

ROBERT TOWNSON HIGH SCHOOL

Hearing Support Unit

Est: 1989 ... (known as the HIU)

Information Booklet



Introducing the Staff



Wendy Williams
Head teacher



Heather Morris
Classroom Teacher



Kate Nunan
Classroom Teacher



Eleanor Mulligan
Classroom Teacher



Justine Griffith
Classroom Teacher



Sara Priestley
Classroom Teacher



Moira Reynolds
Classroom Teacher



Sue Fox
School Learning Support Officer



Debra Powell
School Learning Support Officer



Kym Slater
School Learning Support Officer



Linda Wilson
School Learning Support Officer



Mel Cowie
School Learning Support Officer



Clint Branson
School Learning Support Officer



Abbey Stuart
School Learning Support Officer



Welcome

Let us take this opportunity to welcome you to our school.

The Hearing Support Unit (HIU) has been a part of Robert Townson High School since 1989 and has a proud tradition of student success. Students who are deaf, hard of hearing and the staff who work with them, are an integral part of the whole school.

The Support Unit at Robert Townson High School aims to cater for the student's individual academic, social and vocational needs.

Our program is flexible. It is able to offer specialised unit support classes as well as supported integration into mainstream classes. We utilise innovative techniques and technologies to enable students to participate in all aspects of school life.

The Unit caters for students who are signing and/ or oral. A variety of communication techniques are used to ensure that all students, are able to communicate effectively in social, educational and vocational settings.

The students who are enrolled in the HIU come from a wide range of educational, cultural and language backgrounds.

We look forward to developing a close working relationship with you and your child.

Wendy Williams

Head Teacher



Communication

Keeping you informed

PARENTS are always welcome to discuss with staff any matters of concern, in person or via email. A longer interview can be arranged by phoning the front office to book in for an appointment. Your child's progress is communicated to you through parent/teacher interviews at the beginning of Term Three. School reports are sent home at the end of Term Two and Term Four.

Review meetings are held once a year to review appropriateness of each child's placement in the Hearing Support Unit as required by the Department of Education and Communities. The school will send home a questionnaire as well as an invitation to attend meetings to discuss the placement.

Personalised Learning and Support Plans (PLaSP) are developed during collaborative meetings with a child's parents/carers, teachers, and other professionals. These plans establish the educational goals to equip your child with the skills required for successful secondary education and post school options.



