



## Padua College – Year 7



### Welcome to Year 7 – Information for Parents

Dear Year 7 Parents,

The beginning of Year 7 comes with a certain amount of newness for both new and existing parents. Year 7 at Padua is structured around a middle years concept and provides a link between the traditional primary and secondary settings.

Features of Year 7 that you may not be familiar with are:

- The Padua Bulletin published fortnightly on the website and via the Padua App and the College Website are the two most used forms of parent communication used by the College – Class blogs or similar are not used – If you need to clarify something, the Bulletin and the Website should be able to assist
- There is a shift from the parent receiving information to the student receiving information himself – if your son is not sure of something, he should check his emails and may need support from you in the beginning
- Your son will receive information from his teachers and general information via his College email and he should be reminded to check his emails regularly
- Your son can access his timetable via the Student Portal available by clicking on link on his Laptop Desktop screen or by clicking on the Padua Portal link at the top of the College Website – use your son’s Padua username and password – please note that if the day is a public holiday or student free day, the timetable will not appear for that day
- The Blackboard Learning Management System is the on-line system used to support students and can be used to access Assessment Due Dates, Task Sheets, Learning Resources and more – Blackboard can be accessed using your sons Padua username and password by clicking on the Pad Learn link at the top of the Padua Website Homepage – should something not be on Blackboard that you feel should be, you should contact the subject teacher directly
- Assessment Guides are published by the end of Week 1 each term – these are a guide only and the Blackboard Calendar is always the most up to date source for assessment dates <http://www.padua.qld.edu.au/teaching-and-learning/assessment-and-academic-achievements/assessment-overview/>
- Students study 8 subjects per semester
  - 6 core subjects each semester in both Years 7 and 8 (English, Mathematics, History/Geography, Science, Physical Education and Religious Education)
  - 2 elective sample subjects each semester in Year 7 and Semester 1, Year 8 (Art, Music, Design and Technology, Business Studies, Drama and Japanese)
- Research and Technology is timetabled for 1 lesson per week and covers a range of general skills
- PALs (Personal and Life Skills) is timetabled for 1 lesson per week and focusses on the preparation for high school and includes organisation, study skills and stress management



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- Homework changes from what has traditionally been weekly in the primary setting to daily in a more secondary context – students are asked to use their email calendar to record their homework
- Assessment work takes on a more at home focus in many cases and should be factored into your son's study schedule as part of homework – structures at home are very important and need to be set up early on in the year.
- All Year 7 classes have a Core Teacher who takes the class for 3 of the Core Subjects in the same room
- Students move around the campus to their other subjects as required
- The Pastoral Care Class (PC) is a vertical class with boys from Years 7 to 12 in each PC class
- Student lockers are located in close proximity to their PC room
- The PC teacher is the first port of call for general questions
- The Class Subject teacher is the first port of call for questions relating to a specific class
- Should you have any questions relating to academic processes and expectations, please refer to the Teaching and Learning Frequently Asked Questions Page on the College Website <http://www.padua.qld.edu.au/assets/Teaching-and-Learning/Teaching-and-Learning-General-Documents/Assessment-Documents/Teaching-Learning-FAQs-2016.pdf>
- Assessment is generally scheduled up to and often including the last week of each term
- The Assisi Library is open both before school, after school and lunchtime from 12:55pm onwards
- Parent Teacher Interviews are scheduled at two points in the year in a 7 minute format and thus direct communication with teachers at any time in the year is encouraged – staff emails all follow the same format: first initial followed by surname and then @padua.qld.edu.au e.g. [jpacey@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:jpacey@padua.qld.edu.au)

The College Transition Coordinator, Mr Chris Humphrys [chumphrys@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:chumphrys@padua.qld.edu.au) works closely with your sons, your son's House Guardian and your son's teachers in order to facilitate their transition in the secondary campus at Padua.

Subject Heads of Curriculum oversee the development of curriculum and this process is overseen by the Head of Curriculum 5-9, Mr Brendan Downes [bdownes@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:bdownes@padua.qld.edu.au).

Once again, welcome to Year 7.

Regards,

Jason Pacey

Vice Rector Teaching and Learning