

Pittwater House

achieve a balance
co-educational campus
single-sex classes



a message

from our Principal



Pittwater House is an independent non-denominational school which offers families a unique educational choice. Our structure is very different from other schools, as it brings together the best of both a single-sex and co-educational approach to learning.

We offer a unique twin school environment in which the Boys' Grammar School and the Girls' College mix on the same campus where the students are predominantly educated in single-sex classes, showcasing the best teaching practices of both approaches.

Our approach is different, because we understand that our students (and their families) have a range of expectations. A typical 'one size fits all' approach cannot meet the individual needs of each student. For this reason, Pittwater House deliberately keeps class sizes at a level where we can foster individual attention for each student and a real understanding of each student's abilities, talents and expectations.

Our staff are experienced professionals who truly are committed to our students and to working with them to achieve the very best results. Education is a partnership, with the school and the family working together. At Pittwater House, we welcome parental involvement and seek to provide a range of opportunities for our families to participate in school life and become active members of our vibrant community.

Thank you for your interest in Pittwater House. I invite you to explore these pages and to visit our campus, to see how we achieve a balance for our students that prepares them for a successful journey in life.

Dr. Nancy Hillier

Principal, Pittwater House

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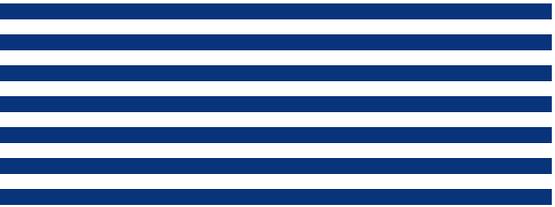
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enrolling your child



welcome to Pittwater House



The balance between single-sex classes and a co-ed campus ensures students receive a positive educational experience.



Pittwater House is an independent non-denominational school offering a private school education for students from pre-school to Year 12. Our structure is very different from other schools, allowing us to achieve a balance which features the advantages of single-sex classes within a co-educational environment.

Pittwater House has pioneered this approach on the Northern Beaches based on an understanding that boys and girls learn differently and as a result we are able to tailor teaching styles to suit these differences, while also bringing boys and girls together for a range of social activities and interactions.

Pittwater House is a smaller school, offering greater individual attention for each student and a real understanding of each student's abilities, talents and expectations.

Through our emphasis on academics and our single-minded attitude to quality education, we are able to cater for every student's individual learning needs and ensure they maximise their potential.

Pittwater House has more open and green space on campus per student than any other private school on the Northern Beaches. We have outstanding facilities on campus with a large performance hall, an eight lane short course heated swimming pool, full size oval and large multipurpose playing field, multiple playgrounds for pre-school, junior school and free space for senior students, excellent indoor sports complex, creative arts studio and all weather courts for tennis, netball and basketball.

These are just some of the reasons to consider Pittwater House. If you would like to see the school in action, book a tour at www.pittwaterhouse.com.au.

core values

Our Values are the guiding principles for Pittwater House.



Pittwater House espouses six 'Core Values' of

- **Honesty and Integrity**
- **Consideration for Others**
- **Maximum Use of Talents**
- **Flexibility in Thinking**
- **Tradition**
- **Promoting Democracy**

These form the foundation of our values-based philosophy.

Each interlinked value provides guidance to students and staff on how to respond to challenges and opportunities that present in our daily lives.





twin schooling

Setting Pittwater House apart from any other school is our approach to education in single-sex classrooms.

This unique educational environment showcases the best teaching practices of single-sex and co-educational learning.

Within the Pittwater House co-ed campus you will find three schools that run cohesively and yet uniquely offer single-gender classes. Pittwater House established this innovative learning environment to offer students the best of both worlds.

Boys and girls learn differently, particularly during their formative years. With the Pittwater House approach students see the benefit of less distraction in learning, greater achievements leading to improved self esteem whilst offering greater leadership opportunities.

Our approach also offers teachers the opportunity to address the unique learning styles and interests of our students whilst creating further opportunities for teachers to employ gender-specific strategies that are designed for an all-boy or all-girl classroom.

Students are taught in single-sex classes from Kindergarten to Year 8.

Commencing in Year 9 there is a gradual introduction to co-educational classes in elective subjects while English, Maths, Geography, History, Science and PDHPE continue to be taught in single-sex classes. In the senior years all classes are fully co-educational.

We ensure students get many opportunities to socialise together during break time, whole school events and co-curricular activities.

The Girls' College and the Boys' Grammar School maintain their own identity by having leadership positions, as well as sports and special events that are unique to each. Form classes are the cornerstone of the pastoral care program and remain single-sex from Kindergarten to Year 12.

