

IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL



STUDENT HANDBOOK 2022



Welcome

Irrawang High School is a school of Integrity

Irrawang High School was established in 1983 and attracts students primarily from Medowie, and Wirreanda Public Schools in Medowie and Irrawang and Grahamstown Public Schools in Raymond Terrace.

The school promotes excellence in academic, cultural and sporting performance and creative and performing arts. We have implemented a range of strategies to support the education of gifted and talented students.

Irrawang High School also has specialised classes catering for those students with special needs. A strong transition program is in place with our partner primary schools.

Vision Statement

Irrawang High School's purpose is to support its students to build successful futures. In developing a positive learning culture to create successful and effective learners, individuals and citizens, it balances its focus on the social, personal and academic development of each student, including programs to overcome local aspects of disadvantage and expand students' opportunities. Its leadership and management teams are striving to achieve a supportive, respectful, caring culture and environment which is inclusive of all people within our community, and in which excellence is valued and rewarded. It aims to assist students to develop as responsible learners, leaders and citizens whose impact on and contributions to their global community are positive; who are able to become productive and contributory participants in their community and the world.

Acknowledgement of Country

(Language of the Worimi People)

Guudji yiigu, nyiirun Irrawang Ngarralbaa,
Nyura marala yiigu, Warrimayga Barrayga
Barraba Ngarralgal, Bingay, Ngariin, Nyura
Yii Warrimayguba Barray, wanyimbu, wanyimbu
Nyiirun gathay wakulda

Welcome, we are Irrawang Place of listening, knowing
You have all come to/on Worimi Country
My Elders, Elder Brothers, Elder Sisters, Everybody
This country is Worimi Country, always, always
Let us go together.

I would like to acknowledge the Worimi people the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land on which we stand. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present and future, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present today.



General School Information

Telephone:	02 4987 4687
Email:	irrawang-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web site:	https://irrawang-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/
Address:	80 Mount Hall Rd, Raymond Terrace 2324
School Mobile App:	For all smart phones (download details available on school website)
Office Hours:	8.00am to 4.00pm
School Motto:	Integrity



Who's Who at Irrawang High School

Principal: Ms Nicole Hunt

Deputy Principal:

Deputy Principal:

Deputy Principal:

Years 8, 11: Mrs Liana Gill

Years 9, 12: Mr Peter Hosking

Years 7, 10: Mr Grant Godfrey

Business Manager:

Mrs Sonia Todd

HEAD TEACHERS

English

Mathematics

Science

HSIE

Admin/LOTE

TAS

PD/H/PE & Sport

CAPA/Transition

Wellbeing Coordinator

Careers

Return to School Centre

Special Education

Teaching & Learning

Transition & Engagement Aboriginal Learning

Mrs Sarah Barry (Rel)

Ms Lina Ryan (Rel)

Mr David Pearson

Mr Todd Hopper

Ms Aimee French

Mr Michael Groth

Mrs Rachelle Burns (Rel)

Ms Adele Robinson

Mr Toby Fibbins

Mr Justin Tonks

Mr Chad Brown

Mrs Natalie Moore

Mrs M Avery

OTHER KEY STAFF

Learning & Support Teachers

Computers

Counsellors

Community Liaison Officer

Aboriginal Education Officer

Defence Transition Mentor

Home School Liaison Officer

GATS

Special Religion Educator

Chaplain

Itinerant Hearing Teacher

Mrs M Liddell, Mrs S Morris Mrs Shelly Pearce

Ms Sarah Walker

Mr C Jonas, Ms M Pithers & Mrs B Tuck

Mrs Lue Fagan

Ms Sheridan Noble

Mrs Vanessa Schiller

Ms Sandy Woolf

Ms Lindsay McClelland

Mr Michael Healy

YEAR ADVISORS

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

Year 10

Year 11

Year 12

Ms Josie Scarcella & Mr Jed Molenaar

Mr Toby Fibbins & Miss Jacqueline Liddell

Mr Greg Field & Ms Marlee Byrnes

Miss Kass Bangle, Mrs Meagan Rembarz,

Mrs Lexi Petersen

Mr Peter Furey & Mrs Tiffany White

Mrs Sarah Heffernan & Mr Damian Hurley

OTHER PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Clinic Supervisor

Library Assistant

Home Science Assistant

Science Assistant

General Assistant

Canteen Supervisors

Farm Assistant

Mrs Karen Hartup

Mrs Cheryl Beerwald

Mrs Belinda Beasley

Ms Clare Walsh/Alicia McDonald

Mr Mark Burton

Ms Tanya Savage & Ms Nicole Zikman

Mr Rod White

Table of Contents

A Message from the Principal	
Positive Behaviour for Learning	
2021 School Captains	
A Special Note to Year 7 Parents	
Special Arrangements for Year 7	
P & C Welcome	
Parent Involvement and Community Volunteers.....	
Special Education	
GATS and Enrichment Programs.....	
Special Facilities.....	
School Programs.....	
Aboriginal Education.....	
School and Subject Contributions.....	
Financial Assistance	
General Information.....	
Uniform Information.....	
Commendations	
What Do I Do If?.....	
School Organisation/ Map.....	
Bell Times.....	

A Message from the Principal

Welcome to Irrawang High School.

It is my pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to new and returning students. We hope that your time with us will be both happy and productive, and an important milestone on your road to personal success.

As an educator there is tremendous pleasure hearing the positive buzz among students and staff throughout the school year. The challenge for us as a school community – students, parents and staff – is to maintain and build on that excitement and engagement.

At Irrawang High School we believe that, as a school community, we should have students' academic success and their wellbeing as a dual focus for our actions every day. I have high expectations of our staff and students in both those areas. I expect students to work hard and work to their potential, demonstrate respect to the staff and fellow students and to become the best person that they can possibly become. Consistent evidence has revealed that the single greatest in-school influence on student engagement and outcomes is the relationships students have with their teachers. That the best learning comes from mutually respectful relationships and that when we are working together – staff – students and families, we achieve so much more.

