


**NBCS**   
NORTHERN BEACHES CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*Love Learning*

# HSC Results

YEAR 12  
2024



# Principal's Message

Today is a day of celebration.

Congratulations to all of Year 12, 2024. We love the way that you have grown together, supported each other, worked hard, and enjoyed yourselves along the way. We appreciate the way that Year 12 have led the school and continued the process of shaping a successful and nurturing learning culture for our students.

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR STUDENTS FOR THEIR RESULTS, BUT MORE SO FOR THEIR CHARACTER.**

They did the hard work, and they carried the load together. We know, though, that without the encouragement and support of parents, families and teachers, the journey would have been inexorably harder.

The main product of school is learning. Some of NBCS's happy other products are wellbeing, character, opportunity, friendships, and results. Today is the day that the world around us focuses on results. As a consequence, we do too. The results for the class of 2024 are strong, measured together or individually. Their results will open doors for them into what's next, but it is their character and learning that will propel Year 12 2024 into a wide open and wonderful future.

While we do acknowledge our students for their results, we also want to acknowledge our students for their growth as learners, the work they have done, the community they have built, and for the people they have become. And as they go, they take with them the opportunities and friendships that they developed along the way.

It is also important to acknowledge and congratulate the silent achievers, the students who finished despite adversity, who did better than they imagined, and who feature in our hearts if not on the lists.

As Maria Popova puts it, "We move through the world as surfaces shimmering with the visibility of our accomplishments, the undertow of our suffering invisible to passers-by." It remains a quiet joy to go through results carefully and celebrate the successes of all our students.

Year 12, your teachers know those students who gave it their all, they are delighted for you, they are proud of you, and excited for what you will do next.

**Tim Watson**  
Principal, NBCS

# Outstanding Achievers

## NSW All Rounder



**Joshua Pryor**

Congratulations to Joshua Pryor who achieved a result in the highest band (Band 6 or Band E4) in at least 10 units of study.

Engineering Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced (2023)  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2  
Physics

## High Achievers by ATAR



**Fernando Gonzalo**  
98.75

Chemistry  
Engineering Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Physics



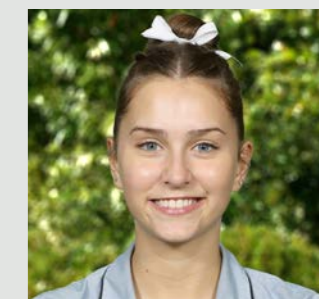
**Molly Nunn**  
98.3

Chemistry  
English Advanced  
French Continuers  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2  
Physics  
Science Extension



**Robbie Tipton**  
97.5

Biology  
Engineering Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2  
Mathematics Advanced (2023)  
Physics  
Science Extension



**Teagan Bragg**  
97.35

Biology  
Chemistry  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced (2023)  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Personal Development,  
Health and Physical Education

## Textiles and Design | SHAPE



**Emily Iliffe**  
93.8



Congratulations to Emily Iliffe whose major work was selected for the HSC SHAPE Showcase.

# HSC Snapshot



**19%**

Students who achieved an ATAR of 90+



**99.55**

Joshua Pryor was our Dux, graduating with an ATAR of 99.55



**1**

All-round Achiever  
Joshua Pryor



**13.17%**

**Band 6s and E4s**

The percentage of Band 6/E4 results across all HSC courses at NBCS



**94**

Band 6/E4 results achieved by 48 students across all HSC courses out of a cohort of 133 students



**41%**

NBCS students with an ATAR of 80 or above



**150th**

NBCS rank in *The Sydney Morning Herald* Schools HSC Ranking in NSW



**23**

HSC Showcase Nominations received by 21 students across 7 courses

# Outstanding Achievers

## High Achievers by ATAR



**Connor Dalton**  
96.65



**Leo Edmunds**  
96.2



**Ella Browning**  
95.05



**Oscar Donnelley**  
94.55



**Nicola Cutter**  
94.5



**Poppy Corrigan**  
93.9



**Carys Locke**  
93.55



**Thomas Stephens**  
93.55



**Rihayl Shankar**  
93.5



**Abigail Kleemeyer**  
93.1



**Kyle Whalley**  
93.1



**Olivia Schicht**  
92.95



**Tom Cole**  
92.25



**Poppy Torrens**  
91.65



**Natalie Pearse**  
91.3



**Grace Barnes**  
90.75



**Orlaith Keogh**  
90.4



**Ryan Edler**  
90.05



**Megan Scott**  
90

# Meet our Duxes

## WHAT STANDS OUT ABOUT YOUR TIME AT NBCS?

I joined in Year 6, I found good friends, and as I progressed throughout the years, I ended up becoming friends with almost everyone.

## PHYSICS IS YOUR FAVOURITE SUBJECT. WHAT HAVE YOU LIKED ABOUT IT?

We get to work on things like quantum mechanics. It's a relatively new field, and it's just so interesting. I'll probably go into engineering as I see opportunities to excel and create new things. I haven't made up my mind on what type of engineering, but aeronautical engineering is super niche, and super interesting.

## WHAT OTHER ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN WHILE AT SCHOOL?

I've represented the School at state level in swimming. I compete at national level which requires a lot of training. At the peak of my training, I'll do eight 1.5 to 2-hour sessions per week.

## WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE CO-CURRICULAR?

CSSA cross-country. It's a lot of fun because it's a team effort. We all get hyped up for it and support each other.

## HOW DO YOU MANAGE YOUR STUDY TIME WITH SO MUCH TIME SPENT SWIMMING?

I usually try to work as quickly as possible in class to get it done or I'll stay at the library after school if I need something completed, or I work long hours on the weekends.

## HOW HAS NORTHERN BEACHES CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SHAPED YOU?

NBCS has taught me to focus on being on the cutting edge, like the bleeding edge. I want to be working on new things in all the fields I'm doing; I want to be at the front of science and technology. I have learnt to give everything a go, find your passions and be the best you can be.

## WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE STARTING AT NBCS IN YEAR 7?

Get into the habit of studying early. Don't burn yourself out but know how and when to put effort in. If you start early, you will know what to expect and how to manage in the more important times when it really matters.

## WHAT'S BEEN YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT AT SCHOOL?

I've just gotten consistently better and better every year and that's the thing I'm proudest of.

# Fernando Gonzalo

98.75  
ATAR



99.55  
ATAR

# Joshua Pryor

## WHAT WAS THE TRANSITION TO YEAR 12 LIKE?

I came off the back of a solid Year 11, so I wasn't nervous. I felt like I had built up good practices, which I could keep up throughout Year 12. Getting on top of things early was beneficial. It allowed me more time and preparation and reduced the stress load.

## HOW HAS YOUR STUDENT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE BEEN?

The most intense thing was organising and running the House Olympics competition. I wanted to grow in my leadership skills, especially public speaking. Being able to stand up in front of Phillip House is one of the first times that I've felt completely fine standing up in front of a large crowd.

## WHAT ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR SCHOOL LIFE?

One of the most memorable events at school was the Great Barrier Reef Student Opportunity Week trip. I had never been there before or done snorkeling. Going into the rainforests was amazing.

## DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL?

I was part of the senior concert band from Years 7 to 11, on tuned percussion, like xylophone and timpani. I've played club AFL since I was very small so I'm hoping to join the UNSW team, which is pretty good.

## HAVE YOU FELT SUPPORTED AT SCHOOL?

What I found beneficial at NBCS is the amount of support teachers give you and how far they will go to help you grow and learn and develop. It's something that I've had since Year 7, and I have really appreciated it.

## HOW HAS NBCS SHAPED YOU?

It's definitely shaped me when it comes to the academic side of my life. It's helped me build diligence which has also helped in other aspects of my life, like in my job, where I can apply myself and work consistently to do what is needed.

## WHAT SUBJECTS DO YOU ENJOY MOST?

I like Maths the most. After that, it's between Physics and Engineering. I'm hoping to do engineering at UNSW or Sydney University. I'm interested in aerospace engineering because it involves the most applied maths.

## HOW DID YOU LIKE DOING ACCELERATED MATHS IN YEAR 11?

I enjoyed the accelerated program. There is a certain degree of maturity you need but you feel the rewards in Year 12, having completed one subject.

# High Achieving Courses

## Percentage of students achieving in the top Bands

Course	Percentage in Bands 5, 6 or E4	
	NBCS	NSW
Music 1	100	67.22
Visual Arts	100	66.75
Textiles and Design	92.31	49.49
English Advanced	86.84	67.53
Design and Technology	83.33	47.93
Industrial Technology	83.33	23.04
Modern History	77.78	38.93
English Extension 2	66.67	33.89
Geography	66.67	37.72
Society and Culture	60.00	45.24
Legal Studies	59.09	43.22
Business Studies	55.32	37.07
Information Processes and Technology	54.55	30.57
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education	51.35	34.61
Ancient History	50	36.84
Software Design and Development	50	38.30
Engineering Studies	42.86	31.99
Mathematics Extension 1	38.10	34.89

## Courses with averages significantly above State average

Course	Average HSC Course Mark (%)	
	NBCS	NSW
English Extension 2	91.46	81.4
Music 1	88.06	81.49
Textiles and Design	87.63	76.81
Geography	86.63	74.96
Visual Arts	85.55	81.9
Mathematics Extension 2	84.69	82.58
English Advanced	84.58	82.03
Industrial Technology	84.13	70.77
Design and Technology	83.58	77.25
Modern History	82.38	75.02
Mathematics Extension 1	82.12	79.94
Legal Studies	80.95	75.55
Engineering Studies	80.33	74.25
Society and Culture	79.33	77.01
Software Design and Development	78.76	74.22
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education	77.75	74.03
Biology	77.16	73.89
Information Processes and Technology	77.04	71.76
Business Studies	76.79	73.45
Physics	76.51	73.75
Earth and Environmental Science	76.13	72.9
Food Technology	75.22	72.94
English Standard	74.44	71.4

