students learn through listening, performance and composition. They study a range of music styles including those that are technology based. Students are actively encouraged to be part of the school band or to develop skills in a particular instrument. Students may receive tuition in guitar and choir

Facilities include two well equipped classrooms, a rehearsal room and access to a variety of composition software applications

## Drama

This course aims to engage and challenge students to maximise their dramatic abilities and enjoyment of drama and theatre through making, performing and appreciating dramatic and theatrical works.

## Photographic & Digital Media

This course encompasses both Wet Photography practice and Digital Media areas, which include tuition in Photoshop, Flash Animation and Film Making

## Visual Arts

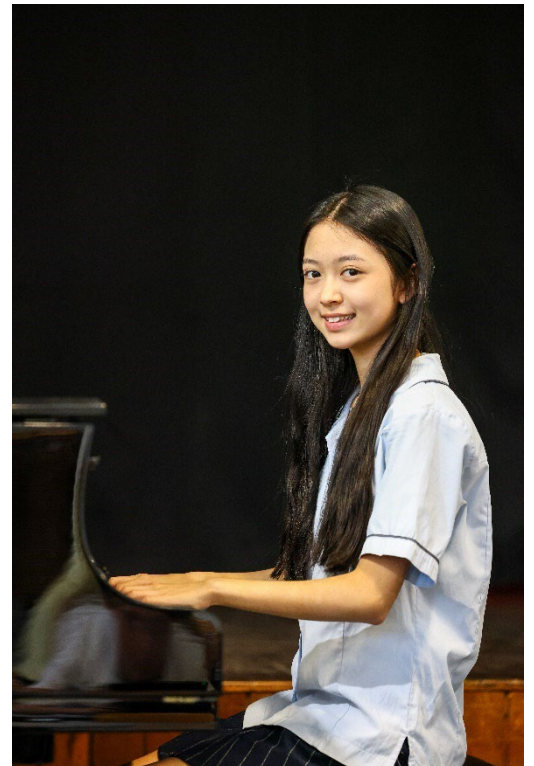
This course covers the traditional areas of drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. Students also investigate contemporary practice in the area of digital media

## Visual Design

Visual Design has an emphasis on design practice. This course investigates the way design impacts our world and can include Graphic Design, Costume Design, Architectural Design, Environmental Design as well as the Designed Objects

## We offer

Opportunities for students to participate in excursions to galleries, the theatre and musical performances as part of their study.





# School Musicals

Extra-curricular activities such as the school musical provides students with an opportunity to work behind the scenes as part of the backstage and lighting crew, or showcase their talent as an actor, singer, or musician.

During 2021, Blakehurst High School presented our first large scale performance with the musical of **Grease The Musical**.



In November of 2023, BHS put on the musical, **Wonderland: Alice's Rock and Roll Adventures!** Directed by Drama Teacher, Miss Taradilis and Mr O'Toole, and supported by the CAPA team, our amazing cast and crew brought a little magic to the BHS school and community through Alice's journey into Wonderland.



In 2024, BHS presented **The Addams Family – School Edition**. Directed by Miss Taradilis and Mr Stewart. The Addams Family – School Edition was a true team effort, involving the entire school and supported by the CAPA and Tech Teams.



# Technological & Applied Studies (TAS)

## – Industrial Arts

Industrial Arts and Technology based subjects develops and trains students to complete both practical and theoretical enhanced project-based learning, in an essential learning environment to develop their work ready skills and career ambitions.

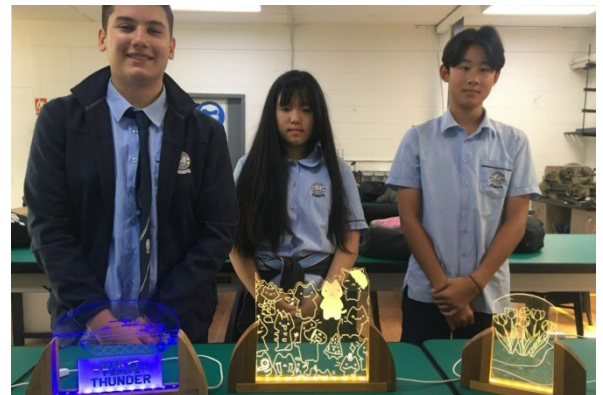
### Subjects offered

- Technology Mandatory in Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8)
- Graphic Technology Stages 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Design Innovation STEM in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Computing Technology in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Industrial Technology Timber Stage 5 (Years 9 -10)
- Construction in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Design and Technology in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Engineering Studies in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Industrial Technology Timber Products and Furniture Technology Stage 6 (Year11-12)

