Welcome to Picton High

Moving from the comfort and support of a primary school into a large high school, can be a big leap into the unknown for many students. Understandably both students and their parents will want to know more about the new school and similarly, we want to get to know our new students, understanding their needs and special traits. We are pleased that you have chosen to enrol with us and know that the information explained here might ease any uncertainty you have about our transition process.

Visits to your Primary School

During terms 3 and 4, your Year Advisers, Mrs Hager and Mrs Davis, will be popping out to see you in your class. They will have a chance to talk to you, as well as see you in a setting where you feel comfortable. They will talk to your teachers and will get to know you that little bit better. Their faces will become familiar to you and you will hopefully feel confident in having a chat!

Our Learning and Support Teachers (LASTS) are very keen to meet with your teachers too. They will be observing you in class, as well as gaining information about your learning needs from your classroom teachers. Their names are Mrs Keller, Mrs Hornstra and Ms Winter. They will also be assisting in the transition of students with special learning needs and behavioural concerns, where we try and accommodate your special needs to ensure you are happy and secure in high school.

Mrs. Hager

I am a History and Legal Studies teacher at Picton High School and have been at the school since 2012. I worked at Picton High School in temporary and casual positions, prior to applying for my permanent position. I chose to apply for my position because I strongly value the rapport and relationships with my students and their parents, as well as the sense of community within the school. I am honoured to have been chosen to be the Year Advisor for Year 7 2015. I really look forward to meeting every one of Picton High’s 2015 Year 7 students and building that rapport with them. I also look forward to sharing with them, all the adventures high school life has to offer.

Mrs. Davis

I am an English and History teacher at Picton High School and have been working full time at the school since 2011. Since starting my teaching career I have dedicated myself to the welfare and engagement of all students. I am excited and grateful to have the opportunity to work with Mrs Hager as the Year 7 Year Advisor Assistant for the 2015 and look forward to building a positive relationship with the students.

Important Dates 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Advisor Primary School Visits</td>
<td>Term 2, 3and 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Class Test Booking close</td>
<td>July 25</td>
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<td>Academic Class Test</td>
<td>August 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>A morning at High School</td>
<td>October 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAST meetings with Primary Staff</td>
<td>Term 3 and 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Transition Plans Implementation</td>
<td>Term 4</td>
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<td>Orientation Day</td>
<td>December 3</td>
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Applying to be in our Advanced Skills Class

Mr. Wilson
Relieving Head Teacher, Teacher and Learning

Each year, we give students who are interested and academically capable the opportunity to apply for our Advanced Skills Class. This class provides students with enrichment opportunities and allows them to engage with a variety of learning projects. The class works at a challenging level to extend and support our gifted students in reaching their full potential.

This year, students in the Advanced Skills Class have had the opportunity to engage with SOLE (Self-Organised Learning Environment) lessons in a variety of subjects. SOLE lessons are group-based tasks and allow students to take ownership of their learning experience, strengthen interpersonal skills and develop greater self-confidence.

They have also participated in Study Skills Kick Start sessions run by Elevate Education. These sessions introduced students to some of the fundamental skills required for their transition into secondary education.

Parents have also been invited to join an email distribution list to allow contact and notify parents of initiatives and learning strategies undertaken in the Advanced Skills Class.

To ensure that our processes of selection are equitable across all primary schools, we utilise the services of ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research), who produce and mark selection tests for these purposes. Students applying for the Advanced Skills Class will be completing the Higher-Ability Selection Test (HAST). There is a cost of $54 to purchase the test for each student applying. However to make this more affordable to parents, Picton High School will pay 50% of this fee, leaving on $27 for each applicant to pay.

To sit the test, you must visit our Finance Office prior to July 25, where you will pay $27 and receive a Candidate Information Bulletin, giving you further information about the test. Parents may also contact Picton High School on 4677 1242 and pay over the phone with a credit card.

The test will be held at Picton High School August 8. Parents will need to bring students along to the school by 9.15am where they will be greeted by staff and then taken to administer the three tests - Reading Comprehension, Mathematical Reasoning and Abstract Reasoning. Parents will need to collect their children after the tests, which should be around 12.30pm.

When ACER provides the results to us, we will notify each applicant in writing of the outcome of their application.

Outstanding Success of Students from Picton High School

Amelia Dawson (left)
4th in the state for Health Services Assistant—Acute Care

David Quinn
toured with Jazz Workshop Australia through USA and Barbados.