STUDENT ENROLMENT HANDBOOK 2016
MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Williamstown High School. We are a school that celebrates the growth and achievement of our wonderful students, works continuously to develop and enhance our dynamic learning culture and observes the vibrancy and strength of our wider school community. Our school values promote the ideals of integrity, innovation and the individual.

- Excellence and creativity in our achievement and ambitions.
- Integrity and honesty in our actions and relationships.
- Diversity in our curriculum, in each other and in our community.
- Strong and open communication between our school and our homes, and between our teachers, students and our families.
- A commitment to social justice and a passion to protect and improve our environment and our community.

Our focus on individual growth and success, together with our emphasis on support and connection, encourages students to “Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner”. Our students are provided with many opportunities to excel, these include universal academic excellence, sport, visual and performing arts, debating, leadership, environmental issues and a strong instrumental music program. There are numerous ways in which students showcase their talents to both the local and broader school community and these events also serve the purpose of bringing the school community together to celebrate student achievement.

We enjoy a strong sense of community, working together to develop supportive and strong home school partnerships, depth in our extracurricular activities, a flourishing student leadership program and outstanding performances in the arts, debating, cultural, sporting and artistic achievement. We encourage the highest standards of our students in their diverse pursuits for personal excellence. We believe that high expectations will empower students to be responsible for their own learning. Our outstanding academic results and focus on the development of the whole person makes Williamstown High School the school of choice. Our students are on an extraordinary journey. They arrive full of nervous energy on day one and leave proud and prepared for the challenges that lie ahead when their time to leave our community finally arrives.

The School’s rich history, the achievements of the present and anticipation of the accomplishments for future generations inspires our work. I am very proud to be the Principal of Williamstown High School. It is an absolute privilege to work alongside our committed, caring and professional educators that make a difference to every child, every classroom, everyday.

I welcome and invite you to attend one of our school tours that run until the end of May or visit and discover more about our school through our website.

Gino Catalano
Principal
Williamstown High School
HISTORY

Williamstown High School was established in 1914 and today it is one of Victoria’s oldest and most distinguished State Government Secondary Schools. Proud of our history, but with an eye firmly on the future, we prepare our students to be thoughtful, successful, productive adults and responsible global citizens.

The historical importance and traditions of both Williamstown and our High School are valued by the community and are reflected in our Crest which shows the anchor and motto “Hold Fast”.

The school is set on two campuses that are within a ten minute walking distance and both campuses uphold the strong traditions and reputations with exciting programs and unique settings.

BAYVIEW CAMPUS

The Bayview Campus is the home of our Middle Years campus (Years 7 to 9). This is the site of the former Point Gellibrand Girls’ Secondary College. Williamstown High School merged with the girls’ college in 2000 and a multimillion dollar program saw the buildings and grounds rebuilt in 2005 on an award winning environmentally sustainable design.

PASCO CAMPUS

Situated on the original site established early in the 20th century, the Pasco Campus is nestled in the heart of old Williamstown with an architectural style very much in keeping with the area and the era. The Senior Campus (Years 10 to 12), housed in several heritage buildings, including the original 1867 grammar school block provides a mature setting for Year 10, VCE, VCAL and VET students to access broad and extensive curriculum options with modern facilities and resources to enhance student learning opportunities.

WE VALUE

Williamstown High School provides a dynamic learning culture that promotes integrity, innovation and the individual.

EXCELLENCE & CREATIVITY
...in our achievements and ambitions.

INTEGRITY & HONESTY
...in our actions and relationships.

DIVERSITY
...in our curriculum, in each other and in our community.

STRONG & OPEN COMMUNICATION
...between our school and our homes, and between our teachers, our students and our families.

COMMITMENT
...to social justice and a passion to protect and improve our environment and our community.
Our campus is a purpose built middle year’s facility that is situated on the waterfront, adjacent to the Jawbone Marine Sanctuary. The spacious surroundings and proximity to the bay provides a special and unique home for our Year 7 to 9 students to experience an environmentally rich curriculum. We have a wonderful platform to provide the depth and breadth of learning opportunities for every student. We pride ourselves as a school community that recognises young people as individual learners and the need for an individualised educational experience that empowers achievement and growth for all. We have a dynamic learning culture that is driven by dedicated and professional teachers that is underpinned by best practice research, supported through consistent use of our instructional model “SIMPLE” and the use of data to inform our teaching.

