

Whitsunday Anglican School

Bright *futures* begin here.



Whitsunday
Anglican School



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At Whitsunday Anglican School, we pride ourselves on providing opportunities in learning and in life. Our students build confidence, character and skills that go beyond school, in a safe and nurturing environment that allows them to thrive. We challenge and support our students to be the very best they can be – in the classroom and beyond. From Kindergarten to Year 12, we equip our students with the capabilities and values they need to create **bright futures**.



**WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL,
ANDREW WHEATON**



“We find children learn best when they are happy, challenged and supported. Our academic results confirm that. We are a top 25 School in Queensland and the number one performing school in Mackay and Central Queensland.”

Welcome to Whitsunday Anglican School, a vibrant co-educational day and boarding school with a philosophy of personalised learning that drives an education of excellence.

From Kindergarten to Year 12, we provide high quality teaching, and the time and support needed, to promote each student's individual success.

We find children learn best when they are happy, challenged and supported. Our academic results confirm that. We are a Top 25 School in Queensland and the number one performing school in the Mackay region, based on consistently high NAPLAN results. Our Year 12 graduates step into life 'beyond school' confident, well-equipped and ready. In 2020, 100% of our graduates were accepted into their university degree or vocational pathway of choice.

In our Junior years, we also attain excellent results and we are ranked QLD's leading regional school for Year 3 and Year 5 NAPLAN results. However, most importantly, our Junior School delivers a balanced education that fosters a love of learning to last a lifetime.

There are many factors involved in our success, but perhaps the

most striking is the investment made by teachers, parents and our students themselves into education.

Staff at Whitsunday Anglican School are highly trained in their specialist areas. They are passionate about their work and genuinely care about their students. We also value and welcome a close working relationship with parents and their active involvement in our increasingly international school community.

In addition, we are exceptionally proud of the high standards our students set for themselves. They are motivated and encourage each other through positive attitudes, behaviour and application.

Our students are guided by a values framework and we encourage them to be active participants in the wider community. They have the opportunity to 'serve' others locally and internationally, including trips overseas (for example to help build village facilities) or closer to home. We also offer many opportunities for students to develop their personal interests and passions, including in Sport, Music, Drama, Travel, Culture, Literature or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths).



As a School we are highly active in the local community. Each year we host key events including the Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival (the largest writers festival for young people in North and Central Queensland); and the Mackay Sony Foundation Children's Holiday Camp, an affirming event for children with special needs who are looked after for three days by our senior students.

Our School is diverse in backgrounds, cultures and beliefs, enriching our school community and fostering friendships, respect, empathy and inclusion.

As a parent myself, I know intimately how important the decision on where to send your child to school is. I have no hesitation in assuring you that your child will receive the individual support, guidance and care they need to thrive at Whitsunday Anglican School.

Andrew Wheaton
Principal

Academic and co-curricular excellence

We value academic rigour and a wide range of curricular and co-curricular pursuits including STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths), English and Literature, Technology and Innovation, Sport, Music, Drama.

Motivation and high standards

Staff and parents alike will tell you that our students are motivated to perform, with a passion for learning. They understand the expectations of our School and they willingly deliver in learning outcomes and responsible behaviour.

Creativity, innovation and progress

Our students are encouraged to 'think for the future' and outside the box, confidently forging creative solutions for tomorrow's world.

Emotional Intelligence (EI)

Our students are supported to learn critical emotional management and interpersonal skills that are essential for future success and wellbeing. We have partnered with Melbourne's Swinburne University to be the first in our region to implement a leading Emotional Intelligence program for students.

Global learning programs

Students at Whitsunday Anglican School are offered life-enriching cultural and travel experiences, thanks to our Global Learning and Cultural Exchange programs.

Diversity

Our students are diverse in backgrounds, cultures and beliefs, reflecting the real world, enhancing our community and fostering friendships, respect, empathy and inclusion.

Anglican faith

Parents choose our school because of the strong values that are interwoven into its fabric. Our values encourage our students to 'serve' others, creating future citizens that actively contribute to community.

Leading regional school

Based in Mackay, adjacent to the beautiful Whitsunday region of the Great Barrier Reef, we are one of Australia's leading regional schools. At Whitsunday Anglican School we combine the best of country hospitality with the high standards and opportunities of a premier city school, at a much more affordable price.

SCHOOL MISSION

Within a framework of Christian values, we provide an engaging and supportive learning experience that achieves the best outcome for the individual.





WHAT WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT:

- Academic excellence and intellectual endeavour
- Creating respectful, confident, energetic and resilient young men and women
- Outstanding teachers who know our students
- A culture characterised by community – a close-knit family from Kindergarten to Year 12
- Personal growth and wellbeing
- Global outlook, student diversity and inclusiveness
- A balanced education, typified by strong co-curricular opportunities in Sport and the Arts, and supported by service to others
- Providing a safe and supportive learning environment
- Flexible pathways that meet the needs of the emerging economy and disruptive global environment

WHAT WE VALUE:

- Respect, social responsibility and compassion, effort, tradition and cooperation
- A strong, self-motivated work ethic
- Culture and character – strong foundations for life
- Emotional Intelligence, wellbeing and social development
- Future-focused thinking and learning
- Service, humility and community contribution
- Well-balanced young men and women

Enduring values

Values are at the heart of everything we do at Whitsunday Anglican School: within the Christian framework that we follow; within the way we guide and encourage children's character; within the dedication of our staff, and in the community we foster.

