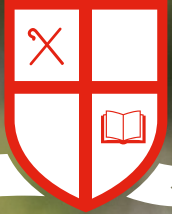


40
Years



Northholm
Grammar

1983 - 2023



Learning through Scholarship
HSC Results 2023

Principal's Report

We are thrilled to acknowledge the outstanding academic achievements of our Class of 2023 in HSC results. Northholm Grammar continues to build its reputation of achieving academic growth through personalised learning to be positioned 45th in NSW on the *Sydney Morning Herald* HSC rankings. For the third time in the past five years, Northholm Grammar celebrates being the most successful co-educational private school in the Hills District. It is also the second time, in the past three years, Northholm Grammar has achieved a Top 50 Ranking.

Our students embraced the opportunity to engage in a rigorous academic program and cultivate a mindset for continuous improvement that has allowed them to achieve their personal best. The sacrifices were many and they worked together as a collective group with enormous commitment and character throughout the year. It is with much pride that we celebrate their achievements and recognise that our vision and commitment to academic growth and scholarship continue to be rewarded.

Highlights and achievements include:

- **64** Honourable Mentions on the Distinguished Achievers list (Band 6 results)
- **56%** of students achieved at least one Band 6/E4
- **85%** of students achieved at least one Band 5 or Band 6
- **Calum Fraser** (School Captain and Dux) received an ATAR of 99.80
- **2** students on the All-round Achievers list
- Every subject achieved **above State Average** results
- **Every** student in Drama achieved an Individual and Group OnStage nomination
- Northholm Grammar was **13th in NSW** for Mathematics Standard
- **100%** of students achieved Band 6 results in French Continuers, Music 1 and Mathematics Extension 1

Our Year 12 students have shown resilience, determination and an unwavering drive towards excellence in all aspects of their schooling. As a cohort, they have led our School with kindness and a sense of cohesion, displaying empathy and compassion towards each other and their younger peers.

Northholm Grammar is deliberate in its strategic intent to foster a learning environment where students thrive and flourish in the pursuit of their personal best and achieving excellence. The narrative continues to grow with reference to realising *teacher excellence coupled with personal responsibility*, where our teachers need to be the experts in scaffolding and modelling appropriate practices to achieve excellence and our students need



to take ownership of their learning by being personally committed to continuous growth and improvement. The legacy of the Class of 2023 is their capacity to provide visibility to our school vision by demonstrating what *learning through scholarship* looks like in practice and setting high expectations for student achievement in future cohorts.

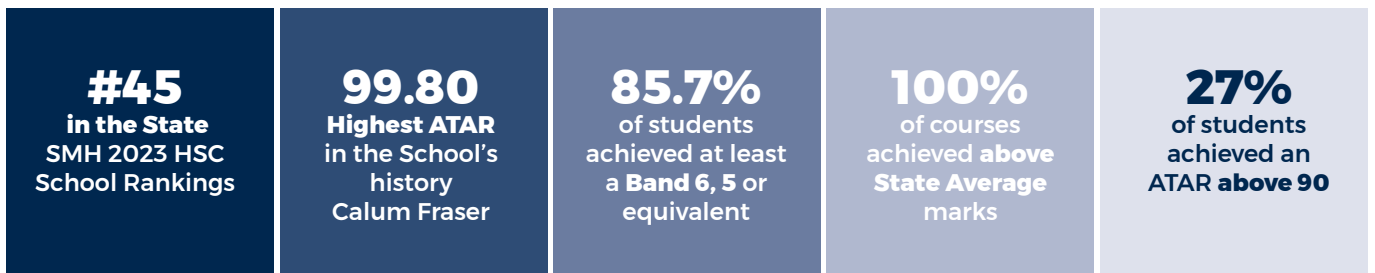
Our intention is to develop confident and compassionate students, who are effective contributors to society, successful learners and responsible citizens. As much as we are enormously proud of the academic achievements, what is particularly important is that it's complemented with an equal desire in character development and pastoral attentiveness. 'The Northholm Way' is focused on a broad education centred on allowing students to grow as individuals and find their passions so they can lead a well-rounded life and contribute to a thriving society. Our Year 12 students have again led by example through their involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award program, leadership, citizenship, sport and success in Creative and Performing Arts through OnStage nominations for all four students in both the individual and group component, as well as a SHAPE nomination for Design and Technology.

These achievements would not be possible without the pastoral attentiveness, hard work and support from our staff, parents and community. Most importantly, this would not be possible without the effort, determination and teamwork of the 2023 Year 12 cohort. I look forward to following their progress as they move into the next phase of their journey.

