

2026

JUNIOR SCHOOL HANDBOOK



Information for Students & Families
YEAR 7 & 8 PROGRAMS



Contents...

Welcome.....	2
Junior School Program.....	3-4
Representative Houses.....	5
Junior Camps.....	6
Facilities & Programs.....	7-10
Student Q & A.....	11-12
Student & Parent Portal.....	13
School Values.....	14
Uniform.....	15
Parents Role.....	16
School Map.....	17
Student Services.....	18
Here to Help.....	19



Welcome...

YEA HIGH SCHOOL

We would like to welcome you to our school as the place for you and your student to be actively involved in secondary education. Yea High School provides a diverse curriculum in which every student is encouraged to participate fully and strive for excellence. This is supported by extensive resources and facilities, and a dedicated and passionate teaching staff.

In Year 7 we at Yea High School focus on building respect, responsibility, and developing positive relationships with peers and staff, this is all based on the school's values of 'Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Kind'.

At Yea High School, we believe education is most effective when students and families are empowered are engaged within their learning journey. We aim to nurture strong relationships between our students, their family, and our school community.

We believe that true learning takes place when:

- A student is an active participant in the learning process.
- A student's learning is personalised.
- A student's learning is blended with real life experiences and challenges.

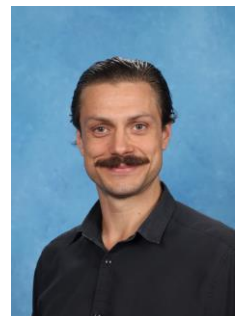
To best achieve this, during their junior years at Yea High School students are involved in learning through core subjects such as English, Maths, Science, Humanities, LOTE (Mandarin), Physical Education and Health, whilst also exploring a number of Technology Subjects (Agriculture, Woodwork, Art and Food Technology).

On the following pages, you will find information to help you understand and familiarise yourself with learning at Yea High School. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the school on (03) 5797 2207.

I am looking forward to working with you and your student as you enter the next phase of schooling.



William Schwab



Junior School Program...

3

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL PROGRAM AT YEA HIGH SCHOOL AIMS TO GIVE STUDENTS A SENSE OF BELONGING IN A CARING ATMOSPHERE AS AN EXTENSION OF THE WORK STARTED IN THE TRANSITION PROCESS FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL.

SUB SCHOOL LEADER (SSL)

Each of the Junior, Middle, and Senior Schools is assigned a dedicated Sub School Leader (SSL) who serves as the primary point of contact for students and their families. The SSL is responsible for overseeing the daily wellbeing of students, advocating on their behalf, developing Individual Learning Plans (ILPs), and monitoring attendance on a weekly basis.



JUNIOR SCHOOL

At Yea High School, our junior school consists of a core program for students in Year 7 & 8. Throughout this phase of learning, students are taught by a range of teachers who are experts in their curriculum areas and enable students to be challenged and supported across the curriculum areas. Junior School provides students with a safe environment to take on and adjust to the responsibilities of high school, and engages them in more responsible and independent behaviours, whilst forging new and lasting relationships with peers and staff.

YEAR 7 & 8 LEARNING PROGRAM:

Subject	Weekly:
English	5 periods
Mathematics	5 periods
Science	4 periods
Humanities	4 periods
Health	2 periods
Physical Education	4 periods
LOTE	2 periods
Technology (Agriculture, Woodwork, Art, Foods, Textiles etc) 2 subjects per semester as organised by the CLA.	2 x 2 periods

Junior School Program...

PARTICIPATION AND EXCELLENCE

All Yea High School students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of curricula and co-curricula activities promoting participation and excellence.

A number of our junior students have been enthusiastic members of the school community and have participated in the past in the Great Victorian Bike Ride, community fundraising activities and also competed at House, Inter School, Eastern Zone and State level in a wide variety of summer and winter sports.

Leadership and public speaking opportunities are also fostered in our Junior School with transition visits to network Primary Schools and speaking at whole school assemblies and speech nights.

All Junior School students are given the opportunity to achieve excellence and much of their work is displayed around the school.



Representative Houses...

