Welcome

Harristown State High School
is a school with outstanding school spirit,
and immense school pride.

From Our Principal

Welcome to our school, a school with a very proud history, immense school pride and an excellent record of achievement.

Our school’s vision statement – Engage, Achieve, Excel - articulates the importance of consistent progress towards excellence for every single one of our students, without exception.

Our students achieve academic success through excellent teaching and learning in every classroom. Two highly respected and research-based teaching and learning frameworks - Dimensions of Learning and Explicit Instruction - are continually being further embedded in our school’s practice.

These frameworks provide staff and students and parents/carers with an explicit and shared understanding of the most effective, evidence-based teaching learning processes.

Our school also incorporates an extensive program of extra-curricular activities which extend and add to the richness of life and opportunities for student success at Harristown.

As Principal, I admire the quality and talents of our students and staff and I am energised by the passion and enthusiasm of our community for their school.

I warmly invite you and your family to join our Harristown State High School family as together we engage, achieve and excel.

Ken Green
Principal

From Our School Captains

In our time at Harristown we have benefited from the wide range of opportunities and programs offered to us by our school. These opportunities assist all of us to transition smoothly into our bright and exciting futures. Whether our interests lie in sports, the arts, academia or behind a work bench, Harristown fosters our passions.

Harristown has developed a rich culture over the years. This is embraced by the whole school community and is evidenced by the acronym PRIDE (Participation, Relationships, Integrity, Diligence, Enthusiasm) which informs all that we do and which has fostered many traditions in our school. Harristown thrives on achievement and encourages the best of all its students. Wherever we turn we have the support we need, not only from teachers, but also from our peers.

Through our school’s vision of Engage-Achieve-Excel, our secondary school journey has been a great adventure at Harristown. Many high expectations are held within our school, particularly for learning, assessment, behaviour, uniform and attendance.

We welcome you to be part of our Hawk family and hope that the experiences, achievements and memories you will create here at Harristown, will stay with you for many years to come.

Chloe Ledger and Alex Hohn
School Captains 2016
**Why Harristown?**

**Dimensions of Learning**
One key to developing our students’ love of learning is Harristown State High School’s Dimensions of Learning Framework. Developed from current educational research, this school-wide program encourages students and staff to develop and share a common language and understanding of the learning process.

Underpinning the framework is our Responsible Behaviour Plan which gives students the understanding of how better behaviour enhances their enjoyment and understanding of learning.

**A Caring and Supportive School**
All students at Harristown State High School belong to a form class which meets briefly with their form teacher each morning for roll marking, sharing student notices, passing on individual messages and pastoral care. Student Managers are the first contact for students with inquiries regarding their studies. Students also have the option of speaking with their subject teachers or Heads of Department.

To provide extra assistance or advice when needed, Harristown State High has a range of personnel available for students, including a Behaviour Support Teacher, a Guidance Officer, a Community Education Counsellor, a School Chaplain, a School-based Youth Health Nurse, a Police Liaison Officer, dedicated Special Education Program staff and a Youth Support Coordinator. Harristown successfully balances the benefits of being a large school with our aim of personalising each student’s learning experience, by having four mini-schools (or houses) each with its own Deputy Principal. Students remain with their house for the years they are at Harristown State High, and house activities form an important part of school life.

**Diversity of Cultures**
Our school takes pride in including students and teachers from more than 30 countries; a diversity of cultures which enriches the school community and students’ experiences in their learning years. International students are actively encouraged to join us at the school and this allows a two-way exchange of ideas and appreciation of other cultures.

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**Specialisation**

Harristown offers students the opportunity to specialise in Academics, Industrial Skills, Sport and The Arts while completing their curriculum requirements in other areas. These specialised academies within the school are offered to eligible students.

**Academic Academy**
The aim of the Academic Academy is to provide capable students with a program of extension and enrichment in core subject areas from semester two of Year 8. Some students will also have the opportunity to accelerate through identified areas where they are potentially gifted and talented.

**Industrial Skills Academy**
Enrolment in this academy allows students to complete units towards trade qualifications in Construction and Engineering while completing their Queensland Certificate of Education.