Our middle year’s curriculum philosophy aims to captivate young minds while optimising diversity and the skilled fundamentals essential for lifelong learning. The depth and breadth of our core curriculum is matched impeccably by our wide ranging elective program at Years 8 and 9. Year 9 students partake in the Immersion Program. This program provides a student centered, vibrant and innovative curriculum where students are taught to be 21st Century thinkers, they develop creative solutions to local and global issues and learn by experience and cultivate individual growth through exploration, collaboration and practical application.
ENROLMENT PATHWAYS

GENERAL ENTRY COEDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Enrolment application forms are overseen by the Government Primary Schools. If your child is at a Catholic or Independent Primary School you can collect an enrolment form at our Open Night or from our reception at the Bayview Campus. Only enrolment forms from non-government school students will be directly accepted to Williamstown High School.

If your child has older brothers or sisters attending the school they may not automatically be offered an enrolment place at VHS if you live outside of the school’s designated neighbourhood area.

The criteria for successfully enrolling into this program are as follows:

- Access will be granted to students for whom we are the closest government secondary school.
- Following this, on the basis of geographical closeness to the school of the child’s home within guidelines set by the Department.
- Finally, the allocation of remaining places is offered to children who have a sibling at the school (in the General Coeducational program).

GIRLS ONLY HOMEGROUP

Girls Only Homegroup is a unique program that offers girls a single-sex education in a coeducational setting. The girls classes have a coordinator who works with curriculum leaders to promote and enhance girls education through our teaching and learning and works with our young women to promote and encourage excellence and aspiration across the school.

The Girls Only Homegroup participate in a multitude of opportunities and activities in academic and personal contexts such as guest speakers for special assemblies, self-esteem, leadership and wellbeing workshops. The Girls’ Coordinator follows the academic needs of students and encourages extra curricula involvement. Students in the Girls Only Homegroups are given opportunities to take on various leadership positions within the school, including the newly introduced “Young Women of Willi” leadership role.

- Our girls study the mainstream curriculum through instructions, activities and coursework that is tailored towards the individual needs of girls’ education.
- Girls Only Homegroups study novels or films which allows them to learn about women’s lives in the particular social and historical context of the text.
- Health and Physical Education classes have the opportunity to deeply explore issues significant to the health and wellbeing of teenage girls in a girls only learning environment.

All female students are eligible to apply to be in a Girls Only Homegroup and there are no entry requirements for the program other than the enrolment criteria outlined by the Department which is applied when enrolment positions are offered by the school. When offering positions in the Girls Only Homegroup the following factors are taken into consideration:

- Suitability of learning styles and environment for individual students.
- Ability to demonstrate dedication to school values.
- Commitment of students to be immersed in extra curricula activities and opportunities that Girls Only Homegroups present.

SELECT ENTRY ACCELERATED LEARNING PROGRAM (SEALP)

We provide a Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program for students who have exceptional academic ability. Enrolment in this program is based upon competitive testing and sustainability interviews. As a member of The Academy of Accredited SEAL Schools (TAASS) we maintain the tradition and high standards of likeminded students developing academically, socially and emotionally.

- We provide opportunities for SEAL students to accelerate through secondary school and to undertake challenging learning experiences, which are tailored to deliver outstanding academic achievement.
- We emphasis higher order thinking and independent learning and research.
- Our curriculum is compacted so the mainstream Year 7 – 10 program is covered in a 3-year period via a comprehensive and specific SEAL Program.
- Enrichment is provided by broadening content, understanding, experience and skills to a level appropriate to the students’ proximal zone of development.
- Extension leads to in depth study and the integration and application of knowledge at a higher level.
- Students begin to undertake VCE units at Year 10 in order to maximise flexibility, depth and breadth in their VCE program.
- Exemplary students may have an opportunity to complete a first year university subject in Year 12.
YEAR 7 TRANSITION ‘ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET’

Our pastoral care framework is one of the many ways that we support the wellbeing of all students and ensure an all-inclusive approach to the learning experience of every child. We promote a positive, supportive, whole school culture and this is pivotal to our creative and stimulating learning environment where each student is connected and develops a sense of their own abilities, achievements and self-worth.

