



Newsletter No. 1

Term 1/February 2017

From the Principal, Peta Kourbelis

Welcome to the 2017 school year. A special warm welcome to students and their families who have joined our College community.

We warmly welcome the following new members of staff who join our College community for 2017

Ms Kathryn Leontiadis (Music)

Ms Alicia Fitton (Dance)

Also welcome back to:

Ms Lily Carusi (Business)

Mr Jac Van Hoof (Design and Tech)

Mr Andrew Gormlie (Maths/PE)

Ms Christine Kuszniir (Science/Maths/Chemistry)

Ms Amanda Furness (English/International)

Mr Angus Fisher (PE/ISEC/EALD)

Malcolm Lobban (Assistant Principal International/Adult)

Year 12 News

I would like to extend my congratulations to all our 2016 Stage 2 students and our very special congratulations to Muskan Pathak, the Dux of our College with an ATAR of 95.2. Muskan will be studying Bachelor of Science (Space Science and Astrophysics)

Acquaintance Night

One of our first events this year will be the Acquaintance Night for parents and caregivers of our Year 8 students and our Hamilton Unit. It will be held on Wednesday 22 February at 6.00 pm (Year 8) and 5.30 pm (Hamilton Unit).

I look forward to meeting many of you on the night. Acquaintance Night is designed to provide you with an opportunity to have conversation with key personnel about your child's school program. It also provides us with the opportunity to inform you as to how best support your child's studies.

Governing Council

I would like to encourage parents and caregivers to consider joining our Governing Council. The Council meets two evenings per term. Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 22 February 2017 at 7.00 pm.

If you are interested in joining our Governing Council please complete the nomination form enclosed in this issue of our newsletter.

HAMILTON

AGM

Wednesday 22 February 7.00 pm

Support your child's education by supporting the College.
We encourage you to attend the **Annual General Meeting**.

There is no obligation to join the College Council.

The meeting will be held in the College Board Room and supper will be provided.

Make a note in your diary now!

Diary Dates

February

- 15 Parent Information Night - Year 12
- 20 Student Free Day
- 22 Year 8 Acquaintance Night and BBQ
6.00 pm
- 22 Hamilton Unit Acquaintance Night
5.30 pm
- 22 Governing Council
Annual General Meeting 7.00 pm

March

- 1 Student photo day
- 12 Ashima HS students arrive
- 13 Adelaide Cup Public Holiday
- 16 College Sports Day
- 24 Newsletter No 2 due
- 25 Ashima HS students leave
- 26 Shiga Nara Group arrive

April

- 2 Shiga Nara Group leave
- 3 Year 8 Immunisations
- 5 SANTOS Athletics Day
- 13 End of Term 1, early dismissal 2:15 pm
- 14 Good Friday
- 17 Easter Monday

May

- 1 Term 2 commences

Acquaintance Night

Wednesday 22 February
Hamilton Unit - 5.30 pm
Year 8 - 6.00 pm

Year 12 Parent
Information Night
Wednesday 15 February
6.00 pm

From the Deputy

College Uniform

As you are aware, the Governing Council has selected a full uniform for the College that is comfortable for students and their families. The expectation is that full uniform is to be worn by all students each day, and this is a condition of enrolment at the College. Staff oversee compliance with the policy, and we appreciate the ongoing support of parents in ensuring that uniform has been purchased and is worn.

One of the reasons for wearing uniform and visible identification for adults relates to safety of students as this allows staff to easily identify intruders. In addition, when students are not in uniform, this can present a less than positive image of our students in the community, and this includes potential employers when students are seeking work.

As with all aspects of education, the greatest success for our students comes when the school and parents work in partnership, and reinforcing the uniform expectations is one such aspect. We ask that you work with us by ensuring that your child/children have correct uniform items to wear to school each day. There are a number of payment options available for the purchase of uniform. Should you experience difficulty with payment, please contact Julianne Ward (Business Manager) to negotiate a payment plan.

Leaving School Grounds

School hours are from 8.30 am to 3.15 pm (except for early dismissal at 2.20 each Wednesday). As staff have a duty of care for all students during school hours, students are required to remain at school throughout the day. This includes recess and lunch time. The school has a well serviced canteen for students to purchase food and drinks, should they need to.

We ask that you work with us to reinforce the expectation that all students remain at school during the school day with your child/children.

