Student Welfare is a shared enterprise with ALL members of the school community.

The WELFARE TEAM provides an extensive support network to assist all students with their personal, social, emotional and learning needs.

We aim to provide a positive, safe and caring learning environment which recognises each student and encourages them to reach their potential.
Dear Parents and Students

In my first year of teaching a wise person said to me that “Kids don’t care what you know, until they know that you care”.

Positive relationships between students/students and students/teachers are critical in the success of Byron Bay High School. Relationships are the water of life.

At our school we care about and look after each other. We are connected to our school and we value it. Our student’s bonding and sense of attachment to each other, their social competence and their sense of belonging are distinctive and unique.

This gives our students confidence, purpose and a sense of control. They believe in themselves and their ability to cope both in and out of school. They build the resilience that enables them to enjoy life and to seek assistance on occasions when things get tough.

“Kids can walk around trouble if there is some place to walk to and someone to walk with”.

This document provides you with a complete view of the welfare structure of our school.

I hope you enjoy reading it. Never hesitate to contact these people at any time for help and advice.

Kind regards
Peter King  
peter.p.king@det.nsw.edu.au

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- DEPUTIES –

There are two Deputies at Byron Bay High School. We liaise with staff, students, parents and outside welfare agencies, to ensure a secure, responsive and harmonious teaching and learning environment.

By monitoring students causing concern, “at risk” students can be identified and referred to the welfare support network who will implement the appropriate strategies.

- DEPUTY -

Years 7-9-11
Ms Donna Pearson

Learning is affected by the way students feel about themselves, their relationships with others and by their physical and mental health. Students, who feel that they are treated fairly, cared about and who have a sense of belonging to their school tend to be more successful.

I provide counsel and guidance to students regarding academic, personal, behavioural or vocational issues, along with dealing with attendance and discipline issues.

I work in partnership with staff, families and support services to ensure our students’ educational opportunities at Byron Bay High School are maximised.

DONNA.PEARSON@det.nsw.edu.au

- DEPUTY -

Years 8-10-12
Mr Mark Smith

As the new Deputy, I will work hard to support all student welfare programs across the school.

I will seek the cooperation of families and staff in a process of positively supporting students to reach their full potential through general improvements to their well-being. Confident, healthy and secure students will be able to meet this potential.

I will insist students take responsibility for their learning and well being through developing positive and healthy relationships and behaviours that demonstrate values of respect, inclusion and participation within our school.

mark.allen.smith@det.nsw.edu.au
**Mr Gareth Smith**

I am a registered child psychologist and my goals are to maximise the educational and personal experience of as many students at Byron Bay HS as possible and to ameliorate the problems troubled students have through educational assessment and diagnosis, and by counselling.

I am here to assist your child in a caring and focused way within a confidential framework. Please encourage your child to confide in a counsellor earlier rather than later.

maxigar@gmail.com or GARETH.W.SMITH@det.nsw.edu.au

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**Ms Susan Skyvington**

I have been a registered psychologist for over 20 years and have spent 7 years at Byron Bay High. I am here to support students and their families to navigate the challenging rites of passage of the teenage journey – especially with respect to relationships & mental health.

I am approachable and available, while maintaining boundaries and confidentiality. I am also able to support effective dialogue between family members

Susan.Skyvington@det.nsw.edu.au

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**SUPPORT TEACHER**

**LEARNING ASSISTANCE**

**Miss Charlotte Allen**

The STLA’s roles include:

- identifying and assessing students experiencing difficulties in learning
- planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating programs for these students
- assisting teachers with strategies to support students with a range of learning needs

I have been teaching at Byron Bay High School for six years. As well as being a teacher in the English faculty I am an active member of the welfare and learning teams as I am passionately committed to assisting all students to reach their potential.

It is a belief of all at BBHS that this encompasses not only academic outcomes but the holistic life of students. To that end I work towards nourishing their social and emotional well-being in conjunction with supporting their learning where there may be additional assistance needed.

