

FRANCIS GREENWAY HIGH SCHOOL GAZETTE





Mrs Edwards (Principal)

We Value Your Input

Please feel free to contact us at any time: PO Box 124, Beresfield NSW 2322 Phone: 02 4964 1282 Fax 02 4964 1147

Email: francisgre-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: http://www.francisgre-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Edition 7 September 2017

Calendar of Events			
September 2017			
Tuesday September 19	P & C Meeting		
Friday September 22	Year 12 Formal Assembly		
Friday September 22	Last Day Term 3		
October/November/December 2017			
Monday October 9	First Day Term 4		
Monday October 16	Year 7 Vaccinations		
October 16 – November 7	HSC Examinations Year 12		
Tuesday October 31	Grandparents Day		
Wednesday November 22	Year 12 Formal 6pm for 7pm start		
Wednesday November 29	Year 6 Parent Information Night		
Tuesday December 5	Orientation Day 9.20 to 2.30		
Wednesday December 13	Presentation Day		
Friday December 15	Last Day Term 4		

Preparing for the HSC begins from Year 7. We are pleased to share that our NAPLAN results this year are outstanding. The Year 9 cohort exhibited 70% growth in Writing and over 50% growth in Numeracy. This growth was higher than the average for ALL schools in NSW, including Private and Catholic schools. Our goal for each student is that they achieve at least one year's growth for each year of education and we are more than achieving this.

Our renovations are progressing on schedule and starting to take shape. Thank you to all of our school community for your understanding and support during this time. Below are some photos showing progress thus far.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As another term draws to a close the time has arrived to farewell the Year 12 Class of 2017. This is both an exciting and sad time as it signals the closing of one chapter in life and the opening of another.

Our greatest hope for our students is that they are prepared to embrace all that life has to offer them and achieve all their life goals. A thank you to all the families of these young adults who have worked side by side with us in providing the education and opportunities they deserve.

Between now and the individual exams, the work students undertake is vital in best placing them to achieve their personal best results. Students should be completing past papers and asking their teachers to provide feedback and they should be attending the holiday and preexam revision sessions organised by their teachers.



I wish you all a safe and happy break with family and friends.

Jo Edwards Principal

DEFENCE TRANSITION MENTOR

Williamtown Playgroup

RAAF William Playgroup operates from the Ferodale Oval Club House, Medowie on Tuesday and Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm. The playgroup is a place where parents and carers with children 0-5yrs can socialise and encourage development in a child friendly environment.

Email: williamtownplaygroup@hotmail.com Website: www.williamtownplaygroup.com

Williamtown Craft Group

This group meets every Wednesday (except school holidays) at the RAAF William Family Room on the RAAF Base from 10.00am to 12 noon. The craft group is an opportunity for Defence partners to meet. Coffee and tea is provided. Your first two visits are free, so please come along and say hi.

Email: wcraftg@hotmail.com

New "Engage" Website launched – Engage is an online portal where users can search for free services and support designed to benefit current and former ADF members, their families and/or those involved in their support. Engage simplifies the process of accessing support by providing information on not-for-profit services available from a range of service providers.

Engage 'connects' users to support services based on different criteria including:

Need

Physical Location – local, regional and national Service of support required

Engage will readily link to a range of support and services from:

Government, including Defence and Department of Veterans Affairs Not-for-profit service providers and charities Other service providers who choose to participate.

Engage will be operated by the Department of Defence, with data maintained by participating service providers. You can visit the Engage website at the following link: https://engage.forcenet.gov.au/

Please remember to contact me at glenda.dewit@det.nsw.edu.au if I can be of any assistance or support to your child at school.

Glenda de Wit Defence Transition Mentor

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Brospeak and Sistaspeak Program

Students in the Brospeak and Sistaspeak programs have been busy planning and taking part in a number of cultural activities to promote their sense of identity. Students have added Indigenous plants to the cultural garden and have been increasing their knowledge and appreciation of Indigenous food.

The students were involved in a visit from Beresfield Early Learning Centre where Ms Megan Hanlon delivered some engaging stories from the Torres Strait Islands to the young students. Later this term students from the program will visit Woodberry Public School to lead Traditional Indigenous Games workshops. Plans are underway for a camp held at the Murrook Cultural Centre later in the year as well as participation in an annual initiative against domestic violence, "Walk A Mile Koori style".

