



# ISC NEWSLETTER

## Principals Report 09/03/2023

Our **Year 7** kids had a great time on camp last week – the weather was perfect; the kids were well behaved and most of all they had fun getting to know each other and our staff.

Next week we have our **Year 8s** off to Phillip Island for the four days which will be fantastic. It is a huge week for the kids and staff.

As always, we really appreciate the staff who are prepared to attend these camps and be away from their families as well as leave additional classes for those back at school. Please make sure that you take the time to thank them on their return.

**NAPLAN** is next week for our Year 7 and 9 students – we expect that our students all try their best during this National testing.

**Photos** have arrived so please check your child's bag if you ordered them, I would hate the banana to get squashed on them in the bottom of the bag...

**School Council** Please see the fact sheet towards the end of the newsletter and think about nominating for School Council. It really is a great way to be involved in your students schooling. Nominations close Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend our first whole school assembly, but I have heard it was a great one where success was celebrated!

We all had a great day on Wednesday at our **Curriculum Day**. We continued our work with Shane Crawford from The Corwin Group around Learning Characteristics, Learning Intentions, Success Criteria and Feedback.

Don't forget to continue checking Compass and our social media regularly, it's a very busy place and we would hate for kids to miss out on opportunities.

**Jo McQuinn**

**Principal**

# NAPLAN

## Information for parents and carers

# 2023

### Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

### Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Schools have transitioned from paper-based to computer-based assessments. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

### What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au).

### Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for everyone. ACARA supports inclusive testing so all students have the opportunity to participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), or our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.



## What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

## What if my school is closed on NAPLAN days?

Schools with compelling reasons may be given permission to schedule tests after the 9-day test window.

## What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site).

## NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 15 March and finishes on Monday 27 March 2023. Schools are advised to schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

## How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. This scale indicates whether the student is meeting expectations for the literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

## How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at [myschool.edu.au](http://myschool.edu.au).

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](http://nap.edu.au/TAA)
- visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

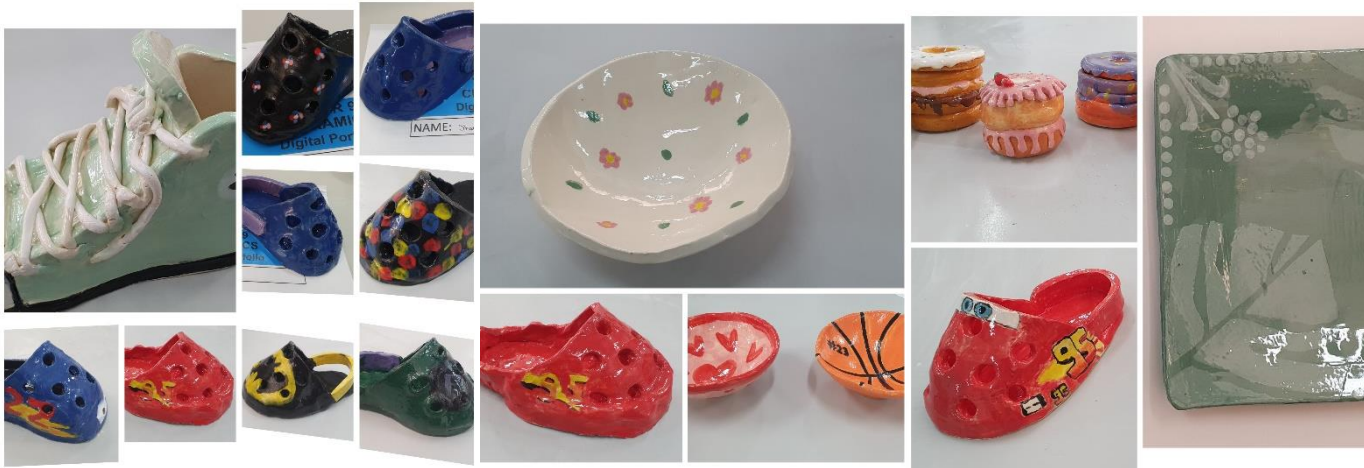
To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](http://nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy).

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 3 students do the writing test on paper (on day 1 only)</li> <li>Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations)</li> </ul>	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be completed after the writing test</li> <li>To be completed before the conventions of language test</li> </ul>	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be completed after the reading test</li> </ul>	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be completed after the conventions of language test</li> </ul>	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability

# NAPLAN REMINDER

Just a reminder to parents that NAPLAN starts next Wednesday, March the 15<sup>th</sup>. Any parents who would like their child to be withdrawn from NAPLAN need to have contacted Olivia in the office by March 10<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

## ART'S DEPARTMENT





## INTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS



Interschool Swimming was held on Wednesday the 1st of March at Mildura Waves. We had 27 students who represented ISC and swam brilliantly. Well done to Eva Andronesco, Jack Burford, Tom Connelly, Ollie Cooper, Tully Dean, Josh Driscoll, Cooper Earle, Grace Erskine, Sam Fletcher, Josh Furey, Ethan Hendy, Zoe Howard, Elana Howard, Matilda Jamieson, Blake Lambert, Tyler Lee, Rose Livingston, Ronin Moloney, Milla Moloney, Piper Pedersen, Jacob Price, Claudia Pumpa, Annie Screaton, Jasmine Shaw, Abbey Spain, Brea Wilson, and Max Woulfe.

