

BENOWA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS 2007

CONTENTS

SCHOOL CHARTER 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. PERSONAL PROPERTY10 SPORT, RECREATION & LEISURE ACTIVITIES10 8. 9 10. RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION SCHEME11 11. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS14 16. ASSESSMENT and ASSIGNMENT POLICY......18 21. CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM......21 UN DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PAGE

WELCOME

"Many Pathways ~ No Limits"

We are a community that encourages excellence, applauds achievement and celebrates diversity.

Benowa State High School was founded in 1980 and has become established as one of the Gold Coast's leading co-educational schools and is recognised as a school of Achievements in the Arts.

Our school offers a broad curriculum with a range of nationally recognised programs that truly create the "Many Pathways" of our vision statement. Quality teaching and learning has long been associated with Benowa High and the list of staff and student achievements is outstanding. Our excellent reputation is based on a strong commitment to students within a disciplined and respected learning environment. We provide award winning programs for students, in which there are "No Limits" to the opportunities for success.







1. CONTACT INFORMATION

PRINCIPAL	Mr Mark Rickard
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS	Mrs Carmel Gomm-Wright Mr Ari Koskela
	Ms Pamela Lynch
ADDRESS	Mediterranean Drive Benowa, Qld 4217 P O Box 5733 Gold Coast Mail Centre, Qld 9726
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OFFICE HOURS	Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm

INTERVIEWS WITH ADMINISTRATION OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

TERM DATES

SEMESTER 1:

- Term 1 Monday 29 January to Thursday 5 April
- Term 2 Tuesday 17 April to Friday 22 June

SEMESTER 2:

Term 3 Tuesday 10 July to Friday 21 September Term 4 Commences Monday 8 October Concludes Friday 16 November (Year 12) Friday 30 November (Years 10 & 11) Friday 14 December (Years 8 & 9)

Week One 2007 Arrangements -

Students to return Year level by Year level to school:

Monday 29 January -	9.00am - Yr 8 + Yr 12 TIP Leaders
	1.30pm - Other Yr 12 students
Tuesday 30 January -	9.00am - Yr 8, 9 & 12
	11.10am - Yr 10
	12.00pm - Yr 11

2. SCHOOL PROFILE – A SCHOOL FOR ACHIEVERS

Benowa State High School is located in the heart of Gold Coast City, three kilometres west of the Surfers Paradise/Broadbeach tourist centre. Since opening in 1980 it has worked in partnership with its community to build a reputation as one of the Gold Coast's leading co-educational secondary schools, providing compulsory and post-compulsory programs to approximately 1400 students. The 18ha campus is set on a gentle hillside bordering Benowa and Ashmore Roads and Mediterranean Drive. The school draws its students from suburbs with diverse socio-economic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Students from 40 nationalities and new arrivals to the Coast form a significant proportion of the student population. In 1990 Benowa High pioneered Education Queensland's International Program.

The school offers an extensive range of Authority, Authority Registered (Study Area Specifications and TAFE/VETEC) for students. Special programs in Marine Studies, Instrumental Music, Business Education and The Arts earn Benowa State High School recognition for its unique curriculum. The Careers Centre places dozens of young people in school based apprenticeships, traineeships and work placements in the Open Pathways Program.

Each year the school enters Australia wide competitions in English, Maths and Science to promote academic achievement. Numerous opportunities exist for students to be involved in sport, practical and performing arts and debating, language and public speaking competitions. The school climate is positive and students are encouraged to develop self-discipline and self-management. The school motto of `Striving and Caring' is seen in the attitude of the total school community.

In 1985 the school pioneered Queensland's French Immersion teaching program in Years 8-10 with extension into advanced language studies in Years 11-12. A Certificate in the Arts program operates with the school having links to the Gold Coast Arts Centre, as well as being a remote campus for both Brisbane and Moreton Institutes of TAFE. In 1997 Benowa won recognition as a `School of Achievement' in the Arts.

The Enrichment Department caters for students experiencing difficulty with mainstream education programs. Literacy and numeracy individual tutoring is offered by community volunteers.

Staff and students offer advice to the Principal through the School Council and a range of collaborative decision making processes. An active P&C provides a forum for parent involvement as well as operating the Canteen and Uniform Shop. The local community strongly supports the school, its philosophy and its achievements. The school's 140 staff are an experienced, well qualified team.

In the school people live and breathe a relentless commitment to excellence, a culture of achievement, a professional autonomy that has encouraged innovation and real teacher professionalism, a caring attitude embedded in the daily life of the school. Symbolically the spirit of Benowa High is reflected in our school vision statement and charter.

"Many Pathways ~ No Limits"

3. ENCOURAGING EXCELLENCE

Our Partnership Agreement is the central document guiding the school in its development over the next three years. To ensure flexibility, provision is made for the plan to be "fine tuned" each year. It has been formulated on a collaborative basis after extensive consultation with students, staff, parents and the wider school community.

4. COMMUNICATION/COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT

Year 8 Interim Reports are issued each Term. There will be a Parent/Teacher interview each Term. Semester 1 and 2 reports will be mailed home following completion of the Semester. Years 9 to 12 will be issued with a mid semester report in Term 1. Parent/Teacher interviews will occur in Term 2. Semester 1 reports for Years 9 to 12 will be mailed home. In Semester 2, Year 12 students are issued with an Exit Statement. Year 10 and 11 reports will be posted in the last week of school. Year 10 students leaving Benowa High to complete Year 11 and 12 elsewhere or to commence work may request an Exit Statement as well as their Semester Report. Teachers with concerns regarding student work or behaviour will contact parents by phone or note. Year Co-ordinators, HODs and Admin may also phone re student issues. Parents can contact the school by telephone, letter or formal interview with concerns, complaints or information in regards to student absences or well being.

5. PASTORAL CARE AND BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT YEAR LEVEL CO-ORDINATORS

Co-ordinators should be contacted to discuss health issues, attendance, overall performance and progress and for any other queries parents may have. They are an integral part of the Behaviour Management Policy overseeing Level 2 behaviours. The Year Level Coordinators are listed on the front of the newsletter and can be contacted on 5582 7333.