**Sports Academy**
Harristown State High has long been known as a centre for sporting excellence. We are proud of our sporting achievements with many of our talented students attaining Queensland and also Australian representation. Sports’ specialisation is offered in football (soccer), volleyball, basketball and rugby league.

**The Arts**
The Arts’ Programs at Harristown are very highly regarded with a full compliment of Arts’ subjects including Dance, Drama, Film, Television and New Media, Visual Art and Music being offered from Years 7 - 12. Extra curricular programs focus on extending students and developing excellence through public performance and exhibition.

Please contact the relevant Head of Department on 07 4636 8700 to find out more about these specialisations.

**Special Education**
Special Education Program (SEP) provides curriculum support based on individual student needs. This support can be provided in mainstream classes, as alternative classes in some core areas, or a combination of these options. Students can be assigned a case manager as a ‘go to’ person for individual support in and out of class time.
Opportunities

Curriculum
Our extensive curriculum, together with our wide range of extra-curricular activities, provides opportunities for students unparalled on the Darling Downs. Each student is able to experience subjects across the academic, vocational, sporting and arts’ spectrums in the junior secondary school years before deciding which direction to take in Years 10, 11 and 12. In the senior school, students have the opportunity to undertake a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship pathway. Harristown State High places great emphasis on the key learning areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Economics and Citizenship. Health and Physical Education, The Arts, Technology and Languages other than English. These are increasingly being underpinned by contemporary digital technologies. The dimensions of learning and the elements of explicit instruction, together with class and individual profile data, inform the teaching of all key learning areas. Particular focus is given to literacy, numeracy and critical thinking. Teachers differentiate teaching strategies to address gaps in student learning and varied learning styles. Our close working relationship with our cluster primary schools promotes a continuous link between primary and secondary education.

Co-curriculum
All Harristown students, parents/carers and staff are encouraged to be active members of both the school community and the communities in which they live. There are many extra-curricular and co-curricular activities available for students including sporting activities, ensembles and bands, public speaking, debating, camps, trips, fund-raising and competitions.

A Positive Learning Environment
Our positive learning environment is an essential key to success for Harristown State High students. Each student has an academic coach who oversees his/her academic progress. Enjoyment of learning is equally important for us, and our students consistently rate the school highly in the Department’s School Opinion Surveys. Learning at Harristown State High is designed to be flexible and exciting. Students, together with parents/carers, are encouraged to take responsibility for their pathways of learning.

How can we enrol our child?
Primary students in our local primary schools are visited as part of a comprehensive Transition to High School process. During these visits enrolment packages are handed out to those students who are intending to come to Harristown. Part of this comprehensive transition involves an Orientation Day in the last week of the school year. See important dates on the supplied fridge magnet. Alternatively enrolment packages can be collected or posted out, on request from the school office. The enrolment package consists of an enrolment application, a booklet of consents and agreements and a Student Resource Scheme agreement. Information about enrolment is also available on the school website. A child’s birth certificate must be sighted when enrolments are submitted and an enrolment interview arranged. Group interviews will be scheduled from June each year for incoming Year 7s. Previous school reports and any additional information is always helpful to enable us to cater appropriately for children.

How can we find out more?
The school has a series of school tours into which parents/carers may book. Dates of our school tours can be found on our school website. An open afternoon for prospective families is to be held on Tuesday 24th May, 2016. See important dates on the supplied fridge magnet.

Unique Mini School Structure
How are houses organised?
Harristown has a unique mini-school structure made up of four schools that we liken to family groups; Balkuin, Barang, Bonda and Dherwain. Students are allocated to a house based on the initial letter of their surname and once in a house, students remain in that house until they graduate. As a family group, each house has a Deputy Principal, Junior Student Manager and Senior Student Manager, as well as a group of form teachers who build close working relationships with their students and their families. These relationships grow and develop over the course of students’ secondary schooling here at Harristown.