Blakehurst High School seeks to develop student's creativity, problem solving, research & literacy competence and practical application, through a range of specific projects.

### Areas of Learning

- Access to computers, CAD, Laser and 3D Printing
- Fully established woodwork workshops
- Fully established design labs
- Dedicated computer labs
- Graphics lab



### What students will experience

- Activities and assignments encouraging problem solving and higher order thinking skills. Project based learning to develop modern innovative thinkers
- Extensive range of practical experiences
- Individual research and investigation tasks allowing students to progress at a rate that suits their ability
- Extension activities written into programs
- Encouragement to express creativity and design skills
- Opportunity to participate in competition's, demonstration's, excursions
- Group work and research tasks using technology and encouragement of cooperative decision making

# Technological & Applied Studies (TAS)

## – Home Economics

Technological & Applied Studies (TAS) involves learning about technology by using technology. Students engage in a diverse range of practical experiences and develop knowledge and understanding of contemporary and advancing technologies. Blakehurst High School TAS faculty seeks to develop student's creativity, problem solving, research and literacy competence and practical application, through a range of specific projects.

### Subjects offered

- Community & Family Studies Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Hospitality Food and Beverage Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Food Technology Stage 5 and Stage 6 (Years 9 – 12)
- Textiles Technology Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10)
- Textiles and Design Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)
- Technology Mandatory Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8)



### Areas of Learning

- Fully renovated industry standard kitchens
- Fully established textiles rooms

### What students will experience

- Activities that develop and refine skills working with varied materials and production technologies
- Practical activities to enhance their knowledge and understanding of contemporary issues in society
- Apply their practical skills to design and construct a variety of creative textile products
- Opportunities to become technologically literate individuals capable of developing creative solutions to identified problems and situations
- Activities and assignments encouraging problem solving and higher order thinking skills
- Opportunity to participate in excursions
- Group work and research tasks using technology and encouragement of cooperative decision making

# Student Growth

At Blakehurst High School, we believe that every student deserves the opportunity to access an education. We are committed to ensuring that all students, regardless of their individual needs, receive the support they need to succeed. By working closely with students, teachers, and parents/carers, we support, assess and modify programs to ensure they are inclusive, adaptable and responsive to each student's unique learning requirements.

## In the Student Growth faculty, we have

**Experienced Learning & Support Teachers (LaSTs):** Skilled in team teaching, providing targeted supports to enhance student learning.

**Experienced Student Learning Support Officers (SLSO):** A team of dedicated professionals who work alongside teachers to ensure all students receive the support they need in the classroom.

## We offer

- **Tailored education programs:** Designed to help students develop key skills and thrive academically.
- **Individual support:** For students requiring extra assistance to reach their educational goals.
- **Opportunities for students to develop social and independent living skills:** Providing opportunities for students to grow socially and develop life skills to navigate the world around them.



# Wellbeing

The Wellbeing team are committed to the care and support of our students' learning growth and development. We address their academic, social, emotional and wellbeing needs and offer opportunities for growth and development.

We are a highly experienced, sensitive and dedicated team who regularly update our skills and networks.

## Our team comprises of

- Deputy Principals
- Head Teacher Wellbeing
- Year Advisers
- Home School Liaison Officer
- Student Support Officer (SSO)
- School Counsellors

The Wellbeing team identifies barriers which prevent students learning and, in conjunction with parents/carers and other support agencies, the team works towards overcoming these barriers so the students can maximise their learning outcomes.

The Wellbeing team monitors attendance and works with students to build a supportive culture. The team takes a proactive stance in addressing any welfare and wellbeing issues that students may face and which may impact their learning.