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT POLICY

We believe that everyone, regardless of whether they are a student, teacher, administrator or a member of our support and ancillary teams, is entitled to expect the same rights.

- 1. The right to learn, to teach, or to carry out their duties.
- 2. The right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- 3. The right to feel safe, emotionally and physically.

When rules are clear, set out in advance and owned by the school community, the need to keep negotiating each behaviour disturbance is eliminated.

The consequences should match the behaviour in level of seriousness, appropriateness to age and be such that during the behaviour management process the student is treated with dignity and respect. A summary copy of the school behaviour management policy is sent home each year.

YEAR LEVEL DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Our administrative structure provides direct access for parents/caregivers to an administrator who has responsibility for enrolment, behaviour management and student support by year level.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The School Code of Conduct provides short, clear statements of expectations of our students, their rights and responsibilities.

Students have the RIGHT:	Students have the RESPONSIBILITY TO:
	allow others to learn
TO LEARN	be on time to class and school
	activities
	 complete their work to the best of their ability
	bring the right equipment to every lesson
	be in the right place at the right time
TO BE SAFE	to keep their belongings safe as well as those of others
	make the school safe by not
	threatening, bullying or hurting anyone
	in any way
	make the classroom safe by obeying
	teacher instructions and safety
	directions especially in practical classes
	make the school safe by not bringing
	illegal substances or weapons into the school
	make the school safe by wearing
	uniform to allow immediate
	identification of intruders
TO BE RESPECTED	be polite to others
	use acceptable language
	> always tell the truth
	not steal, damage or destroy the helengings of others
	belongings of others
	keep the school environment clean and tidy
	have positive relationships, and not harass or abuse others

RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Environment

Students are expected to:

- 1. Enter classrooms from outside door only.
- 2. Eat and drink only in outdoor areas.
- 3. Enter classrooms only when there is a teacher present.
- 4. Respect the designated out of bounds areas.

Appearance

Students are expected to:

- 1. Wear correct uniform at all times at school and when travelling to and from home. If correct uniform is not available on a particular day, a note of explanation from a parent should be presented to the student's Care Teacher.
- 2. Display a high standard of cleanliness and personal grooming.
- 3. Wear hats outside only.

Communication

Students are expected to:

- 1. Display basic good manners in communication, eg. "Please, Thank You, Excuse me, I'm sorry, May I have?"
- 2. Communicate effectively listen and show respect for another's right to speak without being put down or interrupted. Allow others the right to have opinions which may be different from their own.
- 3. Listen when someone, another student or a teacher is speaking in class.
- 4. Listen without talking on assembly.
- 5. Keep communication between students, whether in the classroom or in the grounds, free from obscenities and vulgarities, including "four letter" type terms, put-downs, or language which can be deemed "intimidatory", insulting or hurtful, including references which are sexual or made according to gender, race, religion or academic ability.
- 6. Respond when spoken to by staff in the grounds in a polite, truthful and appropriate manner. It is not appropriate for students to question or challenge their directions.
- 7. Show respect for others who differ in any way from themselves by way of ethnic, religious and cultural background, abilities, skills, gender and physical differences.
- 8. Solve problems without resorting to violence, threats, harassment or abuse. Assistance to develop the skills to avoid conflict is available from the Guidance Officers, Sexual Harassment Officers, School Nurse, Year Coordinators and Care Teachers.

Students must expect severe consequences if involved in any form of verbal or physical harassment.

THE MERIT SCHEME - REWARDING GOOD BEHAVIOUR

This system is designed to recognise positive student behaviour, both inside and outside the classroom.

In the Merit Scheme of Benowa SHS, students achieve placement in the positive awards system by means of merit stickers issued by teachers to recognise commendable behaviour in such areas as study, sport, voluntary school service, courteous or cooperative behaviour and / or making a positive contribution to the school community.

Students on the Behaviour Management Ladder can receive merit cards but their position on the ladder cannot be altered unless approved by the Behaviour Management Review Committee. They are also ineligible to receive bronze, silver or gold recognition. **Please note:** Students may only occupy one position at a time on the scheme. A student on a Demerit Level may receive merit certificates from staff. Students may not claim Positive awards while on the Behaviour Management Ladder.

DETENTION STATEMENT

Students may be placed on after-school detention by Year Level Coordinators, Heads of Departments and members of the Administration Team as a consequence of inappropriate behaviour.

Detentions are held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 2.50 to 3.50pm.

Parents will be given at least 24 hours notice in writing so that alternate transport arrangements can be made.

Students may also be put on lunch-time community service by school personnel. Where appropriate, Administration may give students a Community Service detention on any afternoon after parental contact.

RESPONSIBLE THINKING ROOM

Students who disrupt the learning of other students in the classroom will be sent to the Responsible Thinking Room. They will be supervised in this room by the Behaviour Management teacher who will help them to think responsibly, to prepare a contract of behaviour and to negotiate with their teacher to re-enter the classroom.

VISITORS AND INTRUDERS

All visitors to our school should use Mediterranean Drive entrance to come into the Administration block. Visitors (including past students) may be issued with a pass to allow them to go to a designated area to see a teacher. Visitors who wish to speak to a student may be permitted to do so in the Administration office under supervision. <u>INTRUDERS AND TRESPASSERS</u> are those who have not followed the above procedures. Police will be called to attend to such intrusion in the school.

6. UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The uniform is to be worn in its complete form at school and when travelling to and from school.

- Dress Uniform is to be worn on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Sports Uniform is to be worn on Tuesdays. (If a student has a practical lesson (Science, Home Economics, Art, Industrial Technology and Design) on Tuesdays, leather shoes must be brought for that lesson. Leather shoes are required to comply with workplace safety regulations for practical lessons. Students will be excluded from classes in these areas if they are not wearing adequate foot covering.

For **Physical Education Classes** students are required to wear a "school authorised" sports uniform. This includes track & field team shirts. Students are to change into Physical Education uniform at the beginning of the P.E. lesson and change back into dress uniform immediately after the lesson. Sports uniform is <u>not</u> to be worn to other classes and <u>not</u> to be worn to and from school except on Tuesdays.

