



COMMUNITY REPORT 2023



**BRIGHTON
GRAMMAR**

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CRICOS Provider No. 00132K

Word from the Chairman

It gives me great pleasure to present an update on our accomplishments and advancements at Brighton Grammar School in 2023. Guided by Headmaster Ross Featherston and the Senior Executive, the School has consistently moved forward in the critical areas of strategic planning, academic achievement, staff professional development and world-class pedagogy. This has been supported by the ongoing construction of innovative and stimulating learning environments for students, such as the Centre for Science, Creativity and Entrepreneurship.

Academic Results

The Class of 2023 recorded exceptional VCE results, being the best in the School's recent history. Our Dux for 2023 received the highest possible ATAR of 99.95, one of only 39 students in the State to do so, and there were 12 perfect study scores of 50 achieved across several subjects. Our median ATAR score was 89.70 and almost half the cohort scored an ATAR of or above 90. These achievements are testament to our focus on academic excellence and demonstrate the effectiveness of our instructional coaching approach to teacher practice and to student engagement and learning.

Leading the way

Brighton Grammar, through the work of the Crowther Centre, is recognised as a global leader in the development and practice of effective learning and in the promotion of healthy masculinity. These initiatives have extended the breadth and depth of students' learning and wellbeing. Crowther's work in the understanding of boys and young men was shared with the greater community at local and international coaching days and at the inaugural Positive Masculinity conference which attracted attendees from around Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Staff continued to establish international connections and to influence educational symposia and debates at a national and international level. In turn, students and parents were the beneficiaries of this expertise as our suite of parent/student workshops and resources on offer increased exponentially.

Strategic Masterplan

We reinforced our strategic intention of students continuing to have access to quality environs, resources and support systems to assist them in reaching their full potential while preparing them for the world beyond school. A highlight of the year was the significant progress in the construction of the Centre for Science, Creativity and Entrepreneurship, with minimal disruption to students and staff at the School. The BHIVE was a well-received addition, with students enjoying the inaugural year of Food Technology Classes. The refurbishment of Crowther Oval with its new drainage system created a superior surface for the boys to play sport while the Mitchell Oval was resurfaced to FIFA standards. Future planned works include the paving and landscaping of the School's main entrance, step seating for the Crowther Oval and lights for the Junior School tennis courts.

Brighton Grammar's relationship with sister school, Firbank Grammar, is close and strong, and we are proud of the collaborative and positive partnership we enjoy. Formalised and regular swap days are a feature of this relationship, as are performing arts productions and concerts, and combined community services. In 2023, our students were once again fortunate to be part of a strong and supportive school, parish and local community that encouraged them to be the best version of themselves and attain excellence in all areas of school life.

Peter Ickeringill

Chairman, Brighton Grammar School Council

BGS SCORECARD - 2023

\$61
MILLION

TOTAL INCOME

CAPITAL PROJECTS



CENTRE FOR SCIENCE, CREATIVITY &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

RSCH UPGRADE

TIERED SEATING

LANDSCAPING SS RECEPTION

65%

SALARIES AS A % OF
TOTAL EXPENDITURE

1508

AVERAGE NUMBER OF
STUDENTS ENROLLED
ACROSS 2023

STATE GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION

\$1007

PER STUDENT

265

PERMANENT TEACHING
AND SUPPORT STAFF

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION

\$3727

PER STUDENT

97%

ATTENDANCE RATE
OF STAFF IN 2023

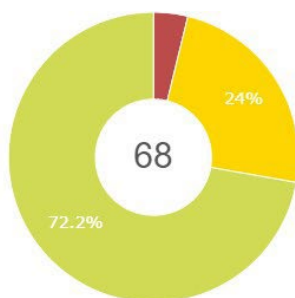
Other Key Performance Indicators

The Crowther Centre utilises the School Improvement Tool (SIT) to capture feedback from parents, staff and students. This evidence-informed data tool aims to capture the best available data to answer a range of questions, including:

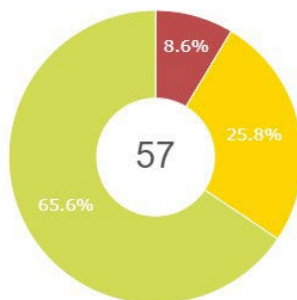
- What does the school do well, that we should KEEP doing?
- What does the school not do well, that we should STOP doing?
- What are some of things that you think the school could START doing?

