



# BLUE MOUNTAINS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer/Guardian

Blue Mountains Grammar is an excellent school and whilst my first Semester among you has been focused on discovering areas we might improve I have also discovered the beauty and splendour of the place. Thank you to the many parents who have shared their perspectives on the School. Every conversation provides further input and stimulus to my thinking.

So, whilst this one-off process of Headmaster orientation continues, I am seeking to ensure we are listening to the feedback we regularly receive and putting in place ongoing processes of consultation that will provide us with the kind of feedback we need in the years to come. It will be this comprehensive approach to feedback that will support our whole-School commitment to improvement and innovation, focussing on the needs of every individual in our community.

For this reason, I am excited to announce our School's biennial participation in the Association of Independent Schools NSW (AISNSW) Perspectives suite of surveys. This is a school-wide industry standard survey tool intended to provide all staff, all parents and guardians, all students in Years 5-12, School leaders, and Board members with the opportunity to assist in the growth and development of our whole School community. The surveys focus on five important domains: School Environment, Teaching and Learning, Student Wellbeing, Leadership, and Community. Gathering information about these areas will be of significant benefit to us as a community to help identify our School's strengths as well as any opportunities for improvement, as we seek to ensure we are meeting the needs of all.

The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed on any device. It will be available in Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 3, between Monday 29 July and Friday 09 August 2019, and details about how to access the survey will be emailed to you on the opening date.

As this is an industry standard instrument it is important that we follow the same protocols as other schools as prescribed by AISNSW. For this reason, parents/carers/guardians with more than one child currently at the School are asked to respond considering the child with the next birthday. Also, only one response from each household/family should be provided and so the survey will be sent to only one of the email addresses we have listed. As a default we have chosen the female parent/carer/guardian, with variations for families where this is not appropriate or possible. It is our hope that in families where there are two parent/carer/guardian's, the two would sit together and discuss their responses.

Our survey partner, the AISNSW, places paramount importance on data security. Data will only be used for the purpose for which it is collected and no data will be disclosed to third parties. The School will only have access to aggregate results for each stakeholder group. The survey is completely confidential and anonymous. Apart from the email address by which you respond, no identifying details will be collected, and all raw data will be held in a survey database and analysed independently by AISNSW staff. Once all surveys are complete, and prior to aggregate data being made available to the School, email address data will be destroyed.

As a valued member of our community, I thank you in advance for engaging with the survey and partnering with us to improve the experience of everyone at our School, including your family and your child(ren). Your input is important to the success of our continuous school improvement process. Should you have any questions regarding the Perspectives survey, please contact the School's Perspectives Liaison, Janine Hanrahan (also my Assistant) or at [perspectives@bmgs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:perspectives@bmgs.nsw.edu.au).

Kind Regards

**Ian Maynard**  
Headmaster