



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL INFORMATION HANDBOOK



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL
Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL





PERTH MODERN SCHOOL INFORMATION HANDBOOK

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Perth Modern School. We are a caring school where the whole staff is committed to responding to student needs by providing a positive, dynamic learning environment.

Perth Modern School offers exceptional, innovative programs tailored to the needs of gifted and talented students. Our programs provide students the opportunity to actively pursue their interests and abilities, be part of an environment that encourages individual thought and creative participation and offers opportunities for students to make positive contributions to the community.

Since the school was established in 1911, there has been a strong tradition of student achievement at Perth Modern School, with many of the school's alumni achieving significant success across a wide variety of areas.

The school promotes an environment where inclusivity, diversity and the pursuit of excellence are actively encouraged.

This Information Handbook is designed to provide parents with information about the day-to-day organisation of the school. The Prospectus, Senior Years and Middle Years Curriculum Handbooks and the School Business Plan are available for viewing on the school website or  Connect.

Independent Public School Status

The Independent Public Schools initiative is a State Government commitment to hand greater autonomy to schools.

In collaboration with the school community, Perth Modern School sets its own strategic directions, has responsibility for day-to-day decision making and is in an ideal position to make decisions that best cater for our students. Parents and community members have an important and enhanced role in this initiative.

Although Perth Modern School officially has Independent Public School status, the school remains part of the public school system.

School contact details

For all enquiries, please first contact the School Reception. Reception at the school is open between the hours of 8.00 am and 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday during school terms.

T: 08 9380 0555

E: perthmodernschool@education.wa.edu.au

W: www.perthmodernschool.wa.edu.au

F: www.facebook.com/perthmodernschool

VISION

Perth Modern School's purpose is to nurture a love of learning and develop academically gifted and talented students to their full academic, social and physical potential.

We aspire to develop engaged, creative, independent, lifelong learners who will be contributing and responsible members of the global community.





ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Students are taught under the principles of gifted and talented education, in which the curriculum is differentiated and extended to cater to the needs of gifted students.

We focus on love of learning, thinking skills and high academic achievement so that students may fulfil their potential. Students are provided with opportunities to direct, manage and negotiate their own learning, both as group members and as individuals within the classroom.

The curriculum is differentiated on the basis of compaction, acceleration, enrichment and extension. Each of these is not an end in itself. An appropriately challenging curriculum for the individual student is the goal. The [Curriculum Opportunities brochure](#) is available for viewing here. You can also view [Sample Programs](#) here.

We encourage parents to work closely with students and teachers when selecting their courses of study to ensure that students will be able to select courses appropriate to their interests, abilities and needs, and that all will find satisfaction in their schooling.

A Curriculum Handbook designed to provide students, parents and staff with information about the range of courses offered at Perth Modern School is available for Middle Years and Senior Years.

Click here to view the [Middle Years Curriculum Handbook](#).

Click here to view the [Senior Years Curriculum Handbook](#).

Acceleration

Acceleration refers to an advanced pace of learning that enables students to learn at a level corresponding to their ability and matched to the speed at which they learn. Whilst the school will never insist that any child should access advanced placement, the school may make recommendations to parents based on subject results and teacher observations. Different forms of acceleration include:

- Advanced placement by subject.
- Advanced placement by year.

Advanced placement by subject

This occurs when a student takes a single subject, or a limited range of subjects, one or two years earlier. This will typically occur when individual Year 10 students choose to study Year 11 courses in place of the Year 10 equivalent subject.

Advanced placement by Year

Advanced placement occurs when students' progress through schooling at least one full year ahead of their age peers.

Accessing advanced placement

The decision to accelerate a student by subject will be based on consultation with the parent and recommendations from the student's teacher and the Head of Learning Area.

In the case of advanced placement by year, opinions will also be sought from the School Psychologist and Student Services. An appointment will be made with the Associate Principal who will make the final determination.

Parents who wish their child to be considered for advanced placement should contact the school to make an appointment with the Associate Principal in charge of curriculum.






ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The Sphinx Society (Years 10–12)

The Sphinx Society honours high academic achievers and awards a prestigious badge when society membership has been achieved. Students who achieve membership of the Sphinx Society are provided with opportunities to meet with renowned individuals from the community and participate in special outings and events. Students are acknowledged as members of the society at special morning teas, are invited to the annual Modernian oration and are publicly congratulated in the school newsletter and during assemblies. Graduating students who have achieved Sphinx Society membership for at least four semesters are presented with a special certificate at their Presentation Ceremony. The Sphinx Society is open to all Years 10, 11 and 12 students.

Eligibility is by semester and is determined at the completion of each semester report. Membership is for the semester following earning the award.

Eligibility requirements for the Sphinx Society are available on  Connect.

Pegasus Society (Years 7–9)

The Pegasus Society is an initiative that recognises participation, effort and commitment to the school and wider community. The rationale of Pegasus is that students are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities that are available to them in the Middle Years at Perth Modern School. There are four elements to Pegasus that students need to complete in order to become part of the society. These elements include: Community Service, Co-curricular activities, Competitions and House Participation. There is specific criteria to complete for each of the elements, which gets steadily more demanding as students progress through the Middle Years. Students should strive for Pegasus in each semester of Years 7, 8 and 9.





MUSIC PROGRAM

Perth Modern School offers an outstanding music program and students are able to study at both the extension and classroom level.

The Music Program is mainly classically based, although a growing contemporary stream has been recently introduced. Students receive a thorough grounding in music theory, aural development, composition and cultural and historical perspectives. Students receive individual or small group instrumental instruction provided by specialist musicians. Students have every opportunity to apply their skills by performing in a range of orchestras and ensembles which perform at school and community events.

Senior School students have the opportunity to participate in a major overseas music tour which occurs every two years.

Students who join a school orchestra, ensemble or choir will be required to commit to a significant rehearsal schedule which can include before or after school and on Saturday mornings.

Orchestras and Ensembles

The school supports the following orchestras and instrumental ensembles:

- Symphony Orchestra
- Four String Orchestras
- Four Wind (Concert) Bands
- Jazz Orchestras
- Classical Guitar Ensembles
- Contemporary Guitar Ensembles
- Chamber Ensembles
- Choirs.

Choral

Central to the success of our Music Program are our choirs. Perth Modern School has a range of age and developmentally appropriate compulsory and auditioned choirs.

The development of aural acuity through choral work is the single most significant factor in developing excellence in performance.





STUDENT SERVICES

The School maintains an active Student Services department to ensure that individual students receive the support necessary for them to succeed at school. An emphasis is placed upon creating a caring environment and providing students with easy access to staff when any assistance is required.

