

WELCOME TO TERM 2!

Term 1 at Hester Hornbrook Academy saw a strong and purposeful start to the 2026 school year. Across our campuses, students have re-engaged with wellbeing and learning routines, built positive relationships, and demonstrated resilience as they settle into new goals and rise to our high expectations.

We have seen encouraging progress in attendance, supported by the consistent care and commitment of our staff. Term 1 also reinforced the importance of student voice, flexible learning pathways and a strong sense of belonging with so many wonderful opportunities available to each student.



As we look ahead to Term 2, we are excited to build on this momentum. The coming term will focus on deepening learning, strengthening pathways beyond school, and continuing to embed safe, respectful and productive behaviours across our whole of school. We look forward to celebrating student growth, strengthening partnerships with families and communities, and continuing to create learning environments where every young person feels supported to succeed.

Sally Lasslett

Executive Principal
Hester Hornbrook Academy

A promotional graphic for 'School, Only Different in Geelong'. It features a woman with long dark hair and tattoos on her arms, wearing a blue top. The background is green and purple. Text includes the Hester Hornbrook Academy logo, 'SCHOOL, ONLY DIFFERENT IN GEELONG', 'LEARN MORE' with the URL 'HHACADEMY.VIC.EDU.AU', and 'FEE FREE'.



MEET OUR STUDENT LEADERS!

Student leadership is a great opportunity that is given to students who can make a difference and/or speak up for our student body.

The Werribee campus leaders such as myself are given the chance to speak up for what we need in our campus and to give a hand to staff when campus activities and meetings are held. We also have the chance to extend our skills and attend conferences that the school holds.

Being a school leader will give me the chance to grow my confidence, communication, and leadership skills. I am looking forward seeing how being a leader will change my school experience and how my year will pan out.

What was your highlight of term 1 at Hester Hornbrook?

My highlight of term one was when I travelled to the city campus to meet the rest of the student leaders and the staff I would be working with this year.

What is one good thing that has happened to you in the last three weeks?

One good thing that has happened in the past few weeks was when I started afternoon dance glee club with my sister for prep - grade 2 students.

What are you passionate about?

I am passionate about lending a helping hand to those who share my passions for the welfare of animals, environment, dancing, music, musicals, and education. **Jorja, Student Leader**



Jorja
Student Leader

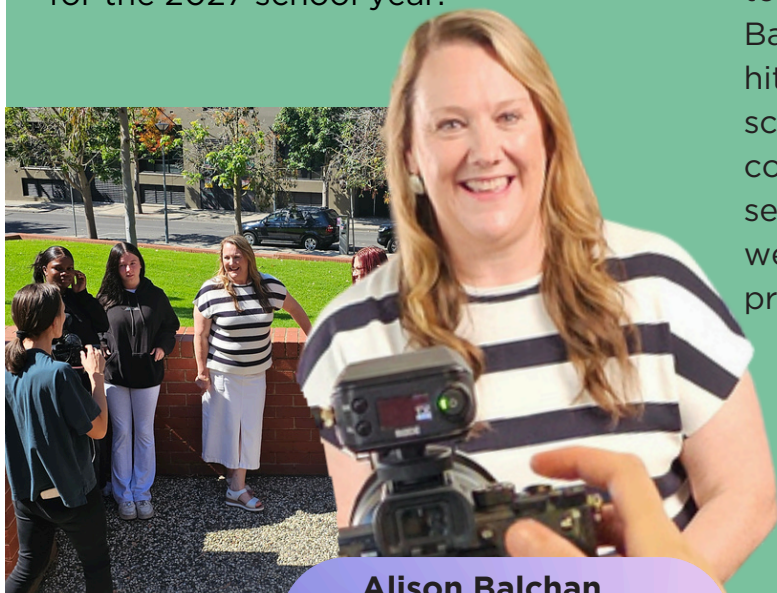
GEELONG HERE WE COME!

We are excited to be bringing Hester Hornbrook's **Healing Oriented Program of Education™ (HOPE)** to Geelong!

Located in the heart of Geelong at **43-45 Brougham St**, over three floors, the pre-existing building already has a distinctly Hester Hornbrook feel. The design and build for this campus are well advanced and the transformation of this fabulous space into a school will be complete later this year, ready to open for the 2027 school year.

Hester Hornbrook students toured the campus building and surrounds at the end of Term 1 to film a video that will form part of the **Geelong Campus** marketing campaign. Our students loved the location! The campus is close to the waterfront and flanked by higher education opportunities. The Geelong Campus marketing campaign will kick off this week

The Geelong campus development team, including the wonderful Alison Balchan, Head of Geelong Campus, will hit the ground this term to introduce our school to the Greater Geelong community. Reaching out to schools and services that support young people, as well as parents, guardians, and prospective students.



Alison Balchan

Head of Campus,
Geelong

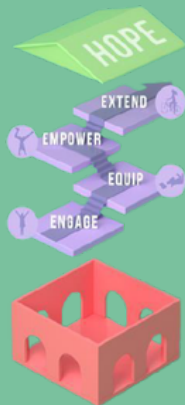
If you know a young person in the Greater Geelong region, who would benefit from a safe, healing-oriented learning and wellbeing environment, to complete their education **expressions of interest are open** for our Geelong Campus via the website **hacademy.vic.edu.au**.



