Normanhurst Boys High School
Core Beliefs and Values

CURRICULUM
We will provide holistic, appropriate and engaging learning experiences that cater for the needs of boys within a selective school context.

STAFF
We will provide all staff with opportunities for professional growth enabling them to work towards meeting the needs of all students.

WELFARE
We will provide a caring, nurturing and supportive environment for all students and staff that acknowledge and celebrates diversity.

COMMUNITY
We will foster harmonious relationships within the school and its broader community.

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT
We will provide a safe, attractive environment that is conducive to maximising learning.

RESOURCES
We will maximise, optimise and efficiently manage all school resources.
WELCOME TO NORMANHURST BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Caregivers and New Students,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our school community. Normanhurst Boys High School is a very special school with a wonderful tradition for providing outstanding learning experiences for boys. We certainly hope that in the years ahead, you will take full advantage of the many opportunities that the school will provide you with.

Our school motto, ‘Know Thyself’, reflects the idea that within each individual lies the capacity for self-discovery. At Normanhurst, we encourage each student to recognize both his strengths and weaknesses and in doing so be able to establish the navigation points that will lead to personal growth and the fulfillment of potential.

We hope you find this booklet informative and suggest that you keep it in a place that is easily accessible. If you require any further information, please don’t hesitate to contact the school on 9489 1077.

Mark Anderson, Principal
**SCHOOL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

*To provide our students with the opportunity to maximise their learning outcomes within a holistic educational environment.*

**OUR SCHOOL**

Normanhurst Boys High School was opened on 28 January 1958 as a comprehensive boys school. It was designated a selective school from the commencement of the 1994 school year and received its first intake of 120 boys in that year. In 1999 the school became fully selective with a student population of approximately 720.

The school is situated on 6.3 hectares within 5 minutes’ walk of Normanhurst station. The grounds are very pleasant with trees and extensive grassed areas.

In past years the students, staff and parents/caregivers have built a reputation for excellent behaviour and outstanding academic and sporting achievements. We anticipate that future students will further enhance the reputation of the school in these areas.

Many traditions have continued over the years: the school motto, school badge and school colours are part of the school’s heritage. The motto Know Thyself suggests that a boy should know his strengths and weaknesses. The school colours are Black and Red and are incorporated in the uniform and sports gear. The school crest features a tree, the blue gum which is indigenous to the area.
# Code of Behaviour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expectation</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To be happy at school, to be treated fairly with understanding and respect</td>
<td>♦ It is my responsibility to treat others with respect and understanding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♦ I must be polite in the way I speak to and approach others.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To be safe.</td>
<td>♦ I must not threaten the safety or wellbeing of others.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To be protected against threats to my health.</td>
<td>♦ I have the responsibility to protect my health – not to smoke, take drugs or</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>alcoholic drinks, nor to encourage other students to do so.</td>
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<tr>
<td>That my property will be safe.</td>
<td>♦ I will use common sense in the care of my property and that of others.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To learn all I can.</td>
<td>♦ I must be well behaved in class and not disturb the learning of other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♦ I must keep up to date with my class work, homework and study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♦ I must attend school regularly and be punctual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To express my opinions and beliefs through the student representative</td>
<td>♦ I must present my ideas in an acceptable way and listen to the ideas of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>council.</td>
<td>others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To have a clean and well-maintained school.</td>
<td>♦ I will care for the school environment – buildings, rooms and grounds.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♦ I will not litter. I will keep the school clean.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>♦ I will report any acts of vandalism.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To benefit from the good name of the school and to have the respect and</td>
<td>♦ I will behave in a manner that will bring credit to my school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>support of the local communities.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Information at your finger tips

Principal: Mr M Anderson
Deputy Principal: Ms A Harman
Deputy Principal: Mr F Abas

Head Teachers:
Administration/Music: Ms M Johnson  Senior Studies: Mr S Randall
English: Mr R Briefrel  Science: Mrs K Barbeler
HSIE: Mr N Pearse  Visual Arts: Ms L Venczel
Maths: Mr H Lam  Technological and Applied Studies (TAS): Mr P Davis

