



BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS





Welcome

Discover the opportunities at Queensland's leading school for boys.





Learning

A culture of excellence challenges boys
to achieve their individual best.



Leadership

Boys become thoughtful and
confident men of character.

Endeavour

Nil sine labore – nothing without work –
is embedded in the School's culture.



Respect

Boys develop respect for themselves and others.





Community

Boys form bonds that last a lifetime.

Discover the BGS journey

The Brisbane Grammar School journey is lifelong. BGS is a community of students, staff, parents, volunteers and Old Boys that has grown over the past 150 years. The School blends its history and tradition with a commitment to innovation.

A boy begins his BGS journey in the Middle School. Just a few short years later, he graduates from the Senior School as a young man, equipped to take on the challenges of the world. Between these important milestones is

a road rich with educational experiences for each student and his family.

The Middle School provides a foundation, as boys are introduced to the principles of a broad liberal education that encourages critical thinking. Teachers, informed by a specific Middle School philosophy, guide boys on their transition from child to adolescent. At the end of Year 8, the Tie Ceremony marks the next step of the journey as boys enter the Senior School.

As he grows, each boy is supported to embrace new challenges.

The BGS motto, *nil sine labore* – nothing without work – reflects the School's ethos. Effort and achievement are celebrated in academic, sporting, cultural and public purpose pursuits.

Beyond graduation, boys and their families remain part of the BGS community. The BGS journey continues into future generations.

Proud of the past. Excited about the future.







From the Headmaster

Anthony Micallef

Welcome to Brisbane Grammar School. We are an inclusive community, where students from diverse backgrounds combine to live the School's values of learning, leadership, endeavour, respect and community.

Our ambition to be the best school for boys in Australia inspires us to create an environment where boys pursue their talents and realise their potential.

The education of boys requires scholarly, social and emotional instruction. Our mission is to teach, model and build academic and social behaviours that will

lead to full and successful lives beyond school.

We remain resolute in our commitment to developing thoughtful and confident young men of character who contribute to their communities.

Our talented teaching staff aspire to a learning culture that is never complacent. We constantly review and develop our programs, practices and facilities to equip boys with skills for the 21st century: critical and creative thinking, effective communication and the ability to work in a team.

The academic results of our graduating seniors reflect the BGS motto, *nil sine labore* – nothing without work. What we require is an open and enthusiastic attitude, and a willingness to seize the opportunities to engage and belong.

This invitation is lifelong, with past and present parents, staff, Old Boys and friends making up our rich school community.

Thank you for joining us on the BGS journey.





From the Head of Middle School

Rebecca Campbell

A Brisbane Grammar School education involves more than learning facts and figures. Our proud tradition of providing boys a broad liberal education centres around developing the whole child – each boy's character as well as his intellectual ability.

In Years 5 to 8, Middle School students explore and experience the diverse opportunities on offer, laying the foundation for success in their senior years. Boys are encouraged to pursue their personal best in a broad range of endeavours, to value learning and to discover what inspires them.

The vibrant Middle School classrooms, libraries and social spaces are located within the grounds of the School's main campus and are designed for adolescent boys. Middle School students also access our state-of-the-art STEAM precinct – an ultramodern learning facility that fosters curiosity, collaboration and discovery.

Middle School boys have access to excellent sporting and cultural facilities on campus. From Year 5, boys travel to our purpose-built centre on the shores of Lake Moogerah to experience our Outdoor Education program.

Clubs and activities cater for a diverse range of interests, allowing boys to explore their passions and foster a strong sense of connectedness and belonging.

Each day, we bring the School's values of learning, leadership, endeavour, respect and community to life. These values are instrumental in the development of a thoughtful and confident man of character.

We invite you to walk through the gates of our Middle School for the first steps on the BGS journey.





From the Head of Senior School

Simon Conway

As Head of Senior School, I am privileged to guide both our day school (Years 9 to 12) and boarding (Years 5 to 12) communities through this pivotal stage of development.

