

Blackwood High School is a co-educational secondary school located in Eden Hills, a south-eastern suburb of Adelaide, South Australia, offering an international baccalaureate middle-years programme with six nearby primary schools and diploma programme as the "Mitcham Hills College". It is also a special-interest high school that specialises in netball.[1] Blackwood High also offers an enrichment program for identified "gifted" or "talented" students.[2]

Primary schools involved in the Mitcham Hills College are:

Belair Primary Schools

Bellevue Heights Primary School

Blackwood Primary School

Coromandel Valley Primary School

Eden Hills Primary School

Hawthorndene Primary School

The school developed a resource with Sturt Police on "Teenage Parties" that has been adapted by Victorian private schools Scotch College[3] and Toorak College.[4] The Adelaide-based hip hop group Hilltop Hoods formed at Blackwood High School. The school also has a canteen, and is the site of the Blackwood Community Recreation Centre.

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Performing Arts Centre[edit]

The Performing Arts Centre (PAC), the Auditorium, or the Blackwood Community Recreation Centre, was constructed in 2001 with funds raised in several schools and community-based fund-raisers.[5] It features several sound-proofed rooms, computing equipment, musical instruments, and a large theatre and stage, with a booth for controlling the lighting and sound effects. The PAC is also used by the community as a church on Sunday mornings.

The main auditorium seats about 350, with the capability to have an extended stage because of retractable seating. In addition to the main performing areas, the PAC boasts a recording studio, four small practise rooms, two classrooms, offices, and storerooms.

Notable alumni[edit]

David James Campbell, writer and film director

Chloë Fox, South Australia MP in the South Australian House of Assembly

Rebecca Morse, newsreader for Channel 10, South Australia

Peter Rathjen, medical researcher, Rhodes scholar, and sexual abuser[6]

Terence Tao, mathematician and 2006 recipient of the Fields Medal

Musicians

Julian Cochran (composer)

Beccy Cole (musician)

Matt Lambert (Suffa) and Dan Smith (Pressure) of the Hilltop Hoods

Nathan Leigh Jones (musician)

Sports people:

Adam Cooney, 2008 Brownlow Medal winner, AFL, Western Bulldogs and Essendon[7]

Peter Motley, Australian Rules footballer - Sturt Football Club 1982–1985 and Carlton Football Club 1986–87

Matthew Nicks, Australian Rules footballer - West Adelaide and Sydney Swans 1996–2005

Kerri Pottharst, Australian professional beach volleyball player and Olympic gold medalist

Bianca Reddy, netballer for the Adelaide Thunderbirds

Liam Reddy, soccer player in the National Soccer League (Parramatta Power, Sydney United), the A-League (Newcastle Jets, Brisbane Roar, Wellington Phoenix, Sydney, Central Coast Mariners, Western Sydney Wanderers, Perth Glory), and Persian Gulf Pro League (Esteghlal)

Joel Reddy, National Rugby League player -South Sydney Rabbitohs, Wests, and Parramatta

Ben Rutten, former Australian Rules footballer - Adelaide Football Club 2003–2014 All-Australian selection in 2005

Matthew Powell, former Australian Rules footballer - Adelaide Football Club 1993–1995

School publications[edit]

Each year, the school's year 11 students compile a yearbook, which has, since its beginnings, been entitled Cambium. Students contribute articles, photographs, artworks, and written works, which give a snapshot of the school year.