## The following programs support our students

- Peer Support
- Study skills and goal setting
- Drug education
- Anti-bullying workshops
- Career education
- Mentoring
- School merit system
- U Turn the Wheel
- Party Safe program
- Team building
- Healthy relationships
- My Strengths
- Love Bites
- Brainstorm Productions
- Self-motivation
- Wellness days
- Rock & Water
- Headspace presentations
- Naidoc Week activities
- R U OK? Day
- Police Youth Liaison Officer presentations
- Life Ready program

# Library

Our library, the *Bidjigal Learning Place*, is the centre of our school. It is open to staff and students every day and it provides a welcoming space for learning and recreation. The space is comfortable, dynamic and responsive to the changing needs of our students.

## Our Library Vision

- To support the curriculum by providing quality, relevant, current and accurate resources that meet student needs & interests
- To assist members of the learning community to become effective, critical and responsible users of information
- To support students to become lifelong lovers of literature

## Our Collection

The *Bidjigal Learning Place* has a wide collection of non-fiction resources available to borrow. We have a growing range of fiction including novels, picture books and graphic novels. Students are encouraged to enjoy our resources and stay connected by accessing Oliver, our library catalogue at school or from home.

Our online subscriptions include:

- Clickview educational videos
- Audio Books and E-Books
- Britannica Online Encyclopaedia

## Our Space

Our library is the centre of learning in our school. We have flexible learning spaces and comfortable furniture for relaxation, collaboration and individual study. Our space can transform with a moment's notice, accommodating a wide range of activities.

## Homework Centre

This longstanding program is facilitated through the library. Two afternoons each week, students are encouraged to remain behind at school and obtain teacher support, to complete tasks, use resources, or simply, have a quiet space to work.

## Bring Your Own Device – BYOD

The BYOD program is facilitated through the library with intensive orientation for new students as well as ongoing support. Library staff support students to troubleshoot laptop issues and help students with their printing needs.

## Library Lessons

Years 7 and 8 have one timetabled English lesson in the library each cycle, affording them full use of the library resources, and a tailored learning experience. In collaboration with classroom teachers, the teacher librarian designs activities that complement learning in English. Senior classes also access the library space, with a strong focus on research and referencing skills.

# Sport

At Blakehurst High School we offer a variety of different sporting options for students from Years 7-12.

Students from Years 7-10 participate in compulsory sporting activities every Wednesday at Blakehurst High School. Two options are been Grade Sport and Recreational Sports.

Grade Sport is where students participate and compete in a variety of sports against other schools in the St George Zone area. Grade Sport is broken up into Summer (Terms 1 and 4) and Winter (Terms 2 and 3). Students have the choice of such sports as Table Tennis, Soccer, Basketball, Oztag, Volleyball and Tennis. Blakehurst High School have reached finals in Grade Sport competition every year and have achieve success in multiple sports.

The other sporting options students have on a Wednesday is recreational sports. These are non competitive sports that students can participate in. They include Flipout, Tenpin Bowling, Gardening, Yoga, Stream Watch (an interactive science program) and walking. These sports are available all year and cater for students who don't want to play competitive sports.

Blakehurst High School competes in the St George Zone for Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. Blakehurst has achieved excellent results at these carnivals with multiple age champions every year and record holders in all disciplines. Success at the Zone Carnival then leads to Sydney East Regional Carnivals and then to Combined High School State Championships.

We offer a variety of sports for students to participate in Sydney East Knockout Competitions. These sports include Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Cricket, Table Tennis and many more. Blakehurst won the 2023 Sydney East Boys Squash Title and were quarter finalist in Basketball, Boys Soccer, Boys Tennis in 2023. By allowing students to participate in these sporting teams it is an opportunity for students to demonstrate our core school values of rigour, integrity and empathy on the sporting fields.

At Blakehurst High School we also offer our students to participate in Sporting competitions such as Bill Turner Cup, State Futsal, State Oztag and Sharks Shield Basketball competitions which are very popular with students and therefore achieving excellent results.