SCHOOL VALUES

In line with our values framework we operate a code of conduct based on five key tenets:

RESPECT *(through Tolerance and Care)*

Characterised by openness to a broad range of ideas and concepts, accommodation of multi-cultures, faiths and inclusivity of various backgrounds, and respect and care for one's self, others, the environment and property.

EXCELLENCE *(through Effort)*

Characterised by the pursuit of optimum outcomes for students in their academic, sporting and cultural endeavours, underlined by our explicit strategies to assist students develop self-belief, persistence, confidence and resilience.

DIGNITY *(through Tradition)*

Characterised by our expectations for a conservative approach to worship, dress, appearance, manners, language, social discourse, rituals and symbols.

TRUST *(through Cooperation)*

Characterised by consideration of the needs of the group before the needs of the individual, expressed through collaboration, teamwork, honesty, accountability and consistency.

These values are at the heart of what makes our School so inclusive, welcoming and strong in community. We believe they encapsulate the progressive and traditional values that will stand the test of time.

CHRISTIANITY *(through Social Responsibility)*

Characterised by faith in God, forgiveness, reconciliation, developing a sense of mission/purpose through service to, and compassion and care for others.

SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Our values-led approach is complemented by leading pastoral care programs that focus on the total wellbeing of our students. We take a holistic approach and recognise that a well-balanced child is most likely to reach their full potential and develop in many areas. We promote leadership development opportunities where students learn what it means to truly be a leader. Students are also actively encouraged to learn about and perform acts of service that contribute to the wider community (see page 22). To develop well-rounded, responsible citizens that communities and employers will welcome we also emphasise:

- Clear expectations and consequences
- Respect and responsibility for oneself and for each other
- Participation in co-curricular activities and service

LIVED VALUES – SECOND NATURE

From Kindergarten through to Year 12, every student at Whitsunday Anglican School will learn, and be shown, how to adopt and incorporate core values into their lives: from taking a new student under their wing, to the whole school marching in the Anzac parade to honour veterans, to a service initiative that gives back to the community. What we find is each and every day, our students make us proud of who they are and what they do – not just in school but in the wider community and in their home.

MENTORING

Our School structure, with year levels ranging from Kindergarten to Year 12, provides a close-knit, family environment that allows for mentoring opportunities and many positive interactions between our older and younger cohorts.

We see the benefits of this structure every day and firmly believe it is one of the key advantages of the School. We have established buddy and mentoring programs that are inspiring and encouraging for our younger students and affirming, positive and constructive for our older students.



Strong foundations

JUNIOR SCHOOL | KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6

At Whitsunday Anglican School we offer families the opportunity to undertake the entire K-12 academic journey. We understand that the Junior years of a child's education are a critical, foundational time that establishes their attitude toward learning for life.

The School has distinct zones for Kindergarten, Junior and Senior schools with age-appropriate facilities, specialist teachers, and an extensive and enriching curriculum. All this sees our young students thrive in their learning and enjoyment of school life. This in turn ensures they feel secure in transitioning to each new stage of their educational journey, and can move confidently and capably into their senior years.

KINDERGARTEN

Whitsunday Anglican School's Kindergarten recognises the value and richness of play as a catalyst for children's learning and their ongoing engagement in meaningful experiences. When children play, they approach experiences with interest, ownership, empowerment, and possibility. These experiences are enhanced by flexible, challenging and creative learning experiences and interactions.

The Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines along with the National Early Years Learning Framework, guide our practices in the Kindergarten. These are supported through the **'You Can Do It!' Early Childhood program** within which we teach children the skills to be successful and happy in life, through confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along, and emotional resilience.

Literacy and numeracy are introduced through age-appropriate pedagogies. Children are introduced to technology through classroom iPads and working with 'Bee Bots', programmable robots. We support children to develop perceptual motor skills such as balance, spatial awareness, hand-eye coordination, and directionality. Writing and drawing, sensory tasks, construction (e.g. Lego), cognitive games, indoor and outdoor activities, science, art, craft and rest time are regular parts of a child's Kindergarten day. Our Kindergarten children are active participants in the school community and contribute to wider School and Junior School events and activities alongside older students.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Preparatory Year

The Preparatory Year (Prep) at Whitsunday Anglican School is the first formal year of schooling, designed to assist our students through to the School's Junior years. It is a curriculum-based,



structured learning program that also allows plenty of space for creativity, play-based learning and imagination.

A curriculum based on the Australian Curriculum and supported by Queensland's The Early Years Curriculum provides active, stimulating and rich experiences in Literacy and Numeracy. The students are supported in a learning environment underpinned by our pastoral care and social emotional learning program of **'You Can Do It!'**

As well as focusing on literacy and numeracy, our Prep program covers Science, Humanities and Technologies. Our young students benefit from breakout classes with specialist teachers and facilities. This includes Art, Music, Language and Physical Education.

An Anglican ethos, through Christian Education lessons and Chapel, and a values-based education are also key elements of our Prep year as children begin to develop their character and continue to develop as respectful and responsible citizens.





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Years 1 to 6

Our Junior School, Kindergarten to Year 6, provides a warm and exciting setting for learning in a stimulating and challenging environment.

Unique to our school in the Mackay region, students from Prep learn from specialist teachers in Art, Music, Language and Physical Education. Gaining exposure to languages and music at a young age delivers numerous developmental benefits, with research showing that these skills enhance understanding of literacy and numeracy and produce students who are more self-confident, creative, organised and better able to express their ideas.

Developing firm literacy and numeracy abilities are a core focus across the Junior School, as is Science, Geography, History, Health & Physical Education, sports skills, and Technologies.

