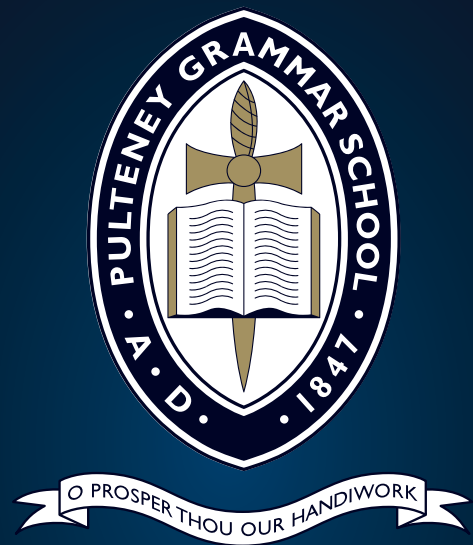


# 2024

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## Teaching, Learning and Wellbeing at Pulteney



# PULTENEY

# Teaching, Learning and Wellbeing at Pulteney Grammar School

*Our mission is to provide a meaningful and useful educational experience for every student that enables them to be their best self. Interim Principal Deb Dalwood leads the School, ensuring it provides a personalised educational experience that empowers students to prosper.*

**Leading teaching, learning and wellbeing at Pulteney Grammar School with a Reception to Year 12 lens are Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning, Ms Katherine Adnett, and Deputy Principal - Wellbeing, Mr Steve McCulloch.**



**Ms Deb Dalwood**  
Interim Principal



**Mr Steve McCulloch**  
Deputy Principal  
– Wellbeing



**Ms Katherine Adnett**  
Deputy Principal  
– Teaching & Learning

## The Deputies roles are to:

- Oversee whole school operations and practice aligned to the School's vision and strategic priorities. This includes oversight of teaching, learning (Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning) and wellbeing initiatives and approaches (Deputy Principal - Wellbeing) across the School.
- Work with Heads of School, Heads of House, Heads of Department, Heads of Teaching and Learning and other School leaders for the implementation of integrated and cohesive programs.
- Lead whole School initiatives and approaches that are adjusted for the appropriate age and stage of a child's education, ensuring a seamless student experience across their schooling.

# Junior School

Reception to Year 6 is led by the Head of Junior School Mr Jason Jay and supported by the Deputy Head of Junior School Mr Nathan Dodd.



**Mr Jason Fay**  
Head of Junior School



**Mr Nathan Dodd**  
Deputy Head of Junior School



**Mrs Sue Mavropoulos**  
Head of Teaching & Learning  
– Junior School



**Ms Sam Cooke**  
Head of Inclusive Education  
– Junior School

The Head of Junior School works collaboratively with the Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning and the Deputy Principal - Wellbeing Mr Steve McCulloch to implement the learning, teaching and wellbeing programs in the Junior School. The Head of Junior School is responsible for fostering the culture of the Junior School and, together with the classroom teacher, knowing each and every student through their Junior School journey.

Last year the School expanded the Junior School leadership team to include a Head of Teaching and Learning (R-6), Ms Sue Mavropoulos, and a Head of Learner Diversity (R-6), Ms Sam Cooke.

# Junior Schooling

Education in the junior years is the foundational phase of a child's academic journey, where they begin to develop fundamental skills, knowledge, and habits that will serve as building blocks for their future learning.

## Key features of junior schooling include:

**Introduction to Learning:** Junior schooling introduces children to the formal learning environment. It focuses on developing essential academic and social skills, such as reading, writing, mathematics, science, humanities, the arts, health and physical education and personal and social capability, communication, and cooperation.

**Holistic Development:** Besides the learning of literacy and numeracy skills, junior schooling at Pulteney emphasises holistic development. This includes nurturing social skills, emotional intelligence, creativity, and physical well-being. This builds on the strong philosophy of learning instilled in our youngest students informed by the Reggio Emilia inquiry and play based philosophy that sees the child as confident, competent and connected.

**Foundational Skills:** Junior School at Pulteney lays the groundwork for literacy and numeracy skills. Children learn to read, write, and understand basic mathematical concepts.

**Exploration and Curiosity:** During these years, children are naturally curious and eager to explore. Pulteney encourages this curiosity by exposing students to a wide range of subjects and experiences.

**Basic Routine and Structure:** The Pulteney Junior School introduces children to the idea of routines, schedules, and classroom rules. This helps them develop a sense of responsibility and self-regulation.