The Pittwater House approach to education allows students to be engaged in learning styles appropriate to their gender in their early years of education whilst providing the opportunity of a co-educational environment as they prepare for higher education and life beyond school.



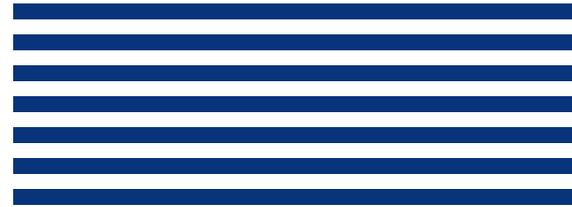
"Single-sex classes offer my children a tailored educational experience, they also have the benefits of socialising in a co-ed environment at Pittwater House. Now they have the best of both worlds."

Tanya, Pittwater House mum



nurturing your child

We believe every child should have the confidence to succeed. Pittwater House has key programs and strategies to ensure your child feels supported and encouraged throughout their time at school.



The small student population and lower student teacher ratio at Pittwater House means our teachers are able to create extraordinary opportunities for their students. Enrolment is capped to ensure teachers can closely monitor each child's development and students have the chance to try new experiences that may pass them by at a larger school.

The School has well developed strategies in place to ensure a positive transition at each stage of a student's journey from home to school, from the Junior School through into Senior School, and onto university and a career.

Early Childhood Centre to Kindergarten:

Our 'No Tears' transition program

Starting 'Big School' is a big step. Our 'No Tears' transition program focuses on ensuring that all children from our Early Childhood Centre are comfortably immersed in the School, before they even start. Children become an integral part of the School as the Centre is located on campus, students wear the school uniform and their learning program familiarises them with the specialised learning spaces and

resources of the wider school. By Term 4, children spend time with the Kindergarten teachers in the classrooms, becoming comfortable with the routine and environment.

Kindergarten and ECC students are part of the Buddy Program. The program starts with Year 4 and 5 students befriending our youngest students in the ECC. Then, when children start in Kindergarten they are paired with a Year 6 student who will help them feel safe and cared for in the Junior School environment.

Transition to Senior School

By providing a blending of Junior and Senior School practices, Pittwater House gently introduces Year 6 students to the demands and responsibilities of Senior School, ensuring they are emotionally and academically prepared for their biggest challenge to date.

Key to this approach is exposure to specialist learning resources (teachers, tools and classrooms), collaborative teaching between primary and secondary school teachers and learning strategies that involve a high level of interactive and multisensory learning.

When commencing in Year 7,

students will work closely with Year 11 students to settle into life in the Senior School and the students will share their experiences with organisation, homework and more.

Students take on leadership roles in Years 6 and 12 and nurture 'older brother or sister' relationships with younger students in the school.

Transition to University: Encouraging independence

We support our students in their senior years to develop individual study habits, critical thinking skills and to take on personal responsibility, which will help set them up for success at University and life beyond. Our HSC Preparation Program, which includes formal and informal briefings for students and their parents, the development of individual study plans and our vocational testing and tertiary briefings, combine to ensure our students are equipped for the demands of tertiary education and adult life.

Additional classes are available as well as a mentoring program where every Year 12 student selects a staff mentor. These mentors assist them in navigating the HSC year and maximising their results.

room to move



Pittwater House has more open and green space on campus per student than any other private school on the Northern Beaches.



All Pittwater House students share the use of facilities and resources on the 3.5 hectare campus bounded by Westmoreland Ave, Parkes Rd and South Creek Rd in Collaroy.

Special Features

- **Swimming pool** - eight lane short course heated swimming pool built to FINA specifications.
- **Full size oval and large multi-purpose playing field** on campus catering to all sports including rugby, cricket and soccer.
- **Multiple playgrounds** - for ECC, Junior School and free space for Senior students.
- **Great Hall** - our multi-purpose hall is used by all areas of the School for assemblies, theatrical performances, displays and school functions. It has a seating capacity of approximately 900, a stage area suitable for large scale dramatics and acoustic ceilings which were designed by the sound engineer for the Sydney Opera House.
- **Indoor sports complex** - a regulation sized, rubberised court,

which has been designed for multiple uses including basketball, netball and futsal. The sports complex is also used for dance and gymnastics.

- **Outdoor tennis** and all weather netball/basketball courts
- **Creative Arts Centre** for dance and drama.
- **Outdoor amphitheatre**
- **Health Centre** with dedicated nursing staff during school hours.



strong academic focus



A high priority is given to developing student capability in literacy and numeracy which begins from the earliest years of school and continues through to Senior School.



