



**Northholm**  
Grammar



Learning through Scholarship  
**HSC Results 2021**

# Principal's Report

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**It is with a great sense of pride we announce that Northholm Grammar is now ranked 45 in New South Wales standings of best performing Schools in the HSC. Our continued achievements in scholarship through our HSC results is recognition of our vision and commitment to academic growth and developing the character of each student.**

Positioned in the Top 50 Schools in the State is a stunning result!

With the global pandemic heavily influential in the background of their final year of schooling, our students were amazing in meeting the challenges of the HSC Examinations. The sacrifices were many including the postponement of significant rites of passage and the sudden adjustment to the changing landscape of face-to-face teaching to the 'remote learning experience'. However, they did all of that and more with enormous resilience and character throughout the year.

Our outstanding HSC results in 2021 are testament to the targeted program and the exceptional academic care of our teachers provide to every student. Northholm Grammar's standing as one of the leading schools in the Sydney metropolitan area is reflected in the following highlights:

- **13** students recognised as NSW Distinguished Achievers
- **3** students on the Honour Roll (Niamh Cassar, Gemma Squire, Tyler Old)
- **3** State Ranks - Joseph Clemmit 1st (Music), Gemma Squire 8th (Ancient History), Niamh Cassar 19th (Legal Studies)
- **79%** of students gaining at least one Band 5 or Band 6
- **88%** of courses achieved above State Average marks
- Congratulations to **Niamh Cassar** the Dux of the School with an ATAR of 99.65.

During my conversations with Year 12 students over the course of the past few weeks, a strong sense of collegiality within the cohort, as well as their teachers, were relayed as key factors for the student's extraordinary success. Northholm Grammar's strong culture of learning, and our nurturing community are, as always, at the heart of what we achieve.

The continued growth in our HSC results over the past three years are indicative of our exceptional teachers and rigorous educational programs. Three years ago,



Northholm Grammar made a commitment to embrace a stronger professional learning program in developing our professional practice, as well as an unrelenting focus on explicit teaching, engaging in deliberate practice and delivering regular feedback.

A strong relationship between the teacher and student is critical to achieving 'academic intentionality with pastoral attentiveness'. Teachers don't just teach disciplines (Mathematics, Science, English, etc), they teach people. Education is about connectedness, belonging and being relational. From a learning perspective, a strong sense of relatedness and connectedness better positions students to take on challenges, set positive goals and establish high expectations that extend and motivate them.

These results are the outcome of incredible commitment, courage, grit and ambition, particularly in the context of the challenges arising from the COVID pandemic over the past two years.

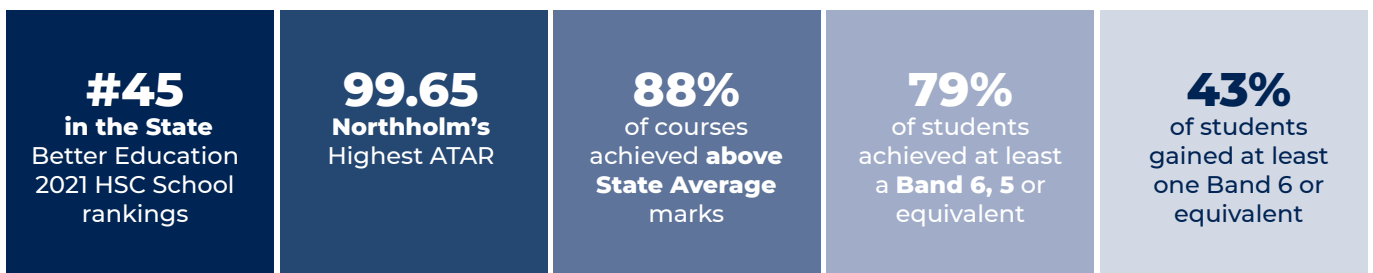
We also acknowledge our community – parents, friends and family – for their support of the Years 12s, in contributing to these excellent results.

Congratulations again to our Year 12 2021 cohort on their magnificent results. We are very proud of their achievements.