From the moment a student joins our school community they are connected to a homegroup and we engender a number of middle year’s research principles to support the seamless transition to secondary school.

- We provide an exciting and comprehensive Orientation Program for students including an event specifically designed for new families.
- We place great value on the strength of the home school partnership.
- Homegroup teachers teach their homegroup for two or more subjects in Year 7 ensuring familiarity and regular contact.
- Our Year 7 students begin the year with transition program known as ‘Rolling Out the Red Carpet’ which focuses on students spending time building relationships with classmates and teachers, becoming familiar with the campus and the routine of the secondary school experience.
- We have a wonderful week long camp early in term one at Kangarooie, Port Campbell. This plays a key role in fostering healthy relationships, a sense of belonging and reinforcing the essential positive teacher student relationships. We follow this up with a Year 7 family BBQ to strengthen our home school partnerships.
## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE: YEARS 7-9

### YEAR 7 CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

**HOMEGROUP STRUCTURE: PASTORAL CARE**

- Homegroup Teacher meets homegroup each morning (10 mins) - Plus 1 period each week

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<th>Across Periods Per Week</th>
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<td><strong>LANGUAGE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TECHNOLOGY</strong></td>
<td>5 periods a week</td>
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- Numeracy block incorporated into curriculum
- Students rotate through the Visual and Performing Arts subjects each semester across Years 7 & 8

### YEAR 8 CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

**HOMEGROUP STRUCTURE: PASTORAL CARE**

- Homegroup Teacher meets homegroup each morning (10 mins) - Plus 1 period each week

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Enrolment Hours Per Year</th>
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<td><strong>HEALTH &amp; PE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>LANGUAGE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>HUMANITIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>THE ARTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TECHNOLOGY</strong></td>
<td>5 periods a week</td>
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</table>

- Numeracy block incorporated into curriculum
- Students rotate through the Visual and Performing Arts subjects each semester across Years 7 & 8

### YEAR 9 CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

**HOMEGROUP STRUCTURE: PASTORAL CARE**

- Homegroup Teacher meets homegroup each morning (10 mins) - Plus 1 period each week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Enrolment Hours Per Year</th>
<th>Across Periods Per Week</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LANGUAGE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TECHNOLOGY</strong></td>
<td>3 periods a week</td>
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- All Year 9 students participate for a term in our Year 9 Immersion Program.
  - This program has 13 periods dedicated to it across the week.

All Year 9 students participate for a term in our Year 9 Immersion Program.

- The following subjects will be immersed into the term based program:
  - Homegroup Assembly
  - English
  - Humanities
  - Science
  - Homegroup session

When the students are in the Immersion Program they are not undertaking studies in the above mentioned subjects.
MAD: IMMERSION PROGRAM - YEAR 9

“Make a Difference (MAD)”, our Year 9 Immersion Program at Williamstown High School, offers a student centered, vibrant and innovative curriculum where students are encouraged to be 21st Century thinkers, develop creative solutions to local and global issues, learn by experience and cultivate individual growth through engaging exploration, collaboration and practical application.

Our principles include:

- The application of research-based thinking processes that positively impact on learning.
- A robust and rigorous curriculum program that promotes individual and academic growth.
- The development of confident 21st Century thinkers.
- The enrichment of effective organisational, time management and leadership skills for lifelong learning.
- Higher order thinking skills that provide individual, authentic and transferrable assessment opportunities.
- Personalised challenges to further develop students resilience and prepare to take on challenges.
- Partnerships with community organisations to provide opportunities for the students to engage in community service.
- Experience of real life problem solving.

Learning time is divided into 3 main areas which includes:

**WORLD:**
Students look at both local and global issues through philosophical chair discussions, guest speakers and class excursions such as the Melbourne CBD homeless tour. Students also spend time planning and carrying out their MAD project and surveying the community on issues of concern.

**COMMUNITY:**
Students undertake both group and individual community service placements. Students have to plan their travel arrangements and work with organisations, such as the local council, hospital, primary schools and charity shops.

**ME TIME:**
“Me time” is a time for students to focus on their own skills and wellbeing. Students spend time developing writing, research and presentation skills, as well as focus on developing their ability to be mindful and reflect on tasks.