Year Advisers
Year 7: Mr Virata  Assistant: Ms Vargassoff
Year 8: Ms M Gibson-Garside  Assistant: Ms S Menzies
Year 9: Ms E Free  Assistant: Ms A Konstantopoulos
Year 10: Ms R Bhamra  Assistant: Ms A Ellen
Year 11: Mrs N Raj  Assistant: Mr R Barr
Year 12: Mr D Cusick  Assistant: Ms F Rahman

Careers Adviser: Mrs K Woodhams
School Psychologist: Ms Klausen
Teacher Librarian: Ms S Menzies

School Hours: 8:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Uniform Shop: Mon & Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Administration Office: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Library: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

It would greatly assist the school organisation and save you time and effort if you contact the correct person regarding your enquiry. The following shows you the correct person for a particular enquiry:

Student Progress in a Subject: Head Teacher
Student Conduct and General Progress: Year 7 Adviser
Assistance with your child’s behavioural or adjustment problems: School Counsellor
A question regarding school organisation: Deputy Principal

When you ring the school please tell the receptionist the nature of your enquiry and to whom you wish to speak.
**Attendance:**
Students are expected to attend school and be present for each lesson or activity. If a student is absent, they are required to bring in a note to the Administration Office, signed and dated by their parent/caregiver to explain the absence.

In the event of a prolonged illness parents/caregivers are asked to notify the school after three days. If it is known that the student is going to be absent, a note can be brought in advance to the Administration Office.

Minimum attendance rates suggested by the Board of Studies are endorsed by the Department of Education & Communities and affect a student’s eligibility for the award of the ROSA (Record of School Assessment) and/or the Higher School Certificate. The school implements these rates.

Notes are sent home to parents/caregivers if a satisfactory explanation is not provided within seven days of a student’s absence. An SMS message is also sent to parents (at approx. 11am) if the student has not arrived at school or is late.

If a student needs to leave school early, a note dated, written and signed by a parent/guardian must be brought into the Administration Office before school.

Any application for leave must be submitted on a form available from the Administration Office and should be accompanied by a written application that clearly identifies the circumstances for requesting the leave. Extended leave of up to 100 days may be approved by the Principal in exceptional circumstances. Any leave of more than 100 days will need to be approved by the Director of Public Schools.

**Counsellor and School Psychologist:**
The School Counsellor is an experienced teacher and registered psychologist who provides a service to students, staff and parents. This service ranges from assessment and counselling with individual students to involvement in school and community programs.

Students might see the School Counsellor about:

- academic concerns - for example how to make a study plan
- personal difficulties such as bad temper, feeling depressed etc.
- interpersonal problems such as not getting on with friends, parents or teachers.

Individual appointments can be made directly with the Counsellor on Mondays, Thursdays and every second Friday, or through the Front Office at other times.

**Diary:**
All students are issued with a school diary at the start of the year and it is an important organisational tool that must be brought to school every day. The diary allows students to organise themselves to meet deadlines and keep track of due dates. The diary also contains information regarding school procedures and can be used as a method of communicating with parents/caregiver and the school. The cost of a replacement diary is $16.00.
Homework:
Regular school work outside the classroom is considered a valuable aspect of learning and contributes to the development of sound study habits. Students at Normanhurst Boys High School are assigned homework in all subjects on a regular basis. Parents will be informed if students regularly neglect to complete homework. Completion of homework is recorded in the student reports which are distributed each semester. Students should use their diaries to record all homework and parents are encouraged to check diaries to see if homework is being completed.

Research has shown that 2 or 3 hours is the optimum amount of time spent on homework. A significant part of homework could include reviewing the day’s lessons, revision and wide reading of texts and books.

The following times are a guide to the amount of homework and revision per night which students should attempt:
- Years 7 and 8 - 1.5 to 2 hours
- Years 9 and 10 - 2 to 3 hours
- Years 11 and 12 - 3 hours or more

Lockers:
All students have access to a locker which may be used for storage of books and the temporary storage of PE materials on sports days. Students are not permitted to store food in the lockers.

Newsletter:
A weekly newsletter, The Normanhurst News, is sent home each Friday via email. It is also available on the school’s website: www.normanhurb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

This is the best means of keeping up to date with all that is happening in the school. It is important that parents/caregivers take the time to read this information each week. Please be aware that sending emails to Hotmail and Gmail accounts is not currently possible through DEC infrastructure. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email please ensure that an appropriate email account is provided.

