

# Rouse Hill High School



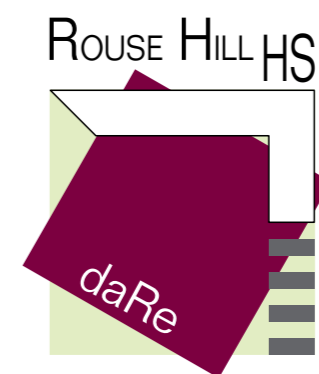
ROUSE HILL HS



*Prospectus*



*Dare to excel*



## School Profile

At Rouse Hill High School we offer challenging and diverse learning programs providing excellent opportunities for individual success. Personalised learning through effective differentiation helps cater to the needs of your child. Our senior students benefit from a unique, flexible higher school certificate pathway with wide subject choice and the opportunity to start Year 12 subjects in Year 11. Strong educational leadership and dedicated teachers create a supportive, dynamic learning environment. Since opening in 2009, our vibrant staff members have actively engaged in professional development and are invested in developing all aspects of our strong public school.

Modern and specialist teaching environments for dance, music, drama and digital media compliment the well-equipped classrooms. Our high school boasts comprehensive leadership and engagement programs building confidence, resilience and success. Students are empowered to lead in every year group and have an active voice in the school community. Learning is enriched through active creative and performing arts, sporting and debating programs. Our students, staff and parents are part of a strong, sharing community which shares a vision of developing dynamic, accountable, resilient and engaged learners.

Our vision is to prepare students to be active and informed citizens now and in the future. We achieve this through a strong focus in our curriculum on transferable skills such as collaboration and teamwork, critical and creative thinking, and the innovative use of technology. Students are provided with opportunities to be flexible and resilient in their thinking to succeed in a dynamic future.

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## Guiding Principles

At Rouse Hill High School our key platforms for success are shown below. We:

**Value the individual** so we differentiate learning experiences for staff, parents and students.

**Strengthen health and wellbeing** of all, to underpin flourishing social and academic success.

**Apply positive strength-based models** to maximise self-determination and growth regardless of starting points.

**Interconnect teachers, students, parents, and community** to build collective effort and responsibility for student improvement.

**Implement collaborative leadership** to ensure we are engaging with and learning from all stakeholders.

**Focus on standards and data** to continually raise expectations and push success and high achievement.





## Project Based Learning

Our Middle School teaching and learning programs at Rouse Hill High School involve Project Based Learning (PBL). This engaging, student centred approach develops students' creative and critical thinking skills in a collaborative learning environment. PBL is an educational approach that is used globally, consisting of a large body of contemporary research that has been evaluated and adapted to Rouse Hill High School's context.

Students are able to develop innovative and unique solutions within a structured and scaffolded framework, enhancing key 21st Century skills and cross-curricular links. Students often have the opportunity to engage with industry professionals from a large field of expertise, strengthening their understanding of subject area content through real world application.

These highly engaging teaching and learning sequences allow students to access content through a wide range of learning styles, supporting engagement and diverse abilities. Middle School programs across a number of faculties are taught within our PBL framework, assisting students to succeed in a digital world and learn key communication strategies. This Middle School focus creates learners who are dynamic, resilient, creative and accountable, preparing them for the demands of the Senior School courses and their future careers.



## Leadership

At Rouse Hill High School we believe student leadership should involve as many young people as possible as it helps students find their voices, participate in decision-making, and understand their rights and responsibilities as active citizens.

At Rouse Hill High School we value and engage student voice within teaching and learning by:

- involving students in conversations and decisions about what and how they learn.
- providing inclusive student leadership opportunities within the classroom, school and wider community, including formal leadership roles.
- providing opportunities for all students to actively contribute to the school and their community through mentoring, volunteering and managing social awareness campaigns and fundraisers.

## Year 7 and 8 Enrichment

In Year 7 and 8 there is an enrichment class. Placement in this class is competitive and is formed on information provided by external and internal sources. All Year 7 take part in a project stream subject, focusing on a successful transition to high school and the development of collaborative and independent project skills. To support students studying Mandarin at their local primary school, we offer a Mandarin extension class in Year 7.



# Accountable

## Raising Responsibility

Staff at Rouse Hill High School are committed to establishing positive classroom environments conducive to learning through the use of routines and positive interactions that focus upon choice and the provision of critical feedback.

The Raising Responsibility Model, which aligns closely with choice theory and restorative practice, is used in classrooms to promote student reflection and self-awareness. Teachers support students to identify behaviour that is 'above the line' or 'below the line', assisting individuals to monitor and adjust their own behaviour.

