



Clayfield College

20 October 2022

From the Principal, Dr Andrew Cousins

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEAD OF SECONDARY – CLAYFIELD COLLEGE

I am delighted to inform our College community that Mr Justin Desmarchelier has been appointed as Head of Secondary at Clayfield College, effective 1 January 2023.

As Head of Secondary, Mr Desmarchelier will be specifically responsible for the development and delivery of outstanding programs, events and activities for our Secondary School students, and leading wellbeing programs in the Secondary School. He will directly supervise the House Leaders, Heads of Year and the Head of Sport and Activities. He will report directly to the Principal and be a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Mr. Desmarchelier has been teaching in independent schools throughout Brisbane for over a decade. His interest in pastoral care and leadership has developed in his roles as Head of House and Head of Year at Clayfield College. Mr Desmarchelier has developed strong relationships within the Clayfield community in the past 7 years teaching Music and Christian Education from Prep to Year 12. He has received a Bachelor of Arts majoring in sociology, a Graduate Diploma in music education and holds an Australian Kodaly certificate in secondary music. Mr Desmarchelier is currently studying a Masters of Education Research at Griffith University, investigating the construction of social identity in the transition from primary to secondary school, which aims to develop a pedagogic intervention to use in our wellbeing programs. These programs will align with the College values of Care, Integrity, Resilience and Respect, providing opportunities for students to experience values education in meaningful and engaging ways.

Mr Desmarchelier will focus his strategic vision on the Clayfield College Pillars of **Wellbeing through belonging** and **Learning from experiences**. Belonging to a community through connectedness and identification is a powerful predictor of individual wellbeing.

Mr Desmarchelier's connection with Clayfield College began in 1950, when his mother and grandmother moved into the Caretaker's Cottage which used to stand next to the tennis courts. For 7 years, Mr Desmarchelier's mother played in the College grounds with the boarding students, helping her uncle the College caretaker, Mr Jack Sallotti, with various tasks around the College grounds.

I am sure you join me in congratulating Mr Desmarchelier and wishing him well in his new position and responsibilities.

Dr Andrew Cousins

Let your light *shine*

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