- **Learn more** about our Geelong Campus at the **Geelong Careers Expo** July 30th, at Nyaal Banyul - Geelong Convention & Event Centre.
- **Join us** for our **Geelong Campus information session** August 6th, 2026 at the Novotel. **Register to stay informed.**



HEALING ORIENTED PROGRAM OF EDUCATION



Our **Healing Oriented Program of Education™** (HOPE) framework guides all that we do at Hester Hornbrook Academy. HOPE is how we implement an equal balance between learning and wellbeing so we can support our students to become active participants on their Positive Pathways.

HOPE includes the elements of Safe Environment, Positive Relationships, Engagement and Enjoyment, Student Agency, Engage, Equip, Empower and Extend and has key practices that align to each one. Some practices you might observe or hear about are:

- Expectations
- Restorative Practice Model
- Predictable classroom routines
- Co-created classroom expectations
- OSCAR and Extend tours
- Individual Wellbeing and Learning Plans (IWLP)
- Personal and Social Capability development



Milton H
Teacher

The HOPE framework supports me by outlining the foundations of a positive classroom experience for my students.

Using the 4 pillars of HOPE I strive to create a **safe environment** by maintaining a consistent and predictable approach.

Through building **positive relationships** with my students I'm able to be a trusted adult for them and hold them accountable for their work output and challenge them safely.

Student agency is supported by meeting each student where they are mentally each day, offering choice in the tasks they engage with each day and supporting them in finding their voice.

With these supports in place **engagement** with the classwork and activities happen naturally, making the classroom an **enjoyable** place for all students to be in.

Milton H
Teacher



Chloe B
Youth Worker

The HOPE Framework guides my practice by encouraging me to recognise the unique potential in every young person I'm privileged to support. It provides the structure that allows for me to hold optimism, create meaningful pathways, and empower young people to shape their own future with confidence and curiosity.

Chloe B
Youth Worker

MEET THE TEAM: CAMPUS COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICERS

What is a Community Liaison Officer?

The Community Liaison Officer is an exciting new role at Hester Hornbrook Academy. Each campus has one officer and we play a vital role in strengthening connections between Hester Hornbrook Academy, families, carers, and the wider community. The CLO advocates and builds partnerships to ensure that every family feels welcome, informed, and empowered to actively participate in their young person's education.

What are you passionate about developing as part of your role at the school?

Hannah - In the City Campus I am passionate about fostering inclusive and trusting relationships with our students and families.

Kumari - At Werribee, I want to support family engagement and help every family feel connected and welcome.

Adiam - On the Sunshine campus I am most excited about empowering and informing our families to actively participate in their Young Person's education.

What drives you in work and life?

Hannah - Seeing young people thrive!

Kumari - Bringing people together and building connection and belonging.

Adiam - Having meaningful impact, building genuine connections and staying curious about the world.



**Adiam
Sunshine
CLO**



**Hannah
CITY HUB
CLO**



**Kumari
Werribee CLO**

HARMONY AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

In Term 1, our students embraced **Harmony & Cultural Diversity Week** through a range of collaborative activities across each campus. Students showcased their cultures, explored their heritage, and learnt about the diverse traditions of others through art, fashion, food, and music.

Students have contributed to art displays around the school, cooked cultural dishes to share, proudly worn their traditional clothing. There have also been discussions about our First Nations History, cultural diversity and racism along with restorative practices.

On Monday 23rd March, all campuses came together to celebrate Eid with a shared lunch, highlighting the importance of inclusion, connection, and community.



coming up...

IDAHOBIT

Hester Hornbrook Academy will celebrate IDAHOBIT on Friday 15th May (officially acknowledged on May 17th)

The 2026 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (IDAHOBIT) falls on May 17, with the theme **At the heart of democracy**. This theme highlights the necessity of LGBTQIA+ rights in democratic societies and calls for resistance against authoritarian policies that seek to exclude or restrict these rights.

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK



National Careers Week 2026 in Australia runs from **May 11-17** with the theme **Connect. Create. Thrive**. This initiative aims to empower individuals to explore career pathways, connect with industry professionals, and build long-term career success through informed decision-making.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

All In, the theme for **National Reconciliation Week May 27th - June 3rd** is a call for all Australians to commit wholeheartedly to reconciliation every single day.

Reconciliation isn't the responsibility of First Nations peoples alone. It is not about guilt or shame but about the responsibility and reciprocity of being Australian. Reconciliation will not happen by itself; we must be **all in** for reconciliation.

National Sorry Day May 26



TERM 2 - OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

CITY HUB (City, South Melbourne Hybrid campus) - **Find Your Future Careers Expo**

Date: June 02, 2026.

Explore what you could do when you leave Hester Hornbrook Academy!

Student Free Day

Date: June 05, 2026

Campuses closed.

Public Holiday

Date: June 08, 2026

Campuses closed.

West HUB - (Werribee, Sunshine campus) **Find Your Future Careers Expo**

Date: June 09, 2026 Time: 12:00pm-3:30pm

Location: RACV City Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.

Whole School Formal

Date: June 18, 2026

Touted as the MOST FUN night of the school year, 2026's whole school FORMAL is a night not to be missed

LAST DAY of classes Term 2

Date: June 26, 2026

Time: 10:00am -1:30pm



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