This responsibility provides the opportunity to foster a strong structural alignment between day and boarding, ensuring that practices, values, beliefs and culture are harmonised across both campuses.

Our Senior School is a vibrant community where students are encouraged to explore their passions, challenge themselves academically and strive for excellence in all areas of their lives. With a rich and diverse curriculum,

state-of-the-art facilities and dedicated teachers who are experts in their fields, we provide a supportive environment where students can thrive and reach their full potential.

Boys in Senior School are encouraged to cultivate diverse interests and embody the spirit of the BGS motto, “nil sine labore” – nothing without work. Alongside specialised academic pursuits, students have opportunities to engage in sports, clubs, cultural activities and various wellbeing initiatives, enriching their educational experience with a holistic approach.

At BGS, we believe in nurturing the whole individual, and our comprehensive

pastoral care program ensures that each student receives the guidance and support they need to succeed both inside and outside the classroom.

Under the banner of ‘Protect and Connect’ we unite our efforts to cultivate a culture that strives to prevent bullying, is built on respectful relationships and healthy sexuality, and is driven by effective student leadership.

Whether it’s academic achievement, sporting success, artistic expression or community service, there is something here for everyone. I encourage you to explore all that our School has to offer and to imagine the possibilities that lie ahead.

Thinkers and leaders

The BGS academic culture celebrates effort and teachers encourage each boy to achieve his personal best.

A BGS education equips students with the tools to achieve individual goals and all-round excellence, now and into the future.

Since its foundation, the School's emphasis on a broad liberal education has enabled boys to become lifelong learners. Building on this principle, the School has developed a method of teaching and learning known as

Effective Thinking Cultures (ETC).

In addition to mastering subject content, boys are given instruction in thinking skills, so they can strategically apply their knowledge and meet unanticipated challenges. Students develop an ability to recognise the most effective way to tackle problems and modify their thinking to suit the context.

BGS teachers model lifelong learning to students, working together to extend their professional knowledge and practice. For many years, staff at

BGS have been involved in curriculum development at the state level and have played a critical role in leading Queensland's new tertiary entrance curriculum.

Through the Extended Day Study Program, students in Years 11 and 12 can stay after school hours for extra academic support. Boys eat dinner in the boarders' dining room and take part in supervised study before going home for the night.

Fostering a community of lifelong learners.





Becoming men of character

Brisbane Grammar School's Student Wellbeing program ensures every boy feels supported, safe, connected and happy at school.

Each class is supported by a Form Tutor whose primary responsibility is to support the wellbeing of each student. In the Middle School, boys are taught at least two subjects by their Form Tutor. Heads of Year and Assistant Heads of Year work closely with Form Tutors to assist each boy's development, celebrating triumphs and providing counsel when required.

In return, boys help others in need through the Public Purpose program. At BGS, opportunity is valued – not taken for granted. Through volunteering locally and in overseas immersion programs, boys are encouraged to give back to the wider community. Reflecting on these experiences creates thoughtfulness and builds resilience.

A formal Student Wellbeing curriculum addresses social and emotional issues boys encounter and is responsive to boys' needs at various stages of their development.

The School provides opportunities for boys to lead. In the classroom, on the sporting field, while public speaking or playing a musical instrument; each boy is encouraged to lead with integrity and be a role model for others.

Friendly, forthright and respectful, BGS graduates have the confidence to take on the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Learn to lead yourself and then you can lead others.

The boarding journey

Boarding gives boys from all over the world the opportunity to experience Brisbane Grammar School. This diversity is a strength of the residential community and being part of BGS Boarding provides some of the best experiences of a student's life.

Making lifelong friends and learning to live independently are two powerful benefits of boarding.

Boys from Years 5 to 12 make up the Griffith and Harlin House families, supported by a dedicated team

including Head of Griffith House and Head of Harlin House, Senior Boarding Tutors, Houseparent, nursing staff and House Tutors who ensure the boys can adapt and feel at home.

The boarding program enriches the BGS journey. Students have access to academic support during the week and engage in social, cultural and sporting activities after school and on weekends. A house family system gives boarders the chance to make friends across year levels and develop a sense of belonging.