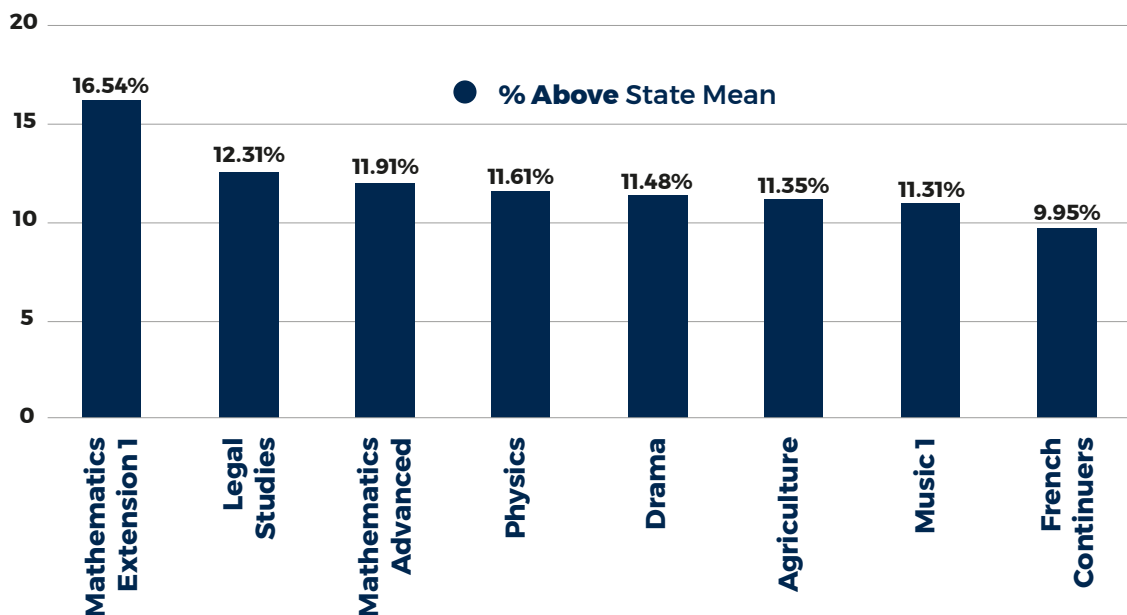
Christopher Bradbury
Principal



HSC Results **Highlights**



Northholm Grammar vs State Mean



Northholm High Achievers



Calum Fraser

ATAR 99.80

Business Studies
Economics
English Advanced
Mathematics Extension 1
Mathematics Advanced
Physics



Mai Linh Stolee

ATAR 98.55

Chemistry
English Advanced
Legal Studies
Mathematics Extension 1
Mathematics Advanced
Physics



Ziran Ren

ATAR 98.20

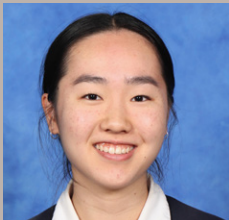
English Advanced
Mathematics Extension 1
Mathematics Advanced
Physics
Visual Arts
French Continuers



Thomas Abbott

ATAR 98.15

Economics
English Advanced
Mathematics Extension 1
Mathematics Advanced
Physics
Software Design and
Development



Anna Onozuko

ATAR 96.00

Business Studies
English Advanced
Geography
Mathematics Advanced
Visual Arts



Ryan Baxter

ATAR 94.80

Biology
Chemistry
Drama
English Advanced
Mathematics Advanced



Jackson Roberts

ATAR 93.85

Biology
Chemistry
English Advanced
Legal Studies
Mathematics Advanced



Ella Beckhaus

ATAR 93.65

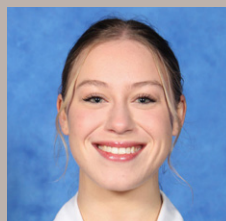
Biology
Design and Technology
English Advanced
Legal Studies
Mathematics Standard 2