Pittwater House has a reputation for strong academic performance. The true measure of success is the value added to each student's results as they progress through the School and the number of students who achieve their goals after school.

Pre-school Education

In the Early Childhood Centre priority is given to the development of word and numeracy skills through inquiry based and experiential learning.

Each class is led by a tertiary qualified teacher to ensure your child is given the best start to their education. Being part of Pittwater House, our pre-schoolers also have access to the full range of specialised learning resources and teachers of the School.

Learning Culture

What differentiates Pittwater House is that we provide quality education that caters for every student's individual learning needs, including gender, ability and styles of learning.

At Pittwater House academic success has been attributed to an increased emphasis on engaging students to maximise learning opportunities. Increasingly all academic decisions, professional development, class size, cohort structure, the use of technology and resourcing, have all been aimed at ensuring the academic culture of the School is enhanced and the actual learning taking place is the key priority.

Our focus is also strategically directed towards providing future focused education that will furnish our school leavers with strong academic grades and the critical thinking tools and technology skills that they will need to be successful.

Pittwater House students have continued to be named in the Distinguished Achievers and All-Round Achievers List for the Higher School Certificate over the years. Also a high percentage of our Year 12 students have consistently achieved band 5 and 6 in their chosen subjects.

Gifted and Talented Program

Pittwater House has a Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator who works with both students and staff across all levels of the School with an emphasis on gifted education for enrichment and acceleration.

The need for flexibility in our teaching and the desire to maximize our student's talents has led us to offer an array of programs to cater for gifted students as one program does not suit all. We offer extension classes, streaming in specific subjects, individual and whole class acceleration, academic co-curricular activities.

Our primary aim is developing the talent of all of our students through identifying and enriching each to perform at the highest level in their field of talent, whether in academics, creative arts, sports or leadership.

Technology

Technology is part of everyday life in education. Pittwater House students use the most up to date learning platforms available. Access to technology in classrooms is made possible through the BYO tablet and laptop programs from Year 5.



~~"We were looking for a school with a strong academic record and enviable sporting facilities we found it at Pittwater House."~~

Karen, Pittwater House mum

the arts

The curriculum encourages all students to participate in cultural activities and caters specifically for students who have a passion for the Arts.

The Arts offers students the opportunity to express themselves through creativity whilst holistically understanding the theory behind each course.

Music

The Pittwater House music program provides students with the opportunity to learn an instrument and develop an appreciation of a wide range of musical styles. Our music program is available to all students from Kindergarten.

The study of music continues into the Senior School as part of the curriculum in Year 7 and 8. After that, students have the opportunity to develop their passion for music by selecting music electives in Year 9 and 10. In their final years of school, Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension are also offered.

Further complementing the music program, the School offers co-curricular activities ranging from various bands to vibrant ensembles, choirs and an orchestra. Co-curricular activities in music also provide students with the opportunity to perform in concerts.

Individual music tuition is available at the School.





Drama

At Pittwater House we provide students with the opportunity to develop their self-confidence through drama, mime, improvisation, monologues and storytelling – these are the core focus areas within Drama.

As such Drama is provided as a co-curricular subject for Junior School students (Drama Club) and a curriculum-related elective for Senior School students.

Senior School students are also offered the opportunity to be involved in the School's major productions. Opportunities also go beyond performance to; stage make-up, set design and lighting.

Dance

Dance is offered as a curriculum-related subject for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 and as an elective for Year 7 - 12.

The Dance program caters for beginners through to experienced dancers with a focus on the history of dance and performance of various dance styles. Students learn choreography and perform their own dances. Students also have the opportunity to audition for our very successful Eisteddfod groups.

Photography and Digital Media

Elective photography is available for senior students in Year 9 and 10. The School offers students the opportunity to explore photography in today's world.

Visual Arts

Visual Arts fosters interest and enjoyment in the making and studying of media. It also does more than that - it can help students connect more deeply to the world and open them up to new ways of seeing. In contemporary societies many kinds of knowledge are managed through imagery and visual codes and much of our student's knowledge is acquired this way. Visual Arts empowers students to engage in visual forms of communication and helps students to interpret such information.





sporting program

Pittwater House believes active students are confident students so we maintain an outstanding sporting program.

To reflect our commitment to giving our students the best facilities and opportunities, Pittwater House is proudly home to an eight lane short course heated swimming pool - catering to all types of water sports including hosting our own swimming carnivals and meets, waterpolo, and swimming as a part of Physical Education.

We also have a central playing field and all weather courts on campus which cater for tennis, netball, basketball, rugby, cricket, athletics, softball and soccer.