Complete School Uniform is to be worn on **all** excursions. Dress uniform is worn to venues such as Parliament House, etc. Sports uniform is worn when the student expects to be involved in activities which may soil their clothes, eg. Science excursions to Seaworld, etc.

Out of Uniform – A note from parents must be provided to the Care teacher to explain and excuse the unavoidable occasions when correct uniform is not worn. If a replacement uniform item is available for loan from the RTR room on such occasions, students are expected to wear this item for the day. Students who do not follow set procedures are subject to the same consequences as students who do not comply with rules and procedures in other areas of the school's operations.

Uniform Free Days - Clothing must be modest, appropriate for the school setting, and comply with Health and Safety requirements. Enclosed shoes must be worn (no thongs).

Personal Grooming

Hair must be neat and clean and worn in an appropriate style. Hair colour must be of one colour and of natural tones and hair accessories should be simple, <u>in school colours</u> and appropriate for the school setting (NB no bandannas, sweat bands, scarves or beanies).

Jewellery

One watch and one pair of plain earrings (either studs or sleepers) are permitted. **Other visible body piercing or jewellery is not permitted.** [Religious or cultural items may only be worn if on a long chain, <u>not visible at the neck</u>]

Make-up and coloured nail polish are not allowed.

Undergarments

No skivvies or long-sleeved sweatshirts should show through or outside the school uniform.

* ALL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE ONLY FROM SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP *

GIRLS DRESS UNIFORM Year 8 & 9 2007 Skirt – Grey pleated check **knee-length** skirt.

Junior Shirt – Red polo shirt

Socks – Short white ankle socks

Shoes – Totally black leather shoes.

Years 10, 11 & 12 2007

Skirt – Grey pleated check knee-length skirt.

Senior Shirt – White, button-through short sleeve blouse with grey check trim, and tie. Socks – Short white ankle socks

Shoes – Totally black leather shoes.

BOYS DRESS UNIFORM

Year 8 & 9 2007

Junior Shirt – Red polo shirt

Shorts – Dark grey dress shorts

Socks – Short white socks.

Shoes – Totally black leather shoes.

Years 10, 11 & 12 2007

Senior Shirt – White button-through short sleeve shirt with grey check trim.

Shorts – Dark grey dress shorts

Socks – Short white socks.

Shoes – Totally black leather shoes.

SPORTS UNIFORM ALL GRADES

Shirt – White polo t-shirt with black/red/white collar with school logo on left shoulder

Shorts – Black knee-length sports shorts with school logo on lower left leg.

Socks – Short white socks.

Shoes – Black or white sports shoes.

COLD WEATHER

School charcoal grey fleece jumper with black/red/white trim and school logo on left side may be worn with dress uniform and sports uniform. **Girls may choose to wear plain black tights with dress uniform in terms 2 and 3.**

Optional Wind/Waterproof Jacket, black/red/white with embroidered school logo worn as windcheater.

MUSIC UNIFORM

Required by students performing in the various school bands, choirs and ensembles.

Girls

Black microfibre embroidered Music Shirt. Black crepe long skirt with side splits. Black stockings and black court shoes.

Boys

Black microfibre embroidered Music Shirt. Black trousers, front pleats, cuff. Black socks and black dress shoes.

Note

Orders and payments for shirts, skirts or trousers must be made with the Uniform Shop by mid-February. Stocking, socks and shoes are not available from the Uniform Shop but discount vouchers for boy's shoes are available.

THE UNIFORM SHOP – One Stop Shopping

The Parents' and Citizens' Association operates the Uniform Shop situated in G Block near the Canteen. It is the sole provider of the school's uniform.

Second hand uniforms may also be purchased from the Uniform Shop.

Clean, ironed, used uniforms are purchased from parents who receive half the anticipated re-sale price.

All profits from the Uniform Shop are directed to the benefit of the students on the School.

Trading Hours

During term, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8.00am to 1.30pm.

The Uniform Shop will be open every day from Monday 22 January 2007 to Friday 9 February 2007 from 8.00 – 1.30 each week day.

7. PERSONAL PROPERTY

Mobile Phones and Discmans/MP3s

The use of mobile phones and diskmans/MP3s is subject to the following policy: These are to be switched off during class time to protect the classroom environment and to not interfere with the learning of other students. These will be confiscated if used during class time. These may be collected from administration at 2.45pm.

Skate Boards/Scooters

These should not be brought to school.

8. SPORT, RECREATION & LEISURE ACTIVITIES

All students are expected to participate in school organised activities on Tuesday afternoons for approximately 90 minutes each week.

Activities include:

Interschool sport competitions School musical and drama productions Recreation and leisure activities Guest speakers

Three Carnivals for Homestead swimming, athletics and cross-country are scheduled during the year.

The school does not have insurance to cover injury sustained to students during school activities. Parents are advised to take out their own cover if they wish.

9. ENROLMENT

- a) An enrolment appointment with a Deputy Principal is required.
- b) Students enrolling from other Queensland State High Schools must have obtained a transfer from their previous school.
- c) All students must produce an original copy of Birth Certificate / Passport / Visa / Australian Citizenship papers and most recent school reports for photocopying at the enrolment interview.
- d) All Students and parents must sign the following:
 - Enrolment Form.
 - Enrolment Agreement.
 - Consent Form.
 - Computer and Internet Usage Agreement.
 - P & C Association and Parent Contribution Scheme (see below).

10. RESOURCE CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

- a. This school has a Resource Scheme which lessens the cost to the parents and avoids the problem of searching the bookshops. Each parent is asked to contribute to the hire scheme. ALL texts must be returned to the school when the student leaves, during or at the end of the year. Parents are responsible for any lost or damaged textbooks. A weatherproof school bag is strongly recommended.
- b. Stationery is supplied by the school in the form of:
 - * 2 x 25mm school ring binders
 - * 8 buff foolscap manilla folders

* pack 10 loose-leaf dividers

- * 2 x 100 A4 sheets reinforced ruled paper
- * 8 x A4 48 page feint ruled exercise books
- * 1 practical Science Book A4
- * 1 hard cover, bound, Benowa School Diary

Replacement School Diaries may be purchased from the Cashier's Office.

