

# Welcome to our school community

A warm welcome is extended to you and your family. We are thrilled to have you join us at Gosford High School, affectionately known as "Gossie". We hope your child will embrace and experience the many varied learning opportunities available in a supportive school environment to achieve their personal best as well as enjoying a very positive time making strong community connections and lasting friendships.

Research shows that children benefit and are more likely to succeed when their parents or carers are actively involved in their education and school life. Lending a helping hand at school is a great way to get involved in your child's education as well as get to know the staff and other parents and carers of the community.

#### Join our community and make a difference

Parents and Citizens Associations (P&C) are school based organisations consisting of parents, teachers and community members. New South Wales P&C associations raise over \$70 million for schools each year, providing a vital income stream for the education of our children.

# Our P&C

The philosophy of our P&C is based on a family/school partnership to education. We are an inclusive, friendly organisation aiming to create a positive education environment for all children - we are constantly working towards the welfare of the students.

Our school benefits from parental and community involvement. This involvement enriches all students school experiences and provides funding for additional student and school resources.

We want your voice heard and joining the P&C is a great place to start. We need your help and contribution to continue the great tradition of the Gosford High School P&C. Whatever your skills, whatever time you can give, you'll be creating a better education future for all students.

# Meetings

We meet in the Gosford High School Common Staff Room, Administration Building, at 6:30pm, on Tuesday in Week 3 and Week 8 during the school term. These meetings are your opportunity to see how our P&C works, meet your P&C representatives, hear the Principal's report, and ask questions you may have of both the P&C and the school. All are welcome to attend and be part of the great discussion and exciting decisions and initiatives that assist in shaping your child's education. Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in March.

# Membership

Membership is open to parents and carers of children attending Gosford High School, as well as residents of our area. The membership year is from the close of one AGM in March until the close of the next AGM in March. An annual membership fee of two dollars (\$2) entitles you to nominate for positions on the executive and sub-committees, voting rights and access to meeting agendas and minutes. If you wish to vote or be nominated for a position at the AGM, you must be a current member. An application form for membership is attached for both the current and forthcoming year.

# Staying in touch

The P&C communicates and interacts with the school community through regular updates and reminders of P&C events and activities via Gosford High School's newsletter. Comments and questions via our email at ghspandc@gmail.com.au are welcome.



# Join the team

The Office Bearers and sub-committees facilitate the management and organisation of all P&C business and events. Meetings are held to discuss and implement ideas and address related management issues. Positions are elected at each annual general meeting in March. Only current financial members are entitled to nominate for positions and vote. Our current team consists of:

President – Brett See Vice President – Lea Colwell Vice President – Joanne Ryan Treasurer – Kath Styant Secretary – Sharryn Brownlee

Band Convenor – Elize Smit Events & Hospitality Convenor – Quynh Sandeman

# Volunteering

Our P&C needs and relies on volunteers. Everyone is welcome to volunteer, parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbours, and local residents. A current "Working with Children Check" is a mandatory requirement to volunteering. Any help you give is greatly appreciated. People volunteer in Office Bearers positions and in Convenors roles as well as assisting at systematic intervals or by providing a helping hand at an event. The P&C respects the time you say you are available; is the time you are available. Volunteers spend their time assisting with annual hospitality activities such as Year 7 Orientation Day and Year 12 Final Assembly or the occasional working bee are just a few ways to offer assistance

# **Band Sub-Committee**

Gosford High School has a proud history and solid reputation for outstanding musical achievement running successful instrumental programmes via the Concert Band Programme. A team of dedicated volunteers meets on Friday mornings, usually prior to bell times, to assist with organising material for all ensembles. We are always looking to expand their team, especially anyone who has a musical background, to help with copying musical scores and updating student folders. A separate form is available for interested parties.

# Chapman Trust

Gosford High School P&C is a proud beneficiary of the AI Chapman Trust and Ella Chapman Trust. The P&C has the responsibility of managing the distribution of these significant funds to support the school's initiatives for resources and projects. Take time to read about the 'greatest charitable benefactor the district has even known' in the A.I. Chapman Hall of Honour located in the foyer of Gosford High School's Front Office or visit the school's website for a brief overview.

As of March 2019, Gosford High School has received a total of \$1,710,536.95 from the Trusts since March 1998. This is a direct consequence of the extraordinary generosity and foresight of both Alfred Chapman and his wife, Ella Chapman, who were dedicated to a number of Gosford based community organisations. Their respective contributions are:

Alfred I Chapman Trust \$1,513,235.18 Ella Chapman Trust \$ 197,301.77

It is also well worth highlighting that over the same period, the A I Chapman Trust and the Ella Chapman Trust have together gifted a total of \$25,760,105.01 to their chosen Gosford based charities and community services. The Ella Chapman Trust has been making grants since the late 1950s while the A I Chapman Trust has been making grants since the mid-1960s. During 2020, funds have been dispersed for STEM equipment, drone kits, refurbishing classrooms with equipment, defibrillators, elevate programme, new syllabus textbooks as well as student initiatives such as "Gosfest" (film) and "Speak Out" (public speaking).

#### Contributions

The P&C contributes in many ways by supporting special events and different projects, advocating for students needs and outcomes, and making available resources such as a 3D printer, artists in residence; working collaboratively with the school on policy and sitting on merit selection panels.