**Teacher Guidance:** Teachers in the Junior School play a vital role in creating a positive and nurturing classroom environment. They support students in their initial steps in formal education, fostering a love for learning. From Reception our students experience, alongside the foundational literacy skill development, a broadening of specialist teaching and learning. Students are taught humanities, digital and design technologies, language, science, library, music, performing arts, Health and Physical Education and Visual Arts.

**Cognitive and Motor Skill Development:** Junior schooling at Pulteney introduces children to establishing their cognitive abilities such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaboration. It also promotes the development of fine and gross motor skills.

**Building Confidence:** As children achieve small milestones and overcome challenges in the Junior School years as they build confidence in their abilities and develop a positive attitude towards learning.



**Mr Jason Fay**  
Head of Junior School

Overall, junior schooling at Pulteney is a crucial stage in a child's educational development and their educational journey through school. It sets the tone for their future academic experiences, helping them build a strong foundation for future learning and growth.

# Middle and Senior School

Years 7 to 9 is led by Head of Middle School, Ms Lauren Connolly, whilst Years 10 to 12 is led by Mr Zac Savage, Head of Senior School. The Heads of Middle and Senior School, respectively, work collaboratively with the Deputy Principal - Wellbeing and Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning to implement the learning, teaching and wellbeing programs in the Middle and Senior School. Both Heads of School are supported by the Head of Teaching and Learning (7-12) and the Head of Learner Diversity (7-12).



**Mr Zac Savage**  
Head of Senior School



**Ms Lauren Connolly**  
Head of Middle School



**Mr John McCall**  
Head of Teaching and Learning  
Years 7 – 12



**Ms Carrie Phillis**  
Head of Inclusive Education  
Years 7 – 12

The Head of Senior School and the Head of Middle School are responsible for leading and fostering the culture of Years 7-12 and, together with the Heads of House, knowing each and every student through their Middle and Senior School journeys.

# Middle School

**Middle schooling refers to the educational approach that focuses on the developmental and academic needs of students during the middle years of their schooling, at Pulteney, this encompasses Years 7 to 9. It is designed to bridge the transition between primary (Junior School) and senior school, and is a crucial phase in a student's educational journey.**

Middle schooling recognises that students in this age group undergo significant physical, emotional, and cognitive changes. The educational philosophy behind middle schooling at Pulteney aims to create a learning environment that caters to these changes by offering a curriculum that is more relevant, engaging, and responsive to the specific needs and interests of Years 7-9 students.

## Key characteristics of middle schooling at Pulteney include:

**Exploratory Curriculum:** Years 7-9 offer a broader range of subjects that allow students to explore various interests, helping them discover their passions before focussing on pathways of study from Year 10.

**Emphasis on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL):** Recognising the emotional and social changes during this phase, middle school integrates SEL into the curriculum to help students develop self-awareness, emotional regulation, and interpersonal skills. This focus on relationship building is paramount at Pulteney and throughout a child's journey through the Middle School.

**Transition Focus:** Middle schooling pays special attention to preparing students for the transition from childhood to adolescence and from middle to senior school. This includes orientation programs, study skills development, and career exploration.

**Student-Centred Approach:** Middle schooling at Pulteney places a strong emphasis on student voice and choice, allowing students to have a say in their learning experiences and encouraging them to take ownership of their education. In 2023 we are offering students a greater choice and agency in learning electives for students at Year 9 in 2024. This builds our commitment to a broad and personalised educational offering with clearer pathways for students as they enter into the senior schooling years.

**Interdisciplinary Learning:** Amplify, City Week, AmpED, and school camps provide opportunities approaches to learning where subjects are integrated to show the interconnectedness of knowledge and to make learning more engaging and meaningful.

**Advisory, Mentorship and Leadership Programs:** The Tutor is an integral aspect of the middle schooling journey. This mentor figure across multiple years provides guidance, support, and a personalised connection for children during this transitional period.



**Ms Lauren Connolly**  
Head of Middle School

Middle schooling at Pulteney aims to provide an educational environment that supports students' intellectual, social, and emotional growth during a crucial period of their development, helping them transition smoothly from childhood to adolescence and preparing them for the challenges of senior school and beyond.



# Senior School

**Senior schooling, Years 10-12 of secondary education, is crucial as it marks the culmination of a child's secondary education and preparation for their transition to higher education, vocational training, or the workforce.**

These years are distinct from the earlier years of secondary education as they offer more specialised and advanced coursework through the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). The focus of senior schooling is to provide students with the opportunity to delve deeper into their chosen subjects, explore potential career paths, build the knowledge and skills necessary for their post-secondary pursuits, and use the character and social skills they have nurtured and developed throughout the Middle School.

