



Yass High School Information Book 2022

Welcome to Yass High School. We are an inclusive, comprehensive and growing high school in a rural community close to the national capital. We have a proud record of providing an extensive range of academic, cultural, creative and performing arts, sporting, agricultural and technological opportunities for local students for over 50 years.

Highly qualified and passionate teachers maintain professional currency with best practice teaching strategies and resources to deliver a quality education to our students. Students benefit from a Trade Skills Training Centre, a modern Science/STEM facility, open-plan learning environments and strong ties with the community. A new multi-purpose Hall will be completed in 2022 to provide a facility that will meet our sporting and Entertainment course needs and provide a venue that will host events to connect the whole Yass community.

The school values are Respect, Responsibility, Honesty. These values have been agreed upon by students, parents and staff and form the basis for student wellbeing, backed by strong welfare and support structures and a culture of caring. Our Learning Support Team ensures individual students receive any required learning adjustments necessary to achieve success.

Yass High School is a member of two learning communities ensuring staff are well equipped for teaching and learning across the Kindergarten to Year 12 continuum. The Binit Binit learning community consists of 6 partner primary schools and is committed to providing the best possible education for all students with a focus on middle school and gifted and talented programs, creative and performing arts opportunities and Aboriginal education. The Southern Tablelands Community of schools focuses on HSC excellence, sharing resources, and providing quality professional learning for staff.

Our school is supported by a strong P&C team which operates the uniform shop. Students demonstrate their pride in their school by wearing the school uniform appropriately. We promote a culture of high expectations of behaviour, learning and contribution to community.

We welcome you to Yass High School and look forward to developing our learning partnership with you as your child progresses through the secondary years of education.

Linda Langton

Principal



2022 School Terms

Term 1

Friday 28th January to Friday 8th April

Friday 28th and Monday 31st January: Staff Development Day (pupil free)

Tuesday 1st February: Years 7, 11 and 12 return to school plus **all new enrolments** from 9.00am to 11.00am

Tuesday 2nd February: Years 8, 9 and 10 return to school- All students in attendance

Term 2

Tuesday 26th April to Friday 1st July

Monday 25th April: Anzac Day (Public Holiday)

Tuesday 26th April: Staff Development Day (pupil free)

Wednesday 27th July: Students return to school

Term 3

Monday 18th July to Friday 23rd September

Monday 18th July: Staff Development Day (pupil free)

Tuesday 19th July: Students return to school

Term 4

Monday 10th October to Tuesday 20th December

Tuesday 20th December: Staff Development Day (pupil free)

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Your key contacts at Yass High School

Principal- Linda Langton

Deputy Principal Years 8,10,12- Ruth Riach

Deputy Principal Years 7,9,11- Andrew Facer

Business Manager- Angela Parker

Administration Manager- TBA

Faculty Head Teachers

English- Scott Grose

Mathematics- John Duncan

Science/Agriculture- Tracy Randall

HSIE/Language (LOTE)/Library/Careers- Brendan Roberts

CAPA - Visual Arts/Music/Drama- Supervised by Ruth Riach

TAS - Industrial Arts/VET/Food Technology/Textiles- Joanne Southwell

PDHPE- James Harding

Multi-categorical Classes- Mark Hilder

Welfare- Teresa Baines

Year Advisers

Year 12- Ian Munn

Year 11- Ree Nicholson

Year 10- Scott Anderson

Year 9- Deanne Young

Year 8- Katrina Flynn

Year 7- Marnie Pack

Curriculum Co-ordinators

Stage 6 (Year 11 & 12)- Jenny Rajchert

Stage 5 (Year 9 & 10)- Dee Young

Stage 4 (Year 7 & 8)- Andrew Facer/Ruth Riach

VET Co-ordinator- Joanne Southwell

Year 6 Transition Co-ordinator- Teresa Baines

Sport

School Sport- Lucy Laurent

Representative Sport- Tracey Bills

Welfare

Deputy Principal - Years 8, 10, 12- Ruth Riach

Deputy Principal - Years 7, 9, 11- Andrew Facer

Welfare Coordinator- Teresa Baines

Careers Adviser- Fiona Wykes

School Counsellor- Samantha McGovern/Monica Bollen

Learning and Support- Kate Vale/Sue Dwyer

Financial- Angela Parker

Uniform- Ruth Riach & Year Advisers

Enrolment/Transfer- Linda Langton
Student Representative Council- Tracey Bills
Anti-Racism/Wellbeing- Tracey Bills
Aboriginal Programs- Kate Vale
Lost Property- Duplicating Room Staff
Clothing Pool- Front Office Staff
Technical Support- John Duncan/Andrew Facer

Concerns about

Staff- Principal
Students- Deputy Principal/s
Subjects- Head Teacher

Daily Organisation

Punctuality and preparedness

- Our school's complex organisation is aimed at providing students with the best educational experiences available and is dependent on everyone being on time and fully prepared for every day and every lesson so that learning time is not wasted. Punctuality and preparedness are themselves important and essential life skills

Day Structure

- Roll call is held every morning (9.00-9.20am) except Wednesday
- A normal school day has 5 one hour period
- Year 7-10 school sport occurs for 80min each Wednesday afternoon
- Senior sport occurs for 60min each Thursday afternoon

