



CENTENARY HEIGHTS STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Safety - Respect - Learning

1 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with much pleasure that we welcome you to Year 9 at Centenary Heights SHS. This letter is to introduce us as Heads of Year 9 (HOY) for 2022. It is an exciting time for Year 9 students as they begin elective subjects of their choice. We are looking forward to an exciting and enriching year as we continue to travel with your child through his/her third year of high school.

As you are aware, this year is the first one our students have the opportunity to choose their own direction of study whereby they can focus on two specialist subjects. All students are still required to study a core Australian Curriculum program of HPE, Mathematics, English, Science and History. Students have chosen their electives and will study these subjects for the full semester, and ideally, for three semesters leading into the school subjects SET planning process in Year 10.

Our role as Heads of Year is to work with you and your child to ensure that the time he/she spends with us is both positive and rewarding. We will endeavour to develop and maintain close links to your child through his/her Pastoral Care Group (PCG) teacher. Your child's PCG teacher is your first point of contact should you have any queries or news to share.

The Year 9 PCG Teachers in 2022 are:

9A	Tracey Winmill	9H	Courtney Nutter
9B	Peter Gordon	9I	Matt Huth
9C	Lee Zampech	9J	Letitia Lynam
9D	Scott Kutzer	9K	Jocelyn Mitchell
9E	Michael Plant	9L	Elise Kirkwood
9F	Sally Codyre	9M	Karina Hepner
9G	Frank Dowling		

Please note that Mrs Tiffany Story will be responsible for 9A, B, C and D; Mr Andrew Warrell: 9E, F, G and H; and Mr Trent O'Brien 9I, J, K, L and M. The three of us will be working in close contact with each other so we will have a good knowledge of all students. Mrs Anna Donald, in her Assistant Head of Year role, will also work with all classes. Mrs Carley McCormack, as Deputy Principal, will be working directly with the Year 9 staff, parents and students.

Pastoral Care is a whole school program delivered weekly, in conjunction with whole school parades, for the duration of the year. Co-ordinating the Year 9 Pastoral Care Program is one of the responsibilities of Mrs Anna Donald. Our focus for Year 9 pastoral care is to develop skills for co-operating with others and learning how best to develop and maintain respectful relationships with those around them; Resume writing to obtain a part-time job; Disability

A Gateway School to the Wine Tourism Industry

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awareness; Risk taking activity awareness for when they get older and sexual education (run by the School Health Nurse).

In addition to the Pastoral Care Program, we also have a weekly Year Parade that has a focus on providing advice and direction for students as well as recognising their excellent work. This will include **Recognition Awards** to acknowledge students who demonstrate the traits valued by our school and year level. To be eligible, students can be nominated by their peers or teachers. Random acts of kindness, supporting their peers, offering assistance in the classroom to staff or classmates, good manners, taking on additional responsibility, maintaining an excellent homework track record, consistently responding promptly to deadlines, excellent participation, a great attitude, etc. are all valid reasons for being nominated. Nominations are made through, or by, the student's pastoral care group (PCG) teacher.

We aim, as Heads of Year 9, to build a cohesive group of students and to assist each individual to reach their full capacity as people and learners. **Respect, safety and learning** underpin all that we do. Our challenge for the students is to: **Be Kind; Be Positive and Be Present**. We value **all** students and encourage them to strive for a 'personal level of excellence', whilst participating in **all** facets of school life. Clearly, the more involved in school activities students are, the more successful and happier they are. Our management approach is based on self-discipline, mutual respect, fairness and cooperation. We also value the importance of setting high, clear and consistent standards of behaviour as well as working closely with parents and carers to support the development of students.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year. Effective communication with your child's PCG teacher will ensure that any problems or issues are minimised. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's PCG teacher or individual subject teachers if you wish to discuss any concerns you or your child may have.

Yours sincerely

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