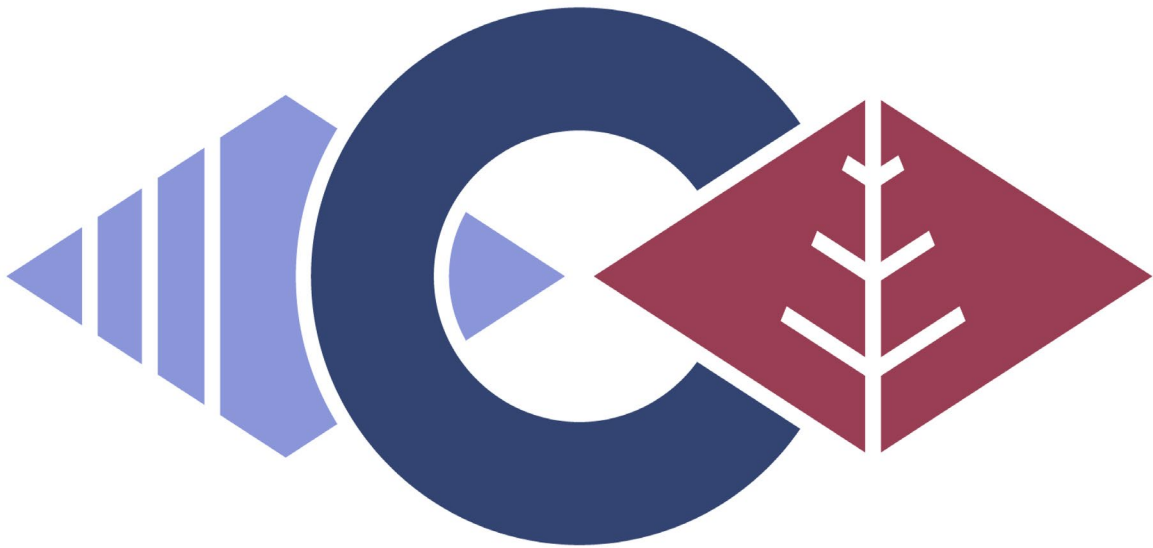


CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



VISION AND PROGRESS

**NEW STUDENT
HANDBOOK**

2021

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL...WELCOME

Welcome to Crestwood High School. We are a Year 7–12 comprehensive high school that provides a quality education in a caring environment. Crestwood High School provides a comprehensive curriculum responsive to the needs and aspirations of our students. There are a number of successfully implemented programs to cater for individual needs and to support a student to their potential. Some of these programs are:

- Gifted and Talented
- Peer Support
- Peer Tutoring
- Leadership
- Social Justice
- Boys Education
- Performing Arts
- Mentoring Program

Crestwood High School has a strong culture of school and community involvement encouraging students to grow academically, socially and emotionally. This is supported by extensive extra-curricular programs and events. It is also supported by an active and highly involved P&C committee which is an invaluable asset to our school.

Our school and its community work together in a mutually supportive, respectful and collegial environment to provide a quality education and develop resilient, responsible and productive citizens.

Mrs Therese Hourigan

Principal

February 2021

PEOPLE YOU MAY WISH TO CONTACT

SENIOR EXECUTIVE

Principal – Mrs Therese Hourigan
Deputy Principal Instructional Leader - Ms Tania Wright
Deputy Principal (Years 8, 10, 12) – Mr Warren Groth
Deputy Principal (Years 7, 9, 11) – Mr Mark Johnstone

HEAD TEACHERS

English Ms Kirsten Oakley
Mathematics Mr Christopher Lloyd
Science Ms Leigh Rayner
HSIE Mrs Melissa Woolnough
Visual Arts Mrs Joanne Scott
PDHPE Ms Leilani Martin
TAS Mr Jon Hinde
Welfare (Relieving) Mrs Karen Fornari
Support Mrs Lisa Barrowcliff
Secondary Studies Mrs Grace Ragnarsson
Administration Mr Peter Govan

Administration

Years 7 – 10 Mr Peter Govan
Years 11 -12 Mrs Grace Ragnarsson

Careers Adviser

Mrs Tina Fisher

Carnival & Sports Organisers

Mr Hugo Lam

SRC Co-ordinator

Ms Jenny Lai

School Admin. Manager

Ms Olivia Coyne

Camp Co-ordinator

Mr Christopher Lloyd

Sentral Co-ordinator

Ms Leigh Rayner

STUDENT ADVISERS

Year 7 Mrs Tarsha Mournehis
Year 8 Mr Tony Davis
Year 9 Mr Joel Palmer
Year 10 Mr Tim Henderson
Year 11 Mrs Gemma Quinn/Mrs Jenna Azzopardi
Year 12 Mrs Deborah Hennessy

Librarian Mr Jason Bernal

LAST Mrs Tracey Cowan

School Counsellors Mr Anthony Lanigan
Mrs Maraie Mathews

The school telephone number is 02 9639 7422.

The school fax number is 02 9686 3462.

Email address is crestwood-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

The school's webpage is <http://www.crestwood-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

WEARING OUR UNIFORM

Crestwood High School has a strict school uniform policy that has been endorsed by the P&C. We expect our students to wear full uniform with pride. All students may wear their proper sports uniform on Wednesdays (for sport). Students must bring their black school shoes if there is a timetabled TAS or Science class.

For PE classes students must wear their full school uniform to school and then change into PE uniform at the beginning of each PE lesson and must change back into school uniform at the end of the lesson.