We are using the SIT as a key data set to improve our practice and allocate resources as well as evaluate performance. Following are some results from the SIT in 2023.

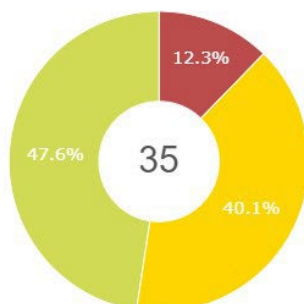
School Improvement Tool (SIT) – Parents



School Improvement Tool (SIT) – Staff



School Improvement Tool (SIT) – Students



In 2023, feedback was received from 1,049 members of the BGS community: parents, students and staff.

Based on both quantitative and qualitative analysis of data from the SIT, key themes were developed for the Senior Executive team to implement including:

- How we continue to promote positive masculinity
- Continuing to explore and review new program offerings that complement our approach to academics
- Maintaining our high standards and accountability

Academic Results

NAPLAN

Each year, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertake the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) to measure student achievement against national benchmarks. The table below shows our students' average scores for 2023.

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	454	453	459	473	445
Year 5	544	533	520	554	555
Year 7	581	583	564	578	614
Year 9	600	600	586	594	640

NAPLAN participation for this school is 99%

NAPLAN participation for all Australian students is 95%

Congratulations to the Class of 2023

Brighton Grammar continued to maintain our position as one of Victoria's leading boys' schools in 2023, with the delivery of exceptional VCE results.

The results are a testament to the dedication and hard work of our students and the invaluable support and guidance provided by our teaching staff and families.

Dux David (Mingdong) Yang received the highest possible ATAR of 99.95, one of only 39 students in the state to do so. He also achieved a perfect study score of 50 for the second year in a row.

Across the board, 5% of BGS students (7 students) received an ATAR of 99 and above, almost 30% (29.5%) of students scored ATARs of 95 and above, almost half the cohort (48.2%) received an ATAR of 90 and above, the median ATAR score was 89.70 and 12 perfect study scores of 50 were achieved across a number of subjects.

Brighton Grammar's coaching culture and positive masculinity framework throughout the school were key to these outstanding achievements as, by staying connected and developing a strong sense of authentic self, our students were motivated to succeed.

Our coaching approach – to academics and also to setting life goals - strengthened student relationships (connectedness) and boosted learning outcomes (motivation), providing the boys with important lessons for life.

We celebrated the achievements of the entire 2023 Year 12 cohort, including those students who chose the non-ATAR pathway of work placements, on the job training in a trade or sport development programs.

I am very proud of our Year 12s who adopted the legacy motto of stand beside – by supporting each other and those in our community in 2023. They held leadership roles, played sport, performed music and drama and undertook community service activities.

These experiences enhanced their academic success and hopefully set them up to have successful and happy lives.

Ross Featherston
Headmaster

Key figures

- 1 student achieved a perfect ATAR of 99.95
- 12 students attained a perfect Study Score of 50
- 7 students (5%) scored an ATAR of 99 or above, placing them in the top 1% of students in Australia
- 41 students (29.5%) scored an ATAR of 95 or above, placing them in the top 5% of students in Australia
- 67 students (48.2%) scored an ATAR of 90 or above, placing them in the top 10% of students in Australia
- 89.70 was the median ATAR score.

2023 Dux

Special congratulations to the Dux of 2023, Mingdong (David) Yang, who received a perfect score of 99.95.

Perfect Study Scores

Congratulations to our Dux Mingdong (David) Yang (English as an Additional Language) and Tom Gianatti (Legal Studies) who both achieved a perfect study score of 50 for the second year in a row.

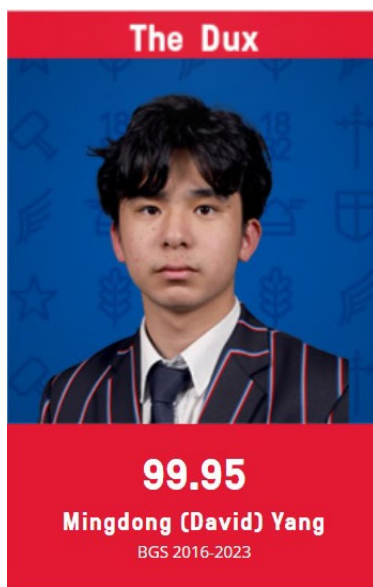
Thomas Breen (Physical Education), Christopher Chhour (Mathematical Methods), Will Crocker (Psychology), Kento Hikima (English and Economics), Kristian Kortge (English), Nicholas McCluskey (General Mathematics), Leonard Shen (Mathematical Methods), Angus Tragear Whiting (General Mathematics) and William Wang (Chinese as a Second Language. Adv) also achieved perfect Study Scores of 50.