Occasional and short-term boarding options also give day boys the chance to experience life as a boarder.

BGS Boarding has undergone a \$5 million redevelopment to provide leading facilities with an individual, modern room for each boy in Years 5 to 8 (Griffith House) and Years 9 to 12 (Harlin House).

Every boy is known and encouraged to do his best.





Cultural expression

Cultural activities are woven through the fabric of Brisbane Grammar School's daily life. All Middle School students study Music, Drama, Art and Design. Extension activities exist in all these areas, so boys with a particular interest or talent can explore their creativity.

Music is one of the School's most popular cocurricular activities. From the Year 5 instrumental immersion

program to the senior orchestras, bands and vocal ensembles, BGS musicians are committed and accomplished. The School has over 30 musical groups for musicians of all abilities.

Students can explore visual arts in a well-resourced Art Centre, and benefit from an Artist-in Residence program, numerous exhibitions and the annual Art Show.

The School's Drama Department stages three dramatic productions each year, which never fail to challenge and entertain.

Debating and public speaking are also very popular activities, where BGS students hone their communication and analytical skills.

BGS celebrates each boy's creative voice.

Growing minds need active bodies

Since Brisbane Grammar School opened in 1869, physical activity has played a fundamental role in developing well-rounded graduates.

The School provides opportunities for boys to play sport at all levels – from the Great Public Schools' Association (GPS) competition to teams for beginners wanting to learn new skills. At BGS, sport complements the academic experience and provides another important learning opportunity.

With a focus on teamwork, commitment, discipline, setting goals and striving for personal bests, every boy is encouraged to challenge himself and try something new.

Boys can choose from Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Fencing, Football, Gymnastics, Rowing, Rugby, Sailing, Swimming, Tennis, Track and Field and Volleyball. BGS takes part in every GPS sport and activity.

The School runs a Strength and Conditioning program to ensure boys are physically prepared to compete in sports.

The BGS Indoor Sports Centre is a world-class facility, with a swimming pool, basketball and volleyball courts, indoor cricket nets, gymnastics arena and weights training gymnasium.

A recently opened Tennis Centre

is one of the best school tennis facilities in Australia, and the rowing program has a dedicated boatshed on the banks of the Brisbane River.

The School's Northgate Playing Fields, just 15 minutes from the main BGS campus, provide an exceptional venue for cricket, football and rugby.

BGS has won many accolades and premierships over the years, and students are regularly selected to represent state and national teams in their chosen disciplines.

The BGS tradition is to proudly represent the *light dark blue*.





Expanding horizons

Beyond the Spring Hill campus, BGS owns an exceptional Outdoor Education Centre that gives boys the opportunity to learn as they connect with the natural world.

On the shores of Lake Moogerah, 90 minutes' drive from the city, boys experience canoeing, climbing, hiking and orienteering. By Year 10, students have the skills to spend nights under the stars, camping independently.

A team of specialist outdoor education teachers prepare detailed lesson plans to teach basic survival skills. Boys also develop personal skills such as leadership, problem solving, effective communication, teamwork and living in a community.

An appreciation of nature and Indigenous culture is also a focus. The local Ugarapul people have given permission for boys to learn

their stories about the area. Similarly, a lesson about early European exploration comes to life when boys are in the field and can imagine what life was like for the early settlers.

When asked to reflect on their time at Moogerah, boys talk of unforgettable experiences, friendships and a sense of achievement that stays with them long after they have left school.

Boys build the confidence to tackle life's challenges.

Discover new passions

From the classroom to after-school clubs and activities, Brisbane Grammar School provides boys with opportunities to learn new skills, build friendships and have fun.

