

April, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Eltham High School. It is with great pleasure that I introduce our school, which has been working with the community since 1926.

Eltham High School is highly regarded as an educational institution. Its reputation as an outstanding academic school is well recognised within the community and education circles. The co-curricular opportunities offered to our students across a range of areas including the performing and visual arts programs and the elite sports program are outstanding. Engagement with student leadership initiatives is sustained across all areas and levels of the school.

In the last 91 years Eltham High School has established a tradition through its strong commitment to the areas of:

- Pursuit of excellence;
- Creativity;
- Individuality;
- Social Justice;
- Integrity;
- Respect for diversity; and
- Environmental and social responsibility.

Eltham High School is a school with high expectations where you feel safe to be yourself and challenged to think critically, to work independently and in teams, to show leadership and to achieve success along many pathways.

Our school motto "*Deeds Count*" provides the framework to encourage and support students not to just dream, but also to take action in order to bring their dream to reality. Having the dream is only the start; exercising the deeds to realise the dream completes the process.

The tradition we have established continues today through the excellent work of our current staff, a team of very experienced teachers and support personnel that I am very proud to lead.

The Principles of Teaching and Learning at Eltham High School include:

- Building positive relationships;
- Catering for diversity;
- Focusing on intellectual quality;
- Encouraging creativity and student involvement, voice;
- Solving problems; developing teamwork and links to the community; and
- Using varied assessment for learning.

Our students are consistently offered a broad range of opportunities that provide innovative and exciting educational experiences. Strong emphasis is placed on students learning from each other.

Student welfare and well-being is the foundation of our school. This is enhanced by the building of positive relationships between all sectors of our community and supported by a sub-school structure with a number of co-ordinators at each level; main group of teachers at Year 7 Transition Leader; Student Welfare Leader; Careers Co-ordinator; Special Learning Needs Co-ordinator; First Aid Officer and a series of support personnel.



Eltham High School is an outstanding school in a range of areas, including:

Academic Excellence:

- A high performing school;
- VCE results across all studies consistently place Eltham High School amongst the top schools in the State;
- In 2017, of all the Year 12 students who applied for a tertiary course, 88% were offered a place of their choice in the first two rounds;
- Students gain places in tertiary courses in medicine, science, law, business, health science, technology, the media, humanities, the arts and sport.

Innovation:

- Leading innovation in curriculum and school organisation;
- Linking students and experiential learning with their community;
- An inquiry based framework from Years 7 to 12.

Leadership:

- Creating responsible citizens to lead in the 21st Century;
- Developing students as leaders through a wide range of training and responsibilities.

Teamwork:

- Great relationships: students and staff working together to achieve their best;
- Strong parent and community support enhancing student outcomes.

Our Elite Sports and strong Interschool Sport Programs are offered to students across all age groups. Our extensive Music Program, acclaimed as the best school bands program in Australia, provides not only the opportunity for students to learn an instrument but also to represent our school and community nationally and internationally. The outstanding Performance Program in Drama continues to deliver acclaimed student performances at a national level. The annual Arts and Technology Exhibition further supports the creative talents of both our students and our staff, as does the outstanding Student Writing Program.

A series of documents are included in this folder. Should you wish any other specific information please do not hesitate to contact the school, either by telephone, email or in person.

Ms Melissa Hughes (Junior School/Transition Leader) or any of the Junior School Co-ordinators will be available to answer any queries that you may have. I am also very happy to discuss broader aspects of our school with you. We can be contacted at the school number and/or email address.

Finally, I encourage you to reflect on your aspirations for your child. Eltham High School supports the development and success of confident, innovative, creative and responsible citizens for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I invite you to become part of our dynamic learning community.

Yours sincerely,

**Vincent Sicari**  
Principal