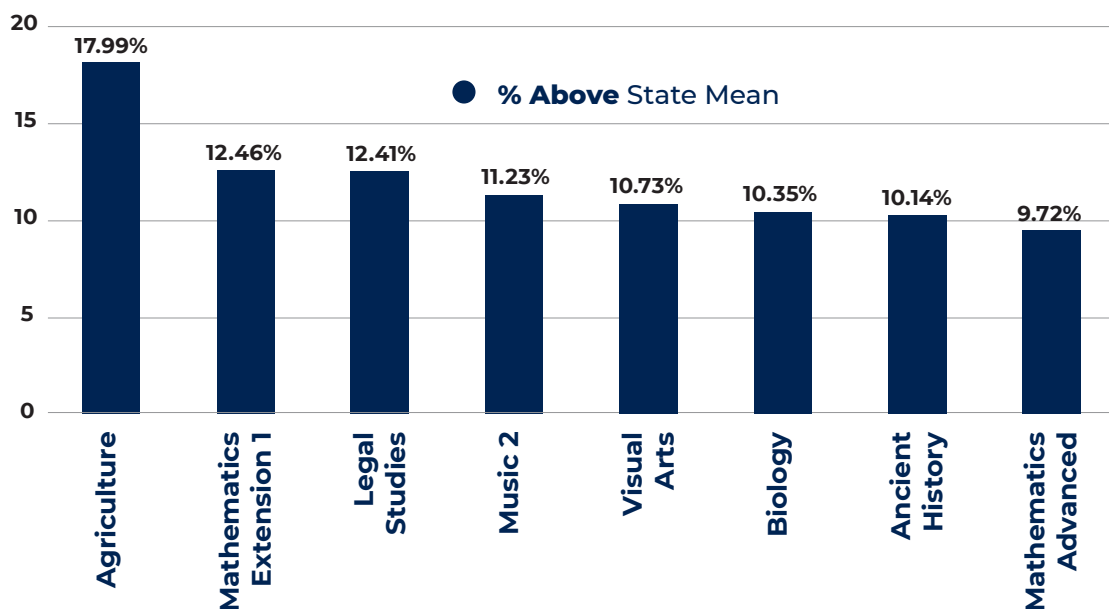
**Christopher Bradbury**  
Principal



## HSC Results Highlights



## Northholm Grammar vs. State Mean



# Northholm High Achievers



**Niamh Cassar**  
**ATAR 99.65**

English Advanced  
Economics  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2



**Joseph Clemmit**  
**ATAR 98.95**

English Advanced  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2  
Music 1



**Gemma Squire**  
**ATAR 98.6**

Ancient History  
English Advanced  
English Extension 1  
Mathematics Standard  
Society and Culture  
Visual Arts



**Tyler Old**  
**ATAR 97.1**

English Advanced  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Advanced  
PDHPE  
Visual Arts



**Olivia Charlton**  
**ATAR 96.05**

Biology  
English Standard  
Geography  
Mathematics Standard  
PDHPE



**Bodie  
Greatbatch-Murphy**  
**ATAR 95.25**

Drama  
English Advanced  
English Extension 1  
Mathematics Standard  
Modern History  
Society and Culture



**Mitchell Black**  
**ATAR 94**

Business Studies  
English Advanced  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Advanced  
PDHPE



**Ethan Reiss**  
**ATAR 92.9**

Business Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Physics  
Primary Industries



**Faith Trestrail**  
**ATAR 91.2**

Design and Technology  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced  
PDHPE  
Visual Arts

