

News|letter



Welcome to 2023

**Dear Carers, Parents and Students,
Last week was a milestone for the College as we
formally opened as a 7 – 12 secondary school.**

Thank you to every student and family for the way you have supported us to ensure a smooth start to the year.

Our new timetable structure and introduction of Home Group means that there is a greater sense of us working collectively as a true learning community. Our new five period day and 60-minute lessons are helping students to spend more concentrated time on learning.

Our tried and tested (and evidence-based) routines have served us well and visitors to the College are impressed by how settled the school is.

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Our 60 new Year 7 students have taken to secondary school life and settled very quickly. There is a real sense of community and harmony.

The new uniform looks smart and tidy, and I am pleased that all Year 7 and 10 students are now in the uniform.

Most students have the equipment they need with our Year 7 students receiving their Chromebooks last week. The Wellbeing team are working hard to access funds to support families with uniform and equipment.

Over the last 2 weeks the Sub-school teams have been working on student attendance, uniform and equipment so that all students are ready to learn.

In the coming weeks we will continue to implement our routines and get to really know our learners. Speaking of knowing the learners Progressive Achievement Testing is taking place for Years 7, 10 and 11. The tests assess student skills in Numeracy and Literacy and will help us to support every student's learning.

2022 Senior School Results

I am pleased to report that our 2022 Year 12 students did themselves and the College proud with their end of year results.

The number of students completing courses was up hugely and our overall VCE results were the best the College has had in 10 years.

This is a significant achievement considering the impact of COVID and speaks to student resilience, the professionalism of our teachers and the support of families.

As the College becomes more focused on academic excellence, we look forward to even better results this year.

Kind regards
Simon Sherlock
College Principal



“Thank you to every student and family for the way you have supported us to ensure a smooth start to the year.”



Attendance

At Hallam Secondary College we expect all students to have a minimum of 90% attendance.

The advice included at the end of this newsletter provides Department of Education information on the importance of attendance. A minimum of 90% attendance is equal to having no more than 5 days absence per Term.

Every day of absence is lost learning and for Senior students less than 90% attendance may jeopardise their Pathway. If you are concerned about your teenager's attendance, please contact the appropriate Sub-school

School Nurse



My name is Suellen and I'm the Secondary School Nurse at Hallam Secondary College.

I am available every Thursday and Friday in the Wellbeing Office.

My role is to support the health and wellbeing of students with a focus on health promotion and primary prevention to improve student health, wellbeing and learning outcomes.

I help facilitate awareness days, health education including classroom and small group sessions, and limited primary health care including student assessment, referral and support.

I work collaboratively with students, teachers, wellbeing staff, school leadership and school communities to build capacity and improve health outcomes.

I can help students with information, guidance and support through individual health consultations that may include:

- managing stress
- relationships
- safer sex
- smoking, vaping, alcohol and other drug use
- body image
- healthy eating
- cybersafety/cyberbullying
- sexuality/gender identity

As a general rule **school nurses do not:**

- provide first aid (This is the role of the school's First Aider)
- undertake long term counselling around psychological, relationship or educational problems
- administer medication

Doctor's in schools service 2023

The doctor's in schools service will be running again at Hallam for 2023.

Our doctor and nurse will attend the college on Thursday's, located in E7. Students can access the doctor or nurse for any issues or concerns relating to their physical health, mental health or sexual health.

All appointments are bulk billed through Medicare so a current Medicare card number is required when requesting an appointment.

If you would like to request an appointment or would like further information, please contact Amy from the wellbeing team on 8795 1065, or email: amy.magnusson@education.vic.gov.au.

Alternatively you can request an appointment through your sub school



Feedback

We welcome feedback from students, families and members of the community. This information allows us to see where our strengths lie and also the areas in which we should seek to improve. Please email Business Manager, Sue Quinn at: Sue.Quinn@education.vic.gov.au or call 9703 1266.

School Council Elections

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council with 3 parent member positions available for a 2 year term.

Nominations are open now and will close on the **20th of February**.

Nomination forms are available from the administration office or can be emailed if requested.

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Please see the website for more information

School Uniform Expectations

This is a reminder about the school uniform expectations. All students must wear the Hallam Secondary College uniform.

For this year, the seniors can wear the former senior college uniform. Year 7's and 10's must wear the new 2023 school uniform. If any student needs to buy school uniform, it must be the new 2023 school uniform.

There is the option for students to wear the new PE uniform (collared shirt) on the days the student has practical PE.

The Sports Academy training shirts are not school uniform. All students must have a collared shirt to wear to school and at school. Sports Academy training shirts and singlets should only be worn at training or gym sessions.

Students should be wearing Hallam Secondary College shorts or pants. Students are not permitted to wear leggings, tights or bike pants.

As a school we will be following up on these breaches of the school uniform. The school uniform policy is available on the website.

Annual Privacy Reminder for our School Community

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy (<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>).

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website at: Privacy Collection Notice (<http://www.hallamssc.vic.edu.au/about/college-policies/>)

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents (<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools-Privacy-Policy-information-for-parents.aspx>)

This information is also available in ten community languages:

Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu & Vietnamese

Please contact the College for any assistance.