We are successfully building a school where teachers and students are working harmoniously under the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework. As a PBL school we value respect and responsibility in creating a caring learning environment that supports students to achieve their personal best. I expect all students to contribute positively to the life of the school by actively participating in the various academic, sporting and cultural activities provided. I hope, too, that parents will become productive partners in the school, assisting their sons and daughters through involvement in their education, and through participation in school organisations and activities.

We hope this booklet will help to answer the many questions you and your parents will have about the school and its activities. A school "Newsletter" will be published and uploaded to the school website and facebook page. If families require a hard copy they may collect one from the Administration office at the school. This will endeavour to keep the whole family informed of events taking place in the school.

Irrawang High School is creating a broad platform for raising educational standards for all our students. That literacy and numeracy are key building blocks of schooling and with a dual focus on student wellbeing and academic success, Irrawang High School students have the greatest opportunity of achieving their personal best.

Information about all aspects of the school can be accessed via:

School website www.irrawang-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Irrawang High School Mobile phone app for smartphones

Irrawang High School Facebook

If you require any further information please contact the school.

Mr P Baxter
Principal



Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is an initiative to promote and maximise academic achievement and behavioural competence. At Irrawang High School, PBL is a school-wide strategy that helps all students achieve important social and learning goals. We know that when good behaviour and good teaching come together, our students excel in their learning.

As part of our PBL program, we have established several clear values and expectations framed around the three universals of **Respect, Responsibility & Personal Best**. These expectations are the basis for the behaviour that we expect in all areas of our school, and we explicitly teach these expectations to students. Rewards are frequently given to students as positive reinforcement for their great behaviour

The behavioural expectations for all students are clearly visible throughout our school, classrooms and playground. The ultimate goal of PBL is to allow every child reach their full potential through the combined efforts of the schools, parents, businesses, service providers and government agencies.

EVERYONE

EVERYWHERE

EVERY TIME

RESPECT NGARRABU MARRUNG

LISTEN & SPEAK POLITELY

ACT SAFELY

LOOK AFTER OUR SCHOOL



RESPONSIBILITY GAGA MARRUNG



BE PREPARED

RIGHT PLACE RIGHT TIME

MAKE GOOD DECISIONS

PERSONAL BEST BARRABA MARRUNG-GANG

WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE

DELIVER QUALITY WORK



Positive Behaviour for Learning (contd)...

Classroom Expectations

Our expectations at Irrawang High School is that students meet the classroom expectations for every class in the school

EVERYONE, EVERY CLASS, EVERY TIME



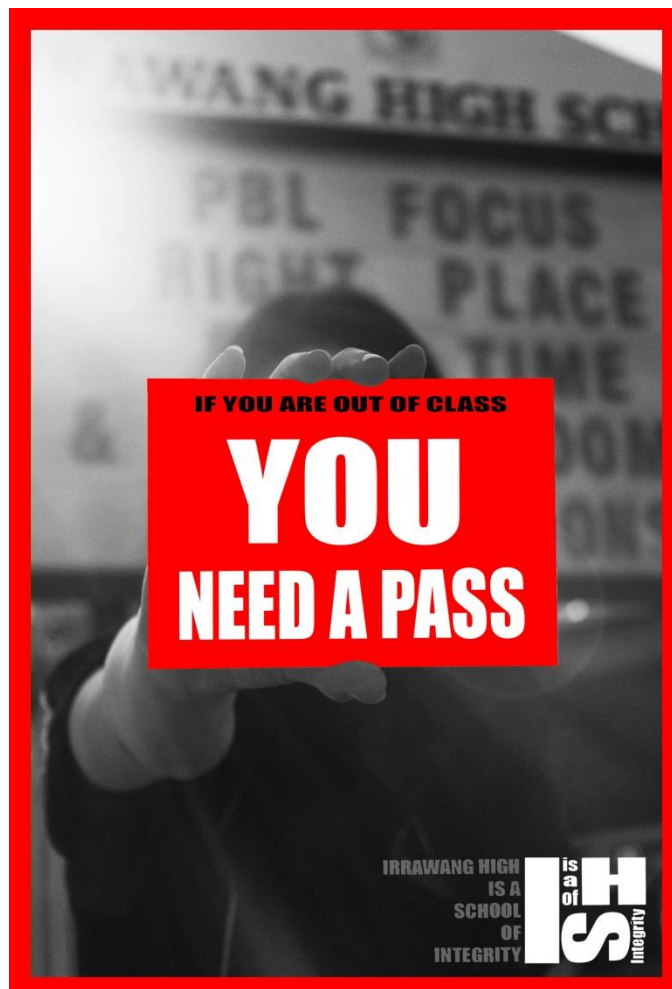
RESPONSIBILITY

1. On the bell, move directly to your timetabled classroom.
2. **Walk quietly** in the buildings.
3. **Quietly** line up in two straight lines outside your classroom.
4. Hats/beanies **off**; phones/personal technology **off and in your bag**.
5. Equipment out; ready to learn.
6. **Quietly** wait for your teacher 's instruction.

LINING UP



IRRAWANG HIGH
IS A
SCHOOL
OF
INTEGRITY



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School Uniform

Irrawang High School is a 'Uniform School', and we understand that parents/carers want their child to wear a uniform to school. Staff actively monitor the wearing of school uniform and we ask that parents/carers support us by working together to maintain this policy. For a comprehensive list of uniform requirements, please visit our website.