GIRLS UNIFORM	BOYS UNIFORM
Buttoned over blouse with school crest Year 7 - 10: blue Years 11 – 12: white Navy woollen jumper with school crest Pleated Skirt – Tartan Pants – Navy Shoes – Black leather, enclosed Short White socks (without logo or markings) worn above the ankle/black stockings (no anklet socks will be allowed)	Buttoned shirt with school crest Year 7 - 10: blue Years 11 – 12: white Navy woollen jumper with school crest Pants or shorts – Navy Shoes – Black leather, enclosed Short White socks (without logo or markings) worn above the ankle/black stockings (no anklet socks will be allowed)
<p><u>SPORTS UNIFORM:</u></p> <p>School sports shirt – Sky blue, navy and white with house colour on the collar</p> <p>School sports shorts – Navy with white and sky blue trim</p> <p>Tracksuit CHS Blue jacket and CHS track pants</p>	<p>School sports shirt – Sky blue, navy and white with house colour on the collar</p> <p>School sports shorts – Navy with white and sky blue trim</p> <p>Tracksuit CHS sports jacket and CHS track pants</p>
<p><u>OPTIONAL ITEMS:</u></p> School blazer – Maroon with school crest Navy tie with school crest Navy/maroon scarf with school crest Navy ‘Flexiseam’ cap	School blazer – Maroon with school crest Navy tie with school crest Navy/maroon scarf with school crest Navy ‘Flexiseam’ cap

All items of uniform are available from the school uniform shop, except for black leather shoes. Our uniform shop is open every Wednesday from 7.30am until 10.45am, and the first Saturday of every month (during school term) from 7.30am – 1pm (approximately).

Please give your son/daughter a note should it be necessary for them to wear non-uniform items to school on a particular day. Students who are out of uniform without a note will receive a red slip indicating lunch detention. Failure to attend may result in an after school detention.

Parents will be informed by letter if a student is repeatedly out of uniform.

We ask for your support in enforcing our uniform.

The following items ARE NOT part of the school uniform and should not be worn to school:

- Ballet style shoes, Mary Jane style buckle shoes, canvas shoes, scuffs, sandals and thongs
- Jeans, track pants, black leggings, cargo pants and non-uniform shorts
- White or coloured sneakers or joggers
- T-shirts and jumpers with a logo or other advertising symbol
- Undershirts (except plain white)
- Black socks
- Black shoes with white or coloured trims, laces or markings
- Visible make-up or glitter
- Excessive jewellery
- Coloured caps

“Hoodies” are not permitted to be worn on school premises under any circumstances. School caps are not to be worn inside buildings.

COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS

We do our best to keep you informed about important school matters.

There are a range of methods of communication:

- **Parent Portal.** The ‘Student and Parent Portal’ is a web based application where both students and parents are able to login with their own credentials and access confidential student information. Lots of information is stored electronically in schools and 2 important pieces of information are timetables and a calendar of events that occur in the school during the year. You are able to access this information and lots more via the web on any device including your smart phone/tablet at this web address: <http://web1.crestwood-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>.

Students can login using their DoE email username (user@education.nsw.gov.au) and password. Parents who have registered and used their access key will already have complete access. New year 7 parents will be emailed information on how they can set up a username and password and connect their login to their child(ren) early in the new year. Vital that parents have current email addresses with the school at all times.

The Parent Portal will provide access to your child’s school timetable, school’s student calendars, student bulletin, Infoline, messages regarding whole school and individual year information as well as messages from their teachers directed to the entire class or to you or your child(ren). Parents are able to reply to these messages and initiate their own with their child’s teachers. Attendance data can be accessed, and you will be able to type an absence note within the portal. Many essential documents issued to our students can be downloaded and you can perform a search of our library’s resources. Parent teacher interview evening bookings will be made through the portal. Past school records can be viewed such as report comments and NAPLAN data.

The Parent Portal will become a significant place to visit and pivotal in your day to day management of your child’s enrolment at our school and look forward to the contribution this technology will make with communication between our school and parents.

- **'Infoline'**, our fortnightly newsletter to parents. This newsletter is emailed to parents who have supplied their email address. It can also be viewed via our school website or via the parent portal.

<http://www.crestwood-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

- At home group each morning daily notices are read out and explained to students.
- School reports are issued at the end of Semester 1 and Semester 2, with a Parent/Teacher Evening held at the end of Semester 1.
- P & C Meetings are held at 7.00pm on the first Tuesday of each month during school terms in the staff common room.
- Appointments may be made to speak with Head Teachers, Teachers, the Student Adviser and other welfare staff about any matters of concern. Enquiries may be made by telephone on 9639 7422.

BELL TIMES FOR 2021

Please note: Period lengths are as follows:

Mon/Tues/Fri	51 minute periods
Wednesday Sport	46 minute periods 1 & 2 56 minute periods 3-6
Assembly Thursday	41 minute periods
No Assembly Thursday	48 minute periods
AIM Thursday	45 minute periods