MARINE EDUCATION CENTRE

**TO INSPIRE THE COMMUNITY TO CONSERVE OUR AMAZING MARINE ECOSYSTEM**

Our facility, led by our resident Marine Biologist, Garrett Drago, is recognised as a centre for excellence for marine education. The centre promotes awareness and evokes a passionate response from all who visit protecting, nurturing and appreciating our delicate marine ecosystem.

We encourage our students to further investigate the marine field by becoming members of our Marine Education Program.

**JAWBONE MARINE SANCTUARY**

In November 2002 the state government of Victoria declared 13 Marine National Parks and 11 Marine Sanctuaries throughout Victoria. This was to preserve some of Victoria’s finest habitats. Fortunately for Williamstown High School, one of the sanctuaries is located directly behind the school, the Jawbone Marine Sanctuary, and plays a key role in the Marine Education Centre.

The sanctuary supports temperate habitats including: a rocky basalt reef, sea grass beds, a sandy beach, inter-tidal mudflats, a salt marsh, freshwater wetlands, coastal vegetation and the largest population of mangroves in Port Phillip.

We infuse our academic program with environmental themes and issues. The curriculum develops our appreciation for and awareness of designed and natural environments. We are heavily involved in community based environmental projects that provide our students with hands on environmental experience.
Our Pasco Campus is located adjacent to the Williamstown Beach Railway Station, and caters for students in Year 10, 11 and 12. Our Pasco Campus has a long history as a secondary school in the City of Williamstown, and more recently in the City of Hobsons Bay. The oldest building dates from 1867 and the most recent addition will be our new Theatre. This variety in architectural styles makes the campus visually interesting for students and allows us to create a mature learning environment that successfully meets the needs of our senior students.

Our focus on learning is passionately directed toward successfully completing the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). This provides pathways for our students into employment, apprenticeships, technical and further education, or, in most cases, university.

Our teachers specialise in their subject areas and follow a deliberate and targeted approach to promoting learning in their subjects for all students. They recognise that positive relationships with their students is vital for effective learning, and encourage students to ask questions in and out of the classroom. Our teachers use real time learning tools to provide relevant resources and collaborative spaces. We encourage our teachers to be examination assessors for the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) in order to extend their field of expertise for their subject. Our teachers focus on the point of learning need for each student and develop a differentiated strategy to their teaching of every child.

Our campus continues to ensure our students have a significant voice. Students lead our assemblies, organise musical performances at lunchtime, invite and listen to visiting speakers, organise and manage awareness weeks, and organise fund-raising events for their chosen charities. Our Year 12 School Captains represent the school at local events, lead tours of the school for visiting dignitaries, and are active in articulating the views of students to the Campus Principal.
SENIOR SCHOOL PROGRAM

YEAR 10 PROGRAM

The transition to Year 10 starts during Year 9, where the Bayview students come to the Pasco Campus for orientation sessions during Semester 2, and for a full week at the end of the year to begin their academic program.

Our Year 10 curriculum provides a strong foundation for VCE and VCAL through a balanced and individually tailored academic program. All students must study English and Mathematics all year, and at least one semester of Science and the Humanities. Six subjects are taken each semester in order to provide depth of study and to develop the habits of study required for the VCE. Students are encouraged to take a VCE subject in Year 10 provided they have shown sufficient ability and maturity in their studies in Year 9. Our Home Group Program is designed to build confidence, resilience, awareness of personal development, career planning, and organised around the theme of ‘making the right choices’.

THE VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (VCE) PROGRAM

The school offers a full range of VCAA subjects in Year 11 and 12, and the Unit 3 and 4 examinations are held at the school in the school gymnasium. We have a dedicated Study Centre for Year 12 students, where they attend during their study periods. This is well used by our students before school, during the day, and after school. All Year 10 and Year 11 subjects have examinations twice a year to best prepare students for the demands of Unit 3 and 4 examinations.

During the year, we provide career and pathway advice to students, and invite university enrolment officers to speak directly to our students about courses, entry scores, and the available options for gaining access to a course. All Year 12 students have an interview during Semester 1 with the school’s careers counsellor about their possible pathway after Year 12.