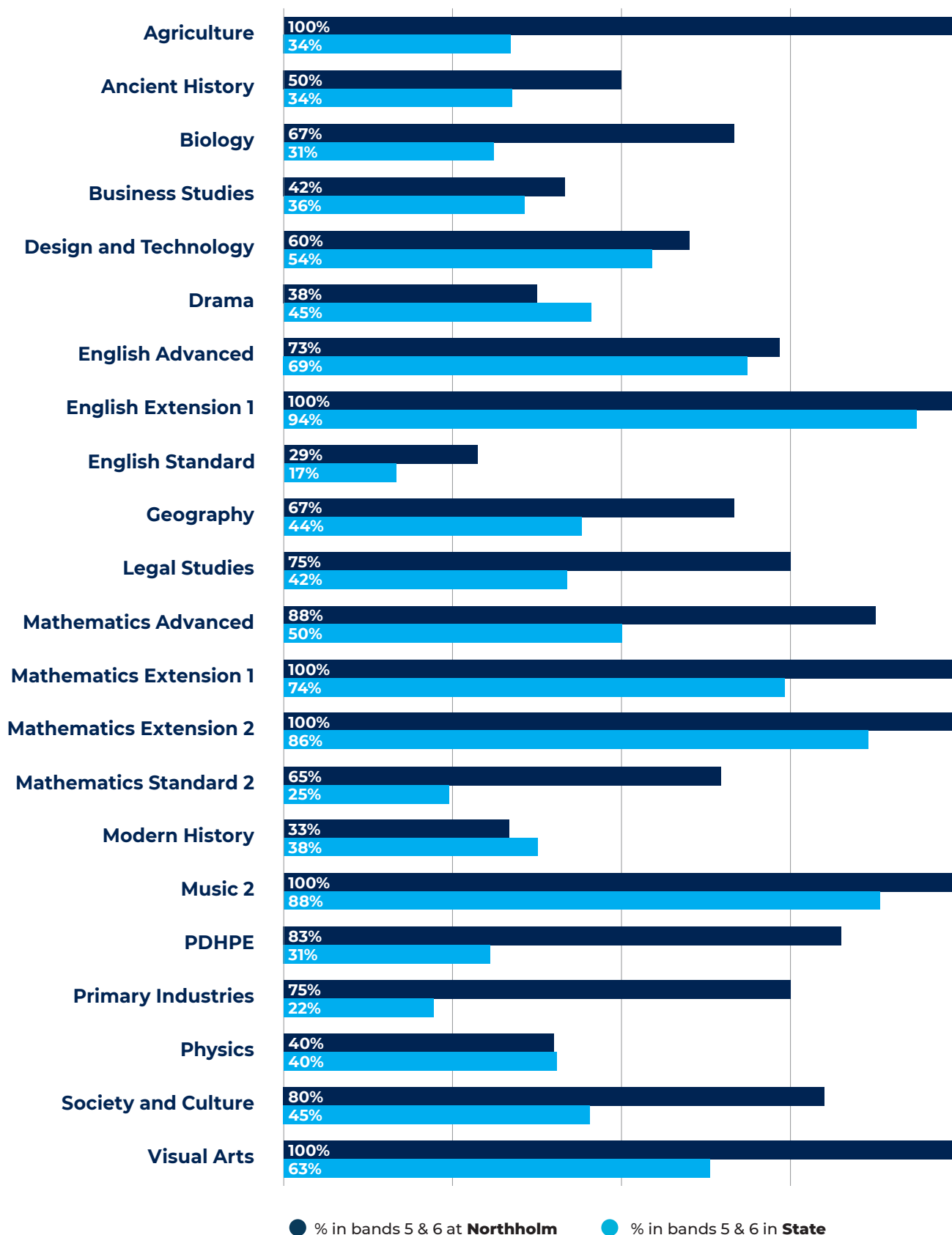


Congratulations again to our Year 12 2021 cohort on their magnificent results. We are very proud of their achievements.