<i>EVENT</i>	<i>NORMAL DAY</i> <i>Mon, Tues, Fri</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i> <i>ASSEMBLY DAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i> <i>NO ASSEMBLY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i> <i>AIM</i>
Home Room	8.30 – 8.39	8.30 – 8.39	8.30 – 8.39	8.30 – 8.39	8.30 – 8.55
Period 1	8.39 – 9.30	8.39 – 9.25	8.39 – 9.20	8.39 – 9.27	8.55 – 9.40
Period 2	9.30 – 10.21 DEAR 10.21-10.34	9.25 – 10.11	9.20 – 10.01	9.27 – 10.15	9.40 – 10.25
Period 3a			10.01 – 10.42		
RECESS	10.34 – 10.56	10.11 – 10.33	10.42 – 11.02	10.15 – 10.35	10.25 – 10.45
Period 3b			11.02 – 11.43		
Period 3	10.56 – 11.47	10.33 – 11.29		10.35 – 11.23	10.45 – 11.30
Period 4	11.47 – 12.38	11.29 – 12.25	11.43 – 12.24	11.23 -12.11	11.30 -12.15
LUNCH 1	12.38 – 12.58	12.25 – 12.47	12.24 – 12.44	12.11 – 12.31	12.15 – 12.35
LUNCH 2	12.58 - 1.18	12.47 – 1.08	12.44 – 1.04	12.31 – 12.51	12.35 – 12.55
Period 5	1.18 – 2.09	1.08 – 2.04	1.04 – 1.45	12.51 – 1.38	12.55 – 1.40
Period 6	2.09 – 3.00	2.04 – 3.00	1.45 – 2.25	1.38 – 2.25	1.40 – 2.25
Day Ends	3.00	3.00	2.25	2.25	2.25

DEAR at Crestwood High School

DEAR, an acronym for **Drop Everything and Read**, has been timetabled into the Crestwood High School day every Monday, Tuesday and Friday. From 10:21 a.m. to 10:34 a.m. on these days, every student and staff member is required to drop everything and read.

Why DEAR?

The addition of thirty extra minutes of reading a week has been shown to have a significant impact on the reading levels of students. DEAR initiatives have also been responsible for increased library borrowing in schools. Furthermore, the modelling of reading by adults has been proven to have a positive influence on students.

How does DEAR work?

Every Monday, Tuesday and Friday, at the end of Period 2, a bell will ring to indicate that students should pack up all other equipment and unpack their books from their bags. They will then read silently until the next bell. The teacher should also be reading their own literature at this time.

- Students should be reading a hard copy of literature, not their tablets, kindles or phones.
- The DEAR book is part of the student's materials for the day and failure to bring it should be dealt with through the normal discipline policy.
- Students should be reading in silence and not interacting with the students around them.
- Some classes may require differentiation. A class or student who needs additional support can have a book read to them, or be played an audio book, as long as they have a physical copy of the reading material so that they can follow the words as they read. Usually these students will have an IEP which will suggest this strategy.

The consistent embedding of DEAR at Crestwood High School will ensure its continued success.



STUDENT ABSENCES

In NSW all children between the ages of 6 years and 17 years are legally required to attend school or attend approved education or training. Parents have a responsibility to make sure their children attend school every day. On occasion your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- Being sick or having an infectious disease
- Having an unavoidable medical appointment
- Being required to attend a recognized religious ceremony
- Exceptional or urgent family circumstances eg attending a funeral

Parents are encouraged to plan family holidays with their children during school vacation periods.

Student Absences can be advised by:

- Responding to the text message or email sent when your child is absent
- Phoning the school on (02) 9639 7422, ext 200 and leaving a message detailing your name and contact number, the name of your student and their year, the date of absence and the reason for their absence
- Emailing details of the absence crestwood-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
- Writing a note and giving it to the Home Room Teacher or handing the note in to the Student Services window
- Using the parent portal on Sentral

Parents must provide an explanation to the school within 7 days of the first day of any absence period.

If your child is absent for more than 3 days they need to supply a letter signed by their parent/caregiver upon their return.

Travel

Attendance at school for every student is essential if students are to achieve their potential, and increase their careers and life options. Parents are encouraged to plan family holidays with their children during school vacation periods. **Travel outside of vacation periods is counted as an absence and will not be approved.** It is strongly recommended that should family travel be necessary during term that parents seek advice from the school regarding scheduled assessment tasks **prior** to booking travel.

Any student taking leave for a holiday when an assessment task is scheduled will not have the task re-scheduled at an alternative time. This will result in zero for that particular assessment task. Please contact the school if you need further clarification regarding this policy.

Exemption from Attendance at School

This applies to students of compulsory school age who are enrolled at school where an exemption is sought from the legal requirement to attend school. Certificates of Exemption from compulsory education requirements of the Act may be granted when it has been clearly demonstrated by the applicant that an exemption is in the student's best interests. Reasons for exemption include –

- Exceptional circumstances
- Employment in the entertainment industry
- Elite sport event
- Elite arts program

To gain approval for a school exemption an **Application for Exemption from Attendance at School** must be completed prior to the intended leave being taken and returned to the school as soon as possible. If the exemption is approved by the Principal the parents will be issued with a **Certificate of Exemption**.

LATENESS TO SCHOOL

Regular attendance at Crestwood High School is important for students to reach their potential. Students should endeavor to be at school on time, every day.

School starts at 8.30am and students are responsible for having their name marked off in their Home Group class. If they are late the school is required to record the reason as a way of ensuring that students are absent from school only when they are sick or have another good reason for missing school.

If the student arrives to school after the completion of Home Group:

1. Report to the Student Services window before 9.00am or reception after 9.00am
2. Receive a late slip
3. Show their late slip to the classroom teacher on arriving to class.

Students who do not have a valid reason to be late will be given a lunch detention.

REQUEST FOR EARLY LEAVERS

Requests for leave during school hours are discouraged and should only be made when absolutely necessary.

Students who, through unavoidable circumstances, wish to leave school early are to present a note to the Deputy Principal **before Home Room**.

Notes should include:

- the date the note was written.
- the student's name, home group and parental contact number.
- the reason for the early leave request in the case of a medical appointment which cannot be scheduled for any other time. The note should show the name and telephone number of the medical practitioner who is being consulted.

ALL NOTES MUST BE WRITTEN AND SIGNED BY THE PARENT OR CAREGIVER.

