



**WANGARATTA**  
HIGH SCHOOL

COMMENCING YEAR 7  
INFORMATION BOOKLET  
2019





## Table of Contents

Welcome	4
Key Personnel	5
Key Dates for 2019	6
Teaching and Learning	7
Learning Community Structure	8
How is Wangaratta High School Organised?	9
Course Structure	10
Subjects Offered in 2019	10
Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program	11
Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)	14
Co-curricular Options	15
Student Leadership	15
Year 7 Camp 2019	16
General Information	17
Approximate Fees for 2019	18

We would like to extend to you a very warm welcome to Wangaratta High School. We look forward to working together as you embark on the new phase of your educational experience!

**WANGARATTA HIGH SCHOOL VISION**

Wangaratta High School is an innovative flexible learning community.

We are committed to:

- Enabling every individual to achieve their personal best
- Building positive relationships
- Supporting our students to become active contributors in their community

**OUR NARRATIVE**

At Wangaratta High School we place each child at the centre of our thinking. Our focus is to ensure that every child becomes a confident, curious, creative and independent thinker and learner; who is able to achieve their personal best.

We model and nurture respectful relationships to create a positive environment in which every child can thrive.

Our school is a vibrant, innovative learning community based on the principles of quality learning. Our highly skilled teachers design and activate a broad range of programs to engage and challenge, excite and inspire every young person to pursue their unique pathway. Through structured and flexible learning opportunities we empower students to explore and negotiate their learning so that they can make a difference in their school, local and global communities.

**Our Mantra:**

*Learning matters  
Relationships Matter  
I Matter*

**Our Core Values:**

*Ready to Learn  
Personal best  
Respectful  
Safe*

## Key Personnel

**MR BRADLEY MOYLE**

Principal



**MS MICHELLE BOOTES**

Assistant Principal



**MS LIBBY WALTERS**

Assistant Principal



**MS KYLIE FOUNTAIN**

Business Manager  
Finance Liaison Manager  
Financial Support



**MR JOHN PAOLA**

Middle Years Leader



**MS KASEY DOYLE**

Transition and Student  
Engagement



**MS JODY NEILSON**

SEAL Coordinator



## KEY DATES: Transition from Primary School to Wangaratta High School in 2019

### OPEN DAY

Wednesday 2nd May 2018, 12pm – 4:30pm

### EDUCATION EXPO

Monday 6th – Friday 17th August 2018

A chance for Primary Schools to book in visits and participate in interactive workshops with classes throughout the ten days of the Expo.

### 2019 YEAR 7 TRANSITION NIGHT

Wednesday 19th September 2018, 5pm – 6pm

Students who have requested enrolment in 2019 will be given all information for 2019 and families will have an opportunity to meet key school personnel.

### 2019 ORIENTATION DAYS

Tuesday 11th – Wednesday 12th December 2018

### TERM DATES FOR 2019:

	TERM DATES	SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES
Term 1	29 January (school teachers start) to 5 April	6 April - 22 April
Term 2	23 April to 28 June	29 June - 14 July
Term 3	15 July to 20 September	21 September - 6 October
Term 4	7 October to 20 December	21 December - January 2020

For any further enquiries or for school tours by appointment please contact Transition Leader Kasey Doyle on 5723 0500

## Teaching and Learning at Wangaratta High School

At Wangaratta High School we support teachers and students to incorporate the models of 'best practice pedagogy' into normal everyday classroom teaching and learning practice.

We adopt a best practice instructional model that aligns with our School Core Values.

L	<b>Learning intentions/success criteria.</b> Clearly stated learning tasks and time management outlines displayed in each lesson to promote connections and ownership for students.
E	<b>Explicit Teaching.</b> Guided teaching practice that includes questioning to establish understanding and showing skills, strategy and process.
A	<b>Application.</b> Students apply and practice skills with teacher observing and providing feedback, inclusive of small group, independent and interdependent learning tasks.
R	<b>Reflections.</b> Students reflect on learning goals, self-assessing what and how they are learning and reviewing key points.
N	<b>Now where?</b> Teacher reflections on what has or hasn't worked in the classroom and the development of assessment strategies.



## Learning Community Structure

In order to ensure that we are able to cater for the academic, as well as wellbeing needs of all of our students, we have implemented a Learning Community system.

Our two Sub-Schools are:

- The Middle Years Learning Community - (Students in Years 7 – 9)
- The Senior Years Learning Community - (Students in Years 10 – 12)

Each Learning Community has their own main classrooms and area of the school. Through these, the students are able to develop meaningful relationships with their fellow students, as well as their Mentor Group teacher and other main classroom teachers. The teachers within each of the Learning Communities are responsible for the wellbeing of their students as well as the implementation of curriculum, teaching and learning strategies consistent with school policies.