# Careers & Transition Team

At Blakehurst High School our students and parents/carers can access information, resources, and career advice on a wide range of topics. Our Careers Adviser *Mrs Sophia Koutsoukos* and Transition Adviser *Mrs Marie Tsambourlis* assist students by providing:

- Individual career interviews for all Year 12 students and other students upon request
- Information and advice on post school pathways and beyond
- Assistance with university admissions, early entry applications, scholarships, and alternative entry programs
- Assistance with resumes, job search and job applications
- Individual meetings with students and parents/carers to discuss transition pathways and options.
- Excursions, workshops and White Card training
- Information evening with UAC and lunchtime guest speakers with universities and apprenticeship providers
- The annual Blakehurst High School Careers Expo
- Careers Newsletter with information updates emailed to parents/carers and students
- Online information on Google Classroom to Years 10, 11 and 12
- Work Experience for Year 10 students
- Display and distribution of publications from universities, private colleges and TAFE
- External Vocational Education and Training (EVET) and School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeship (SBAT)





# HSC Success

At BHS we work towards ensuring our students reach their potential. We strive for strong academic result, the cornerstone of our school mission statement. Our State ranking is exceptional and our emphasis on pedagogy and strong student support ensures that we maintain our place as a the leading comprehensive high school in the St George area.

Below is a snapshot of our 2024 HSC results.



**Pedro Drew**  
**96.00**



**Ka Shun  
Aaron Lai**  
**91.70**



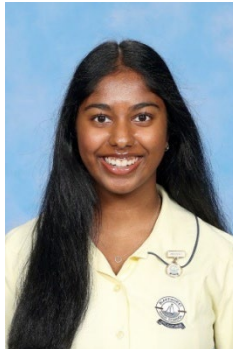
**Zelin Guan**  
**93.65**



**Katerina Daris**  
**92.65**



**William Li**  
**95.05**



**Aishwarna  
Sathi**  
**94.60**

# Homework



## Rationale

Homework is an important part of a student's learning program as it helps on what has already been learnt in the classroom.

- Homework allows for:
- Revision of learnt knowledge
- Reinforcement of skills learnt at school
- The opportunity to be extended and
- Student preparation for the next stage of their learning

## Objectives and Platform

Our secondary students are taught by a number of specialist subject teachers. Homework is set by all teachers, but not necessarily every day. A sufficient time of two weeks is allowed for research activities and larger assignments, so that students can access resources. When large assignments and special work are set, the library is informed to allow for support at this level.

Homework activities will vary according to the needs of the various subjects being studied. While most homework will consist of completing work begun in class, and preparing for future lessons, students may also be given work to consolidate what they have learnt and to help them progress.

It is our aim at Blakehurst High School that students are supported in reaching their full potential. It is expected that all homework has the underlying purpose of maximising students' Literacy, Numeracy, Technology based and Metacognitive Skills.

In addition to carrying out the homework set by teachers, students are expected to spend time at home reviewing the work they have learnt in class. Research has shown that if a student does not revise the work they have done during the day they will automatically forget 84% of it before the next day.

Homework should be seen by students, parents/carers as a useful part of the home/school partnership, which supports students while they learn.

Follow-up to homework by teachers is punctual and consistent. If a student does not complete homework it is recorded. Continuous lateness or incompleteness of homework will lead to a letter being sent home and detention. It may also lead to a student parent/carer and teacher interview and the student being placed on an improvement contract.

## Responsibilities

Parents/carers can help by:

- Supporting students in completing homework
- Providing, if possible, a dedicated place and desk for homework and study
- Assisting teachers to monitor homework, by discussing homework with students
- Communicating with teachers about any concerns with homework or their child's approach to homework

# Book Work

The Blakehurst High School teaching staff believes that regular communication between teachers, students and parents/carers is a vital component of the teaching and learning process. While students will have the opportunity to use their devices as part of the school's new BYOD policy, we believe it is imperative for students to continue to use their workbooks as their primary tool for teaching and learning. This belief was the premise for our Bookwork Policy.