PARENTS MUST PRODUCE ID WHEN COLLECTING THEIR CHILD FROM SCHOOL AT ANY TIME. (e.g. SICK BAY, EARLY LEAVER)

Under no circumstances should a student leave the school grounds during school hours without an approved pass.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE SCHOOL

As a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) school we:

- respect, appreciate and care for all members of our school community
- strive for our personal best at all times
- are proud of ourselves and our school
- respect, maintain and care for a safe, healthy and clean environment
- take responsibility for our own learning
- accept responsibility for our actions

Above all, we expect our students to be: **A Safe Respectful Learner**

RECOGNISING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

At Crestwood High School we take pride in the achievements of our students.

We recognise and publicise these achievements in the following ways:

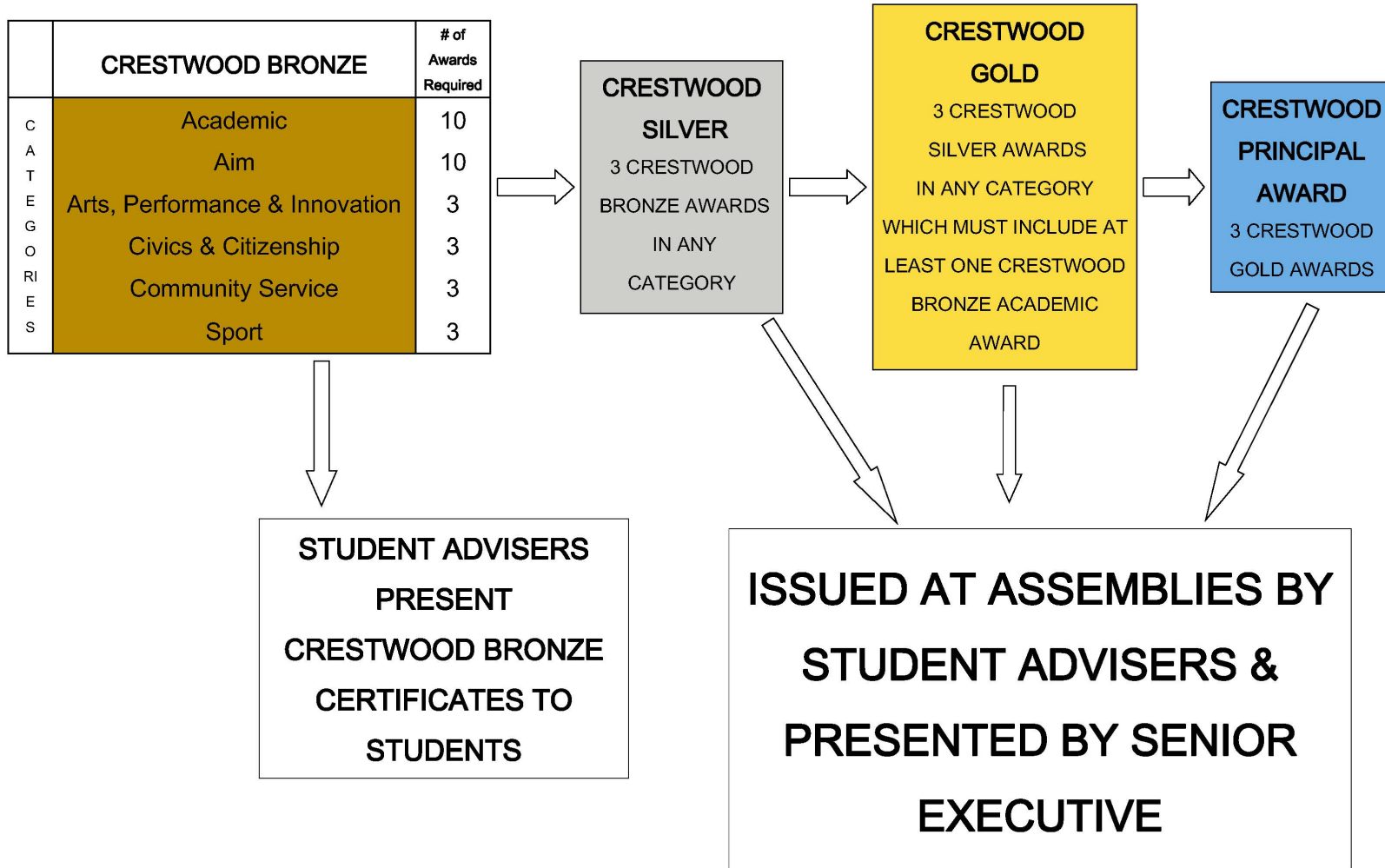
- Merit Awards for general effort and achievement.
- Merit Award Presentation Morning Teas
- High Achievers Recognition
- Sporting Awards and Presentations
- Attendance Awards
- School and Community Service Awards
- Presentation Night Awards
- Publication of significant achievements in Info-Line, local newspapers and on the school's display and honour boards.
- Public acknowledgement of success in competitions.


