

Portland Secondary College

Creating the opportunities

2026 Year 7 Information Session

www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au



Acknowledgment of Country





Jo Kindred
Principal



Kirsten Mitchell
Assistant Principal
Curriculum & Learning



Colin Payne
Assistant Principal
Engagement & Wellbeing



Elizabeth Paulet
Inclusive Practice Leader



Mollie Reed
Year 7 Hub Facilitator

Year 7 at PSC



www.portlandsc.vic.edu.au

So, what is the Year 7 Hub?

The 7 Hub is a structured, supportive, and high-impact learning environment designed to:

- **Provide Consistency & Connection** – Students have most of their classes in one location (the Hub), with **dedicated Year 7 teachers**. This fosters **strong relationships** with teachers and families, **ensuring accountability, support, and high expectations**.
- **Increase Structured Literacy & Numeracy Lessons** – The timetable includes **enhanced English and Maths sessions**, focusing on literacy and numeracy skill development to prepare students for later years.
- **Embed Social & Emotional Learning (SEL)** – Explicit SEL classes develop emotional regulation, resilience, and interpersonal skills, supporting student wellbeing.
- **Use Flexible Grouping for Personalised Learning** – Literacy and numeracy classes are **structured around student ability levels**, allowing teachers to better differentiate instruction. These groups are adjusted each unit based on ongoing assessment data, encouraging academic mobility.
- **Celebrate Growth, Not Just Achievement** – The 7 Hub focuses on individual progress, ensuring all students experience success and confidence in their learning journey.
- **Use Data Driven Teaching** – Student progress is continuously monitored through pre- and post-assessments, guiding teachers to tailor instruction and **maximise student growth**.

Timetable

7A Timetable						
	Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mentor	RDM - HUB2	RDM - HUB2		RDM - HUB2	RDM - HUB2	Year 7 Assembly
Period 1	English RDM HUB2	English RDM HUB2		Indonesian MYJ HUB3	English RDM HUB2	English RDM HUB2
Period 2						
Recess						
Period 3	Maths RDM HUB2	Maths RDM HUB2		Technology DNB T4	Maths RDM HUB2	Maths RDM HUB2
Period 4					Wellbeing RDM HUB1	Wellbeing RDM HUB1
Lunch						
Period 5	Science ARC S1	Humanities RDM HUB4		Art TRS A5	PE GYE Gym	Health RDM Hub1
Period 6						