Irrawang High School Uniform

Footwear

Workplace Health and Safety legislation makes it mandatory for all students to wear **black, solid and enclosed** shoes within the school grounds especially in practical and science areas. **These shoes are suitable and meet WH&S requirements because:**



- they all have solid uppers
- there are no punched holes
- they are **NOT** canvas
- they cover the upper part of the foot



IHS Black Jumper/Hoodie



Black hoodies are permitted as part of the school uniform. **IHS logos only are permitted.**



School Shorts, Shirts & Skirts



Black shorts/skirts are required to be **mid-thigh or longer**. **Leggings ripped jeans and tights not permitted**



School Uniform

<p style="text-align: center;">Junior Girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tartan skirt • Black Tailored Trousers or Mid-thigh black Shorts • Junior white school blouse (School Crest) • Green school polo (School Crest/Logo) • White Socks (visible) • Black IHS logoed Hoodie (available from school) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Junior Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black trousers or black mid-thigh black shorts • Junior white shirt (School Crest) • Green school polo (School Crest/Logo) • White Socks (visible) • Black IHS logoed Hoodie (available from school)
<p style="text-align: center;">Senior Girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tartan skirt (official school uniform) • Black tailored trousers or mid-thigh black shorts • Senior white school blouse (School Crest) • Seniors shirt (school office) • Green school Polo (School Crest/Logo) • White socks (visible) • Black IHS logoed Hoodie (available from school) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Senior Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black trousers or mid- thigh black shorts • Senior white shirt (School Crest) • Green school polo (School Crest/Logo) • White socks (visible) • Black IHS logoed Hoodie (available from school) • Seniors shirt (school office)
<p style="text-align: center;">SPORT/PDHPE - Girls and Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black IHS Sports Shorts • White Socks (visible) • Black Track Pants • Supportive Sport Shoes with Laces 	

2022 School Leaders



From left to right:
Mabel B, School Captain; Holly K, Vice -Captain; Nicholas K, Ngarralbaa
Ambassador; Brendan J, CAPA Ambassador; Deakon W, Vice-Captain;
Selman H, School Captain;
Front: Joel C, Support Ambassador

Special Note to Year 7 Parents

Your child will find high school very different from the past seven years in infants and primary School. They will find:

- the school will be larger and more complicated in layout. Students may experience a sense of being lost, lonely and overawed
- there may be a need to make new friends. There will be opportunities to meet many new people in their own year. Make sure they remain inclusive of old friends as well!
- the single primary teacher is replaced by a group of many different teachers. These teachers may teach up to a couple of hundred students - they will not have the same chance to get to know your student personally
- many courses are experienced for the first time
- greater responsibility is being placed on the child - he/she is responsible for their own actions
- the amount of homework may increase
- competition will be greater
- High School is a more mature environment – students are older, and range up to adults. Students are no longer working in a children's' environment
- Students go from being children to being teenagers – be prepared for changes. These are primarily changes due to age and stage, not school

Parents can therefore help by:

- being aware of these new demands
- being calm in their approach to difficulties, and keeping them in true perspective, giving hope and encouragement
- providing regular opportunity for their student to discuss activities and problems voluntarily
- constantly encouraging and praising their students for a genuine effort regardless of results
- showing interest and expressing confidence in the student and school
- attempting to provide study facilities
- ensuring the student develops good homework patterns and study habits early in his/her school career
- avoiding unnecessary absences - catch up is essential
- avoiding making critical decisions and judgements about their students, the teacher or the school in general without full discussion of the facts. Do not allow worries and problems to persist, please contact the school

Special Arrangements for Year 7

To assist Year 7 with their introduction to high school, Irrawang High School offers several concessions and activities. These include:

Literacy and numeracy assessments will occur during the first weeks of term.

CAFÉ IRRAWANG : Year 7 are released from class earlier than other years for the first 2 weeks to enable them to be first in the canteen line at recess and lunch. Café Irrawang opens at 8.15-8.30am.

BUS LINES: Year 7 are also released earlier at the end of the day to enable them to form up first in bus lines. This concession also runs for the first 2 weeks of the school year

STUDENT AMBASSADORS: will work with Year 6 students coming to our school and again when they start Year 7

P&C

The Irrawang High School Parents and Citizens Association would like to welcome you to our school. Parents and guardians of our students are welcome at our school at all times and your involvement in the many and various school activities is valued.

Parents and guardians can take an active role in our school via the P & C Association. Our P & C Association is a devoted group of parents, guardians and community members committed to being partners in our students' education and their future. Following each monthly meeting, parents and guardians are able to stay for a light supper and informal discussion with the Principal and other staff who frequently attend meetings and are always ready to answer queries in or out of meeting times.

You are welcome to become a member of the P&C and to participate in some of the association's activities, or just to attend meetings to keep in touch with school matters.

P&C meets the fourth Monday of each month
at 5.30 PM
in the library

P&C SUB-COMMITTEES

Canteen

- ♦ **The canteen is run by the P&C committee, and raises around \$20,000 each year for the school to use on educational needs.**

The P&C wish you and your students a very pleasant entry into our school. P&C executive may be contacted through the school office or email ihs.pcassociation@gmail.com if more information is required.



Parent/Carer Involvement and Community Volunteers

We encourage you to be involved in your student's school. Some activities in our school that parents can become involved in are:

P & C	A dedicated and active group of parents and guardians who discuss a wide range of school matters, as well as helping the school with finance and developments of its facilities and grounds.
Canteen	A friendly, fun atmosphere where parents meet other parents and all help is welcome no matter how little.
Breakfast Club	Held every morning for students from 8am-8.30am. Volunteers required from 7am until 8.30am
Development Days	A way to meet staff and learn about policies and practices within the school.
Parent/Teacher Afternoons:	Parents can make appointments to see how their child is progressing. These are held mid-year after the first reports are completed.
Presentation Assemblies	Parents and friends are welcome to attend any of the ceremonies for our students receiving awards.
Parent Information Nights	Information and help with student's course selections.
CAPA Evenings	Parents are urged to attend these nights, to see the extent of the talents of students and for a good night of entertainment.

The school 'Newsletter' will be published and uploaded to the school website. The School Newsletter contains valuable information for both parents and students.

Irrawang High School has a friendly atmosphere and parents are welcome to make contact with the school and staff at any time. Please phone in advance if you wish to meet with staff, as they are not always available at short notice.

Support Faculty/ Special Education

Students with disabilities will have a Personal Learning Plan developed in consultation with the student, parent/caregiver and any other relevant parties. This plan will be the basis for development of the student's program of study and cater for the vocational and vocational needs.

Living skills and work experience skills in both school and the community are key areas students within the faculty develop. The plan is reviewed annually to cater for students changing needs.

