



Strathfield Girls High School

Year 7 Orientation Program

The Year 7 Transition program is designed to help make the transition from primary to high school a positive and welcoming experience for students. Students are encouraged to come to the school during Year 6 to get to know the school, teachers and staff in order to make the transition more comfortable and to encourage them to feel secure in their new environment.

Pre-Orientation

In consultation with the Head Teacher Wellbeing and Deputy Principal, the Year Adviser will coordinate a pre- orientation visit for students who are:

- Identified by their primary school as anxious about moving into high school;
- In need of extra assistance with their transition i.e. students who have an individual transition program;
- Students who are unable to attend the orientation day.

The goals of this program are to familiarise the students with the school and staff whilst relieving some of their fears regarding the move into high school.

Year 6 Orientation

The Year 6 Orientation Day will be organised by the school at a set date for all public schools in Term 4 each year. The Year Adviser for the future Year 7 cohort will be available during this time will be performing a number of duties for students to become familiar with their dedicated Year Adviser, these include:

- A welcome speech to parents and future students;
- Being available to parents to answer questions or to discuss their daughters academic and welfare needs;
- Assisting with the Year 6 photographs on the day.

Peer Support Program and Orientation Program

Upon commencing their first term of high school, the incumbent Year 7 students then begin the orientation program. The Peer Support Team (PST) will coordinate a peer support program for Year 7, conducted on a fortnightly basis throughout the first Semester. Year 10 students are trained as Peer Support Leaders and assist Year 7 each

year to settle into the school. Year 7 students meet with their Peer Support Leaders early in term one and work through exercises to make them feel welcome and part of the school group. By working with Year 10 students, the Peer Support program provides the opportunity for Year 7 students to develop:

- *Skills through modelling behaviour from senior students*
- *Increased confidence, resilience and a sense of teamwork*
- *Increased interaction with older school students*

Peer Support Camp

Our Peer Support Camp each year brings together all the work done during the peer support program and is a fine way to build secure, lasting friendships within the year group and between year groups. Parents will be informed about the Peer Support Camp at the Year 6 into Year 7 interviews in Term 4 with the Principal, Ms Pikoulas

P&C BBQ

The Parents and Community hold a welcome BBQ during term 1 for the new Year 7 students and parents. This gives the parents an opportunity to meet Year 7 teachers and understand the requirements of each course as well as information on all the other exciting opportunities that await Year 7.