## **Key features of senior schooling at Pulteney include:**

**Personal Growth and Responsibility:** Senior schooling at Pulteney encourages students to take greater ownership of their learning. It's a time when students start making more independent decisions about their academic paths and future goals. It is an opportunity for students to draw on their experiences and lead themselves, their peers and the School.

**Co-curricular Activities:** While academia is a priority, co-curricular activities, leadership opportunities, and community involvement are integral to a student's journey through senior school. These experiences contribute to a well-rounded education and personal development.

**Advanced Curriculum:** Senior schooling offers more challenging and specialised subjects, allowing students to explore their interests and strengths in greater depth. Pulteney proudly provides a diverse curriculum in the senior years that enables students to pursue their passions from dance to mathematics and everywhere in between.

**Preparation for Further Education:** The senior schooling years offer preparation for higher education, such as university or TAFE. Pulteney proudly provides resources and support to help

students transition from senior schooling to their chosen paths, whether that involves applying to universities, pursuing vocational training, or entering the workforce.

**Career Pathways:** Through the leadership of the Futures Coordinator, Senior school students can explore potential career pathways. Vocational education and training (VET) programs provide practical skills and knowledge for specific industries.



**Mr Zac Savage**  
Head of Senior School

The structure and content of senior school is a pivotal phase in a student's educational journey, setting the stage for their future endeavours and providing them with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed beyond secondary education.

## Summary

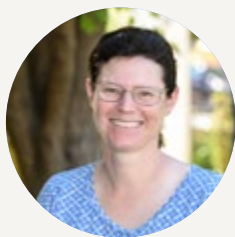
The whole school responsibility for teaching, learning and wellbeing provides the necessary structure and responsibility to develop programs that align and support the sequenced age and stage development of each child.

Junior, Middle and Senior schooling provide age and stage appropriate focus on the specific growth and learning needs of children as they progress through the years of formal education.

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# Heads of House

## Senior School



**Miss Ann Kennedy**

Bleby-Howard  
Head of House



**Ms Bronte Pickett**

Cawthorne-Nicholls  
Head of House



**Mr Simon Sharley**

Kennion-Miller  
Head of House



**Ms Jess Greco**

Moore-Sunter  
Head of House

## Middle School



**Mr Josh Gould**

Bleby-Howard  
Head of House



**Mr Hugh Hopton**

Cawthorne-Nicholls  
Head of House



**Mr Calvin Heath**

Kennion-Miller  
Head of House



**Mr Michael Moularas**

Moore-Sunter  
Head of House



# Heads of House

**Houses have been part of Pulteney Grammar School since 1952. A House provides a home within the School for each and every student by creating a smaller community within the larger sub-school community where students can make stronger bonds and connections. Pulteney has four Houses: Bleby-Howard, Cawthorne-Nicholls, Kennion-Miller, Moore-Sunter.**

Each House has around 150 students from Years 7 - 12 and is led by two Heads of House 7 - 9 and 10 - 12. Each Head of House supports and leads 75 students providing a very personal level of care, guidance and leadership.

From Year 7, students meet each day in House Groups with their House Tutor. The House Tutor works together with the Head of House to manage, monitor and assist in the smooth journey for students through their schooling.

This pastoral care structure has been a part of Pulteney Grammar School in the Senior School for many years and in the Middle School since 2017. This shared, consistent journey, led by Heads of House from Years 7 - 9 and Years 10 - 12 provides a continuity of people, expectations and routines for students throughout their education.

The long-standing House structure at Pulteney is a feature of our pastoral care. Under the leadership of the Heads of Schools, it provides the personalised approach that Pulteney values so dearly.

## **The additional opportunities provided our Middle and Senior School, and Head of House, structure for a student's education from Years 7 - 12 include:**

**Consistent Vision and Leadership:** The leadership team's shared understanding provides a consistent and unified vision for the entire span of secondary education. This helps ensure that educational goals, values, and standards remain aligned and cohesive throughout the middle and senior school years.

**Seamless Transition:** Understanding the needs of a student in middle and then senior school can be more seamless. The Head of Secondary School will design and contribute towards programs, curricula, and support systems that span the entire secondary education experience, making the transition less daunting for students.

