

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have received some queries about transition points, celebrations and graduations at Harrison School and so thought it was timely to outline the structure of the school with a focus on us being one school from P-10.

Harrison School is a large and dynamic environment offering considerable opportunities for students throughout their learning journey from preschool to year 10. This continuity of learning and community in one school is a major strength of our P-10 setting. It provides a scenario where together we operate under the framework of School Values of Respect, Integrity, Endeavour, Inclusion, Resilience and Teamwork. This is a strong identity that both reflects and drives the development of our school.

With our one school focus, students can move through different stages of their learning seamlessly, with carefully graduated transitions between our multi-age Teaching and Learning Teams. This allows a degree of comfort in relation to environment, expectations, friendships and learning structures that is not possible in separated school settings. Consequently, this leaves time and energy that can be well used by our students to develop as learners.

While we are one school, we do identify two components of our school, which are the Junior Area of our School (preschool- year 4) and the Senior Area of our School (year 5 - year 10). While focusing on consistency across the whole school, these components have subtle differences in their operation that accommodate the development of learners in contemporary schooling under our one school framework. Some of the differences include 15 hours attendance for preschool students, smaller average class sizes in years 1-4, term-long specialist rotations for years 5/6 students to help them prepare for years 7-10 and semester long electives for students in years 7-10 that allow for specialist pathways.

As a result of the structure of our school, the more significant transition points exist between preschool and kindergarten, year 4 and year 5, and for students exiting at the end of year 10. End of year celebrations are welcomed at all stages of schooling at Harrison and these events are organized through Teaching and Learning Teams. The focus for these is the celebration of the year's learning, not the completion of a particular stage of learning. The most significant of these ceremonies for Harrison School students is the Year 10 Formal, which occurs at the end of year 10 when all students of the cohort leave our school.

Regards,



Jason Holmes
Principal