Students will be placed into a House during the first few weeks of class. Where there is a family association with a particular House, students will be placed in that House if they so wish. Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country are all organised on a House basis. Along with points for attendance and good behaviour recorded.

Our school Houses were chosen to honour the following people:

BURNET (Sir Macfarlane Burnet) – Former director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Research Institutes. One of the world's leading microbiologists. A Victorian, who has won world-wide acclaim in his special field of Science.

CASEY (Lord Casey of Berwick) – One of the few Australians raised to the peerage. A former Governor of Bengal, a prominent Australian politician in the 1950's, served as the Governor-General of Australia. Lady Casey is a descendant of the Cotton family, with early connections to the Yea district.

CLARKE (Ron Clarke) – World renowned distance runner. A wonderful example for young sportsmen and women to follow. His close connection to the school was started in 1956 (the Melbourne Olympic year), and has a part of its badge the Olympic torch which was carried into the Melbourne Stadium by the man whom this house is named, Ron Clarke.

DENNIS (the late CJ Dennis) – Famous Australian poet whose style was typically Australian, as seen in 'The Sentimental Bloke', and other similar works. He had a connection with this district in his friendship with members of the Quinlan family.



Junior Camp...

OUR SCHOOL BELIEVES THAT CAMPS AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION ARE IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES.

In 2025 we offered a combined Junior School camp to Lorne Outdoor Education Camp in Term 1 (3 days). Lorne Outdoor Education is set along Victoria's stunning Surf Coast, the camp was designed to build confidence, independence, and teamwork through a range of outdoor and team-based experiences.

YEAR 7 & 8

All Year 7 & 8 students are expected to attend the Junior School camp.

At Lorne Outdoor Education Camp, they run a range of programs and activities that take

advantage of our beautiful environment. From physical activities such as surfing and bushwalking, challenge activities and fishing. The camp gave students the chance to challenge themselves, make new friends, and create lasting memories in a fun and supportive coastal environment.





YHS LIBRARY See all the wonderful online services that Yea High School Library offers.

FULLY INTEGRATED

Access the library catalogue from anywhere! It's a one-stop-shop for all the digital services we provide.

ONLINE CATALOGUE

<https://au.accessit.online/YHG00>

ClickView VIDEO STREAMING

Think Netflix, but for school! Thousands of videos including educational, purpose-made content, entertainment and so much more.

EBOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS

Thousands of eBooks and Audiobooks to supplement your reading, offering both dyslexic and night-time screen settings.

ePlatform

Accessit SELF-SERVICE

Manage loans, self-renew overdue items, borrow digital resources, and see your borrowing history, to name just a few features!

UNDER 'FAVOURITES' IN COMPASS MENU

Click on Library webOPAC or visit <https://au.accessit.online/YHG00>

A photograph of a young boy with glasses, wearing a red and white school uniform, sitting at a desk in a library with bookshelves in the background.

LIBRARY

Our onsite Library is currently staffed 4 days a week and is accessible to students and staff. The Library has a bookable classroom space, and a bank of 30 laptops that are available to be loaned by individual students if they do not have their own device and is the default location for student printing.

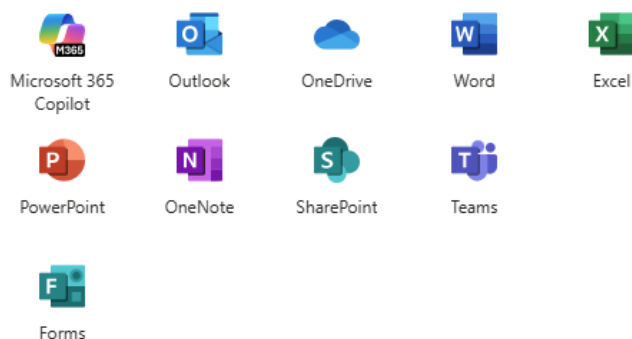
Through the 'Favourites' tile on Compass, the library catalogue can be accessed, along with our e-book platform. Staff can loan items from the catalogue out directly through these portals. The favourites tile also provides direct access to both staff and students to 'ClickView' for multimodal texts and resources.