Attendance

- Good attendance is essential for success at school. Research links poor attendance with poor academic and social outcomes. Missing school makes it harder to keep in touch and fully benefit from belonging to your school community. Please contact the school if you know your child will be away
- Attendance is marked online each lesson
- All parents will be contacted via SMS if their child is absent at the beginning of the day if they supply a mobile phone number

Legal Attendance Requirements

- Students are to be at school every day it is open unless illness or serious, unavoidable events prevent their attendance
- Students can only miss school to attend work if it is an organised work placement
- A minimum 85% attendance rate in each year of study is essential for the award of a Record of School Achievement or a Higher School Certificate
- A written or verbal explanation from parents is required for all absences including missing a lesson, a part or whole of a day

Home School Liaison Officer

- Where there are ongoing or prolonged unexplained absences and the student is under 17 years of age, the school will refer the student to the Learning and Engagement Officer at Queanbeyan Office. The student may then be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer who will contact the parents/carers
- A return to school program may then be implemented in consultation with the school

Absences

- Explanatory notes are to be handed to the library staff in advance of or on return from an absence. If preferred, parents can ring the school and dial 6 with their explanation
- For part absences, leave or appointments - a note should be handed to the library staff before school and a leave pass will be issued
- Students with an assessable task due on that day must contact the school (see the Assessment Policy for each year)

Supervision

- Supervision is provided from 8.35am to 4.00pm
- Students travelling on buses are expected to remain at school on arrival and until departure of their bus at the end of the school day

How we communicate with parents and students

Open and timely communication between the school, home and the community is our ideal at Yass High School. All school community members are urged to use appropriate communication channels to keep each other informed of matters related to students and learning. Lack of time is often an issue in keeping communication channels open on a busy school day so patience is sometimes necessary. The other inhibiting factor to good communication is rumour and gossip: if what you hear sounds odd please contact the school for clarification. There may be instances where you are unhappy with an aspect of the school management. In keeping with the spirit of open communication, we ask you to contact the school for clarification or discussion rather than airing concerns on social media.

Contacting the school

- All contact with the school should be through the Front Office
- Communication is enhanced by contacting the relevant person. A list of 'key contacts' is provided earlier.
- The Deputy Principals assist the Principal in leading and managing the school. The Principal and Deputy Principals form the senior executive in the school. The Deputy Principal is responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the school and for the welfare of all students and staff. The Deputy Principals, along with the Principal, are responsible, for overseeing the continuous improvement in teaching and learning across the school
- The Principal is responsible for all areas of educational leadership. This includes the education and welfare of all students, all educational programs, learning outcomes, the management of staff and staff welfare development, financial management of the school, the management of the school property and developing partnerships between the school and the school community
- Head Teachers are an integral part of the school leadership team and their role is to support the Principal and Deputy Principals in leading and managing the school. They are accountable to the Principal for the provision of leadership in their specific curriculum area including educational programs, learning outcomes, student welfare, staff welfare, development and management, school and community partnerships and other areas as delegated by the Principal. Some Head Teachers have other specific responsibilities related to school administration and student welfare. For progress reports please contact the relevant Year Adviser
- The Year Adviser, who works closely with the school's welfare team and classroom teachers, is often the first person a parent should approach to discuss any problems or issues about a child. They provide relevant information to staff at meetings
- For serious welfare concerns, please make an appointment to see the school Counsellor. The School Counsellor assists teachers by strengthening the school's student welfare provisions and provides counselling and psychological assessment of students with specific needs. Their work with teachers in the classroom is designed to improve student learning outcomes. Matters discussed with the counsellor are confidential between the student and the counsellor

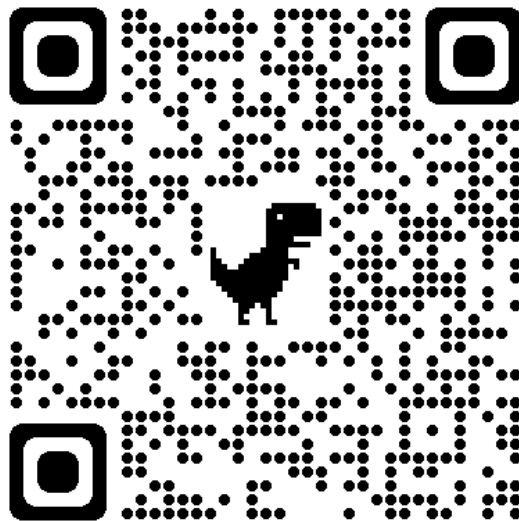
Yass High School Student Emergency Contact Information		
Student Information		
SURNAME	Given Name	D O B
Address		
Name of parent/carer to contact 1 st		Relationship to student
(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)
Name of parent/carer to contact 2 nd		Relationship to student
(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)
Additional contacts if parents are unavailable		
<small>Please provide for people over the age of 18 years who may be contacted in the event of an emergency if the school is unable to contact the parent/carer. Identify each contact clearly for someone who lives in the neighbourhood of the school. Please ensure that you have discussed with these people their willingness to be emergency contacts.</small>		
Name of contact 1 st preference		Relationship to student
(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)
Name of contact 2 nd preference		Relationship to student
(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)	(m/h/v)
Other contacts (m/h/v)		