The School employs specialist professional staff members whose role it is to assist individual students who may experience difficulties with things such as interpersonal relationships, poor academic performance and irregular attendance. Parents are also welcome to contact Student Services staff members by calling 9380 0556.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care of the students is the responsibility of all staff at Perth Modern School. The school has developed a comprehensive advocacy program, that caters for age specific requirements, for instance in Year 7, the School focuses on a Sense of Belonging, enabling students to feel part of the school. In Year 12, the focus is on post-school opportunity including scholarships and the program includes talks from universities.

Deputy Principal Manager Student Services

The Deputy Principal Manager Student Services, is responsible for coordinating the Student Services department and ensures that there is effective liaison between staff, students and parents. Where necessary, the Deputy Principal will arrange for external agencies to provide additional support for students. The Deputy Principal Manager Student Services oversees students in Senior Years (Years 10–12).

Manager Middle Years

A Manager Middle Years is specifically tasked with focussing on students in the Middle Years (Years 7–9).

Head of Year

Each cohort has a Head of Year who will remain with the students as they progress through secondary school. Heads of Year work closely with Advocacy teachers and subject teachers to monitor attendance, organise social activities and identify students at educational risk. They have a particular responsibility to liaise with parents.

School Psychologist

The School Psychologist supports students who are at educational risk especially if they are experiencing an emotional or family crisis. The Psychologist also conducts workshops designed to promote emotional health.

School Chaplain

The School Chaplain represents a general Christian non-sectarian presence in the school. Through informal friendship and as a member of the Student Services team, the Chaplain will provide support for any student who has concerns affecting his or her school performance.

School Nurse

The School Nurse provides First Aid and counselling services for students and staff, conducts health screening and immunisation programs and assists staff with Health Education classes by providing advice or by organising guest speakers.

Youth Education Officer

The Youth Education Officer assists students in their educational and social development. The Youth Education Officer organises a variety of activities and programs, as well as providing general support for class activities and on tours and camps.



TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Perth Modern School uses technology in all Learning Areas to enhance the learning experience of our students. When used appropriately, technology can increase curriculum engagement and relevance, and empowers students to be more creative and connected. Using technology enables versatile anywhere/anytime learning and is an essential skill for all students to possess as they move from school to further education or employment. The development of student ICT capabilities and 21st Century Skills is very much at the forefront of our teaching and learning programs.

Current students and parents can access further information regarding Learning Technologies used at Perth Modern School on Connect/MySpaces/Library/Learning Technologies.

BYOD Program

Perth Modern School has implemented a parent-funded **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program** for all students. Whilst students are able to bring in a device of their choice, there are specific device requirements that are best aligned with the School's teaching and learning practices and technology infrastructure. It is essential parents carefully read through the [BYOD Program document](#).

This document outlines important information regarding the following:

- Device recommendations.
- Device specification, set up and software.
- Students and family responsibility.
- Purchasing options.
- Insurance.
- Technical support.
- Student accounts and log ins.



Social Media and Appropriate Use of Email

Perth Modern School is committed to the development of cyber safe school communities. All students accessing Department provided online services are made aware of the Acceptable Usage Agreement. This agreement also applies to the new email and calendar service. Student email addresses are formatted as `firstname.surname@student.education.wa.edu.au`

It is important that your child understands that Department online services are intended for educational and not personal use. The school is permitted to monitor student activity online, helping to protect students and prevent inappropriate behaviour. Your child's use of Department-provided online services can and will be monitored from time to time. Please contact the school immediately if you have concerns regarding your child's use of online services.

Students using social media must use appropriate language and be kind in their online comments. Students are not permitted to use social media to post negatively about other students, the school or staff. Students who have been found to do so will face consequences.

Students and parents must respect the privacy of others and not engage in filming or taking photos of students or staff during school activities in and out of school.

Parents are not permitted to use the Perth Modern School name or logo as an identification of a particular group without prior permission of the Principal.

The Technology and Social Media Policy can be accessed here. It is also in the student diary.



PARENTS AS PARTNERS

Three-way communication is a critical factor in the partnership between parents, students and the school. Where a partnership exists, it is easier for parents to feel confident about the teaching and learning taking place in the classroom and to solve problems if they arise.

Please note that teachers, whose primary role is teaching, may take up to 48 hours to respond to parent enquiries. Parents are asked to approach all communication in a constructive manner.


Parents & Citizens Association

The Perth Modern P&C Association is an energetic and welcoming parent group. It plays an active role in developing and supporting school policies and supports many school activities through fundraising and provision of volunteers. The P&C appoints social coordinators for each year group to organise social gatherings for parents.

P&C meetings take place on Tuesday evenings in Week 3 and Week 7 of each term commencing at 7.00pm in the Beasley Boardroom. Dates of P&C meetings are emailed to parents in Information Updates.

Individual parents can support the P&C Association by:

- Attending meetings.
- Joining one of the various sub-committees such as Friends of Music or Second Hand Uniform Shop.
- Attending social events organised by P&C social coordinators.

Minutes and agendas of P&C meetings are placed on  Connect and also circulated on an email list. If you would like to be added to the P&C email, please email perthmodernschool@education.wa.edu.au

Friends of Perth Modern School

Friends of Perth Modern School is a volunteer organisation that aims to enrich the learning of the students by supporting the work of staff and building an active school community in order to:

- Draw upon the talents, expertise and resources of the Perth Modern School community.
- Provide fulfilling projects where Friends of Perth Modern School can see they have made a difference to students, staff and the whole school.

There are many opportunities to be involved in the various departments of the school. Information will be emailed to parents in the Information Update.

What can you do if you have a concern you would like to discuss?

If you have a concern regarding your child, in the first instance, contact via email either the subject teacher or Advocacy teacher. It is also possible to make an appointment to discuss the issue. In certain circumstances, appointments can be made with the School Psychologist or Chaplain.

If the issue has not been resolved, then speak with the Head of Year or Student Services (depending on the issue) who will assist you to resolve your concerns.

If your concern relates to general school issues, contact the Head of Learning Area or Student Services.