Students in Years 7-10 will be required to submit their workbooks to their classroom teacher for feedback. Workbooks will be collected at least once per term to monitor ongoing student progress and provide regular feedback. Teachers will be reviewing the completion of class and homework tasks and students will be given feedback on the following elements of their bookwork:

- **Work completion** – classwork is complete and current, homework tasks submitted on time
- **Standard of completed work** – adherence to task instructions, organised and ordered chronologically, depth and detail in work
- **Book presentation and neatness** – headings, dates, margins, worksheets glued into workbook, use of correct pen colours, handwriting
- **Literacy/writing skills** – effort to ensure spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure and syntax are correct, development of vocabulary
- **Student application in class** – work ethic, following teacher instructions, participation in class discussion, respect for staff, students and classroom

A key component of this book-checking process will be the requirement that parents/carers sight and sign off on the teacher feedback within one week of the books being returned to students. This process will strive towards ensuring that teachers, students and parents/carers can remain collectively aligned in our goals to improve student outcomes.



# Mobile Phone & Wearable Devices Policy & Procedure

In accordance with the NSW Department of Education Students Use of Mobile Phones in Schools Policy, Blakehurst High School will implement the BHS Student Mobile Phone and Smart Devices Management Plan. The use of mobile phones and smart devices during school hours will be managed by a gate-to-gate approach using an "off and away" strategy.

## Student Expectations

- Students may not use mobile phones and other personal electronic devices while on school grounds at any time. 'School grounds' extends to school excursions, sports carnivals, and other events at the school or off site where an approved school activity takes place, unless otherwise advised.
- Mobile phones are to be 'off and away all day' from the time students enter school grounds in the morning until have leave school grounds at the end of the day. This includes before school and at break times.
- Students must switch their smart watch to 'aeroplane mode' for the duration of the school day.
- BYOD or school issued laptops are NOT part of the ban
- Teachers may also request or allow students to use listening accessories with their laptops as required for learning activities
- Students who do not comply with the policy will be directed to go the front office and hand in their phone. They will receive an off and away slip to show to their teacher, date and time stamped. The phone will be securely stored in the office for collection at the end of the day from a Deputy Principal. Office staff will record on the Daily Phone Register. The Deputy Principal will record the incidents on Sentral and notify parents/carers. Failure to follow the discipline code will incur more severe consequences, including Formal Caution to Suspend, or a Suspension, for persistent failure to follow school procedures and the Schools Behaviour and Discipline Procedures.
- Students must take full responsibility for any mobile phone or similar device brought to school. The school or staff will not be responsible for their loss, theft, or damage. Students who bring their devices to school, do so at their own risk.

## Purchasing at the canteen

Students will be required to use a card/cash to pay for purchases at the canteen. Phones are not to be used for purchases, including those who have an exemption.

## Exemptions/Accommodations

Exemptions for medical purposes may be given after direct negotiation with the Principal.

## Parent/Carer Expectations

- Contact between students and their parents/carers will be through the school office during the hours of 8.15am and 3.15pm. Contact the school Front Office on (02) 9546 3281 to pass on messages rather than contacting a student directly on their device.
- Understand that the school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to phones or personal electronic devices.
- Work collaborated with the school and help reinforce Blakehurst High School's Mobile Phone Policy (Personal Devices) with their child/ren.

## Mobile Phone – Non-Compliance

Students who fail to follow the instructions or are observed with their phone or device out whilst in school, will be asked to take their phone or device to the office immediately. If the student does not comply the teacher will report to the Head Teacher or another Executive to come and intervene. The student will be removed from class, or the playground and parents/carers called.

**First Offence: Level 1** The student will need to take their phone or device to the Student Administration Office. The phone will be returned at the end of the school day. Logged in Sentral.

**Second Offence: Level 2** The student will need to take their phone or device to the Student Administration Office. Parents/carers will be required to collect the phone and discuss the persistent disobedience. Logged in Sentral

**Third Offence: Level 3** The student will need to take their phone or device to Student Administration Office. Parents/carers will need to collect the phone and discuss the persistent disobedience. Student will be placed in the Reflection Room. A Formal Caution will be issued. Parents/carers will be notified of both these actions. Logged in Sentral.