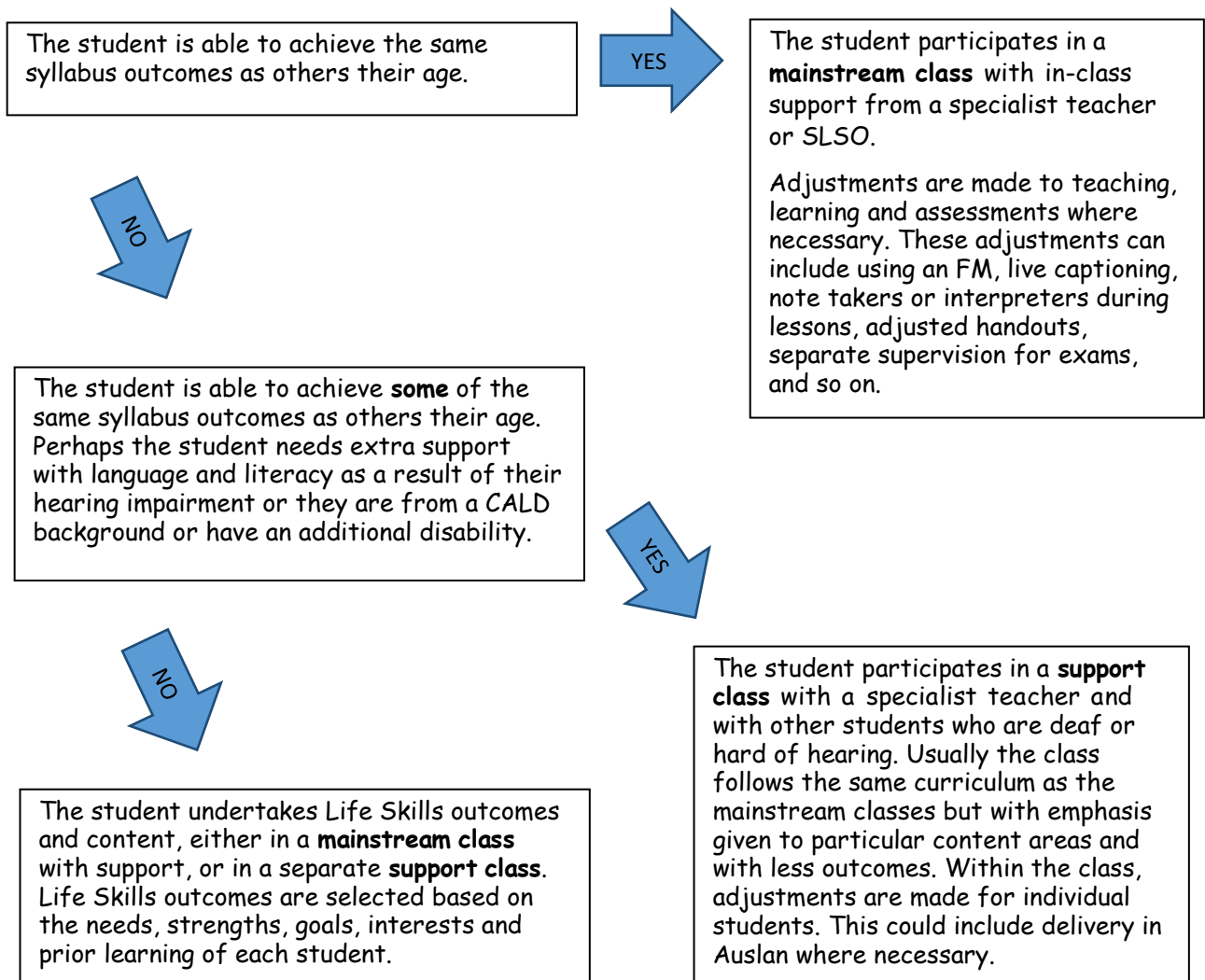
Flexible Lesson Delivery



All students in the Hearing Support Unit come together during Roll Call. The Roll Call lesson gives them an opportunity to catch up, share news and experiences and to find out what is happening within the unit and across the school. It also enables them to find out about the latest news and events in Australia, participate in debates and discussions, interact in a variety of activities, and more.

However, for the rest of the day, each student participates in **lessons that cater for their individual academic, support, social and emotional needs**. After a meeting with the students, their parents/carers, the Hearing Support Unit Head Teacher, other teachers, and specialist staff, a decision is made about the best option for the student in each subject. The flow chart below outlines the usual decision making process:

Students in the HIU can access Mainstream class and specialist support classes.



Support

In classrooms and timetabling

Once decisions have been made about the classes that a student will attend, appropriate support is organised. This can include, but is not limited to:

- * Notetaking, interpreting, and assisting with activities in a mainstream class with a School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) or HIU teacher;
- * Ensuring that students who prefer to be independent within the classroom are performing well and receiving support when needed/requested;
- * Conducting lessons in a separate room with a specialist teacher (hearing) in Auslan and/or English;
- * Transporting to and from work experience or placements;
- * Providing information, training and support to mainstream teachers, so that they can provide the necessary adjustments;
- * A combination of support depending on the subject.

Throughout the day, a student will usually be supported by various staff members.

The timetable for a look something like our representative particular

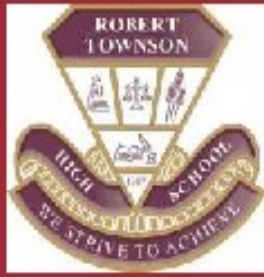
STUDENT	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6
3	VA Heap C4	English L3	English P3- Drama	IA EW2	Science H3	HIST Raory L5
4	VA Heap C4	Maths P11	English P3- Drama	IA EW2	Science H3	HIST Raory L5
5	Science H5	Literacy J 4	English P3- Drama	D&T EM1	PDH D1	Maths Boz J3
6	Science H5	Literacy J 4	English P3- Drama	D&T EM1	PDH D1	Maths Boz J3
7	Science H5	Literacy J 4	English P3- Drama	D&T EM1	PDH D1	Maths Boz J3
8	Science H5	Literacy J 4	English P3- Drama	D&T EM1	PDH D1	Maths Boz J3
9	Science H5	Literacy J 4	English P3- Drama	D&T EM1	PDH D1	Maths Boz J3
10	Science H5	Maths P11	Vis Arts C3	D&T EM1		
11	Literacy J4	English L9	D&T A1	Maths Daw J7	English Dav L5	HIST Raory L13
12	English P3	PDH H1	Maths	Photography	HSIE P4	IST Rao
13	English P3	Science H5	Maths P11	Photography	HSIE P4	IST Rao
14	English P3	Maths	Maths	M&D	HSIE P4	Food Tech
15	Science H5	Maths P11	Photography	Photography	HSIE P4	IST Rao
16	Science H3	Maths	Photography	Photography	HSIE P4	Drama
17	Science H3	Maths	Child Studies	Child Studies	HSIE	M&D
18	Photography	History P4	CAPA Music P3	Maths P3	DAT EM2 /P4	Science H2
19	History P4	Science H2	HIST Raory Snedt	English L4		
20	History P4	History P4	CAPA Music P3	Maths P3	DAT EM2 /P4	
21	History P4	History P4	CAPA Music P3	Maths P3	DAT EM2 /P4	
22	History P4	History P4	CAPA Music P3	Maths P3	DAT EM2 /P4	
23	History P4	History P4	CFS A2	Maths P3	Drama C2	
24	History P4	History P4	Vis Arts	Maths P3	DAT EM2 /P4	
25	History P4	History P4	M&E	Construction	Maths P3	DAT EM2 /P4
26	History P4	History P4	PDH H1 Waden	CFS A2	Maths J7	Photography C1
27	History P4	History P4	PDH H1 Waden	CFS A2	Maths J7	Photography C1
28	History P4	History P4	PDH H1 Waden	CFS A2	Maths J7	Photography C1