The School Uniform
Girls’ Dress Uniform
- tartan pleated skirt
- white over blouse with tartan trim
- tartan tie for Years 7 to 9
- brown tie for Years 10 to 12
- white socks or near-black full length panty hose
- fully enclosed black leather formal school shoes*
- Hijab in school colours only*

Boys’ Dress Uniform
- grey college shorts or trousers
- blue monogrammed shirt
- grey socks (long if worn with shorts)
- black leather formal school shoes*
- brown school tie for Years 10 to 12

Unisex Clothing
- Hawks’ spray jacket
- HSHS blue/brown fleecy sweat shirt
- HSHS blue micro fibre or fleecy track pants
- HSHS blue woollen jumper
- white monogrammed skiway (as undergarment)

* Not available at school P & C Shop

Starting at Harristown High School
Students starting secondary school for the first time should present in their formal school uniform at the South Street entrance to the school. Year 7s will be directed into the Auditorium ready for a program of induction activities. As part of the induction program students will find in their timetable, be introduced to key staff and student leaders and acquaint themselves with the school and other students before the start of formal classes. Students in other year levels, who are commencing either on the first day of the school year, or at varying times during the year, should present to the Student Counter in the Administration Building where they will be linked with a school leader who will spend time orienting them to the school, assisting them to access a student planner and delivering them to their first class.

Finding out about classes
In general, students will have several class or group experiences as part of their timetable including:

Form Classes
Students belong to a form class which meets each morning prior to the start of subject classes, for the purpose of roll marking, sharing student notices and passing on individual messages and pastoral care. Form rolls establish student attendance for the day and provide essential information necessary for effective emergency procedures. If students miss form class they must sign in at the school office with an explanation for their lateness.

Year Level Group
Many activities occur on a year level basis such as: Year 7 Camp, Year 8 Dreamworld Day, Year 9 Challenge Day, Year 10 Camp, Year 11 Leadership Camp, Year 12 Community Day. Students often meet at year level assemblies under the direction of the Year Level Co-ordinator.

House Group
Students belong to one of the four houses: Balkuin, Barang, Bonda or Dherwain; names derived from our rich Aboriginal heritage. A number of activities from sport to arts and cultural competitions occur on a house basis throughout the year. House assemblies occur under the direction of Student Managers.
Junior Secondary Curriculum

Junior Secondary Philosophy

Harristown State High School is united in its pursuit of excellence in the Junior Secondary years. Junior Secondary recognises the early phase of adolescence as a distinct stage of development, by understanding Year 7 to 9 students’ developmental and learning needs. Students are engaged in age and content appropriate teaching and learning practices, providing future work and study opportunities for students in the context of a rapidly changing external environment. Junior Secondary students will complete study each semester in the core areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Health and Physical Education. In Year 7 and Year 8, students will experience an array of elective subjects, such as Industrial Skills, Home Economics, Business and Information Technology, LOTTE, Dance, Drama, Visual Arts and Music. This experience then assists them to nominate two elective subjects to study in each additional semester during their junior secondary education.

Specialised academies in Academics, Industrial Skills and Sport are offered to eligible students from second semester in Year 8. To find out more about these specialisation programs, please contact the relevant Head of Department at the school.

Digital Technologies

At Harristown it is acknowledged that today’s learners require access to contemporary digital technologies. It is believed that such access will promote learner engagement, provide access to a wide range of information resources, enhance classroom practice, and enable our students to participate as effective members of an increasingly digital society. Harristown has eight computer labs and hundreds of laptops. Many classrooms have data projectors, interactive whiteboards and software which allow teachers to monitor access and to direct students to a range of particular resources. Such technologies allow teachers to prepare students for the future.

Every Day Counts

Going to school every day counts… because students achieve better and maintain friendship groups when they attend school each and every day. A full education means a better chance at life. A full education means a better chance at life. Going to school every day counts… because a full education means a better chance at life. A full education means a better chance at life. Going to school every day counts… because a full education means a better chance at life. A full education means a better chance at life. Going to school every day counts… because a full education means a better chance at life. A full education means a better chance at life. Going to school every day counts… because a full education means a better chance at life. A full education means a better chance at life.