The following pages summarise the categories of awards and the process by which students move up through the merit system.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

AIM to be a:	ALL SETTINGS	ALL SETTINGS
SAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Be in the right place ➤ report safety issues immediately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Be in the right place ➤ work safely in the learning environment
RESPECTFUL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Care for all aspects of the environment ➤ say “no” to bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Care for the learning environment ➤ Cooperate with teachers and classmates
LEARNER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Follow instructions ➤ Make positive choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Be on time and prepared ➤ do your best


CRESTWOOD HIGH WHOLE SCHOOL MERIT SYSTEM





ACADEMIC AWARD
= 2 HOUSE POINTS

- Top 3-5 in an Assessment task per class, i.e., Topic/Module Test, Research Task, Practical Exam, Half and Yearly (Semester) Exams.
- Outstanding performance based on a student's personal best, this should be for the student who is serious and consistent with their application and effort over an extended period of time.
- Significant improvement across Assessment tasks.
- First in non-Assessment tasks, i.e. Quizzes
- Credit or higher in Competitions such as Mathematics, Science, Computer etc.
- Full marks in each Spelling Tests across all topics within a year.
- Recognition for each subject listed at a year 11 & 12 Excellence Ceremony
- Top 3-5 in a class semester Report




AIM AWARD
= 1 HOUSE POINT

- Being a Safe, Respectful Learner in the classroom and the playground as well as on excursions & sporting activities.
- Excellent result/effort in non Assessment tasks.
- Participation in Competitions such as Mathematics, Science, Computer etc.
- School service.
- Completion of class tasks, homework etc. on time and over a period of time.
- Serious nomination for captaincy.
- Presenting at a School assembly.
- Willingly helps in any situation.
- 100% attendance per term



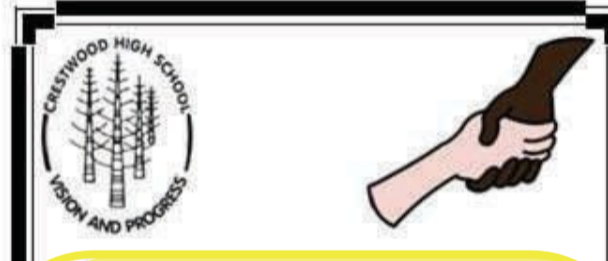
ARTS, PERFORMANCE & INNOVATION AWARD
= 3 HOUSE POINTS

- Performing in Musicals, Drama and Theatre sports.
- Performances on Assemblies.
- Participation within Gifted and talented programs.
- Producing an entry into Crestfest.
- Being a part of a debating team.
- Having artwork, Industrial Technology and multimedia presented at shows.




CIVICS & CITIZENSHIP AWARD
= 3 HOUSE POINTS

- Participation for the entire program – Peer Support, Peer Tutors, SRC.
- Volunteer as Reader and or writer during exams.
- Participate in Student Leadership programs.
- Membership on a school committee.
- Canteen Helper.
- Serious and consistent participation within the Barista or Joost program.
- School Captains and Vice Captains, Sports House Captain, SRC President.
- Hospitality for a school event.
- Light and Sound crew, Hall set up, Environmental committee, Multicultural Day, Agriculture events, Recycling team.



COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD = 3 HOUSE POINTS

- Actively and consistently involved throughout a fundraiser.
- Organise activities for the school such as Blood bank donations, Wrapt with love etc.
- Liaise with the Salvation Army to encourage student participation/donations.
- Coordinate Valentine's Day, Red Nose Day, Pink Ribbon Day, Daffodil Day etc.



SPORT AWARD
= 2 HOUSE POINTS

- School Swimming and Athletics Carnivals:
 - Serious and consistent participation across a minimum of 3 events in the swimming carnival & 5 events in the Athletics carnival
 - First, Second or Third in at least 2 events within the carnival.
 - Age Champion
 - Set a record in an event
- Finishes in the top 5 at the School's Cross country carnival in their age/year group.
- Serious and consistent participation in a knockout team.
- Serious and consistent participation in all events qualified for at a Zone carnival.
- Serious and consistent participation in all events qualified for at a Regional carnival.
- Serious and consistent participation within a grade team throughout the term.
- Serious and consistent participation within the team at a Gala Day.

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

At Crestwood High School we strive to maintain exemplary standards of student behaviour. It is expected that students will behave in a manner that will bring credit to themselves, their families, their school and community. The school's Welfare and Discipline Policy encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour. Collaboration between school staff, students and parents is an important feature of discipline at this school.

Parents are reminded that Department of Education procedures state that students who are in possession of a suspected illegal drug, who are violent or threatening serious physical violence or who are in possession of a prohibited weapon will be suspended immediately. In some circumstances the matter must also be reported to the police.

The Principal may also suspend any student who is persistently disobedient, non-compliant and/or disruptive, or who engages in criminal behaviour related to the school. Parents will be asked to attend an interview with the Principal to discuss the resolution of situations where a student is at risk of suspension through receiving multiple school detentions for actions contrary to the school's Discipline Policy.

Please note that students who fail to report for a notified school detention without satisfactory explanation will be required to attend a special one hour detention after school. Parents will be notified in writing should this occur.

The following items **must not be brought to school**:

- Drugs or drug paraphernalia
- Alcohol
- Cigarettes, matches or lighters`
- Texta pens
- Bottled liquid paper
- Laser pointers
- Aerosol cans (including atomiser sprays)of any kind e.g. deodorant, perfume
- Any objects which may endanger the safety of others
- Valuable items and large sums of money

FOOD AND DRINK (EXCEPT WATER) ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BE CONSUMED IN BUILDINGS.

Mobile Phones - Crestwood High School allows students to bring mobile phones to school however they need to be switched to silent on entry to the classroom. These are valuable items, easily lost, stolen or damaged. **The school does not accept responsibility for lost/stolen/damaged phones.**

When a student genuinely needs to bring a mobile phone to school the following rules apply:

- Students must turn off mobile phones before entering school buildings. They must keep the phones out of sight inside buildings.
- Any student whose phone goes off in class will be warned by the class teacher. Further such phone disruptions may result in the phone being confiscated and returned at the end of the school day.
- If this happens again the Head Teacher will be informed and will generate an entry in the school's Wellbeing System.