In the senior years, we develop a variety of individual learning pathways for our students. Subject options include a full range of Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) units, together with Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETiS) subjects, school based apprenticeships and accelerated university studies to meet individual student needs. Students doing the Victorian Certificate of Education are encouraged to find a balance between their academic studies and personal interests.

THE VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF APPLIED LEARNING (VCAL) PROGRAM

For students with an interest in the trades or TAFE, we provide an alternative pathway to the VCE through the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). Students attend school for three days of the week for units on Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development, and Workplace Learning. On the remaining two days of the week they attend their VET program and their workplace placement. This program is highly successful for students pursuing their desired pathways beyond school.

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

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<th>TECHNOLOGY</th>
<th>HEALTH &amp; PE</th>
<th>LOTE</th>
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<td>SOCIAL STUDIES</td>
<td>THE ARTS</td>
<td>TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>HEALTH &amp; PE</td>
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- Students are required to undertake 6 subjects per semester, including a whole year of English and Mathematics, and at least 1 unit of Science and Humanities.
- All subjects are allocated 4.5 periods per week.
- Students cannot select more than 2 subjects from any one curriculum area.

YEAR 11 & 12 CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

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<td>ACCOUNTING</td>
<td>THEATRE STUDIES</td>
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<td>MUSIC PERFORMANCE</td>
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<td>ECONOMICS</td>
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<td>VCD STUDIO ARTS MEDIA</td>
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<td>VET</td>
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- Year 11 students are required to take 6 subjects per semester, including a whole year of English.
- All subjects are allocated 4.5 periods per week.

- Year 12 students are required to take 5 subjects per semester, including a whole year of English.
- All subjects are allocated 5 periods per week.
BIOLOGY EXTENSION PROGRAM

The University of Melbourne Extension Program (UMEP) is an opportunity for our Year 12 students who have completed Units 3 and 4 Biology to undertake a first year university course offered by the University of Melbourne. Williamstown High School is a UMEP school centre where our senior Biology teachers deliver components of this course. This program provides an exclusive opportunity for our Year 12 students to gain university experience while completing their secondary schooling. As a student of Williamstown High School, the UMEP Biology program allows students to achieve credits towards a University of Melbourne degree and continue the strong partnership between tertiary institutions.

PATHWAYS & TRANSITION: SENIOR CAMPUS

We offer great diversity of programs and pathway planning to our students. All students from Years 9 to 12 take part in course counselling and selection when transitioning through the school. We ensure each student receives the one-on-one support required, by trained and dedicated teaching, careers and pathways specialist staff.

We know that when students visit our Careers Centre they will have the opportunity to explore, engage, evaluate and be supported to take charge of their pathways research. They will be provided with the most relevant and up to date information that will allow them to make informed decisions about career and pathway decisions.

Our Year 10 Work Experience Program provides a powerful insight into career pathways as our students begin to embark in their final years. We ensure that we are with them every step of the way, following their journey and celebrating the success stories along the way.
We never grow tired of hearing the wonderful journeys and successes that have come out of our great school. We are a school that majors in success for all students. It is our families who continue to tell us about the perfect multi-campus balance we offer, including a seamless transition program. We provide deliberate and purposeful learning environments at the Bayview and Pasco Campuses unique to age appropriateness, maturity levels and brain development.

THE SECRET TO OUR SUCCESS

Although we have two distinctively different campuses, we use whole school frameworks that provide a powerful common language, consistent teaching practices and an agreed upon instructional model. At Williamstown High School we are privileged to have a large number of dedicated teachers who are committed to ensuring all our students achieve their best.
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING

We are a secondary school that is nationally recognised for our ongoing successful whole school approach to engagement and wellbeing. Our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework allows us to create and enrich a positive and safe learning environment that continues to enhance our school culture, where we maximise individual academic and social growth. We have three core behavioural expectations that are explicitly taught to all students through formal social skills instruction. They are:

**BE SAFE**  **BE A LEARNER**  **BE RESPECTFUL**

OUR BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS MATRIX

Our Behaviour Expectation Matrix translates Williamstown High School’s three key expectations into expected behaviours. The matrix simplifies what our behaviours should look, sound and feel like. Our expected behaviours are explicitly taught in every classroom and consistently reinforced throughout the school.