### Raising Responsibility Model

Level D - Democracy (Initiative, responsibility)  
Level C - Cooperation / Conformity (Does what is expected/kindness and responsibility when others present)

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Level B - Bullying / Bossing (Lack of impulse control)

Level A - Anarchy (Chaos, unsafe)

Staff encourage all students to strive towards operating at a 'D level'. This involves demonstrating a high level of self-drive and enthusiasm for learning consistent with intrinsic motivation. Students operating 'below the line' are provided with additional methods of support to maintain our positive learning environments.

## Learning with Technology

Since 2015, Rouse Hill High School has successfully implemented a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy across the school. BYOD refers to students bringing a personally owned device to school for the purpose of learning. Students engage with Google Apps for Education in every classroom to enhance their learning both with their teachers and peers. By creating a digitally connected learning experience, students at Rouse Hill High School develop their skills in collaboration, communication and problem solving within and beyond the classroom.



## Growth Mindset

Rouse Hill High School is committed to developing and implementing strategies to encourage successful student participation in school life through a growth mindset approach.

A growth mindset approach leads to a desire to learn and therefore a tendency to:

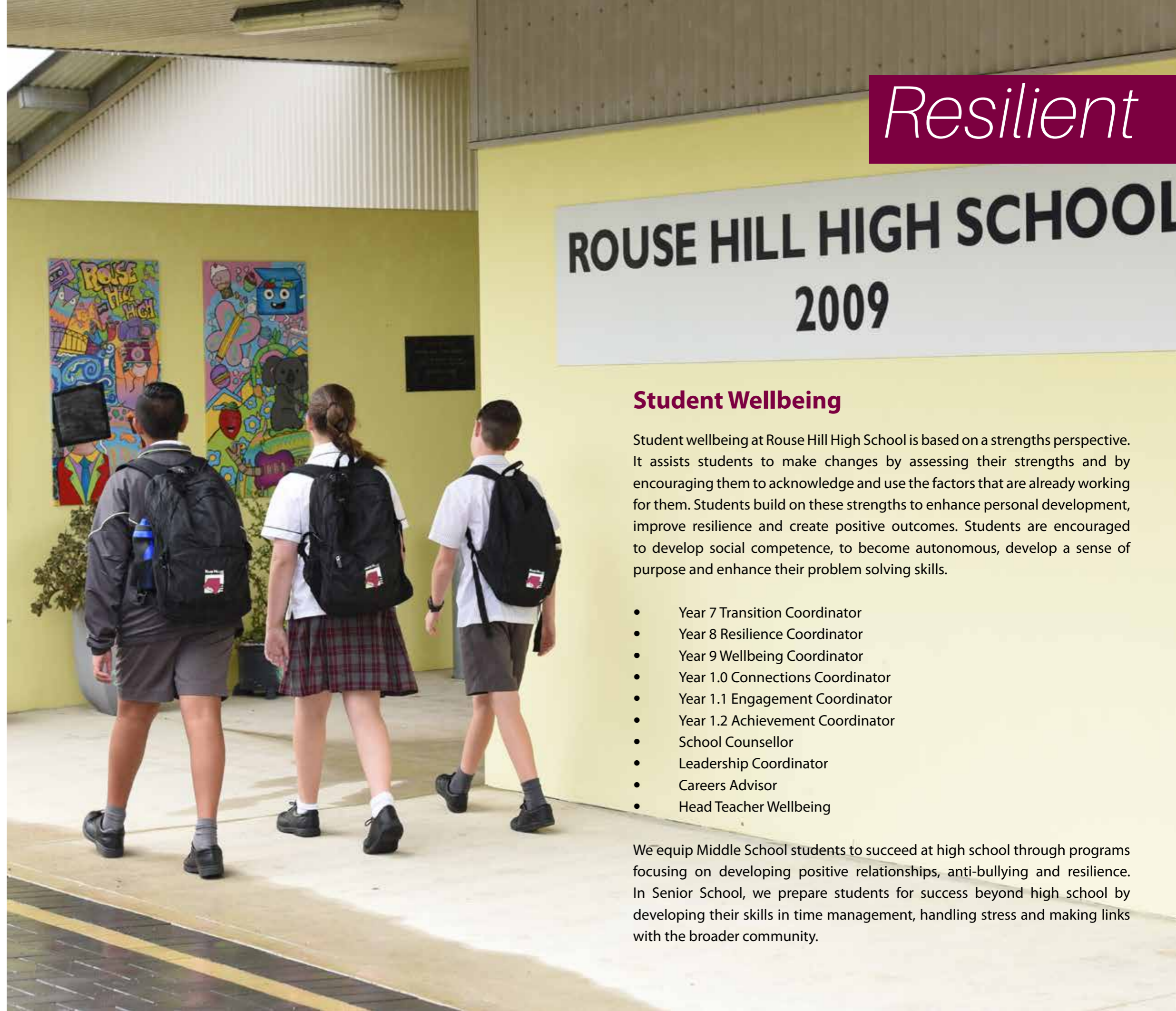
- embrace challenges
- persist despite challenges
- see effort as a path to mastery
- learn from criticism
- be inspired by the success of others

