

Keira High School

Prospectus



www.keira-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Great traditions, a confident future.





School Cross Country Carnival 2018, North Wollongong Beach

Great traditions, a confident future.

Welcome to Keira High School

The school of choice for our local community



Keira Community of Schools Leadership Assembly 2019

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Great traditions, a confident future.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the staff, I welcome you to the Keira High School community. Your journey has brought you here and we appreciate your skills, knowledge and background as you settle into education with us.

Keira High School is situated at the foot of Mt Keira. I respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Dharawal Country, the land on which we gather for learning. I would also like to pay my respect to Elders past, present and those emerging who are in our classrooms, our ground and community.

Keira High School is a high performing comprehensive, coeducational high school in North Wollongong proudly serving the local community. The learning community is enriched by a diverse student population of 850 and significantly includes 33 students of Aboriginal heritage and 39% from Language Backgrounds Other than English.

Student engagement is essential for learning. The teaching staff at Keira High School are innovative, set high expectations, encourage and challenge students to do their best. The school enjoys strong partnerships with the Keira Community of Schools and promotes itself as the local high school of choice for families living in Mt Pleasant, Balgownie, Fairy Meadow, Mt Ousley, North Wollongong and Coniston.

A Keira student enjoys success through a range of learning opportunities not limited only through academic achievement, but also in creative and the performing arts, sport, civics and citizenship and student voice. Optimal wellbeing is valued as an overarching framework and the school drives a scope and sequence of programs promoting cognitive, spiritual, social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

You will find many alliances with the local organisations to enhance your education journey, including the University of Wollongong, Conservatorium of Music, Innovation Campus and Tafe Illawarra. Service organisations, business and industry links further enhance the learning options, entrepreneurial experiences and civic pathways beyond the classroom.

Graduates of Keira High School are lifelong learners who remain committed to an appreciation of our land and our first people, the celebration of Australia's diverse culture, the value of community and the importance of personal integrity.

We trust that you will enjoy and benefit from your time at Keira High School and we look forward to seeing your efforts being fully rewarded by your achievements.

Keira High School is proud of its traditions and looks to the future, confident that it is a dynamic and innovative school.

Mr Scott Frazier



Great traditions, a confident future

A BRIEF HISTORY OF KEIRA

Keira High School is a comprehensive, co-educational school that has a long tradition of delivering quality education to the community of Wollongong. The school was established in 1917 as Wollongong Junior Secondary Technical School. In 1939 land was purchased near the Princes Highway, Fairy Meadow on which new school buildings were later built. In 1954 the school moved onto this site in Lysaght Street. Some years later, the school was renamed Keira Boys' High School. In the early 1980s, the State Government determined that the school would become co-educational with the first female students enrolling in 1984. The school was renamed Keira High School. In 1990, the school became a technology high school. Today, Keira High School is proud of its rich history and traditions but looks to the future as a confident, innovative and dynamic school.



THE SCHOOL CREST

The school's crest is a traditional shield designed and adopted in 1984 when the school became co-educational. It represents both strength and protection. The school's motto since 1917, Excelsior, is the comparative form of Excelsus, Latin for high or lofty, Excelsior then means 'ever higher'. Longfellow, the American poet, provided Keira's first teaching staff with the inspiration to adopt the word Excelsior as our motto. Longfellow wrote a poem on the incessant aspiration for youth to achieve, ending with the line, "A voice replied, 'For up the height, Excelsior'".



Senior Executive



Mr S Frazier
Principal



Ms P Havilah
Year 7 and 10 Deputy
Principal (Relieving)



Mr T Loades
Year 8 and 11
Deputy Principal
(Acting)



Ms A Doggett
Year 9 and 12 Deputy
Principal

P&C and the Student Representative Council

Parents and Citizens Association

Keira High School Parents and Citizens' Association provides an opportunity for parents and carers to develop a greater understanding about the school and offer input to school decisions in a respectful and friendly environment.

The Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) meets twice a term: Week 3 & 8 Wednesday evening of each month during school term. The meetings start at 6:00pm until 7:00pm and are also available online via Zoom. All parents are welcome. Newsletters are posted home prior to each meeting with news and information regarding the school.



P & C Showcase – Food Technology

Message from the Students

There is a tradition of strong student leadership at Keira High School which manifests itself through a number of groups, both formal and informal, engaged in fundraising and more hands-on approaches to community service. The Student Representative Council has undergone a significant reorganisation including a dedicated roll call group. This was to maximise participation and provide leadership opportunities to a greater proportion of the student body.