Educational Environments include:

- **Integration** -regular classes
- **Support Classes (IO/IS)** -intellectual disabilities
- **Support Classes (IM)** -intellectual disabilities
- **Support Classes (ED/BD)** -emotional disturbance/ behaviour disorder
- **Support Classes (MC)** -multi categorical

SUPPORT CLASSES offer a variety of individualised programs with qualified teachers.

Special Programs

- Integration
- Transition- TAFE, work experience in school and in the community
- Distance Education
- Students within the support faculty can participate in mainstream electives with and without School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) support.
- Community access in local community and Raymond Terrace
- Work Experience at school and in the community
- Cottage Industry
- Sheltered Workshop

Specialised facilities and adequate resources cater for needs of all students, not only those in the special classes.

Mobility - ramps, lift

Toileting - private toilet and shower areas

Support - trained School Learning Support Officers (SLSOs)

Equipment - classrooms are set up to accommodate special needs - Living Skills Areas

Transport - travel to and from school for approved students.

Accessible bathroom

Achievements

Students with disabilities are involved with all school activities including:

- Hospitality
- Travel Training
- School dances/Sport carnivals
- Paper recycling
- School dances/Sport carnivals
- Community Access Programs
- Stewart House
- Variety Performances
- Roll Call integrated
- Gardening Program
- School Choir

Irrawang High School is committed to providing relevant educational services so that students with disabilities may reach their full potential at school and in the community. Students access the curriculum on the same basis

The staff and students are extremely supportive and accept all students as individuals. The positive, caring environment encourages improved community attitudes towards people with disabilities.

High Potential and Gifted Education

At Irrawang High School, we cater for all students and their learning needs.

We continue to offer the following:

ACCELERATION:

Students showing outstanding development in a particular course, may be accelerated (promoted ahead of their cohort) in that course. Such acceleration must be within Board of Studies guidelines, ensuring that students cover all levels without skipping years, and accelerate at the highest possible level



EXTENSION & ENRICHMENT:

All students, but especially those achieving outstanding results in the standard course work, are provided with extension exercises within the normal unit offerings

In junior years, talented students are placed in a special class to further extend their development



COMPETITIONS:

Students with particular abilities in courses are encouraged to take part in state and national competitions. These are conducted in English, HSIE, Mathematics and Science. Students can also be involved in specific GATS competitions including Tournament of the Minds, Junior Robocup, Robogals and in GATS enrichment programs such as working with mentors from the University of Newcastle.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR TALENTS:

Students are given many opportunities to receive additional training and to participate in extra-curricular activities covering such areas as, dance, drama, speaking and debating, art works, science, debating, creative writing, music, sports and performance ensembles e.g. Drum Corps and Selective Dance Ensembles,



Special Facilities

Café Irrawang	A modern facility providing both hot and cold foods before school, recess and lunch
Careers	A centre containing up to date information in the form of brochures, pamphlets, booklets and posters on the current job market and a computer
Computer Pods	Sixteen computer pods are based in individual subject areas and in the Library for easy access. Wireless access is also available across the school for student laptops
Dark Room	Equipped with four enlargers, developing tank and other equipment required for processing black and white photographs
Library	A resource centre for the school containing books, computers, (including internet) and multi-media resources
Multi-Purpose Centre	A large hall/gymnasium with a stage (including curtains), lighting, amplification system, toilets/change room, basketball court, gymnastics equipment and fitness gym
Learning Laboratories	Two small group room outfitted with special resources for developing literacy/numeracy skills
Theatre Workshop	A large open space for drama and dance with special lighting facilities and props and Tarkett flooring
Video Facilities	For use by students to work with video cameras, video editing and special effects
Music Rooms	Microphones, mixer, electric and acoustic drum kits, electric and acoustic guitars, piano and keyboards.
Trade Training Centre	Specially designed classroom and work area for teaching/learning Agriculture and senior Primary Industries

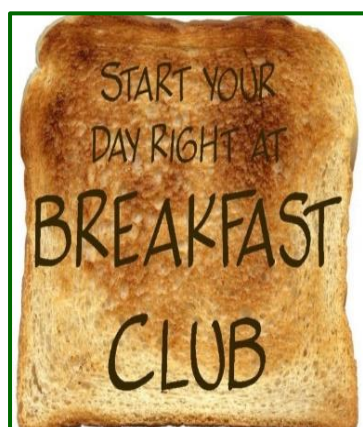
The school is also well equipped for senior vocational courses in Hospitality and Primary Industries.

Special Programs

Year Camps/Excursions	Year excursions are held to assist year group's development.
Writing Workshops	Students work with a published author to extend their narrative writing skills
Debating/Public Speaking	Students are given training in debating skills and speaking and have the opportunity to become part of the debating teams. These teams have excelled in Hunter and State competitions over recent years
Science Competition	Students have the opportunity to participate in many competitions
Mathematics Competition	Students have the opportunity to participate in many competitions
English Competition	Students have the opportunity to participate in many competitions
Learning Support Meetings	Special meetings with key school personnel to discuss student progress and support strategies which are the basis of individual improvement plans
Performance Nights	Showcases of student achievements at Irrawang High School including displays of visual artworks, musical items, dance and drama performances
Elite Performance Ensembles	Junior and Senior Drum Corps, Junior Dance Ensemble, Senior Dance Ensemble, Elite Dance Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble
Parent/Teacher Evenings	Provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and discuss student's progress. Special evenings are held for Higher School Certificate information
Anti-Harassment Anti-Discrimination Anti-Vilification	This school is a harassment/discrimination/vilification (DHV) free zone, where students are educated about their rights and responsibilities as community members
Extra Curriculum in all Programs	Each course organises a variety of activities to compliment the classroom programs - they are diverse, dynamic, relevant and motivating
HNE Health Partnership	A member of the Youth Health Team is available one day each week to discuss health and welfare issues with students and families

Special Programs (contd)

