



## OUR MOTTO

In Balance We Grow

## OUR MISSION

To empower young people to make a positive difference.

## OUR VISION

To open minds, inspire hearts and nurture dreams.

## OUR PURPOSE

Hillbrook lives to shape good humans that contribute to a better world by developing students who are:

- Compassionate, ethical and creative thinkers with a sense of curiosity, wonder and hope.
- Able to demonstrate core academic knowledge and skills.
- Prepared for a productive, fulfilling, well-balanced life.
- Appreciative of their own and others spirituality.
- Culturally and globally active.

**Hillbrook is a moderate fee, co-educational high school (Years 7 to 12) located in Enoggera, in Brisbane's inner north west.**

We aim to develop good global citizens through our commitment to environmental, social and economic sustainability. We aim to provide a realistic and stimulating environment where they learn to challenge and question, to respect one another's contributions, to enjoy each other's company and to work effectively together as they grow.

## Student Enrolment

- 780 students in 2020
- 810 students in 2021
- Increasing to 900 students in 2024.

## Our Beliefs

These underpin the culture of our community and help to provide direction to our purpose:

### GROWTH

All who come to the school – students, staff, and parents will grow in ways that reflect the many dimensions of what it means to be human.

### BALANCE

A dynamic balance of expectations, learning experiences, commitments and behaviour characterises daily life at Hillbrook, as expressed in our motto 'In Balance We Grow'.

### INCLUSION

Staff and students have the right to belong and to contribute to our community as their talents and interests dictate as expressed in Hillbrook's Rights & Responsibilities.

### ANGLICANISM

As Anglicans, we approach spirituality as a journey - through a creative balance of scripture, tradition, reason and experience.

### LEARNING

Hillbrook is founded on an inclusive focus and balance of the academic, social, spiritual and physical aspects of our development as human beings and facilitated by four themes:

- Thinking
- Teaching and Learning
- Adolescence
- Community

## BUILDING WORKS

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Hillbrook is currently undergoing a large campus rebuild, which will accommodate a growth in student numbers, which will reach 900 in 2024.

In Term 1, 2020 we saw the completion of:

- New Science and English Building, incorporating new School Cafeteria
- New Administration Building and a new landscaped student forecourt area
- Extension to the library, introducing a new tiered learning space and new study areas

Work has now commenced on Stage 2:

- An Art and Technology precinct
- A refurbishment to the Rec Centre, including:
  - Increased seating capacity
  - Resurfaced courts
  - Big band practice room, percussion room and access to from PAC
  - Gymnasium area and dance space

## CO-CURRICULAR

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*Project Active*, Hillbrook's co-curricular activity program, provides an amazing variety of opportunities for our students to try new things and mix with students from all year levels.

Activities change from semester to semester and include a variety of options like soccer, softball, karate, yoga, rock climbing, code club, table tennis, quilting, soap and candle making.

Project Active is compulsory for students in Year 7 to 9. Most activities take place before or after school, with some occurring on weekends.

## COMMUNICATION

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Community is a word we use a lot at Hillbrook, and we use a variety of ways to help connect with our families, this includes:

- Parent Lounge (parents and guardians)
- Online@Hillbrook (students),
- School App
- Publications including a weekly newsletter, *Connections* magazine (biannual) and *Reflections* our School Yearbook
- Facebook and Instagram
- Website
- Regular Parent Information Evenings
- Parent, Student, Teacher Meetings
- Parents & Friends Association.

## CURRICULUM

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At Hillbrook, we view the term *curriculum* in a broad sense. It is not just the subjects studied: it is all the intended learning experiences that students undertake at the school, in and beyond the classroom.

Hillbrook students study a variety of intellectually challenging subjects. We see our task is to provide a broad, liberal education to give our students as many choices as possible when they leave school. Our junior phase of learning has allowed us to embed the Australian Curriculum in a purposeful way, and has given us the opportunity to provide project-based subject offerings to allow our students to investigate and respond to question, challenges and problems, and to be an active participant in their learning.

In the senior school, these subjects are selected from the academic offerings of the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and all of our students are expected to achieve tertiary admission score at the end of their studies. The majority of our students seek tertiary entry after school. Whatever their destinations after graduation, a Hillbrook student is well equipped to become a lifelong learner, responsible global citizen and a person who is confident to pursue their goals and passions.

