

CHRIST CHURCH



GRAMMAR SCHOOL

ON BOARD

Transitioning boys to boarding





Building confidence and optimism in boys as they transition from home to boarding at Christ Church.

Christ Church Grammar School has always maintained a boarding house since opening in 1910.

It is our ability to attract and care for boys from diverse geographical locations and educational backgrounds that ensures the School maintains diversity which is a key advantage to attending the School and being part of its extended community.

The transition from home to boarding school has been a part of the cycle of life for many remote and regional families for generations and every year we also welcome a number of international students.

On Board is an initiative designed to help Year 6 students transition to boarding school at Christ Church. The program provides academic and pastoral support six months prior to the boys commencing their residential experience at the School. Relationships between the boys, their families and the Christ Church *On Board* team are central to the programs success.

The boys will become very familiar with our Year 7 Year Group Co-ordinator, who together with the Director of Boarding, will deliver the program. A significant part of the program is forming relationships with future house mates and teachers and learning the technologies that the School use on a daily basis.

The transition program for new boarding students focuses on enabling each boy to:

1 Develop a sense of familiarity

Incoming students are provided an opportunity to get know each other and their Year Group Co-ordinator as well as familiarise themselves with the School and its daily operations.

2 Engage in academic work

Boys are guided through an introduction to the academic rigours of the Senior School through a focus on specific content to be encountered in the Year 7 courses of English and Mathematics.

3 Enjoy orientation activities

Information and explanation of the rights, responsibilities and routines of living in a residential community, including a focus on an effective Prep (homework and study) regimen.



Boarding timetable

	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3
Term 2	Welcome to Christ Church Introductions and getting to know you. School day, routines, Houses, classes and co-curricular information.	English (1) Year 7 course review. Reading comprehension and writing task. Writing feedback, model responses. English curriculum Q&A.	English (2) Writing feedback, model responses. English curriculum Q&A.
Term 3	Mathematics (1) Year 7 course review. Review of number and place value — links between Year 6 and 7 concepts.	Mathematics (2) Review of problem solving strategies and approaches with practice questions and worked examples. Mathematics curriculum Q&A.	Orientation (1) Interactive tour of boarding facilities — Walters House, Sandover Dining Hall. Overview of routines and timings.
Term 4	Orientation (2) Walters House: rights and responsibilities, daily duties, rooming and nightly prep.	Orientation (3) Current boarder Q&A panel. Staff and student connections and team building activities.	



Christ Church's pastoral care program

SQUARE OF CARE

Our boarders thrive in a network of care known as the Square of Care.

During the school day, a boy's Head of House and Tutor monitor his academic and co-curricular progress, while his Housemother and Year Group Co-ordinator are responsible for supporting and caring for him while he is in the boarding house.

The Year Group Co-ordinators and Director of Boarding support each boy in every facet of his boarding and educational experience. They work collaboratively with parents and teaching staff to ensure a complete understanding of each boy's school and boarding life.

Our dedicated pastoral team care for the whole boy. Students are guided by the School's values and encouraged to be happy, healthy, embrace challenges and extend themselves.

At the beginning of each year, all incoming boarders, including overseas students and their parents, attend an extensive orientation program. This program includes an overnight stay at the boarding house where parents and guardians meet with the Director of Boarding and the Year Group Co-ordinators, and students are introduced to their tutor, Head of House and Year Group Co-ordinator.

When a boy enters the Senior School, he is allocated to one of eight Houses and will remain in this House until he graduates. This 'vertical' House system is made up of tutorial groups comprising of day and boarding students from Years 7 to 12.

The mix of students provides role models and mentors for the boys and provides each boy with a real sense of belonging. Within his House and tutorial group, each boy will learn about the value of supportive relationships, teamwork and leadership.

Director of Boarding

Todd Harnwell is a teaching professional and has worked at Christ Church Grammar School for over 16 years. During his time at Christ Church he has enjoyed a variety of roles in the knowledge that professional learning is a key component of continuous improvement.

Todd is the Director of Boarding and runs the *On Board* Transition Program, a transition support initiative to promote academic readiness. Todd was previously a Year Group Co-ordinator, the Head of Jupp House for five years and he was the Co-ordinator of the Learning Development Centre in the Senior School between 2009 and 2014.

Todd has a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in History and additional qualifications in the area of special needs and learning difficulties with a focus on supporting students develop their literacy and numeracy skills.

Todd is passionate about boys' physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing. He is active in teaching this curriculum to students at Christ Church, and annually runs a mental health and leadership camp for young men in Years 10 to 12, in association with zero2hero, a Perth based charity.



Throughout his time at Christ Church, Todd has been actively involved in the sports program, with soccer being his main area of expertise and experience. He has coached a range of age groups and is currently coach of the Firsts Soccer team.

Todd, his wife Olivia, their three young children and their dog, Louie, reside on campus.