OFFICE365

All YHS students gain an individual Office365 account where they can access the full Microsoft suite including:

- OneDrive
- OneNote
- SharePoint
- Teams
- Excel
- PowerPoint
- Word
- Forms

Students can access these emails through Microsoft Outlook. Office365 can be accessed via the compass portal through the 'Favourites' tile for students.



Facilities & Programs...

SPORT

Students are encouraged to participate fully in sporting activities. Students have the opportunity to:

- > learn and practise skills in Physical Education.
- > participate in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Sports at a house level.
- > represent Yea High School in interschool sporting competitions.

Yea High School competes in the Southern Ranges Sports. There are four levels of competition: Years 7, Year 8, Intermediate (Years 9 & 10) and Senior (Years 11 & 12). Winners from Southern Ranges qualify to compete at Hume Region and if successful there can go onto State Level competition.

Interschool sporting competitions include:

SUMMER

- Cricket
- Golf
- Swimming
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Athletics

WINTER

- Football
- Table Tennis
- Netball
- Soccer
- Squash
- Hockey
- Badminton



Facilities & Programs...



STRIVE READING PROGRAM

Independent Reading 7-9

All students participate in independent reading for 25 minutes at the beginning of each double period during their English class.

Students are taught how to identify books that are 'just right'. During this time, a range of reading and comprehension skills are explicitly taught in a series of mini lessons. Students are provided with opportunities to practice these skills through independent reading.

Teachers engage in regular conferencing sessions with students to monitor their application of the skills and their understanding of the text.

Goals are set between the teacher and student, which are monitored through regular discussion.

COMPUTERS

BYOD

All students are expected to have an electronic device to support their learning. These can be purchased independently by parents/carers. Student Administration are able to provide information on laptop requirements in terms of software; if students are needing repairs or for their BYOD to be set-up by our technicians.

ICT Support:

We have two technicians who support our school on Thursdays. If needing support with an ICT issue, please contact Mark or Manny when they are onsite.

If students have connectivity or software issues on their own device, they need to complete a request form and leave the device at the technicians' office on a Wednesday afternoon. The tech team will attempt to prepare it onsite on the following Thursday.

Student Logins:

Username: Student Code

Password: Same as all other school platforms



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Instrumental music tuition is available and operates under a withdrawal from class system a one period per week. Students wishing to enrol will have the opportunity early in Term 1, 2025. Tuition costs are most reasonable and instruments may be hired.

Facilities & Programs...

CAFETERIA

The School Cafeteria is located across the corridor from the main entrance to the school and is open daily at recess and lunch. Lunches can be pre-ordered by placing orders on bags provided at recess. The cafeteria also has eftpos access so student can pay via card.

BREAKFAST CUB

The breakfast club is co-ordinated by our Student Services team and operates from 8.30am till 9.00am Tuesday and Thursday mornings each week out of the cafeteria area.

ASSEMBLIES

General and Sub school assemblies are held regularly, dates can be viewed on calendars on the website and Compass. These are held for the awarding of certificates, recognition of excellence and general matters that affect the whole year level. Parents are always welcome to attend. Sub School assemblies are held every Monday morning for specific announcements, reminders etc for junior, middle and senior students.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



SCHOOL CAPTAINS are elected through a school vote after giving their school captain speech at an Assembly. Their role includes representing the school at all formal events, welcoming visitors to the school and looking after their fellow students. School Captains are to set and exemplify standard of behaviour and be an outstanding role model to their peers.



STUDENT LEADERS are elected by their form groups in the first few weeks of the school



year. They meet on a regular basis to discuss new ways at improving school life and run collections for our Social Service to help raise funds for various charities.



BUS CAPTAINS are chosen by our Principal team. Their role is to monitor student behaviour on buses to and from school and provide assistance to other bus travellers if needed.



HOUSE CAPTAINS are elected at the first House meeting of the year. Each house will elect two House Captains and a Junior House Captain,. The role of a House Captains is to assist students in their house at sporting events, encourage participation in sports.

Student Q&A...

I AM LATE?

Report to the General Office so that attendance rolls can be modified via Compass and a late pass issued.

I RIDE MY BICYCLE/SCOOTER TO SCHOOL?

Place your bike/scooter in front of the main office in the allocated bays. The wearing of a helmet is compulsory and bikes/scooters must not be ridden in the school grounds. Bikes should be chained and padlocked.