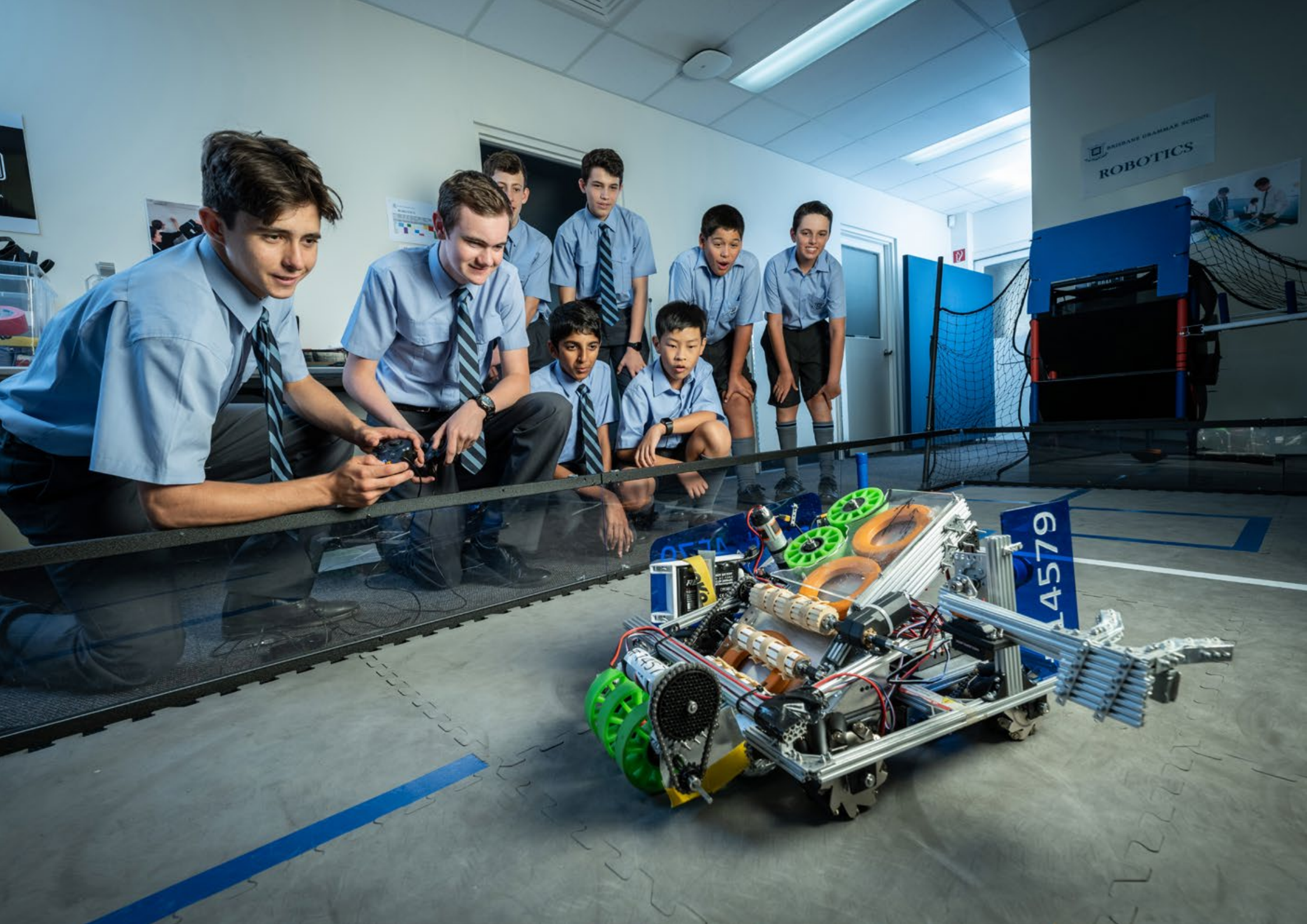
With over 40 diverse clubs and activities, boys can delve into fields such as astronomy, photography, robotics, entrepreneurship, martial arts, design, construction, environmental conservation and participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The School boasts a thriving Chess program, where boys actively participate in GPS and other interschool competitions. Through the Public Purpose program, boys have the chance to make a significant impact and contribute to the broader community. Public Speaking offers students a platform to express their thoughts and have their ideas challenged. While the Enterprise Program empowers students to apply their understanding

of Economics from the classroom to real-life situations, providing valuable opportunities for practical learning.