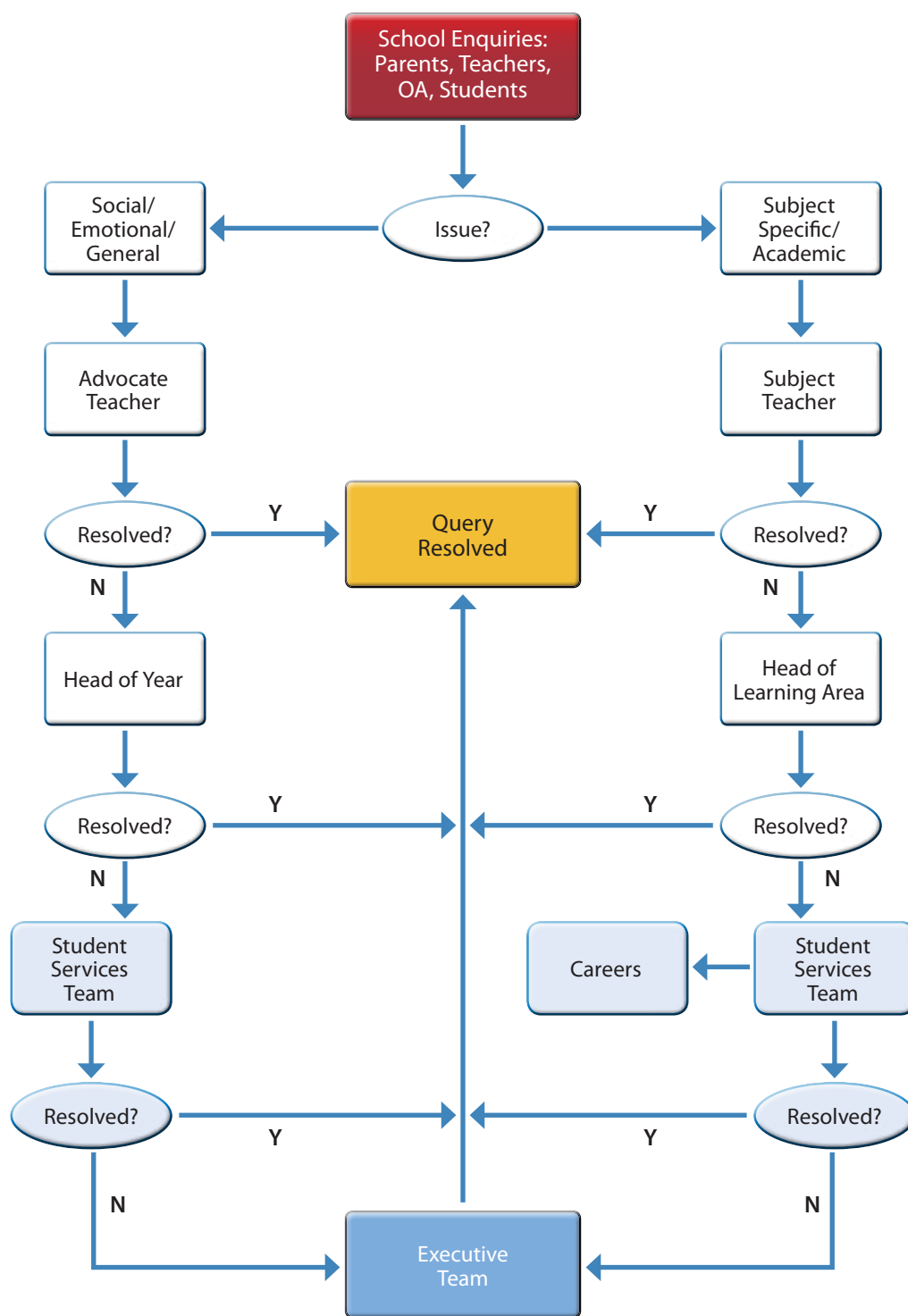
If you do not feel that your concern has been fully resolved, please contact the Associate Principal.



PARENTS AS PARTNERS

Please follow this communications flow diagram should you need to discuss any issues or concerns regarding your child:

Parent Communication Flowchart





PARENTS AS PARTNERS

Formal Complaints

Please note the procedure indicated on the previous page is to be followed in all instances of concern. For ongoing concerns or complaints, parents can access a separate Complaints Management Policy on Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies.

Visiting the School

Parents and caregivers are welcome at the school, however parents are requested to phone ahead and make an appointment as teachers may not always be available. All visitors must report to Reception to sign in and receive a school pass. There are visitor bays available for parking outside reception, however we are unable to guarantee a parking bay.

Parents are reminded that no filming or photography of students is permitted on school grounds.

Visitor Parking

All parking bays within the school are numbered and allocated to specific cars. Visitor bays are available outside Reception in the Roberts Road car park. When obtaining a visitor's pass from Reception, visitors will need to provide their vehicle's registration number. On school grounds, drivers must comply with the 8 kmph speed limit.

Extra parking on the school basketball courts off Subiaco Road is made available by invitation for special events such as concerts and information sessions. This parking can be accessed from Subiaco Road.

Parents attending events during the day are advised to take public transport as parking on school grounds is limited.

Communication with Parents

Contact Details

It is vital that parents immediately inform the school of any changes to email or postal addresses and telephone numbers to ensure the delivery of important school correspondence.

Information Updates

An Information Update is emailed to parents and caregivers in Week 3 and Week 7 of each term. Additionally, mini Information Updates may be emailed as the need arises. Please keep your email address details up-to-date by contacting the school if there are any changes. The Information Updates contain important information including:

- Notification of important upcoming dates such as parent evenings, report distribution and progress review days.
- Upcoming events and workshops for students.
- Tours and excursions.
- P&C meeting dates.
- Parent social get-togethers.

Newsletter

A newsletter is published each term and is sent home to parents via students. In addition, a copy of the latest newsletter will be available for download from the school website at www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au

The newsletters contains information regarding:

- Student achievements
- Notable events
- School activities
- P&C news
- Music news
- Staff and alumni profiles.



PARENTS AS PARTNERS

Connect

The Department of Education provides secure online access for parents and caregivers to teaching and learning information about their children via Connect, the School's official online learning management system.

Connect provides a unique way for teachers to deliver content and how students can access digital resources and engage in their learning from home or school anywhere anytime. Connect supports classroom practice through effective communication, streamlined content delivery, distributing assessment information, engaging students and personalising learning.

To see Connect in action, watch this short video:

[Welcome to Connect](#)

Parents and students also have access the Perth Modern School MySpace via Connect. It is here that important school information and documents can be found, such as:

- Daily Notices.
- Upcoming school events.
- Relevant school policies.
- Careers updates.
- P&C news.
- Course and Assessment Outlines.
- and other information of interest to parents and students (refer to the 'Library' section).

