I am because we are. And since we are. Therefore I am.
What is transition?

Transition is the time of change in your child’s education, whether they are moving from primary to secondary school, from school to school, moving from interstate or from overseas. Our Staff will endeavour to make the transition as comfortable and as straightforward as possible for your child and they will help them prepare for and become familiar with the new campus and daily routines.

Our School

Warnbro Community High School is a co-educational secondary public school from Year 7 (in 2015) to Year 12. It is a local intake school, necessitating a Cross Boundary Application for students living outside the intake area. The school does allow enrolment wherever possible, but certainly cannot meet all requests for such enrolments.

The school offers three highly regarded Specialist Programs (Advanced Technology and Design, Adventure Recreation and Creative Arts) recognised by the Department of Education as having “Approved” status. Selection into these programs takes place during Year 7 (Years 5 and 6 in future years).

Our school is a community, fostering a cooperative and supportive environment for both students and staff. We provide a learning experience that acknowledges students for their individual skills and develops a sense of self-worth. We work with parents to encourage students to develop a sense of awareness about their own responsibilities as members of the school and the broader community.

At Warnbro Community High School we focus on positive behavior programmes such as Tribes.

Our Motto

"I AM BECAUSE WE ARE"

The school motto “I am because we are” was coined by Fatima Dike, a South African playwright. It captures a sense of community - the individual cannot exist without the community they live within and that community depends on the contribution of its individual members. Students are encouraged to reflect on this as they progress through their years at school.

This motto aligns strongly with the school’s commitment to our Vision, our commitment to Tribes and our participation in the PBS process.

Our Logo

Our Motto is also reflected in our school logo. A school of fish is similar to a community, each surviving and prospering with the protection of the others around them. One of these fish represented with an eye is the individual, supported by its community and swimming together in the same direction.

The star represents technology, an area of focus within the school.

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Mutual respect
Appreciations/No put downs
Attentive listening
Right to participate

Warnbro Community High School is also working through the Positive Behaviour in Schools (PBS) process that has been shown to deliver very positive behavioural and engagement outcomes. We are confident this process will allow us to further develop the Warnbro Community High School Vision - to create a positive, supportive environment which allows students to learn, aspire to their personal best and achieve their full potential.

Part of the PBS process requires the development of 3-5 simple but powerful expected behaviours.

3 Expected Behaviours to encapsulate our school;
Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Your Best
The First Day of School
Make sure your child goes to school well prepared for the day by:
• Being well rested after eight or nine hours sleep
• Having a good breakfast
• Wearing uniform
• Arriving in plenty of time – WCHS starts at 8:30 am
• Knowing where to meet friends inside the school grounds
• Knowing where to assemble
• Taking a file, organised into sections, notepaper and pencil case
• Taking healthy food for morning recess and lunch
• Having all belongings clearly named
• Arranging a clear pick-up time and place for the end of the day.

BE CALM AND REASSURING
• It will help your child feel more at ease if you are calm. Listen to any last minute concerns and talk about them before seeing your child off for the day. After school, talk about their day, the campus, their teachers, their new subjects and friends. Reassure your child that it’s OK if it takes a little while to adjust to the changes, to learn the lay-out of the school and to feel settled.

What to do if you are concerned about your child
Talk with your child privately and ask about the problem. Call the school – sooner rather than later. Arrange a meeting if necessary to discuss any issues with the year coordinator or a staff member at student services.

If you suspect your child is being bullied, contact the school and work together to address the issue.

Making Friends
This is especially important if your child is enrolled at an ‘out of area’ secondary school because there may not be any other students from their primary school for company.

The best way to make friends is to be friendly

Here are some tips for your child
• Speak to other students
• Introduce yourself and ask questions about topics such as sport or music
• Be positive and talk about good things
• Find out about clubs/activities at the school and join one that interests you. You will have something in common with the other members
• Be helpful if you see someone looking lost or sad
• Join in. Don’t hang back hoping someone will talk with you – they might think you are not interested
• Ask what classes they have next and if they’re going in the same direction
• Listen to what others are talking about and then join in without taking over
• Try to remember one or two names each day. Write them in your diary if that helps.

Things to do to support your child
Most importantly, be prepared! If your child will use public transport to and from school, get the timetable and do a trial run before school starts to be sure of times and stops. Make sure your child is ready in plenty of time to catch the bus or train, especially on the first day. Have a plan in place in case your child misses their transport.

Simple things like wearing the right uniform can make a big difference to how comfortable your child feels on day one. You will be provided with Uniform Shop hours so you can get the uniform well before school starts. Don’t forget the physical education uniform and find out which days it is needed. Clearly name your child’s clothes.

Make sure to get the required books and stationery so your child is ready on the first day. Name everything so lost property does not become an issue your child has to deal with.