Students Driving to School and Traffic Safety

Many students will have their 18th birthday during their last year of school. Those who choose to drive to school must comply with Department of Education policy as well as the road rules and conditions of their licence.

Students are required to register their vehicle with the college office and are able to use the college student carpark via Gate 3 on Frawley Road. Students and parents should be familiar with the Student Driver Policy. This and relevant forms are available from the College Office or the College website here.

Students are expected to drive with extra caution into and out of the car park to ensure student and community safety.

We also expect parents/guardians who drop off or collect their students from school to follow all traffic signs in the college grounds and to be extra careful when driving on Frawley Road. Following the rules will help to ensure the safety of all.

Asthma & Anaphylaxis Action Plans

Parents/carers need to check and update current action plans in consultation with the student's doctor and return them to the college as soon as possible.

Please use the relevant form available on Compass, under School Documentation, General Office Forms for Parents, alternatively please collect from the main office.

Student Accident Insurance and Personal Property

Parents and Guardians are reminded that the Department of Education and Training does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.

We would recommend families check their ambulance cover as the school will put student health and safety as the number one priority in an emergency.

Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs; and

Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers but we are not in a position to recommend any particular product.

Also, a reminder to parents/guardians and staff that the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Students are provided with access to a locker but must supply their own lock and to not share their locker or provide access to any other student.

All lockers are located in view of the CCTV system but the college and DET cannot take responsibility for any loss.



Senior School Information Night

Covering important information for **All students in Year 11** and students that are undertaking a **VCE in Year 12**

Wednesday 22nd February
6.00pm The Great Space



Senior School Information Night

Dear Parents, You are invited to a Senior school information night. This will include information for all students in Year 11 and Students that are undertaking a VCE in Year 12.

The night will be held at the college in The Great Space. Please park in Gate 2 and enter via the front reception. The information that will be covered will include: supporting you child through VCE, requirements for successful completion of VCE, and key dates for the year.

We look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday 22nd of February** at 6.00pm

Library News

The library at Hallam is thriving, with recesses and lunchtimes buzzing with activity.

Homework Club has started on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-4pm, staff are present to assist students and before too long, we will also have tutors coming in.

LEGO Club We have students wanting to start a Lego Club, so if you have Lego that's getting underfoot, we would love to take it off your hands!

We are working on expanding our collection, particularly titles that would be useful for our new Year 7 students. If you are doing a clean up and you have books that your children have outgrown, please consider donating them to Hallam SC library.

Thank you and happy reading!

Our library opening hours are as follows:

Monday	8:15 – 3:05
Tuesday	8:15 – 4:00
Wednesday	8:15 – 4:00
Thursday	8:15 – 3:05
Friday	8:15 – 3:05

Careers & Pathways News

/HEADSTART APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

Head Start supports students undertaking School Based Apprenticeships/Traineeships (SBATs).

Students undertaking a SBAT attend Hallam Secondary College part time, work part time and attend TAFE Training. Mentoring and monitoring is given to students throughout their SBAT guiding them towards full time work once they have completed their secondary education.

I am excited to have joined the Head Start team this year and am keen to speak to enthusiastic Year 11 and 12 students who are considering entering into an Apprenticeship whilst they are completing their senior studies at Hallam Secondary College.

Many industries are experiencing a skills shortage – therefore Employers are wanting to engage with the Head Start team to employ a School Based Apprentice/Trainee in their business.

We have opportunities in the following areas in various locations:

- Landscaping
- Business (Warehousing)
- Brick Laying
- Glazing
- Engineering (Metal Fabrication)
- Baking
- Childcare
- Swim Instructor/Life Guard
- Cabinet Making
- Commercial Cookery

I am looking forward to meeting more Hallam Secondary College students in the coming weeks. The Head Start Office is located in the Senior Centre, next to the Careers Office, come by and have a chat - or if I am not present please leave a message in the notebook outside the office and I will come and find you.

Nerida Parsons
Head Start Assistant Director
Southern Melbourne Hub
0407 453 705

Upcoming Careers Events

Dear Students,
Please come and see either myself or Nerida in the Head Start office if you are interested in attending any of these sessions:

Aquatic Careers Info Night (YMCA)

21st February, 7pm-9pm
See attached flyer

Career Opportunities in the Marine Industry

22nd March, 10am-2pm
Patterson Lakes Community Centre & Nearby Marine Precinct
Flyer attached, see careers staff for registration and transport.

The Trades Fit: Young Women in Trades & Tech Expo

10th & 11th May, 9am-4pm
Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre
The Trades Fit expo demonstrates the exciting world of trade and tech industries and the rewarding, well-paid career opportunities they can provide to young women.
Registrations close 6th April, see careers staff for registration and transport.

Kind regards,
Sharyn Saxon
Careers & Pathways
Practitioner

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MARINE INDUSTRY

INDUSTRY IMMERSION DAY

STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND CAREER ADVISORS

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH, 10am-2pm
PATTERSON LAKES COMMUNITY CENTRE &
NEARBY MARINE PRECINCT

Victoria is a hotspot for boat building, all of the associated support services, boat sales, marine technologies, marina management, and boating and fishing related careers.