SRC members are also involved in the organisation and delivery of Refugee Week. An annual event that promotes positive images of refugees and celebrates the valuable contribution refugees make within our community. This is a hugely successful collaboration between students from Keira, other high schools and Wollongong City Council.

The SRC continues to prioritise activities to maintain a balance between leadership opportunities and awareness campaigns. We have continued our commitments to sponsoring a child through World Vision and participating in annual events.

[SRC Representatives](#)

Strong Start



Transition within one learning community

The Keira Community of Schools learning community offers a continuity of learning across the transition from Stage 3 to Stage 4. Year 5 and 6 students experience Keira through STEM CoS activities, the 'Keirabald' portrait competition, taster and orientation days.

At Keira we empower student growth and well-being through a Public Education that is transformative in engaging active and informed global and community citizens.

We champion equitable opportunities that are inclusive and representative of our diverse communities.

We act with courage and embrace every individual's knowledge and experience.

We implement this vision as a committed learning community. To nurture, develop, and advocate a future of choice for every student.

Class sizes – Reduced class sizes in Year 7

At Keira we believe that the transition from Year 6 to Year 7 is a critical point in the educational life of your child.

When children make the transition into their kindergarten classes they enjoy a reduction in class size. This ensures that they are able to make the excellent progress and that their teachers are able to quickly know their students and how they learn at this critical phase. As their learning journey moves into high school we believe the same smaller class size is of critical importance again. We prioritise our resources to create reduced class sizes in all Year 7 classes to ensure that all our students make the strongest start possible.

Adding Value for Every Student, Every Year

The whole school community has a relentless commitment to adding value for every student every year. This is achieved through a strategic and focused program that identifies expected growth in learning for every student at Keira High School. This is a key process in our 2021-2024 School Plan.

Personalised Learning

The Personalised Learning and Engagement team work collaboratively with classroom teachers, parents and students to personalise the learning experience for every child at Keira High School.

Our students are actively involved in their learning, and track their learning goals and progress through their 'Individual Learning Portfolio'. This allows students with the support of their teachers to experience success, build vital skills and to develop confidence in their abilities.

Peer support

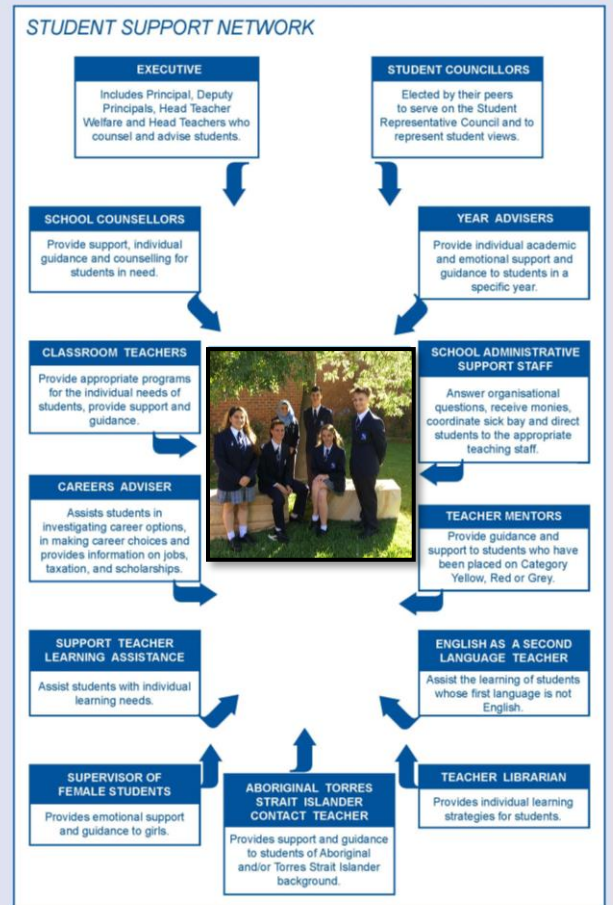
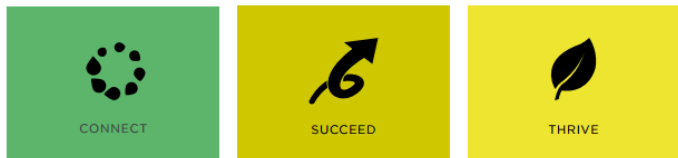
Keira High School Year 7 students are involved in the peer support program engaging with Year 11 students in activities that develop their confidence, resilience and increase their connectedness to the school community by building positive relationships. The program initially has a strong focus on 'kindness' and building respectful relationships with peers. The program also plays an important role in developing the leadership skills of our Year 11 Peer Support Leaders.