We had many individual and relay team place getters for the day. Congratulations to Jack Burford who placed 1st in his individual events 14 boys Freestyle and 14 Boys Backstroke and was selected to compete at the Loddon Mallee Region competition in Swan Hill with the other winners from Sunraysia schools. Jack also came joint Age Group Champion with another student from St Joseph's College.

Thank you to the parent/s that supported and encouraged our students and assisted with timekeeping to ensure the day ran smoothly.

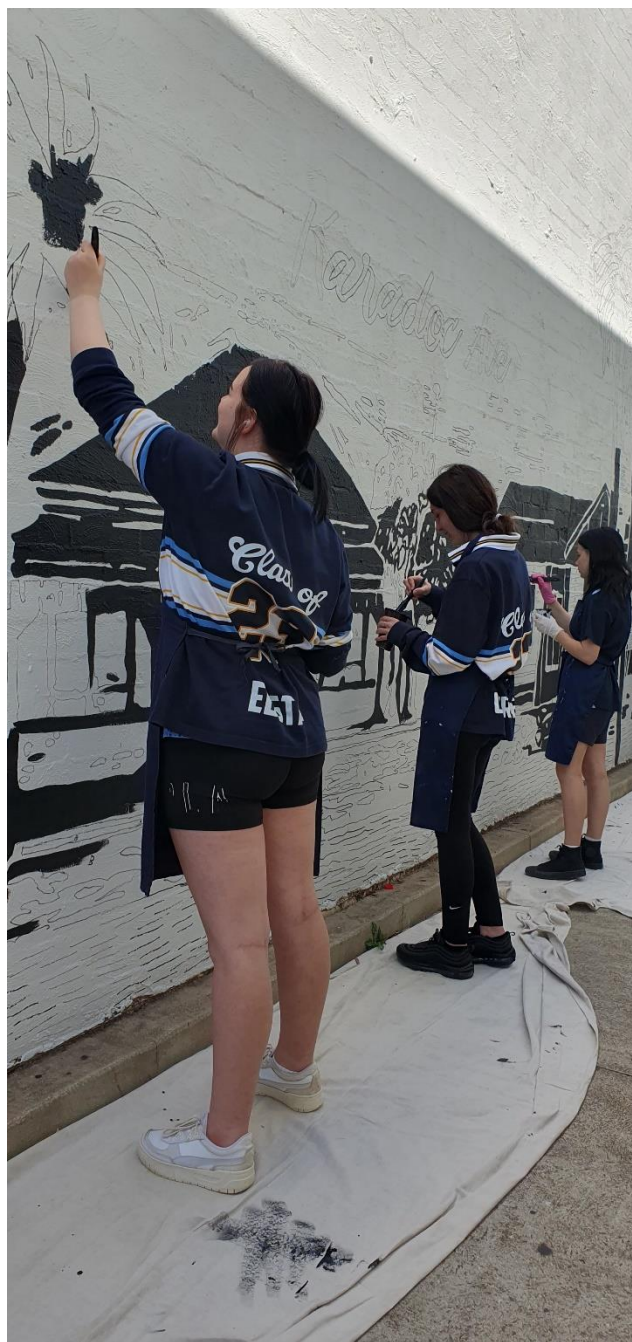
Thanks also to ISC staff that helped make this day possible.





## 'STREETS OF OUR TOWN' MURAL

Our Year 10 Art students have lent a hand to help paint the 'Streets of our Town Mural.





## YEAR 7 GRAMPIANS CAMP

Early Wednesday the 1st of March 126 year 7s and 12 staff put their gear on the bus ready to head to Halls Gap for the Year 7 camp. With a quick stop over in Hopetoun the group made their way to Camp Norval and jumped straight into their first activity. Over the three days all groups would participate in Hiking, High Ropes, Abseiling, A town walk and a Zoo visit.

On the first night the group had a trivia night which was loud and fun. Mrs Taylor joined the group from Melbourne just in time to see the winners of the night.

It was an early start, but students were ready to go with three activities for today. With each meal a group was on duty ready to help clean up from the meal for the whole group.

Some of our students worked so hard on their turn to help, teachers and UC staff were impressed with the efforts. Our second night we watched a movie, Sea Beast. It was so long we had to finish it off back at school on our return.

Our last morning, we had one last activity before boarding our busses to go back home. Students were able to really to get know each other and the staff on camp. It was a busy time and there were a lot of tired students and staff on Friday afternoon.