Parent Communication

If you have any concerns about your child/children that you would like to discuss with a staff member, the Care Group teacher is the appropriate person to contact in the first instance. If you are unsure of who this is, please call our Reception on 8275 8300.

Ms Annette Ryan
Deputy Principal

College Leadership

Principal
Ms Peta Kourbelis
Deputy Principal
Ms Annette Ryan
Assistant Principal
Ms Heather Thomas
Assistant Principal
Mr Rod Yon
Assistant Principal; Adult Campus/
International
Mr Malcolm Lobban
Assistant Principal; Hamilton Unit
Ms Tammy Rosling

Year Level Coordinators:

Year 8
Ms Amanda Russell
Year 9 & 10
Mr Jonas Dawson
Year 11
Mr Steve Kelly
SACE/Year 12
Ms Tamara Seaman

Counsellors:

Ms Julie Harwood

adult learners' news & views

2017 is going to be an exciting year for Adult Education at Hamilton Secondary College. Many of our classes started this week in twilight mode, being delivered between 4.00 and 7.00 pm. Our Adult student enrolment numbers continue to grow – we have 269 adult students enrolled at this stage, with many more appointments scheduled in coming weeks. We welcome all new students to Hamilton and wish you every success in your journey to SACE completion.

Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses are very popular this year, especially as completing a Certificate III combined with the SACE Research Project is a very efficient way to complete the SACE.

Merit Awards in the SACE 2016

Two Hamilton Adult students (pictured below) were successful in gaining Merit Awards in the SACE in 2016. These awards were presented at a Ceremony at Government House on Tuesday 7 Feb 2017

Kevin Henderson gained a Merit Award for his work in Stage 2 Community Studies, which involved preparation of a Photographic portfolio of community facilities in the Fleurieu Peninsula. Michelle Billie (nee Leimann) gained a Merit Award for Stage 2 Research Project B – her question being 'Why is there scepticism surrounding Global Warming?'. Both Kevin and Michelle are to be congratulated on their outstanding achievements in the SACE.

Mr Malcolm Lobban
Assistant Principal, Adult Campus/International



Flinders University Social Work Students

This year we again welcome two Social Work students from Flinders University to Hamilton, who join us on placement four days each week for Semester 1.

Amy Brabbins is an undergraduate student in the Bachelor of Social Work and Social Planning. Amy joins us with experience of FLO and an interest in Well-being programs, including MindMatters. Amy will be at Hamilton from Tuesdays, to Fridays, and will assist in the Adult Research Project, Adult Study Centre and with Community Surveys. Sulaiman Aljahdhami is a Masters of Social Work student, originally from Oman. He will be at school Mondays to Thursdays and will assist in the Adult Study Centre, will conduct Community Surveys and assist with Adult Student mentoring wherever possible; Sulaiman has a background in Social Work in Oman and has experience working with people with a disability and mental health disorders. Both students will support the Adult Campus until the end of Semester 1 in late June.

Mr Malcolm Lobban, Assistant Principal, Adult Campus/International

Grievance Policy

Resolving your concerns

At Hamilton Secondary College we value Respect, Integrity and Excellence. This underpins our actions and allows us to ensure a safe and supportive learning and working environment for all. We value positive relationships with all members of our school community. This means that we welcome and promote open polite discussion of problems, issues and concerns even when there is disagreement.

Parent/Caregiver Grievance Procedure

Good relationships within the College community give everyone a greater chance of success. However, in the event of a grievance, the following guidelines should be used.

Parent(s)/Caregiver(s) with a grievance or complaint can use one or more of these steps:

1. Arrange a time to speak to the relevant staff member(s) about the problem.
2. Let the teacher know what you consider to be the issue (via phone call, letter or diary note).
3. Allow a reasonable timeframe for the issue to be addressed. However, if the grievance is still not addressed, arrange a time to speak with the Principal or Deputy Principal or another member of the College Executive (Phone: 8275 8300).
4. If you have tried these steps and you are still unhappy, please arrange a time to discuss the issue with the Education Director (Phone: 8207 3700).
5. After raising the matter with the Regional Office, if you are still dissatisfied with the handling of your grievance you are encouraged to contact the Parent Complaint Unit via www.decd.sa.gov.au/parentcomplaint or by phoning 1800 677 435.

