



Intentional Collaboration Time - Frequently Asked Questions

Students who have consent to leave will be able to depart school at 1:15pm on Thursday **from the first Thursday of Term 1 2024**. The purpose of this time is to provide intentional collaboration time for teachers.

What will teachers be doing during this time, and how does this differ from pupil free days?

What will this look like for students with consent to leave?

What supervision will be provided for students who have to stay at school?

What if my child can only go home on some Thursday afternoons?

Will there be any changes to bus times?

What lesson will students miss out on?

Will Years 7 and 8 still do sport?

Will the Pathways and Career Education program (PACE) still be on?

How will Year 11 and 12 students who are struggling in their subjects be supported?

How do we support Junior students?

How does this align with other schools?

What consultation occurred with the school community?

What attendance data do you have to support the decline in engagement with the AIM program?

Can you provide details of the review into the AIM program?



Our Vision

Every individual discovering their passion on their pathway of learning

Our Purpose

To create an inclusive and respectful environment that fosters resilient, knowledgeable and globally connected individuals.

Our Motto

"Always Aim High".

Our Values

Respect, Learning, Community, Creativity

Our Explicit Improvement Agenda

Positive Culture, Engaged Learners, Connected Community

What will teachers be doing during this time, and how does this differ from pupil free days?

The intention of this time is to allow teachers to work collaboratively within teaching teams as well as across learning areas. There is currently no flexibility to do this within the timetable. In order to be future focussed, we need to equip our students with a transferable set of skills which will enable them to successfully transition to the new world of work.

Teachers will complete ongoing work which is required across the year. Some examples:

- Collaborate in subject teams to create new learning experiences, review and refine assessment and current teaching plans, and make connections across subjects
- Engage in peer-to-peer coaching, learning communities, learning effective strategies for particular student groups, supporting beginning teachers
- Undertake Professional Development - learn about strategies for trauma informed teaching, behaviour management, innovations grounded in current research
- Mark together, looking across cohort work to determine common areas for improvement and subsequently, devise strategies to target these areas.

In January we have 20 hours of allocated time on pupil free days which is taken up with mandatory departmental training and preparation for the school year.

The September pupil free day is set aside for annual QCAA state-wide Confirmation of results for Year 12 students (around 30 staff involved) and we also participate in moderation of assessment across our local cluster schools (a further 16 staff involved).

What will this look like for students with consent to leave?

Students who have parent consent will **leave at the beginning of second break which is at 1:15 pm.**

What supervision will be provided for students who have to stay at school?

Students who cannot make their way home will stay behind to be supervised by non-teaching staff (Teacher Aides) as well as Deputy Principal/s on rotation and any supply teachers in attendance on that day.

At **second break** students will be supervised in common areas such as between the canteen, the old hall and the library.

During **Period 4**, from 1:55pm to 3:05pm, students will engage in Independent Study which means homework completion, assignments or research supervised by the aforementioned staff.

What if my child can only go home on some Thursday afternoons?

In this case it would be better **not to give consent** for your child to leave when the consent management is sent home. On the days when your child **can** leave, you are still able to phone the school office and **request a leave pass** for your child on that day. **The school office opening hours will remain unchanged.**

Will there be any changes to bus times?

Bus schedules are unlikely to change, as bus routes are determined by Translink, who choose the most efficient service times.

Some Brisbane City Council services have similar bus routes which depart from the train station at other times throughout the day.



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What lesson will students miss out on?

Year 7 & 8 – Education Queensland recommends hours for all Learning Areas and we are in alignment with this. Prior to 2024 students were completing excess hours of Science and Humanities which is how we have been able to create this time.

Year 9 – 12 - For the past three years student engagement in the AIM program has been declining, with attendance decreasing over time. Attendance data can be seen below. AIM activities ranged from indoor and outdoor games, crafts, and tutorials through to reading with primary students, and fundraising through events like the ping-pong-a-thon. However, AIM is not a curriculum area which is required. Year 11 and 12 have been accessing alternative study and work during AIM time in semester 2.

Will Years 7 and 8 still do sport?

All Year 7 and 8 students will still have **sport** on Wednesday afternoons.

Will the Pathways and Career Education program (PACE) still be on?

PACE class will continue to occur on Wednesdays during Period 3 for all Year levels. The **PACE** program also incorporates a well-being focus, as well as mandatory learning requirements and **replaced our old Access program**. This was different from AIM class.

How will Year 11 and 12 students who are struggling in their subjects be supported? How do we support Junior students?

Tutorials in some learning areas currently occur before or after school for all students. It is anticipated that these would continue.

The monitoring processes which are currently in place to support students would also continue. Tutorial information is issued termly via the Year Level Coordinator Newsletter.

How does this align with other schools?

Other schools with collaboration time each week in our area include The Gap SHS, Mitchelton SHS, and Everton Park SHS for 2024.

What consultation occurred with the school community?

Our teaching staff, Parents and Citizens Committee, and the School Council were all consulted as part of the process.

How will the success of intentional collaboration time be measured?

Success will be measured by an improvement in student results. Each term, student achievement data is analysed by Heads of Department for their faculty areas, and shared with the wider team. In response to this data, strategies and interventions are put in place to improve student results. This process will continue to be used and will support us in measuring the success of this initiative.

These measures will indicate whether or not a review is necessary.



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What attendance data do you have to support the decline in engagement with the AIM program?

Our school average daily absence rate is 11.2%. The average absence rate for each semester can be seen in the table below. The data for 2023 has been added to the table.

Grade	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 1	Sem 2*
9	Sport	Sport	Sport	Sport	Sport	Sport	24%	24%	15%	35%
10	14%	20%	20%	19%	42%	61%	24%	23%	21%	37%
11	16%	25%	19%	20%	18%	23%	26%	30%	22%	NA
12	27%	41%	30%	30%	19%	21%	27%	33%	33%	NA

Can you provide details of the review into the AIM program?

The AIM program was implemented in 2019. The original intent of the AIM program was to:

- activate, innovate and motivate
- develop global citizenship
- promote sustainability.

The program was reviewed in 2022 due to decreased student engagement, and post pandemic impacts on opportunities. An audit was conducted of past and present AIM community partnerships. Students, staff and parents were surveyed (129 parents, 533 students and 57 staff responses).

The data review concluded that while the AIM program was compatible with the values of the school, it no longer met its intent. The recommendation was for the AIM program to cease.



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