



Pittwater House

2023 HSC Achievements



HSC Highlights

98.65

Top ATAR
Dux of Boys'
Grammar
Matthew Johnston



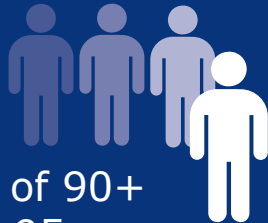
98.15

Dux of Girls'
College
Angelina Hellowell



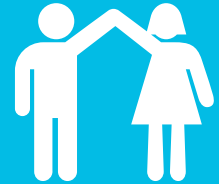
25%

of students
achieved ATAR of 90+
10% exceeded 95
6% exceeded 98



86%

Distinguished
Achievers
across 24 subjects



100%

of students
achieved Bands
5/6 across 7 subjects



16

nominations
from **11**
students for OnSTAGE,
CALLBACK, SHAPE and
ARTEXPRESS



73%

of students
received pre-HSC
university offers with **142**
offers from 16 universities
spanning four states



Pittwater House
median ATAR 83.5
NSW median
ATAR 71.05



Congratulations



We are incredibly proud of our Class of 2023 and accelerated Year 11 students, along with their teachers, who have achieved great success this HSC year.

These students have exhibited unwavering commitment and remarkable maturity, integrity, and mutual respect. Having benefitted from extensive engagement in the co-curricular life of our School, these young men and women exemplify the success of our ongoing HEROIC learning model, which bolsters our students to excel in their learning journey and thrive in their lives.

Individually, we take immense pride in acknowledging the achievements of our Dux of Boys' Grammar, Matthew Johnston (ATAR: 98.65), and our Dux of Girls' College, Angelina Hellawell (ATAR: 98.15) who also reached the prestigious All-Round Achievers list, having achieved a Band 6 in each of her subjects.

As always, this final result and culmination of 13 years of formal schooling reflects the hard work and dedication of the students, and also the encouragement, commitment and drive of all their teachers, and, of course, the support of their families.

More broadly, we are thrilled to share that we had 83 Distinguished Achievers across 24 subjects. Moreover, one quarter of our students attained an ATAR of 90 or over, with an exceptional 6% exceeding 98 and 10% exceeding 95. In the state, the median ATAR was 71.05 – significantly less than our median ATAR of 83.5.

In matriculation news, I am pleased to announce that 73% of the cohort have received a total of 142 early offers from 16 universities spanning four states.

Notably, our Dux of Boys' Grammar, Matthew Johnston, was offered a Co-op Scholarship with UTS to study a Bachelor of Accounting, which will afford him the opportunity to complete two internships with blue chip organisations including KMPG, PWC and the ASX whilst studying, courtesy of substantial three-year scholarship.

Our 2023 Grammar Deputy Head Prefect, Kael Borrello, who plans to study a double Commerce degree at UNSW, was also offered a prestigious cadetship through Professional Cadetships Australia, which will enable him to simultaneously study and work with Macquarie Bank part-time; and our 2023 SRC Prefect and Cadet CUO Rory MacLennan, was offered the highly esteemed Tuckwell Scholarship from ANU as one of only 25 fortunate recipients nationally.

I commend this mature cohort for their dedication to their studies, the performing arts, creativity, sports, and for their demonstration of robust leadership skills. They have certainly embodied our School's enduring motto *semper diligens*, by being 'always hardworking'.

Hopefully the pages overleaf offer an insight into some of our students' experiences of Pittwater House and more importantly, their promising post-school paths that lie ahead.

Dr Nancy Hillier

Principal (BA, DipEd, MEdSt, DEd, MACE, MACEL, MAICD)

Matthew Johnston

Dux of Boys' Grammar
ATAR 98.65



Matthew is the worthy recipient of a Co-op Scholarship with UTS to study a Bachelor of Accounting, which affords him the opportunity to complete two internships with blue chip organisations including KMPG, PWC and the ASX whilst studying courtesy of a substantial three-year scholarship.

What did you learn about yourself over the last year?