HOMEWORK

Homework aims to consolidate, extend and enrich learning. It helps students improve learning and their organisational skills.

Homework is set by the teacher, guided by Department of Education policy. Every student can profitably spend time on home study.

Homework may take a variety of forms:

- Preparation for future lessons
- Completion of class work
- Research and assignment work
- Keeping lesson books up-to-date
- Revision and preparation for exams

APPLYING FOR A BUS OR TRAIN PASS

To be eligible for free travel students must live:

- 2.0 km straight line distance or 2.9 km walking distance or further from the school.

Online application form

Parents, guardians and students can go online at transportnsw.info/school-students to complete their application form. The new online application portal will automatically assess eligibility based on distance rules. First time or changed situation applications received for travel from the start of 2018, will be sent directly to the student's nominated address after parents complete the online application.

If your child has a school Opal Card in Year 6 you will need to only update your current application in regard to transitioning from Year 6 to Year 7. You do not need a new application unless you fail to update.

All students must respect the Code of Conduct for school students on buses issued by the Department of Education and Communities.

To ensure their safety and the comfort of other passengers, students will:

- Behave safely at all times
- Respect the needs and comfort of other passengers
- Behave safely and appropriately at all times (e.g. no use of offensive language, fighting, sitting, placing feet on seats or throwing things in or from the bus)
- Protect bus property and report any vandalism
- Tap on and off with your OPAL card. Present this when requested.
- Maintain possession of the travel pass at all times
- Follow the driver's instructions about safety on the bus (e.g. instructions on where to sit)
- Keep arms, legs and other parts of their bodies inside the bus
- Only attract the attention of the driver in case of an emergency

EXCURSIONS

Excursions are an integral part of some courses, and are designed to enhance learning. Excursion activities are carefully planned to minimise cost and disruption to other courses. Detailed information about each activity is provided to parents in a letter delivered by students. All students are strongly encouraged to participate in these activities as they provide experiences that enhance the learning process. Whilst the cost of some excursions can be high (e.g. camps), parents are able to make payments over the term or semester. It is important that parents make payments by the deadline on permission notes to ensure that external venues can be secured and numbers confirmed and that a cancellation fee is not imposed.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

The Library is the resource centre for the school, providing access to print, audiovisual and electronic resources.

Information skills are integrated into the curriculum and related to course work and interests. Wide reading is actively encouraged with frequent addition to current young adult fiction of all genres.

Internet access is available for genuine school research. The computers are not to be used for games, chat and personal e-mails. Students must log on to the school network and agree to conditions of use. Students can also use the photocopier and printer for minimal cost. Students can purchase a \$2 or \$5 card for use for photocopying. Printing from computers is 10c per page for black and white, or \$1 per page for colour.

Each student is issued with a Library card which is kept for the duration of enrolment and presented when borrowing resources. A small amount is charged to replace cards.

The Library is open before and after school (8.15am – 3.15pm).

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Information and Communication Technologies are integrated into the teaching and learning programs across the curriculum.

Internet access is available in the library and in the school computer rooms across the school. The school also has a wireless network and one set of laptop computers for use in class rooms. These facilities provide students with access to industry standard word processing, database, spreadsheet and multimedia programs as well as curriculum specific software. Students are encouraged to bring along a USB “memory stick” to store their data.

PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

During the Peer Support program, trained Year 10 student leaders guide Year 7 students in small groups through a structured course which builds self-confidence, improves communication skills and provides students to meet their peers.

The aims of Peer Support are to help Year 7 students:

- make the transition from primary to secondary school
- accept responsibility for their behaviours
- organise homework and study programs

SUPPORT STAFF

THE STUDENT ADVISER

All Years, 7–12 have a Student Adviser. All teachers are concerned with the welfare of their students, and Student Advisers co-ordinate student welfare and student organisation for their year group.

Students experiencing problems with their educational progress or general well-being should contact their Student Adviser, the Head Teacher Welfare, the Head Teacher of the subject or the School Counsellor. Parents are invited to contact the school for assistance on behalf of their child. Please make an appointment.

The Year 7 2021 Student Adviser is Mrs Tarsha Mournhis, who is located in the TAS staffroom. You can contact her by phoning 9639 7422.

LEARNING AND SUPPORT TEACHER

The Learning Support Teacher helps the school to cater for students who experience difficulties in basic areas of learning. The Learning Support teacher helps within normal lessons in a team-teaching role or takes individuals and small groups for targeted assistance.

THE SUPPORT UNIT

Students enrolled in the Support Unit have been assessed by the District Office as being in need of additional support as a result of their disability.

The Support Unit covers the 7–10 syllabus (Life Skills options as appropriate) and Life Skills syllabus in Years 11 and 12 as well as Individual Educational Programs that aim to develop students' goals for their present and future environment.

The Support Unit has a strong vocational emphasis, which directs students towards gaining employment in the least restrictive environment.

As a trans-disciplinary team, the specialist services of School Learning Support Officers, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist and Speech Pathologist are available to assist in improving students' learning opportunities. These and other external services also support the whole family.

All students' special learning needs are provided for in a supportive whole school community which encourages inclusion.

Mrs Lisa Barrowcliff is the Head Teacher Support Unit.

STAGE 4: YEAR 7 COURSES

Crestwood offers a broad curriculum to cater for the varied needs and interests of the individual students at our comprehensive high school. The core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science are balanced with a variety of elective courses from the Arts to Technology.