Presentation Ceremony	Year 12 graduations and an end of year presentation, with both academic and sporting awards for student achievements throughout the year. Year 11 also have a presentation ceremony. Year assemblies are also held to acknowledge student achievement in a range of areas
Student Leadership	SRC, PALS, PBL Student Voice, Sports House Captains, Student Ambassadors, Junior AECG. Students are elected to officially represent Irrawang High School and provide advice to the Principal.
Work Experience	An opportunity for Year 10 and Year 11 students to spend time in the workplace
Work Placement	Students in vocational courses spend time in the workplace, where they are graded on their progress as part of their course assessment
Snack and Study	One afternoon a week students can attend the library and work under the supervision of a teacher and aide to complete homework and assignments. Snack and Study is open every Monday from 3.15pm - 5.30pm and every second Tuesday Week A
Art Club	Held every Tuesday afternoon from 3.30pm-5pm
Other Programs	Bro Speak and Sista Speak, Peer Reading Tutors, GATS Program, Stage 6 Practical Celebration, Plan-it-Youth, Daily Breakfast Club
SBATs	School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships



Aboriginal Education

Ngarralbaa Aboriginal Education Team

Irrawang High School Ngarralbaa Aboriginal Education team's vision and purpose is based on valuing genuine partnerships between students, staff and community. Together, we celebrate and respect strong cultural connections and identity. We continue to build upon all student's strengths, skills, experiences and knowledge. We are committed to developing confident lifelong learners, enabling successful transitions into pathways as leaders of tomorrow.

IHS Ngarralbaa Aboriginal Education Team strives to provide the very best educational outcomes, experiences and opportunities for all Aboriginal students at Irrawang High School.

The team work together in partnership with all staff, the Youyoong AECG and the wider community to build strong cultural identities and educational outcomes for all ATSI students delivered through our targeted programs.

We provide culturally appropriate programs and leadership opportunities by forming strong connections with Elders and Community such as;

- Junior AECG
- BroSpeak and SistaSpeak
- Murrook Cultural program
- Youth Express – Work readiness and Culture Strong
- NRL School to Work

Wakulda wakulda- Together as one



Aboriginal Education (contd)

Clontarf Foundation

Irrawang High School is thrilled to have the Clontarf Foundation program and a vibrant academy room at our School.

The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, self-esteem, life skill and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and by doing so equips them to participate more meaningful in society.

There are many aspects to the program, which especially designed to encourage young ATSI boys to complete their schooling to Year 12, then progressing into employment or undertaking further studies.

Clontarf offers a variety of sports, community activities, employment visits and attendance based excursions.



Aboriginal Learning and Engagement Centre

Irrawang High School's Aboriginal Learning and Engagement Centre (ALEC) provides extensive support for students to improve their educational outcomes. The ALEC is led by Head Teacher Miriam Avery with the support of Aboriginal Student Learning & Support Officers Zoe Khan and Dakota Gordon. The centre is built on a foundation of solid and authentic relationships where trust, respect and honesty are valued and are at the core of all we do. We spend time engaging with individual students to develop relationships where students feel comfortable working with us to identify and overcome any barriers to their learning. We aim to provide the necessary support to improve the educational outcomes and wellbeing of our students with a focus on graduating Irrawang High School with a HSC and ready for further study or employment opportunities.

School and Subject Contributions

The Parents' and Citizens' Association and the school's Finance Committee each year ask parents and guardians to contribute to the costs of schooling. From 2000, these contributions have been dedicated to the Library fund. As such they are tax-deductible. These contributions are used to provide resources for the school's library. Payment of the general school contribution is a matter for decision by individual parents and guardians. We stress that your contributions are really welcome as they are the main fund-raiser in our school community and are vital in planning for and meeting the needs of students

We also require your support to purchase some materials used and consumed by students in their chosen courses. These subject contributions enable the school to buy materials such as timber, cloth and food used in such courses as Mandatory Technology. It is a lot easier for the school to buy these for all students rather than expect students to bring in their own for each lesson.

While your contributions are extremely important to the school, we can assure you that no embarrassment or discrimination will occur in our school as a result of any inability to pay the contribution. The Principal will discuss reductions, exemptions, support and payment by instalments with any parents or guardians who contact me.

If you have any concerns about contributions please discuss them with your representatives on the Finance Committee or with the Parents' and Citizens' Association or with the Principal.

GENERAL SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Year 7	\$50	The money raised by these general contributions will be spent on resources in the school's library to assist all students' learning.
Year 8	\$50	
Year 9	\$50	
Year 10	\$50	
Year 11	\$60	
Year 12	\$60	

SUBJECT MATERIALS CONTRIBUTIONS

Years 7	Cost	Money Used for
Technology (Mandatory)	\$60	Covers the cost of materials used (food, timber, fabric, metal) and safety kit (glasses, apron, hat and kit bag) used for all TAS subjects Year 7-12
Visual Arts	\$25	Paints, clay, brushes etc.
Music	\$15	Jacks, guitar strings drum sticks, microphones

We ask that contributions, especially subject contributions, be paid as early as possible to enable the school to offer resources to your students. Arrangements can be made for payment by instalments, or to defer payments, by contacting the Principal.

Financial Assistance

A Special Note to Year 7 Parents Student Assistance Scheme (SAS Scheme)

Irrawang High School provides some funds to assist students needing help with the purchase of school uniforms, writing materials, excursion costs and subject contributions. The funds are limited and not all requests may be met. Funds will be allocated in response to completion of the appropriate form and presentation of a Health Care Card or Pension Card.

Objectives - Policy statement

- The Student Assistance Scheme (SAS) enables financial assistance to be provided to eligible families of primary and secondary students attending NSW government schools for school related expenses, such as uniforms or excursions
- All applications and details of assistance provided are to be kept strictly confidential. Under no circumstances is any information on individual cases to be released by the school
- The monies are not to be made available for the payment of general school contributions
- In all cases, assistance is for students in need and is not to be used for items, which the school is currently paying for, or is required to pay for at present

Who is eligible for student assistance?

Any parent or carer who is eligible for a Health Care Card/ Pension Card i.e. receiving Centrelink benefits is eligible for the Student Assistance Scheme (SAS scheme) at Irrawang High School.

What will student assistance cover?