Student Wellbeing

We are committed to the wellbeing of all students at Keira High School. This is focused on strengthening their cognitive, physical, social, emotional and spiritual development.

Students develop self-awareness and emotional intelligence to support their wellbeing in order to be self-regulating in their learning and their interactions with other members of the school community.

Students develop attitudes, habits and beliefs that enable them to achieve their potential and participate fully in school life and our society.













Merit System

The Keira High School Merit System is a key initiative that strengthens the learning culture at Keira. Underpinning the Merit System is the belief that in order to be empowered for the challenges of their present and future lives, students must develop the capacity to appreciate and celebrate the qualities that are necessary to not only survive in the real world, but thrive.

The Keira High Merit System is therefore a whole-school initiative that acknowledges and celebrates the personal qualities of students that are deemed highly valuable traits for a young person to possess. Students are rewarded for demonstrating the qualities shown in the diagram below by classroom teachers.



KHS Merit System – These are the qualities that you will receive a Copper Award for:

	Creativity:	Original ideas that have value
	Initiative:	Taking purposeful action without being told or asked, that adds value to the world around us
	Leadership:	Influencing others in a positive way
	Volunteering/Kindness	A personal action that enhances the quality of life of another
	Organisation	The process of obtaining and ordering necessary resources in a way that is efficient and sustainable
	Teamwork:	Working effectively with others towards the attainment of a common goal
	Critical thinking:	Thinking deeply about the individual parts of a larger concept, to better understand its function, purpose and impact within the world
	Commitment to studies:	Maintaining a strong and sustained focus on learning
	Resilience:	The ability to adapt and respond positively to stress, adversity and challenges in your life
	Effective communication:	The ability to express and comprehend verbal and non-verbal messages in an appropriate manner



emailed or posted to each student's postal address. Parents can also receive emails via the school website at www.keira.nsw.edu.au

to ensure that students, parents and caregivers need all the information they need.

Bring Your Own Device - BYOD

Students in Year 7 and 8 are encouraged to BYOD to be used in conjunction with learning strategies in the classroom. Students will need parental permission to BYOD and will be required to agree to both terms and conditions of the school BYOD Policy.

Travel Passes

Students living **two kilometres or more** from school are entitled to a travel pass. If your place of residence is not on a direct route to this school it may be necessary for you to apply for two travel passes - two bus passes or one bus pass and one train pass for each section of the route. These applications are all made online on the Transport NSW website.

School Uniform

The tone and prestige of a school is important for the future of students as they leave and join the wider community. You can assist your child and the school by providing the correct uniform and ensuring the co-operation of your child with dress and deportment. The correct school uniform helps in creating a sense of belonging and assists in developing the correct mental set in the student about the purpose of school for the day.



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Leading Learning across the Curriculum

Head Teachers



Mr P Slattery
Administration



Ms S Carruthers
English EAL/D



Mr K Weber
Human Society and Its Environment



Ms K Arntzen
Learning & Engagement



Ms B Aylett
Mathematics



Mr O Walker
Physical Development,
Health & Physical Education (Relieving)



Dr S McKenzie
Science



Mr G Guevara
Special Education



Ms C Ramos
Teaching & Learning (Relieving)





Mr A Ramos
Technology and Applied Studies



Mrs V Kalatz
Wellbeing

Year Advisers

 <p>Mr C Law Year 7</p>	 <p>Mr J Bentley Year 8</p>	 <p>Ms T Agim Year 9</p>	 <p>Mr J Berry Year 10</p>	 <p>Ms A Pike Year 11</p>	 <p>Ms C Ward Year 12</p>
 <p>Ms K Efthimiou Year 7 Assistant</p>	<p>Ms J Bladowski Year 8 Assistant</p>	<p>Mr N Dean Year 9 Assistant</p>	<p>Mr W Goodsel Year 10 Assistant</p>	 <p>Mr L Williams Year 11 Assistant</p>	 <p>Mr R Fisher Year 12 Assistant</p>

Other Key Personnel



Ms R Meredith
School Counsellor
(Monday & Tuesday)

Ms Alison Devine
School Counsellor
(Wednesday to Friday)



Mrs L Deitz
Student Support Officer
(Relieving)



Ms T Power
Supervisor of Female
Students



Ms A Earl
Sports Organiser



Ms J Luck
Careers Adviser



Mrs T Tzanopoulos
Business Manager



Ms G Chappell
School Administrative Manager
(Relieving)

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

The Stage 4 Curriculum (Years 7 and 8)

EXCELSIOR

In Excelsior, every Year 7 student expands their knowledge about effective learning, developing self-awareness and autonomy. Through reflection, collaboration and rigorous goal setting, students consider what they can do to improve their own learning.