The key principles of our Grievance Policy/Procedure for Resolving Complaints are:

- Every effort will be made to resolve the grievance in a confidential and timely fashion.
- Everyone should be kept informed of the progress and outcome of their complaint.
- Everyone should be treated with respect, courtesy and consideration.
- Meetings to discuss grievances will be suspended if any person(s) behave in an insulting or offensive manner.

**Student
Free Day**
Monday
20 February

Welcome to International Students for 2017

Term 1 is off to a great start with 21 new International students bringing our current total to 33 young people from Vietnam, China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, India, Nepal, Malaysia, Switzerland and Sweden. Some of these students have already joined Year 10, 11 and 12 classes so please make them feel welcome. We have a new ISEC class who are here to do the Intensive Secondary English Course. Over time, the English skills of these new arrivals will improve and they will integrate into the mainstream school. We wish them every success as they begin a very big adventure in Australia.

Two study tours are expected in Term 1 from Japan. We are very excited to welcome our partner school in Osaka, Ashima Senior High School who will be bringing 25 students and 3 teachers. They will be arriving on Sports Day, March 16 until 25 are they are keen to get involved immediately and join in the fun. On March 26 another new group will arrive from Shiga Nara with 13 students. Hamilton students who would like to be involved in the buddy program should come and talk to Ms Young, Mrs Botting or Ms Furness. Buddies are needed to be friends at recess and lunch times and to help us during some lesson activities, excursions, welcome and farewell ceremonies and parties.

If you are interested in hosting a short term or long term student in your home we are always looking for homestay families. Visiting students need to be treated like a member of your family and join in with weekend activities. They require a comfortable room and three meals a day including a packed lunch. Short term study tour students must have supervised transport to and from school. Homestays receive a weekly payment of \$270 to assist with costs. All adults in the home must submit an online police check and a home visit. Please contact Ms Jane Young for further information.

Ms Flora Botting
Manager, International Program



News from the Hamilton Unit

It has been a really busy first week of school. We have started Literacy and Numeracy Blocks in the morning where students are streamed into groups that best suit their learning. On Friday the whole Unit went to Oaklands Reserve for a Get to Know You Day. While there, we went on lots of walks to see all of the local flora and fauna, played cricket and on the playground. We had a sausage sizzle lunch and enjoyed spending time with our new and old friends. We have found the students really enjoy being able to relax and get re-acquainted with each other. This year we welcome four new students, Finn L, Khye M, Joe F and Ahmed H. They have all settled into the Unit and have started to build new relationships.

Hamilton Unit Students



SACE News 2017

Year 11 and 12 students are undertaking subjects toward the completion of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). Year 10 students will be introduced to the first of their SACE subjects when they undertake studies toward the completion of their Personal Learning Plan (PLP) in Term 2.

For the Year 11 and 12 students, it is important that students are choosing subjects which are appropriate to the career pathway they are considering. For students going on to tertiary studies, some subjects assume that students have a background understanding of the subjects. In some specialist courses such as Engineering, there are prerequisite subjects that must be passed in Secondary schooling. If changes need to be made to subject selections they must be done in the first two weeks of the school year by completing the subject change form available from Student Services. It becomes problematic to change subjects after this time due to missing too much teacher instruction time and course work. Students are encouraged to discuss their subject progress with their teacher and parents/caregiver.

Stage 2/Year 12 students have begun their Semester of the Research project. This is a compulsory part of their SACE Completion, and students must receive a C or better to pass the subject. It is important that students discuss the progress of their research at home, and ensure they meet the deadlines set by teachers. Students have a choice to complete either **Research Project A** which **does not** contribute to their ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) or Research Project B which does contribute to their ATAR. **If students are not going to University, then it is suggested they complete Research Project A.** Please discuss this with your child over the next few days, as this needs to be finalised by Week 3. You can call or email the SACE Coordinator, Tamara Seaman, should you have any direct queries. Their first Research Project task - the Proposal - is due in Week 3. Students are expected to complete their Research Folio by the end of Term 1. Parents can contact their Child's Research Project teacher via email should they like to enquire about their child's progress or/ and if they require any other further information.

In 2016, the SACE Board started their first phase of new curriculum implementation in-line with the Australian Curriculum (ACARA) for Stage 1 English, EALD, Mathematics and Science. In 2017, Stage 2 subjects in English, EALD and Mathematics have a new curriculum, and teachers are finalising their new assessment plans this week. Parents can access their child's Learning and Assessment plan via DayMap.