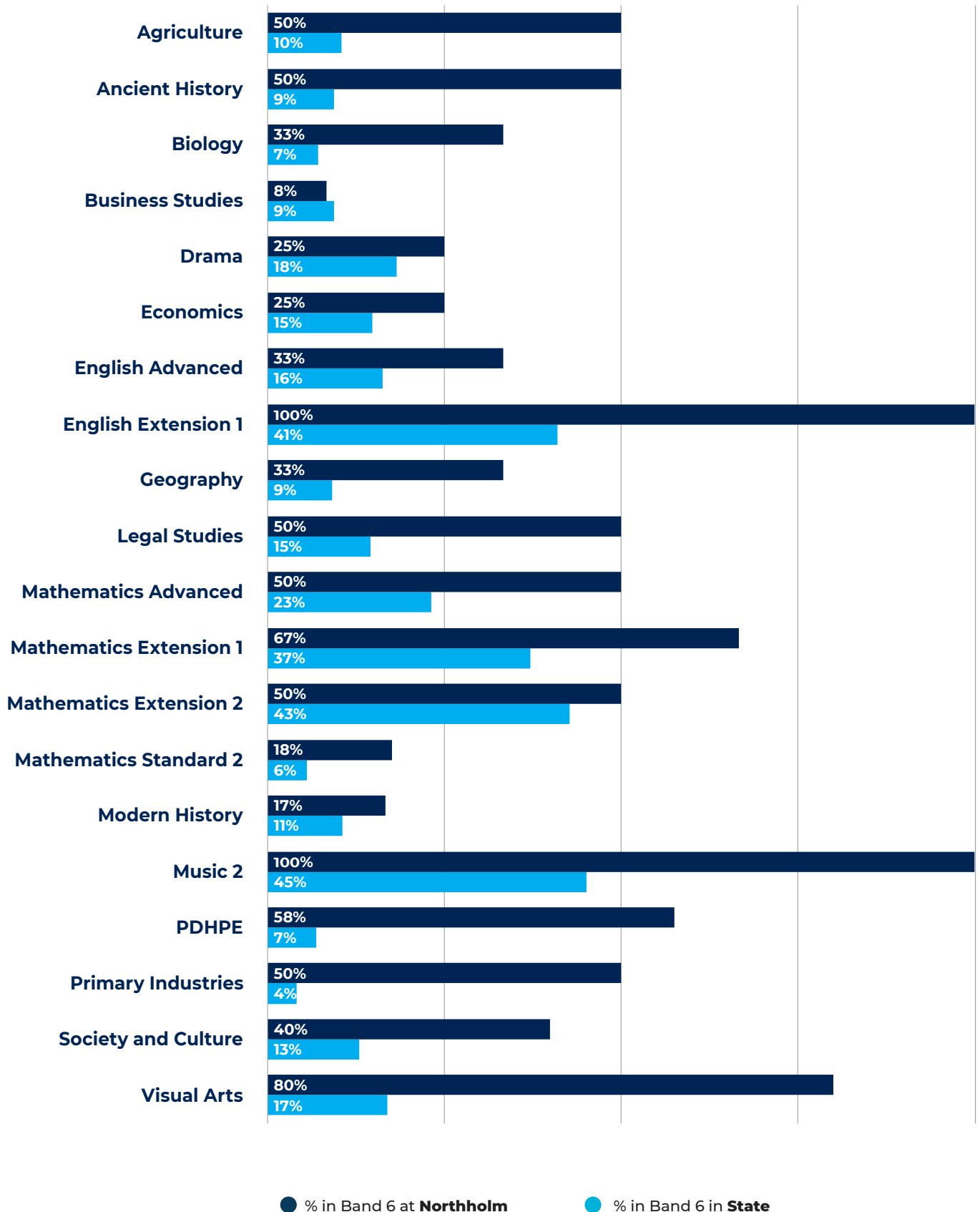
# Performances in HSC Courses

Each student's performance in a HSC course is measured in levels, called Bands, from 1 to 6. Bands 5 and 6 are the highest levels. The table below shows some of the HSC courses studied at Northholm, comparing the percentage of students who achieved Bands 5 and 6 at Northholm against the State average.



# Northholm Students awarded Band 6

The table below shows some of the HSC courses studies at Northholm, comparing the percentage of students who achieved Band 6 in State at Northholm against the State average.



# HSC All Rounders

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The following students achieved Band 6 results across all their subjects.



**Niamh Cassar**



**Tyler Old**



**Gemma Squire**

# HSC Distinguished Achievers

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The following students achieved a Band 6 or E4 result in the following subjects, meaning they scored over 90%.