Parent Body:
An active P&C operates in the school. It meets on the second Tuesday of each month during school term in the Library commencing at 7.30 p.m. and contributes in a very significant way to the school’s resources by providing additional funding.

In addition it provides the school with valuable input into its planning and decision making processes. All parents are welcome and your personal attendance at these meetings adds to the overall strength and vitality of the school and its success. In attending such meetings, parents give support to the school community by getting involved in initiatives or by taking part in annual events. Parents also gain a better understanding of the academic, sporting and general environment that their sons
encounter. The Principal or his representative is always in attendance to answer questions and occasional guest speakers present informative talks on a range of issues.

**Peer Support Program:**
The main aim of the Program is to assist students to adjust to secondary school and provide support. The Program is run by trained Year 11 students who develop close relationships as well as fostering self-esteem. Year 7 students are given support and advice from older students both within timetabled sessions and also on an informal basis. In addition the Peer Support leaders generally assist with the Jenolan Caves excursion.

**Parent Teacher Nights:**
Parent Teacher Nights are held for every year group. These are held in the late afternoon–early evening (to allow as many parents/caregivers as possible to be present) and provide a very important opportunity for parents/caregivers and teachers to meet to discuss the progress of their child. The school operates an online booking system which allows parents/caregivers to make their own 5 minute appointments directly. A detailed sheet outlining the website address and booking procedures will be provided closer to the date.

**Reports:**
Formal outcomes based reports are provided to students and their parents/caregivers twice a year. The purpose of such reports is to provide information regarding individual student performance and progress. For students requiring further support Learning Support Profiles may be generated when required. While these are less formal they allow the school to provide support so that both home and school can attempt to overcome any issues as soon as possible.

**Use of Mobile Phones:**
The school allows for the appropriate use of mobile phones on the school premises for educational applications and in case of emergency for students to send and receive calls/messages from parents/caregivers during breaks from class.
Expectations:

- Parents/Caregivers are expected to discuss appropriate electronic device usage and etiquette with their child.
- Students are to use electronic devices in a manner that is appropriate and that does not interfere with the learning, security or wellbeing of other students. The use of all electronic devices is subject to the requirements as stated in the Acceptable Use Agreement which every student and parent needs to sign before students bring devices to school.
- Students will be responsible for the safe keeping of any electronic devices. Students should not leave electronic devices unsupervised or in bags left outside of classrooms.

**Bring Your Own Device (BYOD):**

The Digital Education Revolution (DER) program for Year 9 students ended with the issue of devices to students in 2013. To replace this program NBHS has been developing a BYOD program. This program requires students to bring their own computer to school for use in class. All students are expected to have their own device and bring it to school each day.

As a community we have endeavoured to provide parents and students with the maximum amount of choice in the selection of a device. Devices purchased for use at school need to be portable, robust and have sufficient battery life to operate for a school day. While we have not gone down the path of specifying particular devices, DEC schools have had a long relationship with Lenovo, Acer and Dell. These companies offer a range of devices that are appropriate for school use. I would encourage you to compare the products on offer from these three suppliers before purchasing from any other source.

Please read the Normanhurst Boys High School BYO Device Specifications document prior to selecting a device. Devices which do not meet the specifications may not be able to connect to the school network.

All use of BYOD devices is subject to acceptable use as explained in the following documents:

- BYOD Policy 2015
- NBHS Acceptable Usage Agreement:

A great deal of information on the BYOD program can be found on our school website at: [http://www.normanhurb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/bring-your-own-device-byod](http://www.normanhurb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/bring-your-own-device-byod)
Playing of Electronic Games:
Students are not permitted to use electronic devices to play games while at school. This includes the playground before school, during recess and lunch and after school. Parents are strongly encouraged to ensure that their son is frequently reminded about this requirement particularly early in Term 1.