Finally, if there are any questions regarding SACE Special Provisions, general SACE enquiries, or questions about your student's progress, please contact Tamara Seaman, the Year 12 and SACE Coordinator at the College.

Year 12 at Hamilton in 2017

A warm welcome to Year 12 students and families in 2017.

In 2017, the Hamilton Secondary College Senior Campus comprises students from Year 11 and 12. In 2016, our College opened the Senior Centre, which is an area for private and group study during study lines. The students are proud of their study space, and have access to modern technology to support their learning.

The year is certainly in full swing for Year 12, with students already focused on their first Stage 2 Assessment Tasks. Students should already have a solid homework schedule in place, and parents are encouraged to support their child in prioritising their study load for Term 1. We encourage parents to talk to their children about utilising their time effectively during study lines and by utilising the Senior Centre available to them. Parents can also access DayMap, our online teaching tool for classes, to look at weekly subject lesson plans, Learning and Assessment plans, assessment task deadlines, attendance, and importantly, homework. We remind students that their wellbeing and personal health is paramount to their success this year, and so establishing a healthy balance of study and time-out is very important in the early weeks of Year 12. Students are encouraged to aim for their personal best in all subject areas, and seek early support from their subject teachers where required.

This year, we will again have the nomination of two Captains from Year 12 students and two Vice Captains from Year 11 students. All nominees will present themselves via a written application, which will then go through a selection process by a panel of Leaders from the Senior School. Final candidates will have their names go to ballot and be democratically elected by their peers for the year. These positions will present numerous leadership opportunities within the College. Emma Brooks and Ben McLean, our 2016 School Captains, have both been selected on a Gap Year program at the Marion City Council. This is a paid position, where they will have the opportunity to work in a range of Council departments throughout the year. We are very proud of their accomplishment, and this is a reflection of their dedication and the leadership skills they developed in their final year of school at Hamilton.

Students and parents are reminded that Uniform is an important part of the College's identity in the community. We ask that parents support their student with the uniform policy as it is an important aspect of the College's identity and an expectation of being a student here. The first round of Year 12 Jumpers are expected to be delivered by the end of Week 3, and the second

order will be ready by Week 9 of this term. If students did not order a Year 12 Jumper, once the cool weather comes, students will need to be wearing the regular College jumper or jacket. Long-sleeved tops under school t-shirts are not part of the school uniform and students will be asked to remove these.

The Year 12 Pathways program is on Wednesday afternoons, from 1.30 pm – 2.20 pm. This is a compulsory part of the school program. This term, students will have guest presenters from Elevate Education to support them in time management with study loads, and how to manage this efficiently and successfully. Students will also have representatives from various Adelaide Universities and TAFE SA, to support their post-school planning. The program also includes Research Project study time and SACE Schools Online support.

Year 12 Parent Information Night/ Elevate Education Workshop for Year 12 Parents

**When: Wednesday 15 February
6.00 pm – 7.30 pm**

**Where: The College Senior Centre
(Library)**

The College will be working with Elevate Education again this year. Together we will be running workshops and providing a range of resources for students, staff and parents throughout the year. These will be provided free of charge to the students and their families.

On Wednesday 15 February, we warmly invite all parents of Year 12 students to join us for a Parent Information Evening. As parents form a critical part of students' study habits, Elevate will be facilitating a workshop for parents, designed to provide you with practical strategies and tips for supporting your child through this important year and to help reinforce effective study habits at home. The workshop will cover as follows:

Study Environment - Discussion of what an ideal study environment looks like and how to ensure students are able to maximise concentration.

Technology - What role technology plays in aiding study and how to ensure it doesn't become an enormous distraction.

Best Practices - Exposition of a number of core skills presented to the students and signs to look for at home when students are straying from their use.

Q & A Time - For further information about Elevate, please visit their website (www.elevateeducation.com).

As we value this as an important strategy to support your child to achieve his or her Year 12 goals, we hope that you will be able to join us.

*Ms Tamara Seaman, Year 12/SACE Coordinator
Together we can help students achieve their best.*

Year 10 News

Year 10 is the first year in the Senior School, which can mean some changes for you and your students. For many, this is their first encounter with the SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education) and the choices they make this year can affect the rest of their schooling journey. Students will take part in the Australian Business Week later in the year (for which they earn points towards their certificate). They must also successfully pass their PLP (Personal Learning Plan) with a "C grade" or better. This means students will need to take charge of their learning and manage themselves and their time more effectively and for some, be more accountable.