2023 High Achievers

The following students received an ATAR of 95 or higher (in alphabetical order, not by ATAR achieved):

Benjamin Antonis, Patrick Aylward, Malachi Bakker, Matthew Barwood, Maxwell (Max) Benitez, James Clarkson, Matthew Cruse, Benjamin Fox, Heath Fulton, Thomas (Tom) Gianatti, Yuang (Leon) Gu, James Hepples, Kento Hikima, Jiayang (James) Huang, Thomas (Tommy) Keyte, Xinyi (Jacky) Kong, Kristian Kortge, Erik Kyparisis, Haolin (Kevin) Liao, Lachlan (Lachy) Liberman, Cheng (Ben) Lin, Pin Tao (Eason) Liu, Sitian (Steven) Lu, Joshua McCahon, Nicholas (Nick) McCluskey, Harold (Harry) McKenzie, Lachlan Molloy, Thomas O'Leary, Tristan Orb, Lachlan Paino, George Roubos, Angus Schumacher, Zhiting (William) Sun, Mason Szonyi, Angus Tragear Whiting, Kyle Verbunt, Zijun (Terence) Wang, Zhen (Mike) Wei, Daniel (Dan) Whitson, Mingdong (David) Yang, Shun (Jason) Yang.

The Dux



Our Dux, Mingdong (David) Yang, received a perfect ATAR of 99.95 and a perfect study score of 50 in English as an Additional Language to match the perfect study score of 50 he achieved last year.

David joined BGS in Year 5 and immediately made his mark academically. Following on from strong scholastic achievement in the Junior School, David was presented with an Academic Endeavour Award in Years 8, 9 and 11.

David participated in the F1 in Schools National Finals in Year 10, was awarded Half Colours –Academic and The Japanese Prize, The Mathematics Prize and The Unit 1/2 Chinese as a Second Language (Advanced) Prize.

He was named Dux of Year 11, receiving Full Colours – Academic and the following prizes: The Unit 1/2 Chemistry Prize, The Unit 1/2 English as an Additional Language Prize, The Unit 1/2 Japanese Prize and The Unit 3/4 Chinese as a Second Language (Advanced) Prize.

In Year 12 David received The Japanese Prize and The English as an Additional Language Prize and Full Colours – Academic. David was committed to the Music program as a member of the Years 7-8 Intermediate String Orchestra, Year 8 Carols Combined Orchestra/Band, Year 8-12 Symphony Orchestra and Year 9-12 Corelli String Orchestra.

He was a member of the St Andrew's Library Committee and played Basketball and Badminton.

Tertiary

Overall school data

Data category	Total numbers
Total number of Year 12 students enrolled at BGS	148
Total number of students at BGS who applied to tertiary institutions through VTAC	140 (94.59%)
Total number of paid students with preferences	140 (94.59%)
Total number of unpaid students with preferences	0 (0.00%)
Total number of students without preferences	8

Offers (based on students who have applied)

Number of students who have received an offer	140 (100%)
Total number of students with more than one offer	22 (15.71%)
Number of eligible students with no offer	0
Number of international offers (total from all offer rounds)	6 (4.29%)
Number of December round domestic offers	130 (92.86%)
Number of January round domestic offers	15 (10.71%)
Number of February round 1 domestic offers	14 (10%)
Number of February round 2 domestic offers	2 (1.43%)
Number of February round 3 domestic offers	3 (2.14%)
Number of February round 4 domestic offers	0 (0.00%)

