

BRAY PARK STATE HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL COMMUNITY



YOUR STUDENT COUNCIL

Your Student Council is an organisation that is run by our students for the benefit of our students. Its major goal is to create student-based activities and provide a student voice within our school. Throughout this year, there will be many activities run by our Student Council sub-committees. These sub-committees are: Social, Magazine, School Expo, Fundraising, Environment, Student Issues and Welfare. These activities provide funds so that our Student Council can create and support school projects. This year will be full of activities run by our Student Council, so get behind them and make your school an even better place.

HOUSE GROUP TEACHERS

One teacher you will come to know well, will be your house group teacher. Your house group teacher is:

- the person who is responsible for your house group or “school family” – made up of students from your year level. They do such things as mark the roll, collect absentee notes, help get the group ready for interhouse carnivals etc.
- a person who can be trusted.
- someone to go to for help.
- concerned about you and your progress at school.

Get to know your house group teacher; he/she is someone who can help you.

YEAR/HOUSE CO-ORDINATORS

Co-ordinators’ areas of responsibility are: house assemblies, year level assemblies, student welfare, discipline, uniform, student/parent information, generally assisting our Administrative team, checking attendance and following up unexplained absences, that are welfare related. They form an important link between classroom teachers, Subject Heads of Departments and Administration.

Each House also has **two House Captains** who will assist **House Coordinators** to organise each House and they will liaise with our **School Captains, Student Council Executive, Sports Captains, Sporting Development Squad Captain and Instrumental Music Captains.**

GUIDANCE SERVICES

Our Guidance Counsellor is at our school each day. Appointments may be made on 3881 6666.

What is offered? Parents/Carers and students both may seek assistance in the following areas:-

1. Vocational - Information on careers, courses, universities, colleges, student accommodation, financial assistance schemes, decision-making skills.
2. Educational - Subject selection and changes, study skills, learning potential, learning difficulties, goal setting.
3. Personal - Individual and group counselling, Inter-year support programme (offering support for students with special needs), information on health and welfare agencies.

SCHOOL BASED POLICE OFFICER

A School Based Police Officer is based at our School and will be involved in a number of teaching and supervisory situations. The officer is also available to provide advice to students in formal and informal situations and parents/carers should feel free to make use of this very valuable resource. A brochure is available at the office for more details.

SCHOOL BASED YOUTH HEALTH NURSE

We have been allocated a School Based Youth Health Nurse to work at our School. Our Nurse will be here on a regular basis for the provision of health information, however a treatment service is not part of the program. Students may make appointments to seek health information. The service is confidential. Our Principal will be made aware of cases where a student’s welfare is at serious risk. The only exception to breaking confidentiality with a young person will be when issues of child abuse or significant risk of harm are identified. The decision to report child abuse will be made in consultation with the young person.

The role of the School Based Youth Health Nurse will address individual, group and community health issues of concern for young people and will have both independent and collaborative roles.

The Youth Health Nurse will work independently to provide confidential health consultations for students, parents/carers and school staff, and refer clients to appropriate health professionals and services when indicated.

As a professional staff member of the school community, the school nurse will work collaboratively to:

- Support the school’s health and physical education program development, Life Skills and other health related programs
- Support planning and implementation of health promotion strategies
- Facilitate community development
- Support students and staff on a range of health issues relevant to young people, including facilitating teacher in-service health programs
- Liaise with relevant community based and Non-Government organisation
- Provide advice and information about education resources including relevant Queensland Health policies and programs
- Support whole-of-school engagement in Health Promoting School initiatives.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNSELLOR

The role of the Community Education Counsellor is to provide Counselling and Support services for Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander Secondary Students. Liaise with Principals / Students / Parents / Carers / School Personnel.