Excelsior includes four key topics; asking why, creation, transfer and prediction. Each topic is one component of exceptional learning. Students take what they learn in each topic and apply it to their other subjects as well their lives outside of school. This subject aims to foster lifelong learning.

ABORIGINAL STUDIES



We Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this Land.

Great traditions, a confident future.

Keira High School was the first school in the state to include Aboriginal Studies as a separate course for Year 7. Every course in Stage 4 incorporates an Aboriginal perspective but this course allows all students to gain a deeper understanding of Aboriginal Peoples of Australia and their culture.

Aboriginal Studies provides students with the unique opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Peoples of Australia, their culture and their lifestyles. This course is an exploration and celebration of Aboriginal social and cultural heritage and its longevity. Students have the opportunity to gain authentic Aboriginal perspectives through the teachings of local and regional Aboriginal community members and explore the diverse and changing nature of Aboriginal culture.



Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

ENGLISH

The English Faculty at Keira High School is a dynamic, creative and enthusiastic faculty that consistently provides a challenging and sophisticated quality teaching and learning environment for every student. It is comprised of a diverse and talented group of people who form a cohesive team; these individuals range from new and beginning teachers to those who are experienced and passionate about their profession, encompassing experience and expertise.

English is a compulsory subject for all students. Senior courses offered include: English Extension 1 and 2, Advanced, Standard and English Studies.



The faculty is excited about their innovative and improved programs that align with the new curriculum. There remains a strong focus on the explicit teaching of grammar and spelling.

We deal with a variety of texts that range from Shakespeare to picture books to classics and



modern Australian plays and novels that deal with a plethora of concepts and contemporary issues. Visual literacy is a vital component of the English courses, which allows for the study of many historical and modern films as texts.

It is essential to acknowledge the role that the First Peoples of our nation have played in our heritage. Consequently, many of our texts and programs deal respectfully and sensitively with indigenous issues in a variety of textual forms.

Student engagement is enhanced through the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in all English classrooms.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics courses at Keira High School aim to create confidence and enjoyment in doing mathematical and numerical activities. Students develop an awareness of how mathematics can be used to solve problems in everyday life. They also learn of its contribution to the development of society. Students are encouraged to develop their mathematical thinking, understanding, confidence and competence in solving mathematical problems.



Mathematics courses also aim to develop knowledge, skills and understanding in the following areas:

- logical, flexible, fluent and original thinking
- computation and problem solving skills
- appropriate language for the effective communication of mathematical ideas and concepts
- an ability to recognise mathematical patterns and relationships
- a variety of methods for calculation and problem solving
- an awareness of the basic structure of mathematics by an appreciation of the nature and interrelationship of the various strands of mathematics



Mathematics is a compulsory subject for all students in NSW from Year 7 to Year 10 (optional in Year 11 and Year 12). The Mathematics syllabus recognises that students develop mathematical skills at different rates to those in other subjects. For this reason the Mathematics course is a continuum of learning that occurs from the beginning of primary school to the completion of Year 10.

At Keira High School, the Mathematics Faculty fully supports the spirit of the learning continuum by offering differentiated learning in all Year 7 classes, while incorporating two classes for extension courses in Year 8. In Years 9 and 10, there are three separate pathways of study (5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 Courses) and these are offered to students' dependant on their results at the end of Year 8.



Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

SCIENCE



The faculty prides itself on quality teaching, providing innovative and progressive experiences to all students. Naturally there is an emphasis on practical work (including field work) and this is supported through class activities that employ a wide variety of strategies.