Over the last year I have learnt many things, namely the role hard work and determination plays in growth and success. For myself, I learnt that I could improve by setting attainable targets and working to the best of my ability but also developing the skill of knowing when to take a break. Whilst this was difficult, it helped me work sustainably throughout the year and allowed me to simultaneously have an active social, sporting, and academic life.

How did your peers contribute to your success?

One of the hardest things I found during Years 11 and 12 was managing my study, more specifically when and how to do it. My peers and friends helped me with this by motivating me, but also discussing what worked for them, allowing me to try different methods of study and find one that worked for me. They also played a crucial role in helping me find a balance between school and social activities, helping me to finish Year 12 with a smile on my face.

What were the highlights of your time at Pittwater House?

Pittwater House offers a range of opportunities, but for me the highlights were in the smaller moments with friends and classmates. Whilst school has been a place to grow, develop crucial skills and the desire to learn, it has also been a place I will cherish for all the friendships and memories it has given me. Aside from the obviously enjoyable lunch time sport and sports lessons, I enjoyed making strong connections with teachers and friends that have in turn shaped me into a better person. I truly value these connections and look to keeping them as we all move forward in life.

“I learnt that academic success is less central to being naturally good at something, but rather how you engage with the subject both in and out of class.”

Angelina Hellowell

Dux of Girls' College, All-Round Achiever,
SHAPE Nominee. ATAR 98.15



An All-Round Achiever, Angelina is a highly motivated and engaged student who consistently achieves outstanding results across her studies. An extraordinary young woman, with a passion for helping those less fortunate, Angelina's Major Design Project focused on a homeless sleeping solution and earned a nomination for SHAPE.

How did your peers contribute to your success?

Friendships are such an important part of school and therefore they have undeniably contributed to my success. My classmates have made learning fun and have pushed me to work hard. However, more importantly, my friends have encouraged me to have a good school-life balance, as it is crucial to prioritise both academic achievement and personal enjoyment. I don't think I would be where I am today without the laughter shared and memories created both in and outside of school.

What was your favourite subject and why?

While I enjoyed most of my subjects, Design & Technology (DT) was my favourite. I love how DT has a mix of practical and theory, which keeps classes engaging and fun. The Major Design Project was a perfect opportunity to focus on what I am passionate about. I believe DT provides a great amount of freedom and choice in each of the assessment tasks, allowing for individual research and personal projects.

Overall, how would you describe your time at Pittwater House?

I joined Pittwater House in Year 9, when I moved from overseas which was a big change that was initially quite daunting. However, the community of teachers and students there welcomed me with open arms. Throughout my four years at Pittwater House, I have met many amazing people and have made many unforgettable memories. Although, the COVID 19 lockdowns disrupted our usual learning structure, I truly enjoyed every year due to the support provided by all my teachers and friends, making the last four years extremely special.

"I feel extremely lucky to have had the support of my friends and peers as they continue to be there for me through the highs and the lows."

Ethan Scott

ATAR 98.55

Ethan is the epitome of an all-rounder; appreciated and respected by his peers and teachers alike. His curiosity about the world around him and his ability to quickly grasp complex concepts and translate them into logical yet creative ideas of his own is very impressive. The world is this young man's oyster, and we can't wait to see where it takes him.

How did your peers contribute to your success?

During Year 12, the camaraderie and community within our cohort, made the HSC a collective challenge that we worked through as a group to overcome, looking out for one another during difficult times and enjoying the lighter moments together.

What were the highlights of your time at Pittwater House?

This year, it was the small but special things that made my final year at Pittwater House really memorable. The inside jokes with teachers and peers made the work more fun and personal, shifting schoolwork from a mandatory and sometimes uninteresting task to something I truly looked forward to. From the introduction of a plant capable of sensing the mood in our Maths class and the Friday "Give it a Code" awards in Software Design to the lunch time games of "Ninja"; these things never failed to make the year a little brighter.



"My peers were a source of motivation, encouraging me to put in my best effort, which in turn made me appreciate the progress everyone made throughout the year."