Once your child/ren commences school, parents/guardians can access Connect via <http://connect.det.wa.edu.au> and log in using their unique Username (pNumber) and Password which you will receive via email. Any queries regarding access to your Connect account can be directed to the school office.

Additional information and user guides for parents are available on [Connect/MySpaces/Library/School Community/Parent Info/Connect](#)

Facebook

The School has an official Facebook page that members of the school community can follow. It is updated regularly with information relevant to parents, photos of school events and student achievements.

 www.facebook.com/perthmodernschool





GENERAL INFORMATION

Advocacy and Advocacy Teachers

Advocacy teachers are in a unique position where they can monitor a student's overall progress and quickly identify those students who need extra support. As part of ensuring that each student maximises the opportunity to perform at their best, a support program is provided that assists students with tasks such as goal setting, homework, personal organisation and access to extra tuition.

Every student at Perth Modern School is placed in an Advocacy group. There are three Advocacy sessions per week, on Monday and Friday 8.45am-9.05am and Wednesdays for 52 minutes during Period 3 or 4. During the Wednesday period, there are often guest speakers or assemblies.

Parents are encouraged to make contact with the Advocacy teacher if they have any concerns about their child's overall progress or if they have information about anything that may be affecting their performance.

Some Advocacy groups have been created with a particular focus, including Sustainability, Wellness and Community Service. These groups contain students across all year groups who share the same interest. Student Councillors are in the same Advocacy group in order to work together on various school events and activities.

Allergies

There are a number of students and staff in the school with severe life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to various foods, insects and medications. Please talk to your child about anaphylaxis and encourage them to always take allergies seriously. More information about anaphylaxis can be found on https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Anaphylaxis

Please remind your child of the following:

- Not to share food with friends who have food allergies.
- Always wash hands after eating or touching food.
- Know what friends are allergic to.
- If a friend/fellow student becomes sick or unwell, get help from an adult immediately.
- Be respectful of a student's adrenaline auto-injector.
- Don't pressure friends to eat food that they are allergic to.

Attendance and Absences

All students enrolled in the school are expected to attend every day. Parents can report an absence by contacting the School by telephone or providing a note when the student returns to school. A direct line, 9487 8814, is available for parents and caregivers who wish to leave a message about a student's absence. In addition, parents can use the SMS line 0409 109 784 to advise of a student's absence. It is appreciated if the school is advised of an absence before 9.00am. Reasons for any absence must be given.

The School has implemented an SMS message service to parent mobiles when a student is absent and no explanation for the absence has been received. The number the message originates from is 0409 109 784.

Parents are advised not to organise vacations during the school term.

For current students, the full Attendance Policy including information on Extended Leave, signing out early and arriving late, is available on Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies

Year 12 Leave Pass

The Adult Ethos philosophy applies to Year 12 students and they are able to come and go from campus throughout the day when they do not have a class as long as their parent/caregiver has signed the school leave pass form. However, Year 12 students must sign in at Students Services if they arrive late for school or are leaving early.

Current parents and students may access the Attendance Policy on Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies

Café

The Food for Thought café is onsite and provides lunches and refreshments for students and staff. The café provides healthy food before school, recess and lunch at reasonable prices.

The café accepts cash and students can also pay into their Smart Rider cards for use at the café.

Alternatively, parents and students are able to order food online from the café. To register, please visit:

www.flexischools.com.au. Orders must be received prior to 9.00am on the day required.

For variety, menus are changed each term. Special dietary requirements can be catered for. Suggestions by parents are always welcomed and are forwarded to the café manager.



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Care of Personal Property

Students are responsible for all personal property. It is not advisable for students to bring valuable goods or large amounts of money to school. Please assist by marking all items of clothing and other belongings with the student's name. This will help us return lost items to students. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost items.

Changing Schools

If a student intends to leave school, either permanently or to transfer to another school, their parent or caregiver must advise the school by writing to the Associate Principal, stating the reason, the name of the next school the student intends to enrol at and a forwarding address.

The School will issue the student with a Clearance Form which must be signed by each of their teachers. In this way, the school can ensure that all items loaned to the student are returned in good condition and any outstanding fees paid. The completed form is then presented to the Manager of Corporate Services who will arrange for any refunds due to be paid.

Charges and Voluntary Contributions

Perth Modern School is bound by the *School Education Act 1999* and the *School Education Act Regulations 2000*. The structure for contributions and charges are the same at all public schools. Parents are reminded that voluntary contributions go towards the cost of materials, services and facilities that students will utilise.

In addition, as an academically selective school, Perth Modern School offers an additional range of enrichment opportunities. These opportunities are often student funded and require financial commitment from parent/caregivers. Students will be notified of these extra cost optional components prior to commitment.

It is an expectation of the school and the Perth Modern School Board that compulsory charges should be paid before reward or enrichment opportunities are undertaken.

The following easy payment options are available:

Qkr App

Qkr is an easy and convenient application for your smartphone or device, available for free from the App store. Use this application to not only pay the charges and contributions, but also as a 'one stop shop' to pay for all your student's activities and excursions. The app is available to use 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Credit card

Telephone the School Administration Office on 9380 0543 with your credit card details. The Finance Office is open Monday to Friday during term from 8.00 am to 3.45 pm.

Cheque/cash

Please make cheques payable to Perth Modern School.

Payment queries

Parents are also welcome to visit the Student/Parent Enquiries Desk located on the ground floor of the Andrews Building with any queries and to pay the charges and voluntary contributions/activities and for any upcoming excursions.

Clubs

The School offers a number of Clubs for enrichment and extension. These can vary from year to year. Parents are informed of the Clubs available and their timetable in the Information Update at the commencement of the school year. The list of Clubs is also available on the Clubs Noticeboard in the Andrews Building.

Examples of Clubs offered:

- Art
- Badminton
- Community Service
- Cricket
- Chess
- Coding
- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Engineering
- Future Problem Solving
- Homework Club
- Magic Cards
- Mathematics
- Perth Molecules (Science Club)
- Robotics
- Sculpture
- Sustainability
- Space.




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Mod Time

Mod Time is one period per week where students can enjoy an activity they are interested in independent of the normal curriculum. The focus of Mod Time is to broaden students' experience and enable them to pursue their interests and build relationships. All students are able to select a Club to participate in during Mod Time. Selection for Mod Time Clubs takes place using the online booking system Subject Selection Online in Term 3 of the year prior.


Co-Curricular Activities

The school operates various activities for students' enjoyment and for enrichment and extension. These activities are advertised through the Daily Notices and  Connect. If a student is seeking a particular activity, they are advised to approach the relevant Head of Learning Area or their Head of Year.