Students develop an understanding that a fixed mindset leads to a desire to look smart and therefore a tendency to:

- avoid challenges
- give up easily due to obstacles
- see effort as fruitless
- ignore useful feedback
- be threatened by the success of others

In the classroom, teachers will:

- provide feedback on how to improve
- acknowledge effort leading to personal growth
- model and encourage reflective self-talk



# Resilient

## ROUSE HILL HIGH SCHOOL 2009

## Student Wellbeing

Student wellbeing at Rouse Hill High School is based on a strengths perspective. It assists students to make changes by assessing their strengths and by encouraging them to acknowledge and use the factors that are already working for them. Students build on these strengths to enhance personal development, improve resilience and create positive outcomes. Students are encouraged to develop social competence, to become autonomous, develop a sense of purpose and enhance their problem solving skills.

- Year 7 Transition Coordinator
- Year 8 Resilience Coordinator
- Year 9 Wellbeing Coordinator
- Year 1.0 Connections Coordinator
- Year 1.1 Engagement Coordinator
- Year 1.2 Achievement Coordinator
- School Counsellor
- Leadership Coordinator
- Careers Advisor
- Head Teacher Wellbeing

We equip Middle School students to succeed at high school through programs focusing on developing positive relationships, anti-bullying and resilience. In Senior School, we prepare students for success beyond high school by developing their skills in time management, handling stress and making links with the broader community.



## Compacted Curriculum

At Rouse Hill High School, the HSC is delivered to Years 1.1 and 1.2 via a compacted curriculum. Students undertake the Preliminary and HSC components of three of their subjects in one year (Year 1.1) and complete the remaining three subjects the following year (Year 1.2). The benefits of this model include:

**Diversity of choice:** Students choose three subjects, one from each of three lines. Subject lines have ten to thirteen subjects available. This provides a more diverse curriculum within each line than would be available under a traditional model. In addition, subjects that are less popular may not attract enough students in any one year group to justify placement in the timetable. Under our model these subjects are able to run every second year with students from two year groups making viable class numbers.

**Peer Mentoring:** Every class has a mixture of students completing Stage 6 courses for the first time (1.1 students) and those who have already completed three HSC courses (1.2 students). The more experienced students act as peer mentors and model the high level of rigour required for success in the HSC.

**Stress Management:** At any one time, students will only have three assessment tasks to complete. During the four week HSC examination period they will have a maximum of three exams (four if studying English). The distribution of these high stakes assessments across two years helps reduce student (and parent) stress.