Each student belongs to a Mentor Group Class. Each Mentor Group Class has a Mentor Teacher who is responsible for building and maintaining positive relationships with students and parents. This begins with 'First Day Student-Led Conversations', which occur on the first day of school each year.

The objectives of this program are:

1. To provide a forum for the development of a positive, working partnership between the School and Home
2. To provide the opportunity for personal, individual strategies and goals to be developed and reviewed for each student
3. To provide the opportunity for a shared understanding of the expectations by all partners
4. To ensure every student is 100% 'Ready to Learn' and have a positive start to the year

Each Mentor Group at Years 7 – 10 is allocated a small number of teachers within the Learning Community. These core teachers provide consistency for students and ensure individual student learning needs are appropriately catered for.

### MIDDLE YEARS LEARNING COMMUNITY – YEARS 7, 8 & 9

Middle Years Leader	John Paola
Transition	Kasey Doyle
Year 7 Year Level Coordinators	John Paola Liz Crawford
Year 8 Year Level Coordinators	Katherine Sullivan Jud Mullins
Year 9 Year Level Coordinators	Andrea Belci Lyn Higgins

## How is Wangaratta High School Organised?

At Wangaratta High School we strive for continuous improvement in everything that we do. Extensive research suggests that 70-minute learning timeslots supports best practices in teaching and learning.

	MON, WED & FRI	TUESDAY & THURSDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Session 1	9:00 - 10:10	9:00 - 10:10	70	70	70	70	70
Mentor Group	10:15 - 10:25	10:15 - 10:50	10	35	10	35	10
Recess (35)/(25)	10:25 - 11:00	10:50 - 11:15	35	25	35	25	35
Session 2	11:00 - 12:10	11:15 - 12:25	70	70	70	70	70
Session 3	12:15 - 1:25	12:30 - 1:40	70	70	70	70	70
Lunch (55)/(40)	1:25 - 2:20	1:40 - 2:20	55	40	55	40	55
Session 4	2:20 - 3:30	2:20 - 3:30	70	70	70	70	70

HERE IS AN EXAMPLE OF A CURRENT YEAR 7 STUDENT TIMETABLE:

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Session 1	<b>English</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>Maths</b> Ms Ryan P8A	<b>Maths</b> Ms Ryan P8A	<b>Humanities</b> Mr Bourke P8A	<b>Maths</b> Ms Ryan P8A
Mentor Group	<b>Mentor Group</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>Mentor Group</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>Mentor Group</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>Mentor Group</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>Mentor Group</b> Ms Doyle P8A
Recess					
Session 2	<b>Drama</b> Ms Hunter B15	<b>Humanities</b> Mr Bourke P8A	<b>PHASE</b> Ms Ryan SC3	<b>Food Technology</b> Ms Lane MFTA	<b>Science</b> Mr Miles MS1A
Session 3	<b>Food Technology</b> Ms Lane MFTA	<b>Italian</b> Ms Belci 7N6	<b>English</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>English</b> Ms Doyle P8A	<b>Music</b> Mr Keast PAC1
Lunch					
Session 4	<b>Science</b> Mr Miles MS1A	<b>PHASE</b> Ms Ryan SC3	<b>Drama</b> Ms Hunter B14	<b>Italian</b> Ms Belci P9A	<b>PHASE</b> Ms Ryan SC5

## Course Structure

The school year is divided into two semesters and each semester has two terms. Students are formally assessed at the end of each semester and are provided with interim reports at the end of Terms 1 and 3. This is followed closely by student led, parent teacher conversations about their progress.



Year 7 students study a common core curriculum. The majority of their classes are undertaken within their Mentor Groups. Core subjects such as Mathematics, English, Science and Humanities run for the whole year. In addition students study Italian as a language. Extreme Reading is also offered as an alternative to Languages, but eligibility is dependent upon assessment and availability.