Year 7 Hub Core Team



Mollie Reed
Year 7 Level Leader
Data Specialist



Ashley Elijah
Year 7 Mentor
Literacy Specialist



Emily Gorey
Year 7 Mentor
Social & Emotional Learning
Specialist



Jasmine McDonald
Year 7 Mentor
Numeracy Specialist



Marika Howman
Year 7 Classroom Teacher
Literacy Specialist



Tom Niewerkerk
Year 7 Classroom Teacher
Numeracy Specialist

Year 7 Support Team



Donna Chapman
Numeracy Support



Elley Foster
Literacy Support



Cindy Taylor
Disability & Inclusion Support,
Classroom Support



Flynn Chapman
Disability & Inclusion Support,
Classroom Support



Logan Edwards
Disability & Inclusion Support,
Classroom Support



Liza Chapple
Disability & Inclusion Support,
Classroom Support

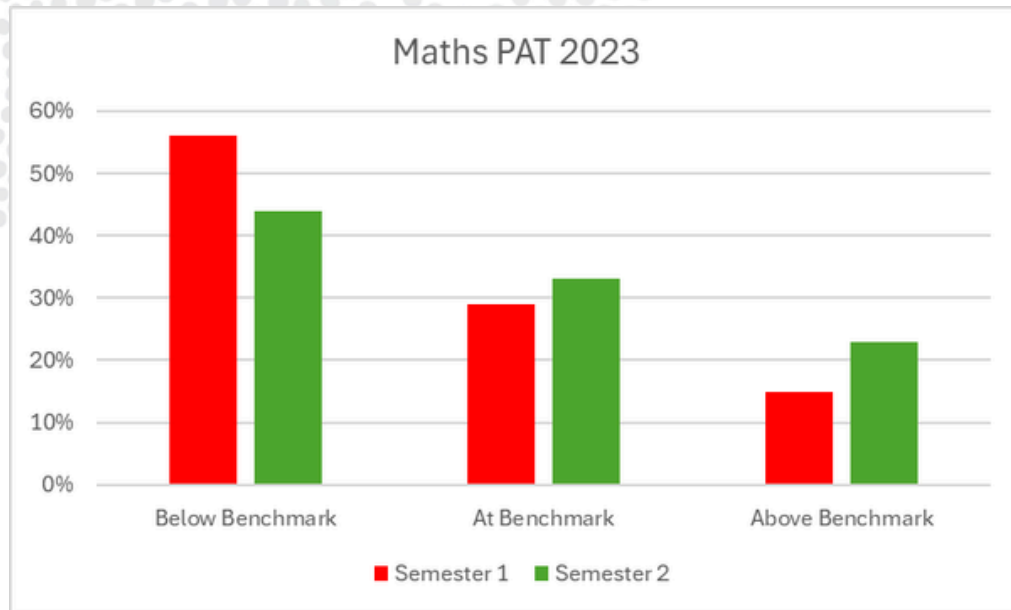
Impact of the Hub

Early data indicates that the 7 Hub is already having a very positive influence on student learning. The following insights highlight key improvements in numeracy and literacy, illustrating how our specific interventions and learning environment are driving student success.

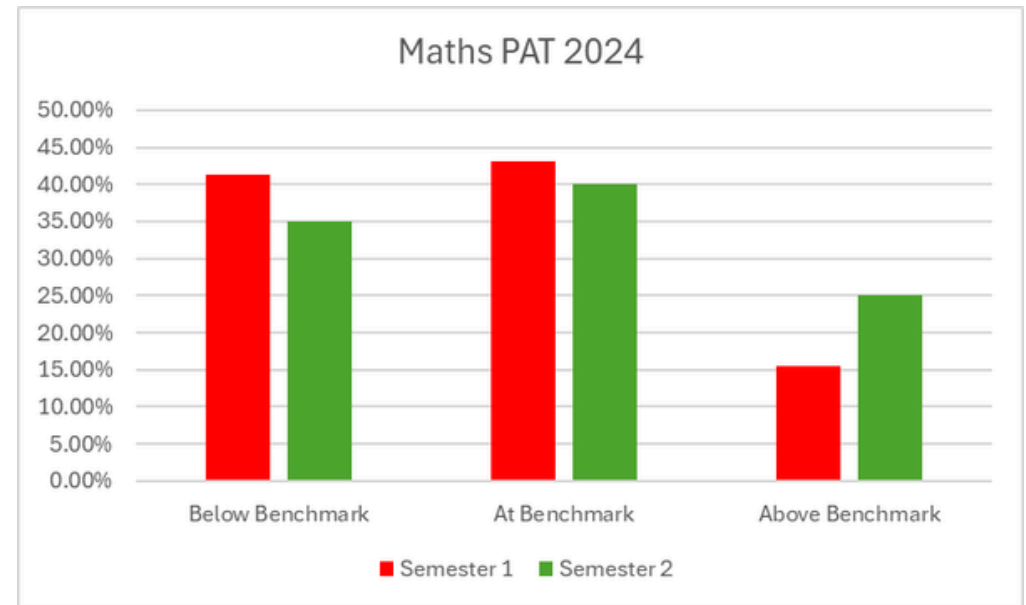
To measure this impact, we utilise comparative analysis of Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) over the last few cohorts. PAT measures a student's mathematical understanding on a longitudinal scale, tracking their individual growth from one year to the next. This provides an objective "value-added" measure of our teaching impact and ensures we are capturing genuine progress over time.



Numeracy Data:

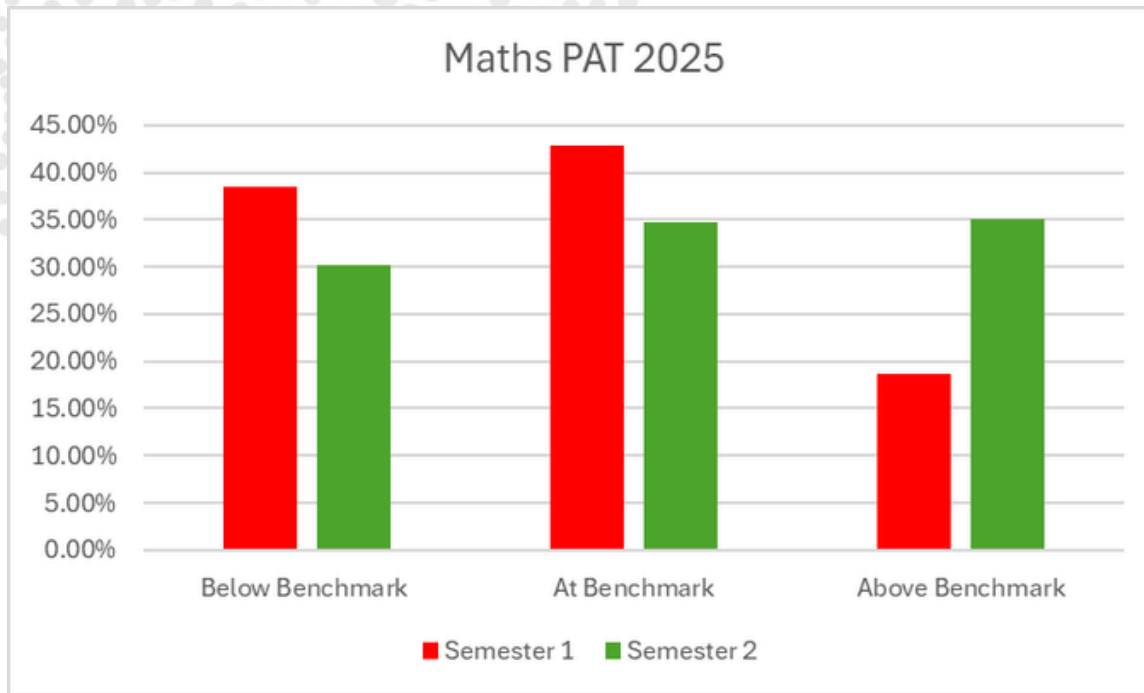


Growth of +4.3 points



Growth of +5.1 points

Numeracy Data:



Key Takeaways:

The 2025 group reported the most growth, with a jump of **+6.4 points**. Comparably, the growth increase reported for cohorts in 2024 was +5.1 points and the increase for 2023 was +4.3 points.

Not only did the inaugural year of the Hub outperform the previous cohorts, but it also outperformed the national norm.

National PAT norms typically suggest a growth of approximately +5.0 points for a standard year of schooling at this level. The 2025 group significantly exceeded this expectation.

Key Takeaways

For the 2025 Year 7 group, the stanine shift is the most impressive part of the data.

It reveals that their **+6.4** scale point growth wasn't just driven by a few top students, but by a massive "lift" across the entire cohort.

The 2025 group is your most successful because the **growth was equitable**.

- Unlike the 2023 group, where growth was more concentrated in the middle, the 2025 group saw a simultaneous lift at the bottom and a stretch at the top.
- This indicates that your current Year 7 Maths strategy is working effectively for all ability levels.



Literacy Growth and Impact:

The 2025 Reading data provides strong evidence that the 7 Hub is fostering a high-growth literacy environment.

- **Exceptional Individual Value-Add:** The data reveals several "breakthrough" success stories where students achieved growth exceeding 20+ scale points. This level of acceleration is a testament to the targeted literacy interventions and the differentiated support provided within the Hub.
- **Closing the Achievement Gap:** Nearly 46% of the cohort achieved "High Growth" (5 points or more). Most significantly, the highest gains were often seen in students who started with lower baseline scores, indicating that our environment is successfully "lifting the floor" and ensuring no student is left behind.

The 2025 Reading results mirror the success seen in Mathematics. The consistency of this growth across both core disciplines confirms that the 7 Hub's structure is successfully driving student engagement and academic momentum. We are entering 2026 with a strong foundation and a proven model for student improvement.

The bigger picture



Year 8



Maths and English: timetabled at the same time to allow for our instructional groups to continue and we can keep tracking growth through data.

Specialist Support and extension.

Core Curriculum

- Science
- Humanities
- LOTE – Indonesian
- Physical Education
- Health
- The Arts – Creative & Performance
- Design & Technology – Digital, Food Studies Textiles & Mixed Materials

Year 9



- My Career Insights Program.
- Morrisby Testing & Individual Career Interviews.

Core

English
Mathematics
Science
Humanities: History, Civics, Geography & Economics
Health and Physical Education

Technology Electives

Design & Technology
Fabrics and Fashion
Food Studies
Game Design

Visual and Performing Arts Electives

Art
Drama
Photography
Media
Graphic Design

Pathway Electives

Asian Pop Culture
Extension Mathematics
Extension English
Indonesian
Instrumental Music
Journalism
Marine Science
Outdoor Education

Year 10

Opportunity to study a VCE subject.