Mr Russ and Mrs Ayres Aboriginal Education Coordinators

Maitland AECG Pathway Awards

During week 7, the Maitland AECG held the Pathway Awards to acknowledge the achievement of Aboriginal students in all primary and secondary schools. One of our students chaired this event.

Elizabeth Davey is often invited to lead such events in our region and as always did a wonderful job on the night.

The students recognised from Francis Greenway High School were:

Year 10: Kelsey Smith for her positive contribution to community

Year 12: Daniel Addison, James Walker, Elijah Button, Brandon Fairclough, Craig Wilson and Christian Nash.

The Francis Greenway High School community congratulates all the award recipients.

Connecting to Country

The Maitland AECG held another cultural immersion program for staff members from our region. This program allows staff to gain important knowledge, deepen their understanding of Aboriginal culture and learn how Aboriginal students can be supported in our schools. The FGHS Junior AECG have been presenting at this event since the beginning and they were again involved in telling their story to the group, as well as how their contribution to Aboriginal Education has made a difference for themselves and other students.

The following students attended Mindaribba LALC on Thursday September 7: Jenna Brown, Jasmine Rudd-Furey, Ashley Lewins and Elizabeth Davey.

Congratulations to these students for their input and continued leadership toward improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal students.





Harmonie Attwill
Aboriginal Education Coordinator

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PD/H/PE)

As we move into the warmer weather again, I would like to remind parents/carers and students that it is essential to be wearing the correct uniform for PE lessons, as well as sport day. Furthermore, it is encouraged that students wear appropriate sun protection such as a hat and sunscreen. These measures can ensure sun safety as well as safe play.

At the end of Term 3 and the beginning of Term 4, students in PDHPE classes and elective subjects will be participating in assessment work.

These assessments directly relate to work completed in class and allow their teachers to understand the depth of understanding of key concepts and skills. Please be reminded, attendance on these days is critical to demonstrate to the staff how students may need support and to display the knowledge gained from units of work.

The assessment task due for Year 7 – 10 PDHPE lessons are as follows:

Year 7 Fitness Passport: Week 10

Health Promotion Letter: Week 10 (completed in class)

Year 8 Fitness Passport: Week 10

Lego Relationships: Week 9/10 (completed in class)

Year 9 Fitness Passport: Week 10

Instagram social media study: Week 10 or week 1/2

Term 4 (completed in class)

Year 10 Fitness Passport: Week 10

Relationship Analysis: Week 1/2 Term 4 (completed

in class)

National Health and Physical Education Day

Wednesday September 6 was National Health and Physical Education Day. This day attempts to highlight the importance of physical activity for our students, staff and community. To celebrate this day, we held a 'Beep Test Challenge' in the Quadrangle at both recess and lunch, and all students had the opportunity to participate.

It is essential to remember young people between the age of 13 – 17 should be engaging in a minimum of 60mins of vigorous exercise daily. For adults, the guidelines state we should be attaining a moderate exercise intensity for a minimum of 150mins/week and a vigorous intensity for 75mins/week.

Doing any physical activity is better than doing none...

Year 9 Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS)

Year 9 PASS classes are currently studying the unit Sport-As-A-Job. This includes looking at jobs in sports and examining requirements for this career path whilst interviewing individuals from this industry.

On Wednesday August 23, both classes had the opportunity to participate in a training session conducted by Todd Cremer from SWAT Fit Personal Trainers.

Todd is the owner and operator of the mobile personal training business. Students were able to ask questions that directly related to their assessment task and displayed interest in the activities provided as well as the information an expert could share with them.

We look forward to developing a partnership with SWAT Fit Personal Trainers to increase opportunities and improve student-learning outcomes.

Harmonie Attwill PD/H/PE

CAPA

Congratulations to all HSC Drama, Music and Visual Arts students who have successfully completed the practical component of their courses.

There was much stress, nerves and late nights getting works finished as time became a factor. Well done to those who achieved their full potential.