Community Service

Perth Modern school encourages a philosophy of giving back to the school community through participation in community service and volunteering. Research has demonstrated that participating in high-quality community based service opportunities enhances students' problem-solving skills, improves their ability to work within a team and enables them to plan more effectively. Students who are civically minded and commit to community service tend to perform better academically, have greater access to prestigious tertiary scholarships and cultivate connections to professional organisations which can prove beneficial later on in life.

Students have many and varied opportunities at Perth Modern School to be involved in community service. Students participate and in some cases undertake leadership roles in a variety of meaningful volunteer projects that enhance our school and the wider community. Students involved in the Community Service program become more aware of the variety of needs in the community, which often encourages a spirit of volunteerism for life.

Students in Year 12 who participate in more than 50 hours of community service are eligible for the Youth Ambassadors Community Service Award. The Youth Education Officer advises students about the Youth Ambassador program at the start of each academic year through the Daily Notices and  Connect. The School Chaplain oversees community service opportunities for the Middle Years, which are advertised through the Daily Notices.

Students in the Middle Years are recognised for their

community service through Pegasus. Students in the Senior Years are recognised for their community service on their WASSA Certificate.

Some of the many opportunities students can involve themselves in include:

- Working with the Modernian Historical Society
- The Sustainability Club
- Community Service phase of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
- Library Assistants
- Heart Foundation Street Appeal
- Run for a Reason
- 40 Hour Famine
- OXFAM representatives
- Earth Assist WA
- Red Cross March Street Appeal
- Radio Lollipop
- Kanyana Wildlife Centre
- Volunteer Task Force.

Current parents and students may access the Community Service Policy on [Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies](#)

Cycling

There is good access to cycle ways for students who want to cycle to school but caution is advised because of the heavy traffic on Thomas Street and Roberts Road. Bike racks are provided underneath the gymnasium for students who ride their bicycles to school. The entrance is off Subiaco Road. Bicycles should be locked to the racks and helmets stored in student lockers.

Dental Care

The School Dental Service www.dental.wa.gov.au provides free general and preventative dental care for all enrolled students in Years 7–11. Care is provided by dental therapists under the supervision of dental officers from fixed and mobile clinics located at schools throughout the State.

Contact your closest School Dental Therapy Centre or call Dental Health Services on 9313 0555 for further information. Students can continue to go to the same School Dental Therapy Centre they went to in primary school or contact a new centre if you have moved.

The service will also treat emergencies which include conditions that require treatment for relief of pain, control of haemorrhage, control of infection, or initial treatment



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following trauma. This service is available Monday–Friday during business hours. In the event that you are unable to contact your closest School Dental Therapy Centre, telephone Dental Health Services on 9313 0555 to request information on a clinic where emergency treatment can be received.

Homework Policy

Homework is set so that students may:

- Revise work completed in class.
- Complete all the essential work that is needed.
- Explore more about the subject.
- Develop time management skills.

Students are assisted to plan the use of their time and are encouraged to ensure that they allow for leisure, hobbies and part-time employment.

In addition, parents can assist their child by:

- Providing a quiet study area—this should be away from interruptions and household noise such as the television. Ensure there is adequate lighting and ventilation, a comfortable chair and appropriate desk.
- Helping your child develop good study habits—ultimately they will need to manage their own study, but some students may need initial help from their parents with time management and organisational skills.

How long it should take students to complete their homework will vary from year to year with individual students taking more or less time depending upon their ability and their level of interest. The time needed may increase as examinations or tests near.

Strategies to assist students to manage the homework requirement are available from the relevant subject teacher or Head of Year.

Current students and parents can access the Homework Policy on [Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies](#).

Homework Club

The Homework Club provides the opportunity for students to access subject teachers and specialist tutors after school. It also provides the opportunity for students to complete their homework in a quiet study environment.

The Homework Club is held in the Library after school Monday to Thursday during term from the end of the school day until 4.30 pm. Students may be encouraged to attend Homework Club if they fall behind in their studies.

Please note that these days and times are subject to change.

House System

Students are allocated to one of four Houses within their Advocacy Group.

The school maintains a House System in order to:

- Promote school and community spirit.
- Provide leadership roles for students.
- Offer a horizontal system for friendly team-based competition and rivalry amongst students.
- Provide motivation and rewards for students.
- Allow greater interaction between different year groups.
- Provide reward goals for students to work toward.
- Foster healthy rivalry and competition.
- Organise students differently (e.g. different groupings).
- Encourage students to participate in out-of-school/Community Service activities.
- Establish and develop advocate teacher/student relationships for the whole six years of schooling.
- Development of sporting ethics.

The Houses are named after the first four Principals of the school and are:

BROWN: (Blue) after Mr Fredrick Brown, School Principal from 1911–1912.

PARSONS: (Green) after Mr Joseph Parsons, School Principal from 1912–1939.

SAMPSON: (Red) after Mr Noel Sampson, School Principal from 1940–1963.


DOWNING: (Gold) after Mr Talbot Downing, School Principal from 1964–1965.






GENERAL INFORMATION

House Points

Students may work towards gaining points for their House through a variety of academic, sporting, social and civic activities. Teachers will allocate points and students can apply for points for out-of-school achievements through Student Services. Student House Point transcripts may be accessed through  Connect. The point totals will assist students in gaining an individual Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum House Award. The Gold and Platinum Awards are presented at the Year 12 Presentation Ceremony.

The Diamond House Award may be awarded by the school at the Year 12 Presentation Ceremony on recommendation of Heads of Houses for 'Outstanding contribution to Perth Modern School Houses'. The Diamond House Sphinx will only be awarded if there is a suitable candidate.

Current parents and students can view information regarding the Houses and points allocation on  Connect.

Illness and Injury

The school has a well-equipped Health Centre, managed by the School Nurse, where students who become ill or are injured at school are treated. Students may remain in the Health Centre for a short time to rest or recover but if they are too ill to attend class, parents will be contacted to arrange for them to return home. In cases of severe illness or injury the School may need to call an ambulance.

Students who become ill or are injured at home should not come to school and expect to be treated at the Health Centre. They should contact their family doctor or attend a hospital.

Insurance

The Department of Education does not provide personal accident insurance for students. The Department does not have cover for the accidental loss or damage of the personal property of students.

Parents are advised to seek insurance to cover for:

- Accidents at school.
- Privately owned music instruments.
- Overnight excursions or tours.

Whilst every care is always taken, accidents and losses do occur and the security of a personal insurance policy is then valued.