## Subjects offered in 2019

Year Level	ENGLISH	HUMANITIES	MATHEMATICS	SCIENCE
7	English SEAL English	Humanities SEAL Humanities	Mathematics SEAL Mathematics	Science SEAL Science
8	English SEAL English	Humanities SEAL Humanities	Mathematics SEAL Mathematics	Science SEAL Science
9	English SEAL English	Humanities SEAL Humanities	Mathematics SEAL Mathematics	Science SEAL Science

Year Level	LANGUAGES	THE ARTS	HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PRODUCT DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY
7	Italian Extreme Reading*	Drama & Art (One Semester each) Music (1 period all year)	Health & Physical Education (HAPE)	Technology: Food & Textiles (One semester each)	Digital Technology
8	Italian Extreme Reading*	Art & Visual Communication (One Semester each) Music (1 period all year)	Health & Physical Education (HAPE)	Metal & Wood (One semester each)	Digital Technology
9	Italian <i>Please note: Language is compulsory for students in the SEAL program.</i> Extreme Reading (Semester1)	Art Music Performing Arts (Drama) Photography Visual Communication	Health & Physical Education (HAPE)	Metal Textiles Wood Food & Technology	Digital Technology

\* Note: Students must undergo testing in Term 4 (reading) to be selected for Extreme Reading.

## Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program



### WHAT IS THE SEAL PROGRAM?

The Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program is an innovative program for highly able students that has been running successfully at Wangaratta High School for more than a decade. The program has attracted some of the brightest regional students who move through a section of the Year 7 - 9 curriculum at a faster pace in a separate class group. The Department of Education and Training introduced the SEAL Program into selected Victorian schools to help meet the needs of gifted and high achieving students. In 2014, the 36 accredited SEAL Schools in Victoria formed the Academy of Accredited SEAL Schools (TAASS). The Academy is "a collective of like minded schools who strongly value gifted education in Victorian Government secondary schools." Every three years Academy schools undertake a rigorous review process overseen by independent reviewers to ensure that parents and students can have confidence that SEAL Academy schools provide quality and leading edge programs to their gifted and talented students.

Wangaratta High School is proud to be the only school that offers an accredited SEAL Program serving the Wangaratta District, Ovens Valley, King Valley and surrounding regions.

### HOW DOES THE SEAL PROGRAM WORK?

Students who are selected into the program are placed together into a mentor group. This group studies core subjects together but are integrated with other students in mainstream subjects such as Art, Music and Technology. During the first three years the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities are accelerated, effectively compacting the standard 7 - 10 curriculum down into three years. This acceleration provides for a faster paced curriculum which is non-repetitive, gives students an opportunity to work with more complex and abstract course material, and provides an adaptive and challenging learning environment where students can work collaboratively with peers of a similar ability.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

In their fourth year SEAL students enter Year 10 and the Senior Years Learning Community, just as their similarly aged peers do, however they have an opportunity for a more varied pathway. In Year 10 SEAL students can elect to:

- Complete VCE over two years
- Complete a wider choice of VCE subjects over three years
- Select some Year 10 and some VCE subjects to extend themselves in areas of particular interest
- Undertake a first year university subject as part of many universities' advanced placement courses
- Complete a standard Year 10 and then VCE over two years.

Ultimately the SEAL Program provides students with the opportunity to work with like-minded peers and prepares them for broader, more intensive VCE studies and/or University Extension units in their senior years.

## Who should apply?

The SEAL Program caters for students who are performing above, or there is evidence to suggest that they are capable of performing above, the expected standard for their age across a range of subject areas. The program is not suited to students who are strong in just one subject area.

Wangaratta High School uses Françoise Gagné's definition of giftedness. Gagné (2003) defines giftedness as the "possession of natural abilities or aptitudes at levels beyond what might be expected for one's age". If a child is regularly performing at a level above what is expected for their age, or there is evidence to believe that they have the potential to achieve at a level above what is expected for their age, then the SEAL Program is appropriate for them.

Qualities we look for in successful candidates can include:

- Students who have a love of learning.
- Students who require a genuine challenge with their studies.
- Students who are consistently performing well above expected levels according to their teachers' assessments.
- Students who are gifted and talented in the broader curriculum.
- Students who can learn independently and are cognisant of their own learning.
- Students who have well developed literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students who are enthusiastic and avid readers.
- Students who have shown critical and creative thinking.
- Students who take risks with their learning.
- Students who are creative problem solvers.
- Students who challenge themselves both academically and personally.
- Students who are involved in extra-curricular activities such as writing, poetry, sport, music and drama.
- Students who are self-motivated and organised.
- Students who embrace leadership opportunities.
- Students who have broad general knowledge.
- Students who are active members of their communities.

## How to apply

Each year students in Year 6 apply for selection into the program for the following year. The selection process is used to identify students for whom SEAL would be appropriate.

Applicants should attend the SEAL information session early in Term 2. Your child needs to have a good understanding of how the program works.

Discuss your child's abilities and their suitability for the SEAL program with your child's current and/or past teacher(s) and/or Principal.