From Year 4 students use laptops in their studies as part of our BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program.

Whitsunday Anglican School is an Anglican School, and as such supports a strong Anglican ethos. The Christian base of the School, which sees all treated fairly and compassionately, and all other faiths readily accepted, is a major factor in all that happens at the Junior School. It is that ethos that makes the School what it is.

The aims of the Christian Education program are to encourage an understanding and acceptance of the spiritual and moral basis of life, to develop an awareness of values and an ability to make value judgements based on both evidence and belief. During Christian Education lessons, students are exposed to a wide range of issues in a religious and values context.

Students in the Junior School also partake in pastoral programs that support their emotional intelligence and emotional resilience. The Aristotle Emotional Intelligence (EI) Development program and the **'You Can Do It!' program** are explicitly taught across the Junior School to support our students' development.

A number of co-curricular sports are on offer to students in the Junior School including: Basketball, Football, Futsal, Netball, Tennis, Track and Field, Triathlon and Touch.

We understand the foundational years of primary schooling are imperative for young students starting on their educational journey.

We are therefore very proud of the fact that at Whitsunday Anglican School, alongside exceptional classroom teachers, our Junior School students are further supported by Deans of Junior School (Curriculum and Pedagogy) who primarily have a curriculum focus; alongside a Dean of Junior School (Pastoral Care and Events), who takes a pastoral focus.

Other distinguishing aspects of our Junior School are:

- Our pastoral care **'You Can Do It!' (YCDI!) program** – continuing to support students to optimise their social, emotional, and academic development. At this age we focus on self-regulation, manners, greetings, 'dare to care', 'have a go', tolerance and resilience.
- **Emotional Intelligence (EI) program** – as part of the Aristotle Emotional Intelligence (EI) Development program, and supported through an established partnership with Swinburne University in Melbourne. Students across the Junior School are involved in the program that includes the development of foundations and building blocks leading towards pro-social behaviours.
- **Service Activities** – developing students' ability to care and supporting them to donate time and effort, or raise funds, for worthy causes.
- **Multicultural Awareness** – Global Learning Day
- **Academic Extensions** – through Chess and Science Clubs, Brainiacs and Opti-Minds
- **Music** – students from the Preparatory Year learn music with a specialised teacher. Students in Years 2 and 3 learn a stringed instrument (violin or cello) as part of their music studies; and students in Year 4 and 5 can experience learning a brass or woodwind instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone).
- **Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival** – giving young readers and writers access to renowned Australian and International authors and illustrators.
- **Leadership opportunities** – from Year 4 numerous avenues are available for students to pursue, including representing the School at community events or taking Junior School leadership roles.
- **Boarding** – From Year 5 we welcome boarders to our School, enhancing the School dynamic.
- **Homework Assistance and Tutoring (HATS)** – through a variety of formats that support our students.
- **Outdoor Education Program** – which occurs at the end of Term 3, sees students from Kindergarten through to Year 11 participate in Outdoor Education Week, and are provided with more extensive and challenging outdoor experiences as they grow older.





BIOZONE
QCE | BIOLOGY
UNITS 3&4
STUDENT EDITION

QCE BIOLOGY Units 3&4 has been written specifically for the Queensland QCE Biology syllabus. It contains resources for engaging with today's students and presenting them with the skills to be tomorrow's scientists.

BIOZONE's new QCE titles will provide students with the tools to develop their scientific skills, better their skills, and provide evidence-based resources for assessment and preparation for the QCE Biology exam. BIOZONE is the solution choice for today's classrooms.

QCE Biology Units 1&2

QCE BIOLOGY
QCE BIOLOGY
QCE BIOLOGY
QCE BIOLOGY

Creating bright futures

SENIOR SCHOOL | YEAR 7 TO YEAR 12

The Senior years at Whitsunday Anglican School are a time of great focus and investment by our school community as we help students to perform to the very best of their abilities, uncover their true interests and passions, and learn to live a balanced and inspired life.



At Whitsunday Anglican School we are proud of the fact that our graduates are given the tools to follow their dreams. In 2020, 100% of our graduates were accepted into the university degree or vocational pathway of their choice. Our students consistently perform above the State-wide average in terms of university entry scores.

Equally, we recognise that university isn't for everyone. We offer Vocational Educational Training (VET) pathways and have an active work experience program for Years 9 through to 12 that is well supported by local organisations and industry.

Alongside our exceptional teaching staff, our Senior School is supported by a dedicated management and leadership team:

- Deputy Principal (Teaching and Learning)
- Deputy Principal (Pastoral and Head of Senior School)
- Dean of Students (Years 7-8)
- Heads of House (Years 9-12)
- Years 9-12 House Tutors and Years 7-8 Tutors
- Dean of Service and Global Learning
- School Psychologist
- School Nurse
- School Chaplain.

At Whitsunday Anglican School we believe every senior student can be supported to achieve to the best of their ability. Our teaching professionals actively work with students to build academic confidence and lift where possible.

We aim to produce well-balanced individuals and accomplished, confident and determined young men and women equipped to lead and contribute to their community as future citizens, following the path they are passionate about.

Our Senior Years feature:

OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

Our teaching staff are specialised, highly qualified and highly motivated – inspired professionals who are experts at igniting motivation and getting the best from their students. Our staff go above and beyond to support students to perform to the best of their abilities during their Senior years. They have numerous post graduate qualifications, outstanding dedication, and are actively involved in the wider local community.