Contacting Students

- Messages will be conveyed if it is of an urgent or serious nature. Please restrict requests made of the office staff
- A Student Emergency card is required for each student. We ask you to provide the front office with updated information during the year if your circumstances change

Channels of Communication

- We have a very informative website www.yass-h.school.nsw.edu.au, use the QR for quick access to the school website via a mobile device
 - Facebook account <https://www.facebook.com/YassHighSchool/>
- A regular bulletin (InTouch) containing news of student achievement and the forthcoming calendar is emailed home and on Compass. A paper copy can be requested by contacting the school office
- It is recommended that students purchase a diary to record homework and assist them in organising their day
- Parents may request a profile of their child's work (progress report) at any time through the relevant Year Adviser
- Warnings about incomplete assignments and students at risk are provided in writing



Parent Portal



- The [Parent Portal](#) gives access to student information and services, including parent/teacher interviews and upcoming events. The front office staff can help with access to the parent portal
- The URL for continued access to the portal is: <https://schools.compass.education/>
- Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact the school for assistance or access online help on the school website at <http://www.yass-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>
- The Compass App can be downloaded via the App store or google play



1 - [Google Play store](#)



2 - [App Store](#)

Parent Teacher Interviews



- Parent/Teacher evenings are held twice a year to allow discussion on your child's progress
- There is an on-line booking system for interviews via Compass

Student Wellbeing

School Values



Yass High School values Respect, Responsibility and Honesty. Positive behaviour expectations and social and emotional skills based on these values are taught to students during roll call lessons.

Some of these expectations are:

Respect

- Be Kind to others
- Listen to understand
- Follow staff instructions
- Use polite and caring language
- Be aware of personal space
- Wear uniform

Responsibility

- Take care of self and others – hands off
- Take care of the environment - Place rubbish in bins
- Report any problems to staff
- Right place, right time (stay in bounds) until directed to move
- Be on time
- Go to the toilet before the bell
- Fill up water bottle before the bell

Honesty

- Do your best
- Follow the school expectations for behaviour
- Move directly to class at the end of the break
- Return items to the owner
- Admit when you get it wrong
- Do the right thing without being asked

Welfare Officers

- The school has 2 school counsellors covering the school week
- The Welfare Coordinator liaises with external agencies to support students and their families
- Each year group has a Year Adviser
- Each year group has a designated Deputy Principal

- An Anti-Racism Contact Officer also assists in the welfare process

Year Advisers

- The Transition Co-ordinator and Year 7 Adviser at Yass High School organise the transition from primary school. The Year Adviser works with the same year group from Year 7 through to Year 12
- Year Advisers:
 - establish and maintain an efficient and caring network, rapport and environment
 - establish communications with staff and parents
 - monitor specific needs of students
 - are available for student/teacher/parent interviews and support to complete student profile information
 - compile “Student Profile Reports” when requested
 - develop management and leadership skills within the group



Ian Minn
Year 12



Ree Nicholson
Year 11



Scott Anderson
Year 10



Deanne Young
Year 9



Katrina Flynn
Year 8



Marnie Pack
Year 7

Student Leadership

- Students at Yass High School are given many opportunities to develop their leadership skills. The Student Representative Council (SRC) is the principle leadership body for students
- The role of the SRC is to represent the voice of the students. The student representatives organise school events, fundraise for elected charities and generally help with supporting the school values both within the school and community
- The School Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects are active members of the SRC, and also participate in many community activities that promote leadership and pride in Yass High School

First Aid

- The clinic is located in the Administration area adjacent to the Front Office
- All students needing medical attention should report to the clinic with a note from their classroom teacher
- The clinic is only for immediate first aid or sudden illness that occurs at school
- Parents will be contacted upon student request or if the student needs more than one lesson in the clinic
- In the event of an emergency, parents/carers will be contacted as soon as possible, However, if necessary, the child will be transported straight to hospital



Medicines

- Prescription medicines listed under the Poisons Act such as amphetamines for ADHD must be lodged with the Front Office staff and are stored in a locked cabinet
- The doctors prescribed instruction of dosage of medication must also be lodged at the office
- Staff are not responsible for supervising correct dosage

Non-Prescribed Medication

- The school is prohibited from providing aspirins or other medicines without parental permission



- Parents/Carers or emergency contact person will be contacted on a student needs basis. Parents/carers will either collect their student from school or give permission for medications, to be given at that time

Insurance

- There is no general insurance for accidents at school

Uniform

- The NSW Department of Education Behaviour Code for students states that students are expected to comply with the school's uniform policy
- The uniform code is developed by a committee representative of all stake-holders in line with Departmental Policy. In 2018 a review of the uniform was conducted and a new uniform has been in place since 2019
- Students are expected to abide by the policy during school hours, while travelling to and from school and when engaged in school activities outside the school
- In certain practical or specialised areas, general safety and WHS rules must be applied to clothing and footwear and followed at all times. **Covered leather shoes are required in such areas as science labs, kitchens, and when working in woodwork and metalwork rooms.** Breaches of WHS footwear requirement will result in the student being prevented from participating in the practical aspects of the lesson and alternate work will be provided
- Our school believes the following are the benefits derived from the wearing of school uniform:
 - Forms a sense of community, improves school tone and atmosphere and helps develop a sense of pride in the school
 - Assists with student identification and safety