Visual Arts Bodies of Work will be exhibited in December after being assessed by a visiting team of NESA markers. The remainder of the marks for courses are completed in the external exams which start in mid October.

Ian McDonald CAPA Department

TAS NEWS

It is with a sad heart that I am saying farewell to Francis Greenway High. I have been appointed to a position at Irrawang High School to start Term 4. I would like to say a very big thank you to all of the staff and students at Francis Greenway High School for helping me become the teacher that I am, and for all the skills you have taught me along the way.

I would just like to remind all of my students that life can take you anywhere and you can be whom-ever you want, all you have to do is try. Mrs Smithson HT TAS

E-Program

Hosting the E-Program students from our Gateway Learning Community is always lots of fun. This year the students were entertained with designing something a little different to the norm.

Firstly we investigated the different uses for herbs and spices in our lives before embarking on making our own Body Exfoliator and then some Chicken, Ricotta and Tarragon Sausage Rolls, followed by Fruit Tarts. I wonder how many dads have enjoyed using their Lemongrass and Rosemary Scrub?







Congratulations to all of our students who submitted a Major Design Project in Industrial Technology Timber & Textiles and Design. Some amazing projects have been submitted this year and we wish all of our students the best with their results for their hard work.













A special thanks to Mr Tim Teys and Mrs Lorraine Joy for volunteering their time in the school holidays and outside of school hours to assist our students to complete their projects.

Hospitality

Congratulations go out to Mrs Walsh and her kitchen brigade of Year 11 Hospitality students on the excellent catering job done for our visiting delegates. Some aspiring young chefs on the way.





Donna Smithson Relieving Head Teacher TAS

HSIE DEPARTMENT

September marks a busy end to the term as Year 12 finalise their studies in readiness for the Higher School Certificate Examinations.

The HSIE faculty wishes all their students the best of luck in both their exams and post-school options.



Classes have been busy undergoing assessments with some fabulous projects submitted for the Year 7 "Water in the World" Group Task with some samples pictured below.

Year 11 are undertaking their Yearly Examinations ahead of commencing their Higher School Certificate course next term. Students are encouraged to use this opportunity to identify their areas of strength and weakness to develop target areas for enhancing their level of achievement as they begin Year 12.

We wish all our students and their families a happy and safe holiday break.

HSIE Heroes

One student from each year group is recognised each month for their participation and display of the school's core values. Bonus VIVOs and a certificate presented in class by the HSIE Head Teacher, Mr Budden.

The September recipients are:

- Year 7: Chloe Mould 7S Geography Commitment to learning, leadership and initiative in the Water Cycle Group Task
- Year 8: Britney Atkins 8R History Consistent and diligent application
- Year 9: Daniel Hunt 9S Geography Commitment to learning and seeking feedback to enhance outcomes
- Year 10: Stelianos Tigkas 10R History Consistent and diligent application
- Year 11: Shayla Do Ancient History Commitment to learning and organised completion of the Historical Investigation Project
- Year 12: Ellen Harmour– Business Studies Commitment to learning



Spring Holiday HSC Study Days

Thursday September 28 – 9am to 1pm

Business Studies with Mr Budden and Miss George

Thursday October 5 – 9am to 1pm

Legal Studies with Mr Budden



Class	Task	Due
Year 7	Skills Test	Week 10
Geography		

Year 7 Water in the World

Year 7 worked together in small groups to create an interactive presentation to help teach Kindergarten students about the water cycle. An array of projects were submitted including, storybooks, board games, 3D models, comic strips and floor mats. Next term some projects may be taken to our feeder primary schools. Well done to all those students who collaborated effectively and met the due date.



Chloe and Paige 7S – An interactive 3D Model



Abbey, Rachel, Trista, Amelia and Shilah 7Y - An interactive Wall/Floor Mat

Our trip to Carrie's Place

Students in 10S have been creating short films that highlight a chosen social justice issue to complement their studies of inequalities and social justice movements in both History and Geography. As part of this project, a group of girls, along with Miss Xenos, travelled to Carrie's Place to make some donations and find out additional information for their project.

These students researched local programs that support those experiencing homelessness and were able to collect enough donations of food, clothing and sanitary products that we made an additional stop at Vinnie's to further support local charities. Below is a recount written by Samara King, with the contributions of all group members.