Kael Borrello

2023 Grammar Deputy Head Prefect. ATAR 98.5

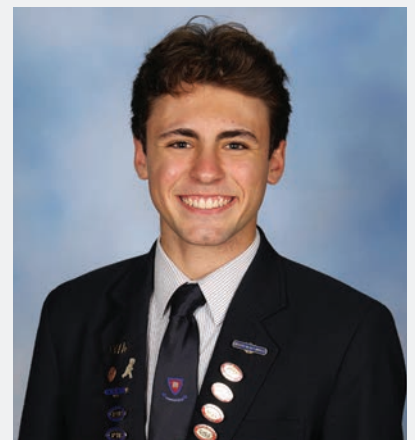
Kael has secured a highly prized cadetship with Macquarie Bank which will see him study a double Commerce Degree at UNSW whilst working part time with the industry giant. After taking every opportunity offered to him throughout his time at Pittwater House, there is not a student more deserving of this appointment and the vast opportunities that come with it.

How did your teachers contribute to your success?

The dedicated teachers at Pittwater House not only create an environment in which students are able to seek success but, importantly, provide valuable opportunities for us to find passion in our studies, to deepen our learning.

My teachers provided me with resources to extend myself beyond the core content and also offered valuable experiences for me to apply my classroom knowledge and deepen my understanding of my studies.

This, along with the consistent feedback they provided me, facilitated my personal success.



"The sense of belonging generated by the inclusivity of the School community provided the perfect conditions for students to excel through encouraging shared and individual accomplishments."

Rory MacLennan

2023 SRC Prefect and ARTEXPRESS Nominee. ATAR 98.4

Rory's impressive accomplishments and contributions as a member of the Class of 2023, a SRC Prefect, CUO of the Cadet Unit and Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award-winner have been widespread. He is the worthy recipient for the prestigious Australian National University's Tuckwell Scholarship, awarded to only 25 students nationally.

What was your favourite subject and why?

My favourite subject was Physics because it provides answers and questions about the most fundamental aspects of the universe. It has taught me that reality is rarely intuitive, that I 'know' far less than I realise and that even the most commonly accepted theories, like Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation can be discovered to be totally incorrect.

What advice would you give students undertaking their HSC in future years?

Always remember why you're doing what you're doing. School is more than just getting into Uni and getting a job so you can work the rest of your life. There is more to life than work and there is more to school than study. Make sure that whatever you're doing, you're having fun, whether that's hanging out with your mates or learning about something really interesting in your favourite subject.

Isla Gillespie

Academic Prefect. ATAR 95.4

Isla is an incredibly hard working and diligent student. Her next chapter will see her study Arts at The University of Melbourne, residing at the renowned Ormond College.

What do you think are the benefits of the Pittwater House twin schooling structure?

The single-sex classrooms in Junior School allowed me to build my confidence and learn in a way that was supportive and encouraging, meeting my needs. It was also great to be able to share a campus with my brother which gave me a strong sense of community, specifically by being in the same House. The move to Senior School was a big step, but the continuation of single-sex classrooms eased my transition, allowing me to forge connections with new peers in small class settings where it was easier to express my ideas and opinions. Gradually adding co-ed elective classes in Years 9 and 10 further enriched my schooling experience by enabling me to form friendships with male classmates. This gave me confidence going into Years 11 and 12 where all classes were co-ed, mirroring life beyond school as well as promoting gender equality and fostering co-operation as a year group.



"My teachers went above and beyond, and I am truly grateful to them. They are the foundation of my success."



"Pittwater House has always been a place where I could be myself and find like-minded peers who supported me, allowing me to thrive."

Taj Thompson

ATAR 94.85

Taj's mature, well-planned and positive approach to his schooling has been inspiring and his results show that he has reaped the rewards for his efforts.

What was your favourite subject and why?

My favourite subject was Economics because of the highly relevant nature of the content. Being able to apply what we learnt in class to prominent global issues and events made every lesson interesting. Additionally, I found the engaging classroom environment extremely useful in achieving a greater understanding of difficult concepts and developing perspectives quicker. Mrs Leman ensured that every lesson was fun and challenged us to think more critically and beyond the required fundamentals.

Overall, how would you describe your time at Pittwater House?

I've loved my time at Pittwater House. Even during the stress of Year 12, our teachers have made learning fun, making the looming storm of the HSC seem nothing more than a cloud. Also, the breadth of co-curricular activities and opportunities provided has always allowed me to challenge myself and try new things.

