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DA NEWSLET

ATWELL COLLEGE



Your guide to transition from primary school to:
Atwell

We welcome you to our transition process at Atwell College. We hope that the process you are about to go through will prepare you for your first day of high school.

Our program is designed to provide you with the right information to help you make the transition from a primary school classroom with one teacher to a high school with numerous teachers. We aim to develop independent learners and want to ensure that you are prepared and confident to take on the challenges of high school.

If you require any further information at this stage don't hesitate to contact the college on 9414 4300.

ORIENTATION DAY
1 DECEMBER 2016

Students and parents are asked to assemble in the College gymnasium at 8.45am where they will be greeted by the Student Services team.

FIRST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL

1 FEBRUARY 2017

Students are asked to assemble in the school gymnasium at 8.45am.

PARENTS FREQUENTLY

How do I inform my child's teacher about a learning difficulty?

The College will receive most information from our feeder primary schools in regards to students with learning difficulties. However if you feel that you have information that would be valuable in placing your child in the right environment to suit their learning needs then please forward this to the college ASAP.

Is it OK to wear leggings?

Leggings are not part of the school uniform and therefore are not acceptable to be worn to school.

Can I request that my child be in the same class as his/her friends?

No. Staff at Atwell College are working with staff from the feeder primary schools to make sure that students are placed in classes that best suit their learning needs.

Are there area's set aside in the school for Year 7 students only?

Yes. We have a specific area set aside for Year 7 students during recess and lunch. The Year 7 area is out of bounds for all other year groups.

What if my child is late to school or needs to leave early?

Students who arrive late to school are required to sign in at Student Services. They are required to bring a signed note outlining the reason for the lateness. If they need to leave the school for any reason during the day they need to take a signed note to Student Services and and get a

signed DoE sign out slip before leaving the school grounds.

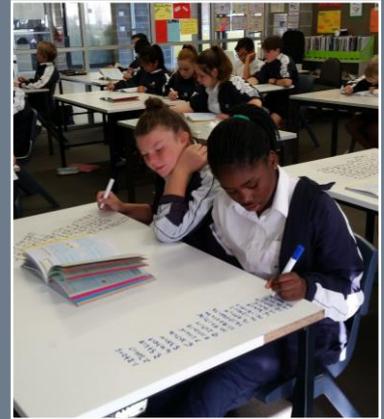
What do I do if my child is absent?

If you are aware of a future absence we request that you inform Students Service as soon as possible via phone, email or signed letter. If your child is absent without prior communication to the school please phone the school the morning of the absence. Failing to do so will result in an SMS being sent informing you that your child is not at school. If you receive the SMS it is then the parents responsibility to inform the school of the reason for the absence.

Atwell College students learn through action and collaboration with their peers,



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then leave with their teachers for the day while parents are invited to stay for a light morning tea and the opportunity to speak in a less formal setting with key staff.

Please note only students who have a completed and returned enrollment package by 25 November will be able to participate in the orientation day at the College.



ORIENTATION DAY PROGRAM

December 1, 8.45am - 2.30pm

* Assembly

All students, parents and staff to assemble in the gym for registration followed by an assembly addressed by the Principal.

* Parent information session

All parents will be invited to join the Admin and Students Service teams in the cafeteria for a Q and A session. Parents are only required for registration and assembly (8.45am - 9.20am). They then have the option to stay for the information session (9.20am - 9.50am). Parents are asked to pick students up from Brenchley Drive, west side at 2.30pm.

* School Tour

Transition students will be guided around the school grounds by their Year 8 transition leaders and given a tour of the college's facilities.

* Recess and Lunch

Recess and lunch will take place at the normal college times. Students can order lunch during the school tour.



ON THE DAY

Please wear your Primary School uniform on orientation day.

Bring a pencil case and your lunch (or money to purchase lunch from the canteen) in your bag.

Do not bring a computer or any valuable items



SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY

We have planned for the entire Year 7 cohort to participate in an in term swimming program in Week 2 of Term 1 2017. The swimming program will be run a little differently to the primary school swimming program as we will be running the program at South beach. We ask that all parents please collect a parent permission letter on orientation day from the registration desks to help with the organisation of the excursion.

BYO



Atwell College is promoting our BYOD laptop program. We have a new Wi-Fi connection that allows almost any laptop to connect to the school internet via the 'EduPOD' connection. This internet is still monitored for cyber safety but will allow your student to excel in our digital lesson environment.

Laptops will be used regularly in class in conjunction with 'Connect' for communication for both student and parent. Students now have access to the 'Office 365' suite of products. This allows FREE installation of the full Microsoft Office package on up to 5 devices. There is now no need to purchase software for your learning experience both at home or on your school laptop.

You can bring almost any laptop to school or ask the college for a list of recommended vendors and machines. Windows or Apple, it does not matter, just bring your laptop to school and be part of the digital evolution. Your BYOD laptop will become your new best friend.

We look forward to seeing you on

Thursday 1 December