



THE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How many students are there?

A. 1200

Q. How many students to a class?

A. A maximum of 26 in Year 7.

Q. What is the balance between boys and girls?

A. We try to maintain a gender balance in all classes. Some years, the Year 7 intake may include more boys than girls or vice-versa. In this case every effort is made to ensure that the genders are distributed evenly across all classes.

Q. How is the school organised?

A. There are three junior sub-schools. On enrolment, each student is placed in one of these, and remains a member of that sub-school until the end of Year 10. He or she then goes into the V.C.E. sub-school. The three junior sub-schools are Chapman, Brookes and Sharman. The V.C.E. sub-school is called Bryce.

Q. Do the students have access to computers?

A. There are five large computer rooms and another centre attached to the library. There are also a number of smaller computer rooms located between or near several classrooms. These are used as an integrated part of each subject.

Q. What musical instruments can students learn?

A. There is a wide range of instruments available for study. All students learn theory and keyboard in their classroom Music classes, and approximately 350 students learn an individual orchestral instrument.

Q. What if my child is already at an advanced level in music? Will he or she be forced to learn basic theory again?

A. No. A special program is worked out for all such students.

Q. Will my child miss other classes in order to learn an instrument?

A. Students are withdrawn from class on a rostered basis - they should not miss the same subject more than once in every six weeks.

Q. Is the school streamed academically?

A. No. Junior maths classes are organised into groups, but this is because of differing levels of exposure to mathematics at primary school. Students move between groups.

Q. What languages are taught?

A. The University High School offers students entering Year 7 a choice between French and German. However it is School policy to create THREE French classes and THREE German classes in Year 7. This helps to ensure that both languages can be offered to V.C.E. level. Some Year 7 students may therefore NOT be able to study the language of their first choice.

Q. Is there a full range of V.C.E. subjects?

A. Yes. The University High School offers a full range of subjects across all Key Learning Areas. There is also a range of V.E.T courses available.

Q. How is pastoral care organised?

A. The appropriate Sub School provides all pastoral care. All initial contact with the school should be made through the Sub School. A Student Welfare Co-coordinator is available to support individual students where necessary.

Q. How many teachers work in these sub-schools?

A. Each junior Sub School has a Head, an Assistant Head and two other staff coordinators.

Q. What if my child becomes ill at school, or needs medication?

A. There is a first aid attendant on duty in the School at all times. Parents are notified if students need to go home or been seen by a medical practitioner.

Q. What help is provided for E.S.L. students?

A. English as a Second Language classes are available for E.S.L. students during timetabled main stream English classes. These classes are of no more than 15 students. When a student's English language skills are assessed to be at an appropriate standard for the year level he/she will return to the main stream English class.

Q. Is there a Drama program?

A. Drama is elective in Years 9, 10 and VCE.

Q. Is there a sporting program?

A. Students in Year 7 try all sports that are offered in the Interschool Program with their teacher before they make a selection for a specific sport which they will train and compete in at the District level. If they are successful, they might go on to Northern Zone competitions and State Finals. There are also annual School Athletics and Swimming Carnivals where a team is selected to represent the school.

Q. Is the Acceleration Program completely separate from the rest of Year 7?

A. No. Classes are mixed for Art and for Health and Physical Education.

Q. If my child enrolls as a mainstream student, can he/she enter the Accelerated Program at a later stage?

A. All Accelerated program places are filled at Year 7 and it is the expectation that students will remain in the program for the full three years before moving to Year 11 V.C.E. Very few incidental vacancies occur. Any subsequent places are usually offered to selected mainstream students already enrolled at The University High School.

Q. What extra-curricular programs are there?

A. Students can participate in a range of clubs such as, the Chess Club, the Fencing club, the Badminton club, other sporting clubs, the drama club and a range of musical groups including the annual Musical Production. Others may like to try their hand at Debating. They could also become active in the S.R.C. or write for Post Ubique, the student newspaper. There is a Camps Program available to students in Years 7 to 12.