BROAD CURRICULUM AND ACADEMIC EXTENSION

Students at Whitsunday are offered an extensive range of curriculum options including English, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), Humanities (History, Geography), Christian Education, Business (including Accounting, Economics and Legal Studies), Design, Digital, Health & PE, Science, Languages (French, Chinese and Japanese), Music and Art.

THE RIGHT SUPPORT STRUCTURES

We monitor student learning and offer a free after-school tuition scheme led by specialist teachers from different faculties. We have a proactive pastoral care program for students (and parents) providing support, guidance and education. We also offer career guidance and have a School Nurse, Chaplain and Psychologist on-site to support our senior students.

GLOBAL EXCHANGES & EXPEDITIONS

Our strong international focus is evident not just in our languages and vibrant multicultural cohort but in our Global Expeditions, which provide a choice to visit one of three countries each year. Trips include community-based service trips (for example to help





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build housing in Vietnam), personal challenge trips (such as climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain), student exchange trips and cultural immersion trips. We have reciprocal arrangements with schools in France, Spain, the US, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and more.

GLOBAL THINKING SKILLS

Whitsunday Anglican School actively works to develop the concepts, thinking and skills essential for success in the 21st Century. These include collaboration, communication, contribution, creativity, critical thinking, empathy, enterprise skills, entrepreneurship, global understanding, good character, positive attitude, problem-solving, resilience, self-management, team work, and willingness to learn.

CO-CURRICULAR

Co-curricular offerings at Whitsunday Anglican School are extensive, with a diverse range of opportunities available for our senior students in Sport, the Arts, Service and the Academic arena. Our dedicated teachers can help identify opportunities based on student interests in the senior years.

SENIOR STUDENT ATHLETE PROGRAM

In 2021 the School has evolved its Athletic Development and Physical Wellbeing Program. Senior representative students are now supported via the Student Athlete Program, implemented in conjunction with the School's wider Healthy and Physical Education (HPE) and School Sports and Strength and Conditioning (S&C) Programs.

DIGITAL ERA

We are a leading school in the use of Information, Communications and Technology (ICT). In this digital age, students need to be highly literate in ICT and are increasingly expected to be able to use technologies both in learning and the workforce. Our School is committed to developing digital pedagogies. All Senior students access a Learning Management System that provides learning support both at school and at home. During the 2020 COVID-19 lock-down, our teachers transformed their approach to teaching and learning with the platform WAS@Home, ensuring the smooth online delivery of classes, lessons and resources. We have made a substantial shift from learning to use technology to using technology to learn.

STEAM

We are recognised as a leading school for STEAM innovation in Australia. We have specialist teachers and former professionals who can provide practical interdisciplinary guidance in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEAM). With 75% of jobs in the 21st Century anticipated to involve elements of STEAM, we ignite student's interest and support knowledge in the STEAM space.

CREATIVITY

Creative people help the world to evolve, solve its greatest challenges and feed its soul. We offer an extensive cultural program, with specialist Art and Music teachers, a variety of band and choir offerings and the Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival. We are well placed to encourage our students' passion for the Arts, and actively facilitate creativity in all disciplines.

LEADERSHIP

Our senior students are able to actively pursue and apply to be involved in a wide range of leadership roles and are supported to develop their leadership potential through personal and educational development opportunities.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

A compulsory program is run every year to focus on our senior students' personal development and ability to interact with others and function within new environments.

TRANSITION TO NEW SENIOR ASSESSMENT AND TERTIARY EDUCATION SYSTEM

The new Queensland Certificate of Education system now sees students working towards an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) rather than an OP (Overall Position).

The School's first Year 12 cohort graduated under the new ATAR system in 2020, with exceptional results.

In 2020 our Year 12 cohort achieved:

- 24% of students attained an ATAR score of 95.00 or higher and an impressive 41% of students attained an ATAR score of 90.00 or higher
- 98% of the cohort were ATAR eligible, speaking to our reputation as an academic school
- 8% of students attained an ATAR score of 99.00 or higher.