We would like to thank all our staff for helping and coming on camp. Anna Treeby, Harley Caldwell, Kerry Pongraz, Pana Tsanakalotis, Spencer Douglas, Noeleen Davis, Leigh Penna, Karen Francis, Olivia Orwell, Nick Blacker and our coordinators Luke O'Shannessy and Kara Taylor. Also, a big thanks to Olivia, Meg, and Sue in the office for the work they did to get all the paperwork together so we can all travel. Without our staff, camps don't happen for our students. We would also like to thank the students who jumped out of their comfort zones and tried new things it was great to see how you all cheered each other on.



## FIRST SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to; our Student's of the Month, pictured in the first 4 photos, and our SRC's who all got presented with their badges at the ceremony on Tuesday.



## YEAR 7 & 10 IMMUNISATIONS

If you are yet to return your year 7 or 10 student's immunisation card it must be returned to the front office, no later than Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of March.

The cards must be filled out and returned regardless of whether your student will be receiving the immunisation through the school.

Immunisations will take place at the school on Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of March.

If you require a new card or unsure if it has been returned, please contact the office.

Phone: 5024 5407

Email: [iryple.sc@education.vic.edu.au](mailto:iryple.sc@education.vic.edu.au)



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## COMPASS

Parents/Carers-are you set up on Compass?  
Please contact the office if you need any assistance. We are here to help.



# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**All Parents/Carers should now be  
accessing Compass.**

If you are yet to set this up, please do so ASAP  
as all important information relating to your  
student is communicated through Compass.

This is particularly important for deadlines  
around Camps/Events with limited numbers.

Please make sure your email, phone and emergency  
contact details are up to date.

Email: [irymplesc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:irymplesc@education.vic.gov.au)

Phone: 03 5024 5407





## 2023 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS

2023 Parent Contributions are now live on Compass. For parents with Year 9/10 students this is for Semester 1 Electives only.

Thank you to those families who have already paid their students contributions, we ask that you make contact with the office 50245204 or [Irymple.SC@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Irymple.SC@education.vic.gov.au) to determine what you would like this allocated to.

Please see below for Department of Education Parent Payment Policy.

## PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

### ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



#### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



#### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

##### Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

##### Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

##### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



#### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

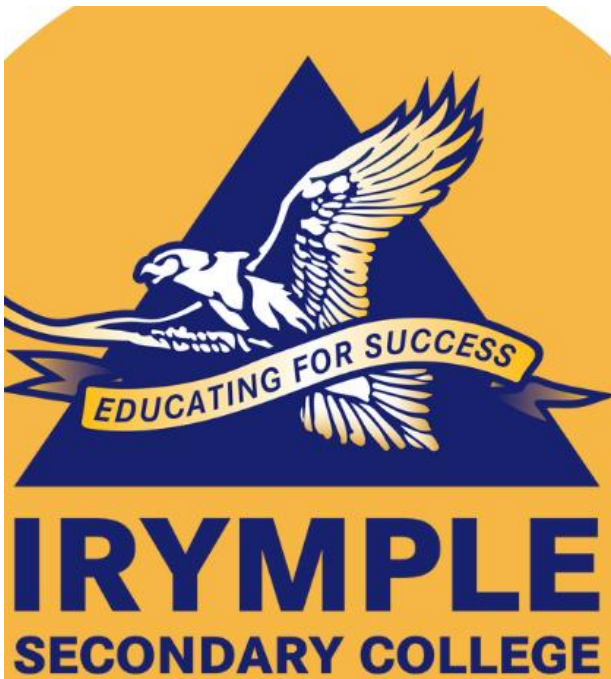
- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



#### SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.

## ISC PARENT GROUP MEETING



# ISC Parent Group

Next get together

Wednesday 15th March 2023

6:30pm Irymple Hotel

RSVP [Irymple.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Irymple.sc@education.vic.gov.au)



## ISC BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Thank you, AXIS Employment, for supporting ISC Breakfast Program. Your contribution is most appreciated.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION

### Fact sheet 1: school council elections – information for parents

#### What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

#### Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

**A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

**A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

**An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

**A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

#### Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

#### Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, in order to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.



## Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

**act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty

**act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds

**act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest

**use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available

**exercise due care, diligence and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school

**use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage

**act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions

**comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law

**demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

## Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

## How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the school council

encouraging another person to stand for election.

## What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council

### FORM 2: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

(Formerly **Schedule 4**: Notice of Election and Call for Nomination)



**An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Irymple Secondary College**

**Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2023 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2025	3
School employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2023 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2025	2
Student member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2023 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2025	1

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Jo McQuinn  
Principal  
Irymple Secondary College



# MORE THAN FOOTY

**PROGRAMS ARE NOW  
RUNNING AT YOUR  
SCHOOL!!**

**JOIN YOUR LOCAL  
HEAD COACH**

Ben McGlynn

0419542987

vic59.footy@sportsstaracademy.com

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