Senior Secondary Curriculum

Subjects Available in Year 10

Preparation for Years 11 and 12 occurs in Year 10, the first year of Senior Secondary. Students are encouraged to explore the options available and to consider what subject areas they want to experience in preparation for their final two years. Students in Year 10 receive detailed information about Year 11 and 12 subjects and are invited to participate in information nights about course availability and choices.

Senior Certification Year 11 and 12

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is awarded to students completing their senior schooling, providing certain criteria are met. These include:

- 20 credits gained through sound achievement, pass or equivalent at a set standard. Twelve credits must be from Core courses studied for all 4 semesters.
- Literacy and numeracy requirements

If students have not met the full criteria at the end of Year 12, their ‘learning account’ towards the QCE remains open and they may continue to work towards their QCE for a number of years.

Students receive detailed information about courses and the QCE in Years 10 and 11. More information about the QCE can be obtained at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au or by speaking with the school’s Guidance Officer. Regular reviews are conducted of senior students’ progress towards achieving a QCE.

Students finishing Year 12 all receive:

- a Senior Statement showing all studies and results achieved by the end of Year 12
- a Queensland Certificate of Education
- a Tertiary Entrance Statement showing the student’s Overall Position (OP) and Field Positions (FPs) used for determining eligibility for admission to tertiary courses provided that:
  - a minimum of 20 semesters of Authority Subjects has been completed
  - at least three of these subjects have been studied for all four semesters
  - students have completed the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test
  - a Selection Rank
  - a vocational education qualification depending on certificates completed and
  - a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA) if applicable.

Curriculum Area

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Early Childhood Studies is delivered as an Authority Registered subject.

Accredited through external agencies are other courses of study, including:
- Certificate II in Fitness, school-based apprenticeships, traineeships or courses through TAFE Queensland South West and other Registered Training Organisations.
- Microsoft Academy Modules are available for a cost to access further certificates of learning and QCE credits.
- Certificate II in Digital Technologies
- Certificate II in Information Technology
- Certificate II in Engineering
- Certificate II in Construction
High school and adolescence are times of great change in students’ lives. At different stages students may be more comfortable talking one on one or in a small group. The following people and programs are available to assist students in need of support or advice.

**Student Support Network**

*recently arrived in Australia.*

*for whom English is an additional language from diverse cultural backgrounds to support the range of students.*

*These staff members are available to support better student attendance and engagement in school.*

**Academic Performance**

Initially we ask that students speak with their subject teachers about academic performance. If students would prefer to raise their concerns across any number of subjects then they can speak with their Student Manager.

**Behaviour Support Teacher**

This teacher provides support to students who need to develop strategies to better manage their behaviour.

**Clontarf Academy Staff**

Indigenous boys of any age are encouraged to register with the Clontarf Academy providing them access to support and activities to enhance personal development, schooling achievements and transition to work and further study.

**Community Education Counsellor**

The CEC is available to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

**Engagement Officer**

The Engagement Officer works with Deputy Principals and families to support across a range of issues, particularly as it relates to their individual year level.

**English as an Additional Language or Dialect Teacher**

These staff members are available to support the range of students from diverse cultural backgrounds for whom English is an additional language or dialect and who have recently arrived in Australia.

**Form Teachers**

Form Teachers meet with their form students at the beginning of each day for roll marking, sharing student notices, passing on individual messages and pastoral care.

**Guidance Officer**

The Guidance Officer is available to help and advise students and their parents/carers on matters as diverse as emotional and social concerns, subject selection, career paths, scholarships and tertiary admissions procedures.

**Homework Centre**

If students require assistance to understand or complete homework or assignment tasks, they are welcome to attend our Homework Centre. Access to teacher assistance, computers, internet and printers are all available. Completed permission forms are a pre-requisite to attending.

**Industry Placement Officer**

Working in the vocational education (VET) area, this staff member supports students wishing to undertake work experience, a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT) or SQIT course.

**International Student Program and Homestay Coordinators**

These coordinators provide support to international students who enrol at Harristown to be immersed in the English language while completing their secondary school studies. This support also extends to the coordination of homestay accommodation.

**Interyear ‘buddy’ Program**

At the commencement of the year, all Year 7 students participate in an Interyear Program, where small groups of Year 7 students are buddied with responsible Year 12 students, who help them to develop friendships and to become familiar with the school and its operations.