<b>Mitchell Black</b>	Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
<b>Niamh Cassar</b>	Economics, English Advanced, Legal Studies, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 2
<b>Olivia Charlton</b>	Biology, Geography, Mathematics Standard 2, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
<b>Joseph Clemmit</b>	English Advanced, Legal Studies, Mathematics Extension 1, Music 2
<b>Brianna Cusick</b>	Mathematics Standard 2, Primary Industries
<b>Bodie Greatbatch Murphy</b>	Drama, English Advanced, English Extension 1, Modern History, Society and Culture
<b>Chelsea Harkins</b>	Drama, Visual Arts
<b>Tyler Old</b>	English Advanced, Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, Visual Arts
<b>Ethan Reiss</b>	Business Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Primary Industries Examination
<b>Gemma Squire</b>	Ancient History, English Advanced, English Extension 1, Mathematics Standard 2, Society and Culture, Visual Arts
<b>Faith Trestrail</b>	Visual Arts
<b>Imogen Williams</b>	Agriculture
<b>Daniel Han Xing Zhang</b>	Mathematics Advanced

# Students in top bands

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Proportion of students in the courses that achieved in the top two bands (Band 5 and Band 6).



**Agriculture, English Extension 1,  
Mathematics Extension 1,  
Mathematics Extension 2,  
Music 2, Visual Arts**



**Advanced Mathematics,  
Society and Culture**



**Advanced English,  
Legal Studies, Primary Industries**



## Niamh Cassar

**ATAR 99.65**  
**Dux of the School**  
**School Prefect**  
**HSC All Rounder**  
**19th in State for Legal Studies**



... an accomplished and well-rounded student, whose quiet determination has seen her make a significant contribution to the Northholm community.



**Niamh is an exceptional student whose academic efforts and consistently excellent results culminated in an outstanding ATAR of 99.65. During her time at Northholm Grammar her diligence was recognised in her receipt of numerous academic awards each year. In addition to many Subject Awards and Pockets for Academic Achievement, Niamh was deservedly awarded Dux each year. Such outstanding academic achievement is a testament to her determination, natural ability and hard work.**

When asked about her academic experiences at Northholm Grammar, Niamh said, "I was lucky to have so many amazing teachers that pushed me to strive for academic excellence, as they never failed to go above and beyond, whether it was marking additional work and providing subsequent feedback, running extra after school lessons or supervising the library until 7.00pm so it could be used for study."

In her time at school, Niamh has had an impressive athletics career. She is a gifted sportswoman who consistently represented Northholm and the Hills Zone in athletics, cross country and swimming. She achieved significant success as a stalwart of the School Triathlon Team, progressing to competing at the NSW All Schools Triathlon. Her outstanding athletics career saw her awarded three School Pockets for Sport Achievement and trophies for athletics and cross country.

Furthermore, outside of school Niamh achieved outstanding results in orienteering. In 2018 she was selected in the NSW All Schools Orienteering Team and competed in the Australian Championships.

During her senior years, Niamh's leadership skills came to the fore. In Year 10 she was appointed as a Peer Support Leader, proactively assisting students new to Northholm to feel a sense of belonging by establishing a close connection to those in her designated group. She was then selected as a School Prefect.

Niamh has also made the most of other co-curricular opportunities available to her, especially in agriculture. She was a member of the Dorper Show Team in Years 7 and 8, and was an Agriculture Leader in Year 10, a role that saw her involved in the Primary Years Animal Handling Program. Even in the senior years Niamh has remained active in Agriculture as part of her School Prefect portfolio, assisting with displays at the Royal Easter Show, adopting a leadership role by assisting members of staff and mentoring younger students.

Niamh described what she loved most about a Northholm education were "the extensive co-curricular opportunities that worked to build character while simultaneously focusing on academic excellence. I found Northholm to have a friendly environment, where small classes facilitated my every need and met me with a personalised education so I could achieve my true potential".

Niamh is an accomplished and well-rounded student, whose quiet determination has seen her make a significant contribution to the Northholm community.

Niamh has enrolled in a Bachelor of Actuarial Studies and a Bachelor of Commerce at UNSW, looking to graduate with a double degree in 2025.