- c. Further, this scheme provides for:
 - * all textbooks
 - * use of technology resources in class computers, internet
 - * photo ID card
 - * use of reference materials
 - * assessment materials
 - * sporting equipment
 - * school magazine
 - * school produced booklets
 - * photocopy handouts
- d. The contribution for the Resource Scheme may be paid in instalments. Parents who wish to use this facility need to make a commitment in writing to the Registrar. A deposit of \$100 should accompany the letter so that students may be issued with texts and equipment.
- e. Parents who do not elect to join the Resource Scheme will be issued with a Textbook List and stationery order to allow them to proceed independently with the purchase of all requirements. The cost of these items usually exceeds \$500 assuming that most books are purchased second-hand.

A resource charge of \$50 will apply to these students.

2007 Contribution Amounts are:

Years	Parent	(<u>Plus)</u>		<u>Total</u>
	Contribution	P&C		Due
		Contribution		
8	\$180	+ \$50 (June)	=	\$230
9	\$200	+ \$50 (June)	=	\$250
10	\$200	+ \$50 (June)	=	\$250
11	\$250	+ \$50 (June)	=	\$300
12	\$250	+ \$50 (June)	=	\$300

Additional Contributions for Excellence Programs:

- French Immersion Excellence Program & Steiner Program \$50 per year
- TAFE/SAS with VETEC modules as per Course Outline Booklet. A separate invoice will be issued within the first month of semester. Places in these classes are confirmed by payment of accounts.
- Sport Levy Semester 1 is \$55 (further information on sport for 2007 will follow)

The P & C Association contribution is a voluntary but important contribution and is the major fundraising activity of the P & C Association. The contribution rates are:

- \$50 per student
- \$80 for two children

\$100 for the family (maximum)

Only with strong parental support can the school provide facilities to match our aspirations for students.

EXCURSIONS

All excursions to be offered to students will be listed in the school calendars which will be issued:

- Semester 1 Calendar at the end of the first week of Term 1
- Semester 2 Calendar by the end of Term 2

If students are participating in excursions, payment should be made **as soon as possible** after the notification letter and permission form are issued by the class teacher but definitely by the due date, **usually one week before the date of the excursion**. As bus sizes and venues need to be confirmed, and teacher replacement arranged, **no late payments will be accepted.**

If an excursion does not proceed or a student is sick on the day of the excursion, the following procedure will apply.

• An Application for Refund will be sent home with the student requesting your designation for the refund. In some circumstances only the venue component of the excursion may be refunded as the school has committed to pay the bus cost and teacher replacement irrespective of the number of students participating, whereas the venue should only charge for the number of students who participated.

In order to participate in excursions, the Resource Scheme must be paid in full.

11. STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are awarded each year to Year 7 students for

- Academic Excellence
- Academic Excellence French
- Achievement in The Arts Music, Dance and Drama.
- Sporting Excellence

These scholarships (provided by our P & C) valued at \$400 are credited to your school related expenditure.

Year 8, 2008 scholarships will be advertised in Term 2, 2007.

12. HOMESTEAD STRUCTURE

The School is divided into 4 smaller units called "Homesteads".

Students stay in the same Homestead for a variety of competitions for the time they are at school. Where possible brothers and sisters are kept in the same Homestead.

The student Homestead leaders are selected by the students themselves. They play a major role in organisation of Homestead sporting days (Swimming, Cross-country and Athletics Carnivals)

The Homesteads are:

Carnarvon	- Yellow	Girraween	- Green
Lindeman	- Red	Moreton	- Purple

Care Structure:

Students are allocated to a Care Class within the Homestead structure. A Care teacher who is in the same Homestead is responsible for monitoring attendance and uniform and providing support to Care Class members.

HOMESTEAD LEADERS

Homestead Leaders will assist with organisation of Homestead activities and also conduct the TIP (The Inter-Year Program). This is an induction and support program for Year 8 students in Term 1.

13. SUPPORT SERVICES

The following support people are available. Appointments for and information about these services may be obtained from the student support services office:

- Guidance Officers
- School Nurse
- First Aid Officer
- Care Teachers
- Year Level Coordinators
- Heads of Department
- Homestead Coordinators
- Literacy & Numeracy Tutors
- International Coordinator

- International Homestay Co-ordinator
- Individual Student Profile Program
- Transition Program
- Careers Liaison Officer
- Nutrition Support Program
- Responsible Thinking Program
- Enrichment Department
- Sexual Harassment Officers
- Chaplain

Queensland Health provides the School Dental Service offering treatment to children from 4 years of age through until completion of Year 10.

Medical History / consent forms are issued to each child and must be completed and returned prior to them receiving an examination. After the examination parents / guardians will receive a statement of treatment needs which must be signed prior to treatment commencing.

The team providing this service consists of a Dentist, School Dental Therapists and Dental Assistants. Dental Therapists working under the direction of a Dentist will carry out most of the Dental Procedures.

Emergency or toothache treatment is available by contacting the clinic on 55394733.

14. TRANSPORT

- a. Advice concerning bus routes and times can be obtained from **Surfside** (phone 5571 6555), **Tamborine Bus Service** (phone 5545 1298 A.H.) or **Coachtrans Australia** (phone 5506 9700).
- b. Students who live more than 4.8km from their nearest High School by the shortest trafficable route are entitled to a bus pass. Application forms are available from the Transport Department, Upton Street, Bundall (phone 5538 3711).
- c. Bus passes are forwarded by the bus company to the school. By signing for the Pass, students are accepting responsibility for loss. It is Parent's responsibility to notify the appropriate bus company on any change of address.
- d. All buses leave from the Benowa Road entrance.
- e. Parents who collect their students by car are requested to use the Mediterranean Drive entrance to assist in alleviating the traffic congestion.
- f. A bike enclosure is provided by the school between the Mathematics and Business Centre. Though this is locked during class time, no responsibility is taken by the school for damages to or loss of student bicycles.
- g. Students driving their own vehicles may not carry fellow students as passengers unless all parents concerned and the Principal have signed a consent form. Students may park only in those areas designated by the Principal. Students are to register the Year, Make, Model, Colour and Registration Number of their vehicle with the Deputy Principal. Forms are available at the office. No responsibility is taken by the school for damage to any cars parked on school property.