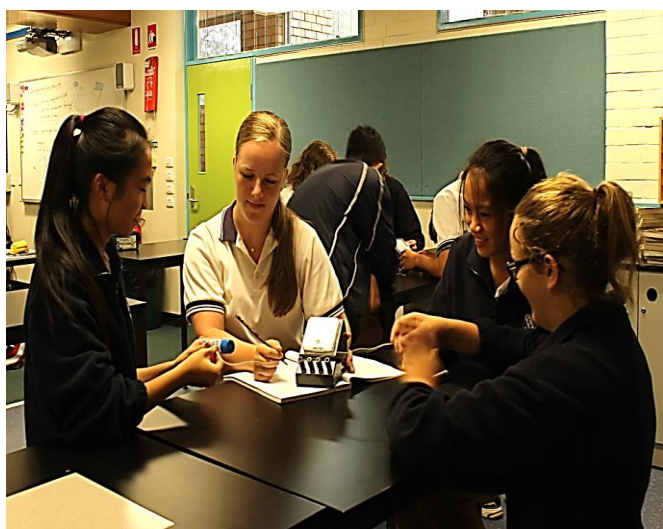
Science is a compulsory course for Years 7 to 10. In Years 9 and 10 there is the option of studying the elective course *Marine and Aquaculture Technology*. For Years 11 and 12 the courses *Biology, Chemistry* and *Physics* are currently offered as options for the Higher School Certificate.

Facilities at Keira include seven teaching laboratories and associated preparation rooms and stores. Two of our labs have recently been refitted with a more modern and efficient layout and new fittings and are now state-of-the-art practical and teaching rooms. All of the teaching laboratories at Keira feature data projectors and audio systems. At present four Science laboratories have interactive whiteboards and further acquisitions should see this number grow shortly.

The Science faculty at Keira High School is currently made up of nine teachers including a Head Teacher. Most of these teachers have experience of teaching two or more of the senior courses and, in most cases, accreditation to teach three or more of these.



The 2018 Science and Engineering Challenge Team on their way to the National Finals in Darwin representing NSW



The faculty represents a collective experience of over 80 years of teaching Science yet contains teachers in the early stages of their careers. Another aspect of the depth of knowledge within the faculty is 32 years working in practical applications of Science outside of education including chemical manufacturing, chemical monitoring, quality control and microbiology. This 'real world' experience adds considerably to the collective expertise of the faculty. Experience with HSC marking, high ICT skills and networking with professional groups adds further capacity to the team.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT



The Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) faculty at Keira High School is diverse and offers a number of different subjects to students including History and Geography in the junior years and then subjects such as Business Studies, Legal Studies, Economics, Society and Culture, Ancient and Modern History in the senior years. We also offer elective subjects to students in Years 9 and 10 including Commerce and Elective History.

This diverse range of subjects requires a diverse teaching staff. In the HSIE faculty we have teachers in their early careers, but, also a number of teachers that have up to 20 years or more experience in teaching.



Our assessments cater for a range of students and equip them with an understanding of the skills necessary to excel in the 21st Century. The knowledge and skills developed whilst doing a HSIE subject at Keira High School will allow our students to become articulate, critical thinkers and understand the importance of their rights and responsibilities as Australian and global citizens.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

LEARNING and ENGAGEMENT

The Learning and Engagement team work collaboratively with classroom teachers, parents and students to personalise the learning experience for every child at Keira High School.

We work closely with internal and external stakeholders to successfully case manage our students by providing a comprehensive matrix of support that allows each individual to attain their learning and wellbeing goals.

Our students are actively involved in their learning, and track their learning goals and progress through their Individual Learning Portfolio. This allows students with the support of their teachers to experience success, build vital skills and to develop confidence in their abilities.

We recognise that parents and caregivers play an integral role in their child's education. The Learning and Engagement team collaborates with all stakeholders including parents and caregivers to ensure that they are actively involved in their child's learning.

The learning and Engagement team are dedicated to ensuring that the learning environment is fully inclusive and that a broad range of experiences are accessible to all. Our team works closely with classroom teachers through the delivery and implementation of professional learning programs to make certain that all teachers across the curriculum are well equipped to cater to the differences in learning needs that students have.

STUDENT WELFARE

The role of this team is to support the physical, social and emotional wellbeing of students, through the development and delivery of student welfare programs. These programs are designed to foster a caring and tolerant attitude toward others, to ensure mutual respect, a cohesive environment and a sense of belonging is achieved at all times. At Keira there is a strong school-wide commitment to ensure that, for all students, school is a happy, positive and fulfilling experience.

Across all year groups, various programs such as Anti-Harassment and Anti-Bullying, Driver Safety, Cyber Safety and Mental Health programs are implemented in order to support student Wellbeing. Members of the team meet regularly, liaise with staff, parents and outside agencies in order to identify and address the needs of students and initiate positive and proactive change.



Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

CREATIVE and PERFORMING ARTS



Any literature relating to 21st century learning makes mention of 'creativity' as a desirable and necessary quality to enable students to fully participate in their world. Creativity is at the very core of the Key Learning Area Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA).



Studios in the classroom are well supported by a vital program of co-curricular

CAPA at Keira High School is central to the learning of all students in Years 7 and 8, as they undertake a mandatory 100 hours of Music and 100 hours of Visual Arts. A significant proportion of students in the years above elect to study a range of subjects in the creative arts: Dance, Drama, Film Making, Music, Photographic and Digital Media and Visual Arts.

activities that extend learning completed during regular school time. Senior Band, Beginner Band, Guitar and Ukulele Ensemble, Dance Ensemble, Performing Arts Evening, Theatresports Team, "Plugged" Concerts, Arts Under the Stars and our biannual Whole School Production are just some of the activities in which students may become involved in the grounds of Keira High School.

Beyond the school students have the opportunity to be part of Southern Stars, Keirabald, ISER Touring ensembles, Theatresports competition and Schools Spectacular.



The Creative and Performing Arts Faculty believe strongly that our students must experience the real world of the arts, and a number of excursions are held each year, including ArtExpress, Belvoir St Theatre, National Gallery of Australia, Onstage, Sculpture by the Sea, Sydney Theatre Company as well as local events at the IPAC and Wollongong City Gallery.

Our focus on academic rigour in CAPA means students leave Keira High School with strong High School Certificate results and valuable experiences in the Creative Arts that will continue to enrich their lives beyond school and contribute towards their own and others' lives.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Physical Activity and Sport Studies (PASS)

Available as an elective to students in Years 9 & 10

Dance

Available as an elective to students in Years 9 & 10

Stage 6 Personal Development Health and Physical Education

Available as a senior course for students in Years 11 & 12

Stage 6 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (SLR)

Available as a senior course for students in Years 11 & 12

The Personal Development Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus offers a unique opportunity to promote the physical, social, emotional, cognitive and spiritual health of students. At Keira, the PDHPE staff meet this opportunity with innovative programs that target and develop the personal strengths of students to empower and prepare them for life after school. PDHPE programs at Keira therefore seek to build the capacity of students to successfully navigate a range of issues impacting their lives such as mental health, nutrition, sexual health, physical activity, social issues, drug use, planning for a career, digital citizenship and appreciating diversity. In addressing these issues, students are guided in developing their capacity as 21st century learners, building knowledge and skill in relation to key traits such as resilience, communication, leadership, problem solving, creativity, critical thinking, team work and independent learning in the process.

The structure of PDHPE programs at Keira ensures that whilst all students develop the ideals mentioned above in the mandatory 7-10 PDHPE curriculum, students wishing to extend their knowledge and skill in PDHPE further may do so by choosing to undertake one of the following elective courses.



Through being offered these exciting courses, students at Keira High School are presented with the options to personalise their learning to build lifelong skills that will ultimately equip them for the opportunities and challenges awaiting them in their present and future lives.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

TECHNOLOGY and APPLIED STUDIES

Technology Education forms an incredibly important part of our school's curriculum. We aim to provide knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes essential for all students to succeed in and beyond their schooling.



The Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) Key Learning Area at Keira HS is comprised of the Industrial Arts and Home Economics Faculties.



We have eight very high quality teachers who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our school and allow us to deliver a diverse and engaging range of subjects to our students.

In Stage 4, students rotate each term through eight separate modules. Project-based learning allows them to really enjoy their classwork and to build their knowledge and understanding of a broad range of materials, tools and processes. We have a strong focus on the development of problem-solving and communication skills and our programs are designed to ensure students at all levels are challenged and engaged whilst learning.

The faculty structure is such that students are able to follow clearly defined pathways through to Year 12. We offer a broad range of high quality electives in Years 9 and 10 that provide a strong platform for senior school. The faculty boasts a long tradition of outstanding HSC results, with students regularly



achieving their highest HSC marks in their TAS subject. Alternative pathways are offered through Vocational Training courses where students can complete a TAFE qualification at school as part of their HSC.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

LANGUAGES

The language faculty forms a critical educational and neurological role in a complete education. It is a common and established understanding that students of languages reorganise their thinking to accommodate the structure of another language; they develop cognitive flexibility and problem-solving and this ability can be applied into other spheres of learning; critical thinking and creative approaches are also enhanced. Student engagement in the rigorous study of a second language provides an enriched experience of the

social, cultural and cognitive benefits that enhance a student's life and opportunities.