'On Thursday August 24, Samara King, Kacee Bessant, Vysnavy Letchumanan, Lily Tudor and Luka Sukada went to Carrie's Place, an organisation which helps the homeless and domestic violence victims.

For our Video for Change project, we chose homelessness as our social justice issue. We each collected old things from home and bought things from the shops to donate and went down to visit during sport time at school. We spoke to two ladies there about homelessness and what they do to help'. Samara King.







Kim Wills and Tegan Xenos HSIE Department

SCIENCE

This has been a busy term in Science. Science Week has come and gone for another year and we all had a blast (pardon the pun) in engaging the students with Science.

For the experiments in Science Week, we decided to explode a watermelon using nothing more than dry ice, water and a 1.25L bottle.

The results speak for themselves (sorry for getting watermelon on the library roof Mrs Tipper...)



After this we decided to use the same method to explode some plastic balls from a garbage bin. This was a lot of fun!



Also on Science Week, we ran a guessing competition of various pictures. Thanks to Mr Bromley for organising. The winners from each year were:

Year 7: Jemma Cheetham

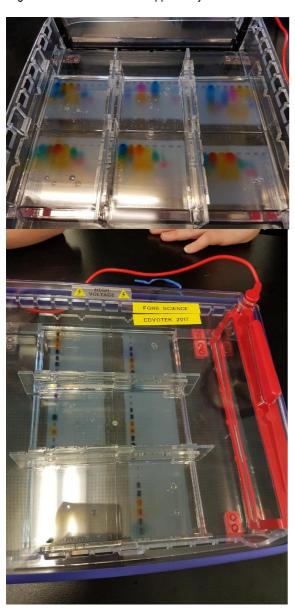
Year 8: Connor Morley and Tyler Ashard Year 9: Dustion Maher and Cassie Pearson

Year 10: Jacqueline Sweeney

Year 11: Liam Daniel

Year 12: Ella Watters and Chantelle Gilewski

Mrs Tarleton's Year 12 Chemistry class has been using our new electrophoresis machine to model paternity testing as part of the Forensics option. This machine provides the students with access to machines commonly used in forensics laboratories that students might not otherwise have the opportunity to use.



We have an Intern student from the University of Newcastle, Michael Quinn, working with us in Science this term. Some of you may have met him at the Parent Teacher night, as he is taking Mr Latta's junior classes.

He has been doing a fantastic job and we look forward to working with him in the future as a fully qualified teacher.

Heading into the final weeks of Year 12 the students really should be beginning to ramp up their revision efforts as we edge closer to their final exams.

Students should be aiming for at least 30 minutes of study per subject each night. Remember Year 12, not long to go now.

The first thing I was told when I was a beginning teacher was to always keep the lab assistant happy. So on that note, our lab assistant would like donations of any of the following items for use in Science:

- 1.25L or 2L soft drink bottles
- 4L ice cream containers and their lids

They will be greatly appreciated. Until next time, goodbye from Science.

Michael Latta Science Department

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Tournament of the Minds (TOM)

On Sunday August 27 our Tournament of the Minds team, "Knights of the Round Table", participated in Tournament Day at Newcastle Grammar School. The team participated in two challenges.

The first was the Spontaneous Challenge where team members were presented with a secret question, given 4 minutes to prepare and 1 minute to present their answer. The second was the Long Term Engineering Mathematics Challenge.

The day was a lot of fun and everyone upheld the Spirit of TOM. Working together with a group of seven people provides its own challenges; and working towards a fixed presentation date are all factors in making the TOM experience a real life challenge.

Congratulations to the team:

Year 7 Chloe Mould, Stephanie Bate-Cantello, Brendan Ashbourne, Bic Satthatham, Seth Martin

Year 9 Ryan Liddell, Corey Parkes

Year 10 Will Leyshon

Final preparations at school.





Ready for the Spontaneous Challenge



Challenges all done. Congratulations.



Thank you to the following people who supported the students.Mrs Tipper for her workshop on Dramatic Techniques, Mr Bird for his advice and support in the construction of the machine, Jacinta Borrow for her support to the team, the families of the students for bringing them to the Tournament.