Students in Year 7 and 8 experience the following pattern of study:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English• Mathematics• Science• History• Geography• Technology• Visual Arts• Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Languages – French (Year 7 only)• Personal Development, Health and Physical Education• Sport• Futures Focused Learning• Special Religious Education (Year 8 only)• Drama (Year 8 only)

ENGLISH

At Crestwood High School we have a strong commitment to the development of creative and critical thinking as well as basic literacy. Students are encouraged to develop their skills, imagination and independence through the study of poetry, fiction, drama, film and non-fiction.

The study of film and video production has particular emphasis in the light of the implementation of the new syllabus.

In Year 7 Drama is integrated with English and students are given a variety of opportunities to develop and perform in front of peers and parents.

Students have opportunities to develop their confidence and independence by participating in

- Debating and Public Speaking Competitions
- The English and Writing Competitions
- The School production

HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

Learning experiences for students in Year 7 Geography include:

- Year 7 Geography – world heritage and global environments.
- A wide range of classroom activities backed up by the use of information and communication technologies.
- Acquisition of a variety of skills such as comprehension, analysis and use of sources, empathetic understanding, research, technology, communication, mapping acquiring and processing information and participating as informed citizens.
- Field studies at Sydney University Nicholson Museum, Darling Harbour and Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens.

LOTE

In Year 7, students complete the 100 hours mandatory LOTE course. All students study French for 6 periods per fortnightly cycle.

The course aims to develop students' listening, speaking, reading and writing skills necessary for effective interaction in French. Topics studied relate to the students' personal world (eg self, family, school, sport etc). Students will explore the nature of languages as systems by making comparisons between French and English, leading to an appreciation of the correct application of linguistic structures and vocabulary. Students will also develop knowledge of the culture of French speaking communities and an understanding of the interdependence of language and culture, thereby encouraging reflection on their own cultural heritage.

Students have the opportunity to continue their study of French in Years 9 and 10 or in Years 11 and 12.

PDHPE

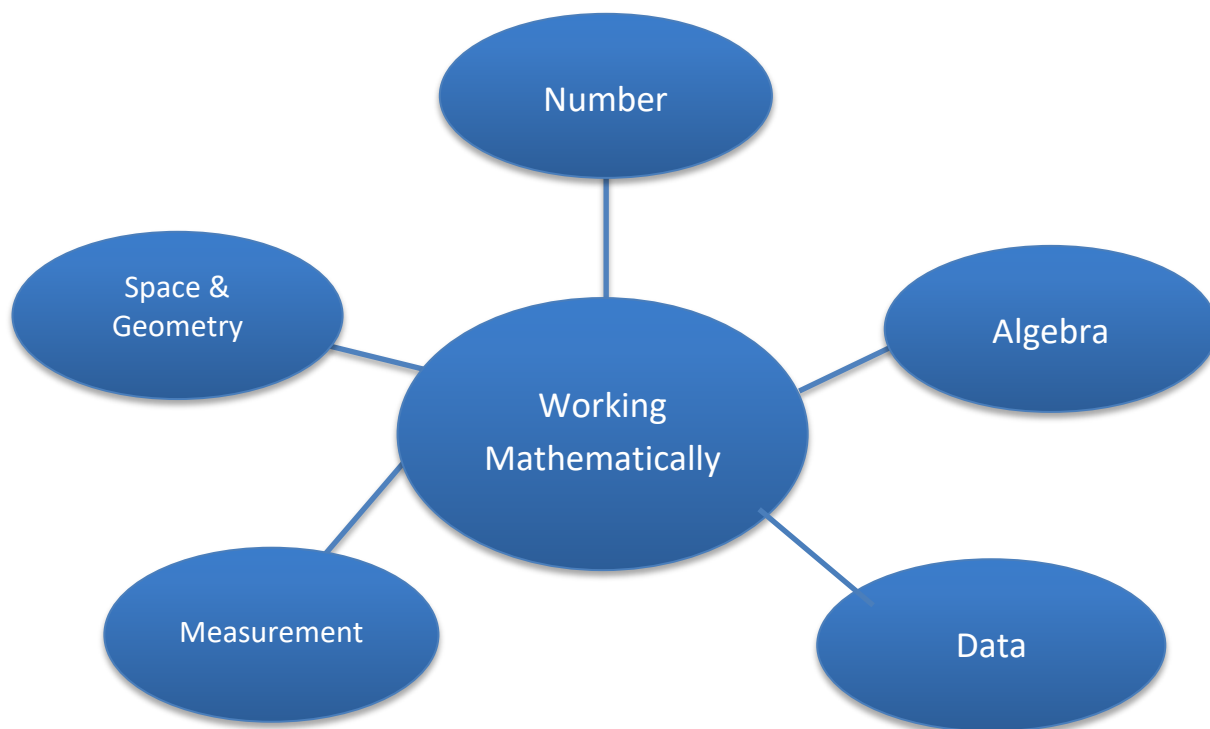
PDHPE at Crestwood High School is an exciting, dynamic curriculum area that delivers a very diverse and interesting range of educational experiences.

The junior syllabus is a skills based system that encourages positive decision making on a whole range of lifestyle issues from physical activity through to substance abuse. Students participate in sport in addition to PDHPE in Years 7-10.

- Facilities include hall/gym/performance space suitable for dance, gymnastics, badminton and basketball.
- COLA (covered outdoor learning area) suitable for basketball, indoor cricket and gross motor activities.
- School oval is suitable for team games.
- Volleyball courts.
- Nearby Crestwood Reserve fields.

MATHEMATICS

With the introduction of the new syllabus there is a greater emphasis on problem solving and mathematics in everyday situations. Students will develop and refine skills in the following strands:



We aim to continue the learning journey with your child at whatever stage they may be to develop competence and confidence in Mathematics.