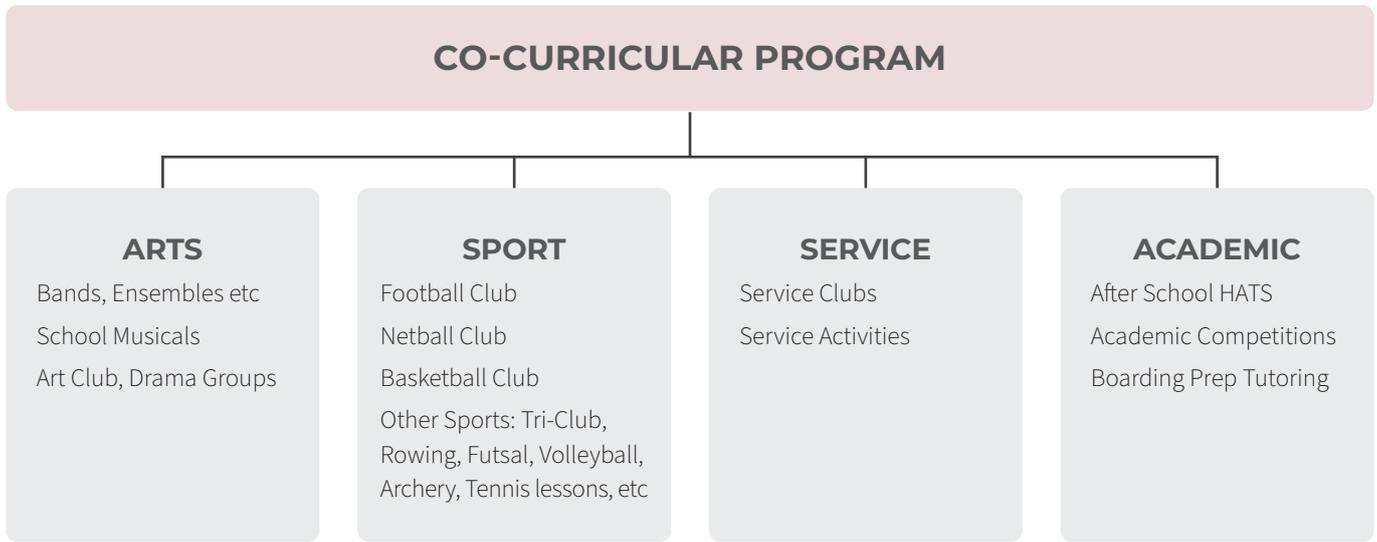
Whitsunday Anglican School



20 Bright futures begin here



Co-curricular overview



Whitsunday Anglican School places high importance on the development of its students’ academic, sporting and cultural lives. We offer a vast range of co-curricular activities at the School with a Cultural, Pastoral, Sport, Arts or Academic focus. Students are strongly encouraged to try at least one activity.

ARTS ACTIVITIES

Arts offerings encompass all the performing bands and ensembles within the School (including choirs, concert bands, stage or jazz band, string ensembles, and handbells), as well as activities from Visual Art and Drama such as Art Club. Students who attend instrumental music lessons are encouraged to further their development with the many performing bands and ensembles on offer.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Whitsunday Anglican School is a recognised ‘club’ within local sporting associations in Netball, Football and Basketball. These fixtures occur outside school hours on weekends or in the evenings. Each of these clubs within the School has its own coordinator who oversees the coaching sessions, skill development and fixture schedules for our teams.

In addition to these larger sporting clubs, the School also offers training and participation in competitive and non-competitive sports such as Volleyball, Triathlon, Target Archery, Tennis lessons, etc.

School staff with expertise in sports, school parents with expertise, and external paid coaches are all involved in our co-curricular sporting program.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

The School offers involvement in recognised service clubs (e.g. Zonta Club, Model United Nations, etc) as well as numerous one-off service events throughout the year (e.g. Relay for Life, Sony Camp, etc). These activities are coordinated by the Head of Service and Global Learning.

In the Junior School, students get involved in personal development activities including KidsPlus which focus on developing productive citizens.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The School offers the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of academic competitions throughout the year, making up the academic offerings. Specific faculties within the School help prepare students for academic competitions within the region and beyond, including Optiminds, Chemistry Titration, Debating, Mooting, Public Speaking, Spelling Bees and Maths Competitions.

Our sporting life

Where would schools and our young people be without sport, without the ability to play, run and discover exciting new skills, talents, friendships and opportunities?

At Whitsunday Anglican School we are committed to helping develop the physical abilities of each child. We are delighted to offer quality facilities and a diverse range of popular and challenging sports. This includes a large multi-purpose on-site oval and a large multi-purpose, floor-sprung, air-conditioned gymnasium and indoor courts facility.

As an integral part of the Australian way of life, sport provides many positive benefits including:

- Fun and fitness
- Cardiovascular development
- Muscle strength, flexibility and stamina
- Discipline and training skills and gains
- Hand-eye coordination
- Friendship, teamwork and collaboration
- Sportsmanship, resilience and team spirit
- Stress management and relief
- Improved cognitive function.

Sport also gives children the opportunity to excel outside the classroom and can be a pathway to many exciting career opportunities.

For all of the above reasons, we encourage children to take up a co-curricular sporting activity. Here's a sample of what's on offer. Please note co-curricular opportunities change throughout the year, with a detailed co-curricular program released to families each Term. *(Note: not all sports are offered to all age groups.)*

- Archery
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Futsal
- Netball
- Rowing
- Running
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track and Field
- Triathlon
- Touch (mixed)
- Volleyball.



ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

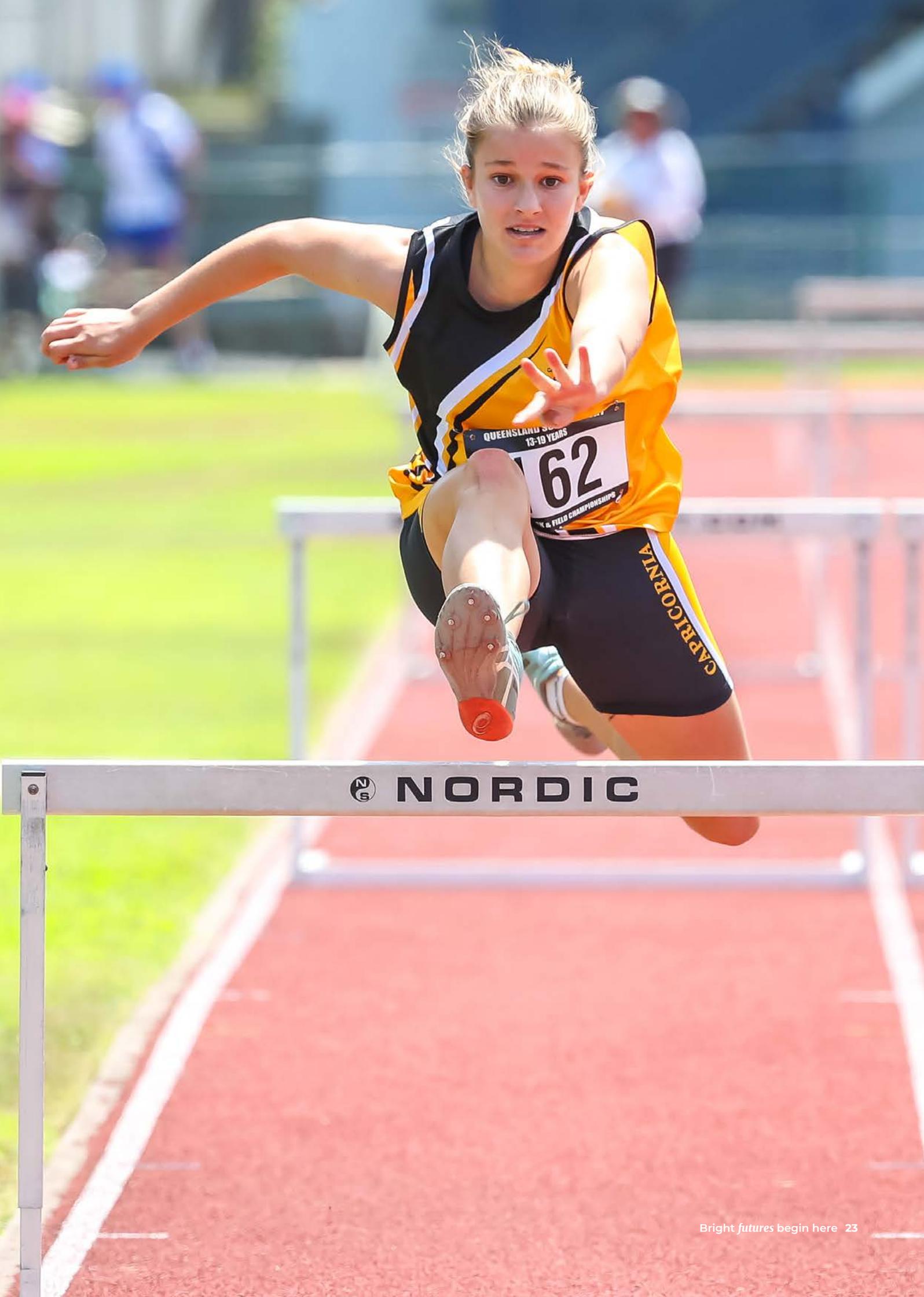
In 2020, Whitsunday Anglican School introduced a leading Athletic Development Program which focuses on developing our students (Grades 1-10) physical literacy through effective, evidence based, progressive and cooperative programs. In 2021 this program has evolved to deliver specialised high performance support to our senior representative students within the Student-Athlete Program. These programs will continue to facilitate cooperation between Health and Physical Education (HPE), School Sports and Strength and Conditioning (S&C) Programs to maximise the learning and performance and wellbeing of students and staff through a graduated, functional pathway of physical development and fundamental movement skill progressions.

COACHING

As well as team sports, individual coaching is available for students with a particular talent or passion in the sports we offer. Students involved in sports have the opportunity to compete at intra-school carnivals, interschool competitions and state and national championships.

CLUB

We also regularly field teams in Mackay club fixtures, providing the opportunity to compete and participate in the wider community.



QUEENSLAND STATE
13-19 YEARS
162
STATE & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

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 **NORDIC**



The Arts

At Whitsunday Anglican School, we value the Arts.

Students can take advantage of a wide range of leading arts, music and cultural opportunities. These include comprehensive curricular programs in Drama, Music and Visual Art and extensive co-curricular offerings. From Preparatory, students have their art and music lessons in dedicated Art and Music blocks with talented specialist teachers who are passionate about their creative field.

ART

The Art Block and our Art curriculum allow for exploration of nearly every type of artistic medium from drawing to painting, sculpting and pottery, photography, mixed media, craft and textiles and graphic and visual design. For students in Year 5 and onwards we also offer a co-curricular Art Club. Children in younger years have the Kids Plus program, giving them an opportunity to enjoy a variety of arts and crafts. Art is a pursuit we encourage and support through our Artists in Residence program where the school hosts and students work with talented, well-known artists.

MUSIC

Music is the ultimate universal language and an essential element to every culture. We recognise the extensive research supporting the benefits of music in all students' education. Playing a musical instrument has been described as a 'full-brain workout' and studies show that long-term study of an instrument can lead to enhanced development (particularly for those who start at a young age).

Musical studies can support improved academic ability and produce students who are self-confident, creative and able to express themselves. Involvement in music can also encourage memory and listening skills, fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, perseverance and teamwork.

Our music co-curricular offerings are vast and include the opportunity to join an extensive range of school choirs, bands, string, jazz and handbells ensembles. The School's Junior music program features a Year 2-Year 3 String Program and Year 4-Year 5 Band Immersion Program. Students are also encouraged to participate in our local community ensembles. Our talented young musicians perform regularly both on and off campus which allows them to showcase their diverse skills and build on-stage confidence. Private music tuition is available, including in piano, guitar, percussion/drums and Voice (singing). Interested students are supported to take part in AMEB examinations and external competitions, including the Mackay Eisteddfod.

The Hatfield Music Centre has space for large choir and band practices. It also features seven acoustically treated studios for private practice and tuition. It is extensively resourced to cater for music makers of all ages including with percussion equipment, class sets of keyboards and guitars, six acoustic pianos and a set of Mac desktop computers with specialist music and production software.