**Olivia Charlton**

**ATAR 96.05**  
**Senior Prefect**  
**School Champion of Sport**



Her appointment as Senior Prefect in 2021 reflected her exceptional leadership abilities and the sustained commitment she has demonstrated in all aspects of school life.



**Olivia is a conscientious and disciplined student who demonstrated outstanding commitment to her academic studies, achieving high standards in all subject areas which included four Band 6 results. She excelled in the academic sphere, as well as achieving great sporting success and having a profound influence in her role as Senior Prefect, leading the Inter-House Competitions.**

Olivia believes the strength of a Northholm education is based on being “specific and being able to be tailored to each student due to the smaller size cohorts. This was amazing as it meant I was able to learn in a way that was right for me which made the educational experience more enjoyable as well as allowing me to achieve my goals and reach my potential.”

Throughout her time at Northholm, Olivia’s enthusiasm and willingness to embrace new opportunities were evident in her leadership roles. In Year 10 she was selected as Capell House Captain. In this capacity she played a significant role in the Peer Support Program, supporting incoming Year 7 students while, at the same time, mentoring her peers in their leadership of younger students. Her appointment as Senior Prefect in 2021 reflected her exceptional leadership abilities and the sustained commitment she has demonstrated in all aspects of school life. Her dedication to these leadership roles has been outstanding, in the way she has coordinated activities and events as well as encouraging school spirit and involvement in the broader school community.

Olivia also made a significant contribution to co-curricular sport, notably in cross country, athletics, swimming and netball. She

represented the School and Hills Zone in all four sports; additionally, she achieved AICES representation level in the latter three sports. Furthermore, Olivia participated in the triathlon team event. For her outstanding achievement across a range of sports, Olivia achieved numerous School Pockets and sports trophies, reflective not only of her high level of skill but also of the sportsmanlike manner in the way she competes. As a Year 8 student she was awarded Middle Years Sports Achiever and in Year 9 and Year 12 she was the School’s Champion of Sport.

Olivia is an accomplished person who made an admirable contribution to all facets of school life. She was the recipient of the Louise Lennon Award, presented to the student who has exercised the greatest influence for good in the School. There can be no greater endorsement of a person’s character than this award.

Olivia has clearly articulated her belief that Northholm’s greatest attribute is the Staff. “Every teacher I crossed paths with at Northholm has helped shaped me as the person I am today. The tireless hours spent by members of Staff to help me both in and out of the classroom truly was the key to my amazing education,” she said.

Olivia has chosen to study a Bachelor of Secondary Education (Physical Health and Education) at Macquarie University. She is currently working with the Northholm PDHPE Department, coaching students in the Sport and Co-Curricular Programs.



## Joseph Clemmit

**ATAR 98.95**  
**Senior Prefect**  
**1st in State for Music 2**



Joseph's enthusiasm and willingness to embrace new opportunities was evident throughout his time at Northholm Grammar.



**Joseph is a remarkable young man who demonstrated a conscientious and diligent approach to his studies culminating in an outstanding ATAR of 98.95 and being ranked First in the State in Music 2. Joseph humbly credits much of his success to his dedicated teachers, stating Northholm was invaluable to his performance in the HSC.**

"My favourite part of my Northholm education was the ability of my teachers to recognise the individual strengths and weaknesses of each and every student. This allowed for everyone to gain an individualised learning experienced that helped enrich understanding within subjects and build a greater appreciation of the content that had been taught," he said.

Joseph is a highly talented musician, this year achieving his AMusA and attaining early entry into study at the Conservatorium. He has been a significant participant in various music groups including the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Stage Band, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Ensemble and Senior Choir. Joseph has mentored many younger musicians and has represented the school in music championships, eisteddfods, recitals and festivals. His outstanding commitment to the Music Department at Northholm is acknowledged in his receipt of numerous School Pockets and music awards presented at Speech Night.

Joseph's enthusiasm and willingness to embrace new opportunities was evident throughout his time at Northholm Grammar. His appointment as Senior Prefect reflected his exceptional leadership abilities and the sustained commitment he has demonstrated in all aspects of school life.