We also offer students the opportunity to enter Mathematics competitions for extension and enrichment. These include the Westpac Australian Mathematics Competition, which is held in August each year, The Australasian Maths Assessment in June/July, the Australian Secondary Mathematics Olympiad for the Gifted and Talented class only.

Scientific calculators are required to be used by all students in Year 7.

SCIENCE

The focus in Year 7 Science is to introduce students to a variety of important concepts, ideas and skills within the Physical World, Earth and Space, the Living World and the Chemical World that stay within them through school and into the world outside. Develop their skills in science inquiry through hands-on practical experiences, including student research projects. Learning about 'big' ideas in Science is fun because theory work is related to experiments and carried out in laboratories using a wide range of scientific equipment. Learn about the importance of the contribution and influence of science in their own lives and in finding solutions to personal, social and global issues.

In Year 7 students can participate in several different Australian and Asian wide competitions. Students enjoy and benefit from these activities but the focus at Crestwood is on teaching and learning in the classroom, supported by excursions, group work and lots of practical work.

MUSIC

Students entering Crestwood are presented with many opportunities to engage in music making activities. Students in Year 7 can expect to develop their practical skills using the guitar, keyboard and percussion instruments.

Whilst students are provided with ample practical activities in the classroom, there are also opportunities for participation in extra-curricular ensembles such as the stage band, concert band, school musicals (held once every two years) and rock and pop bands. Many students enjoy performing at school assemblies as well as merit award afternoons and presentation nights.

As well as practical music making students are guided towards a more intellectual understanding of music through critical listening and analysis of various styles of music. Creating and composing are an important part of the course and students are given learning tasks that allow them to understand the processes involved in such activities.

- Playing instruments – guitar, drums, keyboard and more.
- Concert Band – learn to play and be part of the team.
- Singing popular songs.
- Student concerts.
- Listening to different styles of music.
- Create and compose music.
- Stage Band.

TECHNOLOGY (MANDATORY)

“Technology and an understanding of design processes enable people to manage, interpret, shape and alter their environment to improve their quality of life” (*BOS syllabus document*)

This subject is taught by specialist staff from the TAS faculty, under the Key Learning Area of *Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)*.

Students will follow programs where they will be encouraged to develop skills in designing, producing and evaluating suitable projects that solve problems presented to them. It will enable them to justify solutions and to responsibly, safely and creatively use and select materials, tools and techniques in a variety of contexts. Practical work comprises a large proportion of course time in the Technology (Mandatory) course. During this time they will apply design processes in a variety of technologies that may include: electronics, food graphics/CAD, information, media, metals, textiles and timber.

Beyond Years 7 and 8, Technology (Mandatory) provides background from which students may choose a range of elective subjects. In Years 9 and 10 these include: CAD, Construction, Cabinet Making, Power Mechanics, Food Technology, Industrial Technology – Wood, Metal, Electronics, Engineering, Multimedia, Graphics Technology, Design and Technology, Textiles and Design and Information Software and Technology, 100 hour Food Technology (International Gourmet Cuisine).

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All students Years 8 to 9 have two timetabled periods of Special Religious Education per cycle. Lessons are taken by the Religious Instruction teacher. Religion lessons are part of the school curriculum and are timetabled the same as any other lesson.

Attendance is compulsory unless an exemption is granted because of religious beliefs. Any student granted an exemption will be expected to go to the Learning Centre in the library and complete individual work.

SPORT

Sport at Crestwood is not just for the gifted athletes at our school but also for every level of competitor who wants to enjoy the experience with their friends and fellow students from other years. Sport is a mandatory requirement, so why not get in, enjoy, participate and succeed? We offer plenty of opportunities.

GRADE SPORT

Our grade competition is played against schools in the Macquarie Zone on Wednesday. We always have a large number of our grade teams in grand finals come the end of the season. Junior sports is during periods 3 and 4. Senior sports is during periods 5 and 6.

STATE KNOCK OUTS

Crestwood fields teams in most sports in these popular competitions. We regularly have success in tennis, touch, basketball, netball, soccer and futsal.

GALA DAYS

Rugby league, netball, touch, basketball and soccer all offer gala days that provide opportunities for our Year 7 students to participate. We also have Gala days with the local primary partner schools. Our junior students act as coaches and umpires or referees.

Year 7 has a Macquarie Zone Gala Day against the other eight schools in the Macquarie Zone. The sports on this day are soccer, touch, netball and AFL.

CARNIVALS

Our school swimming, athletics and cross-country carnivals are for all ability levels and provide the opportunity to progress the opportunity to progress to Zone, Sydney West and Combined High Schools level. We have a number of students who progress from school to State and then to Australian representative level.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Crestwood students are encouraged to develop their talents through participation in a range of activities that complement and extend their curriculum studies across their years of schooling.

Activities include:

- Work Experience Program
- Study Skills Program
- Peer Tutor Program
- Dance groups
- Stage Band
- National competitions in English, Mathematics, Science and Computing
- Debating and public speaking teams
- NSW Law Society Mock Trials
- Water-Watch Program
- Choir
- Overseas Student Exchange programs
- Participation in agricultural shows
- Comprehensive program of team and individual sports
- Pastoral care programs
- Teams enter state wide competitions in most sports
- Annual carnivals for swimming, track and field, cross country, which lead to selection for regional and state carnival representation. Specialised coaching for participants.
- Swimming and Lifesaving Program
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme
- Annual Theatre production
- Drama Showcase
- Visual Arts Showcase
- Max Potential Leadership Program
- Camp Programs (Years 7, 9 and 11)