DRAMA

Drama comes alive at Whitsunday Anglican School in a multitude of ways. Our Pansy Wood Centre provides a dedicated drama performance, learning and practice space. We have annual performance opportunities in music and drama where students can experience the full creative process from page to stage. On stage students learn to hone and develop their performance skills, while developing resilience, responsibility, teamwork, courage, confidence, positivity and determination.

Communication and Speech and Drama lessons are offered during the school timetabled day. Students also have the opportunity to be coached privately, as well as to sit the Trinity College of London Examinations and perform in a range of local and state competitions, including the Mackay Eisteddfod and the Queensland Youth Shake Fest. Further performance opportunities are available through Mackay community theatre and comedy groups. Our co-curricular offerings include Shake Fest (Years 7-12) and Drama Club (Years 7-12).

WHITSUNDAY VOICES YOUTH LITERATURE FESTIVAL

A highlight of the annual Mackay Festival of the Arts, the Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival is organised and hosted by Whitsunday Anglican School each July. This major two-day event attracts leading Australian, national and international authors, illustrators, poets and bloggers to the region and celebrates and ignites students' passion for the written word and the arts. The festival is open to the wider community and 5,000 students, teachers and parents from 70 schools across the region participate. From Prep to Grade 12 there is something for everyone. The festival is a phenomenal opportunity for our budding writers and artists. As well as having a strong involvement over the two days of the festival, Whitsunday Anglican students also participate in private class or group sessions with authors and illustrators ahead of the main event.

SPLENDOUR IN THE ARTS

Each year our students produce work for public exhibition and take part in the School's annual Arts spectacular 'Splendour in the Arts'. The School comes alive with a showcase of musical and dramatic performances, and a public exhibition of artworks from students from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Study and service

With our focus on ensuring success and global competency for each student, the School invests in a number of key areas to maximise educational and career prospects.



HATS

From Year 5 onwards, Whitsunday Anglican School offers a Homework Assistance and Tutorial Scheme – HATS – a free and unique part of the School’s offering for over a decade.

All students are encouraged to be involved in this optional after school internal tuition program led by teachers who specialise in different subject matter.

HATS provides:

- The opportunity to learn in small groups
- Help with problem solving strategies
- Specific assistance with learning to work independently

ACADEMIC EXTENSIONS

Whitsunday Anglican School’s Academic Extension activities give students the opportunity to further their knowledge, learn new skills and challenge themselves academically.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

We offer strong VET (Vocational Educational Training) pathways, recognising that university is not everyone’s pathway. Many of our Old Scholars have established successful careers in industry, the trades and as entrepreneurs. We have established robust networks with local business and industry and are able to facilitate internships where available.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Our strong community connections allow us to provide our students with pathways to experience a potential future work

force. We actively encourage and support students who desire to gain exposure, experience and mentorship in a wide range of areas including health, industry, government and business. We recognise this experience plays a valuable role in career choices and can open up early opportunities for school leavers.

SERVICE LEARNING

As part of our Christian philosophy we believe it is important that all students develop an ethos of service and being of value to others. A focus on service and community contribution is integral to developing responsible, self-aware, compassionate and empathetic young people who have an established sense of community and social justice and who are able to think beyond themselves.

‘Service Learning’ is a co-curriculum offering for Years K to 12. Students can partake in organised community activities or charitable events. Through such initiatives, students develop their ability to care and fundraise or donate time, energy and effort for worthy causes including the environment, Not-for-profit organisations, animals, elderly and disadvantaged children.

Years 11 and 12 are invited to participate each year in the Mackay Sony Foundation Children’s Camp, which is hosted by the School. For three days they are the full-time carers and companions of young people with special needs. This unique experience is formative for our students and an exciting and fun time for all campers.

We believe developing a service ethic and humbly serving others is part of being an engaged local community – and global citizen – as well as being an important leadership trait.

HOUSE SYSTEM

Our School is divided into four houses – Ambrose, Barnabas, Charles and Trinity. Our House system provides students with a base for many important inter-school events, friendly competitions and other exciting activities that substantially add to the whole-school experience, from Preparatory up.

In addition, our Senior School benefits from a vertical House-based tutor group system. This allows students from Year 9 to 12 to interact with their fellow house members not just in their own age group, but across all senior year levels. The structure offers many benefits to students, including the opportunity to regularly participate in peer academic mentoring; and an enhanced sense of belonging and community for each student.





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Support services

COUNSELLING, SUPPORT AND STUDENT PROTECTION

We are committed to the highest level child and student protection and support. We have a dedicated pastoral care team to help students and their parents with any concerns, issues or plans they may have relating to their studies, health and emotional well-being, future and welfare. This includes a school psychologist, a school nurse and two dedicated student protection officers who undertake regular training to stay at the cutting-edge of developments in this key area.

BULLYING

We have a 'zero tolerance' approach to all forms of harassment and bullying. Our staff have a clear policy and process for early intervention and management of bullying and conflict and aim to resolve any issues at the earliest point possible.

LEARNING ENRICHMENT CENTRE (LEC)

The School conducts a program of enrichment in which students with a disability or learning difficulty, and students for whom English is an additional language, are supported by the class teachers and specialist staff. The curriculum throughout the school is differentiated in order that the various levels of student ability are catered for within the classroom. Our Learning Enrichment team supplements this approach as needed, to assist students in overcoming particular challenges through individualised, targeted support programs.

At Whitsunday Anglican School we have many families and students for whom English is an additional language. We recognise the many benefits, and in turn challenges, associated with multilingual ability. Our class teachers and LEC work together with parents to identify where students may have a high need for English language support while at School.