Joseph made an outstanding contribution to the School's Co-Curricular Program in a broad range of areas. In sport he has been a committed member of the Basketball Program throughout his secondary schooling. In Drama he participated in numerous school productions and, as a younger student, he was involved in numerous clubs, including Alpaca and Coding. Joseph's area of interest extended to STEAM.

In addition, Joseph participated in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Program, successfully completing all three levels. It is a particularly commendable achievement to complete one's Gold Award before leaving school.

Joseph has been exemplary in his commitment to serving the community and his sense of citizenship. Joseph completed the Rural Fire Service Cadet Program and has, for each of his years at Northholm, pledged his involvement to raise funds for the World's Greatest Shave in support of the Leukaemia Foundation.

Over the past few years Joseph has received the Daff Award for Initiative, the ADF Long Tan Award for Leadership and Teamwork and the Catriona Little Award which acknowledges a young person who demonstrates leadership and selflessness. Furthermore, this year Joseph is the recipient of the Ampol Award for All-Round Excellence.

Joseph will be studying a Bachelor of Music (Performance) majoring in Classical Piano at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. His dream is to pursue music as a career, aiming to become either an established concert pianist or orchestral conductor.



**Tyler Old**

**ATAR 97.10**  
**School Captain**  
**HSC All Rounder**



Tyler is a highly accomplished person who made an outstanding contribution to all facets of school and community life.



**Tyler is a Renaissance woman who demonstrated a conscientious and diligent approach to her academic studies throughout her schooling. Her dedication was acknowledged in the numerous academic awards which were presented to her at Speech Night each year and also in her receipt of School Pockets for academic achievement.**

Tyler's willingness to embrace new opportunities was evident throughout her time at Northholm Grammar. Because of her can-do attitude, entrepreneurial spirit and ability to face a challenge, Tyler was selected as a participant in the Max Potential Program, a leadership development program which connects emerging young leaders with community leaders. Her appointment as School Captain reflected her strong leadership abilities and the sustained commitment she has demonstrated in all aspects of school life.

Tyler has also been involved in a wide range of individual and team sports during her time at Northholm Grammar. Tyler participated in futsal and cheer teams and represented the School in athletics and triathlon. Furthermore, she achieved Hills Zone and AICES representation level in cross country, receiving a School Pocket for her achievement in this sport.

In addition to her leadership and sporting involvement, Tyler participated in a range of co-curricular activities, including Alpaca, Art, Dance, Pottery and Tumbling. She was a member of one of the Bands and the Dorper Show Team. She made a significant contribution to Drama through her involvement in numerous productions and through her choreography of dance routines in one of the

Senior Drama Productions. Her outstanding contribution to Drama was recognised in her receipt of a School Pocket.

Tyler commented that she "loved the supportive teachers that I had both in the classroom but also throughout the entire school. One of the highlights of my education at Northholm was involvement in the Drama Productions and the trips to Kangaroo Valley because of the family atmosphere and lifelong memories that were created."

Tyler has also embraced many opportunities outside the School. Tyler performed in the Harvest Rain Theatre Company production of Grease the Arena Experience in 2018, was a finalist in the 2018 Get the Beat Dance Nationals and was awarded first place in the City of Ryde's Sustainable Waste to Art (SWAP) Art Prize in 2019. Last year she participated in the Lions Youth of the Year Program, winning the Public Speaking component.

Tyler is a highly accomplished person who made an outstanding contribution to all facets of school and community life. She was awarded the Northholm Association Award for Citizenship in recognition of her support and encouragement of other students, and her willingness to be involved in and assist with school activities.

Tyler is taking a gap year, before starting university in 2023, to focus on expanding her own experiences, as well as nurturing children's growth and development, in the arts industry. She will be exploring various employment and volunteer opportunities in teaching and performing, including returning to Northholm to teach Dance and coach Aerobics. She also recently started a new pet services small business.

**Challenging** minds. **Creating** futures.



**Northholm  
Grammar**

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