15. ATTENDANCE POLICY

COME EVERY DAY! BE ON TIME!

Procedures for all students:

- Students are to attend school on every official school day gazetted by Education a. Queensland unless the student is **ill** or **special family circumstances** prevent the student from attending.
- On each occasion the student is absent, a note of explanation is to be handed in at b. the office the day the student returns to school. Notes must include: Care Class, Student's full name, Parent's/Guardian's name and signature and specific explanation. Parents should notify the school if a student is going to be absent for an extended time due to sickness or special circumstances. This is very important since it represents important communication between home and school about student welfare. Absences will be approved when a note or medical certificate is received within one week from the date of absence.
- C. Parents intending to take students for **holidays** during the school year must apply to the school in writing stating dates the students will be absent from school and reason why vacation must be taken in school time. A request for work or special arrangement for assessment which will be missed during absence is arranged through a negotiation sheet available from the office.
- It is expected that parents will notify the school in writing when a student is d. leaving/transferring to another school so that the student clearance form can be completed and all books and equipment returned. This is necessary to enable a refund of fees or transfer form to be issued.
- Students who are late for school are to report to the Administration Block for a e. LATE PASS (otherwise an absence will be recorded).
- f. Students who have to leave school early are to report to one of the Deputy Principals before school with a note stating the reason from their parents. A leave pass will be issued.
- Students of the school must be in attendance up to and including the last day of g. school of each semester.
- The last week of school of each semester is to be a normal week in terms of h. behaviour, uniform and staff-student activities.
- To receive a Senior Certificate and Year 11 Semester Credits, students must be in i. attendance up to and including the dates set each year by the Queensland Studies Authority.
- It is vital for students to strive to have 100% attendance or to obtain medical j. certificates to cover absences.
- Each student is responsible for their **punctuality** and **attendance**. Parental k. support is appreciated but ultimately it is the individual student who will be held accountable by the school for being on time, being present or advising of genuine absences.

Warning - Students failing to

- (i) meet the above attendance requirements
- (ii) follow correct procedure for late arrivals
- (iii) acquire permission to miss class time to attend to medical appointments
- may lose their YOUTH ALLOWANCE entitlement and/or may have to repay benefits received during time of absence.

Students over 16 who are repeatedly absent or late without reasonable excuse

- warning of cancellation of enrolment
- cancellation of enrolment

Attendance Requirements - YOUTH ALLOWANCE / AIC / ABSTUDY

Students assisted under YOUTH ALLOWANCE, AIC or ABSTUDY living allowance may have 5 days of unapproved absences in a term before they are penalised. When unapproved absences exceed 5 days, the student will lose entitlement to the days in excess of 5 as well as having a 14 day penalty period imposed. Therefore a student who has six days of unapproved absences during a term would lose an entitlement of 1 day plus the 14 days following that day.

Benowa State High School will approve the following absences:

- **Genuine illness** supported by a **Medical Certificate** which must be obtained at the beginning of or during the illness. Certificates received more than one week after the illness will NOT be accepted. Only original certificates will be accepted.
- **Personal or family problems** eg. counselling, attendance at a funeral etc. Each circumstance must be submitted in writing within one week and will be considered on its individual merits.
- Participation in school-approved sporting or cultural events at school, state or national level.

ABSENCES WHICH WILL **NOT** BE APPROVED.

- Finishing assignments or completing extra study at home this disadvantages other students.
- Suspension or exclusion time
- Vacations irrespective of whether the school has approved the vacation for QSA purposes.

• Additional Notes

- Half-day absences count towards total absences.
- Frequent lateness will be added to other unapproved absences in Youth Allowance attendance checks.
- If you are absent (without approval) on the school day immediately before and immediately after a weekend, no allowance will be paid for the weekend.
- A student receiving YOUTH ALLOWANCE who chooses to leave early for or return late after vacations is not entitled to the living allowance for the holiday.

- Notes from parents, guardians or independent students are necessary for an absence to be "explained". However, if the reasons given do not fit the criteria provided by YOUTH ALLOWANCE and the School, the absence will not be "approved."
- Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student who receives YOUTH ALLOWANCE or ABSTUDY to satisfy the school within one week that the absence should be "approved" according to the above guidelines. "Approval" cannot be given after this one-week period.

16. ASSESSMENT and ASSIGNMENT POLICY

EXAMINATIONS/TESTS YEAR 8 & 9

- If you are unable to attend school at the time of the test/exam, your parent/guardian is required to notify the school as to the reason for the absence.
- On return to school students in Year 8 & 9 who are ill are required to bring a note from your parent/guardian.
- If you are absent for any other reason you should contact one of the Deputy Principals to make an appointment to discuss the circumstances which caused the absence.
- Students are expected to arrange a time to complete the tests/exams missed on the day they return to school after the period of absence.
- No mobile telephones or other electronic devices capable of communication between persons are to be present in the examination.

Failure to present Documentation:

• Year 8 & 9 students who fail to present a note will still be expected to complete the test/exam. The test/exam will be given an **E rating** but they will not lose credit for the semester.

EXAMINATIONS/TESTS YEAR 10, 11 & 12:

- Year 10, 11 & 12 students <u>MUST</u> provide a medical certificate for failing to attend an examination or test.
- If a student is unable to produce a medical certificate for legitimate sickness for failing to attend a test/exam, then they must re-do exam/test in a scheduled period set by their teacher as soon as possible. While the test/exam will be given an E rating, they will not lose credit for the semester.

