

## *A warm welcome from Portland Bay...*

We'd like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome family, friends and the wider community.

Portland Bay School is a government special developmental school for students with an intellectual disability, serving the western district community around Portland, Victoria.

Being a student at PBS means being put at the centre of everything that we do. It means working not only towards academic goals, but also developing social, personal and interpersonal skills. It's not just about a student's time with us, but about preparation for life when formal schooling is over. We want every student who leaves us as they enter adulthood, to be happy, healthy, have a great sense of self and feel well prepared for life as an adult.

Our school wide values are Respectful, Responsible and Resilient.

Our school has a dedicated primary and secondary school team. We share the same campus, which makes transition from primary to secondary a breeze. We pride ourselves on our small class sizes and our experienced, compassionate staff. Our classes have an excellent staff to student ratio so experienced support is never in short supply.

We work to the same Victorian Curriculum as any other school. We run specialist classes in Art, Physical Education, Social/Emotional Learning and STEM. Students also take part in life skills-based classes such as cooking and Community Access. Senior secondary students take part in an extensive work placement program in preparation for employment after school. We work closely with local community and charity groups to assist with programs like the United Way Little Food Pantry, United Way Costume Library and PDH Meals on Wheels. We aim to help our students develop into well rounded, community minded citizens.

Portland Bay School has a dedicated team of Allied Health and Wellbeing staff. We have our own Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist. A Mental Health Practitioner works across our secondary school and a Student Counsellor works across our primary school. We have a dedicated NDIS Navigator to help families work through NDIS related matters. Our Wellbeing team is supported by our four-legged staff member, Willow our Therapy Dog. Willow works across the school helping students regulate their emotions.

The school provides a door-to-door bus service for all students in the district, and this includes Portland, Heywood, Dartmoor, Tyrendarra, Yambuk, Macarthur, Condah, Digby and Nelson.

Tours of our wonderful facilities are available on request by calling reception on 55232218 during school hours.

We can't wait to meet you...

**THE TEAM AT PBS**