The Pastoral Care Program (Pathways) will take place on Wednesday afternoons with Care Group teachers. The focus of this program will be to develop sound study skills based on The Seven Habits of Successful Students. These habits are: being Pro-Active; Goal Setting; Divergent Thinking; Time Management; Resilience; Communication Skills; Teamwork and Self Management.

If you have any questions about the Pathways program or any other aspect of school life, please get in contact with me at the school via email: jonas.dawson@hamcoll.sa.edu.au or by phone: 8275 8300.

Mr Jonas Dawson
Year 10 Coordinator

The Importance of the Year 10-12 Pathways Program

Research shows that very few high school students have a clear idea of who they are and where they are going. Self-knowledge is often assumed, but rarely explicitly taught. Decisions about what courses to study and what career pathways to pursue are difficult to make at this age. Choices poorly made at this stage in life can be difficult to remedy further down the track, when experience would guide us in different directions. How many of us look back and think about how we might have made different decisions, with the benefit of hindsight? Pathways is an endeavour by the school to remedy some of this.

The Pathways Program for the Senior School is a carefully orchestrated three year program that is essential for student's transition through these years, and beyond. It is a package that involves a journey of self-discovery that enables students to make more informed life choices and refining post-school career pathways. This year sees the content becoming more structured, combining a series of presentations from outside sources, as well as a sequenced task list developed within the school. All students will have the opportunity to experience out-sourced programs to learn about safe partying (delivered by Encounter Youth), Road Safety (delivered by SAPOL), Careers in the Australian Defence Forces, and education beyond high school (delivered by the Tertiary Institutions). Year 10 and 11 students will keep an e-diary tracking their learning and development throughout the two years.

Each year will have a different focus reflecting the changing needs and maturity of the students:

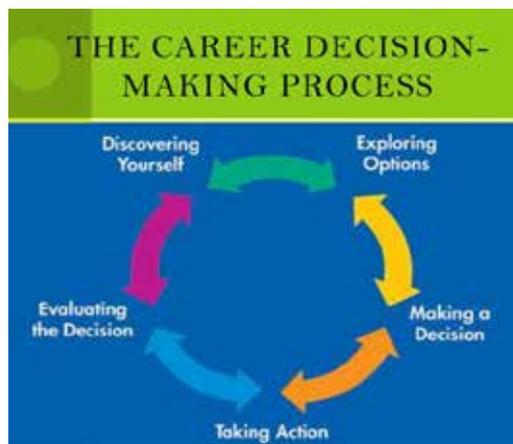
Year 10 students will work on Mindfulness, Growth Mindsets, the Seven Habits of Highly Successful People, Executive Function & Study, Bullying and Resilience. These topics work well as students begin their South

Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) by completing their compulsory Personal Learning Plan unit.

Year 11 students will continue to gain insight into who they are through a series of activities and quizzes, will work on Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships, understanding the mechanisms that sabotage success, and working through their career pathways choices. This will support students in making course choices for their Stage 2 subjects.

Year 12 students will focus on success strategies for the ultimate year at school: stress management, study skills, understanding SACE, and preparing for life beyond school. Students will have the opportunity to interact with Tertiary Institutions (including an Enrichment Day at Flinders University) and TAFE, to gain a better understanding of their options for further study upon SACE completion, and working through the SATAC application process.

We would like to remind students that Pathways is not an optional add-on to their commitments at school. Their regular attendance to these sessions is regarded as essential to their welfare. We would ask parents to discuss the Pathways Program with their child, and to encourage them to engage in the program fully.



Mr Jonas Dawson
Year 9 & 10 Coordinator

Mr Steve Kelly
Year 11 Coordinator

Ms Tamara Seaman
Yr 12/SACE Coordinator

Welcome to Hamilton's Sports Department!

As a member of the Secondary School Sport SA (SSSSA) Hamilton Secondary College runs a diverse, comprehensive and challenging sporting program. College teams compete in the Southern Zone Secondary Schools Sports Association (After School Sport), SSSSA Athletics at Santos Stadium, as well as Statewide Knockout Competitions (Secondary equivalent of SAPSASA). The Sports Program at Hamilton caters for students of all skill levels to encourage maximum participation in a socially non-threatening environment.

