

One Student One Community Many Futures

17 January 2025

Dear Helensvale State High School Community

Welcome to the 2025 school year, a year of continued opportunity and success. I trust that our students had a safe and enjoyable break and that families have made the most of the holiday season. I would especially like to welcome our new families to the Helensvale State High School community, a community that works together to support the learning and well-being of our students.

It is now time for students, parents and carers to start thinking of the return to school. Below is some information that will assist in ensuring a smooth start to the new school year.

School Commencement Dates 2025

The first day back for Years 7, 9 and 11 is Tuesday 28th January. All students will be in attendance from Wednesday 29th January.

Our staff and Year 12 leaders will be available to support students to find their way to their various areas.

I would suggest that where possible students arrive no later than 8.30am on their first day back so there is time to find venues and classrooms.

Student Timetables

Students will be emailed their timetable to their school email address on Monday 27th January. Timetables will then also be accessible through the state-wide OneSchool data base which can be accessed by all students on or off campus. Students are expected to view their school timetable *Monday 27th January* so they know which *roll class* they are assigned to. A reminder that students will not be able to use their mobile device to do this once they enter the school grounds, as mobile phones are switched off and placed in school bags prior to entering the school.

For year 7 and new students coming to Helensvale SHS from another EQ state school, their account details will be as they were in year 6 (or their previous school) in 2024, so please use the same username/email address and password. Should you require these details, please feel free to call 5573 8548 or contact via email at techsupport@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au

Students will also be given a hard copy of their timetable during class on the first day.

Tuesday 28th January Procedures

- Year 7 students are to meet in the Student Activity Centre (SAC) at 8.30am. Students are to locate their names from the alphabetical lists, according to surnames, posted around the SAC walls. The student's roll class will be beside their name. Students are asked to then sit in the designated roll class line straight away. There will be roll class signage at the front of the SAC stage area. Parents and carers are welcome to accompany their children to the SAC. Parents are welcome to remain with students until they begin dispersing for their first class around 9:15am. Any student/parent who cannot find their child's class can approach a student leader for assistance. Our leaders will be visible in fluorescent jackets.
- Year 9 students will assemble at Karangbah and sit in their designated roll class line.

- Year 11 students will go straight to their roll mark classes.

Wednesday 29th January Procedures

- Year 7, 9 and 11 students will go straight to their roll class (same classrooms as Monday).
- Year 8 students are to meet in Karangbah and sit in their designated roll class line.
- Year 10 students will go straight to their roll mark classes as identified on timetables. Year 10 Learning Community staff will be available outside the SWell for any student that has not been able to access their timetable on Monday 27th or Tuesday 28th January.
- Year 12 students will meet in the Student Activity Centre (SAC).

If your student is not commencing school at **the beginning of term one** please advise Administration as soon as possible, giving the reason and duration of absence so we can maintain their enrolment at our school. Our preferred method of notification is by SMS 0457 478 277. If your student will **not be returning** to our school in 2025 please advise Administration ASAP so they can be exited from the school.

School Times

School commences with roll mark each morning at 8:50am. School concludes at 2:55pm Monday to Thursday. On Friday school concludes at 1:15pm.

2025 School Opening Hours

1 week before school returns: Monday 20 January – Friday 24 January

| DAY | ADMINISTRATION | FINANCE | UNIFORM SHOP | CANTEEN |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| Monday- Wednesday | 8am – 3pm | 8am – 3pm | | CLOSED |
| Thursday | 10:30am -3:30pm | 10:30am – 5pm | | |
| Friday | 8am – 3pm | 8am – 12pm | | |

1st week of school: Tuesday 28 January – Friday 31 January

| DAY | ADMINISTRATION | FINANCE | UNIFORM SHOP | CANTEEN |
|--------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Monday | CLOSED - PUBLIC HOLIDAY | | | |
| Tuesday - Thursday | 8am – 3:30pm | 8am – 3pm | | 7:30am – 1:45pm |
| Friday | | 8am – 12pm | CLOSED | 7:30am – 12pm |

2nd week of school onwards: regular hours from 3 February

| DAY | ADMINISTRATION | FINANCE | UNIFORM SHOP | CANTEEN |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Monday - Thursday | 8am – 3:30pm | 8am – 1:45pm | | 7:30am – 1:45pm |
| Friday | | CLOSED | | 7:30am – 12pm |

Cashless in 2025

Our school has now been cashless for a year; we no longer accept cash at our Finance Office, Uniform Shop or Canteen. A range of other payment options will continue to be available for students such as debit or credit card, online ordering through <https://www.flexischools.com.au/> or pre-loaded student cards (previous year's student cards are acceptable) or student ID numbers found on timetables. We recommend you [link your child's student ID card](#) now.