POWER OF POSITIVE RECOGNITION

When students demonstrate school wide expectations, staff celebrate and acknowledge their success with positive reinforcement. This could include a social activity or tangible reinforcers. Two key components of our formal acknowledgement system are our “Success Pass” and “Post Cards”.

Each campus is supported by a highly experienced, professional Student Engagement and Wellbeing Team that encompasses Assistant Campus Principal, Student Engagement and Wellbeing Leader, Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Student Management Leaders, Student Leadership Coordinator and an Additional Education Needs Coordinator. Collaboratively they lead each campus and support students and families with many harm minimisation strategies, early intervention programs, regular wellbeing workshops and reteaching responsibilities always with a restorative practices methodology.
DELIVERING QUALITY EDUCATION: INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL

At Williamstown High School we have developed our own instructional teaching model that is underpinned by best practice research and is the foundation of what constitutes high quality teacher practice in the classroom.

“Effective teaching is not a set of generic practices, but instead is a set of context-driven decisions about teaching. Effective teachers do not use the same set of practices for every lesson. Instead, what effective teachers do is constantly reflect about their work, observe whether students are learning or not, and then adjust their practice accordingly” (Glickman, 1991, p. 6)

THE 4 CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Staff engage and work in curriculum and cross curriculum teams to share knowledge, strategies and engage in positive professional learning.

Together with our student learning data, the 4 key critical questions form the basis of our teams and preserve the focus on growth and learning for all students.

WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL IS A UNIFORM SCHOOL

Our students wear their uniform with pride. The correct and dignified wearing of the uniform promotes a sense of cohesion, inclusiveness and citizenship within our school community. Our uniform inspires positive attitudes and a confident school culture which flows over into learning areas and our local community.

The Williamstown High School uniform policy has been developed and endorsed by our school council. Every effort has been made to ensure our uniform is:

- As inexpensive as possible.
- Practical and resilient.
- Popular with the student body.

Williamstown High School’s uniform provider is Dobsons and we have a uniform shop on the Pasco Campus.

Our Year 12 students have a unique jumper in their final year, to symbolise their senior school identity and to recognise senior leadership as an important value of the school.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE FOCUS

Our school has a devoted and passionate approach to developing environmental and sustainable focused skills within our school community. We are a Resource Smart School and we continue to lead and embed the sustainability fundamentals through our learning areas to ensure future generations have the resources needed to survive and thrive.

- Learning about renewable energy from the solar panels incorporated into our school’s design.
- Emphasising water conservation from our school’s rainwater tanks and greywater recycling.
- Taking responsibility for our school’s carbon footprint by monitoring water, gas and electricity consumption.
- Growing organic vegetables in the kitchen garden.
- Taking care and responsibility for our worm farm, and the chickens and ducks at the Bayview Campus.
- Understanding biodiversity and local ecosystems by caring for school grounds, including Native Wetlands and participation in horticulture centre.
- Taking responsibility for reducing, reusing and recycling waste.
- We are a bicycle friendly school that provides bicycle storage and facilities.
All students are encouraged to enjoy and contribute to our school community, and to participate in the many activities and programs that complement our academic program. We strongly believe that learning is enhanced by varying and challenging the experiences beyond the classroom.

We promote the opportunity for students to discover and value their talents, allowing them to grow in self-confidence through a variety of learning experiences. We aim to motivate and challenge students to develop their identity, creativity and leadership qualities beyond our curriculum offerings. It may be these experiences that allow students to develop resilience, independence and teamwork leading to a deeper understanding of concepts taught in the curriculum program.
ACCELERATED SPORTS PROGRAM

The Accelerated Sports Program is an elite program that provides an opportunity for young athletes with excellent sporting abilities to advance their established skills while providing a challenging environment that encourages them to reach their full potential. This specialised program runs in union with the mainstream curriculum, allowing students to experience academic and athletic success.

SPORTS AND COACHES

Our coaches are all professionals who have represented their sport at very high levels. They have links to the sporting community and offer unique programs to Williamstown High School. Elite coaching is available by our coaches in the following sports:

- Netball
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Triathlon

BYOD

As we prepare students to be 21st Century learners we must equip them with the skills to utilise technology responsibly and empower them for life long learning. At Williamstown High School we embrace the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative. BYOD refers to where students bring a personally owned school approved device to school, configured to meet their personal likes, learning and individual needs. BYOD is part of the school’s overall learning strategy to personalise the curriculum and learning for our students. This also allows students to move their learning seamlessly between home and school and other learning environments.