# Distinguished Achievers

The following students achieved a Band 6/E4 in the subjects listed

<b>Grace Barnes</b>	Drama, English Advanced, Music 1
<b>Alannah Barwell</b>	English Extension 1, English Advanced
<b>Teagan Bragg</b>	Biology, English Advanced, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
<b>Ella Browning</b>	English Extension 1, English Extension 2, English Advanced, Legal Studies
<b>Jasmine Campanella</b>	Music 1
<b>Samuel Cook</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Poppy Corrigan</b>	English Advanced, Modern History
<b>Nicola Cutter</b>	Mathematics Extension 1, English Advanced, Society and Culture, Textiles and Design
<b>Connor Dalton</b>	Business Studies, Geography, Mathematics Advanced (2023)
<b>Oscar Donnelley</b>	Biology, Engineering Studies, Physics
<b>Ryan Edler</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Leo Edmunds</b>	Engineering Studies, Industrial Technology
<b>Abby Galloway</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Fernando Gonzalo</b>	Mathematics Extension 1, Engineering Studies, English Advanced, Mathematics Advanced, Physics
<b>Thomas Gracie</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Alex Hall</b>	English Extension 2
<b>Jed Hawkins</b>	Design and Technology
<b>Emily Iliffe</b>	Business Studies, English Advanced, Legal Studies, Textiles and Design
<b>Ethan Juracich</b>	Design and Technology, Industrial Technology
<b>Jemima Kelly</b>	Visual Arts
<b>Orlaith Keogh</b>	Design and Technology, Drama, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
<b>Abigail Kleemeyer</b>	Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced (2023)
<b>Carys Locke</b>	Business Studies, English Advanced, Legal Studies, Music 1
<b>Jessica Maher</b>	Design and Technology, English Advanced, Visual Arts
<b>Toby McConnell</b>	Design and Technology, Visual Arts
<b>Aidan McDonald</b>	Drama

<b>Holly McWilliams</b>	Drama
<b>Sienna Merry</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Molly Nunn</b>	English Advanced, French Continuers, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced (2023)
<b>Natalie Pearce</b>	English Advanced, Software Design and Development
<b>Alana Pittard</b>	Visual Arts
<b>Joshua Pryor</b>	Engineering Studies, English Advanced, Geography, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 2, Physics, Mathematics Advanced (2023)
<b>Olivia Schicht</b>	Biology, Mathematics Advanced
<b>Megan Scott</b>	Music 1
<b>Rihayl Shankar</b>	Mathematics Extension 1
<b>Caelan Sherrington</b>	Textiles and Design
<b>Thomas Stephens</b>	Mathematics Extension 1
<b>Ella Tailby</b>	Textiles and Design
<b>Robbie Tipton</b>	Biology, Engineering Studies, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced (2023)
<b>Tamsin Van Zeyl</b>	Ancient History, English Advanced, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
<b>Scarlet Walters</b>	Food Technology
<b>Kyle Whalley</b>	Engineering Studies, Mathematics Advanced
<b>Alyssa Williams</b>	Textiles and Design

## Year 11 Accelerated Students

<b>Tamara Bourke</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Oliver Chiew</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Maya Koch</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Sophia Murrell</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Ramey Smit</b>	Mathematics Advanced

# Showcase nominations

NBCS HSC STUDENTS RECEIVED 23 NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2024 HSC SHOWCASES. A NOMINATION INDICATES THAT PERFORMANCES AND MAJOR WORKS CAUGHT THE EYE OF MARKERS AS EXEMPLARY AND REFLECTING HIGH ACHIEVEMENT.

Two students received double nominations, including Grace Barnes for an individual and a group performance for HSC Drama, and Toby McConnell for HSC Design and Technology and HSC Visual Arts.

In total, 21 students were nominated across seven subjects.

"This is a significant number of nominations," said Josh Young, NBCS Head of TAS. "It reflects both the excellent staff who have mentored them, fostering their creativity and helping them build their skills, and the dedication of the students in producing such high calibre projects."

Nominated students are in the running for the Young Writers Showcase, SHAPE, OnSTAGE, ARTEXPRESS or ENCORE events in 2025. Their nominations validate their dedication and talent, and reflect the commitment of their teachers who have guided them through every step.