- Stops the anxiety associated with “what do I wear” each day as it reduces competition amongst students and removes pressure on families to provide “fashionable” items for daily wear
- Promotes equality among students
- Maintains the high public and community regard for the school and its students
- Prepares students for expectations in general dress and uniform for work and post school life
- On sports day (Wednesday) students may wear approved school sport uniform and representative tops. On other days students’ are expected to change into the sport uniform for PE lessons, and back into school uniform at the end of this lesson
- Full uniform, including correct footwear, is a condition of participation in representative activities and excursions
- If for any reason uniform cannot be worn, a note is required to be given to the roll call teacher
- Students who consistently wear school uniform will be acknowledged on their school report
- A clothing pool operates and assistance can be provided in cases of hardship

Note: Jeans, tights, leggings or active wear are NOT acceptable uniform items

Entry to laboratories, kitchens and workshops is conditional on covered leather shoes being worn.

Footwear



Uniform Shop



The P&C Association runs the uniform shop and aims to assist our school in two ways

- Firstly to ensure our children are well dressed, in quality uniform, at a reasonable cost to our YHS families
- The second is to fundraise to provide financial assistance for programs and resources for the school

Your support of the Uniform Shop assists us in these aims, and wearing correct uniform helps our students develop a feeling of community, and a sense of pride in their school

PRICE LIST

- **Polo shirts \$30.00**
- **Sports shirts \$30.00**
- **Button shirts \$30.00**
- **Boys microfibre shorts \$20.00**
- **Cargo shorts \$25.00**
- **Boys pants \$35.00**
- **Tracksuit pants \$40.00**
- **Girls microfibre shorts \$20.00**
- **Sports skirt \$30.00**
- **Pleated skirts \$35.00**
- **Girls tailored pants \$40.00**
- **Hoodie jumper \$40.00**
- **V-neck pullover \$40.00**

How to order

The Yass High School Uniform Shop takes orders online at www.school24.net.au (school registration ID is 2516 7963) For any questions or concerns regarding ordering of uniforms please contact the uniform shop: yhuniformshop@gmail.com



Welfare and Discipline

It is expected that students display our school values whether they are in the classroom, on excursion or in the community

We believe:

- students have the right to be safe and happy at school
- a teacher must be able to teach at all times

- no student has the right to stop others from learning
- students are responsible for their own actions and must accept the consequences that follow from those actions
- Poor behaviour choices are addressed in the first instance with classroom teacher support. Students who continue to not demonstrate school values are supported through the Student Management System of yellow, orange and red levels. A red level is a warning of suspension. If student behaviour does not improve, a suspension may be imposed
- Students who are struggling with their academic or social behaviour are identified and supported
- The Learning and Support team works to ensure that all students follow an appropriate pattern of study, that learning needs of students are accommodated and that learning experiences and tasks are modified in line with identified needs
- Our Welfare Network includes:
 - Welfare Coordinator - supervises Year Advisers; liaises with Head Teacher Support and Learning Support Teacher
 - Head Teacher Support - manages students in MC (multi-categorical) classes
 - School Counsellor supports students with school and personal issues
 - Learning and Support Teacher - supports students with a range of learning needs by creating Individual Learning Plans for students and working with teachers to modify/adjust learning
 - Year Advisers - maintain regular contact with their year group to monitor and manage student wellbeing
- Bullying is not tolerated at Yass High School. Students who do not respect this are told that their behaviour is unacceptable and hurtful and has to stop. If it continues, parents are informed and students must work through a series of lessons to learn appropriate ways to treat others. A whole school understanding of what bullying means, its consequences and effects and the importance of speaking up is developed through targeted workshops and lessons. Please see policy on our website
- Teachers trained in anti-discrimination and anti-racism protocols oversee the development of positive behaviour in these areas
- Students, parents and staff are encouraged to raise issues of concern regarding any aspect of the school with a teacher or the principal
- Yass High School has developed a Code of Communication based on the NSW Department of Education's School Community Charter, supported by our strong P&C group, which describes expectations for mutually respectful communication between the school and the community
- The policies and procedures of the NSW Department of Education are followed and implemented at all times

Administration

Voluntary Contributions and Course Fees

- Our school offers a diverse and relevant curriculum to all students. Parents are requested to pay a voluntary contribution of \$50 (Years 7-10), \$70 (Year 11 & 12) each year to purchase resources which enhance learning for all students
- Although contributions are voluntary in accordance with departmental policy, it is vital that parents support the school through payment of this money as it provides a major part of the budget figure allocated to resourcing the educational program of our school
- In addition to this contribution, costs for materials/activities exist in some courses. These courses usually have consumables or use equipment which are expensive to maintain and replace
- Electives fees **must** be paid. Students who have not arranged payment by the end of week 3 each semester or negotiated a payment plan with the Administration Manager, will be offered a no-cost elective alternate. These payments for selected subjects are necessary as they cover goods and materials used by students