Our outstanding sports complex further enhances our numerous sports programs. The sports complex is used for many sporting activities such as basketball, futsal, dancing, gymnastics and other school activities.

Representative sport is not compulsory however participation is very much encouraged. Sporting teams at Pittwater House are managed by members of our staff and trained by experienced coaches.

Each season, the School fields large teams for athletics and swimming in local inter-school competitions. This program provides the pathway to regional, state and national representation and we have a long history of students achieving at this elite level.

As part of our commitment to working within the wider schools community, all students are given the opportunity to trial for Combined Independent Schools representation in all sports, although please note that some sports may have skill requirements for participation.



"With active boys, it's important that they are given the opportunity to flourish physically as well as academically. The sporting facilities on campus are outstanding - as are the specialist facilities for the arts and drama."

Sarah, Pittwater House mum

broader curriculum

To achieve a balanced, well-rounded education, children are provided with the opportunity to explore more at school.

At Pittwater House, we offer a wide selection of co-curricular activities for students throughout the year.

Co-curricular Activities

Our programs are designed especially for our students and are run by staff members or appropriate providers who can work with individuals to broaden their experiences and assist them in reaching their goals.

Where applicable, Pittwater House co-curricular programs lead into or incorporate community and state wide competitions.

Many of our Senior School co-curricular activities build on those offered in our Junior School and allow students to continue building skills in those areas or perhaps pick up a new skill.

Further information on co-curricular activities can be found on our website.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is an internationally recognised program designed to help children maximise their potential.

The program encompasses four sections: Volunteering, Skill, Physical Recreation and Adventure, with specific tasks and undertakings being decided by the participant. This means that every Award is unique, based on the interests and desires of the individual undertaking the Award.

Community Service

Pittwater House students are involved in a wide variety of community service programs. Each year the Senior Prefects nominate a charity they would like to support and co-ordinate a range of events and programs to raise money to assist with its objectives.

The School's Skills and Service Program also provides opportunities for students to elect to work on projects to support a vast array of community programs including the environment and aged care.

World Challenge educational expeditions are also available to students in Year 8, 9 and 10. The expeditions include fundraising, planning and skill development which all culminate in visiting a third-world country to assist with community projects.



Cadets

The Pittwater House Cadet Unit is a voluntary co-curricular activity for Pittwater House students in Years 7 to 12. The Cadet Unit conducts courses which provide cadets with the chance to develop skills and qualities that add to their everyday abilities and develop them as the leaders of tomorrow.

Cadet activities include navigation, field craft, first aid, communications, fitness, ropes course, ceremonial drill, teamwork and leadership practice.

Outdoor Program

The aim of the Pittwater House outdoor education program is to support the development of students.

The program supports and reinforces the School's pastoral curriculum in the most practical of settings. It deals directly with concepts such as leadership, team building, initiative, resilience,

problem solving and the value of working towards a common goal.

Most programs are hosted in a semi-remote location to remove students from 'normal' life.

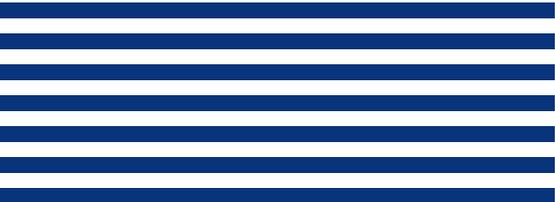
The outdoor education program runs throughout Junior and Senior School. All programs will be run with small groups, each accompanied by a qualified leader and a school staff member.

Specialist instructors join the group wherever necessary e.g. abseiling.

The outdoor education program at Pittwater House is a sequential program (i.e. each phase builds on and reinforces previous learning) which runs from Years 2 - 11. Each Year group has its own tailored program that aims to extend the pastoral (and where practical academic) elements of the school curriculum into a guided 'learning by doing' environment outdoors.



pastoral care



At Pittwater House, we recognise the importance of building character, leadership skills and all round personal development of our students.



The Pastoral Care of our students is always at the forefront of our thinking. Pittwater House is concerned with the total wellbeing of each student and we are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment where students are respectful of each other's needs.

Our Pastoral Care program provides a wide variety of initiatives and inspirational speakers to support the wellbeing of our students. The organisations and speakers that address our students during the year aim to provide valuable life skills such as resilience, independence, confidence, personal growth and teamwork.

Some of the programs currently being offered at Pittwater House include Bounceback, Our Journey, Respect, Understand and Acceptance (RUA), Empowerment and World Challenge.

Positive Education

Happy and healthy students are more likely to reach their full potential.