I AM STAYING AT A FRIEND'S AND WANT TO TRAVEL ON THEIR BUS?

Bring a note from home and submit to the General Office so a bus pass can be issued.

Where buses are full no bus pass can be issued.

I LOSE SOMETHING?

First, you must retrace your steps and search hard. But, if you still can't find the item, check with the General Office that it hasn't been handed in there.

Don't bring valuables to school.

Make certain that all your possessions are clearly labelled.

I AM OUT OF UNIFORM?

Before school report to the General Office with a note from home explaining why. The General Office will log a chronicle entry on Compass. If this isn't done a negative chronicle will be made. Continual breaches will be referred to Student Services Support Team.

I BECOME ILL OR INJURED?

If you are ill or injured you should report to the General Office or yard duty teacher for assistance.

WHERE DO I STORE MY BELONGINGS?

A locker in your classroom will be allocated to you on your first day. It is your choice as to whether you lock your locker. If you bring a padlock, it is advisable to keep a spare key with your SSL that has a tag attached with your name and form.

Never leave valuables in your locker.

I LOSE MY LOCKER KEY?

See your SSL to collect your spare key (if you have given them a spare) or bolt cutters will be used to break the lock.

I NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL DURING THE DAY?

Parents/Guardians need to update Compass with the reason for your early departure. Let your teachers know that you will not be attending their classes to get any missed work.

REMEMBER: You MUST NOT leave school without permission. You MUST go to the office and wait for collection by a parent/guardian.

I WILL BE AWAY FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME e.g. Family Holiday or Illness?

Parents need to log the absence on Compass and you need to notify your teachers so they can give you work to do if needed.

I BREAK MY NETBOOK, OR IT ISN'T WORKING PROPERLY?

Go to the General Office to check if IT Techs are onsite. The IT Techs only work one day a week so it can take time to fix issues but check back with them after a week to see if its been fixed.

Student Q&A...

HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT SUBJECTS TO TAKE?

During Years 7 & 8 all subjects are compulsory.

These subjects include:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Humanities.
- P.E. (Physical Education)
- Art/Technology (Agriculture, Woodwork, Art, Foods. Textiles)
- Advisory

The school operates a 6 period day.

Example Timetable

	Feb 2, 2025	Mon 3	Tue 4	Wed 5	Thu 6	Fri 7	Sat 8
8am							
9am	9:05: 1-07SC01 (Science) - SLT - MCG	9:10: 1-07EN01 (English) - JST - SKL B	9:10: 1-07EN01 (English) - JST - SKL B	9:10: 1-07FT01 (Food Technology) - 4 - VNL	9:10: 1-07EN01 (English) - JST - SKL		
10am	10:00: 2-07SC01 (Science) - SLT - MCG	10:00: 2-07EN01 (English) - JST - SKL	10:00: 2-07EN01 (English) - JST - SKL	10:00: 2-07FT01 (Food Technology) - 4 - VNL	10:00: 2-07EN01 (English) - JST - SKL		
11am	11:30: 3-07LO01 (Lote-Chinese) - JST - CHP	11:30: 3-07MA01 (Mathematics) - JST - GLK	11:30: 3-07AG01 (Agriculture) - AGSD - GLK	11:30: 3-07HU01 (Humanities) - JST - VNL	11:30: 3-07HU01 (Humanities) - JST - VNL		
12pm	12:10: 4-07EN01 (English) - JST - FGA	12:10: 4-07MA01 (Mathematics) - JST - GLK	12:10: 4-07AG01 (Agriculture) - AGSD - GLK	12:10: 4-07HU01 (Humanities) - JST - VNL	12:10: 4-07HU01 (Humanities) - JST - VNL		
1pm							
2pm	1:40: 5-07PE01 (Physical Education) - GM - ZLB	1:40: 5-07PE01 (Physical Education) - GM - ZLB	1:40: 5-07MA01 (Mathematics) - JST - GLK	1:40: 5-07SC01 (Science) - SLT - MCG	1:40: 5-07NUM01 (Numeracy Skills) - JST - PMF		
3pm	2:30: 6-07PE01 (Physical Education) - GM - ZLB	2:30: 6-07PE01 (Physical Education) - GM - ZLB	2:30: 6-07MA01 (Mathematics) - JST - GLK	2:30: 6-07SC01 (Science) - SLT - MCG	2:30: 6-07LO01 (Lote-Chinese) - JST - CHP		
4pm							
5pm							

HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN TO GO TO CLASS?