Talk about bullying, peer pressure and risk-taking behaviour. Activities such as riding without a helmet, daring others or acting out a dare and showing off put your child at risk. Your child will be shown where to find Student Services and their Year Coordinator – make sure they are willing to access them if they need help or advice. If they are not, make contact yourself – we have a team of skilled staff who can support your child and you.

A copy of your child’s timetable will help your child be prepared for each day with the required homework, equipment or sports gear. Photographing it onto their mobile phone works well (our phone policy permits use at school but NOT in class unless specifically authorized by the teacher).

Above all, use your child’s diary to source information and to communicate with teachers.
Warnbro Community High School Approved Specialist Programs

Adventure Recreation

Approved by the Department of Education as a Specialist Program in 2008, the Adventure Recreation program takes advantage of the unique environments that surround Warnbro Community High School. The Shoalwater Marine Park, the Darling Range and places further afield become the “classroom” for learning about leadership, teamwork, the environment, conservation and sustainability. This learning is embedded in enjoyable and challenging activities such as abseiling, snorkelling, rock climbing, sailing, fishing, surfing, hiking and mountain biking.

Warnbro Community High School is one of only two schools in the state to offer such a program. Students enrol in the program in Year 7 and 8, and have the opportunity to carry this through into either TAFE or University.

For more information please visit www.wchsadventurerec.com

Creative Arts

The Creative Arts Specialist Program (CASP) provides an environment that fosters creativity, self expression and cultural exploration in a safe and nurturing environment. We promote risk-taking, investigation and instructive play. Students are required to ask questions themselves while they develop and articulate their values. Our overall aim is that, as a student develops openness to advice and constructive criticism, they build an appreciation of the Arts, acknowledging different perspectives and developing a personal aesthetic.

CASP enhances students understanding of arts forms and how they are constructed for different audiences, allowing for the demonstration of higher levels of work and a direct contribution to the surrounding local and wider community. For more information please visit www.wchsarts.net

Advanced Technology & Design

The Advanced Technology and Design program at Warnbro Community High School caters for students who will typically take on professional and para-professional career roles in design, architecture, engineering and project management. Warnbro has established links with various organisations including Challenger TAFE, Murdoch University, Curtin University and the Defence Industry Career Pathways project and have support from major resource companies Hatch Engineering and Fluor.

Design is the cornerstone for all teaching and learning activities in the ATD program at Warnbro Community High School. Students develop strong foundations in the development of enterprising learning processes involving critical thinking skills, creative thinking skills, reflective thinking skills and communicating skills. This approach helps students learning and development as they move from one ATD focus area to another during their middle school experience and onwards into Year 10.

For more information please visit www.warnbroatd.com
Student Leadership

Student leadership at Warnbro Community High School is about empowering young people to make a difference in their school and the community and it takes two forms.

Peer Support Leaders

When new students come to transition day in Term 4 they will be introduced to their Peer Support Leaders – Year 9 students who have been trained to support and mentor the incoming group. The leaders will be in bright fluoro vests directing students to the gym where they will join a small group of other new students and two Peer Support Leaders. These leaders will then take the students on a tour and help them through the rest of the day’s program.

When your child turns up for the first day of school next year, the same peer leaders (now Year 10’s) will be at the front of the school to welcome them into high school. They will direct the students to the gym and will be there to help them find their class. At recess and lunch times, the peer leaders will be available to answer questions and help students find their next class. Peer leaders can be found at “The Zone” (a place where only Year 7 and 8 students and their Year 10 Peer Support Leaders can go) for the first 3 weeks of the year by which time all students will have established normal routines.

Peer Support leaders will stay connected with the new students as they assist staff with a number of fun community-building events throughout the year (eg the highly anticipated Year 8 camp). Every new student will know at least two older students they can go to for help and directions.

Student Council

The school’s Student Council is made up of representatives from every year group. The council focuses on student-led initiatives that enhance the life of the school. Student Councillors canvas the rest of the student body to identify areas of need. The council then breaks into focus groups to develop and implement a strategic plan. The older student councillors also participate in the School Council meetings to provide a student perspective.

UNIFORM

All students who attend Warnbro Community High School are required to wear the full school uniform.

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| EVERY DAY | • School polo club shirt  
• Senior School shirt/blouse  
• Micro-fibre zip jacket  
• School fleecy jacket |
| | It is much preferred that students wear items from the uniform shop;  
• Microfibre sports shorts  
• Track pants  
• Skirt or Skort  
• Trousers  
If for some reason this is not possible, students can wear generic plain navy brands as long as they do not display wide stripes or large manufacturer’s logos.  
• Shorts/skirts/skorts must be of minimum mid-thigh length |
| SPORTS | • Navy sports shirt with white sleeve  
• Navy shorts  
• Sports shoes |

Closed-in shoes secured at the heel are a safety requirement. Denim, ugg boots, thongs and sandals are not acceptable. Please note leggins are not appropriate wear for school, unless worn under school skirts or school shorts. At all times, visible clothing must be school uniform. Other clothing may be worn underneath the uniform but it must not be visible and must not incorporate a hood. Students going on excursions must be in full school uniform.

