



Boarder Parent Group

Meeting Minutes

19 September 2025 – 2:00pm–3:00pm

Pymble Ladies' College, Lang House

Meeting opened: 3:03pm

Attendees (as per sign-in sheet)

Kate Hadwen, Carolyn Burgess, Theresa Mimmo, Kate Inglis, Danielle Bukovinsky, Danielle Pringle, Laurel Foley, Edwina Beveridge, Narelle Hutton, Marina Millar, Christine Kenny, Jake Turnbull, Toni Goodridge, Emma Thompson, Lee Thompson, Rohit Maini, Willy Kirkby, Sarah Kirkby, Sarah Maynard, Kim Stanley, Mat Whitton, Edwina Payne, Tara Taubenschlag, Dave Armstrong, Lucy Armstrong, Edwina Beveridge, Michael Beveridge, Bertie Stanley, Prue Ritchie, Lei Zhang, Letitia Harrington, Natalie Phillips,

Apologies: Lamia Rockwell, Sally Metcalfe, Kate Greenwood, Gus Greenwood

Acknowledgment of Country

Delivered by **Celeste McDermott**, Head Boarder.

Welcome

Edwina Beveridge, BPG President

- Thanked attendees in person and online.
- Reflected on changes in Boarding since her daughter Alice commenced in Year 7. Student numbers have grown (from 12 in Year 7 at that time to 18 starting in 2026, with a waitlist for Avonmoore).
- Boarding has moved from horizontal to vertical structure, which has been a positive change.
- Renovations have been well received, e.g. the new Goodlet kitchen is so popular the girls use a roster to share oven time.
- Edwina thanked Heads of House and Theresa, Carolyn, Kate, and Lamia—for their dedication.

Boarding Leaders 2024/25 and 2025/26

- Sophie and Celeste thanked the BPG for ongoing support.
 - New Boarding Leaders introduced: Phoebe, Rose, Chloe, Summer, and Elke.
 - 2026 Focus: Respect across the Boarding community.
 - Continued commitment to *Boarding Get Giving*, including support for homeless shelters and aged care facilities.
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College Update – Kate Hadwen, Principal

Capital Projects

- Air-conditioning upgrades (2027).
- Staffing: Ashley Brenner (Sports Nutritionist, Term 4 start – no GP referral required) and a new Performance Psychologist joining.
- Grey House Precinct:
 - New Wellbeing Centre (integrating nurses and site team).
 - Early School
 - Two open-air courtyards (student-feedback relaxation space).
 - Six dance studios.
 - Conde Library upgrade (2026).
 - Healthcare team moving to GHP; Boarding to return to Joan Hammond House.
 - Temporary Conde Library relocation to front reception.

Curriculum Update – Christine Kenny, Deputy Principal Academic (K–12)

- NESA feedback reviewed.
- Year 12: 50 subjects available (ranging from Agriculture to Investigative Science, Dance, Performing Arts).
- Biotechnology offered in 2026 (developed with Boston Center for Curriculum Redesign).
- Cambridge Programs: Registered as a Cambridge School. Year 10 Cambridge Maths in 2025; exams in October.
- Global Perspectives (Year 9, 2026).
- Engineering introduced in Year 11.
- Aviation & Space Expo: Designed to inspire subject and career choices.

Drone Academy – Jake Turnbull, Digital Learning Leader

- 50 girls enrolled, with a waitlist.
- Program includes drone flying, coding, competitions, and new *Drone Soccer*.
- Students able to gain drone licenses.
- Practical applications (e.g., farm projects).
- In 2026, Pymble will be the first Australian school to compete in the U.S.

Meet our Catering Team – Lee Thompson & Rohit Maini

- Lee: background at the Sydney Opera House.
- Rohit: 26 years in Food & Beverage.
- Dietitian input: Responded to Boarders' concerns about iron deficiency. Information leaflets and a nutrition program now available in the dining room.

Boarding Update – Carolyn Burgess, Director of Boarding

- 19 permanent staff, 21 casual staff.
- 2025 Highlights:
 - Raging Waters excursion



- *Boarders Get Baking* chocolate workshop
- Mother/Daughter event
- Boarders' Week
- Alumni Chapel service
- Colour Run (500+ attendees, funds to CWA flood relief)
- Year 12 Trivia Night
- Father/Daughter event (notably high attendance from long-distance families)
- Games nights and Friday beach picnics
- Staff training sessions
- Six Boarding expos, 11 parent events, 116 *Love It* outings
- Flu vaccination clinic (feedback suggests timing is too early)
- **Skill Development Programs:**
 - Barista courses
 - RSA
 - First Aid
 - Breakfast cookery
- **Goodlet 100-Year Anniversary:**
 - Anniversary rose
 - House sleepover celebrations

Deputy Director's Report – Theresa Mimmo

- *Learn It*: Ongoing focus on feedback and continuous improvement.
- Recognition of the Learning Enhancement Team.
- *Love It*: More socials scheduled for Term 4.

General Business & Q&A – Edwina Beveridge, President BPG

- Special thanks to Kate Greenwood, Loretta Turnbull, Sarah Maynard, and Tara Taubenschlag for helping organise the Garden Party.

Tour of Grey House Precinct