A bell rings at the following times:

- 9.05 am Warning bell - Move to period 1
- 9.10 am Period 1
- 10.00 am Period 2
- 10.50 am Start Recess
- 11.15 am Warning bell - Move to period 3
- 11.20 am Period 3
- 12.10 pm Period 4
- 1.00 pm Start Lunch
- 1.35 pm Warning bell - Move to period 5
- 1.40 pm Period 5
- 2.30 pm Period 6
- 3.20 pm End of school day



Student & Parent Portal...

USING COMPASS ALLOWS YOU TO ACCESS UP-TO-DATE AND MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SCHOOL. THIS SYSTEM IS USED BY STAFF, STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

Compass includes many features, including:

- Parents ability to monitor your child's attendance, and enter an explanation for absence or lateness
- Parents can communicate with their child's teachers, and update your family contact details
- Students and parents can view their school timetable and calendar
- All users are able to view a Newsfeed and can customise alerts.
- Parents can book Parent-Teacher interviews



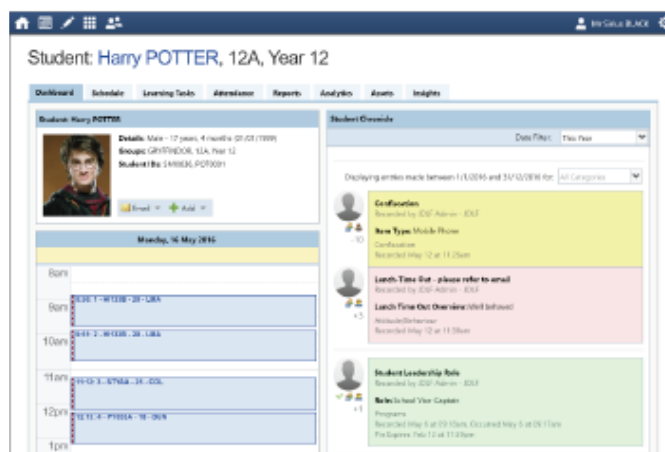
ACCESSING COMPASS

Compass is a web-based system that is accessible on any modern web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Google Chrome, and Safari) or by downloading the Compass iOS or Android apps.

Each student and family receives a **separate** login to compass which will be provided to you by the school. Students and parents gain access to separate portals, this allows students and parents to gain access to different features. For example parents can access the attendance area of compass, while students cannot. Login details and passwords can be reset by calling the General Office.

STUDENT PROFILES

The student profile page provides you with an overview of today's classes and activities, the ability to email a teacher. From this page, students are able to instantly view their timetable as well as their newsfeed to key information, while from the parents portal – more detailed information can be viewed such as; attendance, teacher observations and academic reports.



School Values...

THE SCHOOL HAS THREE VALUES THEY ENCOURAGE STUDENTS AND STAFF TO FOLLOW

Students and staff are jointly responsible for the care, maintenance and appearance of furniture, buildings and grounds. Students will learn and obey the rules of your school; they are there to help. These rules were worked out by parents, students and teachers.

BEHAVIOUR GUIDELINES

- Do not damage equipment or furniture.
- Do not litter the school grounds.
- Use only the rooms provided for lunchtime activities.
- There is to be no eating in the school buildings except in the cafeteria.

As a matter of courtesy students are asked to:

- Be punctual to classes.
- Come ready to work with pen, folders, books and correct uniform for P.E.
- Mobile phones need to be handed in to the secure lockage area in the cafeteria prior to the first school bell and can be collected at the end of the school day.

In regard to the safety and welfare of students:

- Do not smoke or vape.
- Do not bring alcohol or drugs to school.
- Do not hit or hurt another student.
- Do not intimidate another student either physically or verbally. Harassment includes physical, emotional or verbal abuse in regard to matters relating to sex, race, religion and physical appearance.