Musical Instrument Hire



- A fee applies for all students who hire a Yass High School instrument. Fees paid to feeder primary schools will be credited to Year 7
- All Band members are to pay a band fee to cover the cost of music, etc

Student Assistance

- Government funded assistance is available on application through the office. Funds received enable us to provide some support for fees relief or uniform

Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy

- Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy is available for eligible school students, who are residents of NSW, where there is no public transport for all or part of the journey and who reside more than 1.6 kms walking distance to the nearest bus pick-up point. PVC is paid on a daily basis for the single distance journey between home and school bus pick up point. PVC may also be available on medical or safety grounds (where the journey between home and the pick-up point is unsafe)

- Application forms are available online via the Dept of Transport. A new form is required by the Dept of Transport if your child is new at Yass High School

Money/Permission Notes

- The office is staffed from 8.30am
- In 2022 Yass High School administration is moving to become paperless, we highly encourage families to download the compass app to pay monies and communicate with the school
- Fees and other monies should be paid online via the school's website or the compass portal
- Payments can be made to the school via online payments for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website www.yass-h.school.nsw.edu.au by selecting 'make a payment'. Receipts are available from the Front Office at recess

Valuables at School

- Personal valuables may be lodged with the Office for safe keeping
- Phones, iPods and MP3 players are discouraged and should be 'Off and Away' during all lessons and assemblies or functions
- No responsibility is taken if valuable items are lost, damaged or stolen at school



Electronic Devices

- While mobile phones and other personal electronic devices may be brought to school, they must remain 'Yondered' during lessons unless teachers give permission for them to be used as a learning tool
- If devices are audible, visible or used in class without teacher permission the student can be asked to take them to the Front Office to be collected at the end of the day
- Devices must not be used to bully, harass or distract others from learning
- Repeated misuse of devices may lead to the phone being kept until parent/carer contact is made

Energy and Soft drinks

- Students are not permitted to bring soft drinks or 'energy' drinks of any sort to school. Drinks such as Red Bull, V, Mother, etc are banned from YHS for health & wellbeing reasons
- These items are also banned when students are representing the school during off-site activities such as excursions, sporting events and camps
- If students are found with these drinks they will be confiscated. Full cans will be returned at the end of the day
- We ask that students bring water to drink as this is most beneficial to quench thirst

Parents & Citizen Association

- Our P&C meets at 6.00pm at the school on the first Thursday of each month. This is an ideal way of establishing communications with the staff and other parents. New parent and community members are always welcome

Lost Property

- Lost property is located in the duplicating room
- Clothing and bags should be labelled with student's name

School Photos

- School photograph day is during term 1
- These photos are used by the school for identification purposes and the supply of Library cards
- Full school uniform is required for this day

Laptops - Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)



- At Yass High School students have the opportunity to bring their own technology device, connect to the Department of Education (DoE) wireless network to download and use Microsoft and Adobe Software. It is important to check the specifications of the kind of devices that can participate in the BYOD program
- Refer to the BYOD website at [Home YHS BYOD \(weebly.com\)](http://Home.YHS.BYOD.weebly.com) - follow the steps to connect

Use of the Internet

The aims of using electronic media include:

- enhancing students' learning opportunities and outcomes
- enhancing staff professional development through better links with professional bodies
- assisting staff and students to develop better information and communication skills
- enhancing the existing information facilities in classrooms, the school library and faculties
- No personal information will be provided to outside users through the Internet
- The Internet is not to be used by students to distribute material which is harmful to individuals or the school as a whole

Privacy Act

- Our employer, the NSW Department of Education, has advised schools that under the Privacy Act we are required to obtain parent/carer permission before photographs of students may be published. Student images will also be seen when they are participating in video conferences
- This consent is found on the Student Enrolment application for all new enrolments; a letter seeking consent is sent home for others
- Please contact the school if you wish to change this consent

Use of vehicles at school

- Year 12 students may opt in to the flexible attendance system if they have non-timetabled periods. A permission note will be issued at the start of Year 12 for parents to sign. If students are using the flexible attendance system, they may arrive at school after 9.00am and leave before 3.20pm when they **do not** have timetabled classes at the start or end of the day. Students who do not have a scheduled class period 5 may sign out at 2nd break
- Non-timetabled periods during the day will be supervised **study periods** at school. Students **MAY NOT** leave school before the conclusion of their last timetabled lesson of the day
- Students **may not** drive themselves or others on school excursions or to sporting events
- Students **are not** permitted to park at YHS. They should park at Victoria park

Student Recognition

End of Semester Awards



Faculty Award

- There are four categories of Faculty Awards:
 - 1st in class Award which is determined by assessment results and rankings;
 - Effort Award (maximum 2 per class) for diligent and conscientious application throughout the semester, resulting in measured improvement;
 - Encouragement Award (maximum 2 per class) for consistently displaying positive learning behaviours; and
 - Achievement Award for subjects where a student receives High and/or Outstanding Achievement for all areas of Learning on their report
- These awards are nominated by classroom teachers in recognition of an individual student's effort or achievement

- Parents are encouraged to attend Celebration Assemblies at the end of each semester where awards are presented

School Award

- A School Award recognises outstanding effort and commitment to learning and is given to students who have received a Faculty Award in the majority of their courses
- These awards are presented at Celebration Assemblies at the end of each semester

Principal's Award of Excellence

- A Principals Award acknowledges excellence in application and achievement
- This award is given to students who receive a Faculty Award in the majority of their courses
- These awards are presented at Celebration Assemblies at the end of each semester

End of Year Awards

There are two categories of Principals Awards:

Principal's Award for Exceptional Effort and Principal's Award for Academic Achievement

A Principal's Award acknowledges excellence in application and achievement.