Please contact me by phone or email.

Charlotte.C.Allen@det.nsw.edu.au

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**SUPPORT TEACHER**

**BEHAVIOUR**

**Mr John Warren**

The STB’s roles include:

- identifying and assessing students with behavioural concerns
- planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating programs for these students
- assisting teachers with strategies to support students with behavioural issues

I have been at Byron Bay High School for the last 18 months visiting 2 days a week – Monday and Friday.

I am currently running Social Skills groups for Year 7 boys’ behaviours. I am also supporting other students by modifying class work to ensure better access to the school’s curriculum.

Integral to the success in working with these students is ensuring their welfare needs are also being met. What gives me great pleasure is seeing a student on my caseload fulfilling their own social, cognitive and emotional potential in a positive manner.

If your child becomes a student on my caseload, do not hesitate to phone or email me as I am happy to discuss your child’s progress and provide feedback.

JOHN.WARREN2@det.nsw.edu.au

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**- SCHOOL COUNSELLORS –**

As registered psychologists we are available to provide guidance and counselling to students, as well as provide support to their families. Our aim is to enhance the well being of all students, especially those experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties.

We liaise with other health and welfare agencies and make referrals when required to assist those students in need. We also support students with special needs to access the curriculum.
As Head Teacher Welfare my roles include:

- Coordinating the school welfare team
- Planning and implementing welfare policies and programs
- Organising welfare and support meetings
- Liaising with students, parents, staff and outside welfare agencies
- Inservicing the school community on welfare issues

I welcome all parents to play an active role in their child’s education. Please feel free to contact any members of the school’s welfare team, as we are keen and willing to provide guidance and support where possible to ensure your child makes the most of their education at Byron Bay High School.

HELEN.M.BUCHANAN@det.nsw.edu.au
School Phone No. – 66858188 or Fax No. - 66858119

As Girls Supervisor my roles include:

- Interviewing and counselling girls
- Developing special programs for girls
- Developing resilience in girls
- Liaising with welfare agencies to provide support

Please feel free to contact me regarding any personal issues concerning your daughter.

HELEN.M.BUCHANAN@det.nsw.edu.au

Each year group has their OWN Student Adviser who will stay with that group from Year 7 to Year 12. They are the best contact person at school to discuss academic progress, extended leave due to illness or holidays, or any other concerns or issues you wish to discuss regarding your son/daughter’s education.

Student Adviser Roles include:

- Co-ordinating, monitoring and managing the welfare needs of their students
- Monitoring academic progress and co-ordinating the merit award system
- Facilitating enrolments and administrative duties
- Organising year meetings, functions and programs
- Consulting with parents and contact person for parents
- YEAR 12 STUDENT ADVISER -  
Mrs Shirley Graham

I am a member of the Science staff and arrived in 1996. I have enjoyed every moment of being a part of this great school and it has certainly been a pleasure to be the Student Adviser of such a great group of students over the past six years.

I have witnessed some enormous changes in their lives and I feel privileged to have shared their journeys. They have enjoyed many wonderful experiences and faced many challenges, with the HSC yet to come. I am here to offer support and guidance over the coming months and hope they all learn to make valuable use of the help and assistance available to them by our professional teaching staff.

I love to communicate with all parents, so please feel welcome to phone or email me, if I can help in any way to ensure these students achieve their future goals.

SHIRLEY.A.GRAHAM@det.nsw.edu.au

- YEAR 11 STUDENT ADVISER -  
Mr Peter Gallaway

I have been a teacher at Byron Bay High School since its opening in 1987 and as such have a genuine interest in the welfare needs of our students. As Head Teacher - PDHPE, I am also committed to ensuring our students develop a positive self-esteem, as well as the self-confidence to discover their own sense of identity.

As Year 11 Student Adviser I have enjoyed working with this group of students and I look forward to sharing their successes and achievements over their senior school years. As the road ahead is a challenging time for seniors, I am only too happy for parents to contact me at any time regarding any concerns that may arise. Using a collaborative approach, we can endeavour to meet the personal, social and learning needs of your son/daughter.