Career opportunities and apprenticeships abound.

Come along and join a host of industry professionals as they display their wares, and welcome you to the waterfront world of the marine industry.

Flexible visit options.

The Boating Industry Association of Victoria invites you.

Please enquire or book via mary@biavic.com.au by Wednesday 1 March

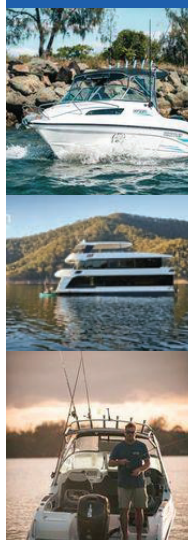
GREAT
CAREERS
VIDEO



CAREERS
GUIDE



MADE, SERVICED AND
ENJOYED IN VIC



VICTORIAN SNAPSHOT

- 200,000 registered boats
- 420,000 Marine Licences
- \$4.5b per annum impact
- 17,000 jobs
- Growing demand for boats and boating lifestyle
- Victoria a manufacturing strong-hold



Help Wanted - Canteen Staff

Hallam Secondary College is looking for staff to work in the canteen.

If you think you have what it takes to join Sue and the ladies a couple of days a week on a casual basis pumping out food for the students, please send your resume or enquiry to sue at: susan.murray@education.vic.gov.au to discuss the position further.

- Working with Children licence essential.
- Customer service experience and advantage
- Barista skills a bonus
- Happy, bright attitude welcome.

Come and join the team - It's fast and it gets hot but we always have a few laughs!

School Photos Day

School photos will be taken throughout the day on **Tuesday 21st February**.

All students must wear full school uniform.

More information about ordering photos will be published in Compass shortly.

The Catch up Photo Day for absent students is TBC.

Aquatic Careers INFO NIGHT

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT KICKING OFF A CAREER IN THE AQUATIC INDUSTRY BY BECOMING A SWIMMING TEACHER?

**Tuesday
February 21st
2023**

7PM – 9PM

Casey RACE

Register via QR Code



We recommend bringing along a resume and be prepared with any questions you may have.



65 Benwick-Cranbourne Road,
Cranbourne East VIC 3977
p: 5990 8600
e: caseyrace@ymca.org.au
w: caseyrace.ymca.org.au



We are seeking passionate, focused and friendly members of the community to become a valued member of the Casey RACE team.

No previous experience or qualifications required.

Swim Teachers play a crucial role by promoting safe, effective and fun use of aquatic spaces thus reducing water related incidents.

Work in a positive environment where the focus is on health, water safety and having fun! Benefits include flexible rostering arrangements, opportunities for career growth and free access to YMCA facilities across the state.



FEAST OF NATIONS Cooking Program

Open for ages 12-17 years

Explore the world through the wonderful culinary delights within the City of Casey. Celebrate your culture, share your story, and learn to cook tasty food from different nations.

Date: 9 March, 16 March, 21 March, and 30 March

Time: 4pm-5.30pm

**Location: Autumn Place Community Hub
29 Autumn Place, Doveton**

Cost: FREE

Bookings essential.
<https://www.trybooking.com/CFWYA>



**YOUTH
SERVICES**

Contact the City of Casey:

Web: casey.vic.gov.au/youth
Phone: 03 9705 5200
NRS: 133 677 (for the deaf, hearing or speech impaired)
TIS: 131 450 (Translating and Interpreter Services)



caseyyouth



caseyyouthservices



caseyyouth



Contact Program Organiser:

Tessa McManus
Email: tmcmanus@casey.vic.gov.au
Phone: 03 9709 9764



EVERY DAY COUNTS

EVERY DAY COUNTS SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your teenager's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR TEENAGER IS THERE

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE & VCAL, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with falling behind in subject topics and assessment tasks, and lead to fewer subject choices and may impact on achievement in years 11 and 12 and post-school pathways.

Getting in early

It's never too late to improve attendance. Even in the middle years, when school can seem the most challenging for students and when attendance rates can be at their lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. **Every day counts.**

Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

IN VICTORIA SCHOOL IS COMPULSORY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6 – 17 YEARS

Student Absences

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

Family holidays - It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure that you talk to your school in advance, and work with them to develop an absence learning plan.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your teenager have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission or skip out of school during the day. There can be many reasons for truancy; the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

While all absences can effect academic performance, DET's statistics show that unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

School refusal - School refusing children experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school. See: [My child or teenager has anxiety](#)

BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR 1 DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING 1.5 YEARS OVER 13 YEARS OF SCHOOL

If your teenager is away

If for any reason your teenager must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Inform the school via your teen's Form/Home Room teacher or Year Level Coordinator
- Find out what work your teenager needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teenager's teacher and ensure they complete the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your teenager must miss school, speak with your home room teacher or year level coordinator as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your teenager's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parent/s.

If you're having attendance issues with your teenager, please let the year level coordinator, wellbeing coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your teen to school every day.

TOP ATTENDANCE TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support
- Remember that every day counts
- There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term
- Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/studentmanagement/attendance/Pages/improve-attendance.aspx>