**Continued Offences:** Will lead to further management actions. If students are rude or offensive to staff, they will automatically be given a Formal Caution by a Deputy Principal and be placed in the reflection room. It is important to note that restorative inclusive conversations will occur at every stage.

# Student Recognition & Presentation Day

In 2025, Blakehurst High School will launch a new Student Recognition System. Students will receive awards for displaying Academic Excellence, Community Spirit and our School Values of Integrity, Rigour and Empathy.

Students will accumulate recognition points which will see them move through Bronze, Silver, Gold and Principal's Award levels.

## STUDENT RECOGNITION



### ACHIEVEMENT

**Creative  
Innovation  
Intellectual  
Physical**

Can be demonstrated through performance and improvement in:

- Academics
- Creative arts
- Higher order thinking
- Performing arts
- Practical and technological skills
- Sport



### COMMUNITY

**Contribution  
Environment  
Leadership**

Can be demonstrated by:

- Being a leader
- Championing diversity
- Fostering inclusivity
- Participating in co-curricular activities
- Positively impacting our community
- Protecting our environment



### VALUES

**Most Valuable Player  
Integrity  
Rigour  
Empathy**

Can be demonstrated by:

- Being honest, reflective and responsible
- Being safe, respectful and driven
- Challenging yourself
- Grasping opportunities
- Showing self-pride and school pride

Our students are encouraged to achieve across all areas of the school. At our annual Presentation Ceremony, we celebrate student success. This will be updated in 2025 with the addition of the new Student Recognition System. Below is a snapshot of our prestigious awards.

## Academic awards

### **First in Subject**

Awarded to the student who achieves first place in a course

Open to all students' years 7-12

### **Achievement in Subject**

Awarded to the student who achieves their best in a course

Open to all students' years 7-12

### **DUX of the Year**

Awarded to the student who achieves top in the year

Trophy and prize money

Open to all students' years 7-12

### **Allan Smythe Memorial Award for Mathematics**

Medallion

Awards to 1 student

Open to year 8

### **GRC Award for Commitment to PDHPE**

Certificate and prize month

Awards to 1 student

Open to year 11

### **Mark Sheldon Memorial Award for Academic Excellence in Science**

Medallion

Awarded to 1 student

Open to year 11

## Languages Award

### **The Pan-Arcadian Junior Modern Greek Scholarship Award of Encouragement**

Medallion and prize money

Awarded to 2 students

Open to years 7-9

### **The Pan-Arcadian Senior Modern Greek Scholarship Award of Encouragement**

Medallion and prize money

Awarded to 2 students

Open to years 10-12

### **Toula Loizos Memorial Award for Excellence in Modern Greek**

Medallion and prize money

Awarded to 2 students

Open to years 7-11

### **The Lawrence d'Iapico-Bien Award for EAL/D**

Medallion and prize money

Awarded to 4 students

Open to years 7-11

### **The Lawrence d'Iapico-Bien Award for Italian Studies**

Medallion and prize money

Awarded to 4 students

Open to years 7-11

## Values Awards

### **Integrity Rigour Empathy Award**

Medallion and prize money  
Awarded to 2 Junior Prefects  
Awarded to 3 SRC members  
Open to years 7-11