Year 10 Language classes attend Study Days at the University of Wollongong. These days are fantastic days of language learning and team building. Opportunities like these encourage future language learning at university level and inspire the students to participate in a foreign exchange, the best education anyone could ever receive.

JAPAN STUDY TOUR

Students of Keira High School are fortunate enough to experience a Study Tour of Japan. During the tour the students are exposed to Japanese history, culture and most importantly, opportunities to practice and develop their Japanese language skills.

The tour starts in Hiroshima where students participate in Japanese language lessons and stay with host families to have a first-hand experience of Japanese culture and language. After their homestays, the group travel to Kyoto.

In the old imperial capital of Kyoto students are amazed by sites such as the Golden Pavilion, Silver

Pavilion and the fortified palace of the old Shogunate, Nijo Castle. The Keira High School Study tour gives our students the opportunity to experience the wonders of the culture and history of Japan whilst engaging in an authentic experience of the language.

The Japanese language faculty will also host three Japanese school groups during the term and utilise Japanese language ambassadors from the University of Wollongong. Languages really do open up opportunities for students in this increasingly globalised world.



Great traditions, a confident future.

Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

CENTRAL AUSTRALIA TOUR



Keira High School has begun a tradition of making the journey to Central Australia every few years. In 2019, 40 adventurous students made the voyage through New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory and South Australia by coach over 15 days.

The students experience the true camping lifestyle while taking in the unique vistas that Australia has to offer. Many tours are included in the adventure, which allow the group to go underground at Mt Isa, stroll around the base of Uluru and climb Kings Canyon.

The students gain many life skills such as time management, budgeting, responsibility of their property, tolerance and communication. Whilst travelling through the Northern Territory, there is a focus on Aboriginal Culture, which allows the students to gain an even deeper understanding and appreciation.

The trip is an amazing experience in itself, however adding to its value is the fun. The students thoroughly enjoy the sightseeing and daily activities with each town that is visited.



Quality Learning starts with Quality Teaching

SPORT

Sport is compulsory for all students in Years 7 – 10 and takes place each Wednesday afternoon. Students may choose either recreational or grade team sport, the latter involving inter-school competition as part of the Northern Illawarra Schools Sports Zone.



Grade sport, inter-school competition	Recreational Sport options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AFL 9s ● Boys Junior Oztag ● Boys Junior Soccer ● Boys Junior/ Senior Basketball ● Boys Senior Oztag ● Boys Senior Soccer ● Capture the flag ● Girls Junior Netball ● Girls Junior Oztag ● Girls Junior/ Senior Basketball ● Girls Senior Netball ● Girls Senior Oztag ● Lawn Bowls ● Senior / Junior Girls Soccer ● Ultimate Frisbee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Beach Games ● Dodgeball ● Dynamite Climbing Gymnasium ● Learn to Surf ● Netball ● Paddle Boarding ● School Sport : Finska ● School Sport: European Handball ● School Sport: Soccer ● School Sport: Touch Football ● School Sport: Ultimate Frisbee ● School Sport: Volleyball Year 7/8 ● Tennis ● Walking ● Yoga/Meditation

REPRESENTATIVE SPORTS

Sports that offer representative pathways through carnival teams at Northern Illawarra Zone, South Coast Regional, NSW State and Australian All-Schools:	Keira HS teams that compete in CHS competitions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carnivals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Athletics ○ Cross-country ○ Swimming ● AFL 15yrs & under ● Baseball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Basketball Boys Opens Competition 2022 ● Basketball Boys Under 15s Competition 2022 ● Basketball Girls Opens Competition 2022 ● Basketball Girls Under 15s Competition 2022 ● Bowls Opens Competition 2022

- Basketball
- Cricket: Boys Opens
- Football (Soccer)
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Lawn Bowls – Pairs & Singles
- Netball
- Rugby League: 15's & Opens
- Rugby Union
- Softball
- Squash
- Tennis: 15yrs & Opens
- Touch Football 15's & Opens
- Triathlon
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

- Cricket Boys Opens Alan Davidson Shield 2022
- Football Boys Opens Competition 2022
- Football Girls Opens Competition 2022
- Netball Girls Opens Competition 2022
- Netball Girls Under 15s Debra Hanson Cup 2022
- Rugby League Boys Opens University Shield 2022
- Rugby League Boys Under 14s Buckley Shield 2022
- Table Tennis Opens Competition 2022
- Tennis Boys Opens Stan Jones Trophy 2022
- Tennis Girls Opens Floris Conway Cup 2022
- Touch Girls Opens Phil Stewart Memorial Shield 2022
- Volleyball Boys Opens Steve Birt Memorial Shield 2022
- Volleyball Girls Opens Steve Birt Memorial Shield 2022
- Water Polo Boys Opens NSW Amateur Shield 2022

STUDENT LEADERSHIP – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) & SPORTS CAPTAINS

Students have opportunities to be students' leaders and must accept the roles and responsibilities that come with the positions. Keira students have a proud history of outstanding school leadership.