ASSIGNMENT/ORAL/NON-WRITTEN PRESENTATION Year 8 & 9

- The assignment must be your own work
- The assignment must be completed and presented by the due date unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- If absence due to illness or bereavement:

OR

- a) you must produce the assignment and a note from parent/guardian on the day of your return;
- b) you may send it with a friend or a relative on the day;
- OR c) your parent/guardian should contact the Head of Department **prior** to the due date.
 - If sufficient reason exists, an extension may be granted ONLY by the HEAD OF DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE.
 - If incomplete on the due date, what <u>is</u> done must be handed in. Late or incomplete assignments will be marked and commented on and be assessed towards your exit

level of achievement only on the in-class achievement of the student during the assignment writing period.

Failure to submit assignments may result in:

- loss of credit for semester units of work
- significantly lower results
- withdrawal from extra curricular activities, camps, excursions, etc.
- inability to complete end of year clearance

Oral/Non-Written Presentations:

- If absent on the day of presentation you must:
 - contact the school
 - produce a note from a parent/guardian on return to school
- On the day of your return to school make arrangements to complete the Oral/Non-Written presentation with teacher/Head of Department.

Failure to submit documentation:

• Students would still be expected to complete Oral/Non written presentation while an **E rating** would be given they will not lose credit for the semester.

ASSIGNMENT/ORAL/NON-WRITTEN PRESENTATION Year 10, 11 & 12

- The assignment will be your own work
- It is expected that students will hand in work to the classroom teacher on the due date. However in the case of a legitimate emergency, students have until 3:00pm FRIDAY of the week the assessment is due to submit their assessment. After this it is considered late; and it must be signed in to the office, with an explanation for missing the actual due date (eg transport, printer problems or medical certificate if ill).

Late Assignments:

• A late assignment is commented on and marked to provide feedback but will be **graded E**. The completion of the assessment is vital so that the objectives of the course are met. Credit for the semester (and the students' OP eligibility) will not be affected.

Extensions:

• Extensions will be approved by the HOD in advance of the due date.

Non-Submission:

- Students are expected to fulfil mandatory assessment requirements for all subjects. If work is not handed in, teachers will first look to classroom work to grade. It is in the students' interests to hand in as much as they can by the due date because even if it incomplete or a rough draft, it will be given some credit and will contribute to the overall grade. However if the assignment is so slight that the objectives of the course are clearly not demonstrated, the teacher in conjunction with the Head of Department, reserves the right to make the decision not to give credit for the semester.
- If there is no evidence that the objectives of the course have been met, the student will not be given credit for that semester on his/her senior certificate, even if this affects his/her OP eligibility. Warning letters will be sent home by the Deputies that

this could be a result of non-submission. An opportunity will be provided in the second last week of semester 1 to make up assignments for semester 1. In addition, assignments for semester 2 can be made up by the Year 12's in the second last week of term 3 and by the Year 11's in their second last week of term 4. In this way credit for the semester will not be affected.

Oral/Non-Written Presentations:

• Students must produce a Medical Certificate if ill.

Failure to complete Oral/Non Written Presentations:

 If the student is unable to produce a medical certificate for legitimate sickness for an Oral/Non Written Presentation they must redo them in a scheduled period set by their teacher as soon as possible. While Oral/Non Written Presentations will be given an **E rating**, they will not lose credit for the semester.

17. STUDENT COMPUTER USE

Benowa SHS has over 250 computers for student use located in eleven computer labs catering for large groups and several smaller computer clusters spread throughout the school and the Library for small group/individual use. Students are issued with an individual login name which provides access to a variety of curriculum software packages and the internet. In order to ensure students accept responsibility for correct access/use of this facility Education Queensland requires parents/guardians and students to sign a Computer and Internet Usage Agreement on enrolment. More details can be found in the student diary.

18. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMS

Since 1990, Benowa has welcomed hundreds of students to these programs which offer a variety of opportunities for international students.

- Senior Schooling/University Pathways Program
- Lower Secondary Schooling Program
- Study Abroad Programs Short Term; 6 months; 12 months
- Student Exchange Program
- Study Tour Programs

Based on home country academic results and English language test results (ie ISLPR, IELTS or TOEFL) the student may be offered a place in the school or given a conditional offer and required to undertake a Secondary School Preparation program (SSPP) prior to enrolling in the school. All international students are expected to attend English as a Second Language (ESL) classes from 3-5 pm one afternoon per week. Strict attendance and academic performance rules apply to international students.

For further information contact our International Student Coordinator, Mrs Marilyn Nethery (55827333 ext 361).

19. MATURE AGE STUDENTS

Mature age students are defined as those aged 18 years and over who have returned to school after at least one year's absence. Continuing students or repeats, regardless of age, are not included in this group, nor are those returning after an absence of one year

or less. Mature age students will be required to pass the Queensland Government Criminal Check.

20. INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

Independent students are those not living with, nor being supported by a family. They may sign their own absentee notes, consent forms and other school forms; however these notes and forms are to be initialled by the Year Coordinator. Independent students are expected to conform with all school requirements which apply to the normal secondary student.

21. CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM

A variety of activities, clubs and competitions outside the academic curriculum are available for students who have a particular interest they wish to pursue. These include:

School Production Gold Coast Eisteddfod Instrumental Music Concert and Big Bands Debating/Public Speaking Mooting Competition Science Competition Science Competition Keyboarding Competitions Volleyball AFL Rugby Union Swimming Carnival Inter-school Sport Athletics Carnival Cross Country Drama Festival String Ensemble Jazz Ensembles School Choirs LOTE Speech Contest Maths Competitions Accounting Competitions Chess Competitions Traineeships/Apprenticeships Work Placements/Work Experience Overseas Student Exchanges Reef and Island Trips Ski Trip Student Council Gold Coast Junior Council

22. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Under the provisions of the Education Act (2006), Right of Entry is offered to accredited pastors/representatives to provide Religious Instruction to students whose parents have indicated that their child is a member of, or affiliated with, a particular religious denomination or society.