Sport:
Sport is an important part of the education of students at Normanhurst Boys High School and is mandatory in Years 7 to 11.
There is a wide range of sports available including grade and state knockout, ‘house’ and recreational sport. Grade and state knockout sports include: baseball, basketball, cricket, rugby league, rugby union, soccer, squash, tennis, volleyball and water polo. Recreational and team house sports include: golf, swimming, ‘rock-climbing’, table tennis and weight training.
All students are expected to participate in annual carnivals including swimming, athletics and cross-country unless exempted by a medical certificate. All students who participate earn points for their respective houses.
All students participate in either grade or recreational sport on Wednesday. Students who have been selected to represent the school in grade competition will be required to travel to various venues. Normanhurst Boys is part of a sporting zone that includes the following schools: Asquith Boys, Ashfield Boys, North Sydney Boys, Homebush Boys, Epping Boys, and Randwick Boys. Competition games are either played at these schools or at venues near the schools.
Students who participate in recreational sports on Wednesday afternoon are required to travel to the following venues: Thornleigh Indoor or Barker Tennis.

Transport Bus/Train passes:
Students who live more than 2.0 km (radial distance) or 2.9 km (direct route) from the school are eligible for a free train/bus pass for travel between home and school only. A requirement of the pass is that student behaviour on public transport must be orderly at all times. All students are expected to travel to and from school in a safe manner and to conduct themselves in such a way as to bring credit to the school. The cost of replacement for this pass is approximately $20 each.
Uniforms:
The School Welfare Policy agreed upon by students, parents/caregivers and staff, provides for the wearing of a school uniform. It is felt that this encourages pride in the school, contributes to the good standing of the school in the eyes of the community and reduces undesirable distinction between students because of clothing. The following items of clothing should be worn throughout the year:

**Shorts Junior**  Mid-grey ‘College Baggies’ (worn with grey/red trim socks)

**Trousers**  Mid-grey serge fabric (suit material), worn with above ankle grey socks (Charcoal or dark grey trousers are not acceptable)

**Shirt Junior**  Mid-grey to be worn with a tie

**Blazer Junior**  Black with red trim (Highly desirable)

**Tie Junior**  Black and red stripes

**Pullover Junior**  Mid-grey with red trim

**Shoes**  Polished black leather

**Belt**  Black leather

**Cap**  Black with a red ‘N’ on the front

**Hat**  Wide brimmed akubra style (optional)

**Scarf**  Black (available from Clothing Pool)

**School bags**  Black with the school monogram (optional)

**Senior (Year 11-12) Uniform:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trousers</strong></td>
<td>Mid-grey ‘College Baggies’ (worn with plain above ankle grey socks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shirt</strong></td>
<td>White to be worn with a tie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blazer</strong></td>
<td>Black and red stripe (Optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tie</strong></td>
<td>Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pullover</strong></td>
<td>Black with red trim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sport Uniform:**

**Shorts**  Black

**T-Shirt**  Red with house colours on sleeves

**School Tracksuit**

**Appropriate Sports Shoes**

The following is NOT acceptable as school uniform:

Long trousers made of cotton/polyester, drill or microfibre fabrics.

Shorts or trousers with elastic waist bands or draw strings.

Long, baggy or oversized clothing

Non leather shoes

If a student is unable to wear correct school uniform he must bring a note signed by his parent or caregiver. Students are to give uniform notes to their period 1 teacher who will send them to a head teacher for a uniform pass, or the deputy principal if they arrive at school after the end of period 1. Uniforms can only be purchased at the school uniform shop run by Lowes. The uniform shop is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. or you can order online by following the links on the school’s website.
WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Annual Events:
There are many events which form part of the tradition of the school. Each year there is the Swimming Carnival, Athletics Carnival and Cross Country. Formal occasions include Prefect Induction, Anzac Day Ceremony, Year 10 Graduation, Year 12 Graduation Dinner and the Annual Presentation Night.

Calendar:
A continually updated calendar of important upcoming events is distributed with the newsletter each week and a yearly calendar is available on the school website. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the dates are correct, nevertheless it is important to understand that some dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances. It is important that parents/caregivers keep up to date with events by reading the weekly newsletter (see Newsletter) and referring to the website at regular intervals.