PETER.GALLAWAY@det.nsw.edu.au

- YEAR 10 STUDENT ADVISER -  
Mr George Graham

As well as my role as Student Adviser, I have been a member of the Science staff for 20 years and I am also the Careers Adviser at Byron Bay High School. As such, I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to get to know our students and learn about their hopes for the future.

I am enjoying working closely with the Year 10 students and providing guidance as required. I endeavour to keep an eye out for those in need, and readily offer support to those seeking assistance. I am keen to help these students make the most of their education and achieve their goals.

It’s great to be able to share the journey through high school with these students. Please feel welcome to email, phone or make an appointment to discuss any concerns or issues you may have with respect to their education.

george.graham@det.nsw.edu.au
- YEAR 9 STUDENT ADVISER -
Mrs Sally Miller

I am member of the HSIE KLA and I have been teaching at Byron Bay High School for the last 10 years. During this time I have played an active role in supporting our students in extra-curricular activities such as surfing which has allowed me to gain an excellent rapport with students across the school.

As Year 9 Student Adviser, I am keen to assist my students with not only their educational needs, but also their personal, social and emotional needs. I have been so lucky to have such a great group of students to support and I have enjoyed watching them mature over the past few years.

I am confident in saying this group of students holds much promise for the future and I look forward to watching each of them discover and make the most of their own individual talents.

I am available at any time to discuss any matters regarding your child’s education.

Sally.Miller3@det.nsw.edu.au

- YEAR 8 STUDENT ADVISER -
Mrs Maree Buchanan

I am member of the PDHPE staff and I have been a teacher at Byron Bay High School for the past 21 yrs. I have a wealth of experience in the area of welfare, having taken on the role of Student Adviser on many occasions in my teaching career.

I am keen to provide our Year 8 Students with the support and guidance necessary to make our school an enjoyable place to learn and share with friends.

I am also open to discuss any ideas which you may feel could provide better opportunities for these students to ensure they maximise their potential.

Most importantly, I welcome all parents to contact me at any time so that we can work together as a partnership to encourage each and every student to reach out and achieve their goals.

HELEN.M.BUCHANAN@det.nsw.edu.au

- YEAR 7 STUDENT ADVISER -
Mr Warren Lee

I have been a HSIE teacher at Byron Bay HS for 4 years and I am enjoying my new role as the Year 7 Student Adviser. I am keen to get to know the Year 7 students and I welcome the opportunity to guide each of these students as they begin their journey through high school.

I encourage all students to make the most of their abilities by actively engaging in all experiences on offer at Byron Bay High School, both in and out of the classroom.

I am willing to provide all the guidance and support necessary to allow students to enjoy their education.

I look forward to meeting and working with the parents of the Year 7 students over the coming years.

Students can find me in the HSIE staffroom and parents can contact me at any time on the email below or by contacting the school on 66 858 188.

WARREN.LEE@det.nsw.edu.au
WELFARE is inextricably linked to both effective teaching and learning. At Byron Bay High School our Welfare Team provides an excellent "network of care" to assist with the physical, social and emotional well-being of our students.

We provide a supportive school environment in which all students are nurtured as they learn. Our aim is to maximise student outcomes for all students of all abilities by not only providing personal learning programs for students with special needs in consultation with parents, but also offering extension programs to stimulate and challenge our gifted and talented.

Through the school’s Merit Award system our teachers provide opportunities for all students to enjoy success and recognition, so that they feel valued members of the school community. Our welfare programs are designed to foster a caring and tolerant attitude towards others, to ensure mutual respect and a sense of belonging is achieved at all times.

The Byron Bay High Welfare Policy aims to encourage all students to develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning and actions whilst developing a set of values, attitudes and skills which will ultimately allow them to become mature and respected members of the community.

The Future is Ours