Hamilton Secondary College also enters in a large number of carnivals throughout the year. These range from Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Netball, Indoor Soccer, Cricket, Rugby League, AFL, Touch Football and Ten Pin Bowling, thus the numerous opportunities for all students to become involved are obvious.

The regular teams we enter vary from year to year depending on student interest. All students at Hamilton are actively encouraged to become involved in sports as the benefits of participation are many. These include the acquisition of new skills in sports which could become lifelong pursuits, being part of a team environment to improve social skills, sportsmanship and the personal health and fitness benefits provided through regular physical activity.

Please see below for more information on the sports offered here at Hamilton Secondary College.

After School Summer Sport

Offered Terms 1 and 4

- Girls Volleyball
- Girls and Boys Basketball
- Girls and Boys Indoor Soccer
- Girls & Boys Badminton
- Boys AFL

After School Winter Sport

Offered Terms 2 and 3

- Girls and Boys Soccer
- Girls Netball
- Boys Basketball
- Girls & Boys Badminton
- Girls & Boys AFL
- Table Tennis

For further information please contact:

Mr Andrew Gormlie, Sports Coordinator
Ph: 8275 8300
Email: andrew.gormlie@hamcoll.sa.edu.au



<http://www.facebook.com/HamiltonSecondaryCollege>

Vocational Education and Training (VET) Update

New VET Courses

We welcome our 2017 VET students – Hamilton secondary school students, adult students and regional secondary students doing VET courses here at Hamilton Secondary College. We are a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and run a number of VET courses here for students wanting an accredited qualification as well as their SACE. We have three new VET courses running this year: Certificate III in Screen and Media (Film), Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and Certificate III in Health Services Assistance.

Attendance

If your son/daughter is doing a VET course it is important that they regularly attend as most courses are delivered one day per week instead of across the week. It is important to let the College know if they are absent and then they see their VET trainer to catch up on any work missed. If your son/daughter is missing other lessons to attend their VET course on a particular day it is also important that they contact their subject teacher to ensure they catch up on work missed.

Work Placements

Many students undertaking VET courses are required to undergo a certain number of hours of Work Placement. Students should start seeking a Work Placement Provider early and getting their documentation in to the Principal to be signed off and evidence of five hours of WHS Training retained at least two to four weeks prior to going on a placement.

If you have any queries about VET courses please contact me.

Ms Heather Thomas

Assistant Principal, VET Curriculum Pathways/RTO Manager



The College is a Workplace

One of the fundamental features of the culture we are building at Hamilton Secondary College is that of the “College as a Work-place”. For secondary students this means understanding that our school operates like any other work-place they may find themselves, either as a part-time worker during their senior school years or as a full-time worker after finishing school. Just as employers want young people to demonstrate punctuality, regular attendance, application and effort, excellence and good personal presentation, so too do we at Hamilton.

Punctuality

At Hamilton, work starts for secondary students at 8:40 am Monday – Friday and concludes at 3:15 pm with the exception of Wednesday which concludes at 2.20 pm. All students should be in class and ready for work at 8:40 am and show the same preparedness after the conclusion to scheduled breaks (ie recess and lunch). Just as employers do not tolerate lateness, the College also has serious concerns about those few students who cannot organise their time effectively. Where it becomes a habit, staff members have been asked to invoke sanctions to those few students who are letting the rest of the team down.

Regular Attendance

Most employers understand that employees will fall ill from time to time, but that maintaining a healthy lifestyle maximises ones capacity to be at work regularly and to make the best possible contribution whilst there. Students in the

secondary campus can expect that once they join the work-force they will be limited to 10 days paid sick leave. School is no different, so if a student is absent more frequently than 10 days per year, they really are developing a habit that will not fit them well for their transition into the work-place. Regular attendance is also the best foundation a student can have for success in the College’s academic program. It may surprise you but, if a student in Year 12 has been absent for 10 days in every one of their preceding years of school, they would have missed 110 days of school or the equivalent of three school terms!

Application and Effort

Just as employers do not accept a half-hearted effort, teaching staff at Hamilton expect that students are making every effort to apply themselves to their learning and to achieve the best possible result for assignments, projects, tests and other units of work. Because not all of the school work that young people need to be successful at can be done during scheduled lessons, homework becomes the means to this important end. Whilst most students at Hamilton are doing their homework and approaching their school work with diligence, there are a few at each year level who are holding the rest of us back.