Careers Education:
Careers education at Normanhurst Boys High School is aimed at increasing students’ knowledge and confidence in understanding their career options. The program aims at the following student outcomes:

• students recognise their own interests, ability, and values
• students acquire knowledge of ongoing further study and training options, as well as an awareness and understanding of the ‘world of work’
• students increase their ability to make informed career decisions
• students gain confidence in their implementation for a positive career outcome

There is a Careers News section in the weekly school newsletter for students and parents. In the junior years, career education classes occur on a withdrawal basis. Year 10 has careers lessons and each student completes a Personal Careers Profile to assist with subject selection for Year 11 and tertiary options. Students start developing their eportfolio in Year 10. All Year 10 students partake in at least one week of work experience. Each student completes an assignment and receives a Host Employer Assessment Report. Work experience is also available on a flexible basis in senior years.

Lessons are also conducted for senior students on specific topics including: UAC applications, interviews and scholarships. Career counselling is available for all students and it is expected that all Year 12 students have at least one interview with the Careers Adviser and complete a “Three Point Plan” before they leave school.
Guest speakers from universities, industry and former students outlining their experiences also give weekly talks to interested students. Students are encouraged to be involved in the following:

Year 9 Market Day; Year 10 UTS Enterprise Challenge; Year 11 University Experience Days; Year 12 Community Service at Bowden Brae and Greenwood Aged Care Facilities and Years 10 & 12 Careers and HSC EXPO.

The school has access to the “My High School” Careers website www.mhscareers.com. The website contains useful careers information including post school options, course details and a careers event calendar. The students have regular careers information emailed to them. The careers room is a well-resourced reference centre.

**Computer Education**

Computer education is an important part of education. To meet the demand the school currently has five dedicated computer rooms as well as a number of computer ‘kiosks’, a CD-ROM network in the library and a computerised music Sound House™. The school is fully networked and has over 200 computers in use. All faculties have a computer for staff use.

**Contributions/Fees 2017**

Fees and contributions from our school community are the means whereby we are able to offer additional quality programs to supplement the monies that are provided by the state government.

- **2017 General School Contributions** — (per year) $220 in Years 7–10 and $240 in Years 11 & 12 — covers the hire cost of textbooks, the printing cost of such items as exam papers, diaries, school reports and the school magazine, as well as the numerous general running costs associated with the duplication of notes for lessons, etc.
- **2017 Technology Levy** - The $120 levy for technology covers the cost of maintaining the school’s computer network and ensuring our students are provided with the best possible technology resources to support their learning.
- **2017 Elective Subject Fees (Years 9-12)** - These pay for consumable items used by students in subjects such as Visual Arts and Technology. They are charged per course, per year.
- **P&C Contribution** - Our school is supported by a strong and active P&C body which provides funding for a range of programs to enhance student learning. The P&C voluntary contribution for 2017 is $130 per family.
- **School Building Fund** - The school has a program to raise funds for the construction of additional buildings and facilities to enhance the learning
environment of students. The voluntary contribution to the School Building Fund for 2015 is $130 and is completely tax-deductible. You may donate extra at any time.

Curriculum 9 -12

In Years 9 and 10 students continue to study from a compulsory core of English, Maths, Science, HSIE and PDHPE and elect three other subjects from a range of subjects which currently include: accelerated Geography, accelerated Information Processes and Technology, Commerce, Computing, Design and Technology, Digital Media & Photography, Drama, Geography, Graphics Technology, History, Industrial Technology (Wood, Metal and Electronics), Japanese, Music, Visual Design and Visual Arts. These may vary from year to year depending on student preferences.

In the senior school, students must do English and may select from an extensive array of subjects which currently include: Ancient History, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Design & Technology, Economics, Engineering Studies, Geography, Industrial Technology (Wood & Metal), Information Processes & Technology, Japanese, Legal Studies, Maths (including Extension 1 and 2 and General Maths), Modern History, Music (1, 2 and Extension), PDHPE, Physics, Society and Culture, Software Design and Development, and Visual Arts.

Examinations

Exams are an important aspect of education. National and State wide examinations such as NAPLAN in Year 7 and 9, and the Higher School Certificate in Year 12 are particularly important. They are, however, not the only examinations held at school. These other examinations form one component of a student’s assessment. Other aspects include homework, class tests, bookwork and assignments. Formal exams are generally held in the school hall. Class tests are generally held in their classroom.