CAMPS PROGRAM

Williamstown High School is committed to running a Year Level Camps Program in support of the curriculum and extra curricular program. We offer our students a variety of camps and enrichment opportunities throughout the year. Our Year Level Camp Programs are designed to expose and challenge all students to a multitude of learning experiences with strong and direct links to our school curriculum. Our camp program plays a key role in fostering healthy relationships, independence and reinforces the essential positive teacher student relationships.

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Our students have a long tradition of participating successfully in both Debate’s Association of Victoria (DAV) Junior Schools Program and Inter-school State Competition. We provide students in every year level the opportunity to enhance their self-confidence and public speaking skills through regular training and competitive inter-school debates.

Students at Bayview elect to participate in the DAV Junior Schools Program, which provides training and structured support to prepare and present a speech persuasively. We encourage teamwork, build self-confidence and develop research skills in a low-risk and fun environment.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extra curricular activities are exceptionally important in our school community as we strongly encourage our students to pursue their passions and interests. We acknowledge the research that students who are happy and engaged in their schooling have increased focus across the curriculum, are likely to be successful in their academic and personal growth, and become outstanding members of the school and broader communities.

Through the commitment and dedication of our student leaders and staff, students have the opportunity to explore their interests through a stimulating extra curricular activity that caters to the taste of our students. Activities and clubs run weekly during the lunchtime periods, some activities take place after-school and on occasions all day excursions are organised.

We offer a nice balance, mix and blend that seeks to peak the interest of all, from Art Club, Breakfast Club, Homework Club, Young Researchers Program, Drama Lab, Schoolaerobics, French Club, Environmental Crusaders, History Club, Marine Club, Winters Club, Debating Club, Chess Club, Book Club and Gamer’s Club as a starting point.

Just like sporting students measure their success through competition, academic students also need competition. We encourage students to participate in the large number of competitions which include Mathematics and English, Language Speaking and Debating, to name a few.
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

The study of music fosters intellectual, physical and emotional development. In addition to teaching students to play their instruments, playing music develops teamwork, commitment and study skills, and bestows upon students a unique musical experience from which they will benefit for the rest of their lives.

Williamstown High School provides students with an Instrumental Music Program that has been developed over many years. Our program empowers students to develop skills and proficiency across a range of fields, providing a valuable co-curricular and whole school experience.

- Music lessons
- Master classes
- Bands and ensembles
- Performances
- Fundraisers and competitions
- Music camps and tours

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM

Our Interschool Sport Program provides opportunities for students to develop skills through training and competitive experiences, connecting students to the wider community and promoting teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Although success in competitive sport is important to us, our fundamental objective is to promote participation within the school and instil an interest in, and enjoyment of, practices that support a healthy lifestyle.

We are well known for the success of our interschool sporting teams. We have a strong record of successful achievement at local, regional, state and national levels in swimming, athletics, cross country and a range of individual and team sports in addition to our Accelerated Sports Program.

The school enjoys the healthy competition of our generational inter-house swimming and athletics carnivals. Most of all, the participation, atmosphere, fun and enjoyment of staff and students that these events always brings our whole school community together.

PERFORMING ARTS

We have a rich and wonderful tradition in the performing arts. Our focus is to ensure that every student has a meaningful experience from Year 7 that excites and motivates them to explore and extend their creative passions and talents. Our curriculum and extra curricular programs provide students with creative outlets within which to explore new ideas, express feelings through the strength of dance, song, music and drama while engaging with other students in a dynamic and exciting learning environment. Participation in the arts allows students to develop self-confidence, poise and learn to problem solve. Due to the social nature of performing arts, students learn to cooperate and collaborate with others and often make life-long friends with those who share the same passion. The performing arts is a discipline based art-form that encourages students to build working relationship with others along their journey together.

We have a proud tradition of working with our local community and after just concluding a year of celebrations for our centenary year School Council commissioned the building of a Centre of Excellence for the Performing and Creative Arts. This 300 seat theatre for our students will be used by music and drama students as a rehearsal and performance space and include an art gallery area to showcase student performance pieces.