With the introduction of Positive Education at Pittwater House we aim to bring together the science of Positive Psychology which focuses on the strengths and virtues that enable individuals to thrive, and Positive Education which focuses on specific skills that enable students to build healthy relationships and emotions.

Through our Positive Education Program, we aim to produce well-educated and well-rounded individuals who flourish both personally and professionally and are well-equipped to contribute to society in a satisfying and meaningful way.

We have both formal and informal delivery of Positive Education and importantly, we ensure that it is part of the fabric of the School and integral to every class relationship in our community.

Hierarchy of Care

A hierarchy of care has been established for the wellbeing of all our students. Every student is placed in a 'Form Class' as the

centerpiece of the Pastoral Care Program. The Form teacher is responsible for all students within their class. They are the first point of contact for parents and regularly communicate with home through the student diary. The Form teachers know each of their students and are best placed to deal with any concerns as they arise.

The School also has stage coordinators and leaders throughout the Junior and Senior schools. Pastoral care of students is a major part of their responsibilities.

The School is divided into a number of Houses and each student is allocated to a House. The Houses play an important role in the student's life by helping develop teamwork across all years, wellbeing and sportsmanship.

Leadership

At Pittwater House we aim to prepare our students for life beyond the classroom. We aspire to give them skills to work as part of a team and to work conscientiously. At school, as in the wider community, there is a need for people with wonderful ideas who can inspire and help others to unlock their potential.

The School boasts its own distinctive identity by having a leadership program which helps students develop confidence, values, skills and knowledge to be a good leader.

There are many opportunities and leadership positions in the Boys' Grammar School and Girls' College. Year prefects, class monitors and other leadership opportunities are available in areas such as debating, public speaking, community service, the environment, the Arts as well as through the House system.

services

With the extra services on offer at Pittwater House we endeavour to make our families lives easier.

Our Own Bus Fleet

Students can travel to and from the campus on one of the School's private buses or on the public/government bus services. The School takes pride in its fleet, all of which are air-conditioned, fitted with seat belts and driven by our own staff drivers for added safety. The Pittwater House bus fleet makes travelling to and from school, on excursions and to co-curricular activities an easy and safe experience.

Further information on transport options can be found on our website.

Uniform Shop

The Pittwater House uniform shop is located on campus for your convenience. The School has a comprehensive uniform catering for all seasons.

Health Centre

To ensure we offer families the best health services possible we provide a Health Centre with a registered nurse on duty each school day from 8.30am - 3.30pm.

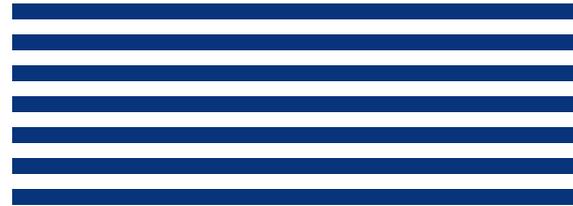
Extended School Care

Pittwater House provides quality extended school care in partnership with an accredited service provider. After school care is on the school grounds which ensures a seamless transition from classroom into a relaxed and friendly environment. Care is offered for children from Pre-school to Year 5.



enrolling your child

To ensure your children receive the best education, we encourage you to visit the School.



Key Entry Points into the School are:

Early Childhood Centre - enrolling children from age 3, Pittwater House offers separate structured programs for 3 and 4 year olds. Features include: tertiary trained staff, a specialised and intensive transition program into school, excellent facilities and a quality education program designed around the Early Years Learning Framework.

Junior School - our smaller class sizes, twin schooling approach and nurturing environment provide the perfect environment to start school life.

Kindergarten and Year 5 are the key entry points for the Junior School but admission may be possible in other years depending on availability.

Senior School - the Senior School at Pittwater House includes the Boys' Grammar School and the Girls' College. Students are taught in single-sex classes until Year 8, after which they are gradually merged into co-educational classes.

Year 7 is the key entry point for the Senior School but admission may be possible in other years, depending on availability.

Next Step

Join one of our weekly tours during the School term to experience the Pittwater House difference.

Each year there are limited vacancies at Pittwater House and there is a formal enrolment process to enter the school.

To book a tour or find out more please contact our Registrar during school hours.

tel: +61 2 9972 5789
email: enrolments@tphs.nsw.edu.au
www.pittwaterhouse.com.au





Pittwater House

want to find out more?

Visit our website - www.pittwaterhouse.com.au

Contact our Registrar on tel: +61 2 9972 5789
or via email enrolments@tphs.nsw.edu.au

Book a tour - Experience true balance in education first hand. For a tour of our campus in action contact our Registrar or book online via our website

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