Our school values



Respect

We show respect by valuing the people and environment around us

Trust

We strive to be honest, reliable and responsible



Acceptance

We encourage and support others despite our differences

Uniform...

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School logoed shorts
 School logoed pants
 School logoed blue polo
 School logoed red polo (PE/Sport only)
 School logoed polar fleece
 School logoed jacket
 Short white socks
 Black shoes (non marking soles)

Alternates:
 School Dress
 School tartan kilt

Senior School Alternates:
 Year VCE Polo
 Year VCE Rugby Top

SCHOOL UNIFORM IS A VITAL PART OF SCHOOL LIFE. STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO BE IN UNIFORM ON ALL OCCASIONS AND THE SUPPORT OF PARENTS IN ENSURING THAT STUDENTS ARE IN CORRECT UNIFORM IS ESSENTIAL. UNIFORM CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE DURING BUSINESS HOURS.

- All students are expected to be in the correct school uniform.
- **UNACCEPTABLE** items include: Hoodies, Denim, Non YHS Hats, Leggings, Open toe shoes (Crocs, thongs etc)
- Classroom teachers will check uniform and SSL will be notified by the staff.
- If a student is out of uniform and there are medical reasons for not wearing a part of the uniform a letter of explanation accompanied by a letter from the doctor should be forwarded to the SSL.
- If students are out of uniform without a note, SSL will enter a negative Chronicle on Compass. Parents of students who are regularly out of uniform may be required to come in for a meeting.
- YHS hats can be worn outside but not in class or in the school buildings. They must be worn outside at all times

in Terms 1 and 4. Baseball style caps are not to be worn.

- Students can come to school in and go home from school, in P.E. uniform if they have PE classes during period 1 or 6.



Parents Role...

THE VITAL ROLE OF THE PARENT IN A CHILD'S EDUCATION IS RECOGNISED UNIVERSALLY.

We want you involved in your school. There is a wide variety of activities offered at Yea High School where your contribution is welcomed. Please make sure you read the Yea High School newsletter (fortnightly) to keep up to date with upcoming events.

PARENTS:

We need your **ASSISTANCE**.

- Accessing, updating details on the Compass Parent Portal,
- Monitoring homework,
- Monitoring learning progress via Compass,
- Helping around the school and with sports teams,
- Enforcing school rules (especially uniform),
- Ensuring regular, punctual attendance.

Make certain that you **ATTEND**

- Parent/Teacher Interview days and nights,
- Sports Days,
- Student presentations,
- Principal Endeavour Award Ceremonies.