School productions are performed each year and involve performing arts students from across Years 9 to 12. Productions involve countless students acting, singing, playing in the ensemble, front of house, backstage, costuming, make-up and every other facet of theatrical life. The excitement, energy, dedication and level of professionalism is always a source of great pride for the Williamstown School community.

SCHOOLAEROBICS

Schoolaerobics is a team based sport for girls and boys, which has been run as an extra curricular activity since 2013. It is the largest inter-school sport aerobics competition for primary and secondary school students throughout Australia. The program aims to provide a path for students to improve their fitness, confidence, health and self-esteem through participation in a healthy and fun competition.

As part of our Schoolaerobics program students enter in two competitions:

- State Preliminary Finals
- State Finals/Wildcard entry

Teams who perform well in the State finals are invited to attend the National competition. Students also have the opportunity to take part in the optional Spring Challenge. Williamstown High School has been successful in a number of these competitions over the last three years. Some have even been lucky enough to progress through to the National level of competition but most importantly we promote and encourage participation.
STUDENT LEADERSHIP ‘STUDENT VOICE’

Student leadership is an essential part of school life at Williamstown High School. The leadership body is student focussed, energetic and led by our school captains at both the Pasco and Bayview Campuses. Our student leadership program is flexible and is adapted according to the needs of our ever changing student body.

Our student leaders experience training to develop important leadership skills in public speaking, peer support, communicating and problem solving, all which will help them succeed in the school environment and beyond.

Our student leadership teams seek to:

- Highlight new and existing opportunities for student voice to foster a sense of ownership in the school.
- Increase student participation and engagement in the classroom and within the wider community.
- Renew focus on house competition to foster a sense of school pride and spirit.

Students can make a meaningful contribution to our school community as leaders via School Captains, Student Representative Council (SRC), House Captains, Sports Captains, Ambassadors, Curriculum Based Captains, Environment Captains, Social Justice Captains, Performing Arts Captains and School for Student Leadership.

WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL: GLOBAL CITIZENS

OUR SISTER SCHOOLS

As global educators we are proud of the strong connections and relationships with our two international sister schools; Lycée Sainte Marie du Port in Les Sables d’Olonne in France and SMP Labschool Kebayoran in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Our sister school partnerships provide meaningful, shared and unforgettable learning opportunities for our language students. Every second year our senior language students embark on a tour abroad visiting our sister school students, staying with families, immersed in the language, attending school and visiting the sites. The alternative year, we host our sister school partners and provide a similar and unique learning opportunity. A significant number of language students from our French sister school partners elect to participate in an additional six week exchange during our respective summer breaks.

The learning and lifelong friendships that are formed from our Sister School partnerships are priceless. Our students develop competencies and confidence in language learning, diplomacy skills and a deeper understanding of international issues and most importantly develop lifelong international friendships.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Williamstown High School has a long and proud tradition of academic excellence, and our International Students Program continues to attract high quality learners eager to enhance their opportunity for success.

The international student population is located at the Pasco Campus. Our international students come from many different countries with a diversity of traditions and cultural values that Williamstown High School celebrates and embraces. Students typically live with families of current students at the school and enrich the student body with an international perspective. Currently our international students come from China, Germany, Vietnam, Norway and America.

We have an experienced International Student Program Coordinator who leads the team that supports our international students in innumerable ways with enrolment, accommodation, homestay placements, course or pathway support and most important transition and pastoral care. We encourage and embrace the opportunity for all students, in particular our International students to participate in all aspects of school life.

WORLD CHALLENGE

The World Challenge Expeditions run on a two yearly cycle and are available to students from Years 10 to 12. Our students are offered life changing experiences and are presented with an expedition where they must manage a project helping a local school or orphanage, complete treks and immerse themselves in the culture. To complete the 2 years of fundraising and preparation is a fantastic achievement and the trip provides valuable life experience. The World Challenge expedition teaches life skills and enriches awareness, growth and the learning experience outside the classroom. Our students and teachers benefit from a level of expedition safety and service second to none and to date some of our destinations have been; Galápagos Islands, Central America, Cambodia, and Malaysia. An amazing opportunity!