You can refer to the 2019 State and Federal Government Annual Report on our website [www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/discover-hillbrook/annual-reports](http://www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/discover-hillbrook/annual-reports)

Please refer to **Selection of Subjects** for more information on our subjects.



## DIGITAL EDUCATION

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All Hillbrook students are allocated a MacBook Air laptop for their studies. Detailed information about technology programs for various year levels can be found on our website. The laptop program is supported by an Online IT Helpdesk, and our IT Support Centre.

Our in-house developed Digital Access Pass is designed to encourage students to use technology effectively and responsibly. It is an interactive, online educational program designed to help students navigate their online world in a way that is safe, relevant, engaging and purposeful.

## ENRICHMENT CENTRE

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The Enrichment Centre (EC) is the place for your child to go when he/she needs help with assignments (understanding criteria sheets, research and planning etc), exam preparation (stress management, exam strategies), extension opportunities and learning support, organizational skills (note taking) and support during unexpected events. The Centre is open during lunch break.

### **LANE PROGRAM (Literacy and Numeracy Enhancement)**

The LANE program is offered in Years 7-9 to student at risk of not meeting year level benchmarks without a high level of support. Students are indentified for inclusion each semester through liaison with their subject teachers, families and the use of data. Engaging in this class helps participating students to generally feel more confident with their learning.

## ENROLMENT PROCESS

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There is always demand for places at Hillbrook so we suggest parents register their children as early as possible. As a non-selective school, offers are made based on date order of applications received, with offer rounds beginning soon after our Intake Interviews in Year 4.

We attract students from approximately 50 state and non-government primary schools, primarily located on Brisbane's northside.

The founding parents and teachers of Hillbrook set out to create a school that was accessible to a broad range of the community. Hillbrook is focused on maintaining a balance between a moderate fee structure and providing an all-round education of the highest standard.

## FEES

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Our annual school fees for **2020** is \$13,536. Fees are invoiced once a term. BPay and Direct Debit facilities are available for families who wish to pay electronically.

Copies of our 2020 Fee Schedule and Enrolment Policy can be found via the Enrolments page on our website [www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/enrolment](http://www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/enrolment)

## HOME CLASS

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Each student is a member of a Home Class (Blue, Green, Red, White and Yellow). The role of the Home Teacher is to know each student well and to be in touch with their progress both academically and personally. The Home Teacher works closely with the Year Coordinator who is responsible for student wellbeing.

## LEADERSHIP

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All Hillbrook students are given increasing levels of responsibility and participate in a variety of decisions involving others as well as themselves.

In February each year, every Home Class elects two Student Representatives to serve on the Student Representative Council (SRC).

Later in the year, a nine-member Year 12 Student Representative Council Executive is democratically elected by students and staff to represent the students' voice in the decision-making process of the school for the following 12 months.

By their final year at Hillbrook, students have the experience and expertise to negotiate an individual area of responsibility and leadership within the school, depending on their skills and interests. This involves committing to a 20-hour Senior Responsibility role.





## OP TO ATAR

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The new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) has been introduced into Year 11 for 2019. This sees the tertiary entrance score of the Overall Position (OP) being phased out in Queensland and replaced with the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). The move will align Queensland with other states and territories throughout Australia.

## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

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Being in nature gives students the opportunity to disconnect with the busyness of daily life and to build resilience, develop trust and learn leadership.

Our Outdoor Education program is an important and compulsory part of the Hillbrook curriculum and all students are expected to participate in our yearly camps and various Outdoor Ed activity days.

Students enjoy activities such as kayaking, orienteering, bushwalking, rock-climbing and other adventure-based challenges. The lessons they learn in nature come back to the classroom, and students become more confident about taking risks in their learning.

## PERSONAL & SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

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Personal and Spiritual Development (PSD) is a core part of the curriculum and embraces the School motto, *In Balance We Grow*. Students explore the influence of socio-cultural factors including community expectations and behaviours, of and between individuals.

They explore how changes associated with significant transitions in their lives may influence their personal growth. Students investigate all facets of human relationships.

## PHILOSOPHICAL INQUIRY

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Our Philosophical Inquiry (PI) program is a core subject where students consider the big questions of life. Students brainstorm, debate, and ask open-ended questions and along the way develop the ability to make reasoned judgements and the confidence to change their minds when faced with good reasons. By doing PI, students learn to think. Not what to think, but how to think.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

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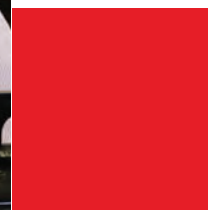
Students of any, or no, denomination are welcome at Hillbrook. We are Anglican affiliated and as such all students are encouraged to embark on their own personal voyage of spiritual exploration. Religious Studies classes (not assessed), weekly Chapel and ceremonies are an integral part of our community.

## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

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Our School Leadership Team comprises of:

- Geoff Newton (*Principal*)
- Stephanie Munday-Lake (*Deputy Principal*)
- Mark Herriman (*Deputy Principal*)
- Bronwyn Wearne (*Chief Financial Officer*)
- Brent Durham (*Chief Operations Officer*)



## SELECTION OF SUBJECTS

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Every year we hold Subject Selection Information Evenings to assist parents and students with subject choices.

### Year 7 to 10

We have a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Global Studies, Health, Outdoor Education, Personal & Spiritual Development, Philosophical Inquiry, Physical Recreation and Religious Studies.

For more information about our electives, please visit [www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/learning/junior-7-10/](http://www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/learning/junior-7-10/)

### Students in Year 11 & 12

There are more than 25 subjects on offer in Hillbrook's senior years. For more information please visit [www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/learning/senior-11-12/](http://www.hillbrook.qld.edu.au/learning/senior-11-12/)

## SPORT

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Physical Recreation is a compulsory subject for all students in Years 7 to 10 and is an elective subject for students in Years 11 and 12.

Each year we hold a swimming, athletics and cross country carnival and it is compulsory for all students to participate. Students who qualify for regional competition are more than welcome to represent our school at this level if they wish.

We offer a range of interschool co-educational team sport opportunities for interested students (eg netball, touch football, soccer, volleyball, AFL) and participate in various interschool competitions. Metropolitan North Regional sporting opportunities are also available for students keen to try out for various Met North competition.

## STUDENT WELLBEING

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Hillbrook is deeply committed to the positive health and wellbeing of our students. In addition to their Home Teacher students are supported by school counsellors, our Chaplain, the Enrichment Centre staff, our Head of Student Wellbeing and Year Coordinators. Our dedication to student wellbeing means that students have somewhere to go where they feel safe, and someone to talk with whom they trust.

## UNIFORMS

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In keeping with our motto *In Balance We Grow*, our students can choose from a selection of uniform options. Their choice of uniform is not dictated by age, season or occasion; we don't have a summer or winter, formal or informal uniform. However, students are expected to have a personal commitment to wearing the Hillbrook uniform neatly, correctly, cleanly and with pride.

Boys must keep their shirts tucked in and their socks pulled up. Girls hemlines must be below the knee. Make-up and nail polish are not permitted. A hat is required for all outdoor activities.

*Focusing on things that you love to do/learn, rather than just doing subjects to 'get somewhere' was great preparation for having a life that you enjoy. There is a lot of pressure in life to 'be something', but I think that Hillbrook had a focus on how to 'be someone' instead, which I think is actually quite special. It doesn't matter how educated you are, being a respectful, considerate, 'nice' person is something that you don't learn at university (but I did learn it at high school!).*

**Meg Fitzgerald – 2007 Graduate**





# HILLBROOK'S SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

## Our Ecological Footprint

Hillbrook has always had a strong philosophy when it comes to the ecological footprint we leave behind. Whether it is in the school grounds, when on camp or participating in Outdoor Education days, we aim to leave no trace. We have an active Environmental Club, are a Land for Wildlife location, native bee hives are dotted around the school, our Tuckshop packaging is fully compostable, we've reduced landfill to 10% with bin audits, 60% of our energy use will be provided by solar panels by 2020, we are committed to spreading the word locally with Sustainability Day and Green Justice members raise funds to help others.

## Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

Hillbrook's RAP follows the Narragunnawali platform for schools and includes fostering relationships with Indigenous people, fostering respect of Indigenous culture, looking for opportunities to engage with and support Indigenous people and provide practical ways to introduce meaningful reconciliation initiatives in the classroom. The RAP is supported by a working group of teachers, support staff, students and other members of the Hillbrook Community.

## Giving Back

Hillbrook has a culture of looking out for each other. This care extends beyond the school and into the wider community. Our staff, students and parents are passionate about making a difference to the lives of others through donating their time and/or money. In 2019 Hillbrook formalized our giving process by creating the Hillbrook Giving Tree Fund. We support a number of charities including the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and RAW Impact.