## Drama | OnSTAGE

With Mr Owen

*Nominated*

1. Grace Barnes (featured on opposite page)
2. Group: Grace Barnes, Orlaith Keogh, Holly McWilliams and Aidan McDonald.



## Music | ENCORE

With Ms Rowsell

*Nominated*

Megan Scott

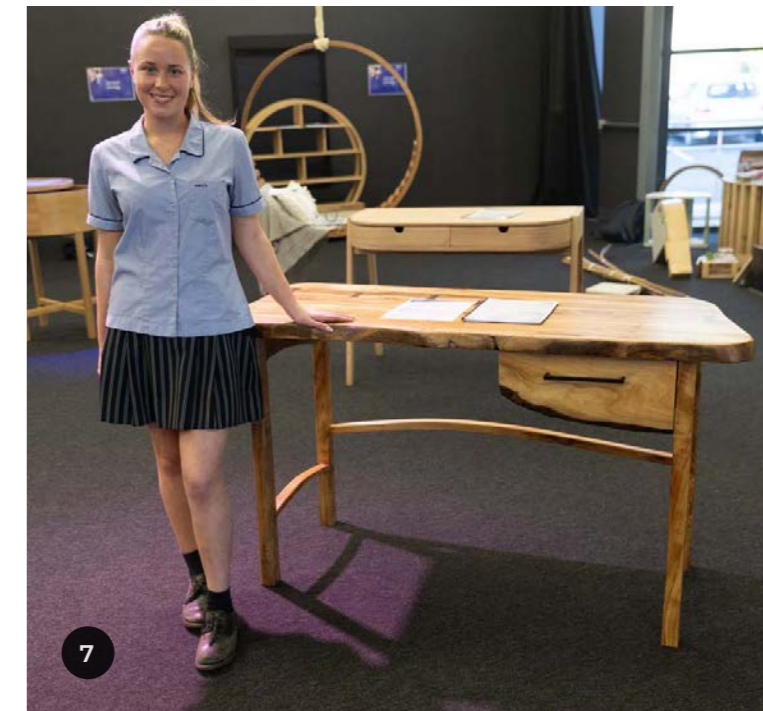
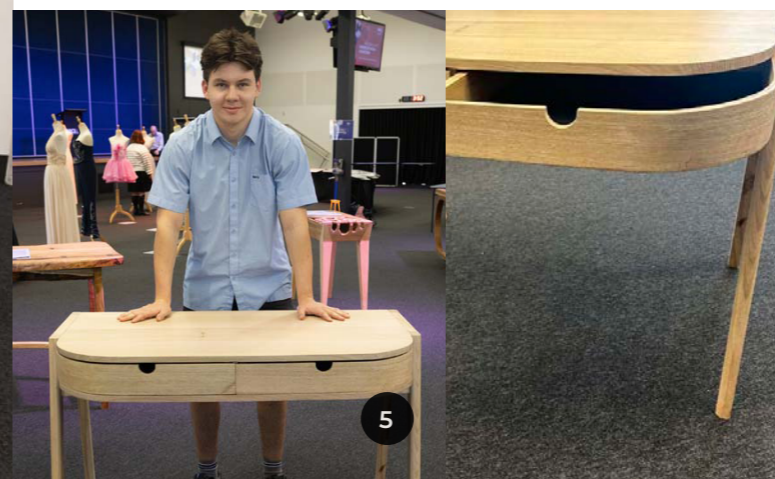


# Industrial Technology | SHAPE

With Mr Bannister

Nominated

- 1. Russell Carver
- 2. Samuel Cook
- 3. Leo Edmunds
- 4. Lachlan Hoare
- 5. Toby Joyce
- 6. Ethan Juracich
- 7. Elena Robinson





## Visual Arts | ARTEXPRESS

With Mrs Ramage

Nominated

Toby McConnell



## Design and Technology | SHAPE

With Mr Young and Ms Rawe

Nominated

1. Jed Hawkins

2. Toby McConnell



## English Extension Two | Young Writers Showcase

With Mr Clarke

Nominated

1. Ella Browning

2. Alex Hall



## Textiles and Design | SHAPE

With Ms Gray

*Selected*

1. Emily Iliffe

*Nominated*

2. Caelan Sherrington

3. Ella Tailby

4. Alyssa Williams

5. Samantha Hishon



“TEXTILES WAS MY FAVOURITE AND IT’S PART OF WHAT I WANT TO DO WHEN I FINISH SCHOOL. I LIKE PRACTICAL WORK AND I LOVE SEWING AND DRAWING AND LEARNING. IT’S SO EXCITING. MS GRAY DEDICATES HER WHOLE LIFE TO HELPING HER STUDENTS - SHE REALLY HELPED ME.”

Samantha Hishon

## Meet some of our graduates ...

“WHAT I FOUND BENEFICIAL AT NBCS IS THE AMOUNT OF SUPPORT TEACHERS GIVE YOU AND HOW FAR THEY WILL GO TO HELP YOU GROW AND LEARN AND DEVELOP.”

Joshua Pryor



Alex Hall

### WHAT SUBJECTS DO YOU ENJOY?

I've always been attracted to storytelling and narrative. History is the ultimate story, and English is what we think about it. As well as English Advanced, English Extension 1, and Studies of Religion and Geography, I studied Modern, Ancient, and Extension History – the Trifecta!

### WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO DO IN 2025?

I'd like to study the Bachelor of Western Civilization at the University of Wollongong – including Western literature, history, philosophy.

### WHAT APPROACHES AND HABITS HAVE HELPED YOU IN YOUR STUDIES?

I've tried to critically think about things and ask teachers questions about everything.

### IF YOU COULD GIVE YOUR YEAR 7 SELF SOME ADVICE, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

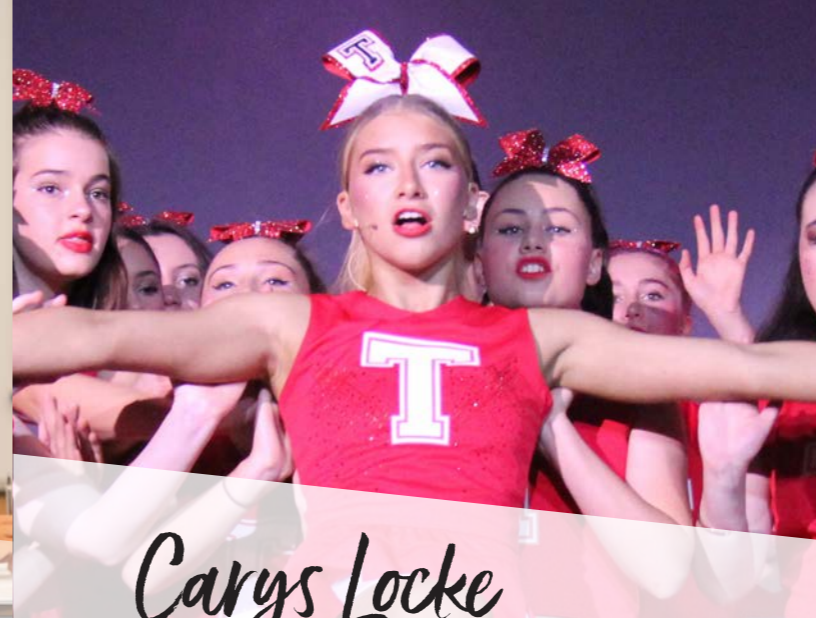
Just be open to new ideas: to read new things, watch new things, and listen to all types of things, even if you don't agree with them.

### WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO ACHIEVE AND BE SUCCESSFUL?

To have a fascination about things and dive deeper into understanding the why and the stories around things. Success for me is being able to apply what I learn in one area to another area, like being able to draw connections between different ideas, lines of thought, and be productive and disciplined in that space.

### HAVE NBCS TEACHERS PLAYED A ROLE IN YOUR SUCCESS?

Definitely! I've found that having good relationships with my teachers has really helped. I've always borrowed books from teachers and talked with them about those ideas. They've always been very supportive, helpful and approachable.



Carys Locke

### YOU DO COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING AT A NATIONAL LEVEL. HAS THAT BEEN HARD TO JUGGLE WITH SCHOOL?

I'm in an environment where I'm supported and teachers are very accommodating. It has been tricky but also very rewarding to juggle school and cheer. And I've been able to do well in both.

### WAS BEING SCHOOL CAPTAIN WHAT YOU EXPECTED?

I thought that it would involve more public speaking but it's really a position of service and organising things that foster school culture. Being involved in the CRU leadership and growing and fostering that environment has been a highlight.

### WHICH IS HARDER – YEAR 11 OR YEAR 12?

Year 12 hasn't been easier but I find myself wanting to study more because it's more interesting. Year 11 sets you up really well for Year 12. as you know what to expect.

### WHAT ARE YOUR TERTIARY PLANS?

I'd like to do a degree in law and communications, majoring in digital social media.

### DID YOU DISCOVER A NEW PASSION HERE?

After watching Legally Blonde when I was 7, I wanted to be Elle Woods. In doing Legal Studies and the Mock Trials, I realised I actually might enjoy this.

### HOW HAS YOUR CHRISTIAN FAITH BEEN SHAPED AT NBCS?

A lot of my friends ask questions about faith in our classes, and it has helped to strengthen my faith. Students who leave the school without a faith have really thought about it and know why they have chosen not to be Christians.



Ella Browning

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN AT NBCS?

I started in Year 4, which was a good time to make some solid friendships. Going into high school was a far easier transition.

### DID YOU DO CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?

Soccer is really good for my mental health and it's good exercise. I've been part of a few amazing in-school activities such as the Mock Trial and being part of the leadership team. I participated in as much as I could at school because I wanted to get the most out of these last months.

### HOW DID ATTENDING THE UN SCHOOLS (UNIS) CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK IMPACT YOU?

Since I was doing Legal Studies and Modern History, I was interested in world order and international relations. It was incredible and has informed my decisions about what I want to do after school. I want to study law at UNSW, perhaps majoring in International Relations.

### HOW DID YOU BALANCE YOUR STUDY AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?

I had an app with a timer that showed me where I was spending my time. It helped me decide if I needed to keep working, and gave me permission to take breaks without feeling guilty.

### WHAT DOES SUCCESS MEAN TO YOU?

It is when I put effort into an assessment task or test and see the benefits and rewards. It's also seeing how much I've improved. For example, I found Economics so hard last year, but this year I've done much better.



Emily Cliffe



Grace Barnes



Jed Hawkins



Molly Nunn

**WHAT SUBJECTS DID YOU ENJOY THE MOST?**

Textiles or Business Studies, probably because I do the best in them. I want to do a double degree in design and commerce at UNSW.

**CAN YOU SHARE SOME HABITS THAT HAVE HELPED YOU IN YOUR STUDIES?**

I'm a whiteboard person. I have a big one with my summaries of everything, one for each subject, and my monthly and weekly planner with my daily to-do list. I plan for the whole term, and then I just cruise.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR YEAR 11 SELF?**

Ask your teachers questions. Learn to feel comfortable in the classes that you're in because they become like a little family, and you have class discussions.

**WHAT CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES HAVE STOOD OUT FOR YOU?**

I did the Mock Trial last year for Legal Studies, and I did the student-to-student reading program with a young refugee girl. In my leadership role I did Toys 'n' Tucker, Clean Up Australia Day and a Salvation Army fundraiser.

**WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR 2025?**

I'm travelling to Europe with my cousin for three months and starting university mid-year.

**DID YOU DISCOVER AN AREA OF PASSION AT NBCS?**

Legal Studies. When I did Commerce in Year 9 and we did the Law and Action topic, I thought, "Oh, maybe I like legal studies". I was surprised. I enjoyed being part of the Mock Trial team.