**Librarian**

The Librarian can assist students, through booked appointments, to use the library and internet resources most productively.

**Police Liaison Officer**

As part of the current approach to policing, which places a greater emphasis on community involvement and prevention, our School-based Police Officer plays a role in the education of students and is available to answer questions.

**School-based Youth Health Nurse**

The School Nurse is based at the school to provide students with counselling on health-related issues. The Nurse also plays a role in a range of educational programs, related particularly to health, nutrition and human relationships.

**School Chaplain**

A School Chaplain can be accessed by students if they seek personal guidance.

**Support Committee**

The Support Committee considers referrals about individual students and works with the staff to promote effective differentiation to cater for all learners.

**Student Managers**

The Student Manager is the first point of contact should parents/carers have concerns or wish to make appointments with a number of class teachers. Student Managers liaise extensively with students, teachers, parents/carers and administration to ensure that students receive appropriate advice and support across a range of issues, including attendance and uniform.

**Year Coordinators**

These coordinators are responsible for the school pastoral care program, particularly as it relates to their individual year level.

**Youth Support Coordinators**

These coordinators work with young people who are at risk of disengaging.

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**Expectations**

**Responsible Behaviour Plan**

The following is a brief overview of school expectation and the Responsible Behaviour Plan for students. The full Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students is included in the Student Planner.

**School Pride**

As a place of learning our school values;

- Participation
- Relationships
- Integrity
- Diligence
- Enthusiasm

We aim to develop and instil in our students self-discipline, responsibility and respect for the rights of others – the rights of all students to learn, the rights of teachers to teach and the rights of all to feel safe.

Students and their parents/carers are asked to read the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and to agree in writing, to uphold the reputation of Harristown State High School by abiding by this plan and related rules and requirements as listed.

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**Rules and Requirements**

The following are expectations at Harristown State High School:

- The Student Dress Code includes guidelines relating to uniform, footwear, jewellery, make-up and hair colour.
- School charges and voluntary contributions are managed through the P&C Shop.
- There are usage and access requirements for students to be able to use the school network.
- It is important to notify the school of reasons for absence and provide medical certificates, where applicable, particularly if assessment is missed. If absent for more than 10 days, please ask if an exemption could apply.
- Please seek assistance when required to address school incidents so that complaints can be managed in a satisfactory manner.
- Participating in services offered by the Chaplain is voluntary.
- Parents/carers are required to sign a consent form for the school to use student copyright materials.
- Mobile phones and other electronic devices used by students are generally turned off and out of sight from 8:45am until after 3:00pm unless permission has been sought.
- The school grounds should not be accessed outside school hours unless students have permission to be on site e.g. for Homework Centre, Arts production or sports training.
A strong emphasis on community links has enabled Harristown to develop a facility base which is the envy of many schools. Our school is a model of best practice for community use of school facilities.

To assist the many aspects of learning, students and staff utilise the following physical resources:

- Auditorium with seating for 1500 people
- Creative Technology Centre with a 330-seat tiered multimedia theatre with high tech functionality
- Updated Library with high tech functionality
- Computer laboratories with wireless technology and ICT pods in each teaching block as well as access to laptops and tablets
- Business Education Centre
- Languages & Cultures Community Centre with high tech functionality
- Year 7 precinct
- Film and television facilities
- Dance studios
- Up-to-date Science facilities
- Clontarf Academy Rooms for Indigenous boys
- Extensive Industrial Arts facilities
- Trade Training Centre
- Commercial-grade kitchen facilities for Home Economics and vocational training
- Canteen with healthy food choices
- P & C Shop for books and uniform

Excellent sports facilities:
- 25 metre heated pool
- Three volleyball/basketball gymnasiums
- State-of-the-art cricket practice nets
- Extensive outdoor fields and courts for track and field, soccer, hockey, rugby league and cricket

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are encouraged to be a part of our school community and to take an active interest in their child’s learning journey.

The Parents and Citizen’s Association (P&C) always welcomes new parents/carers and interested community members to monthly meetings or to volunteer in the school canteen. The P&C is active in promoting the welfare and achievements of our students and in enhancing facilities and resources in the school.

