

2019

PRAHRAN HIGH SCHOOL

PHS NEWS #1



Our Foundation Principal – **Mr Nathan Chisholm**



I'm delighted to introduce myself to you. I'm deeply honoured to have been appointed to the position of Foundation Principal of the new Prahran High School. I'm excited, grateful, ambitious and determined. Together we will develop an extraordinary school for our kids.

Prahran High School becomes the stand-alone, co-educational 7-12 secondary school bespoke designed and built for our community. The school has been funded and built as a result of significant community demand and high-level engagement over many years.

This is now real! Our new school is taking shape more and more every day. Nestled in the creative, urban heart of Prahran and Windsor, Prahran High School will proudly reflect the diversity, aspiration and entrepreneurial spirit of this community. At heart, our school will be a school for students, in every way. Our school will strive to develop positive young leaders who graduate from Prahran High School ready to make a positive contribution to our community - locally and globally.

We have a truly unique opportunity to create something very special at Prahran High School and with your support I'm confident that we'll do that. We will be a positive school and we'll frame our vision and values around the concepts of our students being connected, collaborative, creative, curious and caring learners, citizens and people. These values are important to me as a school leader and they will be values that we will look to explore as we develop our learning culture.

I have a fundamental belief in the power of positivity. At Prahran High School we will hold ourselves to the commitment to show unconditional positive regard for the young people in our care. I work from the belief that 'happy kids learn more' and this belief will drive our culture.

As the year progresses, I will further develop our mission, values and our cultural markers. Together we'll define the branding and marketing of our new school, leading to the development of the uniform. We will position ourselves positively and confidently amongst our friends in other schools nearby. Importantly, this year I will lead the ever-evolving work to develop our curriculum and our approach to learning and teaching. Collaboration will be key.

So, who am I? Firstly, I am a community member myself. I've lived in this community for many years, at different times, from when I first came to the University of Melbourne to study to become a teacher. We still live here happily and as a community member myself, I've watched this development with keen interest over the years. It's a great privilege to have been afforded this responsibility in a community which is also home.

I join Prahran High School after serving as Principal of Buckley Park College in Essendon. I'm proud of what we achieved together at Buckley Park and with the outstanding reputation that we hold in that community. I'm also proud of the results

of our students. Naturally I left that community with mixed emotions as I care about that community too and I'll watch their continued achievements for years to come.

I'm a teacher. I still love being in the classroom and as we develop Prahran High School you can expect to see me working side-by-side with teachers and students. Later this year, I'll begin the recruitment of my team and you can be assured that when we begin in 2019, our students will have the very best possible team of educators around them.

I do some freelance writing, I'm still doing some study at the University of Melbourne and at times I've supported the editing of an education journal. I sit on the Board of Directors of a not-for-profit company which administers a charitable trust aimed at supporting the engagement of disadvantaged children in schools. I am broadly engaged with the education community and I'm committed to my own professional and personal growth. I'm sure that Prahran High School is a good fit for me; I hope that you'll soon have confidence that I am a good fit for Prahran High School too.

I hope our first PHS News is helpful for you. I look forward to connecting you with personally over the next weeks and months. I've attached an initial 'Q and A' with this too. I hope this is helpful for you. I'm collecting questions as I meet people and will share responses with you regularly.

I very much look forward to working closely with this community as we work toward opening Prahran High School with our inaugural Year 7 cohort in 2019.

Community Engagement and 'Meet the Principal' Forums

I've spent the past week meeting principals, teachers, children and families in each of our key local primary schools. It's been wonderful to feel the energy around our new school and to also take the opportunity to respond to questions in person. What beautiful local primary schools your children are lucky to attend.

This work is about relationships. I'm committed to meeting as many families as I can over the next few weeks and months.

We are also holding two official
'Meet the Principal' forums at St Kilda PS
on **May 1 and 3**.
These forums will run from **6.30 – 8pm**
and I encourage you to join us.

Year 6-7 Transition Leading to Enrolment 2019

The transition process is well underway and by now you will have received your application forms from your primary schools. Once you decide which school you wish your child to attend for Year 7, an Application for Year 7 Placement form should be completed and returned to your child's Grade 6 teacher. The preferences are important and if Prahran High School is your preferred school, please do list us as your first preference.

These forms are due back in to primary schools by Friday 11 May.

I understand there is some anxiety in the community about the Designated Neighbourhood Boundary (DNB) and if you're actually able to enrol at Prahran High School. I want to provide this comfort to you – you're most welcome and I encourage you to be open to this exciting new school opportunity.

All schools have a DNB and they are strictly enforced when schools are at capacity. The DNB hasn't yet been finally defined for Prahran High School yet and regardless of your address, you're most welcome to apply for enrolment for 2019. We have flexibility as we grow our school and we are open to all enrolment applications in this first year, depending on numbers. My message is, 'If you're interested in Prahran, please continue to engage, as for 2019 all enrolment applications are most welcome'.

Victorian School Building Authority

As well as this newsletter and our Facebook page, you can also get updates on the project and with how our beautiful new buildings are coming along, on the Victorian School Building Authority website.

CLICK HERE to visit
www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools/Prahran-High.aspx

Official Facebook Page

Today I've launched the official Prahran High School Facebook page. As we're developing our school together, this page becomes our school website and will be regularly updated with our progress and exciting milestones. Please like our page and join the journey toward Year 7 2019.

CLICK HERE to visit www.facebook.com/prahranhighschool/



Keeping in Touch

Subscribe to Our Newsletter – PHS News

It would be helpful if we could directly email you our newsletter – PHS News. If you would like our regular newsletter to arrive directly, please email prahranhighschoolnews@gmail.com and clearly indicate the email address you would like added to our newsletter distribution list. This interim email address will only be used to collate addresses for our newsletter. It isn't a contact address for questions. We will not share these emails with any third party and they are protected by the Department of Education and Training Privacy Policy. Please invite friends, family, and grandparents to subscribe to join our journey.

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CLICK HERE to visit
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