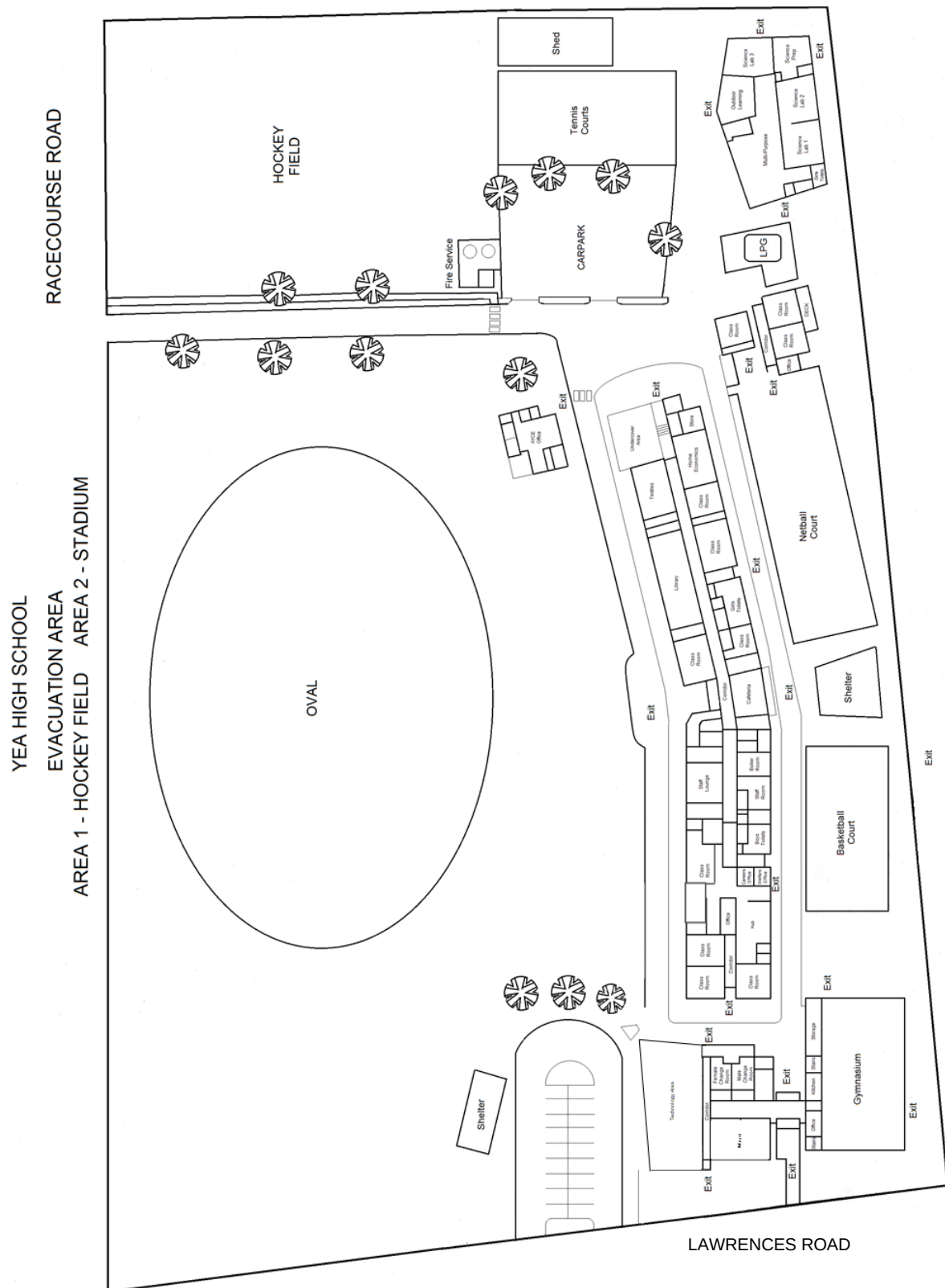
: We need you to **PARTICIPATE** as a member of:

- School Council,
- Volunteering on sports days.



Find us on
Facebook

The school has a public Facebook page. This is a vital link in our communication between the school and parents as it provides important information about the school.



Student Services...

YEA HIGH SCHOOL OFFERS A VARIETY OF SUPPORTS TO OUR STUDENTS INCLUDING SCHOOL BASED SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DET) SERVICES.

The combination of these services strives to achieve;

- Mental health prevention and promotion
- Support for students including direct counselling
- Coordinating supports services for students with complex needs.

School based supports include;

- Student Counsellor
- Mental Health Practitioner
- Support Worker
- Mental Health Nurse

DET provide Student Support Services (SSS) on a needs basis.

SSS is a multidisciplinary team and may provide access to;

- Speech pathology,
- Psychology,
- Social work
- Allied health professionals



Student wellbeing support services can be organised by students and/or their families.

Parents/families please contact the Student Services Officer (Maryanne Carroll-Keays) via Student Administration.

Students may organise support by asking any member of staff to refer them to wellbeing.

IN THE EVENT OF URGENT RESPONSE, THE FOLLOWING SERVICES PROVIDE IMMEDIATE SUPPORT FOR DISTRESSED YOUNG PEOPLE:

Lifeline: 13 11 14 or lifeline.org.au

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800 or kidshelpline.org.au

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467 or suicidecallbackservice.org.au

eheadspace: 1800 650 890 or eheadspace.org.au



William Schwab
Sub School Leader 7 - 8



Jessica Hill
Acting Assistant Principal



Jacinta Byers
Acting Principal



www.yeahs.vic.edu.au
Racecourse Rd, YEA VIC 3717
Email: yea.hs@education.vic.gov.au
Phone: (03) 5797 2207