A highlight for me was being able to participate in the 2023 Mackellar Youth Program which has allowed me to broaden my political knowledge and express my own concerns for youth in my electorate.



"The quality of students has been exceptional, and the sense of community has always made this School feel like a second home."

Levi Smith

2023 Grammar Head Prefect. ATAR 94.25

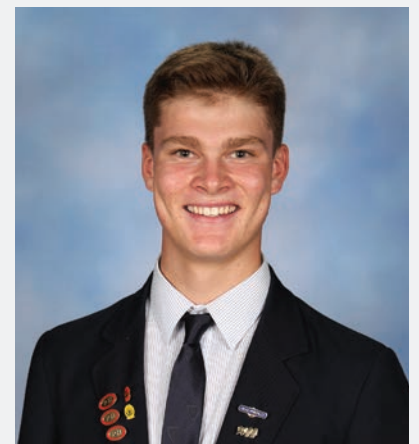
Levi's appointment to Grammar Head Prefect in his final year was widely celebrated by students and staff alike. As the recipient of the HEROIC Community Award, the 10th Anniversary Shield for Community Involvement and the AMPOL Best Allrounder Award, we are excited to follow Levi's future endeavours.

How did your teachers contribute to your success?

Behind every successful student, there are countless teachers who have guided, instructed, and motivated them to reach their goals. Students only have one shot at Year 12 and the HSC, but our teachers have seen what works and what doesn't and know exactly how to help us thrive. For me personally, my teachers have played a huge role, not only in giving me valuable feedback throughout the year, but also in their ability to spark my love for their subjects through their passionate teaching, which made working hard to succeed, an easy task.

Overall, how would you describe your time at Pittwater House?

The 13 years I have spent at Pittwater House have been crucial in forming the person I have become. There have been ups and downs along the way, but I wouldn't have had it any other way. Being supported to excel in the classroom, and being able to spend time with friends throughout the day and at co-curricular events leads me to describe my time at school in one word - irreplaceable.



"The connections I made and lessons I learnt are invaluable, and I wouldn't trade my school years for anything."

Ruby Hume

2023 Sports Prefect. ATAR 94.2

Ruby's success at school is evidenced by the praise from her teachers as well as the numerous awards she received for athletics, the Cadet Unit, community involvement, HEROIC Excellence and Science.

What co-curricular or other activities/practices did you do to balance your commitment to your studies?

I was participating in a range of co-curricular activities which required me to actively manage my academic and other commitments. During my senior years, I was involved in surf-boat rowing as well as running and hockey, with training sessions, races and tournaments for the whole year. My involvement in these sports and others, as well as surf-lifesaving, cadets and work, gave me time to disconnect from school, whilst also teaching me the importance of prioritisation. This helped me to improve my organisational skills and fully utilise the precious time I had available to study.

What was your favourite subject and why?

My favourite subject was PDHPE as it remained interesting and applicable to real life scenarios throughout the entirety of the course. The variation in learning, with discussions, competitions and practical lessons, broke up the classroom lessons and allowed for a greater understanding and appreciation of the content, making the whole subject more enjoyable.



"The classes were always interesting, with discussions, competitions and practical lessons, giving us the opportunity to apply the theory we learnt."

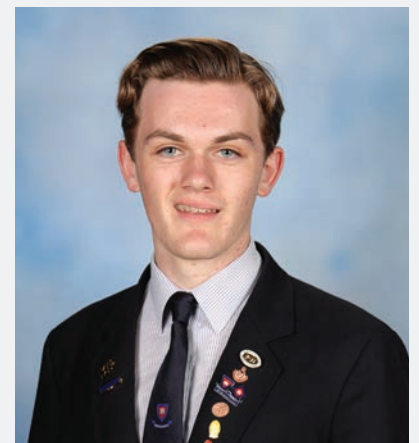
Ellis Plant

Passion Projects Prefect and OnSTAGE Nominee.
ATAR 90.6

Ellis has been a valued Prefect in the student leadership team, and member of the Cadet Unit, achieving the 7th Field Regiment RAAF Silver Jubilee Prize along with the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. We wish Ellis every success as a future film writer and director.