- Students need to have achieved a Principals Award of Excellence in both semesters. The type of faculty awards achieved for the semester Principal's Award of Excellence determines whether students receive a Principal's Award for Exceptional Effort or a Principal's Award for Academic Achievement
 - These awards are presented at the end of year Presentation Evening

Curriculum and Assessment

Yass High School delivers a wide range of curriculum within the current guidelines of the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA).

Curriculum requirements

- Each student must follow minimum requirements of study set out down by NESA. The school pattern reflects these requirements. Each enrolling student is given information about the curriculum for their year
- A serious attempt at coursework, assessment tasks and exams is necessary for students to be deemed to have completed any course
- Provision is made for students with extended illnesses. A medical certificate is required in these cases
- Sport participation is mandatory for all years except Year 12

Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8)

- Core subjects for Years 7-8 include English, Mathematics, Science, Australian History and Australian Geography
- The following subjects are being offered as part of Technology Mandatory - Agricultural, Digital, Metal, Timber, Textile and Food Technology
- Students must also complete mandatory NESA hours in PDHPE, Music, Art and Language -Indonesian

Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10)

- Core subjects for Years 9 and 10 include English, Mathematics, Science, Australian History and Australian Geography, and PDHPE
- The following subjects are being offered and will be determined by student choices:

Agricultural Technology, Commerce, Drama, Food Technology, Industrial Technology Metal, Industrial Technology Timber, iSTEM, Music, Personal Development and Social Development – Community Studies, Photographic and Digital Media, Physical Activity and Sport Studies, Textiles Technology, Visual Arts and Visual Design

- NESA requires at least one 200 hour elective. Yass High School offers two elective lines for 100 hour and 200 hour courses

Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12)

- In Years 11 and 12 the only compulsory subject is English
- The following subjects are available:

English Advanced, English Extension, English Standard, English Studies (Non ATAR), Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Legal Studies, Mathematics, Mathematics Extension, Mathematics Standard 2 Pathway, Modern History, History Extension, Music 1, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Physics, Investigating Science, Textiles and Design, Visual Arts, Hospitality (VET), Metal and Engineering (VET), Primary Industries (VET), Mathematics Standard 1 Pathway, Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies, Entertainment (VET), Society and Culture, Agriculture, Food Technology, Ancient History, Community and Family studies, Geography, Mathematics Advanced, Construction (VET), Visual Design, Photography, Video and Digital Imaging

- Students study the equivalent of at least 12 units (six 2-unit subjects) in Year 11 and at least 10 units (five 2-unit subjects) in Year 12

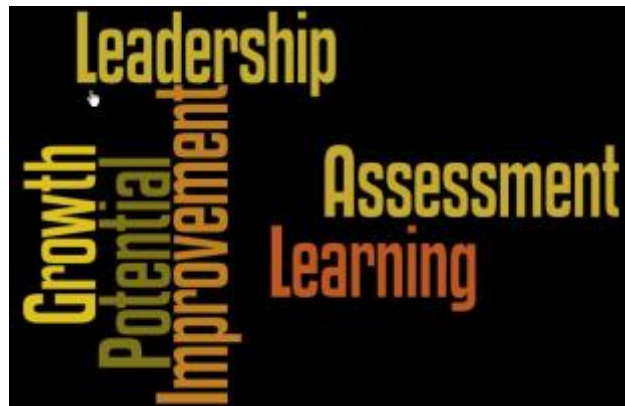
Assessments and Reports

All Years are issued an assessment booklet at the beginning of each year. These can also be found [here](#) on the school website.

Individual assessment tasks can be found on the compass calendar on the due date.

Semester reports are issued at the end of each semester and are available via the compass portal. If a printed report is required please contact the office during school hours.

All dates are subject to change if unforeseen circumstances arise.



Assessment Policies

- Assessments are based on a combination of class and whole course tasks with tests where relevant
- Assessment policies for all years are published on the school's website
- Upcoming assessment tasks including a copy of the task can be found on the compass calendar
- In Years 10, 11 & 12 assessment schedules are issued in line with the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA) requirements. It is essential that students and parents are familiar with these schedules

Multicategorical (MC) Classes

- Yass High School has MC classes providing specialised teaching practices to accommodate the requirements of students with diverse needs
- Yass High School is an inclusive setting. Students who attend MC classes study a variety of courses, including electives, in both MC class and mainstream environments
- Students in MC classes may also participate in the full range of extra curricular activities



Programs

Careers program

Yass High School has a full-time Careers Adviser who provides a range of services for students to assist them in planning their Career and Pathways including:

