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## SENIOR COLLEGE PROGRAM (YEARS 7-12)

### Big Picture

Big Picture education drives learning through individual student passions and interests. Students in Years 7-12 develop their academic work within an advisory of up to 20 students who are linked with an advisor who supports and facilitates their learning around the BigPicture design. Students become independent learners who are able to take ownership of all areas of their learning from planning their learning, researching their enquiry questions through to exhibiting their work at the end of each term. As part of the Big Picture framework, all students will engage in real-world experience through internships or outlearning opportunities that connect their academic college-based learning to industry-based learning. As students move through to Year 11 and 12 they begin to refine and build on their interests to develop a post-school pathway plan for further study or employment. The Big Picture Education program prepares students for opportunities beyond school with an emphasis on relevance and real-world learning.

### Family Involvement

Families play an integral part in the journey from being involved with learning through the Learning Plan meeting (9-12) at the start of each term and at the end in the Exhibition/Conference. It is a required commitment by the families to attend both the learning plan meeting and exhibition each term. Families help shape the learning and provide critical support and feedback. The best part of this is that they get to witness firsthand the continued personal growth.

### Learning Plans and Exhibitions

The learning plan provides the foundation for student work. The focus is on personalised learning- one student at a time with each student displaying different strengths, passions, interests, needs and learning preferences. Each student has a focussed, personal learning plan that is tailored to meet their interests and needs. This plan is a map of a student's journey through their experience. No two learning plans will be exactly the same. The advisory teacher ensures that the learning plan focuses on different learning goals throughout the year leading to a well-rounded personal learning plan.

Exhibitions/ Conferences allow for the students to showcase their entire term's learning. This is an opportunity for the students to bring together their experiences and present it to their chosen panel. They have a dedicated 1-hour exhibition time slot that ensures that their family and advisor are engaged in their learning. Each term's exhibitions highlight personal and academic growth.

### Learning Through Intern

Learning opportunities are everywhere. We learn best when we are personally motivated and interested. Where we have a passion for what we are doing, knowledge unfolds and evolves naturally. LTI is a core structure in Big Picture. It involves being immersed in an external place of work for 1-2 days per week in an area of interest. Students are linked with a mentor- an expert in that field of work, where they are able to learn essential skills and gain deeper understanding of the role and interest. Together a student and mentor develop a project that is of benefit to the workplace and supports students learning. The primary purpose of LTI is to build knowledge, understanding and skills in the context of authentic work by encouraging students to follow their passions.

### Graduation Portfolio


The Graduation Portfolio is a compilation of a student's work, typically from Yr 9-12 that demonstrates their capacity to explore, research and develop as a learner in their field of interest. It demonstrates a student's readiness for employment, vocational education or tertiary education. It can also facilitate support for entrepreneurial ventures.

There are key elements that complete the graduation portfolio:

The graduation portfolio standards map the BPLA learning goals against the AQF, through the IBPLC.

## IBPLC - Leaving Credential


The purpose of this is to develop a widely accepted and trusted certification system that recognises the breadth, depth and range of achievements of students. Big Picture Education is rigorous and innovative, the system aims to demonstrate this by providing students with a rich record of achievement, shown through levels of competence. The work we are currently engaged in is developed in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, including Melbourne University, which has endorsed the credential. The credential will draw on student evidence of learning contained in their portfolios and exhibitions. The evidence will be used to moderate and validate the judgments made against the learning progressions. As no two students have the same interests and learning experiences, it follows that a personalised, rather than standardised, approach to end-of-school certification is required.



**Dean Prentice**

Dean is a young Journalist currently based in Wollongong, New South Wales. Dean grew up in Rural NSW. It's there where he developed his skills and love for the media and news reporting volunteering and working for the local radio station. He has been engaged continuously in community radio broadcasting since the age of 14. He honed his interviewing and production skills on the job. He is known for his balanced reporting on important issues affecting his local community, and has a keen interest in social and political affairs. Dean is a young Journalist currently based in Wollongong, New South Wales. Dean grew up in Rural NSW. It's there where he developed his skills and love for the media and news reporting volunteering and working for the local radio station. He has been engaged continuously in community radio broadcasting since the age of 14. He honed his interviewing and production skills on the job.

Online portfolio
Video statement



What do these levels mean?

**Knowing How to Learn - Level 5**

Students at this level are open to ideas that challenge their current thinking and action and they pursue new knowledge to develop improved solutions.

**Social Reasoning - Level 5**

Students at this level define and analyse social issues using relevant frameworks and perspectives and take responsible social action.

**Communication - Level 5**

Students at this level use a blend of tools to design and refine their communication in order to deliver a compelling message that expands perspectives.

**Personal Qualities - Level 5**

Students at this level are insightful and hold themselves accountable for their actions.

**Quantitative Reasoning - Level 5**

Students at this level understand the systematic nature of mathematics and the power of it in modelling the physical or social environment.

**Empirical Reasoning - Level 5**



Students at this level systematically refine hypotheses to develop authoritative knowledge from their investigations.

**Achievements:**

- Certificate IV in Media Production
- Band 5 - HSC Advanced English
- Javascript fundamentals - codeschool.com

**Real World Experiences:**

- Internship at Bill's Bikes
- Internship at ABC Wollongong
- Organising fundraiser for Koala bushfire relief

## Big Picture at CCSC