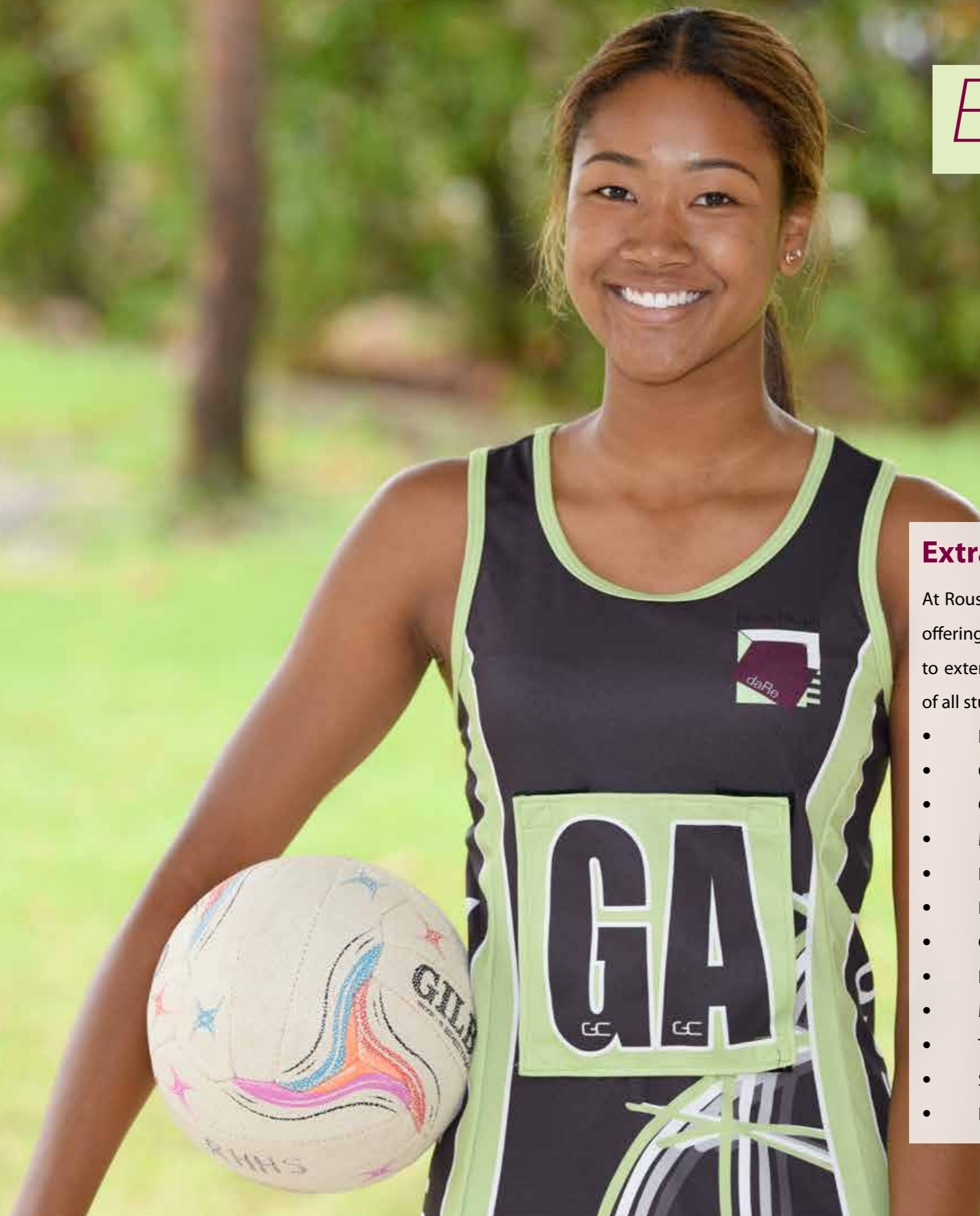
**Transition pathways:** Students can elect to include Board Endorsed options or vocational study through TAFE as part of their curriculum pattern.

# Engaged

## Extra-Curricular

At Rouse Hill High School we take great pride in offering a wide range of extra-curricular activities to extend and enhance the learning experience of all students. Enrichment activities include;

- Representative sporting teams
- Chess club
- Games club
- Music ensembles
- Dance ensembles
- Drama ensembles
- China Club
- Debating
- Mock Trial
- Tech ninjas
- Sisterhood
- Breakfast club





## How to enrol

### Enrolling into Year 7 from a Public Primary School

Your current primary school will issue you with an "Expression of Interest Placement in Year 7" form during Term 1 of Year 6. If you are local to Rouse Hill High School, sign and return this form to your primary school. If you are not in the Rouse Hill High School catchment area, list Rouse Hill High School as number one on this form and complete the "Rouse Hill High School non-local enrolment application" form. If you need assistance with this process, please contact your primary school or visit [rousehill-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://rousehill-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)

### Enrolling from a Non-Government School

Please collect an "Application to enrol in a NSW Government school" form from the school or download from our website. If you are not in the Rouse Hill High School catchment area, you will also need to complete a "Rouse Hill High School non-local enrolment application" form. Please return completed forms directly to us.

### Enrolling into Years 7-10

If you would like to enrol into Year 8, 9, 10, or into Year 7 once the year has commenced, please contact the administration office where our staff will obtain some basic information regarding your child. Non-local enrolment applications will be forwarded to the enrolment panel for consideration.

On completion of enrolment documentation and successful recommendation from the enrolment panel, your child will be required to attend an interview accompanied by a parent or guardian. Your child's attendance and behaviour at their previous school will be discussed during this interview as well as the selection of available elective subjects and the transition process.

### Enrolling into Year 11

Students wishing to enrol into Year 11 are strongly encouraged to complete the above application process by the start of November. Preliminary courses begin in Week 6, Term 4. Enrolments after this date cannot be guaranteed.

### Enrolling into Year 12

It is very rare and only under exceptional circumstances that we can accept enrolments into Year 12 due to the nature of the HSC requirements and our compacted curriculum pattern of study.





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## 2009



ROUSE HILL HS



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