Excellence

Every employer is keen for their employees to do their very best. This is no different at Hamilton and, for secondary students, doing one’s very best has obvious benefits. Firstly, it means getting good grades and a sense

of reward for effort. Secondly, the better the grades one achieves, the more opportunities one has when looking for employment or when accessing further training or tertiary study. Like punctuality, regular attendance and application and effort – excellence is a habit and one well worth acquiring and practising!

Personal Presentation

Employers expect employees to dress for the job. The mechanic may be asked to dress in overalls, the hairdresser in a smock and the bank teller in a collar and tie. At Hamilton, students are asked to present themselves for work in the uniform approved by the College’s Governing Council. Just as the Bank Manager may have concerns about the employee who shows up in track pants and a t-shirt, so too do teachers at Hamilton, when they see a handful of our students not presenting for work in the approved uniform.

The College is like other work-places in our community. We have clear expectations about punctuality, regular attendance, application and effort, excellence and personal presentation, and all of these are designed to maximise our ability to prepare secondary students for the world of work. The culture we are developing here is that the work-place of Hamilton is preparing our young people for their next work-place. I thank the vast majority of students who have developed good work-place habits and I congratulate their parents for playing a significant role in this important process.



Governing Council Chair

Hi my name is Steven Jones I currently have three children attending the school.

I joined the Governing Council as I know it operates as an integral part of the College's governance, that it is a good way to participate and have a better understanding of where the school is currently at and see where it is heading. The Council is a collaboration between College staff, students, parents and community members and representatives, a forum where parents can be heard on important matters relating to the culture, education and progress of the school. We meet once a month for one hour on a Week night to discuss matters that affect the school and the students of Hamilton Secondary College.

Parents on council are not burdened with committee work or fundraising duties. It is more about assisting the school to know what our community currently requires to help them make the best possible difference in our children's educational future. As we know, knowledge and education are essential in every aspect of our day to day lives.

I would like you to please consider joining the Governing Council to assist us and to bring your knowledge to help us take the school to the next level. It is imperative to have parent support to assist us to make informed decisions and to open up valuable discussions to help the school continue growing in the years to come.

So please come to the Meeting on Wednesday 22 February and speak to Ms Kourbelis, or myself. Attend a meeting even as a guest and see what we are all about.

Hope you see you soon

Mr Steve Jones
Chair, Governing Council

Governing Council Membership

Hamilton Secondary College prides itself on being a diverse community with enrolments in both secondary and adult re-entry levels, as well as students with severe and multiple disabilities. We encourage all members of our school community to work together in building a great learning experience for our students. Parents, friends, staff, students and community leaders together can promote a vibrant and supportive environment for all.

There are many great opportunities that exist within our College and parents and students are encouraged to take advantage of these. You may choose to be involved in a formal way through committees and associations, or more

informally through attending the many sporting, arts and other events that occur throughout the year. Some of the ways you can become involved include:

- Governing Council
- Musical productions
- International students program (home stay)
- Sporting Groups.

The Governing Council brings students (secondary and adult), parents, staff and community members together in a body that is responsible for the governance of the College. Meetings are held twice each term, lasting approximately one hour. The nomination form is for any current parent wishing to nominate for

the Governing Council.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 February at 7.00 pm in the Board Room. All members of the College community are invited to come along to meet the Governing Council members and perhaps consider nominating to become a member. We all have something to offer and you are encouraged to consider this opportunity to serve the College for your student/s.

If you have any questions about the role of the Governing Council please contact the College Secretary (ph: 8275 8360), or alternatively you can send an email to clair.pavey@hamcoll.sa.edu.au

Governing Council Nomination Form

Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 22 February 2016 at 7.00 pm

Please return this nomination form to Clair Pavey, front reception, by Tuesday 14 February.

I, (full name) of (address) phone number

Nominate

..... (full name) of (address) phone number

to be elected as a member of the Governing Council.

I, (full name) of (address) phone number

accept this nomination and hereby declare that

- I have not been declared bankrupt and do not receive a benefit of a law for the relief of insolvent debtors
- I have not been convicted of any offence of dishonesty, or of a sexual nature involving a minor, or of violence against a person.

I understand that should I be declared bankrupt, receive a benefit of law for the relief of insolvent debtors or be convicted of any of the offences listed, my membership of the Governing Council will cease.