It was a pleasure working with these students over the six week preparatory period. Looking forward to 2018.

Literacy and Numeracy Week Activities

National Literacy and Numeracy Week was from September 4-10. At FGHS we had two special activities.

Five for Five Challenge

Students had to collect a daily set of five NAPLAN style questions which they had to answer throughout the day. Their solutions had to be placed in a locked box for marking by the end of the school day. Students achieving five out of five earned themselves a \$5 voucher to spend at our canteen.

Winning students included Brendan Ashbourne, Evan Martin, Ava Eveleigh, Benita Doherty, Thrissa Letchumanan, Lachlan Scott, Aden Young, Bentley Titmuss, Dylan Bartlett and Mackenzie Whiting.

Digital QR Code Hunt

This activity lasted for five days. Each morning a cryptic clue was printed in the daily notices. This clue gave the location of the QR code. Students had to hunt for the code then scan it to get the word puzzle for the day. On Friday there were five words which had to be rearranged to form the sentence, 'Reading makes us successful learners." These students also received canteen youchers.

Below are the winners of the QR Hunt. Left to right: Aden Young, Lachlan Scott, Bentley Titmuss, Dylan Bartlett.



Premier's Student Volunteering Awards

If your child is involved in a volunteering activity outside of school, please encourage them to see Mrs Waller to register them for the Premier's Student Volunteering Awards. Students will receive recognition for their efforts from the Premier.

Year 7 Teaming

Teachers of Year 7 classes meet during professional learning time as a team to discuss the learning and other needs of students in respective classes. If you would like to make contact with your students team, please do so through Ms Xenos, the Year 7 Adviser.

Sharon Waller Relieving Head Teacher Teaching and Learning

P&C

Our last meeting was held on August 15 with a small gathering.

We were notified that the Pizza Oven Project has been given the go ahead. Can't wait to see it in action.

The Canteen was able to move some funds across to the P&C account. We are very fortunate to have a hard working bunch of ladies in the canteen.

Congratulations to all the students that completed the Naplan this year. The school was very pleased with all the results.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 19 just before the school holidays. The meeting will be held in the school library while renovations are in progress.

We would love to see some new faces, so please come along.

Enjoy your break.

Bernadette Norman P & C Secretary

WELLBEING TEAM

Student Centred - Learning Focused - Wellbeing Driven

Bamboo Theatre - Respectfully Me

The Bamboo Theatre formed in 2010 and is now a leading provider of welfare programs to schools throughout Australia. In the past five years they have presented their interactive programs to over 140,000 students.

As a cross faculty initiative, the Wellbeing team and PD/H/PE faculty recently enabled students in Year 9 to participate in a 60 minute interactive program called Respectfully Me – Planting the Seeds of Respect. The program covered a variety of topics including respectful relationships, sense of self, gender stereotyping, cyber bullying, interpersonal communication, peer influence, divorce and anger management.



Wellbeing Wall

How Witnessing Violence Harms Children's Mental Health

There has been a steady increase in levels of children's exposure to violence and its damaging effect on their mental health. Today, children use many different forms of media – 92 percent of teens go online daily and 24 percent are online constantly.

There is increasing evidence that exposure to violence in everyday life has a significant impact on children's mental health. Children who report high levels of exposure to violence (either as witness or victim) report the highest levels of depression, anger and anxiety. Exposure to violence could have other long-term impacts as well as children could get desensitized to violence and its effects, that is, children can come to believe that violence is an acceptable way to solve problems and that it is without consequence. Further, such children are also at a risk of perpetrating violence against others.

What can parents do?

Parents have an important role to play. Knowing where their children are, what they are doing and with whom are some of the best ways to help support children. Adolescents have more access to social media, to drugs and alcohol, and to transportation. Coupled with this is the growing evidence that the problem-solving and impulse control parts of their brains are not yet fully developed. Parents are often the first to recognize their children are struggling with mental health and behavioural issues and they could be the best providers of mental health first aid whenever and however their children need them.

Local Events & Resources

Tuning in to Teens – Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A FREE six session parenting program for parents of adolescents aged 12-18 years. Headspace Maitland, 6-8pm Monday evenings. Starts on October 23 and concludes on November 27.