Excursions:

Normanhurst Boys High School students are involved in an extensive program of excursions to broaden their educational experiences. Camps, tours and excursions are an integral part of the learning program of all year groups within the school and the long standing operation of these activities reflect the excellent reputation that Normanhurst Boys High School students have gained in the past for their behaviour, commitment and attitude. Some of the camps include: Year 7 Jenolan Caves; Year 8 Jindabyne; Year 9 Mid North Coast and Year 11 Burrendong.

There are also many other day trips and incursions organised throughout the year to support and enhance student learning across all Key Learning Areas (KLAs).
Extracurricular /Co-Curricular Activities

A wide range of activities are available during lunch breaks and after school. These groups are led by enthusiastic staff who offer their time and expertise. These include:

- Chess Club
- Coffee Club
- Community Services
- Music Ensembles
- Programming Club
- Creative Thinkers
- Robotics Club
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Titration Club
- Environment Club
- Theatre Sports
- Mock Trial
- Creative Writers Club

For details of times and meetings, students should refer to the weekly newsletters and daily notices.

Music

The School has a Concert Band, Stage Band and a number of small ensembles. They perform at assemblies, school functions and community performances.

Normanhurst has a unique program of private tutors who are professional musicians to teach saxophone, trumpet, guitar and percussion. Tuition is available from these tutors for instruments where there is a student demand. Some instruments are available for hire from the school.

Music and Visual Arts camp held at the end of the year at Collaroy (in conjunction with the Creative Writing Camp) provide students with ongoing skill development.

Normanhurst is the home of a SoundHouse™. Containing an impressive array of ‘state of the art’ computerised music making technology the Normanhurst SoundHouse™ is part of the SoundHouse Alliance and is affiliated with Roland, Intelliiware and Sibelius Australia.
Facilities
Normanhurst Boys High School is able to boast excellent facilities, in particular a range of specialist rooms. The maximum size of the school is set at 735 students with 3 art rooms, 5 dedicated computer rooms, 6 science laboratories, an electronics room, 2 woodwork rooms, a metalwork room, a multipurpose room, a kitchen, library, basketball courts, refurbished multipurpose courts (tennis/basketball/volleyball), oval and hall.

Higher School Certificate Results
As an academically selective high school, there is an expectation that our students will achieve strong results in the HSC examinations. In the 2016 HSC 80% of students achieved an ATAR of more than 90 with 17.5% attaining more than 99.

Hornsby Girls High School
Normanhurst Boys High School has all the advantages of a single sex school allowing the fullest possible development of boys academic and cultural interests. There are opportunities, however, for students to enjoy social interaction with girls, in particular from our ‘sister’ school – Hornsby Girls High – who join the boys in a range of activities including debating, excursions, musicals and dances.

Library
Libraries are an essential resource within New South Wales government schools to support teaching and learning in the context of syllabus and curriculum requirements. Libraries provide teachers and teacher-librarians with resources to teach the curriculum and students with resources for individual learning and recreational reading.

Students need to use a range of resources to learn – both print resources such as books and periodicals, as well as digital resources and the internet. Our library provides access to all of these.

The purpose of the school library is to support teaching and learning within the total program of the school. In the age of the internet and technology, school libraries and teacher-librarians are far from being obsolete: they have never been more important.

Here at Normanhurst Boys, the school library is at the physical and educational heart of the school. Our library is a welcoming, comfortable and engaging space, with great resources and helpful staff. Students can visit before school and during break times to read, work and use the computers, as well as coming with their teachers and classes throughout each busy day. Senior students have access to the library to work during study periods.

Our library collection is extensive, in nonfiction/factual material and fiction – many of our students are keen readers, and we aim to include a
wide variety of stories and novels to meet their needs and encourage all to experience the joy and value of reading.

