



SOMERVILLE HOUSE
HONOUR BEFORE HONOURS



PMSA

New Principal for Somerville House - Mrs Flo Kearney returns to PMSA

The Council of the Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association has announced the new Principal of Somerville House from January 2011.

She is Mrs Florence (Flo) Kearney, the current Principal of Ipswich Girls' Grammar School.

Mrs Kearney's appointment follows the decision by the current Principal, Dr Ness Goodwin, to retire later this year after 7 years of distinguished service to the Somerville House community.



Mrs Kearney is well known to many people in the Somerville House community, as she served as Head of Senior School at the PMSA-owned Clayfield College from 1998 to 2004.

She has been Principal of Ipswich Girls' Grammar School (including Ipswich Junior Grammar School) since 2005 and has over thirty years of experience as an educator, including senior executive roles in government and independent schools.

Her personal faith commitment, an integral component of a PMSA school leader, is demonstrated by her contribution to her Church community and her chairmanship of the Board of Wesley Mission Brisbane.

The Chairman of Somerville House, Dr Wendy Jeays, said "Mrs Kearney's strong commitment to girls' education, to academic excellence, and to Christian leadership and pastoral care aligns closely with the mission of Somerville House."

Mrs Kearney holds a Master of Education, Bachelors degrees in Commerce and Education and a Diploma of Teaching. She is a member of the Australian College of Education and the Australian Council for Educational Leadership.

The PMSA Council Chairman, Mr Des Robinson, welcomed the appointment, saying "I believe Mrs Kearney will build on the exceptional achievements of Dr Goodwin and take the school forward with confidence."

Somerville House is one of Australia's leading girls' schools, providing an education of excellence for 1200 day and boarding students at its historic site at South Brisbane. Founded in 1899, it is owned and operated by the Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association.

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