

House Culture

Fostering a sense of belonging for our young people



**Brighton
Secondary
School**

Our house system plays an important role in improving student connectedness and engagement in the classroom and school community. In 2022, to help support our growing community, we expanded our house system from 4 houses to 6. This was designed to foster a sense of belonging for young people in our school by providing a smaller community within the school for them to connect with. The names and colours of the new houses were developed through extensive student voice processes, which decided that the houses would be named using Kurna words for flora, fauna and landforms to respect and honour the Kurna land that we live and learn on. The 2021 Prefect team worked with school leaders, Kurna Warra Pintyanthi (KWP) and Adelaide University to ensure cultural appropriateness and respect.



Native lilac

Pigface plant
flower

Red kangaroo

Golden wattle

Leaves

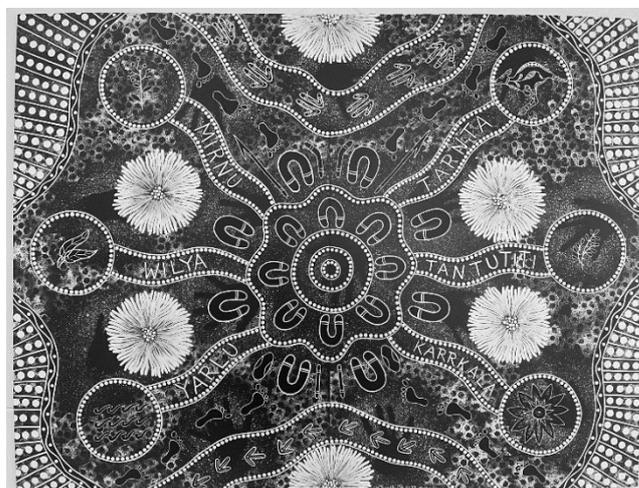
Sea

In each year level, there are two home groups from each house. Throughout the year, student House Captains plan and run a range of inter-house competitions and events, and all students can earn points for their house by participating. Students can also be awarded house points by staff for demonstrating our school values, participating in lunchtime clubs, activities or school sport, and for academic achievement. The winning house is awarded the prestigious House Shield at our end of year ASPIRE assembly.

Indigenous Perspectives

The artwork on our PE tops was designed by a group of our Aboriginal students, who worked with proud Warumungu and Yuggera man and artist, David Booth. David taught the students about the significance of Aboriginal art and how it is used to tell stories. The students used this new knowledge to make a design that tells a story about the Brighton Secondary School community.

The artwork is called "Living and Learning on Kurna Land". The story of the artwork represents the 6 house groups that compete every year at Brighton Secondary School on Kurna country. The centre circle and U shapes represent the school and students competing. The lines linked to the group symbols are their connections to the groups. The outer U shapes represent family and supporters, the footprints are their journeys and the kangaroo and emu tracks represent moving forwards continuously. The lines with dots indicate rain on country and the regrowth of plants and handprints of the students shows their connection with the land, water and our ancestors.



Aboriginal people hold a deep connection to country and have looked after country for thousands of years.

Leadership Opportunities

Encouraging student voice and agency in our school



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We provide a range of formal student leadership opportunities to encourage student voice and agency in our school. All positions involve an application and selection process that provides an opportunity for students to reflect on and share their leadership skills, qualities and experiences. In addition to the roles listed below, year level action groups and student forums work to plan year level events and give feedback on various areas of the school.

House Captains	All year levels 1 position per house per year level	House Captains build house spirit & culture by organizing and participating in extra-curricular house based activities, competitions and events across the school. They encourage others in their house to participate and connect across the school, as well as hosting termly house assemblies
Student Wellbeing Leaders	All year levels 2 positions per year level	Student Wellbeing Leaders drive initiatives and events to improve the overall wellbeing of students in our school. They gather student information and perspectives to inform their planning, provide advice on policies and plans, and lead the organisation of celebrations for key days of significance including Harmony Day and RUOK Day
Middle School Leaders	Year 9 15 positions	Middle School Student Leaders provide leadership to the students in Years 7, 8 and 9. They meet regularly throughout the year to organise and lead initiatives such as Year 7 Transition, Open Day/Night and School Tours, Year Level Assemblies, Middle School Communications, Clubs and Activities and Middle School student feedback
Peer Leaders	Year 10 36 positions	Peer Leaders work in groups of 3 to support a Year 7 home group and help the students in their allocated home group throughout their transition to high school. They plan and lead activities to help Year 7 students feel connected with each other and the school
Prefects (including head and deputy)	Year 12 10 positions,	Prefects meet regularly as a group to seek feedback from the whole student cohort and develop plans and proposals for student led initiatives. They represent the school at a range of internal and external events. Head and deputy prefects also comper assemblies and attend Governing Council meetings to represent the views of the student body in decision making
Special Interest Volleyball Captains	Year 12 2 captains 2 vice captains	SIV Captains provide leadership of the Volleyball program. This includes hosting assemblies for SIV, speaking at SIV Year 7/8 welcome nights, sharing ideas about improvement in the Program, leading student activities, public speaking at competition ceremonies and presentations and support for staff during SIV events
Special Interest Music Captains	Year 9 4 captains Year 12 4 captains	SIM Captains lead the students in the Music program, including welcoming new students, compering events, providing leadership and mentoring for students (both general and musical) and showing initiative in bringing ideas to staff about the improvement of the music program
International Captains	Year 12 2 captains	International Captains take leadership of welcoming new International students to the school, and liaising with program staff around improvements to the program and ways to support International students' wellbeing and academic success