**HOW DID YOU END UP AT NBCS?**

I came here in Year 10 and everyone was so accommodating and lovely. I decided to move because my previous school didn't have the same opportunities to perform. I've had major roles in all the musicals since. The school has given me such a great opportunity to showcase what I love to do.

**WHAT OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE YOU ENJOYED?**

In Year 11 I entered the Dymocks writing competition and I was shortlisted and won \$500. In Year 12 my TheatreSports team made it to the NSW Schools Challenge grand finals for the first time. And then I did the Ethics Olympiad and we received an honorable mention from our judges.

**WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?**

I want to pursue a career in musical theatre. I'm applying for a Bachelor of Fine Arts majoring in music theatre. My big dream is to go to the Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne.

**WHAT HAS INSPIRED YOUR CAREER CHOICE?**

In Years 10 and 11 I went on the performing arts camp, which elevated my skills in film, dance and theatre. The school has given me so many opportunities to learn and expand my technique and performance.

**HOW DO YOU MANAGE YOUR WORKLOAD?**

I need everything written out in a study schedule in front of me and I use small breaks well. A lot of us studied in the rehearsal breaks.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR YEAR 11 SELF?**

Enjoy everything while you can. Just live in the moment and take advantage of the community.

**WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS IN 2025?**

I love economics and maths, so I'd like to do investment banking or financial services, with a Bachelor of Commerce.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR MAJOR PROJECT FOR DESIGN TECHNOLOGY.**

I did an architectural redesign of the Mona Vale Golf Clubhouse. My contacts at the golf club were helpful in terms of bouncing ideas back and forth and understanding the logistics of the project.

**HOW DO YOU BALANCE LIFE AND STUDY?**

I allocate my time and know when enough is enough, both for studying and downtime. I have a Saturday ritual of playing golf that keeps me grounded. I think if you plan your time well, you use all of it effectively.

**WHAT DOES A SUCCESSFUL YEAR 12 LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?**

The easy answer is academic success, and knowing that I gave the year everything I could. Less talked about is keeping in contact with my friends. I've known some of these people for 13 years, so maintaining those relationships is important.

**WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE APPRECIATED IN YOUR SCHOOL JOURNEY?**

One thing about NBCS that I'm really grateful for is our teachers, who are absolutely top notch.

**WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YEAR 12?**

The community, and the group of friends that you build when you go through this 'collective suffering' has been so rewarding. Being able to accomplish things with them and alongside them means a lot.

**WHAT PROMPTED YOUR CHOICE OF SCIENCE EXTENSION MAJOR WORK?**

I researched treatments for haemophilia A, looking at a new treatment that helps to prevent serious bleeding events and reduce the damage that haemophiliacs suffer. I chose the project after we went to a University of Sydney open day.

**WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?**

I want to do a double degree in pure maths and chemical or biomedical engineering. It's everything I really like. I'd also like to do an exchange to France so I can keep my French up.

**WHAT STUDY HABITS HELP YOU MOST?**

I ask questions when I don't understand things. Study notes are a helpful method for studying, and I do practice questions. But keeping up-to-date with your homework is a good way to be on top of things because you're consolidating it soon after you learn it.

**WHAT HAS MOTIVATED YOU TO PUSH YOURSELF ACADEMICALLY?**

I'm self-motivated and I've been lucky to be in an environment that has given me options and support. I've pursued academics because that's what I'm interested in and my teachers have directed, guided and encouraged me. My parents have been supportive of my studies but they haven't pushed me in any direction. NBCS allows everyone to get involved in their areas of interest.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUR YEAR 11 SELF?**

Manage your time wisely, find the techniques for studying that suit you and seek help when you need it. Ask questions, don't be afraid to look silly, and work with your peers.



Natalie Pearse



Robbie Tipton



Orlaith Keogh



Aidan McDonald

**WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT YEARS 11 AND 12?**

I've enjoyed little things like the friendships you have with teachers, the activities that we do during mentor groups, and Mr Watson's meetings! Being part of the leadership team helped me realise that we could actually contribute to the school. It also made me see how much work you have to do to get things done!

**WHAT CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU TAKEN PART IN?**

I played soccer, volleyball, futsal, netball and other sports with the school. I enjoyed the carnivals and always went in lots of events. I've also done the DaVinci Decathlon a few times.

**WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO DO NEXT YEAR?**

I'd like to do the Bachelor of Information Technologies at UTS, which comes with industry placements and includes both information technology software and the business management side.

**WHAT PASSIONS DID YOU DISCOVER AT SCHOOL?**

I never pictured myself liking anything to do with technology but being made to do it at a young age was valuable. I also tried soccer in Year 6 at school and loved it. The environment we have here has made me realise I like to work in a social environment which is why I now want to go into management.

**WHAT WAS CHRISTIAN STUDIES LIKE?**

The school's approach to Christian Studies has been perfect because you leave the school knowing what it's about if you want to explore it further.

**WHAT DIRECTION IS YOUR STUDY TAKING YOU IN?**

I'm heading towards a STEM career, specifically aeronautical engineering.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR SCIENCE EXTENSION PROJECT.**

It's a research project in aerodynamics and fluid dynamics looking at how different types of wingtips affect induced drag. I used pre-existing models that have already been tested and ran a comparative study between them.