The timetable will look something like this, where each cell represents a staff member:

Bell times:

Period 1	8:25am - 9:15am
Period 2	9:15am -10:05am
Roll Call	10:05am-10:25am
Recess	10:25am -10:55am
Period 3	10:55am-11:45am
Period 4	11:45am-12:35pm
Lunch	12:35pm-1:05pm
Period 5	1:05pm -1:55pm
Period 6	1:55pm - 2:45pm





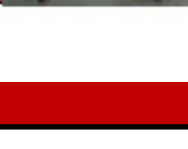
Robert Townson High School - HIU



TOWNSONS
Campus Cafe



A Nice Place To Be

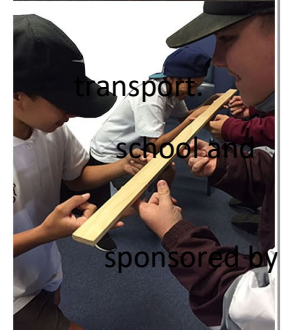


Extra Curricular Activities

As well as the usual lessons and activities provided by the school, the HIU offers many unique opportunities for students to develop their skills, confidence and knowledge in various aspects of school, community and work life.

These opportunities include:

- ◇ Work experience within the school, at the school's very own café, aged and staffed by students.
- ◇ Work experience in the community, with support from school staff.
- ◇ Travel training, so that students can travel independently by public transport school and sponsored by
- ◇ Interaction with students who are deaf or hard of hearing within the school and sponsored by
- ◇ Participation in the annual Deaf Camp, organised by DoE and the Lions Club
- ◇ Excursions to community venues and activities, specifically designed to develop communication and social skills, confidence and independence.
- ◇ Performing in dancing and sign singing events such as School Spectacular
- ◇ Leadership programs
- ◇ And much more!



Administration

Parent Responsibilities

Parent contact and emergency details need to be current and correct at all times. The 'change of address' and 'contact detail' form is available to download from the school website in the 'Forms to Download' section.

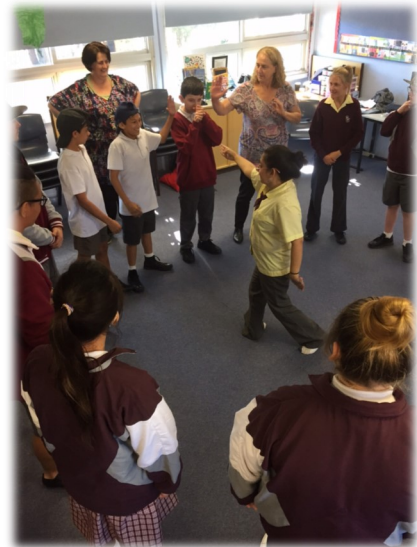
You will be notified by the School, via SMS, if your child is absent. Absence from school needs to be explained by sending a note to your child's roll call teacher, on the day of return. The absentee form is available to download from the school website in the 'Notes, Forms and Policies' section. Alternatively parents can explain absences via the school SMS notification system. If you know that your child will be absent for an extended period, please send written notification to the school in advance of the absence. The extended absence/exemption form is available from the front office.