Several local Christian ministers of religion or accredited representatives with Right of Entry to Benowa SHS, have chosen the option of entering into a Cooperative Agreement to provide non-denominational instruction in Christianity at Benowa SHS. All students who have indicated on enrolment that they are Christian will be provided with a program of Religious Instruction as below.

Students of other religions or students with written parental requests for exemption from the program will be supervised in the Library while completing an alternative individual program which focuses on developing morals, values and ethics.

Vaa	Taure	Cubic of	
Yea	Term	Subject	Focus Area
	-		
r			

8	1	PDP	Awareness of Spirituality through the media
9	2	PDP	Awareness of Spirituality through the media
10	3	PDP	World and Christian Views
11	3	PDP	World Views
12	4	Tuesday pm	Christian leadership, models and decision making

Yrs 8 & 9

As a part of the PDP curriculum, the students will take part in a three-week Religious Education Program (REP), co-ordinated by the School Chaplain and Year Co-ordinators. REP covers the presence of spirituality in pop-culture, through media, movies, celebrities and music; how the popular animated series 'Futurama' deals with how it might be to be a god; as well as give the students the chance to ask local Christian leaders about faith, spirituality and any number of topics which will arise from the program. An alternative individual study program is offered on developing moral values and ethics and the decisions pending from this topic.

Yr 10

The year 10's will have three to five classes on morals and ethics, moralistic and ethical leadership, included in which is a Christian ethical perspective on good life and leadership. The program is run by one of the trained personnel from SWIM (Schools Work Innovative Ministry), or another similar organisation.

Yr 11

SWIM personnel also lead the year 11's through an in-depth World Views program. Every Friday, in PDP, a program written by leaders at SWIM called "The Matrix-isms" is run. It uses Leunig cartoons, media, Biblical examples and personal life experiences to present how World Views (including Hedonism, Nihilism, Existentialism, Narcissism, Escapism and a Biblical World View) shape or drive our lives and views today.

Yr 12

REP for Yr 12's is not offered during PDP. However the students may have opportunities in their Tuesday afternoon sessions in Term 3 & 4 to discuss Christian leadership models and to reflect on good decision making for the future.

23. 2007 SUBJECT OFFERINGS

Benowa High's "*Many Pathways* ~ *No Limits*" is a major focus in 2007. Benowa boasts a diverse curriculum responsive to the needs and interests of students. Course Outline Booklets for each year level provide comprehensive information on Modules taught and assessment required.

Extensive information including course outlines and semester overviews can be found on the school website (<u>www.benowashs.eq.edu.au</u>).

Years 8 and 9 students in the middle phase of learning will study a core of English, Mathematics, Science, SOSE and HPE, with an opportunity to "sample" various electives in Year 8 and "select" in Year 9.

Year 10 to 12 students in the senior phase of learning will select subjects to reflect a range of academic and/or vocational pathways. Subject selection processes support students in Years 9 to 12.

		Middle Phase of Learning							
PROGRAM	FOCUS	ENGLISH	MATHEMATICS	SOSE	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY	THE ARTS	HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION	LOTE
YEARS 8 – 9 MIDDLE PHASE OF	CORE LEARNINGS POLICY KLA Outcomes, (including core learning outcomes from KLA strands)	Cultural – making meaning in contexts • Operational – operating the language system • Critical – analysing and evaluating texts	 Number Algebra Measurement Chance & Data Spatial Concepts & Visualisation 	 Time, Continuity, Change Place and Space Culture & Identity Systems, Resources, Power 	 Science and Society Earth And Beyond Energy & Change Life and Living Natural & Processed Materials 	 Technology Practice Information Materials Systems 	 Dance Drama Media Music Visual Arts 	 Promoting the health of individuals and communities Developing concepts and skills for Physical Activity Enhancing Personal Development 	French and Japanese • Comprehending • Composing
LEARNING		•		- Information Commu	unication Technology I	ntegration across the Cur	riculum —		
	PEDAGOGY POLICY	Connectednes – Kno Supportive Classroo	wledge integration, Backgroun m Environment – Student contr	Deep knowledge, Deep understa d knowledge, Connecting beyond ol, Social support, Engagement, I presentative participation narrative	I the classroom, Problem-ba Explicit criteria, self-regulation	ased curriculum Oral lang on Experient	uage focus Inde ial Learning Rec		toring, Role Playing en ended task design all Group Focus
	ASSESSMENT • Techniques • Instruments	Moderated samples Performance Oral Presentations Reading Exams Cultural Assumptions Creative writing with varying genres Poetry – critical literacy Opinionative Exams	Recall and analysis Assignments Investigations Profile monitoring and review Term tests and examinations	Research Projects Teacher Tests Oral Presentations Structured questions Short answers Critical Analysis Interpretation and Analysis	Research Projects Observation Records Rich Tasks Reports Debates Recall Interpretation & Analysis Higher Order Thinking	Published Work Progress Maps Data analysis and interpretation Design and Research Modelling Manufacturing Realisation Appraisals	Performance Role Plays Composition Solos/Ensembles Exams/Research Student Scripts Oral Presentations Responding Appreciating	Perceptual Motor Development Games, sports Skill Drills Creation of movement sequences	Listening/Speaking and Writing exams Oral Presentations Socio-Cultural research tasks Role Plays Anecdotal records Portfolios Performance notes
SUPPORT PROGRAMS		Structured work experience Behaviour Management in a supportive school environment School Leadership Negotiated Timetables Flexible ability groupings Student Support Services Team Enrichment Department Programs (Literacy/Numeracy) AppraisementLiteracy Tutors Teacher Aide student support program Debating Tutors Debating Tutors Teacher Aide student support Services Team				S			
EXTENSION PROGRAMS	Year 8 - 9	National Competitions (English/Mathematics/Science) Vocal and Choral Program Dance, Drama, Music Performances/Competitions Debating Alliance Francaise Maths Challenge (Year 7>8 Link) Instrumental Music Program Debating School Musical MLTAQ Multimedia International French Exchanges MLTAQ Speaking Competition Tournament of Minds Multicultural Days Art Exhibition History/Geography Specialities Science Summer Schools History Challenge Flexible Ability Groupings Constitutional Convention Riotinto Teams Challenge- QAMT Problem solving Competition Australasian Mathematics Assessment Mathematics Challenge for Young			on es				
	Excellence Programs	French Immersion	Music Exc	ellence ·Sports Ex	cellence				
	Various Programs	Excursions Instrumental Music Visiting Artist Community Performar	nces	Leadership camps Choral Program Interschool Sport ITD Design Software	Instru Carniv	nt Council mental Music Program /als 3 & 9 Steiner Program	Y	nvironment Club ear 9 Linguistic and Cultura ultural Activities	al Exchanges
	ASSESSMENT POLICY	 plans for assessm provides clear info ensures that stude engages students Teachers will determine 	ent at all stages of curriculum p rmation to students and parents ints have the opportunity to den in authentic assessment. he how well students are achieve	te High School's coordinated who lanning and implementation; s about how assessment and rep nonstrate what they know, unders ring in relation to the eight key lea ough out the year by both inforr	borting will occur in the Scho stand, and can do, in a varie arning areas. Core learning	ool; ty of ways; i outcomes will be the basis of			
	<u>REPORTING</u> POLICY	The school reporting p of individual students oral diagnostic Reports will include in	and take a variety of formats ar written formative formation about continuums of	viewed in consultation with the s d purposes depending upon the electronic- summative. work which students are working in addition to any subsequent re	performance or achievemer anecdotal towards demonstrating and	nt being reported, including: will also provide data on socia	·	reporting review. Reportin	g will reflect the needs