Library

The Joseph Parsons Memorial Library is a flexible learning space that actively supports our students' academic achievement and personal and social development.

The Library provides students with a wide range of quality resources including professional teacher librarians who guide students through the research process as they progress to become independent lifelong learners. It is fully equipped with an electronic smart board as well as a reprographics area with copying and printing facilities. Students are able to print their work in the Library as long as they have available print credit which is paid as part of contributions and charges. Printing credit is able to be topped up throughout the year by visiting the Parent/Student Enquiries Desk.

A wide range of reference material is available through our Virtual Library, including access to high quality online subscription databases, providing the most up-to-date full text periodical and journal articles.

The comprehensive fiction collection and active promotion of literature through displays, visits by authors, competitions and challenges are fundamental in encouraging the joy of reading throughout the school community.

Lockers

Lockers are available for all students. Lockers and locks are allocated in year groups and remain the property of the school. It is a condition of use that students are required to keep the locker clean and in good order and remove all items at the end of the school year. Students must use the combination lock that is provided. All other locks will be removed.

It is recommended that students keep all valuables in their lockers at all times. Students are requested not to leave items above or below lockers. The school does not accept responsibility for the security of any person's valuables.

Lost Property

All lost property that is labelled with the student's name is returned to the student, so please ensure all items of clothing and valuables are labelled. Lost Property is run by the Community Service Advocacy.

Students can check at the Parent/Student Enquiries Desk on the lower ground floor of the Andrews Building for missing items. Valuable items such as mobile phones are transferred to Student Services. Student items that are not reclaimed after a term will be donated to the Second Hand Uniform Shop or charity. The full procedure for Lost Property is in the Student Diary.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Medication

Please inform the School Nurse if your child needs to take prescribed medication during school hours. Secondary School students are expected to self-manage their medication but the School Nurse can offer advice and support.

Students are advised to bring only one day's dose of medication to school at any time.

Medical Conditions that are Ongoing

Parents are obliged to advise the School if their child has a medical problem. If the student has an ongoing medical condition such as Type 1 Diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis, or suffers from severe asthma, arrangements may need to be made with the family doctor to provide the school with appropriate medication or injections to manage an emergency.

Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Many students own mobile phones and other valuable, portable electronic devices such as iPods, iPads and the like. Because they are small they are easily lost or stolen either at school or on public transport and parents are strongly advised that such items should not be brought to school. If a student chooses to bring items to school, they are responsible for their safe keeping. Mobile phones are not permitted to be used during class time and may be confiscated.

Any items which are brought to school, especially mobile phones and graphics calculators, should be clearly engraved with the student's name.

Money at School

Students should not bring any money to school other than what they need for daily expenses such as purchasing lunch or paying fares. If a student does need to bring a sum of money to school it should not be left in a bag, backpack or change room but locked securely in the student's locker. Payment for excursions should be made before school at the Parent/Student Enquiries Desk.

Parent/Student Enquiries Desk

The Parent/Student Enquiries Desk is located on the ground floor of the Andrews Building and is open from 8.00 am–4.00 pm during the term. Parents and students are able to visit the Enquiries Desk to ask school related questions, pay their charges and contributions, top up student printing credit and pay for excursions. Payments can be placed in the secure box fixed to the wall adjacent to the desk. A Finance Officer will become available by pressing the bell.

Pick-up and Drop-off Area

As Perth Modern School is situated in a busy inner city area, it is only possible to pick-up and drop-off your child from small designated areas in either the Roberts Road car park or on the basketball courts off Subiaco Road. These areas are clearly signposted. There is a strict 8 kmph speed limit in school car parks.

When dropping your child at school, please be mindful of other parents and staff by adhering to signs and marked bays. Parents dropping students off must keep their indicator on, and pull to the left. Students must be ready to leave the car on arrival at the school.

Boom gates have been installed at the pick-up and drop-off areas and overtaking of parked cars is not possible.

If possible, it is strongly advised for students to make use of the public transport system to avoid early morning congestion.

Public Transport

Most students use the train service when travelling to school. Both West Leederville and City West stations are within a five-minute walk from the school. Special bus services provide a link between the City and neighbouring suburbs. Scheduled bus services (routes 27 and 28) link the school with the City and Claremont Train Stations. The Yellow Cat drops passengers close to the school.

Parents should confirm times and routes with TransPerth when students are using public transport for travel to and from school.

Students are representing the school whilst travelling on public transport and must be wearing their proper school uniform and maintain a high level of behaviour and courtesy to other travellers. Students are reminded to stand for adults on public transport, in particular the elderly and pregnant women.




GENERAL INFORMATION

Reports and Progress Review Days

Student Reports are issued at least twice per academic year. Parents have the opportunity to meet with each teacher to review the progress of their child. Bookings for such occasions are conducted online with details and instructions issued through the Information Update.

Prior to students selecting courses for study in Senior Years, an information session is conducted so that parents may assist their children in making informed decisions. If you have any concerns before the formal reporting cycle, please contact the subject teacher or Advocacy teacher.

Resource lists

Resource lists for each Year group will be available for downloading from the Perth Modern School website,  Connect and also at: www.campion.com.au by the end of Term 3. Details of where, when and how to purchase items from Champion Education are included on the Resource List. Parents are free to purchase resource requirements from any supplier of choice.

Scholarships

Through the Modernian Society, the School offers a number of internal scholarships which are advertised in the Information Update and Daily Notices. These are mostly based on academic merit but some are offered due to financial hardship. There are also a number of tertiary scholarships available for institutions in Western Australia, interstate or overseas. Whilst some are purely merit-based, most applications require a combination of academic achievement, leadership and community service. It is very important for students to identify potential scholarships at an early stage and then work on their strategy to meet the stated selection criteria.

Students requiring further information and advice should make an appointment at the Careers Office.

School Hours

School Reception is open from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm each school day during term and the switchboard operates from 8.15 am–3.45 pm.

The student timetable operates on this schedule:


	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Start	8.45 am	8.45 am	8.45 am	8.45 am	8.45 am
Finish	3.30 pm	3.15 pm	3.10 pm	3.15 pm	3.30 pm

Please note that the school timetable is subject to change. Students will be given their individual timetables at the commencement of each semester. Parents should be aware that many activities take place before and after school. Students should not be onsite before 8.15 am unless attending a supervised activity.

Additionally:

- Students enrolled in the Music Program are required to attend rehearsals which may begin as early as 7.15 am. Other music activities take place after school and continue until 4.30 pm.
- The Homework Club and special tutorials operate in the School Library until 4.30 pm.
- Sporting teams practise before and after school.
- Art students are able to attend school early to complete studio work.