On the odd occasion when a student is not in uniform they will need to go to Student Services BEFORE school to borrow appropriate items. This is an important procedure, as all students must maximise in-class time focusing on learning. Students will lose Good Standing if they do not follow this procedure.

All uniform items are available from the school uniform shop which is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 7.30am and 10.00am. Please be aware that the uniform shop accepts cash only.

Below are some quotes from students who have sourced help from Year Coordinators in previous years.

“Not everyone can have an easy home life, and sometimes that reflects on your school work and the way you behave. Student Services houses year coordinators for every year group and they are all there to support students. Your Year Coordinator will be there for you if you ever need to discuss issues that you are having or just need someone to talk to. They will give you strategies for you to deal with problems and celebrate your achievements”

“Through the help of my year coordinator throughout high school I was able to become a resilient person by adopting the strategies they gave me to deal with some of my issues”

“It wasn’t an easy transition into high school but after sourcing assistance from my year coordinator I was able to develop as a person and open myself up to learning experiences. When you are finding things tough, make sure you seek help from the year coordinator as they can help you throughout your school life”
BULLYING POLICY
Warnbro Community High School does not tolerate bullying of any type. Every student in the school has the right to feel safe in the school and to be treated with respect.
However, an element of bullying can occur in every school.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BULLIED?
If you are being bullied let someone on school staff know about it so that they can help you. You may wish to tell one of your teachers in class or in Student Services, the School Psychologist, the Chaplain or the School Nurse who will then begin the process of dealing with the situation. If you prefer you can hand in a Bullying Incident Report Form to Student Services.

Responsibility & Independence
Plan an out-of-school routine with your child that promotes a balanced lifestyle. You can help your child set up a quiet area for study in your home away from distractions. Making a study timetable early in the year will help your child finish assignments by the due date and be ready for tests.

Responsibility

- Tell the bully to stop or ignore the behaviour and walk away.
- Show that it doesn’t upset you.
- Talk with friends, family and teachers. Bullying thrives on silence.
- Know the difference between ‘dobb ing’ and being assertive
- Say something if you observe bullying, you protect the bully
- Know the format required
- Know the due date

Youth Agencies

These contacts may be useful to students or parents seeking support and information for themselves or for friends.

Kids Helpline
Telephone and online counselling anytime, for any reason.
A confidential free call.
Ph 1800 551 800

The Samaritans YOUTHLINE
Speak to an ordinary caring person at the end of the line who will offer a listening ear. They are non-judgemental, safe, confidential, non-religious, apply no pressure and provide free support.
Ph 9588 2500 Criseline 9881 5555 Freecall 1800 199 333

Crisis Care (24hrs)
Information and counselling service for people in crisis needing urgent help.
Ph 9223 1111 or 1800 199 008

Youthlink
Provides counselling/therapy for homeless or at risk youth.
Ph 1300 362 569 or Department for Child Protection Ph 9527 0100

Kinway Relationship Services
Provides counselling services to families experiencing conflict with young people aged 10 to 18 years.
Ph 9528 0702

The Station – Youth Centre
Hefron Street Rockingham is run by Rockingham City Council and provides a range of youth services.
Ph 9528 8690

South Coastal Women’s Health Services
Information, referral, education and counselling for women of all ages.
4 Coss Blvd Rockingham Ph 9550 0900

Quarry Youth Health Centre
Information, checkups, counselling from youth focused doctors, counsellors and nurse practitioners.
7 Quarry St, Fremantle. Ph 9490 4544

Sexual Assault Resource Centre
Offers assistance to any person 13 years and over who has experienced any form of sexual assault or abuse.
Ph 9940 1828 (24hrs) or 1800 199 888

Year Coordinators

The Year Coordinators are all housed in Student Services. The aim is to work with different members of the school community to maximise student achievement, maintain high attendance, and make students feel part of a safe and inclusive school.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Responding promptly to resolve situations and to ensure all parties concerned are satisfied with the outcomes.
- Supporting staff and assisting in the development of their behaviour management strategies.
- Working closely with Associate Principals, Heads of Learning Areas, support staff, Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer (or AIEO), School Nurse, Psychologist, Chaplain and Education Aides to ensure the needs of the students are met.
- Case Conferencing with students and parents to assist in achieving a common goal.
- Using Restorative Practice to rebuild relationships that have broken down for various reasons.
- Developing Individual Education Plans for students to evaluate their own learning and behaviours.
- Analysing school attendance data identifying students at educational risk and planning for improvement.
- Coordinating “Return from Suspension” meetings with parents and students to identify areas of improvement and ways of dealing with situations.
- Introducing new students to the school and setting them up with peer mentors.