Signed: (nominee)

Dated:



SPORTS DAY 2017

Thursday 16 March (Week 7)
8:50am – 3:15pm

All parents are invited to attend our annual Sports Day to show their support for both the students and the college and celebrate with us this whole school event.

The College Sports Day will include track, field and novelty events. The track and field events will enable the selection of our athletes for Interscholar competitions at SA Athletics Stadium on Wednesday 5 April.

The main purpose of the day is to have all students participating. Through participation, it is hoped that students will develop self confidence, an enthusiasm for physical activity and stronger friendships with their peers.

Attendance

All students are required to attend Sports Day. Attendance is compulsory, even if a student is not participating in an event. Parental support is required to ensure that students are not permitted to stay at home to complete assignments or for other such reasons.

Once students are on school grounds, no one will be permitted to leave unless the school has received parental notification. This will need to be cleared through the students Care Group Teacher and a Year Level Manager.

Absences

As all absences from school will be followed up, parents are requested to notify the school on the day if their son/daughter will be absent. This information will still need to be followed up with a diary note the following day.

Start and Finish Times

Sports Day will run during normal school hours and Care Group will be held at the usual time of 8.40 am, where a roll will be checked. This will be followed by a brief whole school assembly in the Gym at 8.50 am. Students

will then move out to the Hamilton Secondary College oval prior to 9.00 am for the start of the first events.

Dismissal of all students will be at approximately 3:15 pm following the Presentation Ceremony.

Hot Weather Policy

Sports Day will be postponed to a later date if the forecast temperature is 35 degrees or more as reported on the Channel 7 news at 6.00 pm the night before Sports Day. If the day is postponed, the Thursday will be a normal school day.

Being Sun Smart

It is essential that adequate precautions are taken against the sun. Students should wear a hat and have sunscreen protection.

Clothing

Students are encouraged to wear appropriate clothing for an athletics event (shirt, singlet, shorts etc) that is in their House colour to show support. (i.e. Red or Blue)

Safety and Security

Students are strongly advised not to bring valuables with them to Sports Day. This includes electronic devices, which is in line with our normal school policy. Once students have been to their locker in the morning, there will be no further access to lockers until dismissal time.

All students will be required to sit in their House area unless involved in events.

Food and Drink

The canteen will not be open on Sports Day. There will be a number of stalls running on the day, including a BBQ stall, and a drink stand.

There will be numerous water containers in the house areas. Students are strongly advised to bring a hat, and a water bottle, so that they can keep adequately hydrated throughout the day.

Parental Involvement

Staff would especially welcome assistance from parents who are willing to act as officials for all or part of the day.

If you are able to help judge, timekeep, measure or assist in any other capacity please ring the school on 8275 8300 and leave your details with reception staff who will pass the information on to Mr Andrew Gormlie.

Mr Andrew Gormlie
Sports Coordinator



From the IT Department



Daymap is a web-based internet system that is available to parents 24/7 to provide information about school notices, assessment tasks, class activities, attendance and homework. Using Daymap connects parents to the school community and supports active parental engagement in student learning.

Daymap enables teachers to scaffold and personalise learning experiences which engage students and meet a range of learning needs. Students can access their learning materials in their own way, at their own pace, all in one place during lessons and after hours.

Hamilton Secondary College has a strong focus on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to assist your child in becoming a successful global citizen in the 21st century. ICT is a significant feature in the College's strategic plan and Hamilton has invested heavily to support this vision. In 2010, Hamilton established a 1 to 1 model where there is a computer for each student in the College and a laptop for each student in Years 8-10. Laptops are stored securely in specialised cupboards and trolleys.

It is the student's responsibility in Years 8-10 to respect the opportunity to have their own laptop whilst at the College and to this end, any damage and subsequent repairs, parents/care givers will be liable for. As the laptops are the property of the school and cannot be taken home, they are not to be damaged, altered or personalised in any way.

The overall goal of Hamilton Secondary College is to promote 21st Century learning techniques and to create and maintain a cyber-safety culture that is in keeping with College values and with legislative and professional obligations.

Adult and Secondary students will:

- Electronically read and sign an Acceptable Use Policy Agreement at the start of every term. This will be generated and maintained by the IT Support Staff.
- Act in an ethical and responsible manner, adhering to the tenets of Global Digital Citizenship.
- Use only the resources and assets required for learning related to school curriculum.