Declan Gunther

ATAR 91.95

Ancient History
English Advanced
Legal Studies
Mathematics Standard 2
Music 1



Sienna Arena-Milne

ATAR 90.80

Agriculture
Biology
Business Studies
English Standard
Mathematics Standard 2



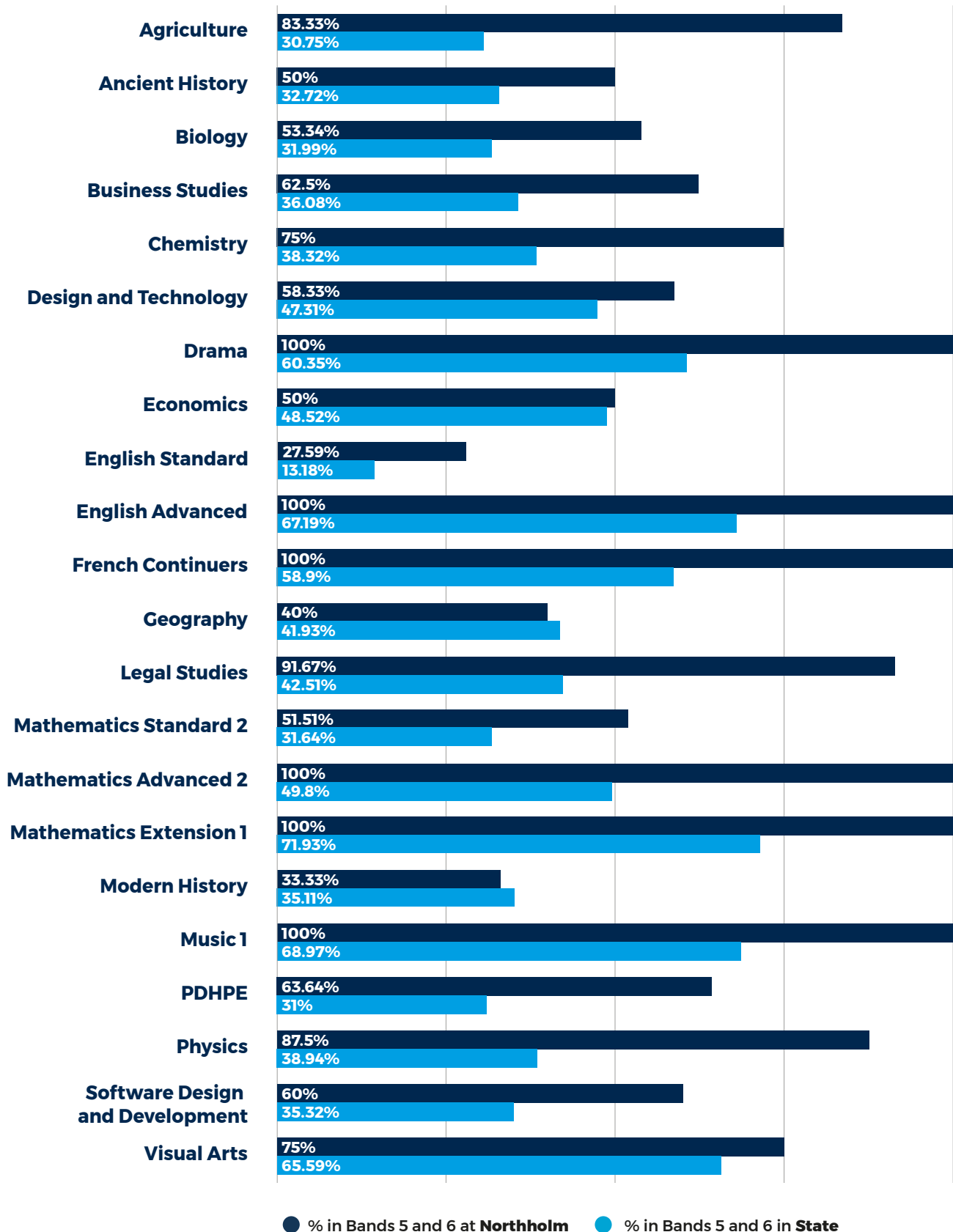
Jack Donaldson

ATAR 90.30

Business Studies
Economics
English Standard
Legal Studies
Mathematics Standard 2

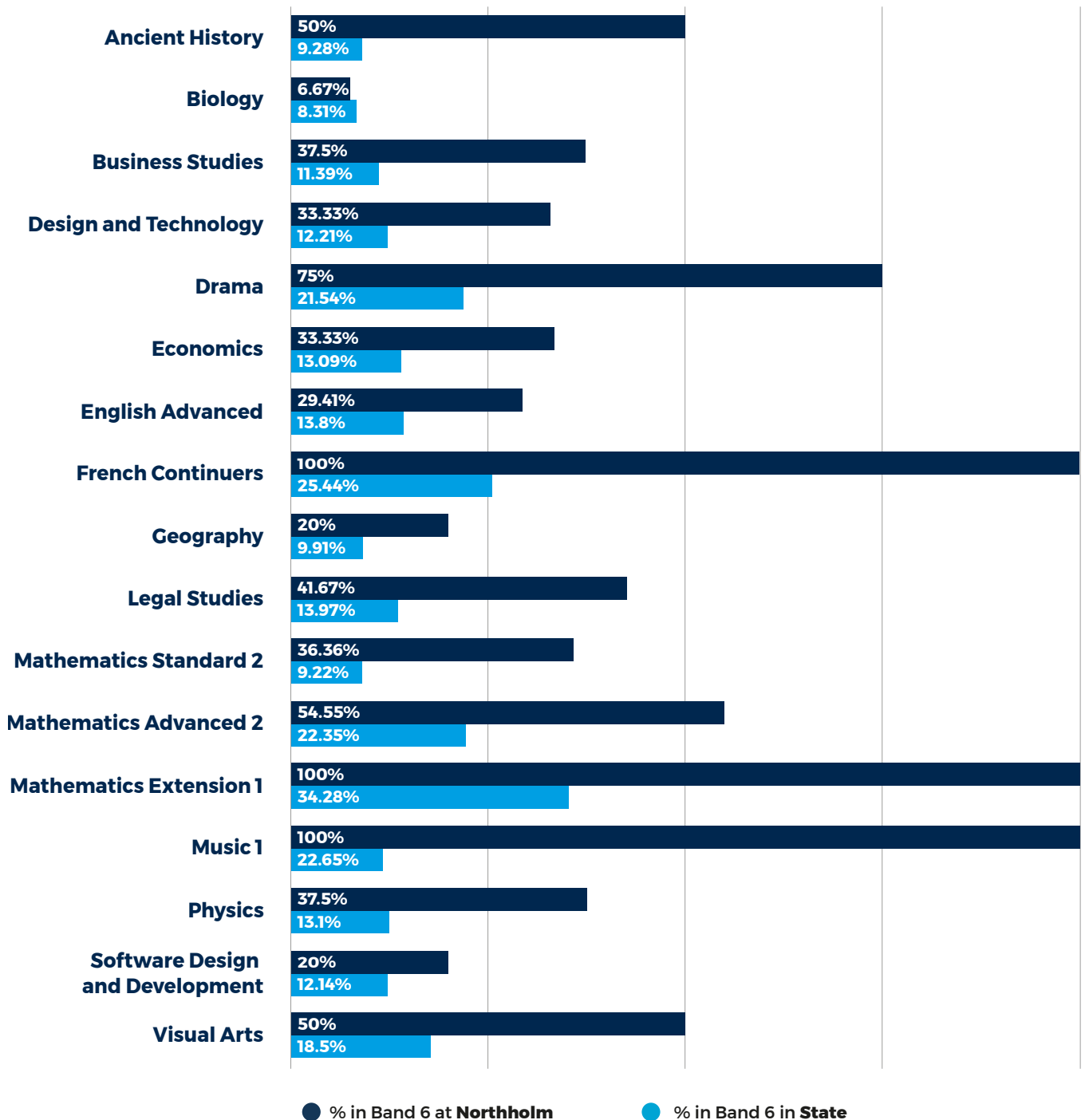
Performances in HSC Courses

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 studied at Northholm, comparing the percentage of students who achieved Band 6 at Northholm against the State average.



HSC All Rounders

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



Calum Fraser



Ziran Ren

HSC Distinguished Achievers

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

Thomas Abbott	Economics, English Advanced, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Software Design and Development
Jasper Allen	Mathematics Standard 2, Design and Technology
Sienna Arena-Milne	Business Studies, Mathematics Standard 2
Caitlin Bastian	Mathematics Standard 2
Ryan Baxter	Biology, Drama
Ella Beckhaus	Design and Technology, Legal Studies, Mathematics Standard 2
Nikola Bratkovic	Ancient History, Visual Arts
Jessica Cooper	Design and Technology
Rose Crouch	Legal Studies
Jack Dawson	Drama
Jack Donaldson	Business Studies, Mathematics Standard 2
Max Fletcher	Mathematics Standard 2, Music 1
Calum Fraser	Business Studies, Economics, English Advanced, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Physics
Ryan Freame	Drama, Mathematics Standard 2
Matthew Gray	Mathematics Standard 2
James Greensill	Business Studies, Mathematics Standard 2
Declan Gunther	Ancient History, Mathematics Standard 2, Music 1
Gabriella Imad	Business Studies, Food Technology, Mathematics Standard 2
Katelyn Johnstone	Design and Technology
Abigail Kafkis	Visual Arts
Holly Lawton	Legal Studies
Kalan Lee	Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1
Jayden Oliver	Mathematics Standard 2 (2 Unit)
Anna Onozuka	Business Studies, English Advanced, Geography, Visual Arts
Ziran Ren	English Advanced, French Continuers, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Physics, Visual Arts
Jackson Roberts	Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced
Mai Linh Stolee	English Advanced, Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Physics



Calum Fraser

ATAR 99.80
Dux of the School
School Captain
HSC All Rounder



Calum's determination to achieve his personal best was demonstrated in every task he undertook...