How did your teachers contribute to your success?

My teachers contributed to my success through compacting the subject content into easy-to-digest lessons. The content was delivered in a simple and easy manner with clear structures that helped me to do well come assessment time. On top of this, my teachers were quick to reply to emails and happy to have meetings to help me improve upon my weak spots in each subject. My teachers for my three major work subjects (Drama, Visual Arts, and English Extension 2) happily gave feedback on countless drafts. This meant I stayed on track, giving me confidence in my work, and allowing me to keep refining and improving.



"I found that where I needed help, my teachers would give concise and understandable feedback that allowed me to quickly improve that aspect of my work."

HSC Showcase

Congratulations to the eleven Dance, Industrial Technology Multimedia, Drama and Visual Arts students, who received a total of sixteen nominations for **CALLBACK** (ten nominations from five students and one selection), **SHAPE** (four nominations), **OnSTAGE** (one nomination) and **ARTEXPRESS** (one nomination), showcasing exemplary student works in Dance, Design and Technology, Industrial Technology, Textiles and Design, Drama and Visual Arts.

Commendations to those students below who also received a Band 6 for their Major Works.

CALLBACK – HSC Dance



Charlotte Testoni - Year 11 Accelerated Dance

Nominated - Core Performance, Core Composition and Major Study Performance.

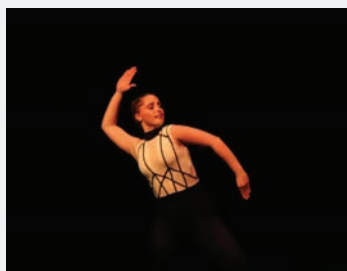
Selected - Major Study Performance 'Jonathan and Jermaine'.

"Dance at Pittwater House has remained one of my favourite school experiences since beginning in Year 7. The skills I have acquired from both the co-curricular dance companies and the Elective Dance subject have benefited me both in and outside of school. The continual teacher support and guidance has provided me with confidence and has allowed me to grow as a dancer, given I have now completed my HSC examination at a high level and a year ahead of many peers."



Nami Klune - Year 11 Accelerated Dance

Nominated - Core Performance, Core Composition and Major Study Performance.



Hadiya Williamson - Year 11 Accelerated Dance

Nominated - Core Performance.

SHAPE – HSC Design and Technology, Industrial Technology and Textiles



Angelina Hellowell – Year 12 Design and Technology

Nominated – Convertible homeless shelter and urban bench.



Amanda Cleworth – Year 12 Industrial Multimedia Technology

Nominated - Animation studio website, short animated trailer, a Vivid advertisement and supporting merchandise.



Axel Pryke – Year 12 Industrial Multimedia Technology

Nominated - Advertising studio website and three short advertisements using Adobe Premier Pro and After Effect.

OnSTAGE - HSC Drama



Ellis Plant – Year 12 Drama

Nominated - Individual Project, original play script titled 'Clockwork Assassin'.

ARTEXPRESS – HSC Visual Arts



Rory MacLennan – Year 12 Visual Arts

Nominated - Drawing submission titled 'Around for Ages'.

Distinguished Achievers

The Distinguished Achievers list shows students who achieved a result in the highest band (Band 6 or Band E4) for one or more subjects.

We congratulate the 50 students below who collectively secured an impressive 86 Band 6 results (a score of 90+) across 24 subjects.