- Individual subject fees not general school contributions.
- Subject specific workbooks (purchased by the school)
- 2/3 payment for compulsory excursions (day only)
- Partial payment for school uniforms able to be purchased from the school (Depending on availability)

What you need to do to get student assistance for your child?

Only those parents and carers who present their Health Care Card / Pension Card or a copy of it with the completed application form to the front office of the school will be eligible to get student assistance for their child. Student Assistance Forms are available from the schools front office.

Transport

Passes for free travel to and from school are issued to students who live beyond 2 km radius from the school.

Bus students MUST enter the grounds immediately when they arrive at school. They will line up in an orderly fashion in the designated area at the end of the school day, and board the bus under teachers' directions. Students are expected to behave sensibly on the buses at all times. (You must read the statement issued by the bus company which is distributed with your bus pass).

Fares must be paid to and from sport.

Roll Call Groups

Rolls are marked each morning in your Roll Call Group Room at 8:50 AM. Class rolls are marked each lesson to ensure pupils are present in all lessons. Fractional truants will be severely dealt with and parents will be notified. Junior students are placed in year-based roll groups from Years 7 to 10. Year 11 and Year 12 students will be in ATAR, HSC or ROSA roll groups. Special groups of reading tutors and students requiring some reading support also operate. The Student Representative Council meets as a separate roll group each morning.

Bells

Bells are used to indicate class periods, assemblies, etc

1 bell: Go to class (a warning bell will ring 3 minutes before the start of lessons – move to class on this bell.)

2 bells: Students are allowed in the foyers during extreme weather (wet or inclement.)

3 bells: Assembly – move to the assembly area of the quadrangle

Evacuation warning – continuous bell - follow evacuation guidelines

Lockdown warning – intermittent bell for two minutes

Late Arrivals

When arriving late, students must first report to the school Front Office, where they will be issued with a late note. If no satisfactory explanation is provided, the partial absence will be recorded as Unexplained. The student must bring a note in the next day explaining the late attendance.

Early Leavers

Students who need to leave early must provide a written explanation to their Deputy for signing and then bring to the Front Office. Parents/Caregivers need to ensure they have written the students first and last name on the note including the date and time they are required to leave. They then collect their pass at recess. When it is time for the student to leave, they show their teacher the pass and the front office staff before leaving.

Notes

Our school provides daily SMS messaging for absences. Parents can contact the school via the message platform for explained absence. Notes for absences are to be handed to the Attendance Administrator in the front office. Parents or Caregivers are required to write a note explaining the absence on the **first** day back to school. It must contain the students name, year, roll group, and the reason for absence.

Assemblies

Assemblies are held every morning. Other assemblies are held as required. They are indicated by the ringing of three bells. Formal assemblies are held regularly. School announcements and presentations are made at these assemblies. Additional announcements are made during Roll Call. Year assemblies are held Wednesday week 1 at 10:50am. All students are expected to report promptly to the designated year area, and to listen carefully to all items. A positive Behaviour for Learning Assembly will be held every Monday morning.

Illness at School

If you become ill at school you need to obtain a note from the teacher you have in that period in order to report to the Front Office, where you should see Mrs Warburton.

All students and parents are advised that our clinic is a First Aid station only. We do not have a trained nurse on duty. No medication will be dispensed to students without written permission from parents. Panadol or any other analgesics are **NOT** available at the school.

The office staff and Year Advisers need information re individual student's medical conditions. Please take the time to notify the staff.

Bikes

The law requires cyclists to wear approved helmets. For your safety, your bike must be legally roadworthy. No riding bikes on pathways and lawns. This means that bikes must be walked, not ridden through the school grounds. A lock and chain are recommended for students to lock up their bikes. Students wishing to ride their bike to sport need to get a pass from the front office by bringing a note from home. Bike racks are located at the front of the school

PLEASE NOTE: THE SCHOOL ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE TO OR LOSS OF BIKES.

Prohibited Items

Students must not bring any item to school, which will place the safety of other students at risk. Such items include the following:

Weapons: or items which can be used as weapons: items such as slingshots, blowguns, knives, etc.

Imitation weapons: are also banned. Toy weapons are also not to be brought to school.

Aerosol Sprays: body sprays and deodorant sprays (only roll on or pump action deodorants to be used at school).

Drugs: of any kind: illegal drugs, cigarettes and alcohol.

Pornographic materials: in any form are also banned from school premises.

Matches or cigarette **lighters** of any kind.

Skateboards, roller blades, skates or scooters. If ridden to school, they must be left in the designated areas from the start of the day.

Property

Students should also note that family **pets**, and chewing **gums** of all kinds, are banned from the school grounds.

All personal property including all articles of clothing should be marked with the owner's name. Lost property is to be handed to the print room (clothing) or the office (jewellery; equipment; watches etc.).

Avoid bringing large sums of money or valuables to school.

Ipods, mp3 players etc are best left at home. If brought to school, they must be turned off and put away during class, assemblies, year meetings, etc.

Skateboards, roller blades, skates or scooters **should not** be brought to school.

School bags provide little security and make thefts difficult to detect.

Money is to be carried with you rather than left in a school bag.

Watches, money and other valuables are to be kept with them throughout the day. All other valuable items should be left at home. It is emphasised that students are ultimately responsible for the security of their property.

Bring Your Own Device

Students are allowed to bring their own laptops or tablets to assist their work in lessons. All such devices need to be linked to the school's network, and are subject to all guidelines and laws.

Students must only use their devices as directed by the teacher for that lesson.

The school has **sixteen** laptop pods spread across all faculty areas for student use.

Mobile Devices

Irrawang High School recognises the dramatic rate of change in technology in society and the enormous range of applications available. Proper use of this technology will benefit students and the school alike. This policy aims at addressing the issues of appropriate and proper use of electronic devices at Irrawang High School.

To foster a culture of appropriate use of technology and an instructional climate that is free from interruption and distraction, we require all parents and carers to agree to support the school in the appropriate use of technology and electronic devices in particular mobile phones.