Calum is an exceptional student whose academic efforts and consistently excellent results culminated in an outstanding ATAR of 99.80 - the highest ATAR performance by any student in Northholm Grammar's 40-year history. During his time at Northholm Grammar, his diligence was recognised in his receipt of numerous academic awards each year. In addition to many Subject Awards and Pockets for Academic Achievement, Calum was deservedly awarded Dux each year. Such outstanding academic achievement is a testament to his determination, natural ability and hard work.

Calum believes that the distinctive of a Northholm Education is that "each student is recognised and respected as an individual. All of your teachers know you personally and care about your success in and out of the classroom. This individual support helped my peers and I to thrive at school and achieve our best in and outside of the classroom."

Calum argues that his personal success in academic achievement was largely based on his view that "the HSC is a team sport. Your classmates and your teachers are your teammates and your coaches. It is incredibly important to work closely with your peers during Year 12; by studying together, discussing questions and asking for feedback, you can learn a lot from each other and consolidate your own knowledge in the process. It is equally vital to ask your teacher for help. Constantly seek feedback on how to improve and make sure you understand each detail of the content by clarifying with your teacher. They are there to help you as much as they can, so ask lots of questions."

Calum's determination to achieve his personal best was demonstrated in every task he undertook and he maintained high expectations for his growth throughout the year. Calum explains this view by saying: "Leave no stone unturned. In the HSC, close enough is NOT good enough. Make sure to cover every part of the syllabus and learn each topic in immense detail. You don't know what will be tested on the day, and examiners often look for depth of knowledge in responses to distinguish students in the top bands. Similarly, it is important to 'over-prepare'. If you only study questions you find easy, you won't improve. Ask yourself what the worst-case scenario questions are, and practise those under timed conditions without notes. Another method is to do practice exams in 90% of the allowed time, especially if you have trouble completing the exam. This will make the actual exam seem easier since you are prepared for anything they could throw at you."

Calum was well respected by his peers and, in his capacity as School Captain, was a true role model for his peers. What he loved most about Northholm Grammar was the sense of community. He said, "I'm fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn and grow alongside my incredibly kind and driven peers, with the support and guidance of such caring teachers. Northholm Grammar has become my family and my home, and as I move on to the next chapter of my life, I will do so with confidence, knowing that I have people in my corner to support me."



Mai Linh Stolee

ATAR 98.55
First Place in English Advanced
First Place in Legal Studies

“

...Milly played a significant role in elevating and inspiring her peers...

”

Mai Linh (Milly) 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 during her time at Northholm Grammar.

Milly believes “the distinctive feature of a Northholm Grammar Education that sets it apart is the creation of a community that allowed me to feel cared for and supported throughout my learning. The close-knit environment allowed members of staff and my cohort to support one another and provide specific attention to areas of improvement, which not only shaped my education but also my personality.”

Our Principal Mr Bradbury taught Milly in Legal Studies and described her as one of the best students he has ever taught. He said, “Milly is a phenomenal young lady who established a high-performance attitude based on consistency, deliberate practice and hard work. Her personal growth and success were contagious within the classroom environment; as a result Milly played a significant role in elevating and inspiring her peers to an outstanding level of excellence.”

In best preparing for the challenges of the HSC, Milly believes “it is most effective to continuously ask questions to both teachers and peers to ensure a firm understanding of knowledge. I was able to ask these questions in the STRIVE Program provided by the School, consisting of workshops, which I found effective for my preparation. While I continuously worked on past papers and other resources provided by my teachers,

I also allowed time to rest and to not work late into the night, which I believe was beneficial to my ability to continually study throughout the year.”

In reflecting on her time at Northholm Grammar, Milly spoke fondly on the fostering of positive relationships. She said, “I most enjoyed forming relationships with my cohort, the staff and other students at school. The community atmosphere fostered by the School allowed me to connect with others outside of my close friend group and my cohort, especially through co-curricular activities, providing me with long-lasting memories.”