- Provide educational counselling and support services available to Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander secondary students within specific schools.
- Provide cross-cultural awareness training to the broader school community if required.
- Participate in the development of activities, in and out of school, likely to enhance the involvement in education of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander secondary students and their families.
- Utilise in an accountable manner, State and Commonwealth funded school based programs that focus on Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander Secondary Students and Communities.
- Provide advice and information to school administrators regarding Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander social and cultural issues readily available to all members of the school community.
- Participate in activities to develop partnership between members of the school community.
- Establish and maintain links with “out of school” sources of information and support services to assist in the development of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander secondary students.
- Provide information to parents / carers about ASSPA (Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness) program.
- Promote AITAP (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tertiary Aspiration Program) and AICAPP (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Careers Aspiration Pathways Program).
- Promote NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Day Observation Committee).

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Chaplains are people in our schools who:

- Care for Students
- Build positive relationships
- Help with emotional and spiritual needs
- Work with and complement the existing schools’ support service
- Offer support within the school Life Skills programs
- Assist students who want to know more about Christianity
- Offer support to families in the wider school community
- Liaise between schools and churches
- Provide positive role modelling
- Facilitate voluntary Christian groups within the school
- Provide an alternative link between families and school
- Provide links to additional support services in the community

PARENTS' AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

Our Association meets on the **third Monday of each month** in our school Common Room starting at 5.00 pm. It is an active body which plays an important part in advising on school policy, practice, and direction, as well as having a vital role to play in the physical development of the school. All Parents/Carers are expected to show a commitment to our school through participation in the organisation's activities. An important activity of Parents' and Citizens' Association is our **School Canteen**.

Our School Canteen is open daily and is staffed by paid and voluntary workers and provides the usual food lines, drinks and fruit for students during breaks. Our Canteen will continue to need voluntary helpers. We propose to organise the roster as early as possible on the basis of hourly shifts commencing at 9.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. each school day. If you can help for even an hour a month (or preferably longer), please contact Ms Lesley Cummings at our canteen on telephone number 3881 6666. **Our Uniform Shop** is operated by Alinta – please refer to details on website for opening hours and prices.

THE LIBRARY

The Library provides a range of information and services to students. As well as books and audio-visual materials for classroom work, we are building up an extensive collection of fiction and recreational works, and also subscribe to a variety of magazines and academic databases. Internet and Intranet connection is available as well as an electronic catalogue for the Library.

The Library is open Monday to Friday from approximately 8.00 am to approximately 3.15 pm with some breaks closed. Some afternoons a staff member may stay at school a little longer. If so, the library will remain open so do check early in the day if you need to access the library during breaks or before or after school.

Students may borrow a pre-determined number of items at any one time, on production of a student identification card, though more than this amount is permissible on request. Specific non-fiction books are available for overnight borrowing and must be returned before school the following day. We ask Parents/Carers to assist us in the promotion of a positive attitude towards borrowing, by ensuring their children take care of resources and return them promptly. Lost or damaged books and resources are to be reimbursed to our school at replacement cost.

ROAD SAFETY

Students who have to cross Lavarack Road are to use the school crossing and access the crossing via the pedestrian gates. Students are not to enter or exit through the double gate entry or staff car parks. Caution should be maintained when crossing the road, giving drivers due respect for the fact that it does take time to pull up a vehicle travelling at normal driving speed. Students wishing to access the roadside of the bus bay are to access this via the raised pedestrian crossing and through the pedestrian gate. Parents/Carers are advised that these are provided to improve safety for students. Parents/Carers are also advised that there is a limited set-down area provided at the beginning of bus bay to allow for set-down and collection of students. This is not a parking area and cars should exit through the bus bay. No U-Turns are permitted at the entrance of or within the bus bay. Please note the No Parking signs along Lavarack Road.

COMMUNIQUES

Regular newsletters are published and emailed to all families -combining school and P & C news and notices. The school reports to Parents/Carers on the progress and achievement level of students five times a year - a Mid-Semester 1 progress report, a Semester 1 subject report and a Semester 2 subject report. Two parent/teacher evenings are organised, one in Semester 1, and one in Semester 2. Special course selection evenings for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 students are organised during Semester 2. Additional reports on student behaviour and progress are provided on request about individual students whose performance gives cause for concern.