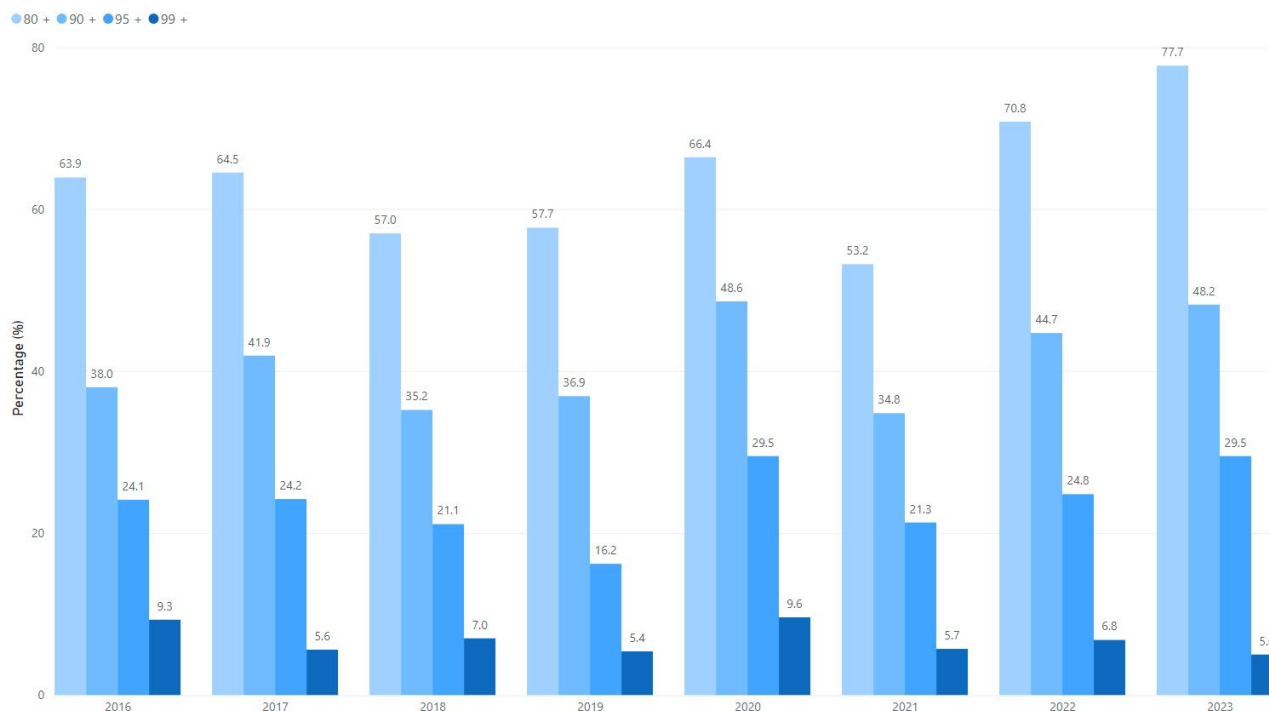
94% of the student cohort received offers within the first round, 43% off which received offers from Monash, 25% received offers from University of Melbourne and 13% received offers from RMIT. It is important to note that these universities, exhaust many of their offers within the first round of offers; this is indicative in the decline of offers made across February rounds.

Eligibility of students that have not received offers can be contributed to both lack of preferences listed and not meeting prerequisites for preferences.

ATAR achievement

The statistical median ATAR for the Brighton Grammar 2023 cohort was 89.70 (n=139).

The following figure presents the percentage of students with ATARs above specified thresholds. The distribution pattern remained similar across the relevant years presented (2016 – 2023).



In the 2023 cohort, 7 students (5%) achieved an ATAR of 99 or above, placing them in the top 1% of students in the 2022 VCE cohort in Australia, while 41 students (29.5%) achieved an ATAR of 95 or above, placing them in the top 5% of students in Australia. 67 students (48.2%) achieved an ATAR of 90 or above, indicating they are in the top 10% of VCE candidates.

Tertiary Destinations

Tertiary course offers – December offer round

(Only applicable to domestic students as international offer rounds are in December/January)

The tables below provide detailed information about the course offers received by BGS students across the multiple offer rounds. It should be noted that whilst almost all students gave written permission to distribute the details of their tertiary offer, to protect the privacy of those who wish to remain anonymous, courses with less than 5 offers are denoted as < 5, and the specific number of offers from each course has not been reported. Courses that are below bachelor level are specified as such in parenthesis.