- Year 10 Careers Education
- Careers advice: available to meet with both parents and students
- Subject choice interviews, progress interviews, career planning interviews
- Yass High School Careers Expo/Market
- Work experience opportunities for students in consultation with parents/carers and the relevant Deputy principal
- Guest speakers to promote a variety of careers
- Excursions to Canberra Careers Expo, CIT Try a Trade, TAFE Taster Day, Uni of Wollongong Discovery Day, Uni of Canberra
- Resume preparation, selection criteria and interview preparation
- Assistance with applications for jobs, scholarships, early entry, accommodation, UAC, TAFE, CIT and private providers
- WHS White Card, Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) and Responsible Conduct of Gambling (RCG) Asbestos Awareness courses –liaise with TAFE and VET
- School Based Traineeships & Apprenticeships –school contact application to establish
- Defence Technical Scholarship applications
- Alternative programs
- Careers resources in the school library
- Student Pathways Survey
- Student Destination Survey
- Parent/student information evenings
- Transition team meetings
- Wellbeing team meetings
- EVET – applications Coordinator
- TVET – Coordinator
- SWVP – teacher

Extension opportunities

A range of opportunities is offered to develop gifted and talented students, including:

- State and National Mathematics, Computing, Science, Geography, HSIE and English competitions
- Public Speaking and Debating
- Band and choir
- Elite Sports Program
- Environmental projects
- Students' Representative Council
- Rotary Exchange and RYPEN
- Visiting speakers
- Independent programs of study
- Internet: advanced access
- Scholarships: TransGrid, Defence Force, Yass District Education Foundation
- UC Outreach Program
- Learning Labs with University of Wollongong
- Science and Engineering Challenge
- Maths Olympiad

Music program



Bands

- Yass High School offers a comprehensive band program beginning with the Link Band for primary students.

- The Concert Band is made up of students from Years 7 to 12 and play for a variety of occasions including special assemblies, Presentation Evening, and Anzac Day commemorations.
- Concert Band rehearsals occur weekly.

Rural Fire Service volunteer training

- This program allows students aged 15 and over who have a rural background to undertake practical and theoretical training that enables them to volunteer with the Rural Fire Service (RFS)
- At the end of the 10 week program students receive a certificate that gives them credit towards becoming a fully trained RFS volunteer
- RFS volunteers and officials come into the school 1 day a week to conduct the training during sport time. Uniforms are provided for the students to wear during the training



School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT)

School based apprenticeships, and traineeships combine practical work with structured learning and lead to a nationally recognised qualification. They provide apprentices with the necessary job experience to get the career they want. Apprenticeships are available in over 500 occupations in an increasing range of industries. Some apprenticeships can be started while still at school and form part of a student's Year 12 Certificate.

A School Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship (SBAT) involves the employment of a young person who is undertaking a traineeship part-time while still attending school or college and enrolled in a program leading to a senior certificate.

A Certificate II qualification requires a minimum of 8 hours (equivalent to one day) in the workplace. A Certificate III qualification has a greater time and work commitment and may require further work and study after the completion of Year 12.

Interested students should contact the Careers Adviser.

School to Work Program

The 2021 School to Work program will be organised in conjunction with careers for Years 10 and 11 students. It will focus on developing career exploration among the younger years to give them an understanding of the possibilities for employment after school life. It will aim to build experiences and networks within the school and local community to promote job pathways for our students.

Special Religious Education (SRE)

Year 7-9 students will have one SRE lesson each fortnight delivered by the Combined Churches of Yass. Parents will be asked to complete a permission for their child to attend/withdraw from the program. Students not attending will be supervised to read or complete class and assignment work. This permission can be changed at any time via written request.

Sport Program

- Yass High School offers a wide and varied range of sports for students to enjoy and excel at, including but not limited to:

Touch Football

Football (Soccer)

Rugby League

Swimming

Athletics

Cross Country

Netball

Basketball

Gymnastics

Tennis

Golf

Cricket

Weights

Squash

Yoga

Skate Park

Lawn Bowls

Fire Cadets

Table Tennis

- Students who walk to sport outside of the school need to have a permission note from parents indicating they are allowed to walk to the various sporting venues. All groups are supervised
- Notes giving permission for the year will be given to students for parents/carers to complete and sign
- Students will return to the school at the end of sport, by bus or on foot
- Parents/Carers can write notes allowing their child to leave directly from an outside venue to their home



Vocational Educational Training (VET)

- VET (Framework courses) are vocationally oriented courses designed to give students skills in a range of industries
- Yass High School has the capacity to offer six framework courses authorised by the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA)

These are:

- Primary Industries

- Construction
 - Entertainment Industries
 - Food and Beverage Hospitality
 - Kitchen operations
 - Metal and Engineering
- In these courses students work to develop the competencies, skills and knowledge described in each unit. To be assessed as competent, a student must demonstrate to a qualified assessor that they can effectively carry out the various tasks and combinations of tasks listed to the standard required in the appropriate industry. There is no mark awarded in competency-based assessment. Students are assessed as either 'competent' or 'not yet competent'
 - Students achieve Australian Qualification Frameworks (AQF) at the end of their two years of study
 - As part of their course, students are required to complete mandatory work placements of 35 hours in both Year 11 and 12, either in a block during school time, or through appropriate and recognised, part time employment
 - Students wishing to obtain an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) may choose to sit a written HSC examination in addition to obtaining their AQF qualification



Clubs

Art Club

Junior students who are keen on doing extra art activities meet in the Art room at lunch time once a week. This provides students with an opportunity to extend their skills and interests beyond the classroom curriculum.