		Senior Phase of Learning						
PROGRAM	FOCUS	COMPULSORY CORE: English (AUTHORITY) OR English Communication (AR) OR Journalism (Recorded Subject) QCS Test Preparation/Sport/Personal Development						
YEARS 10-12 SENIOR PHASE OF LEARNING	SENIOR ELECTIVE SUBJECTS (5)	AUTHORITY SUBJECTS : CONTRIBUTE TO AN OP AND APPEAR ON SENIOR CERTIFICATE English, Drama, Dance, French, Japanese, Geography, Modern History, Ancient History, Economics, Mathematics A, Mathematics B, Mathematics C, Music, Art, Accounting, Business Communication & Technologies, Information Processing & Technology, Legal Studies, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Marine Studies, Multi-Strand Science, Graphics, Physical Education, Health Education, Tourism. Year 12 Only – English Extension, French Extension, Music Extension.						
	PEDAGOGY POLICY	Develop: Intellectual Quality – Higher order thinking, Deep knowledge, Deep understanding, Substantive conversation knowledge Through: Whole/group/whole lesson design, Peer Tutoring, Role Playing Connectednes – Knowledge integration, Background knowledge, Connecting beyond the classroom, Problem-based curriculum Oral language focus Independent Research Open ended task design Supportive Classroom Environment – Student control, Social support, Engagement, Explicit criteria, self-regulation Criticenship Reciprocal Teaching Small Group Focus Recognition of difference – Cultural knowledge, Representative participation narrative, Group identity, Citizenship Contracts Small Group Focus						
	ASSESSMENT • Techniques • Instruments	Moderated Samples Research Projects. Teacher Tests. Oral Presentations. Structured questions. Short Answers. Observation Records. Rich Tasks. Reports. Debates. Published Work. Progress Maps. Data analysis and interpretation. Performance. Role Plays. Perceptual Motor Development. Games, sports Manufacturing Skill Drills. Creation of movement sequences Creative and Analytical genres Reading and Listening Comprehension Interviews Skill Drills. Creative sequences						
	Student Recognition	Student Leadership Merit Award Scheme Teacher Awards to students Certificates of Achievement						
SUPPORT PROGRAMS	Year 10	School Based Apprenticeships Traineeships Open Pathways Program Debating SET Planning and Subject Planning- SSS Team Vocational Training Program Negotiated Timetables Behaviour Management in a supportive school environment School Maintenance Projects						
	Year 11-12	School Based Apprenticeships Traineeships Open Pathways Program QCS Program Negotiated Timetables Behaviour Management in a supportive school environment SSS Team Vocational Training Program SSS Team						
EXTENSION PROGRAMS	Year 10-12	Maths Challenge BEAQ Business Competition International Excursions Gold Coast Eisteddfod QETA Economics Competition Writers Day of Excellence Music Extension French Extension Fanfare Festival of Music Mooting English Extension School Based Apprenticeships Traineeships AMP Economics/Business Studies Extension Assessment Tasks (Mathematics) National Chemistry Quiz Public Speaking Competitions Debating Vocal and Choral Music Leadership Camps Excursions Homestead Leadership Choral Groups Vocational Showcase Community Performance · Environment Club Instrumental Music Vocational Showcase Visiting Artist Interschool Sport Outdoor Education Programs Student Council						
INTER- NATIONAL PROGRAM	Year 10-12	INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMS • Lower Secondary Schooling Program • Senior Schooling/University Pathways Program • Lower Secondary Schooling Program • Study Abroad Program - Short term, 6 Months, 12 Months • Student Exchange Program						
	ASSESSMENT POLICY	In order to ensure effective assessment, Benowa State High School's coordinated whole school approach will mean that the school: plans for assessment at all stages of curriculum planning and implementation; provides clear information to students and parents about how assessment and reporting will occur in the School; ensures that students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they know, understand, and can do, in a variety of ways; engages students in authentic assessment. Teachers will determine how well students are achieving in relation to key syllabus areas. Syllabus performance dimensions will be the basis of assessment. Assessment will be both formative and summative across subject offerings.						
	REPORTING POLICY	The school reporting practices will be planned and reviewed in consultation with the school community. The P&C, School Council and Staff will be part of the annual reporting review. Reporting will reflect the need of individual students and take a variety of formats and purposes depending upon the performance or achievement being reported, including: oral written electronic anecdotal diagnostic formative summative. Reports will include information about continuums of work which students are working towards demonstrating and will also provide data on social skills development. The school will report to parents three times per year, in addition to any subsequent reporting determined by annual reviews.						