### **Nihil Sine Labore Award**

Medallion and prize money  
Awarded to 5 students  
Open to years 7-11

### **P&C Association Award**

Medallion and prize money  
Awarded to 5 students  
Open to years 7-11

### **BHS Merit Scheme**

Open to years 7-12

### **Christopher Minns Encouragement Award**

Certificate and prize money  
Awarded to 1 student  
Open to year 11

### **State Parliamentarian's Award**

Certificate and prize money  
Awarded to 1 student  
Open to year 10

### **Commonwealth Parliamentarian's Merit Award**

Certificate and prize money  
Awarded to 1 student  
Open to year 10

### **Above 95% Attendance Award**

Certificate  
Open to years 7-12

## Co-curricular awards

### **Blakehurst High School Public Speaking Award**

Medallion  
Awarded to 2 students  
Open to years 7-9

### **Blakehurst High School Debating Award**

Medallion  
Awarded to 1 Junior and 1 Senior student  
Open to years 7-11

### **ADF Long Tan Young Leadership Award**

Certificate and prize money  
Awarded to 2 students  
Open to years 10 and 12

### **ADF Future Innovators Award**

Certificate and prize money  
Awarded to 2 students  
Open to years 10 and 12

### **AMPOL All Rounder Award**

Medallion  
Awarded to 1 Student  
Open to years 11

### **NSW Premier's Reading Challenge**

Medallion or Certificate  
Open to years 7-9

## Sports Awards

### **Athletics Age champion**

Trophy  
Open to years 7-12

### **Swimming Age champion**

Trophy  
Open to years 7-12

### **CHS Representatives**

Trophy  
Open to years 7-12

### **Pankhurst Memorial Encouragement Prize for Junior Sport**

Trophy  
One male and one female  
Open to years 7-9

### **Pankhurst Memorial Encouragement Prize for Senior Sport**

Trophy  
One male and one female  
Open to years 10-11

### **NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge Medal**

Medallion  
Open to years 7-9

### **GRC Award for Commitment to Sport**

Awarded to 1 student  
Open to year 10 students



# Student Voice

## Student Leaders

Student leaders at Blakehurst High School have an important leadership role in the school and enhancing the community's respect for the school. Student leaders are expected to display behaviour of the highset standard at all times, show leadership in the playground and beyond the school gates, and encourage responsible behaviour in other students. School leaders fulfil a number of roles at official functions and representing the school.

## Student Representative Council (SRC)

The SRC is a student-led group consisting of students from Years 7-11. These students represent the opinions, interests and needs of all students from across the school. The SRC completes two major projects each year with the aim of improving the school and the relationship we have with other organisations in our community. To fund for these major projects, the SRC runs various events and fundraisers throughout the year.



## Senior Prefects and Junior Prefects

Each year up to 14 senior students are selected to be Prefects. The selection process is based on written applications followed by an interview. The selection criteria includes evidence of an extensive involvement in school life such as Interact, SRC, Peer Support, school sport, debating, fund raising, environmental team and peer tutoring. Students must have a very good attendance record and be held in high regard by the school community. Students must have demonstrated leadership qualities and a commitment to carrying out their duties as Prefects.

The Senior Prefects abide not only by the school's values of *INTEGRITY*, *RIGOUR* and *EMPATHY* but also by the pledge they undertake where they promise to do their best to be a positive role model for other students as well as proactively maintaining the school reputation to assist with the efficient operation of the school wherever possible. They maintain they "will at all times and in all places maintain the honour of my school, for what I am, my school will be".

## Peer Support Leaders

Peer Support Leaders are Year 10 students who assist new Year 7 students in the transition from Year 6 to Year 7. This programme operates throughout the year. The programme places trained Year 10 students in contact with a small group of Year 7 students for a variety of activities which help Year 7 students develop familiarity with the school, develop their social skills and make valuable links with older students.

Year 10 students' self-nominate to become Peer Support Leaders and are then invited to interview before students, the Principal, Deputy Principals and Year Advisors. Successful students have further training to familiarise themselves with the delivery of the course and to further develop their leadership skills.

# Extra-Curricular Activities & Clubs

## Extra-Curricular Activities

At Blakehurst High School, we support our students' academic needs, but are also attuned to their strengths, and their interests. As such, we offer many enrichment opportunities to ensure that they both grow and develop their interests and skills.

We offer a number of opportunities for students to engage and represent the school in competitions and events. These include:

## Academic

- Debating
- ICAS
- Public Speaking
- Poetry Slam
- Red Room Poetry
- Spelling Bee
- What Matters Writing Competition

## Homework Centre

The Homework Centre opens every Monday and Thursday after school from 3:15-4:30pm. Staff are available to supervise and support students from Year 7–9. Homework Centre is ideal for students needing a quiet space to complete work, or access school resources. Teaching staff are there to help and support, making it an ideal opportunity to receive a helping hand.

Students can sign up for Monday, Thursday or even both days. This is a free service.



## Clubs

We encourage our students to join various clubs with students who have the same shared interest. Many of our clubs are student-led and involve students from all year groups.

