Frequently Asked Questions about Junior Secondary at Maryborough State High School

Q. Will my child have a home room with a home room teacher?
A. Yes, all students in Years 7 and 8 have a home room which we call “Connect”. They also have a Connect teacher.
In Year 7, Connect teachers will teach students for the majority of their subjects and students will move to specialty areas for specialised subjects and their electives: e.g. Science in laboratories, Manual Arts in workshops, Home Economics in kitchens or textile rooms.
In Year 8, Connect teachers teach their students for at least 2 subject areas. They also have home rooms and students will move to specialty areas for specialised subjects and their electives: e.g. Science in laboratories, Manual Arts in workshops, Home Economics in kitchens or textile rooms.

Q. What is Connect?
A. Connect is a 15 minute session that is held at the beginning of the school day. Students catch up with their teacher who reads notices to the students, reminds them about important deadlines, activities and other whole school events and their first roll is marked. Senior Peer Mentors visit Connect classes in Junior Secondary each week to do activities with students, including literacy games. Parents of students who are absent will receive a text message from the school during the morning.

Q. Who will I contact at the school if I want to talk to my child’s teacher?
A. In the first instance you can contact your child’s Connect teacher as you would their teacher in primary school. You may also contact the Junior Secondary Head of Department, Sharyn Morris (smorr108@eq.edu.au) or The Junior Secondary Deputy Principal, Thomas Bates (tbate9@eq.edu.au). Contact can be made in person at the school, by email or phone.

Q. Where can I drop off and collect my child?
A. If you wish to come in to the school to collect your child you may come to the Year 7 classroom block. There is a seating area downstairs. Alternatively, you can drop your student off at either the Sussex Street entrance or the Kent Street entrance.

Q. Will there be an area set aside for Junior Secondary?
A. We already have an area set aside for Years 8 and 9. This is an area that is only for Junior Secondary students. Students who are in Years 10, 11 or 12 are not permitted in these areas. The current area will be extended at the end of 2014, in readiness for the Year 7 students and will be a shaded area for students to play games and will include seating.

Q. Will my child have to cross the road to go to classes during the day?
A. At times your child will have classes on the Sussex Street campus. Each year during the first few weeks we induct Year 8 students in using our crossing. In Year 7 they will be accompanied by a teacher when moving across campuses for the first semester.
Q. Will my child be able to change electives?
A. Yes. Students will be able to change electives if it is not too far into the term. For Junior Secondary students to change subjects, they must see the Deputy Principal.

Q. Will my child have to carry their books around in their bag all day?
A. In Year 7, because they will have the majority of their classes with the same teacher in the same room, students will be able to leave their books in their rooms. In Years 8 and 9, students will take their bags with them as they move from class to class more.

Q. Will there be designated toilets for Junior Secondary?
A. Yes. The Junior Secondary area has designated female and male toilets.

Q. When is the school tuckshop open?
A. The school tuckshop is open before school and for both lunches. Junior Secondary students may use the program “Flexischool” which is an online system already in use by some primary schools. EFTPOS is also available. The school also runs a breakfast club on Wednesday mornings in our Library courtyard.

Q. What happens if my child becomes sick during the day?
A. Students will be taken to sick bay which is supervised by a Teacher Aide who has a current first aide certificate. The Teacher Aide will contact the parent/carer for arrangements to be made.

Q. My child likes to play sport at lunch time. Where can they do this?
A. Maryborough High is fortunate to have a number of areas for students to play sport. There are two ovals that students are able to play on, a hockey field (Phantom Field), two basketball courts, a multipurpose gymnasium and the tennis courts. There are also supervised lunchtime activities in our gymnasium throughout the week. In addition to this there are other types of lunchtime activities which are advertised on student notices every week.

Q. Does Maryborough High School have an enrolment management plan?
A. No. Children from all schools around Maryborough are welcome to come for an enrolment interview.

Meet some of our Junior Secondary Team for 2015:

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<th>Kaye North</th>
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<td>A teacher since 1999, Kaye North has taught in schools along Queensland’s coastline from Tewantin to Thursday Island. Since 2006, Kaye has been a teacher at Sunbury State School in Maryborough. During her time at Sunbury one of her main areas of focus has been Information Communication and Technology (ICT). She has been a mentor to many staff within the school to improve their knowledge and use of ICT in the classroom for both the delivery of content and student use to demonstrate learning and understanding. Kaye is excited about the changes and challenges that she will face both professionally and personally with teaching in a high school context. She is excited about bringing primary school teaching pedagogy into a high school setting and blending it to work to advantage for both students and staff. She is looking forward to the many possibilities that high school education has to incorporate ICT into every day learning and organisation. Kaye was a 2013 eLearning Award winner and QLD Finalist for Australian Primary Teacher of the Year 2012.</td>
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<td><strong>Sally Donohue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tweed Anderson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cameron O’Hanrahan</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sharyn Morris</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tom Bates</strong></td>
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