School Bus Passes – a message from Kinetic

Who should apply / reapply?

- All students transitioning from Primary School to High School / Year 6 to Year 7
- Students with a 2024 bus pass who need to update or change any of their details
- Students without a bus pass wishing to travel on a bus.

Who doesn't need to apply / reapply?

- Students who currently have a bus pass for 2025 which do not fall into the above categories
- Students without a bus pass not wishing to travel on the bus

Please visit the below link for more information on applying for a School Bus Pass through the School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS).

<https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/public/school/school-transport-assistance/apply-for-school-transport-assistance>

If you have concerns regarding your schools' services or a student on the network, Kinetic can be contacted directly on 07 5552 2700 and select option 5, where you will be directed to the Customer Experience Team.

Student Dress Code

A reminder to our school community, that we are a uniform school and our Dress Code is aligned to the Department of Education's Student Dress Code policy and procedures.

All students are to arrive to the first day of school in their **formal** uniform.

Use of Mobile Phones and Other Devices by Students

Queensland state schools are committed to reducing the distraction of mobile phones and wearable devices to provide optimal learning environments for all students.

All students are required to ensure their devices are 'away for the day'. The aims of this policy are to:

- provide optimal learning and teaching environments, free from the distractions caused by personal use of mobile phones and wearable devices
- support schools to create safe and supportive learning environments that prioritise student engagement and wellbeing
- encourage increased face-to-face social interactions between students
- promote the health and wellbeing of students by providing opportunities for social interaction and physical activity during break times, and
- reduce the potential for students to be exposed to the negative impacts of the digital world, resulting from unsafe or inappropriate use of technology, such as cyberbullying, accessing harmful content or breaches of personal privacy.

Our Student Code of Conduct has been revised to incorporate the policy on the use of mobile phones and wearable devices. Please follow the link provided to review the updated guidelines.

Student Early Departures

Students are unable to leave class, unless previously organised, due to the impact these interruptions have on individual and class learning time. To avoid possible lengthy delays in collecting your student and minimising disruption to lessons, please follow the early departure process.

This process includes:

SMS to 0457 478 277 (preferred method)

Sending your student to school with a signed and dated letter of permission

Email: 2184_studentabsences@eq.edu.au

Your student will need to collect a "Leave Pass" from Student Hub which will allow them to leave class and meet you at the front office for collection. This should be done prior to school or during the break prior to the departure.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the only way a student will be permitted to leave class early is by prior arrangement and a leave pass. To avoid disappointment, please ensure early collection is pre-arranged.

Parents and Citizens Association

Last year our Parents and Citizens Association (P & C) was in caretaker mode, as we were unable to secure a full Executive and membership was minimal. The P & C is still in caretaker mode. Unless we are able to secure an Executive and membership, the P & C will either remain in caretaker mode or dissolve. If you are interested in the position of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer, or would like to be a member of the P & C, please contact the school or email me at Principal@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au

School Council


The school has a School Council which is more strategic in nature. As per the constitution, there is a maximum limit of 15 positions on the School Council. There are two community members, two students, and an equal number of staff and parents. If you wish to learn more about the School Council, or would like to be a parent representative, please email me at Principal@helensvaleshs.eq.edu.au

I would like to thank parents and carers for preparing your children, our students, for learning each and every day by ensuring your child attends school on time, brings the necessary books and resources to school, is in 100% correct uniform and has access to food throughout the day. By doing this, we show our children how much we value their education.

As 'One Community' we will continue to work together to uphold the high standards of academia, behaviour, attendance and dress that we are renowned for.

We look forward to another exciting and productive year ahead for our Helensvale State High School community.

Yours sincerely



Karen Lindsay
Executive Principal