Student Name	Top Band Courses
Oliver Allesch	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
Kael Borrello	Economics, English Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced, Modern History
Hannah Bosland	Business Studies
Amanda Cleworth	Industrial Technology, Mathematics Advanced, Visual Arts
Rory Connors	Mathematics Extension 1
Ruby Cumming	Mathematics Standard 2, Visual Arts
Jameson Dearnley	Visual Arts
Ciara Denton	Legal Studies
Asha Franklin	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
Taya Garner	Community and Family Studies
Isla Gillespie	Business Studies, English Extension 1, Legal Studies
Jake Griffith	Economics, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
Angelina Hellowell	Design and Technology, English Advanced, Mathematics Advanced, Physics, Italian Continuers
Ruby Hume	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Science Extension
Matthew Johnston	Chemistry, Economics, English Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1
Neve Kenny	English Extension 1
Shontelle Layton	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
Rory MacLennan	Mathematics Extension 1, Physics, Software Design and Development, Visual Arts
Sophia Millgate	Legal Studies
Maxwell Mrkic	Mathematics Standard 2
Kirra Newell	Visual Arts
Dylan Newland Dailly	Mathematics Advanced
Cameron Owen	Mathematics Standard 2
Blake Philip	Economics, Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
Ellis Plant	Drama, English Advanced, English Extension 1, Visual Arts
Axel Pryke	Industrial Technology
Darcy Robbins	Design and Technology
Joshua Rossouw	Visual Arts
Ethan Scott	Chemistry, Mathematics Extension 1, Software Design and Development
Josh Singh	Business Studies
Levi Smith	Mathematics Extension 1
Zara Stevanovic	Business Studies, English Standard, Mathematics Standard 2
Aiyla Thomas-Smith	Design and Technology
Taj Thompson	Economics, English Extension 1, Mathematics Advanced, Modern History
Chloe Waldie	Mathematics Standard 2
Maya Weaver	Legal Studies

Year 11 Accelerated Students

Year 11 students who have completed specific HSC subjects a year in advance, are known as “accelerated students”. The advanced completion of HSC units in Year 11 allows students more time to focus on their remaining subjects for Year 12, their final year of study.

We would like to acknowledge the below Year 11 accelerants for their exceptional Band 6 results in HSC Dance, Mathematics Advanced and Studies of Religion.

Student Name	Top Band Courses
Bonnie Chisholm	Studies of Religion
Catherine Connors	Mathematics Advanced
Chloe Davis	Mathematics Advanced
Rex Edwards	Mathematics Advanced
Yarra Jackson	Mathematics Advanced
Nami Klune	Dance
Michael Liao	Mathematics Advanced
Remy Metzke	Mathematics Advanced
Ashlee Palmer	Mathematics Advanced
Sophie Slavkovski	Studies of Religion
Vladislav Sushchev	Mathematics Advanced
Charlotte Testoni	Dance
Hadiya Williamson	Dance
Hugo Yttrup	Mathematics Advanced

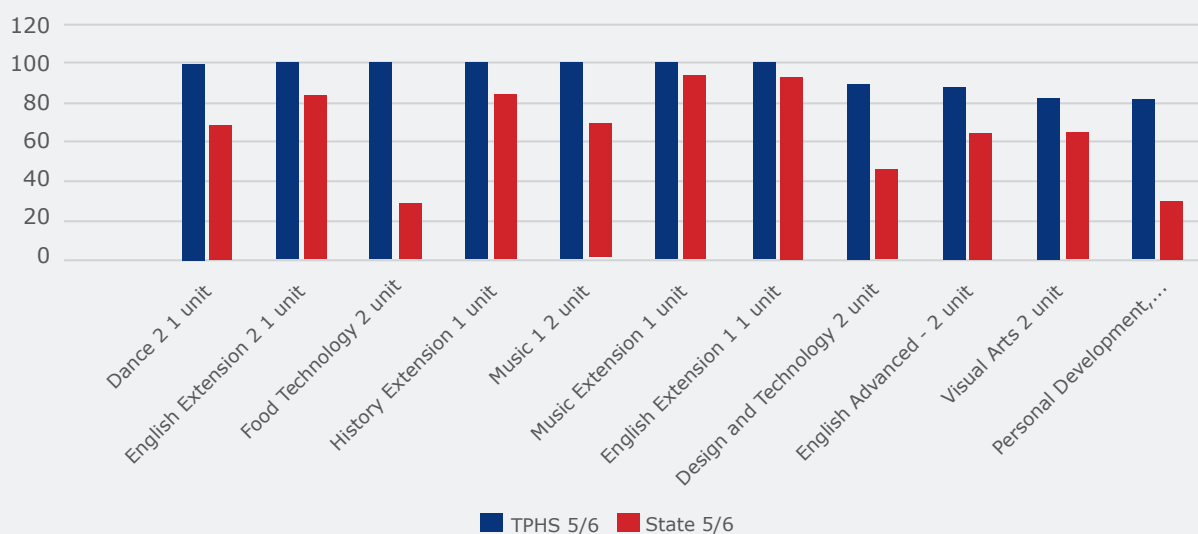


TPHS vs State

This year, students achieved notable results in specific subjects against NSW, with **100% of students achieving the top two Bands in Dance (state average 68.75), English Extension 2 (85.52), Food Technology (29.67), History Extension (85.21), Music 1 (68.7), Music Extension 1 (95.84), and English Extension 1 (94.23).**

