



## Richmond High School - In Focus

Thursday 23 February 2017

Newsletter 1, Volume 1

### From the Foundation Principal



#### Welcome to the first newsletter of Richmond High School.

Richmond High School (*interim name*) is the co-educational 7-12 school for the Richmond community from 2018. It will house 650 students and opens in Term 1, 2018 in the Multi-Purpose Building with the very first intake of year 7 students. The school will be over two sites in 2019.

Being located in the heart of Richmond, the school has great transport options and is close to existing community infrastructure and services.

With the successful building program launch by the Premier, Minister of Education and local member Richard Wynne last Tuesday, and the announcement of my appointment as Foundation Principal, I want to begin the process of connecting with local families and make myself available to you. Our school will be of particular interest to families of children in grades 4, 5 and 6 as they begin to think about their educational options for secondary education. My goal is that we are the first school you consider and then we become your school of choice.

Let me introduce myself. I am an alumnus of the former Richmond High School, I have worked in state and private schools as well as teaching primary, secondary and tertiary age students. Over my career I have worked extensively developing arts education and the teaching of the arts in Australian schools. As a freelance writer and consultant, I have worked for The University of Melbourne, Monash University and the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art. I am the past principal of the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School and while I was the principal of that school it achieved outstanding academic results and was highly regarded for its positive learning environment. At that school I oversaw the construction of the award-winning building in Southbank, and created a consistently high performing school with an outstanding reputation. In 2009 I was awarded the Outstanding

Leadership Award at the Victorian Education Excellence Awards. In 2012 I was nominated by the state through The Australian Awards for Outstanding Teaching and School Leadership as Australian Secondary Principal of the Year. As an educationalist, I am passionate about 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning and a flexible and individual approach to learning. I believe in a high expectation culture balanced with high care, where students remain central to every decision we make.

I believe in creating a happy school, one that staff and students are excited to come to join each day and we



help young people feel positive about their school experience. I believe in and expect an inclusive environment. I will be working closely with our primary schools and Interim School Council on the development of our culture, ethos and unique programs and setting the framework for the most wonderful school. This newsletter is one way I will communicate this exciting journey with you. Over the next years I plan to put together an incredible team of educators to work with me, and the parents and children who join us, to create an incredible school.

As a son of Richmond and student of the former Richmond High School I am excited to be appointed as the Foundation Principal of the new school, providing incredible opportunities for all children in the Richmond community. Just as the former Richmond High School did for me. **We will not only return as an education force in the Richmond community but will be a model school for others.**

You can follow us on Instagram @richmondhighschool for regular updates. I have set up an interim email for you to contact me, and it is [hello.richmondhs@gmail.com](mailto:hello.richmondhs@gmail.com)

**I look forward to meeting you and working with you to create an amazing school for the Richmond community.**

In my next newsletter, I have some important questions I want to ask you. Keep an eye out for it.

COLIN SIMPSON

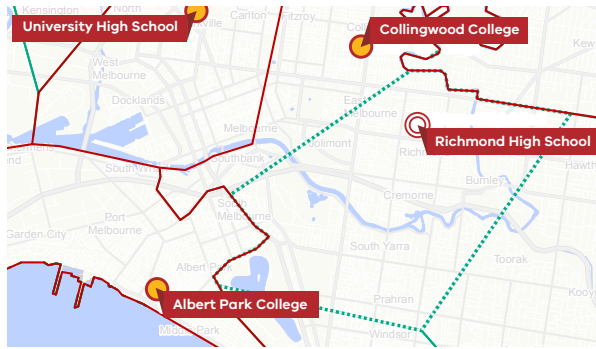
*Photo: Our local grade six children were part of the launch ☺*

## Helping you understand school zones 2018-2019

For information about the neighbourhood boundary of Melbourne Girl's College visit <http://www.mgc.vic.edu.au/Enrolment/>

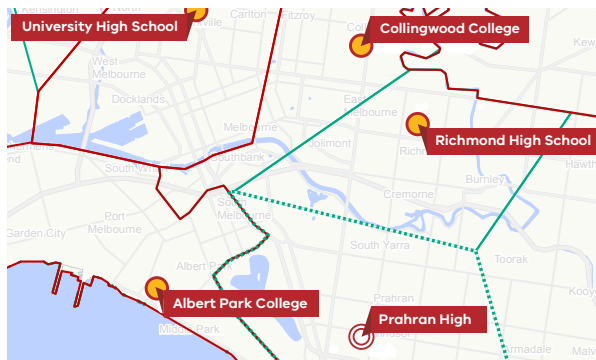
### 2018 Draft Enrolment Map

In 2018 Richmond High School is the designated neighbourhood boundary for the Richmond, Southbank, East Melbourne, Prahran and South Yarra communities. Enrolment enquiries from year 7 students are welcome from this community during 2017 for the school year 2018.



### 2019 Draft Enrolment Map

In 2019 the Richmond neighbourhood boundary is reduced with the opening of Prahran High School.



### The school design

Richmond High School will provide excellent, wide-ranging services, facilities and accommodation for the school. The school environment will have a high degree of flexibility and agility of use. Settings and spaces will promote a range of experiences and activities to suit the varying needs of students and staff. The academic precinct will provide a campus heart with provision for after-hours resource and study spaces at the ground level and spaces for learning, gathering and play.

### Enrolling in a Secondary School

Enrolling your child in a Victorian government secondary school is a straightforward process. Information requested includes:

- evidence of your child's date of birth (if they were not born in Australia, a passport or travel document such as a visa)
- your contact, phone and address details, and that of any other parent, guardian and/or carer names and contact details of emergency contacts
- health and welfare information
- information about the language/s your child speaks and hears at home



### Year 7 placement process

Once you have decided which school you wish your child to attend for Year 7, an Application for Year 7 Placement form should be filled out and returned to the Year 6 Coordinator at your school. If your child attends a non-government primary school, and you have decided to enrol them in Year 7 at a Government school, you should follow the same process and return the application to the Year 6 coordinator at your own school.

Although Year 7 enrolments are determined by secondary schools, all communication regarding the Year 6 to Year 7 transition process should be in written form and lodged through your primary school until the Year 7 placement is confirmed.

Speak to your grade 6 teachers if you need any support with this process.

### Subscribe to our newsletter

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<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/privacy.aspx>

### Victorian School Building Authority

You can get updates on this project on the Victorian School Building Authority website: <http://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools/Richmond-High-School.aspx>

*Picture: An interior shot showing The Atrium of the school.*