Chess Club



The Chess Club meet once a week at lunch time for social games and for selection to the Yass High School representative Chess Team. The top four players are invited to participate in the NSW Junior Chess League Country Schools Teams Competition, commencing in March each year.

Yass High is part of the State wide competition which has been running for nineteen years and has enjoyed the patronage of over 300 secondary schools in regional NSW.

The competition is run in a knock-out format with initial matches being scheduled between closest entered schools in the region to minimise travel. As teams progress through the competition, lengthy travel can be avoided by arranging to play over the internet.

Minecraft Club

Minecraft club occurs every week on a Tuesday lunch time. Minecraft is a "sandbox" game where players explore, craft and build their own world which is based on real-world chemistry and engineering. Minecraft promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment

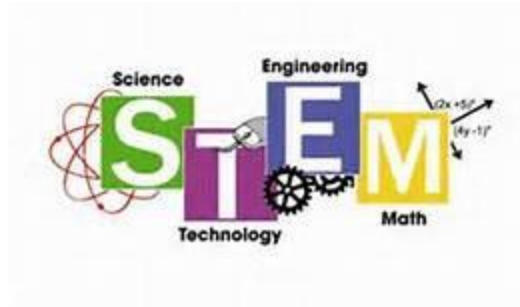
Dungeons and Dragons Club

Dungeons and Dragons club runs every Wednesday in Room 6. Bring your lunch and your friends and enter the world of adventure. No prior knowledge or equipment required. Everyone is welcome....if you are brave enough!

Show Team

The show team is a program that has been running at Yass High School since 1988 and involves students preparing cattle, sheep for showing at local and royal shows. The school prepares animals from its own commercial herd as well as donated steers and stud stock from local and other breeders. The students learn many valuable personal skills in the team including interpersonal skills, public speaking, personal presentation, manual handling skills amongst many others.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Club (STEM)



The school has a STEM Club which meets during lunch time. It is open to all students who have an interest in STEM outside the classroom and is free to join.

STEM Club provides a safe and enjoyable environment for students to gather and share their thoughts, opinions and passion for Mathematics and Science.

The STEM Club runs a number of activities driven by student interest in various areas of Mathematics and Science that include both extension of syllabus related material and topics of interest not covered by the current curriculum. These activities will expand their understanding of how Maths affects and can predict behaviours in the world around them.

Vocal Ensemble

Vocal Ensemble offers opportunities for students to practise and perform together at school and Regional events. Rehearsals are during lunch and all students are welcome.

Other lunchtime clubs activities

Students can choose to participate in a range of activities at lunch time, run by training groups such as Social Justice, Drama Club and English Club. The library is open and students may read, play board games, complete classwork or access games if computers are available.

Facilities

Our Learning Environment

The school includes a variety of learning spaces, from traditional class room to more open plan Integrated Learning Spaces and a new STEM building.

The learning spaces offer flexibility which encourages self-directed learning and allows teachers to regularly and effectively practise innovative teaching techniques. An increase in collaborative learning areas supports problem, project and inquiry-based learning. There are also a range of spaces that support independent and social learning which encourage interaction, promote inclusivity and support 'community of learners' who are focused on achievement.

Community Trade Skills Centre

Yass High School has a Community Trade Skills Centre with industry-standard modern facilities and an award winning innovative design. This is a facility which benefits our students and the whole community.

Library and Information Resource Centre

- The Library is open between 8.30am and 3:20pm Monday to Friday
- All students have access to the library, which provides opportunities for classes, small groups, or individuals to research, study, or to simply read for pleasure. There is also a selection of more traditional games such as Monopoly, Chess, Jenga and Uno for students to enjoy
- Outside of class time, the library's resources and computers can be utilised before school and during lunch
- Students can access the library catalogue online via the student portal, the school website or the library website (www.yasshslibrary.weebly.com)
- The school also offers supervised study outside school hours to senior students, particularly during their HSC year. Times will depend on student and teacher availability

Farm

- The school has approximately 3ha of farm to be used as a teaching resource for Year 7-12 Agriculture and Years 11-12 Primary Industries (VET). Students carry out the majority of the farm work as part of their studies in agriculture so that the practical and theoretical aspects are integrated
- A white Suffolk sheep stud, commercial beef cattle herd and free-range egg laying hens run in conjunction with pasture, cropping, horticulture and vegetable production

Lockers



- Yass High School has lockers available for student use. The cost is of \$10 per year.
- Students requiring a locker should see the Front Office staff

- Parents and students must sign a locker agreement form. Locker agreement forms are available from the front office
- Day lockers are available for student day use only. Keys are to be collected and returned to the Front Office daily

Canteen

- Our canteen is open Monday-Friday during recess and lunch
- The canteen also provides lunch orders and caters for various morning teas, meetings and special events held within the school