School Policies

Perth Modern School has a range of policies available for viewing through  Connect for current parents and students.

Some examples of School Policies include but are not limited to:

- Assessment scholarships
- Complaints Management
- Homework and Study Guide
- School Uniform
- Student Behaviour
- Technology and Social Media.





GENERAL INFORMATION

School Uniform

The school uniform has been developed in consultation with the School Board and other members of the school community, including students. It plays an important role in establishing a positive community identity and contributes to the creation of an appropriate work ethic.

Students are expected to wear the full school uniform during the school day, including to and from school. Every student is expected to comply with the student uniform standards in the same way that they are expected to comply with other school rules such as behaviour and attendance.

Acceptance of enrolment at Perth Modern School assumes an agreement between the parent/caregiver and the enrolling student that the student will dress in accordance with the School's Uniform Policy. Students enrolled at Perth Modern School are expected to purchase official uniform items as displayed in the uniform shop and adhere to the school uniform standards.

All students are expected to purchase a school tie and at least one white shirt with school crest for formal occasions. All girls are required to purchase at least one ink blue skirt for formal occasions, and all boys are required to purchase at least one pair of dark navy trousers for formal occasions.

Students who arrive at school not dressed in the appropriate school uniform must report to Student Services.



School Tours Uniform

Students on tour are required to wear the school uniform so they are easily identified as a group. Students will be advised as to the items of clothing required for their particular tour. These items will be compulsory. Tours requiring an additional tour uniform beyond the usual school wear will choose from the following items:

- Navy tour polo with crest (yellow trim).
- Tracksuit jacket—when light cover is needed.
- Navy water resistant overcoat.

Physical Education Uniform

The appropriate Physical Education clothing must be brought for students to change into at the beginning of Physical Education classes. Students must not wear Physical Education clothes during the school day other than for Physical Education classes. Students are permitted to wear the Perth Modern School Physical Education uniform to and from school on days when they have Physical Education first or last periods of the day.

Uniform Shop

A Uniform Shop run by Lowes operates at the School and all items except footwear may be purchased from there. Orders may be placed in Term 4 for uniform items that are required the following year (recommended).

The Uniform Shop is open during term on Mondays and Thursdays from 8.00am-11.30am. It also opens on additional days in the lead up to Term 1 and also on Orientation Day. Information on additional opening days is sent to parents in the Information Update and is advertised on the school website.

The Perth Modern School P&C operates a Second Hand Uniform Shop with a range of good quality current uniforms including music 'concert' uniforms. The shop is located in the Parsons Building next to the Joseph Parsons Library. The shop runs on a cash or card, no return basis. Opening times are every second and fourth Monday of the month during term from 8.00 am–12.30 pm. Donations of clean uniform items in good repair are most welcome.

Current students and parents can access the full School Uniform Policy on [Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies](#).



GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT TO WEAR WHEN (as displayed in the Uniform Shop)

OFFICIAL UNIFORM

At official school events, we look sharply dressed like this...

GIRLS

- Black, polished leather lace-up school shoes
- Black stockings 40 denier minimum
- Dark navy knee length skirt
- Button-up shirt (tucked in if blazer worn, untucked if not)
- Well-fitted blazer
- Tie with Windsor knot
- Neat, combed hair

BOYS

- Black, polished leather lace-up school shoes
- Black socks
- Dark navy trousers
- Black school belt
- Button-up shirt tucked in
- Well-fitted blazer
- Tie with Windsor knot
- Neat, combed hair



SCHOOL TOURS

Uniform as directed by Tour Leader

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We look the part in Physical Education lessons and interschool sport dressed like this...

- Sports shoes/trainers
 - Dark navy microfibre shorts with crest*
 - Dark navy and gold polo shirt*
 - House polo shirt
 - Physical Education jacket
- * For interschool sport, students are to wear the above items, unless otherwise directed by Physical Education staff



DAY WEAR

Our everyday school uniform looks like this...

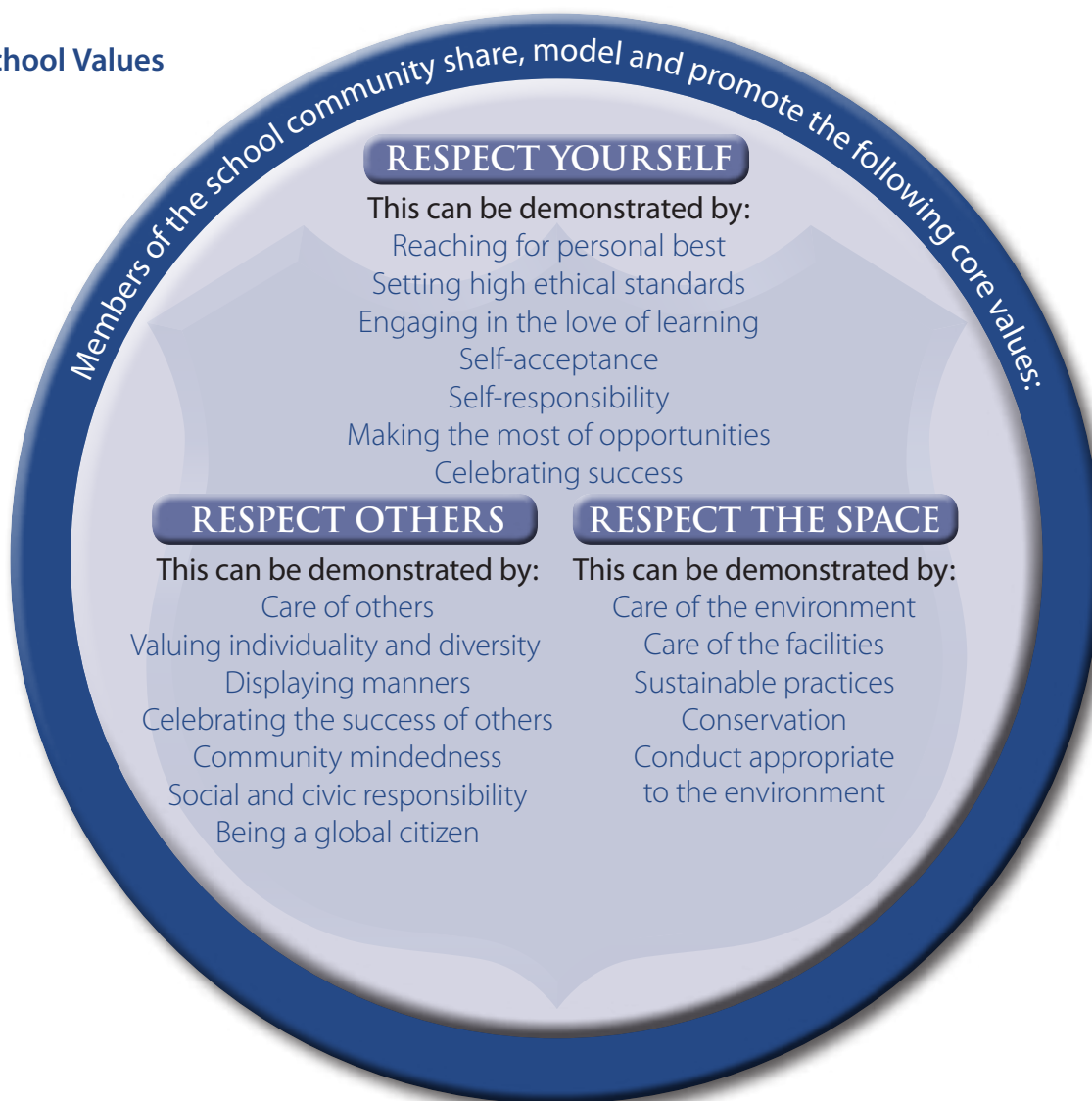
- Black, polished leather lace-up school shoes
- White or black ankle socks
- Dark navy shorts
- Dark navy trousers
- Dark navy knee length skirt (maximum 10cm above mid-knee)
- Stockings minimum 40 denier
- Polo shirt or button-up white shirt with school crest
- Jumper, blazer, waterproof or Physical Education jacket
- Scarf with school crest
- School hat





