**BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES** In anticipation of our future educational needs and the addition of Year 7 students in 2015 the School has thoughtfully planned and executed several building projects:

- A major refurbishment of the School’s 10 science laboratories was completed in 2003 to allow for theory and practical activities for all students.
- In 2007 the six-storey, multi-award winning Cherwell Hirst Creative Learning Centre opened. With 8800m² of floor space the Centre added 45 percent more teaching space and 65 percent more space overall to the campus.
- The new pool, opened in 2010, is elevated above an all-weather outdoor sports surface, maximising campus space and providing improved class area for Health Studies and play spaces for Years 7 and 8.
- The newly renovated G Block epitomises flexible learning configurations to cater specifically for our Junior curriculum developments.

**TECHNOLOGY** Over the last four years Girls Grammar has increased the number of computers in the School by approximately 60 percent — there are currently 1250 networked computers driven by a system managing more than 200 unique applications. A fibre connection allows for theoretical internet speeds of up to 1Gbps, which is equivalent to approximately eighty times the speed of the average Australian broadband connection. The School also has a campus-wide wireless network supporting multiple teaching and learning technologies, including classroom laptop sets, tablets, notebooks and other mobile devices.

**UPDATES** We will provide regular updates on our Year 7 plans to the School community through our website and various publications. If you have any questions about the impact of this change on your daughter’s enrolment please contact our Enrolment Office on 3332 1436 or enrolments@bggs.qld.edu.au.

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**Year 7 – we’re ready!**

**YEAR 7 MOVE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL IN 2015** The move, announced in June by Premier Anna Bligh, will bring Queensland into line with other states and recognises that Year 7 students will require specialist facilities and teachers under the national curriculum. This presents Girls Grammar with the exciting opportunity to extend its specialist expertise in educating teenaged girls from Year 7.
An environment in which each girl has every opportunity to succeed.

PLANNING AND PREPARATION In 2015 Year 7 students, the state’s first full year of prep, will be six months older and ready for the advantages and challenges of secondary school. They will also be the first cohort to commence Year 7 with seven years of schooling.

Brisbane Girls Grammar School has been planning for this move since the trial prep year was successfully conducted in 2003.

The School is well placed to provide Year 7 students with access to the very best teachers, leading facilities and excellent resources and technologies. This, together with the support of a strong and diverse School community, provides an environment in which each girl has every opportunity to succeed.

We are already preparing, employing and positioning additional staff in anticipation of the new Year 7 cohort.

Three committees have been tasked with planning the introduction of Year 7 and developing programmes for Curriculum, Co-curriculum and Student Care.

CARING FOR GIRLS Beginning secondary school is a significant milestone in the life of an adolescent girl and making a successful transition from primary school is one of the most important considerations parents and their daughters have when choosing a school.

Excellent care and support are fundamental to ensuring girls achieve their best in all areas of school life, whether it is academic, arts, sports or community service. Girls Grammar is a close-knit community where the girls mentor younger students and look after each other. The School has a diverse social and cultural mix which encourages tolerance, respect, self-confidence and a positive outlook.

Every girl has a Head of House and House Group Teacher who looks after her, oversees her progress and helps her to maximise her potential and enjoy her time at the School.

CURRICULUM It is an exciting time educationally in this country. For the first time in Australia’s history there is a national curriculum that mandates what students should learn.

Our Year 7 curriculum will lay the foundation for exceptional scholarship which will allow students to learn well and experience increasing academic success as they mature.

To facilitate this, the School’s curriculum planners have a multi-faceted focus incorporating conceptual development, subject matter and pedagogical practice. Underlying these elements is a commitment to promoting in our students a metacognitive approach to learning which will foster the development of a growth mindset resulting in increased motivation and meaningful intellectual progress.

CO-CURRICULUM The Co-curricular programme is a vibrant component of life at Girls Grammar and with over one hundred activities on offer each year it spans enrichment, service, cultural and sporting activities. Designed to complement the academic curriculum the programme encourages girls to try something different, make new friends and settle quickly into secondary school life.

Planning has already commenced both at the School and with the Queensland Girls Secondary Schools’ Sporting Association (QGSSSA) to ensure the co-curricular activities offered to Year 7 students provide opportunities for leadership, participation, team work, skill development, increased self esteem and self expression.
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