Any student failing in their responsibilities and/ or not following school expectations will be at risk of losing their position. They may be on a period of probation or warned, depending upon the circumstances.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

A selection process for students wishing to join the SRC is held early in Term 1. Year 8 to 11 students are nominated by themselves or their peers, with nominations given to the SRC Coordinator. Each student is guided through an application process. A selection of students will be interviewed by the Principal and Wellbeing Coordinator.

Year 12 School Captain selection process takes place in Term 3, with nominations submitted to the Deputy Principal of Year 12. A rigorous process is followed which includes an interview with the Principal, Year 11 Year Adviser and current School Student Leaders. The nominated students will present a speech to the school community. Teachers and Year 11 students vote for their preferred candidates. The unsuccessful nominated students will be invited to be part of the SRC.

SPORTS CAPTAINS

Students will meet in their House groups to nominate and vote for Sports Captains, at a meeting in early Term 1, before the swimming carnival.

Sports Captains assist at carnivals and events throughout the year. The winning house based on honours system points are announced at the Yearly Presentation Evening.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE)

A feature of the public education system in NSW is the opportunity to provide time in class for education in ethics, faith and morality from a religious or non-religious perspective at the choice of parents.

A parent/carer may at any time notify the school in writing that they wish to change their decision. Students will continue the same arrangement as the previous year, unless a parent/carer has requested a change in writing.

For more information about Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Education in Ethics (SEE), including the list of approved providers, please visit: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-across-the-curriculum/religion-and-ethics>

If your preferred SRE or SEE option is not available, please contact the approved provider. Students not attending SRE or SEE are given supervised alternative meaningful activities.

SRE at Keira HS is provided by *Generate* and members of the local community. Students in year 7 are offered the opportunity to participate in Scripture lessons each term. Parents need to indicate if they wish their child to participate in Scripture. A letter is given to each Year 7 student upon enrolment or upon request.

Year 7 students will have SRE lessons scheduled on a rotational basis. They will generally occur once a fortnight. Each class will have it in-lieu of their normal class and this will change from term to term. The regular classroom teacher will supervise students not attending SRE in meaningful activities related to their subject area.

Our SRE teacher also runs a lunchtime program which is open to all students at Keira HS. It is held on the same day as the year 7 program and all students are able to attend.

CLUBS, EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

A feature of Keira High School is the plethora of opportunities that are provided to students to develop their skills and knowledge outside of classroom learning.

These events are coordinated by school staff, sometimes in conjunction with community organisations and are held throughout the year.

- Aboriginal Education Committee
- Arts Under the Stars
- Bands: Senior Band, Beginner Band, Guitar and Ukulele Ensembles
- Biannual Whole School Production
- Book Club
- Café
- Chess
- COVID Intensive Literacy and Numeracy Support
- Debating
- Directed Senior Study for Year 11 & 12 students
- Drama Festival
- Duke of Edinburgh
- EALD Homework support
- Engadine Band Fest + Illawarra Instrumental Festival
- Harmony Day
- Homework Club
- HSC Atomi for Year 11 & 12 students

- HSC Study Days
- Illawarra & South East Region Touring ensembles
- Induction program for new students
- Interact Club with Wollongong Rotary Club
- Keira Community of Schools STEM
- Keira Community of Schools Student leadership events
- Keirabald Art exhibition
- Lunchtime Games
- Music “Plugged” Concerts
- NAIDOC week
- NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge
- Peer Support for Year 7 and 11 students
- Performing Arts Evening
- Public Speaking
- Rock & Water Physical and Social Wellbeing program
- Schools Spectacular
- Science & Engineering Challenge
- Sentral Parent & Student Portal
- Southern Stars
- Sports Captains
- Student Representative Council (SRC)
- Sydney Writers’ Festival
- Theatresports Team
- Uno club
- UoW Science Fair
- White Ribbon Day



School Captains and Music Program Students preparing to perform at Pleasant Heights Public School's Leadership Assembly

Great traditions, a confident future.



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