**HOW HAVE YOU MANAGED YOUR TIME BETWEEN SCHOOL, WORK AND SPORT?**

In the off-season, when cricket's not happening, I am less productive! The busier I am, the more I find time to fit in study. When I have a full afternoon with nothing on, I'll procrastinate for most of it. If I know I have a deadline and there is no time to do the work apart from that moment, I do it.

**WHAT BENEFIT DID YOU SEE IN DOING THE MATHS ADVANCED HSC COURSE IN YEAR 11?**

Doing the exam in Year 11 gave me more time in Year 12. It also helped me realise that I needed to do a lot more work than I had previously done.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE SCHOOL TO SOMEONE WHO WAS STARTING HERE?**

It's a very welcoming environment. All your teachers and everyone around you will get behind you to encourage you. After spending the past eight years at this school, I can say that it has shaped me into the person I am today. The dedication, passion and unwavering support of the staff at NBCS have not only helped me excel academically but have also taught me invaluable life lessons.

**WHY DID YOU COME TO NBCS?**

I chose NBCS when we moved to Australia because of all the sport opportunities, but then all the drama, performing arts and musical opportunities caught my eye!

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR PERFORMING ARTS EXPERIENCES AT NBCS.**

I've been doing TheatreSports with the same group of people since Year 9 and we amazingly made it to the NSW Schools grand final this year. I've been in four musicals – and it's always been the highlight of my year. It's helped my confidence and all areas of my life.

**HAVE YOU ENJOYED YOUR EXPERIENCE AS SPORTS CAPTAIN?**

Getting to share and collaborate on ideas, to see that we can have an impact and being able to make ideas a reality has been great.

**WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE GOALS?**

Being an actor is the dream, but I'm a fan of design and technology because you go from an idea to a finished product, which is rewarding. At the University of Melbourne, there is a Fine Arts degree in acting, so I could possibly take that as an elective whilst studying architecture.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR HSC DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY MAJOR PROJECT.**

I redesigned the outdoor public gym at Narrabeen Lagoon to be more of an inclusive, holistic health and fitness space where people can go to relax and focus on their mental and physical health.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE NBCS?**

It's a school that supports everyone's passions. It is a great community space to make life-long memories and friendships.

**WHAT HAVE BEEN THE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR TIME AT NBCS?**

Drama is probably the big one because I've been doing the musical since Year 8. In TheatreSports, our team made it to the NSW Schools grand final for the first time in five years. I also enjoyed the Ethics Olympiad and Mock Trial competitions.

**DID YOU DISCOVER YOUR PASSION FOR DRAMA AT SCHOOL?**

Yes. The school has given me a lot of opportunities to do drama, even outside of class. The musical has been a big factor in that.

**HOW DO YOU BALANCE YOUR STUDIES AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?**

If you plan beforehand and get work done early, it becomes more manageable.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR SOMEONE STARTING YEAR 11?**

Don't be afraid to do things outside of school. Doing co-curricular or sports you're passionate about will make studying easier.

**HOW WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A SCHOOL LEADER?**

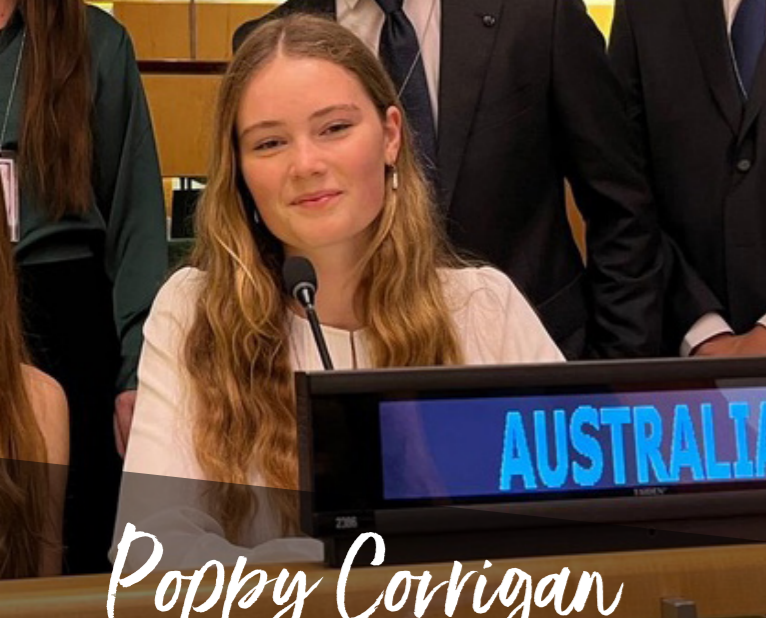
Collaborating with people you wouldn't usually work with and discussing solutions to problems has been great. It's good to share ideas and work together to make the school a better place.

**WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?**

I want to do a dual degree in political science and journalism. Outside of drama, my passion is global politics and I want to do more in that field.

**HOW HAS NBCS SHAPED YOU AS A PERSON?**

NBCS has given me a lot of opportunities to do what I'm interested in and try new things, all within a supportive community.