With a broad spectrum of options, ranging from intellectual pursuits to community service, there is a club or activity tailored for every boy to pursue his passion.

Being the best he can be.





Beyond Brisbane Grammar School

In a time of significant change in the world of work, Brisbane Grammar School aims to equip graduates with skills they will need for the future. The question, 'What do you want to do?' becomes, 'What skills might you need for a job that might not yet exist?'

The School's carefully structured curriculum encourages a boy's increasing independence as he progresses through each year level and faces greater complexity.

The excellent results achieved by the School's graduating seniors reflect the endeavour of its entire community. Every boy at BGS studies for a tertiary entrance score. Graduates top the state on every measure. This success translates into opportunity, with BGS graduates eligible for the most sought-after tertiary courses in Queensland, interstate and overseas.

Every Year 12 student meets with the School's Student Services team to discuss his goals and university applications. Staff engage in regular

professional development to ensure advice is tailored to each student.

For students interested in applying to international universities, the School has established relationships with leading institutions in the USA, UK and throughout Asia. Many graduates have taken this path, creating a global community of BGS Old Boys.

BGS opens a world of opportunities.

Continuing the BGS journey

Former students make a vital contribution to the BGS community. Old Boys are both a link to the past and integral to the School's future.

Since the School's earliest days, BGS Old Boys have remained connected, creating a powerful network throughout Australia and overseas.

As a boy graduates, he becomes a member of the Old Boys' Association, and can take advantage of specific

industry and networking functions linking Old Boys across generations who share professional interests.

In the spirit of community and philanthropy, Old Boys often volunteer their time through mentoring and supporting one another. In addition, each graduating class is encouraged to establish a Year Group Bursary to grow the BGS Bursary Fund, supporting boys in financial need, contributing to the School's ongoing diversity.

After graduation, many new Old Boys maintain ties to the School through coaching and other activities.

BGS, in collaboration with the Old Boys' Association, hosts reunions and networking events in Brisbane, regional Queensland, across Australia and in Europe, Asia and the USA.

BGS Old Boys provide a diverse network at home and abroad.





A culture of volunteering and philanthropy

Brisbane Grammar School was founded on philanthropy, with Brisbane's early residents raising money for the township's first grammar school. Over the decades, volunteers and donors have continued to embody this culture of giving.

Members of the BGS community collectively dedicate thousands of hours to the School every year. From the Parents and Friends' Association and Old Boys' Association, to the Board of Trustees and parent support groups, volunteering continues to shape the School.

All parents are members of the active P&F Association, made up of friendly, helpful people eager to welcome new volunteers to support sport, music and other school events.

Donations from the community have helped develop the School's outstanding learning spaces and provided life-changing opportunities for boys in financial need. The School is growing its Bursary Fund to allow for more needs-based assistance into the future.

Past BGS year groups have funded Year

Group Bursaries, providing a diverse range of boys with the opportunity to attend the School as they did. In the spirit of giving at BGS, the Class of 2016 created a bursary as their graduating gift to the School. This has since become a tradition for each year's graduating class.

Our community – past, present and future – enables the School to nurture current and future generations of boys.

BGS is a community founded on giving.

The future is now

As the next bold moment in the BGS journey, the STEAM Precinct opens new avenues for students to learn, collaborate, explore and innovate in a state-of-the-art environment, unparalleled by any other high school in Australia.

Combining the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics, STEAM offers students much more than high-tech facilities

and scientific equipment. It represents a transformative shift in the School's approach to teaching, learning and preparing students for jobs that do not yet exist.

In preparing BGS students for a changing world, the School seeks to develop their capabilities for innovation, entrepreneurship and responsible global citizenship by focusing on their critical and creative

thinking, communication and collaboration skills.

From artistic and technological exploration, prototyping, 3D printing, robotics, complex biological dissections and much more, students will be equipped to become leaders in solving real world problems.

Preparing boys for the future.





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