Institution	Total offers made	Relevant courses
Australian Catholic University	0	NA
Deakin University	< 15	Exercise sport science. Commerce/Law
La Trobe University	0	
Monash University	<80	Business Engineering
Swinburne University of Technology	< 5	Architecture/Design Engineering Psychology
RMIT	< 25	Project Management (Diploma) Building Design (Advanced Diploma)
The University of Melbourne	< 47	Science Commerce
Victoria University	1	Sports Management

Tertiary course offers – January round 1 (domestic students only)

Institution	Total offers made	Relevant courses
Monash University	< 10	Business
RMIT University	< 5	Business
University of Melbourne	< 2	Science

Tertiary course offers – February round 2

Institution	Total offers made	Relevant courses
Monash University	< 3	Business/Law
RMIT University	0	N/A
University of Melbourne	0	N/A

Tertiary course offers – February round 3

No February round 3 offers were made to BGS students.

As observed in the tables presented, most offer activity takes place in the December/January offer rounds.

It is important to note that several offers were made to students in addition to the VTAC system. These included interstate offers from the Australian National University (ANU) and the University of Queensland.

Students

Student attendance

The attendance rate for 2023 was 94.1%.

Student demographics

The students of BGS came from approximately 96 different suburbs in 2023 (4 more than in 2022). However, almost 60% (58.22%) were drawn from Brighton, Brighton East or Hampton.

Staff & OHS

Maintenance and Safety Activities

- Monthly Fire Instrument panel testing
- Term break Emergency Tones testing
- Annual service and road worthy certificates for School vehicles
- Quarterly meeting of the OH&S Committee
- Annual inspection of ladders, harness points and roof access
- 6 weekly pest inspection
- Preventative lift maintenance and whole school testing and tagging of electrical equipment
- Evacuation and lockdown drills
- First Aid and CPR training
- Maintenance of trees in accordance with arborist recommendations
- Whole School lighting electrical review
- Wilderness First Aid training for Outdoor Education staff
- 6 monthly emergency light testing
- Essential Safety Measures audit conducted by Programmed Facility Management
- Service of grounds and maintenance vehicles
- Annual fire extinguisher testing
- Cleaning of solar panels on the Urwin Centre
- Servicing of lifts