Poppy Corrigan



Toby McConnell



Teagan Bragg



Samantha Hishon

**WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS IN 2025?**

I'm hoping to study medicine. My mum was very sick when I was younger. I acted as a carer for a lot of that time and I'm interested in helping and caring for people. I genuinely love learning and absorbing as much as I can. Medicine is one of those fields where you're learning your entire life.

**WHAT WERE YOUR SCIENCE AND HISTORY EXTENSION PROJECTS ABOUT?**

The idea for the Science Extension project came out of my mother's sickness. I looked at the research on genetically engineered T-cells that kill specific blood cancers and compared the efficacy of that therapy between different haematological blood cancers. My History Extension major work was an analysis of the Chau Chak Wing Museum at Sydney University, looking at the construction of history and how it presents exhibits, and what that says about changes in society.

**WHAT GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES DID YOU UNDERTAKE AT NBCS?**

I went on the UNIS New York tour and it was amazing to be part of the UN conference for two days. We got to stand behind the podium where important world leaders have made speeches and changed the world. This year, I went on the history tour to Germany which was so helpful for my study.

**HOW HAS NBCS SHAPED YOU?**

NBCS has been the place where I have grown into a young adult and an outgoing person. When I came to the school in Year 5, I was quiet and shy. I was always a bookish child, but that's expanded into enjoying lots of learning. My teachers and friends helped me to flourish.

**WHAT SUBJECTS HAVE YOU ENJOYED THE MOST?**

I studied Visual Art, Design and Technology, Maths Standard, English Standard and Business Studies. I like the creative side of Art and D&T. I'm not always thrilled to do theory – I just like creating things. My parents are into design and it's something I enjoy too.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR MAJOR WORKS – THEY BOTH HAVE A FOCUS ON CARS.**

Yes, I love cars. That's from my dad. My art major work is about cars and clean fuel. My D&T project is a car hail cover design. I was surprised it won the UpRising design competition, but I was happy to get the \$500 prize. The money all went back into the project.

**WHAT ARE YOU HOPING TO DO AFTER YOUR HSC?**

I'm thinking of doing an industrial design course at UTS or UNSW.

**WHAT HAVE YOU APPRECIATED ABOUT NBCS IN YEARS 11-12?**

It's been good to get feedback on what I can improve on. You get constant feedback, which is really helpful.

**HOW DID YOU MANAGE YOUR TIME DOING TWO MAJOR PROJECTS?**

My sister did Visual Arts a few years ago, so I knew the workload required for one major project. My parents encouraged me to get things done early. In the holidays I'd spend a lot of time focusing on my major works so that when it came to the HSC, I had plenty of time to study. I also always made time to go rock climbing every week, and work on my car.

**WHAT WOULD YOU LOVE TO DESIGN?**

Designing a car would be pretty cool.

**WHAT HAVE YOU DONE IN YOUR ROLE AS ACADEMIC PREFECT?**

I planned two 'brain battle' games this year. I also created study guides for Year 10, gave speeches at grade assemblies, and helped with fundraising as part of the leadership team.

**DO YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC CAREER GOAL?**

I was considering a medical career, but I've realised I can't handle blood and don't want the stress. I've decided to go into education instead – a combined science and teaching degree.

**DID YOU DISCOVER YOUR PASSION FOR SCIENCE AND TEACHING AT SCHOOL?**

Definitely. Teaching became a passion for me, especially in Year 11 Chemistry with Ms Butler. She's very organised and generous with her time, which is something I admire and want to emulate.

**HAVE SPECIFIC STUDY HABITS HELPED YOU?**

Teaching others is a good way to reinforce my own understanding. I also read out loud and try to explain concepts in my own words without looking at notes. I don't follow a strict study schedule; I try to balance my subjects evenly and avoid burnout.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUR YEAR 11 SELF AS YOU STARTED THE HSC?**

I'd tell myself to socialise and do more sports. Outside of school, I did cheerleading and coached cheer, but I had to stop after an injury. Having something to look forward to outside of studying really helped.

**HOW HAS NBCS SHAPED YOU AS A PERSON?**

The leadership opportunities boosted my confidence and the teachers inspired me to think about the kind of teacher I want to be.

**WHAT HSC SUBJECTS DID YOU MOST ENJOY?**

Textiles was my favourite and it's part of what I want to do when I finish school. I like practical work and I love sewing and drawing and learning. It's so exciting. I also like English. I used to dislike it in my junior years but I ended up in the top advanced class for English, which was so satisfying because it's one of the hardest subjects.

**WHAT APPROACH AND HABITS HAVE HELPED YOU IN YOUR STUDIES?**

Mostly, having a positive mindset. I don't dread having to study or having a test, but I have the mindset of 'just do it' and then it's over. It takes the weight off. Also, I break up tasks into very small increments and plan it all out.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR YEAR 11 SELF?**

Stop caring so much about what other people think of you. Just do what makes you succeed. And don't be hesitant about applying for leadership.

**WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR 2025?**

I'd like to do marketing and fashion design, ideally doing a Bachelor of Business in Fashion Global Brand Management at ICMS, or a Bachelor of Fashion Design and Fashion Marketing at the White House Institute of Design in Melbourne.

**WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AT NBCS?**

The Reef at Risk experience last year was the best Student Opportunity Week camp ever. It was amazing to go to these beautiful places, learn about sea life and the Barrier Reef and help with data collection.

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