If you decide to apply you will need to complete:

- 2019 Application Form
- Parent Nomination Form
- Edutest Registrations. This has a \$77 testing fee.  
Complete registration online at <https://aus.edutest.com.au/D/?t=R94XDB3C>

In addition, a Teacher Nomination Form is also needed to be completed by your child's current year 6 teacher. This can be sent separately.

Complete the Application and Parent Nomination Form and return to:

SEAL Program Coordinator  
Wangaratta High School  
PO Box 235  
Wangaratta 3676

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR 2019 SEAL APPLICATIONS IS TUESDAY 8TH MAY, 2018.  
YOU MUST ALSO REGISTER WITH EDUTEST BY TUESDAY 8TH MAY, 2018.**

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### EDUTEST REGISTRATION

Wangaratta High School came into line with other SEAL Academy Schools by adopting the Edutest online Scholarship and Entrance Test in 2016. Please see the Edutest Test Information pamphlet for more information about the test contents. After registration you can access sample questions on the Edutest website.

#### Testing Day

The assigned test date for the 2019 intake is:

**Saturday 12th May, 2018**  
9:00am - 12:00pm

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If you would like further information on the SEAL Program please do not hesitate to contact our SEAL Coordinator Jody Vlahandreas via phone, email or in person by appointment.

Phone: 03 5723 0500 Fax: 03 5723 0546 Email: [vlahandreas.jody.r@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vlahandreas.jody.r@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## Bring Your Own Device

Wangaratta High School supports a full 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) program to enable all students to have 1:1 computer learning!

### INTRODUCTION

BYOD requires parents to ensure their child has a 1:1 mobile computer device to support their learning. Government funding does not support students to be supplied with a 1:1 computer device. A BYOD computer must comply with the WHS Technical Specifications and be used as described in the WHS Acceptable Use Agreement.

### WANGARATTA HIGH SCHOOL BYOD OPTIONS

A BYOD computer may be either purchased new or one currently used by your child

1. **Harvey Norman** - WHS has partnered with Harvey Norman Wangaratta to be able to offer families significantly reduced pricing on high quality machines on WHS recommended devices. Comprehensive insurance is also available. You can have a look at the range of computers and insurances available and purchase directly in store at Harvey Norman Wangaratta Store or visit [www.harveynormanbusiness.com.au/wangarattahighschool](http://www.harveynormanbusiness.com.au/wangarattahighschool)
2. **Other BYOD** - May be a device already used by your child or a BYOD computer purchased from your choice of supplier if it complies with the WHS Technical Specifications. Insurance is advised.

Go to the Wangaratta High School website: [www.whs.vic.gov.au](http://www.whs.vic.gov.au) for further information, booklets and explanatory videos. Bring your child's BYOD computer to the First Day Student Conference in January 2019. On this day the process of connecting to the Wangaratta High School network can be completed.



## Co-curricular options

### SPORT

Students can enter the inter-house sports carnivals of athletics and swimming. Successful students go on to represent Wangaratta High School at interschool and state levels. During the year, students have the opportunity to try out for many interschool sporting teams including cricket, netball, football, soccer, tennis, table tennis and badminton.

### MUSIC

Wangaratta High School has an outstanding music program that provides the opportunity for students to learn an instrument of their choice and join various ensembles and bands. Concerts and performances are part of the annual calendar with students performing at the school as well as at the Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre. All new year 7 families will be invited to a music information evening at the start of the year.

### OTHER PROGRAMS

There are many other co-curricular programs happening throughout the school year for students to be part of including: Scribblers writing group, book week celebrations, 40 Hour Famine, games clubs, Choir, academic competitions, Annual School Production, art Club, peer educator program, overseas challenge and much more!

## Student Leadership

### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL - EACH MENTOR SELECTS A SRC REPRESENTATIVE

Students have a wide range of leadership opportunities at Wangaratta High School and are encouraged to be active participants in the school and wider community. Students have the opportunity to be part of our Student Representative Council where they are able give feedback around school policy and activities. Within the senior school, students have the opportunity to become Peer Educators and Prefects to support and lead the school whilst gaining valuable leadership skills for the future.

Student leaders represent the school on numerous occasions, including ANZAC Day ceremonies and Educational and Youth workshops.





## Year 7 Camp 2019

### YMCA HOWMANS GAP ALPINE CAMP

YMCA Howmans Gap Alpine Centre is a Youth Sport and Recreation facility operated by the YMCA.

We are situated 4km below Falls Creek, 356km from Melbourne, 120km from Wodonga/Albury, off the Bogong High Plains Road to Falls Creek.