Milly is currently attending Macquarie University studying a double Bachelor degree in Law and Science in the hope to pursue a career in either one of those two areas, as she has a deep interest in both.



Ziran Ren

ATAR 98.20

First Place in French Continuers

“

...a young woman of enormous character always looking after the wellbeing of others.

”

Ziran (Annie) is a remarkable young lady who demonstrated a conscientious and diligent approach to her studies, culminating in an outstanding ATAR of 98.20 and achieving a place on the prestigious Honour Roll (awarded to students who received Band 6 in every subject studied at Northholm Grammar). Annie humbly credits much of her success to her dedicated teachers, stating Northholm was invaluable to her performance in the HSC.

Annie came to Northholm Grammar at the commencement of Year 9 and believes the distinctive of a Northholm Education was that “it is individualised to each student and pushes everyone to do their personal best. There is healthy competition and a community that offers many opportunities for students to not only grow academically but also expand their interests.”

Annie developed strategies to manage the complexities of the HSC and believes “allocating time for both study and breaks was effective as allowing myself the rest I needed helped my overall focus when it came to studying. Maintaining a good routine with sleep, exercise and nutrition was also important in boosting my energy levels and ability to concentrate, especially when I had multiple exams a week.”

Annie is planning on going to Melbourne to study physiotherapy at the University of Melbourne and become a physiotherapist. Her teachers have all described her as being incredibly disciplined and conscientious, a young woman of enormous character always looking after the wellbeing of others. Annie was considered to epitomise the values of Northholm Grammar which include learning through scholarship, caring for others

and self, living a faithful life and contributing to the community.

In reflecting on the Northholm Experience, Annie said, “I am most grateful for the encouragement and support of my teachers and all the staff as well as the friendships I’ve made. Through Northholm Grammar’s learning environment, I have gained a group of genuine and caring people whom I can rely on. The Class of 2023 performed exceptionally well in the HSC due to the incredible teachers at the School. They worked day and night to ensure we were well prepared for every examination. The feedback they provided was always timely and relevant. And most importantly, they encouraged and supported us to achieve our personal best.”



Thomas Abbott

**ATAR 98.15
Honour Roll
First Place in Software
Development and Design**



Thomas...
demonstrated
a conscientious
and diligent
approach to his
academic studies...



Thomas is a Renaissance man who demonstrated a conscientious and diligent approach to his academic studies throughout his schooling. His dedication was acknowledged in the numerous academic awards which were presented to him at Speech Night each year and also in his receipt of School Pockets for Academic Achievement.

Thomas believes the distinctive of Northholm Grammar was that it “provides a truly unique experience to its students through the small classes and tightly knit community. The teachers genuinely care for and know each student, which results in addressing their weaknesses and strengths to bring out their true potential, which has helped many other students and me excel in the HSC.”

However, Thomas goes further to highlight that the strength of a Northholm Education is the holistic educational experience. He said, “Northholm isn’t just about academic growth – its pastoral and community values have helped students develop into wholly rounded individuals, who will be ready to go out into greater society at the end of their education, through its numerous leadership and co-curricular opportunities. This is what makes Northholm stand out – it’s more than simply completing the HSC.”

Thomas was much loved by his peers and was always enthusiastic to support his peers at the School. He outlined a number of important lessons he learnt in best preparing for the challenges of the HSC. Thomas believes that “submitting drafts of work to teachers for feedback is what I believe to be the single most important HSC strategy. Northholm teachers know their craft and will teach you how to perfect your own if you put in the work and

apply their suggestions.” He goes on to reinforce the value of working as a team with his peers, saying, “collaborating with your classmates is essential so they can explain subjects to you in a different manner than a teacher or a textbook, and you may find it to be easier to understand since someone has already simplified it further for you. They are also able to provide their samples of work that you can use to improve your own ideas and can also peer mark your work for a fresh new perspective.”

Thomas is enrolled in a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours – Specialising in Software Engineering) at Macquarie University. Thomas embraced the Northholm Experience and concluded that “alongside Northholm’s agricultural setting, which makes the campus a truly enjoyable place to learn, I loved the people I got to meet and become friends with. We all share many special memories from camps and other activities but also the everyday school routine, and I am very grateful for how they made my high school experience a positive and enriching one. This extends towards the teachers as well, who are invested in our futures and are responsible for the success experienced by the Class of 2023.”

Challenging minds. **Creating** futures.



Northholm
Grammar

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