Our Indigenous families have initiated a Hawk Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Parent Advisory Table which meets twice each term. This demonstrates to children a powerful model of engagement.

Regular conversations and activities are incorporated into the school calendar to promote the voices of our Indigenous, migrant and international families in school decision-making.

All parents/carers are encouraged to be involved by:
- Advising of reasons for absence, providing medical certificates and/or responding to SMS messages from the school
- Ensuring records are up-to-date with the latest contact and medical information
- Attending parent-teacher interviews
- Attending relevant ceremonies and assemblies as well as our annual Presentation Night

Keeping in touch

Our school is committed to keeping parents/carers and students informed throughout the year. Students reports are issued at the end of each term with parent-teacher interviews being held twice per year. Course information evenings are held during the year for students in Year 7 and in Year 10 to assist in the selection of courses for their next phase of study involving elective subjects.

“Hawk Chat”, our school newsletter is distributed through form classes and published to our school website. “Hawk Talk” is a full page editorial published through the local newspaper communicating with our local community about the achievements of our school and our students. Our school website is continually refreshed to enhance its usability and accessibility for our local, national and international families. Parents/carers are encouraged to download the QSchools mobile app and ensure the QSchools push notifications are enabled in phone settings to receive automatic updates of important school information. Harristown also has a Facebook page which is updated on a regular basis.

Presentation Night

Presentation night will be held at the Empire Theatre on Tuesday 25th October, 2016. This is an evening especially organised for students’ families to share and celebrate in their achievements. During the evening commendations and awards are presented in a variety of areas including academic, sporting, extra-curricular and service to the school. Students are also recognised and congratulated on their participation, effort and behaviour throughout the year.

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We encourage all our students and their parents/carers to be involved in school community life beyond the classroom.

Extra-curricular Activities
A diverse range of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities is available for students.

These activities include:
• subject specific competitions such as the International Mathematics Competition
• school drama/musical productions
• vocal ensembles
• instrumental bands and ensembles
• involvement in local, regional, state and national exhibitions and performances
• public speaking and QDU debating
• Harmony and NAIDOC Weeks
• buddy to international visitors and international study tours
• ambassador program for visitors and outreach to primary schools
• Homework Centre
• Interact supported by Rotary
• Student Representative Council (SRC)
• special assemblies, such as ANZAC Day, Hawks Read, Gold and Silver awards, recognising students for their effort and behaviour
• sporting activities: friendly games or regional, state-based competitions
• international tours for sporting teams
• house spirit events - Balkuin, Barang, Bond, Dherwain athletics carnival, swimming carnival, arts day
• charity fundraising or community volunteering
• year level camps and social events
• lunch time activities including chess club and zumba
• character or themed dress up days
• excursions, events and trips including the school ski trip, World Challenge, Emu Gully, Amaroo, museums and art galleries, Bard Stars, Clontarf training camps etc
• Presentation Night awarding students for their achievements and participation throughout the year.

Some of the above activities do have costs associated with them.
For more information please contact Harristown State High School

Office Hours
8.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday,
hours vary during school holidays

Timetabled Classes
8.50am to 3.00pm

Address
341-367 South Street, Toowoomba Q 4350
PO Box 156, Drayton North Q 4350
Phone (07) 4636 8700
Fax (07) 4636 8777

Email
principal@harristownshs.eq.edu.au

Website
www.harristownshs.eq.edu.au

CRICOS Provider Number
00608A

Principal
Mr Kenneth Green

Deputy Principals
Balkuin House (Green) – Mr Craig Forknall
Barang House (Blue) – Ms Leanne Monagle
Bonda House (Red) – Ms Helen Parker
Dherwain House (Yellow) – Mr Dale Potter

Absence Hotline (07) 4636 8789

School Canteen (07) 4636 8710
Open 7.30am to 2.00pm on school days
Also for a short time after school

P & C Shop (07) 4636 8714
Open 8.15am - 3.15pm Monday - Friday

P & C Meetings
7:30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month during school terms

Hawk A & I Advisory Table
check the website for details