Call 49 311000 (Headspace Maitland) to register interest.

Anxiety Disorders Support Group Rutherford

A FREE support group meeting held for people 18+ living with an anxiety disorder and their family and friends to share experiences. Held on the first Friday of the month, The Salvation Army, Maitland City Corp, Cnr Alexandra Ave & Bunning Ave Rutherford at 10am.

For more information call 1300794992 or email supportgroups@wayahead.org.au

As One Carer Connections

Facilitated by Newcastle Family Support and Place of Friends, 'As One' is a safe space to connect with others and support each other when caring for a child unable to live with their birth parents (Foster, Kinship, OOHC, Adoptive, Family Placement). Place of Friends Schools as Community Centre, Woodberry Public School, 10am-12pm, Wed October 11, Wed November 8 and Wed December 13 2017.

Natalie Conway Head Teacher Wellbeing









New Uniforms for 2018



It is recommended that all current students requiring new uniforms for 2018, make an appointment to come in for a Uniform Fitting before the end of Term 4.

We recommend this, so that the wait times over the January period are reduced, making the shopping experience more pleasant.

Lay-by Options are available.

Price lists, Contact Details, Opening hours and Booking information are available online by logging into www.alintaapparel.com.au

Thank You

Uniform Shop www.alintaapparel.com.au



Francis Greenway High School

Notification of Student Absence

Student Name:			
Year:	First Day Absent:		
Last Day Absent/Possible Duration:			
Reason:			
Notifier's Name: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Dr			
Relationship to Studen	t: Mother / Father / Nan / Pop		
Signature:			
FRANCIS GREENWAY —HIGH SCHOOL—	Francis Greenway High School Notification of Student Absence		
	E' ID AL I		
	First Day Absent:		
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	lrs / Ms / Dr		
Relationship to Studen	t: Mother / Father / Nan / Pop		
Signature:			

Object on the Occurrence		HANGE OF DETAILS SLIP - FGHS	
Student's Surname:		Middle Name:	
Year Group:	Data taday	IVIIQUIE INAITIE.	
New Address:		Postcode:	
New Carer information:			
(Carer changes that may need			
New Carer Phone Numbers:			
		Father:	
		Father:	
New Work Number: Mother:		Father:	
New Emergency Contacts:			
Name:		Name:	
Home:		Home:	
Mobile:		Mobile:	
Relationship to student:		Relationship to student:	
New medical conditions/ allergi	ies etc:		
Best phone/ email if contact is	required today >>>>>> Franci	relationship to student s>>>>>>>> High L NEWSLETTER REG	 >>>>>>> School
FRANCIS GREENWAY —- HIGH SCHOOL —-			
Student(s) Name:		(Please list all students)	
	(r lease list all studerits)	
<u>Year</u> :			
Parent/Carer Name:.			

(To be returned to the Front Office)

Email address:

Francis Greenway High School Uniform Shop







Shop Hours Monday 1.00 – 3.30pm Wednesday 8.00 – 9.30am

Contact Details
(02) 40286466

francisgreenway@alinta.com.au
Lot 2 Lawson Ave, Beresfield 2322

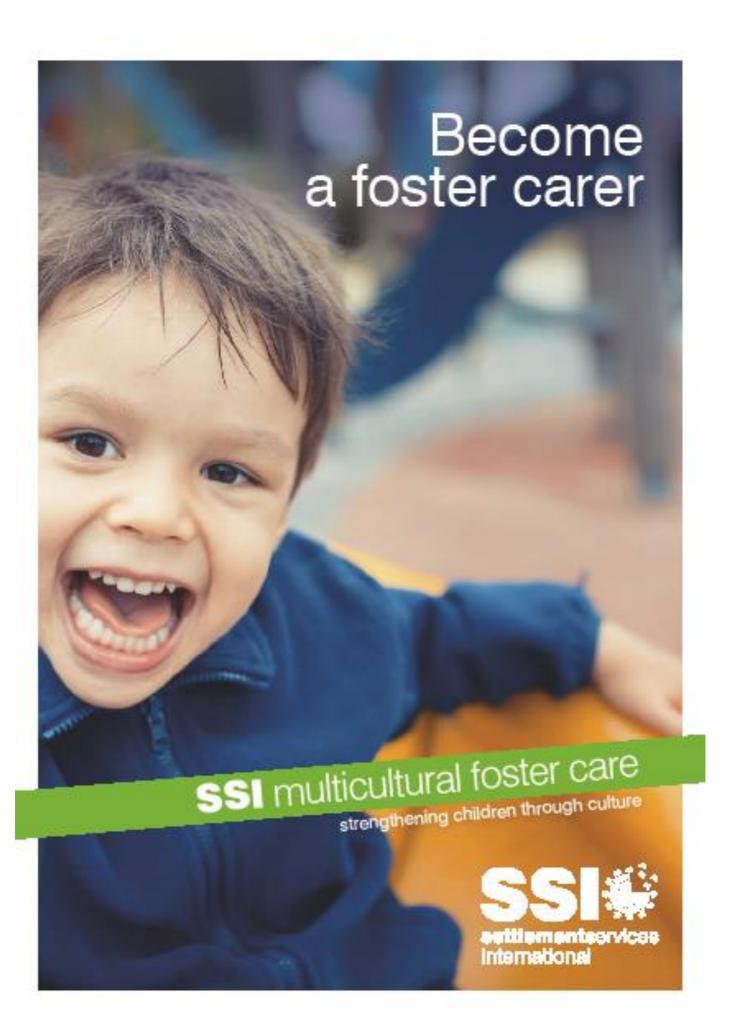
Size	Price
J8-L20	\$39.50
J8-3XL	\$43.00
J10-L20	\$39.50
J8-L20	\$69.00
J8-L20	\$48.50
J8-L20	\$39.00
Size	Price
J8-3XL	\$38.50
J8-3XL	\$43.00
J8-3XL	\$38.50
J8-3XL	\$48.50
J8-3XL	\$55.00
Size	Price
J8-3XL	\$43.00
J8-3XL	\$38.00
J10-3XL	\$49.00
J8-3XL	\$29.00
	J8-L20 J8-3XL J10-L20 J8-L20 J8-L20 J8-L20 Size J8-3XL

Outerwear	Size	Price
Polar Fleece Jumper	J10-2XL	\$55.00
Knitted Jumper	10-16	\$82.00
Knitted Jumper	18-24	\$92.00
Super Fleece Jacket	J10-2XL	\$65.00
Cotton Cardigan	10-20	\$55.95
Rugby Jumper	J10-2XL	\$84.00
Accessories	Size	Price
Socks Anklet	All sizes	\$ 6.50
Microfibre Tights	All sizes	\$10.00
Leather Belt	All sizes	\$17.00
Tie	N/A	\$23.00
Fabric Marker	N/A	\$ 4.00

Note: Sizes not carried are available by custom order. Three month lead time applies. An additional \$10.00 is applied to all sizes above and including a 4XL/L22 Online orders are distributed from the Uniform Shop the next opening day of the shop. A postage charge will occur for all orders marked for delivery. Payments can be made by cash, credit card or debit credit cards only.

Prices effective from 2016 and are subject to change without notice.





Every child has a right to a safe, happy and permanent home.

Settlement Services International (SSI) Multicultural Foster Care (MFC) provides support for children and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds for whom it is not safe to live with their birth families. This may be the case for just a short time or possibly longer term.

No one denies it's a challenge, but being a foster carer is a commitment that can bring many rewards.

Important qualities for a foster carer include:

- having a genuine interest and focus on the child's wellbeing and future
- a willingness to help them understand theirpast
- a willingness to help them stay connected with their family, culture, language and religion.

SSI believes that children who are supported to stay connected to their community and culture have better longer term outcomes. SSI MFC supports its foster carers with ongoing training and support, regular phone contact and visits, 24 hour phone support for crisis situations and a fortnightly allowance. Foster children need their own room.

To be eligible to become a foster carer, applicants must be 21 years or over, an Australian citizen or permanent resident and in good physical and emotional health.

For more information about becoming a foster carer with SSI:

- p (02) 4969 3399
- e fostercarehunter@ssi.org.au ssi.org.au/foster-care