Core

English
Mathematics – Methods,
General or Foundation
Science
Global Perspectives

Science Electives

Biology
Chemistry
Psychology
Physics
Agricultural Studies

HPE Electives

Physical Education
Fundamentals of Fitness
Health
Child Studies
Outdoor Education

English Electives

Art of Writing (Extension
English)

Language Elective

Indonesian

Humanities Electives

Ancient Greece and Rome
From WWII to the War on
Terror
Law
Money Markets
Pop Culture – History

Arts Electives

Design Studio
Drama
Media
Music
Photography
Visual Communication and
Design
Two-dimensional studies
Three-dimensional studies

Technology Electives

Design & Technology
Food Studies
Game Design
Game Narrative – A digital
storytelling
Textiles



VCE, VCE VM & VET

Current VCE / VCE VM subject offerings

- English
- Mathematics (Foundation, General and Methods)
- Ancient History
- Art Creative Practices
- Art Making and Exhibiting
- Australian and Global Politics
- Biology
- Business Management
- Chemistry
- Drama
- Food Studies
- Human Health and Development
- Indonesian
- Legal Studies
- Outdoor and Environmental Sciences
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Product and Design Technology (Wood)
- Product and Design Technology (Textiles)
- Systems Engineering
- Visual Communication and Design
- VM Literacy
- VM Numeracy
- VM Personal Development
- VM Work Related Skills
- VET DSS – Certificate II in Cookery
- VET DSS – Certificate III Early Childhood Education & Care
- VET DSS – Certificate II in Engineering Studies
- VET DSS – Certificate III in Health Services Assistance (Partial Completion)
- VET DSS – Certificate II in Horticulture
- VET DSS – Certificate III in Visual Arts (Partial Completion)
- VET DSS – Certificate II in Active Volunteering

Intervention Programs

Literacy	Numeracy	Social Emotional
Lexia	Quicksmart	Additional Transition Sessions
Classroom Literacy Support	Classroom Numeracy Support	Learning Support Room
Specialised Tutoring	Specialised Tutoring	
	Maths Online	

Homework Program – in the Year 7 HUB after school 3:30pm – 4:30pm

Support beyond learning

Student Wellbeing

Student Services Manager	Student Services Assistant	School-based Nurse
Doctors in Secondary School	Mental Health Practitioners (Psychologist & Counsellor)	Wellbeing Officer

Extra Curricular Opportunities at PSC

- Music program
- Sporting program
- School Production
- Public Speaking
- Subject Specific state, national & international competitions – History, Geography, Maths, Indonesian Speaking, Physics, Tournament of the Minds.
- SVAC Student Voice & Agency Committee
- Green Team – Environmental
- Year Level Specific opportunities; i.e. Live4Life, Future Leaders, Tertiary Tour
- Subject Specific Opportunities; i.e. Top Arts Tour, Luna Park (Physics), FedUni (PE)
- International Camps- Indonesia & Italy



Year 7 Camp Out

Week 2 of Term 1, Year 7 students participate in a three-day camp-out at Portland Secondary College.

The camp-out offers a variety of team-building games and activities aimed at fostering friendships, developing confidence, and easing the transition into secondary school.



Scholarships

Scholarships are available in the following categories:

- **Academic Scholarships** – Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and commitment to their studies.
- **Sporting Excellence** – Recognising students who excel in sports and demonstrate dedication, teamwork, and leadership in their chosen field.
- **All-Rounder Scholarships** – For students who achieve highly across multiple areas, including academics, sports, leadership, and extracurricular activities.
- **Leadership Scholarships** – Supporting students who show strong leadership qualities and a commitment to making a positive impact within the school community.
- **Community and Citizenship Scholarships** – Celebrating students who contribute to their community through volunteering, service, and active participation in school and local initiatives.
- **Creativity Scholarships** – Encouraging students with exceptional artistic, musical, or creative talents to pursue their passions.

Scholarships cover the cost of yearly curriculum contributions.

Testing and interviews for prospective scholarship recipients will commence after **2 July 2026**.

Upcoming Transition events:

- Targetted additional transition visits
- **22 April 2026** Year 7 placement applications open. You should receive a parent/carer pack from your primary school
- **8 May 2026** Year 7 placement applications due to primary school.
- **25 June 2026** Secondary schools may commence distributing transition and orientation information to parents/carers
- Scholarship Testing (July)





Further Information

Please contact the General Office
on **03 5523 1344** if you would like to
organise an individual tour or
alternatively email
mollie.reed@education.vic.gov.au
for further information.