**Curricular Continuity:** We are fortunate that our co-curricular offerings, spanning Years 7 - 12, are mapped to facilitate curricular alignment between middle and senior school. This alignment can enhance the progression of learning, building on students' knowledge and skills developed in middle school and preparing them for more advanced studies.

**Holistic Student Development:** It is the shared responsibility of Heads of House, Learning Area Leaders and tutors to allow for a comprehensive understanding of each student's development over the six-year span removing the complexity of transition. This enables better support for individualised learning plans, tracking progress, and addressing any academic or personal challenges that may arise.

**Stronger Community Engagement:** Consistent leadership presence fosters stronger relationships with parents, guardians, and the community. This will lead to better communication, involvement, and support for students' educational journeys.

**Personalised Learning Pathways:** With a clear understanding of students' progress from middle to senior school, the Heads of School will work with teachers, tutors and Heads of House to create personalised learning pathways that cater to each student's strengths, interests, and needs.

**Cohesive School Culture:** Heads of School will play a pivotal role in shaping a unified school culture that spans all grade levels. This cohesive culture can enhance a sense of belonging, pride, and community within the school.

**Middle and Senior Schooling:** A feature of Years 7-12 is the focus and tailoring of learning, teaching and wellbeing to the specific needs of Middle (Years 7-9) and Senior (Years 10-12) students. In educational research and practice, this is known as middle and senior schooling. Pulteney has and continues to have a focus on middle and senior schooling in its education.

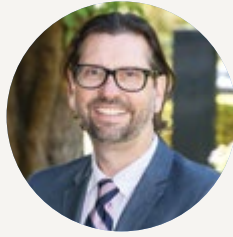
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# Heads of Departments

## & Positions of Responsibility



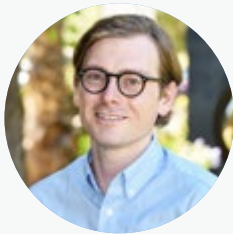
**Lauren Sutter**  
Art Design & Technologies



**John McCall**  
English  
Teaching and Learning 7-12



**Matt Down**  
Health & Physical  
Education



**Richard Boe**  
Humanities



**Kirsty Hickman-Davis**  
Languages



**James Mingorance**  
Mathematics



**Jonathon Rice**  
Performing Arts



**Nadia Maglica**  
Science  
SACE Coordinator



**Daniel Polkinghorne**  
Learning and Innovation



**Michelle Den Dekker**  
Sport



**Ben Searle**  
Sport (Junior School)

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# Heads of Departments

## & Other Key Personnel



**Tom Rainieri**  
Digital Innovation



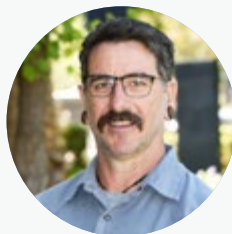
**Robbin Wang**  
International Student  
Programs



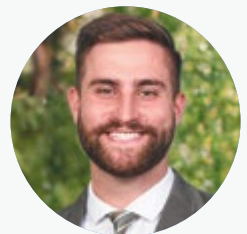
**Leeanne Johnston-Bryan**  
Futures Coordinator



**Annie Kwok**  
Assistant Head  
Performing Arts



**Jamie Buxton-Stewart**  
Outdoor Learning



**Zachary Heynen**  
Activities



**Andrew Robinson**  
ICT Manager



**Chris Clements**  
Wellbeing



**Ali Blake**  
Head of ELC



**Rev Paul Harris**  
Chaplain



**Barb Francis**  
OSHC Coordinator

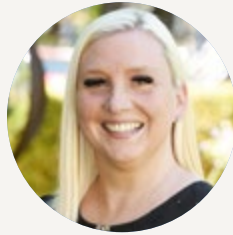
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# Personal / Executive

## Assistants



**Kass Wood**  
PA to the Head of  
Junior School



**Erika Kirkwood**  
PA to the Head of  
Middle School



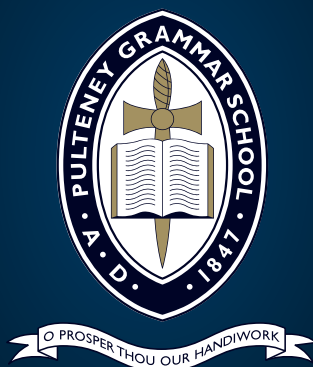
**Angie Doughty**  
PA to the Head of  
Senior School



**Ruth Barnden**  
EA to the  
Interim Principal



**Lauren Hancock**  
EA to the  
Deputy Principals



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