Guidelines

Students are allowed to use their mobile phones outside school buildings before school, during recess and lunchtime. As soon as the bell rings they are to be switched off. They must not be turned on until students have left the building at recess, lunch or after school. Students are not to take photos or make recordings without permission. Phones may only be used when requested by staff as part of curriculum delivery – eg. to provide music in CAPA; as diaries for homework. **NOTE:** The school takes no responsibility for loss of phones, except for those in its care.

Summary:

Students	Parents	Teachers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn your phone off as soon as the bell goes. • Keep your phone with you at all times but switched off and out of sight. • Leave it off at all times except before and after school, recess and lunchtime. Phones are not to be used between periods. • Do not arrange to leave the school via your mobile phone. • Do not take photographs of people without their permission or harass and intimidate others – relevant laws will be adhered to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage students to leave their phones at home. They really do not need them at school. • Do not arrange for your child to leave the school via their mobile phone. • Inform the school if you are taking your child out of school, in writing, by phoning the school, or in person. • Do not contact your student on their phone during class times • Support the school in this policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly indicate when phones may be used as part of a lesson. • 1st Offence: Issue a verbal warning for student to put phone away if student re-offends confiscate the phone for the duration of the lesson. • 2nd Offence: Confiscate phone and place in the office for the remainder of the day. • 3rd Offence: Refer to Deputy Principal. Phone will be confiscated and kept in the office until parent contact.

✂**PLEASE RETURN TO THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**.....

We agree to support the school's electronic devices policy:

Parent/Caregiver Signature Date:

Student Signature Date:

Library

Opening Hours

The Library is open Monday to Friday 8:00am to 3:15pm, including, every recess and lunch under teacher supervision.

Borrowing

- Year 7 & 8 - 2 library books and 3 other items may be borrowed for 2 weeks.
- Years 9 & 10 - 3 library books and 3 other items may be borrowed for 2 weeks.
- Year 11 - 4 library books and 6 other items may be borrowed for 2 weeks.
- Year 12 - 6 library books and 10 other items may be borrowed for 2 weeks.

Loans may be extended for a further 2 weeks, if necessary. Books must be returned on or before the due date.

Students will be expected to pay for books which are returned in a damaged state, or not returned at all.

Computers

Computers in the library cannot be booked at recess or lunch.

Senior students may use the Library computers during study periods if they are free. There are five laptops specifically for senior student use at all times, providing they remain in the library.

Café Irrawang

Parents are invited to assist in the canteen. Any time you can give to help make this service available to the students would be welcome. If you would like to help out in this way, please do not hesitate to phone the school. Helpers do not have to serve students directly, as we use a cafeteria-style system.

The canteen is staffed by two full time chefs, assisted by voluntary workers. Students should extend every courtesy to the parents and community members who generously give their time to help the school.



The Canteen is open from 8.15 am every morning. Lunch may be ordered before school or at recess. Students will form an orderly line, which will proceed under the direction of the teacher on duty. Senior students may merge from a separate line. Pushing in or getting others to buy is not permitted.

No students will be served during lesson time, except in special circumstances (eg. during exams).

At recess and lunch, the canteen area is supervised by staff. Students are expected to carry out the instructions of staff. Students who behave irresponsibly will be sent away from the canteen.

School Books

A special Year 7 stationery list will be included in the Year 7 information pack. This list has been prepared in consultation with heads of departments in our school and contains all your student's stationery needs.

Students in other years will be told their book and equipment requirements by their class teachers.

Students should note the *Minimum Expectations: Bookwork* sheet issued to all new students.

Snack 'n' Study (Homework Club)

The purpose of homework is to reinforce learning. It assists students to build on what they have already learnt in the classroom, and prepares them for the next stage of learning. Homework is also useful for teachers, as it assists them to assess the progress of their students. Finally it is an important aspect of the school-home partnership, enabling parents to support their children while they learn.

One afternoon a week students can attend the library and work under the supervision of a teacher and aide to complete homework and assignments. Snack and Study is open every Monday from 3.15pm - 5.30pm and every second Tuesday Week A.

Home Study Program

The most valuable work a student can do at home is self-directed, organized study. This is a measure of progress towards independence as a learner.

It is advisable that students establish a home study program. Good study habits are essential for students to achieve worthwhile results; they also provide a sound start to the demands of the senior years. At least an hour per day five days a week is recommended for students for study and homework. Closer to exams a study timetable should be organised and an extra half an hour per day for two weeks prior to major exams should be included.

Excursions

Excursions are activities which require the removal of students from their timetabled classes. Excursions complement and enhance the students learning - they are a vital part of the overall education provided. Excursions are planned as part of the course and will involve follow-up work. Students will be expected to wear school uniform to excursions unless parents/guardians are specifically told otherwise.

Some excursions are mandatory – i.e. students must participate to satisfactorily complete the course. Some excursions involve the whole day, but sometimes may only be a few periods. Occasionally, excursions may be for more than one day if students are going on a bush camp or visiting distant places. Parents will always be notified in advance.

- **Permission notes** - to be signed by the parent/caregiver and returned to the teacher in charge of the excursion. Since the law requires that parents have completed a permission note, only those students whose notes have been returned will be allowed to attend the excursion. Medical information forms will be required. Date, times and methods of transport will be included on the information sheet.
- **Payment** for excursion - The school calendar will provide dates for excursions to allow parents to plan payment. Closing dates must be strictly adhered to. Payments can be made by the following options: Online via webpage, credit card by phone, or cash/eftpos at the front office.
- **Refunds** - see Head Teacher of Faculty organising the excursion as soon as possible. Refunds (less non-refundable deposit) will be considered in special circumstances eg medical reasons.

Courses

All students in **Year 7** will follow the same course studying English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Language, Music, Visual Arts, Mandatory Technology, PD/Health/PE and Sport. These courses **must be completed satisfactorily** in Year 7 for students to receive their Record of Achievement after Year 10.

Students in **Year 8** will study English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Visual Arts, Technology, PD/Health/PE and Sport. As well, they will have some choice of semester Additional Studies courses.

Students in Years 9 and 10 will study English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, PD/Health/PE, Work Education and Sport, as well as two Additional Studies courses. Students who do not satisfactorily complete Year 9 mandatory courses by the time of the Yearly examination may be required to repeat Year 9 before proceeding to Year 10.

