

YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022

Parent Update Week 10, Term 1 – 2021

Preparing for year 7 in high school in 2022

We know many families of our year 6 and 7 students are busy exploring their local high school options for 2022. Next year will be unique, with a double cohort of students starting high school together as they enter years 7 and 8. The once-only move is necessary as we move year 7 to high school in public schools across the state.

Our primary and high schools are working together at every level to ensure the move is successful for families. Here are some of the key benefits to your child beginning high school in Year 7.

Learning opportunities

All South Australian students learn the Australian Curriculum, which was designed for year 7s to be taught in high school, as it is interstate. High school settings provide more specialist facilities to enhance learning, such as science laboratories, performing arts spaces and kitchens. They also offer teachers who are subject-specific experts, and a wide variety of extra-curricular activities.

A nation-wide move

Moving our year 7 students into high school brings South Australia in line with other states. Queensland and Western Australia most recently made the move in 2015. It also aligns our public school system with the Catholic and independent school sectors, which also teach year 7 in high school. Taking a cohesive approach to the start of high school promotes equity and makes it easier to move between states and school sectors, should you need to do so.

Year 7s are ready for high school

We know from the experiences of schools interstate and from our own pilot schools that year 7s are well and truly ready for high school.

This finding has been reinforced by the pilot program run through the Department for Education, involving three high schools, which welcomed their first cohort of year 7 students last year. We have been tracking the students' progress through interviews and surveys. The vast majority have enjoyed making new friends, trying new sports and activities and learning in a more mature environment.

We are ready for the move

Planning is well underway to ensure the move of year 7 to high school is well-managed and considered. We are drawing on our pilot program insights and what we have learnt from Queensland and Western Australia to ensure the move is as smooth as possible.

Where to find out more

Stay informed through your school and the Department for Education's website: www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS.

Or share your feedback with the project team by emailing: Year7toHS@sa.gov.au.