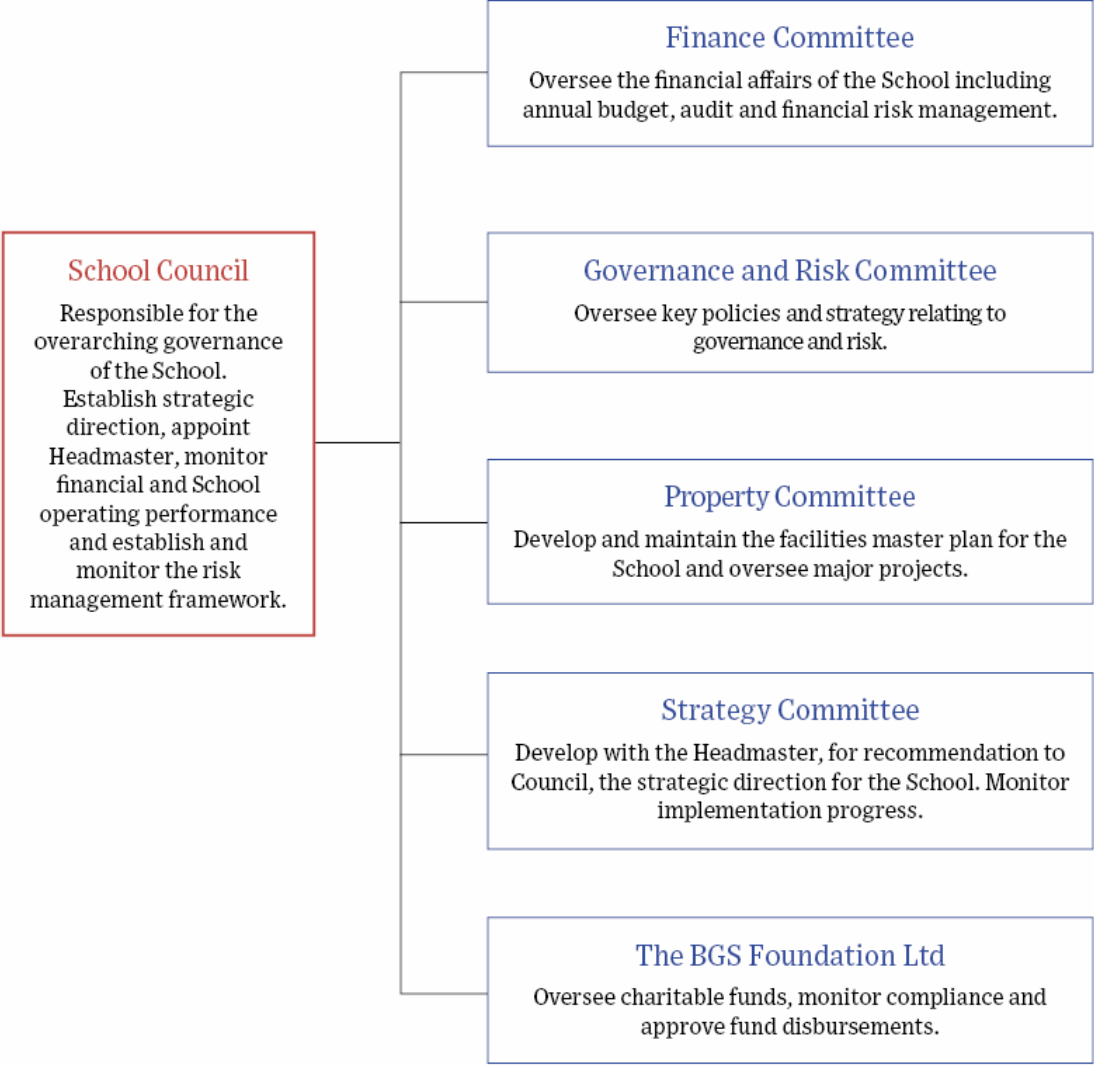
Wellbeing Activities

- Access to Employee Assistance Program counselling service
- End of term staff association activities
- All Staff professional development on staff days and Headmaster address
- Staff Access to flu vaccination
- Staff coffee at the BHIVE
- Staff superannuation information webinars
- School closures to encourage staff to rest during the term break
- All Staff Social event on end of year staff day
- Coaching opportunities for all staff

Risk & Compliance Activities

- Staff CPR, Anaphylaxis and First Aid training
- Further development of Concussion Management protocols with APS
- Review of emergency wardens and area allocations
- Census
- Student background data collection
- Residential Address Collection
- Facilities risk assessment review
- Food Safety training for relevant staff
- Court order review
- Compliance updates for all staff at PL including child safety, mandatory reporting, concussion and psychological health
- Bus safety accreditation process and safety induction for relevant staff
- ICT safety training – Year 7s and new students
- Critical incident training and event scenario for key staff

Governance



Governance

Brighton Grammar School Council

The School Council is the governing body of Brighton Grammar with responsibility for operational management vested in the Headmaster. The Council consists of representatives from all sections of our community – parents, past parents, Old Boys and nominees of St Andrew's Church Vestry.

Chairman, Peter Ickeringill

Partner, Baker McKenzie

Deputy Chairman, Mike McGrath

Managing Partner, Chief Marketing Officer, PwC Australia

Honorary Treasurer, Colin Heath

Partner, Financial Services, PwC Australia

Amanda Banfield

Chief Executive Officer, Nandos

Peter Gray

Former Principal of Caulfield Primary School

Jacqueline Hey

Professional Company Director

Professor Martyn Hook

Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor, Partnerships, College of Design and Social Context, RMIT University

Reverend Ian Morrison

Vicar, St Andrew's Church

The Hon Justice Michael Osborne (OB 1985)

OBGS President

Matthew Reid (OB 1990)

Finance Director, Grill'd Group of Companies

Dr Anne Sarros

Former Principal of Firbank Grammar School

Peter Scott (OB 1976)

Former Sales Director, DON Smallgoods, George Weston Foods Ltd

Jane Tongs

Company Director

Secretary to Council, Michael Arceri

Chief Operating Officer, Company Secretary, Brighton Grammar School

Senior Executive

The day-to-day management and operation of the School, along with the implementation of the Strategic Plan, is delegated to the Headmaster, who is supported by his Senior Executive team. The 2023 Senior Executive consisted of:

Headmaster

Ross Featherston

Chief Operating Officer

Michael Arceri

Deputy Headmaster, Head of Junior School

Peter Tellefson

Deputy Headmaster, Head of Crowther Centre (ELC–VCE)

Dr Ray Swann

Deputy Headmaster, Head of Secondary School

Simon Angus

Director of Human Resources

Melissa Martin

Director of Advancement

John Phillips

EA to the Headmaster

Ellen Saccutelli