**Merit System:**

The aim of this system is to promote and encourage within the school a positive method of reinforcing good behaviour and higher levels of personal achievement. This program provides the means for students to be rewarded and recognised for their achievements and successes, however small, throughout the year, by the presentation of Merit Awards. These Certificates will show:

- the area or faculty making the presentation.
- the reason for the award
- the points value

Students are awarded certificates for participation in school activities. Each award has a point value such as 5 points or 10 points. A student receives a:

- ‘Normanhurst Merit Award’ for 60 points in any school year
- ‘Normanhurst Bronze Award’ for 100 points or more in any school year
- ‘Normanhurst Silver Award’ for 120 points in any year
- ‘Normanhurst Gold Award’ for 150 points in any school year
- ‘Normanhurst Bronze Medal’ for 540 points or more over 6 years
- ‘Normanhurst Silver Medal’ for 720 points or more over 6 years
- ‘Normanhurst Gold Medal’ for 900 points or more over 6 years.

Merit Awards, Silver and Bronze Awards are presented at the end of each school year at a special assembly. Gold Awards and Medals are presented at the Annual Presentation Night.

**Phoenix**

This is the school’s yearly magazine that chronicles the achievements of our students. It is provided to students as part of their school contributions and is available in Term 4.

**Religious Education**

A Religious Education teacher, jointly employed by a wide range of Christian churches in the local community, teaches Religious Education classes in Years 7 to 10 on a basis of approximately one period per week for a term on a rotational basis. Students may be exempted from these classes with parental authority provided in writing to the Deputy Principal. As well as these classes, the teacher takes an active role in leadership of the Connect group also known as the ISCF (Inter-School Christian Fellowship).
**Student Leadership**

One of the most important advantages of being at Normanhurst Boys High School is that it offers many opportunities for developing leadership capacity. Some of the leadership roles include Prefects, Student Representative Council, Peer Support, Digital Leaders, Peer Tutors, Mentors and Positive Partnership Leaders.

**Prefects**

Prefects have a long and distinguished role in our school. Voted into office by their peers, Year 11 and the staff, prefects provide excellent role models for students at the school and assist in the smooth operation of the school. Prefects take responsibility for a portfolio, working on promoting and raising awareness of issues connected to that specific area. The portfolio areas include Student Voice, Social Justice, Extracurricular, Student Welfare and Multiculturalism.

**Student Representative Council**

The Student Representative Council has 4 councillors per year group. The role of the SRC is to provide an active medium through which students from all year levels can present and discuss their ideas, feelings and attitudes. The SRC encourages student participation in all areas of school decision making and they assist with school functions such as fundraising activities for various charity groups within the community. The SRC represents the students’ opinions and decides on the allocation of funds raised by the student body. An election is held for the position of the SRC representatives in July each year.

**Peer Support**

The Peer Support Program has been an integral part of Normanhurst Boys High School’s Leadership Program. Year 10 students undertake a special training course to enable them to operate as Peer Support Leaders for the following year. The leaders are selected on their leadership abilities to help support Year 7 transition into high school. The leaders are trained in areas including understanding the qualities of a good leader, empathetic and sympathetic behaviours, team building, communication skills, decision making and conflict resolution.
Digital Leaders

Students who display a particular interest or aptitude in the area of technology are invited to be part of the Digital Leadership Team which provides opportunities to assist students and staff in the use of various forms of technology. Students wishing to be considered for a Digital Leadership role are invited to apply to the program’s coordinator, Mr Davis, Head Teacher TAS during Term 1.

Peer Tutors, Mentors and Positive Partnership Leaders

The school provides opportunities for students to be trained in the role of Peer Tutor, Mentors and Positive Partnerships Leaders to assist younger students or their peers in either academic or social programs. Students who are chosen for these leadership positions provide a valuable contribution to the school’s welfare structure.

Student Welfare:

Student welfare is at the core of our raison d'être — our reason for being. It encompasses all that the school does to ensure that our students can learn in a safe, secure and supportive environment. ‘Discipline’ is only one aspect of student welfare. Other aspects have been dealt with in other parts of this booklet including attendance, merit certificates, peer support, prefects, extracurricular activities etc.

Students will be placed on school detention for serious misconduct and breaches of school expectations as outlined in the School’s Code of Behaviour (a copy of which is provided to all students). Parents will be informed in writing of the date and reason for the detention. Detention is held each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon until 3.45 p.m.

Under the Student Welfare Policy students are made to be responsible for their own behaviour.