

Guidance Officer

Gayle Berkey is the Guidance Officer at Runcorn State High School. Ms Berkey can offer assistance in subject choice, enrolment, personal counselling, and career counselling.

Appointments may be in school time or during recesses or after school. Students, parents and teachers may make appointments with the Guidance Officer by contacting the school administration office, or by calling at the Guidance Offices.

- Educational assessment: Various methods of assessment may be used to determine a student's learning abilities and needs, and appropriate subject level placements. Students, parents and teachers may refer to the Guidance Officer for assessment, counselling and advice on course and subject choices.

- Career Guidance: Career guidance and counselling may take the form of individual, group or computer assisted programs. These assist students in understanding their own strengths and interests, and put them in touch with appropriate occupation and career information. The Guidance Officers is constantly kept informed on the most recent and current information on prerequisites for entry to all occupations. It is essential that students base their career decisions on correct information, and all students are encouraged to make career guidance appointments particularly in their senior schooling years.

- Personal and Family Counselling: Guidance Officer have training in a range of counselling theories and frameworks. At Runcorn High School the Guidance Officer can provide assistance to students and families in the form of counselling or referral in areas such as:

- peer problems

- discipline and parenting

- grief and trauma

- anger, aggression and violence

- substance abuse

- abuse and neglect

- mental health

- behaviour problems

Other services overseen by Guidance include...

Early Start to University programs: Year 12 high school students undertake a university course. They sit in regular university courses. As it is a scholarship, they pay no fees (HECS). It can lead to guaranteed entry to a university course following Year 12.

- UQ (ESP--Enhanced Studies Program)--1 student
- QUT (Start-QUT)--6 students
- Griffith Uni (GUESTS--Griffith Uni Early Start to Tertiary Studies)--4 students

GEMS--Griffith (University) E-Mentoring Scheme--university students work with selected high school students to answer their questions about uni--what's it like? what to study? etc. to assist them to make wiser choices about degree programs and to feel more at home with the whole process. -- 4 students (so far)

s2s The Smith Family's Student-to-Student program--where students in Years 9-11 work with primary school students over the phone a couple times a week to assist them to improve their reading skills – 2 (so far)

Experience Days at the universities

- Griffith Uni has their first group—18-22 May. Also, a series in Semester 2.
- QUT Q-Step Days during May and June for Years 10, 11 and 12. Over 100 students have expressed an interest in going.
- QUT generally offers Experience Days as well

TAP—Tertiary Aspirations Program for Year 12s –how to plan for tertiary studies and fill out their QTAC applications. This program is run through the QCS classes.

Year 10 Careers Program—developed primarily by the HOD Senior Schooling, and run mostly in Terms 2 and 3 by HOD Senior Schooling and Guidance Counsellor with input from other staff and outside presenters.

Karawatha Chaplaincy LCC (Local Consultative Committee)—attend monthly meetings.