Rolls are marked at the beginning of every lesson. Students who are late to school should report to the front office where they will be issued with a late pass. Persistent and /or unexplained lateness will be regarded as truancy and dealt with by the Home School Liaison Officer. If you wish to take your child out of school for any reason, please sign your child out of school from the front office.

Health Care Plans may be required for students due to a variety of health issues. This ensures that the school is able to respond appropriately to any health crisis or emergency and in accordance with parent's instructions. Where appropriate please provide medical documentation to the school. Any student who takes regular medication while at school or has a chronic illness will require a Health Care plan. Please ensure that you contact school to develop these plans.

Current Audiograms are required, for all students, from the Australian Hearing Service (AHS). Please ensure AHS has been instructed to send copies to the school. Updated audiograms are required every two years. In year 11 and 12, students will need to apply to the Board of Studies for special exam provisions and need to have audiograms less than 12 months old in order to do so.

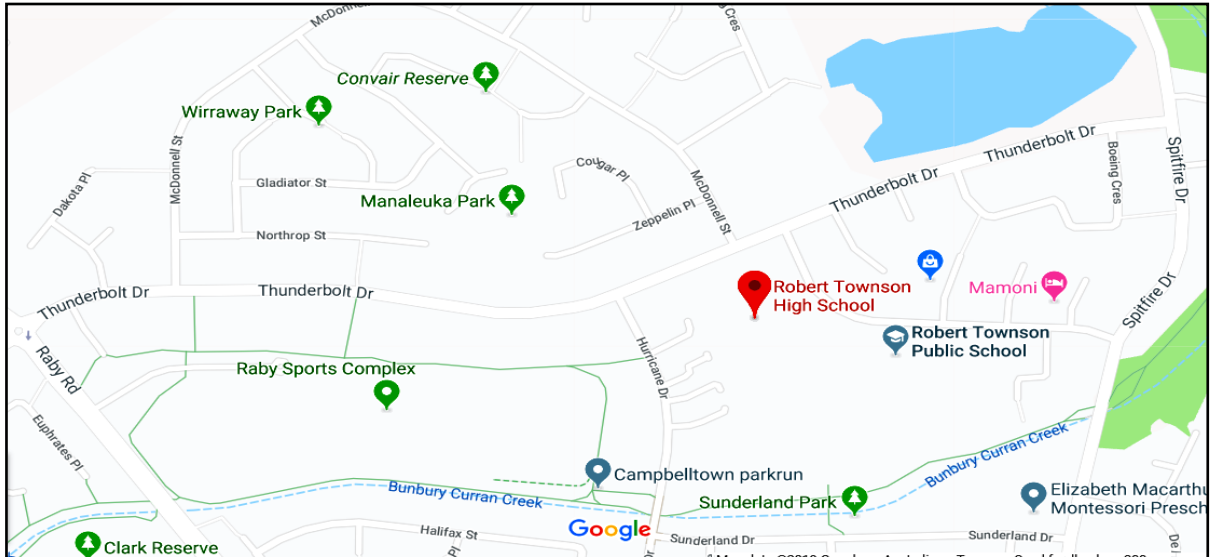
Bring your own device. The school is becoming a **BYOD** school in order to develop 21st century learning skills and foster digital literacy, fluency and citizenship in a safe environment. Students will be expected to bring their own personal mobile device (for example, a laptop) to school every day. Those students who do not have their own device will be given the loan of a school device.



Transport

Location

Our school is located at Thunderbolt Drive, Raby NSW 2566



For information about public transport routes, go to [https:// transportnsw.info/](https://transportnsw.info/) or phone Busabout Sydney on (02) 4631 4200

Assisted School Travel

Students who attend the HSU may be eligible for transport through the Assisted School Travel Program. (ATSU)

You are welcome to contact the ASTU on telephone number 1300 338 278 if you wish to discuss any aspect of the program or the roles and responsibilities of the parties concerned.

The Assisted School Travel Program guidelines can be accessed via the link :

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/astp/media/documents/ASTP-Program-Guidelines.pdf>

Contact Us

Robert Townson High School

Thunderbolt Drive , Raby NSW 2566

Phone 02 9824 7777

Fax 02 9820 2921

Email roberttown-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website <http://www.roberttown-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Wendy Williams - wendy.e.williams@det.nsw.edu.au

Kate Nunan - kate.nunan1@det.nsw.edu.au

Heather Morris - heather.morris1@det.nsw.edu.au

Eleanor Mulligan - eleanor.mulligan6@det.nsw.edu.au

Justine Griffith - justine.griffith@det.nsw.edu.au

App - School Enews

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