Howmans Gap Alpine Centre is proud to be accredited by the Camping Association of Australia through the Australian Campsite Accreditation Program. Accreditation indicates that we have been independently appraised and meet the core requirements for the safe and reasonable operation of a campsite.

At the gateway of the magnificent Bogong High Plains, Howmans Gap Alpine Centre offers exhilarating alpine experiences for all seasons. Winter attractions include snow sports at the Falls Creek Resort and back country ski touring on groomed and ungroomed trails. Summer provides the opportunity to access the unique high plains environment and visit cattlemen's huts, spectacular panoramic views, snow gums and wildflowers, rocky valley dam, plus a myriad of walking options.

Estimated cost for 2019: \$350 per student

Dates for 2019: Monday 18th February to Wednesday 20th February (Week 4, Term 1)

**\*\*** *There will be more information offered to parents and students on Year 7 transition night – a complete information package including permission forms, costing and also group and teacher information.*



## General Information

### LOCKERS

All students will be issued with a locker and combination lock at the beginning of the year.

### KOORIE STUDENTS VISITING BENALLA

The school's ATSI coordinator, James Bourke, along with the wellbeing team, aim to work with the Koorie Engagement Support Officer (KESO) to provide additional support for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and families. Please contact the office if you would like further information about specific supports or programs.

### LUNCHES

The school canteen is available for students to buy their lunch and snacks at morning recess and lunchtime. Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds at any time to go to the shops.

The canteen is guided by the Department of Education and Training Development; Healthy Food Policy.

### PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The Parents and Friends Association is an active body of parents who assist the school in a variety of ways through fundraising and other activities. Parents of new students are encouraged to join and take an active part in supporting our school community. Parents and Friends also run a second hand book and uniform stall and if you would like to check current stock or opening times, please contact the general office.

### BUS TRAVEL

Any student who lives more than 4.8 km from the school may be eligible for free bus travel. Contact the Bus Coordinator on 03 5723 0519 for country bus travellers and town bus travellers.

### UNIFORM

Students are required to wear school uniform at all times and the policy is strictly enforced. Please note that facial piercings are not permitted at Wangaratta High School unless they are clear studs.

### UNIFORM SHOP

Worklocker supply items of uniform to Wangaratta High School students as the sole provider of approved WHS uniforms.

Contact Worklocker: (03) 5722 4644

Address: 120 Murphy Street, Wangaratta VIC 3677

Wangaratta High School's Parents & Friends Association operate a second hand book and uniform shop during step up in December. Please contact the office for opening hours.



### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Wangaratta High School accepts Centrepay payments and we are able to arrange payment plans to spread education costs over the school year. If you would like to learn more about options to support your financial planning then please contact the office on (03) 5723 0500 to make an appointment to speak to Kylie Fountain.

## Approximate Fees for 2019

Wangaratta High School makes every effort to keep the cost and number of items that need to be purchased to a minimum. We also try to ensure that the costs are affordable for most parents. If you will have difficulty making payments please make an appointment to speak to Kylie Fountain, Finance Liaison Manager, to discuss possible support options and flexible payment arrangements. Any information about your financial circumstances, payment arrangements or status will be kept strictly confidential.

Please find the itemised list that includes essential education items (those items that your child needs for school) and optional extras (that you can choose whether your child participates in or accesses). Families can make payment via Compass online.

Please Note: Additional school charges may arise during the year, for example camps and excursions and instrumental music programs.

Essential Educational Items (Required to be paid or provided by families)		
Curriculum Workbooks		\$10.00
Student Lock		\$15.00
Art and Technology Materials for Final Products		\$50.00
Language Perfect Online	Language Students ONLY	\$15.00
Health Education Textbook	Provided by School	\$5.00
Health & PE Swimming Program	*Note \$30 still payable if student does not swim	\$60.00
<b>Total Essential Items</b>		<b>\$155.00</b>

Optional Items		
School Magazine (GST inclusive)		\$22.00
<b>Total Optional Items</b>		<b>\$22.00</b>

Voluntary Items		
Chaplaincy Program	Suggested Donation	\$10.00
Parents and Friends Association	Suggested Donation	\$5.00
Building Fund (fully tax deductible)	Suggested Donation	\$20.00
<b>Total Voluntary Items</b>	<b>Total Suggested Donation</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>

\*\* These fees are subject to change. More finalised prices will be given out on the Information Night held later in the year.

For any further information or to book an appointment or tour, please contact;

Kasey Doyle *Transition Leader* or

Michelle Bootes *Assistant Principal, Wellbeing & Engagement* on (03) 5723 0500.



**WANGARATTA**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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[www.whs.vic.edu.au](http://www.whs.vic.edu.au)