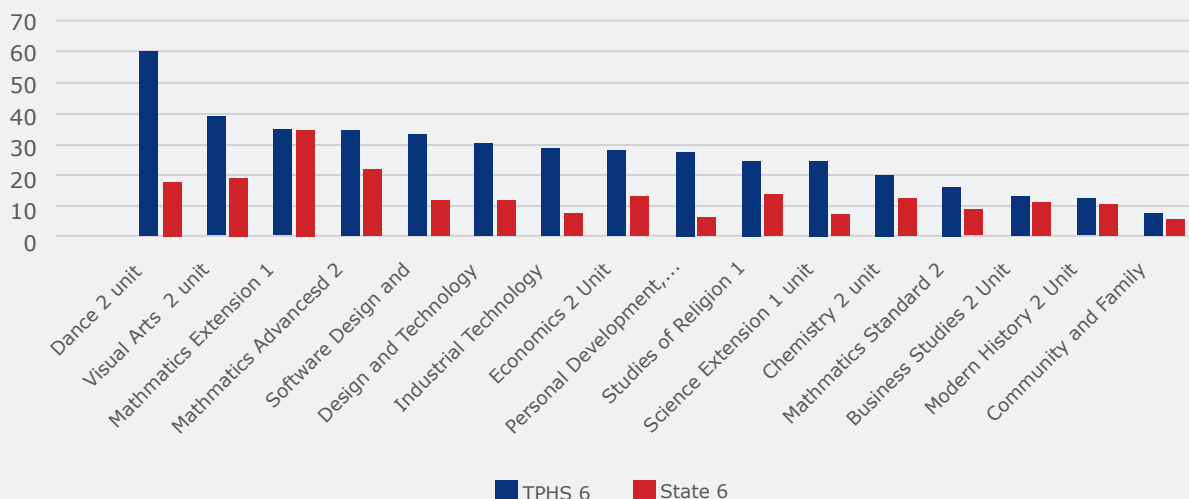
90% of students achieved the top two Bands in Design and Technology (47.21), and over 80% of students achieved the top two bands in English Advanced (67.12), Visual Arts (65.44) and PDHPE (30.7).

TPHS vs State Band 5 and 6 Combined



Pittwater House achieved considerable success against the state in the number of Band 6 results achieved in specific subjects, as can be seen from the table below. Highlights include Dance, where 60% of students achieved Band 6 results (against the state average of 16.83), Software Design and Development 33% (12.08), Design and Technology 30% (12.18), Industrial Technology 29% (7.56), Personal Development, Health and Physical Education 27% (6.37) and Science Extension 1 unit 25% (7.17).

Pittwater House Band vs State Band 6 2023





Pittwater House Graduating Class of 2023

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I commend this mature cohort for their dedication to their studies, the performing arts, creativity, sports, and for their demonstration of robust leadership skills. They have certainly embodied our School's enduring motto semper diligens, by being 'always hardworking'. These traits will undoubtedly position them well for the promising and ever-evolving paths that lie ahead.

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Dr Nancy Hillier Principal



Pittwater House

Experience true balance in education first hand.
For a Zoom Q & A with our Principal, Dr Hillier;
or a tour of our campus in action, please contact
our Registrar or book online via our website.

02 9972 5789

enrolments@tphs.nsw.edu.au

pittwaterhouse.com.au

Pittwater House
70 South Creek Road,
Collaroy NSW 2097
PO Box 244,
Manly NSW 1655 Australia
tel: + 61 2 9972 5789
fax: + 61 2 9972 5779