There are four **Special Education Classes** (Junior and Senior IO/IS, IM and ED) operating within the school for students with disabilities. Some of these students will be integrated at times into the main stream classes.

Three Learning Assistance Support Teachers (LAST) operate in the School. Parents should contact them should they have any real concerns regarding the learning difficulties of their child.

Sport

There are three special sporting competitions throughout the year. Parents are always welcome to attend these events. (Look in the newsletter for dates of competitions.)

Our **Swimming** and **Athletics Carnival** are whole school all day competitions. The **Cross Country** Activity will be held in a specific time during school sport. These are all held in Term 1.

All students are assigned alphabetically to houses when they enrol. These groups are:

HOUSE GROUPS

Bramley	(A-D Surnames)
Osborne	(E-J Surnames)
Dawson	(K-P Surnames)
Moy	(Q-Z Surnames)

COLOUR

Red
Blue
Green
Yellow

SPORTS PROGRAM

All students from Years 7 to 10 are expected to take part in the weekly sports program. For Years 7 and 8, this is integrated into the weekly timetable. For years 9 and 10, they will have the choice of seasonal sports held on a Thursday between 11:40am and 1:40pm. Satisfactory participation in this program is a Department of Education and community requirement for the award of the ROSA. Students are required to wear approved sports uniform, as outlined in the section on uniform earlier in this book.

Sport (contd)

Sporting Activities Available to Students

Students select sports for each term (appropriate to the season). Some bear a cost for use of the facilities. Most require the students to be bussed to venues away from the school, at a small cost.

Archery	Lifesaving
Basketball	Softball
Rugby League	Lawn Bowls
Cricket	Ten Pin Bowling
Netball	Soccer
Touch Football	Tennis
Resistance Training	Volleyball
Golf	Skate Park
PCYC	Cross Fit

COMPETITIONS:

The school also enters teams in the State-wide knockout competitions, and competes in Regional and State athletics, swimming and cross country competitions

NON-SPORT:

Study facilities with supervision are made available for those students who cannot take part in sport because of injury or illness. Some students may also be sent to this group as a consequence of unacceptable behaviour in sporting activities

WET WEATHER:

Arrangements are made for rainy days. Indoor sports go ahead as planned. Students from outdoor sports take part in alternative activities, held at the school.





What do I do if...

I AM LATE TO SCHOOL?

- You must have a good reason for being late
- If you arrive **during** the first five minutes of Roll Marking (8:50-9:00am), go straight to Roll Call and make sure your attendance is marked on the Roll
- If you arrive **after** 9:00am, go to the Front Office and you will be given a Late Note

I FEEL SICK AT SCHOOL?

- Report to the Clinic, with a note from your teacher
- You will be given First Aid in the Clinic
- If you are too sick to remain at school, your parent/caregiver will be contacted to take you home

I FEEL SICK AT HOME IN THE MORNING?

- Do not come to school

I LOSE MY TIMETABLE?

- See your Year Advisor for a new copy
- Take care to keep your timetable safe!

I GET LOST?

- Any teacher will help you
- Ask your friends before you leave the room
- Report to one of the Deputy Principals or the Front Office

I NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY?

- Bring a note from your parents/caregiver
- Take your note to the Deputy and then Front Office before school
- Sign the Leavers' Book at the Front Office before leaving (Seniors)

I LOSE SOMETHING AT SCHOOL?

- Check to see if it was handed in at the Front Office (valuables) or Print Room (clothing items)
- If something valuable is lost or stolen, give a written report to the Deputy Principal for your year

I AM NOT IN CORRECT UNIFORM?

- Report, with a note from your parent/caregiver, to your Roll teacher. You will be loaned correct uniform or have your endorsed for the day
- Ensure you are in correct uniform the next day

IF YOU FEEL BULLIED OR UNCOMFORTABLE

- Don't take it! Don't do it!
- Tell an adult
- Fill in an incident report form

I AM CONCERNED ABOUT CLASS WORK/ ASSESSMENT

- See your teacher first. If you are still concerned, see the Head Teacher of the faculty, then the Deputy Principal

What do I do if... (contd)

I AM LATE FOR CLASS?

- If you are delayed in a previous class by a teacher, ask for a note with a reason for your lateness.
- Give the note to your **next** teacher as soon as you arrive to your next class.
- Unacceptable lateness will result in consequences.

I WANT TO GO TO THE TOILET DURING CLASS?

- Put your hand up and ask the teacher.
- Your teacher will allow you to go if it is an emergency.
- You will be given a "Permission to be out of Class" pass.
- To avoid classroom disruption, visit the toilet during normal Recess and Lunch breaks.

I FORGET MY LUNCH?

- Calls home can be arranged by seeing your Deputy.
- See your Year Advisor or the HT Welfare (Mr Tonks).

I FORGET MY SPORT MONEY OR BUS MONEY?

- Calls home can be arranged by seeing your Deputy.
- See the Sports Organiser - Mr Hurley.

I CANNOT GO TO SPORT?

- Bring a note from your parent or caregiver - it must be for an important reason.
- Note to be given to Mr Hurley in the PD/H/PE staffroom.
- Attend the study room for the afternoon.

School Map



Irrawang High School Bell Times

Terms 1 to 4 Weeks 1 & 2

	Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri		Wednesday
Period 0	8:00	Period 0	8:00
Warning Bell	8:47	Warning Bell	8:47
Roll Call	8:50	Roll Call	8:50
Assembly	9:00	PBL Lesson	9:00
Period 1	9:10	Assembly	9:10
Period 2	10:10	Period 1	9:20
Recess	11:10	Recess	10:20
Period 3	11:40	Year Meetings	10:50
Period 4	12:40	Period 2	11:00
Lunch	1:40	Period 3	12:00
Warning Bell	2:08	Lunch	1:00
Period 5	2:10	Warning Bell	1:27
School Finishes	3:10	Period 4	1:30
		School Finishes	2:30
		Staff/Faculty Meetings	2:40