GENERAL INFORMATION

School Values



Skateboards and scooters

Skateboards and scooters should not be brought to school and are not permitted to be ridden on school grounds.

Smart Rider

A bus/rail concession pass (Smart Rider) is available for all students. This entitles the holder to student fares on public transport and can be obtained from the Library. For new students a small charge for the Smart Rider card is included in the Charges and Voluntary Contributions sheet. There is a Smart Rider Form as part of the enrolment package. Once a signed permission form is received from a parent/caregiver, a photo is taken of the student on Orientation Day and a Smart Rider card is ordered. This occurs very early in Term 1 of the school year and the cards are distributed to students within the first two weeks.

Student Behaviour

Students have a responsibility to be punctual, prepared and well presented for class; display respect and courtesy; work responsibly and diligently on all activities; respect personal possessions and school property; maintain a neat and orderly school environment and respect the culture and diversity of all members of the school community. Students are also expected to display these qualities in the wider community.

Students and members of the school community are expected to uphold the School Values of Respect Yourself, Respect Others and Respect the Space at all times.

Current students and parents can access the Student Behaviour Policy on [Connect/MySpaces/Library/Policies](#).




GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Leadership

Perth Modern School encourages students to take up formal leadership positions within the student body, including on Student Council or as an Advocacy or House Representative. The School's student leadership program aims to inspire students to make a contribution to their school community and develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will assist them to contribute to the wider community throughout their lives. There are also informal leadership opportunities within different Learning Areas and school teams.

Student Council

The Student Council is comprised of representatives from Years 7–12. To become a member, students are required to participate in a formal process which includes writing a formal letter, a panel interview, a speech to their year group and an election. The election is advertised on  Connect and in the Daily Notices.

Student Council members participate in a range of fundraising activities throughout the year, make speeches at school assemblies and formal occasions, attend a leadership camp, represent the student body on a variety of school committees and attend meetings with the School Executive and School Board.

House Representatives

House Representatives provide support to the Head of House at House Assemblies and House Carnivals, organise House fundraising activities and help the Student Council in planning whole-school events such as Mufti Day. House Representatives are elected by their peers.

Advocacy Captains

Advocacy Captains are elected by each Advocacy group and are responsible for helping the Advocacy teacher carry out their duties including the disseminating of information and Mindfulness Attention Training (MAT) and support of Community Service. Advocacy Captains are elected at the start of the school year.

Student Parking

Permission and permits are available from Student Services. There is a cost involved in obtaining a permit. Parking is only available in the designated bay assigned to the student. The permit must be displayed to avoid fines.

Students with Special Needs

For the school to cater for students with special needs, it is important that we are informed as soon as possible. Special needs may include learning, physical or emotional difficulties. Enrolment and medical forms will request this information. If a need arises after enrolment, Student Services should be contacted as soon as possible.

Sun Safety

Research indicates that childhood and adolescent sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer. All students are encouraged to comply with the Cancer Council recommendation of wearing hats and sunscreen whilst participating in outdoor activities. Parents are advised to apply sunscreen to their child before school. The Health and Physical Education Department will provide access to top up sunscreen for students during outdoor sport. Please provide an alternative if your child is allergic to sunscreen.

Team Sports

Students are encouraged to join one of the many sporting teams Perth Modern School offers. As part of participation in a sporting team, students will be involved in training sessions and competitions with teams from other schools. Participation in team sport helps build confidence, fitness and friendships with physical activity being an integral part of a healthy lifestyle. Some of the sports offered by the School include but are not limited to:

- AFL
- Basketball
- Netball
- Cricket
- Hockey
- Volleyball
- Swimming
- Athletics
- Cheerleading
- Badminton
- Sailing
- Soccer
- Touch Rugby.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Tours

Perth Modern School regularly organises local, interstate and overseas tours to enrich and enhance the learning of our students. To be eligible for inclusion on tours students must meet the following criteria:

- Has demonstrated exemplary behaviour during school hours and all school activities.
- Demonstrates a good level of health and fitness pertinent to the requirements of the tour.
- Compulsory charges payment must be up-to-date prior to confirming tour acceptance.
- Has maintained Good Standing.
- Understand that tour-specific clothing may need to be purchased and worn when required. It is a Department of Education requirement that students need to be easily identified when on tour.
- Be eligible for Travel Insurance, which will not be refused due to any pre-existing medical condition.

Walking to School

The roads around the school are very busy and it is important for students to take the utmost care to follow road rules and signals when walking to and from school. Students should always use a safety crossing when available, and look both ways as they cross. There are several safety crossings located close to the school and there is a walk way located on Roberts Road just outside the School. If a car is approaching they should not cross even at a crosswalk unless the student is certain that the car has stopped. Students crossing at traffic lights must ensure they have the proper signal before crossing and continue to look both ways as they cross.