Boarding and Out of School Care

BOARDING

Whitsunday Anglican School provides an exceptional boarding offering for families located some distance from Mackay. We offer a five-day and seven-day boarding option that can accommodate both international and local students. A large percentage of our boarders come from the wider Mackay and Central Queensland district (including Clermont, Nebo, Moranbah, Dysart, Calen, Proserpine, Airlie Beach, Bowen and Emerald). For these boarders we are able to offer a unique bus service home and back to school for the weekend, allowing them to experience the best of both worlds – a leading education and co-curricular opportunities during the week and family life on the weekend. **Please request a copy of our Boarding Prospectus for more information.**

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC)

We recognise that many families have both parents working full time or work shift work. To assist families, space permitting, to juggle their priorities and commitments we offer before and after school care as well as vacation care and holiday programs.

- **Before School Care** – 7.30am to 8.00am
- **After School Care** – 3.00pm to 6.00pm (including afternoon tea)
- **Emergency entry** – for children not booked into care and not picked up by 4.30 pm
- **Full Day Vacation Care** – 7.30am to 5.30pm (10 hours including excursions)
- **Temporary Boarding** – we are also able to accommodate temporary boarding or alternate boarding arrangements where needed.

BUS SERVICES

Whitsunday Anglican School, in conjunction with Bus Fox Mackay, has introduced a direct bus service to transport students to and from School. This service, exclusively for WAS students, is operated mornings and afternoons on school days and there are full time and casual fee options. There are two routes, one to the Pioneer Valley (as far as Mirani) and the second south to Sarina, via Mackay Central and Ooralea. We also offer a bus home for the weekend to our five-day Boarders, to Clermont and back.

Meet some of our Old Scholars

At Whitsunday Anglican School we value our network of past students and love to hear about what they are up to in their lives after School. All WAS scholars are part of our 'Old Scholars' community once they leave the school and are invited to reunions and networking events to enhance professional connections and simply catch up.



IMAAAN ASHRAF

Attended 2005 to 2018

Imaan Ashraf has an impressive list of accolades to her name. The 2018 School Captain is now studying Medicine at James Cook University in Townsville and is well recognised in the community, winning a number of awards. Imaan has been recognised for her efforts in creating awareness of Islamic culture and was named a finalist Outstanding Young Achiever in the Queensland Multicultural Awards.



JAMES BENNETT

Attended 2011 to 2013

After finishing school, James studied a Bachelor of Communication Design at QUT. James is an animator who co-founded a company called Zerply which is based in San Francisco. He has worked on movies including Avatar, Iron Man 2, Happy Feet, Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted, The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian and The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey.



MARK KALCH

Attended 1990 to 1994

Along with a friend, Mark became fixated on paddling the length of the world's biggest river, the Amazon and they became the 7th and 8th people ever to do so, taking 153 tough days and travelling more than 6000km. In 2012, Mark became the first person in history to kayak the entire length of North America's longest river system, the Missouri-Mississippi, travelling over 6000km. Mark and his family now live in Malawi, Africa. He is the Chairperson for the implementation of the Judo for Peace program at the Dzaleka Refugee Camp and his partner is the British High Commissioner.



BRENDAN BRIEFFIES

Attended 2005 to 2009

Dr Brendan Brieffies completed his Bachelor of Veterinary Science at James Cook University in Townsville in 2015. Brendan joined the Clermont Veterinary Surgery not long after graduation where he is now an Associate Veterinarian.



JOSEPH FORMOSA

Attended 2005 to 2009

After completing a Bachelor of Dental Surgery at James Cook University in Cairns and receiving the University Medal for academic achievement, Joseph returned home to Mackay and worked for Mackay Hospital & Health Service. He has now relocated to the United States to undertake further studies at the prestigious Ivy League University of Pennsylvania. Only one resident is accepted yearly into post-graduate residency. Joseph is studying a 4-year dual specialty in Periodontics-Orthodontics.



KATHERINE BATTERSBY

Attended 1990 to 1998

As the author and illustrator of nine picture books published around the world, including Little Wing and the popular Squish Rabbit series, Katherine's books have been shortlisted for numerous awards, including the Crichton Award, the CBCA Book of the Year Awards and the Speech Pathology Book of the Year Awards. *Photo credit: John W. MacDonald*



CAROLINE GRAHAM

Attended 1993 to 2002

Caroline Graham started her Journalism career at the Daily Mercury and is now an award-winning journalist and university lecturer, who teaches journalism and creative writing at Bond University. She is also the co-writer/co-producer of Lost in Larrimah, a six-part literary true crime podcast published by The Australian in 2018. The series won several awards, including a Walkley Award.



JAKE MAGRO

Attended 2014 to 2017

In 2021, former School Captain Jake Magro was named a finalist in the AFR Top 100 Future Leaders. With past roles including Beta Alpha Psi USYD membership director, Amnesty International Club administrator, and Zonta Club treasurer, Jake's experience has allowed him to continually grow in all facets of leadership. He was awarded the USYD Sydney Scholars Award Scholarship following his grade 12 results and is studying a Bachelor of Commerce & Advanced Studies at the University of Sydney.

Whitsunday Anglican School Limited

More Information

We welcome parent involvement in the classroom, in sports programs, on key excursions, as part of our P&F Association and across all elements of school life.

For more information, please contact:

P + 61 7 4969 2000 (General)

P + 61 7 4969 2077 (Registrar – School tours and ‘Come and Try Days’)

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