These include:

- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Choir Club
- Debating Club
- Gardening Club
- Drama Club
- Environment Club
- Research Club
- Production (Tech) Club
- Public Speaking Club



# Bell Times 2025

PERIOD	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Roll call</b>	8.50-9.00am	8.50-9.00am	8.50-9.00am	8.50-9.00am	8.50-9.00am
<b>1</b>	9:00-10:00am	9:00-10:00am	9:00-10:30am Inc Assembly & Yr Meetings	9:00-10:00am	9:00-10:00am
<b>2</b>	10:00-11:00am	10:00-11:00am	10:30-11:00 <b>RECESS</b>	10:00-11:00pm	10:00-10.30pm <b>RECESS</b>
<b>RECESS</b>	11:00-11:30am	11:00-11:30am	11:00-12pm	11:00-11:30pm	10.30-11.30pm <i>PERIOD 2</i>
<b>3</b>	11:30-12:30pm	11:30-12:30pm	12.00-12.30pm <b>LUNCH</b>	11:30-12:30pm	11:30-12:30pm <i>PERIOD 3</i>
<b>4</b>	12:30-1:30pm	12:30-1:30pm		12:30-1:30pm	12:30-1:00pm <b>LUNCH</b>
<b>LUNCH</b>	1:30-2:00pm	1:30-2:00pm	12:30-2:30pm <b>SPORT</b>	1:30-2:00pm	1:00-2:00pm <i>PERIOD 4</i>
<b>5</b>	2:00-3:00pm	2:00-3:00pm		2:00-3:00pm	

\*Recreational Sports (Jnr/Snr walking, Girls/Boys House Sport, Streamwatch, gardening) have lunch from 12.15-12.45pm then go to sport

**If sport is wet weather:**

PERIOD	TIME
<b>ROLL CALL</b>	8.50-9.00am
<b>1</b>	9:00-10:30am <i>Inc Assembly &amp; Yr Meetings</i>
<b>RECESS</b>	10:30-11.00am
<b>2</b>	11:00- 12:00pm
<b>3</b>	12:00-1:00pm
<b>LUNCH</b>	1:00-1:30pm
<b>4</b>	1:30-2:30pm

# School Map

Perrau Lower Level

←	Exit	
Art A2		Art A1
Art A3		

Perrau Upper Level

<i>Out of Bounds</i>	CL	CAPA Staff Room
Lab 6 L6		
Science Prep	Exit	Music MS2
Lab 5 L5		Drama DM
Dark Room		Music MS1
		Music Tutor Room

Industrial Arts

Graphics Lab GL	Woodwork W2
Store	IA Staff Room
Metalwork M	
	Exit

Main Building – Lower level

Canteen	4B	HT Curric	Counsellor	4A	Diverse Learning	3
	Food Lab FL2	Food Lab FL1	Entry	Admin HT	5	6

Industrial Arts "Tin Shed"

Electronics E	Woodwork W1
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Main Building – Upper level

15	14	Textile Lab TL1		Textile Lab TL2	13	12
Maths Staff Room	→		→			
16	17	18	Tas H Ec Staff Room	19	20	21

Woniora Road

<b>ADMINISTRATION BLOCK</b>
<b>STAFF COMMON ROOM</b>

Driveway

**LIBRARY (upper level)**

Science (lower level)

Lab 2 L2		Lab 4 L4
		Staffroom
Lab 1 L1		Lab 3 L3
Store		Prep Room 2
Toilets		→

D9
D8

D7
D6

**Main Building – Lower level**

Diverse Learning	Blue Room 3	2	Exit		1
					8
					7
Welfare Officer	6A		Store	Store	Social Worker
	Careers Adviser		6B	6C	
			<i>Out of Bounds</i>		
<i>Out of Bounds</i>					
Assembly Hall					

D5
D4
D3

D2
D1

PE Staff Room	GYM
Change Rooms	

**Main Building Upper level**

11	Green Room 10		9
← ←			English Staff Room
HSIE Staff Room	22	LOTE Staff Room	23



*At BHS we inspire students to excel as  
critical learners, thinkers and champions of diversity,  
who have a positive impact on their world.*

