



English Hotshots 2 – Interviewer for a Day

WELCOME ENGLISH HOTSHOTS

On Monday 23 June thirty-three Year 6 and 7 students from Mourilyan, Goondi, Flying Fish Point, Mena Creek and Innisfail East primary schools attended the second round of English HOTSHOTS at Innisfail State College.

The English HOTSHOT programme targeted top-performing English students in the above schools. This week's theme was Interviewer for a Day. It followed on from last term's Journalist for a Day.

Students interviewed key personnel at the College – those teachers and support staff who will be closely involved with the enrolment of year 6 and 7 students in 2015. Interviewees included the Principal, Mrs Kate MacDonald, Deputy Principal Mr Devaney, Heads of Department Junior School Matt Sharrock and Simon Whatling, Guidance Officer Brett Wilson and a number of other Heads of Department and teacher aides.

Questions were workshopped beforehand and were designed by the students to explain the role of each person interviewed and how they would be involved with our newest junior students next year.

Deborah Thomas—Head of Department—ENGLISH



Tamasyn Carman's interview by AJ Staines Yr 6 Mourilyan, Kayd Micale Yr 6 Goondi and William Salt Yr 7 Innisfail East



How long have you been at the College?

I went to GCC for a couple of weeks but have been at ISC for five years.

What significant jobs have you done at the College?

Represented the College, public speeches, run weekly assemblies and have been a role model for younger students.

What effects or changes have you made in the school?

As part of the student council we have had discos and other fundraisers.

How is high school different to primary school?

You have to move between classes, can choose subjects, the school is bigger, there are more students, different teachers, more homework, cold rooms and microwaves.

Mr Whatling's interview by Ethan Ryan Yr 6 Goondi, Mandeep Kaur Yr 7 Innisfail East and Shanon Kopp Yr 6 Goondi

What is your favourite thing about the College?

The chance to work with a variety of students.

What are possible subject options for years 7 & 8 next year?

The possible subjects for next year are English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, LOTE, HPE, The Arts (dance, drama, visual arts and music) and Technology.

How is high school different from primary school?

Primary school is different from high school in a variety of ways, some of which are: a bigger school, more teachers/staff/students, more subjects, harder work and your time is divided up.



Mrs Horwood's interview by Abby Whatling Yr 6 Goondi, Maninder Kaur Yr 7 Mena Creek and Siddharta Nair Yr 6 Goondi



What is your role at Innisfail State College?

I am a teacher aide. I work two days per week in the library and three days per week in Y block on the other side of the school.

Do you enjoy working at Innisfail State College and why?

Yes, it is a good place to work, it has great facilities and great people.

If you could change five things about the school what would they be and why?

I don't need to change anything because it is a great place to work.

Mrs Gosper's interview by Talia Flynn Yr 6 Goondi, Monica Vecchio Yr 6 Goondi and Lori Edgerton Yr 6 Mourilyan

What is your role at Innisfail State College?

I am a teacher aide and I enter enrolment details for all new students and take phone calls regarding absences and other enquiries.

Do you enjoy working at Innisfail State College and why?

Yes, I do. I like working with students and staff.

What improvement would you change at this College?

The College is a great place and if there is a problem in the school, it is dealt with straight away.



Mr Devaney's interview by Renae Kneubuhler Yr 6 Innisfail East, Caitlin Clowes Yr 6 Flying Fish Point and Kylie Vecchio Yr 6 Goondi



Will your job involve year 7 & 8 students next year?

I look after senior school students in years 10-12. I am the Senior Schooling Deputy Principal at Innisfail State College. Mr Graham is the Junior Secondary Deputy Principal.

Why did you decide to work at Innisfail State College?

My last school was on an island with only approximately 180 students. I had family members who lived here in Innisfail and wanted to be closer to them in a large town.

What do you do in your spare time at Innisfail State College?

I visit classes and enjoy the subjects of science, hospitality and woodwork.

Mrs MacDonald's interview by Alice Bosanquet Yr 7 Goondi, Jayda Bird Yr 6 Mourilyan and Kiah Simmons Yr 6 Flying Fish Point



What is your job at the College?

I am the principal of the College 8-12 campus as well as the Diverse Learning Centre which is located in Z Block.

What has your experience been doing the job that you do and would you recommend this to others?

I would highly recommend education as a career. It is a truly rewarding career and every day is different. You get to work with different people who can engage in interesting conversation and the kids are great to talk to, which is an advantage.

How do you think you will be involved in the students arriving in years 7 & 8 next year?

I am already involved with the year 6s and 7s. Next year I will be seen during lessons, at parades and in the school grounds on a daily basis.

How long have you been doing your job and have you enjoyed it?

I love my job and I have been a principal at Innisfail State College for two years and I have also been a principal at Gordonvale State High School for five years. So I have been a principal for seven years and I am looking forward to next year and many years to come.

Brandon Mitchell's interview by Ashleigh Begg Yr 6 Goondi, Sharnah Bennett Yr 7 Innisfail East and Amber Anastasi Yr 7 Mena Creek

How is the learning at ISC different to our primary school?

It's harder and things aren't explained to you as much. You are expected to research things beforehand. You also have different teachers and classes.

How will we benefit from this education?

You will be able to get a job after year 12 and it opens up pathways to careers.

What is your role in the College?

I am a College captain along with Tamasyn Carman. I represent the College at big events and I help the students.

What is your favourite subject and why?

My favourite class is Cert III in Fitness because I like fitness. It is fun and you learn a lot about the human body and how to stay fit and healthy.



Mrs Bidois' interview by Aussie Johnson Yr 7 Goondi, Venture Setter Yr 6 Mourilyan and Scott Mathison Yr 6 Goondi



What is your role at the College?

My role at the College is helping students with special needs feel more comfortable in class.

What do you like most about being at the College?

My favourite part of the work at the College is all the students.

What job would you do if you weren't working at the College?

I would like to work as a genetic scientist and help people make choices during their life.

Mr Sharrock's interview by Reuben Sharpe Yr 7 Goondi, Jakiah Bowditch Yr 6 Innisfail East and Thomas King Yr 6 Goondi



How do you think your job has changed over the years?

My job has changed dramatically, I started at ISC as a HPE teacher. I have been a year 10, 11 & 12 coordinator and well as a sports coordinator which consists of organising sports events. I have taught through years 8-12 and am now a HOD of junior secondary. I work with the JET plan interviews and around 90 students from years 8 & 9. And in 2015, year 7s, too.

What is a good experience you have enjoyed while pursuing your career?

In all honesty, the work I am doing now is pretty exciting. The work in junior secondary is very important as it is often a time when students need a bit more help. The fact that I don't teach a certain subject allows me to build up a good friendship with students and families.

What are your responsibilities within the school?

As I said before, working with students from years 8 & 9 with the name A-G. I case manage students with the JET plan interviews twice a year. If a teacher needs information on a student, they would come to me. I look after student wellbeing such as organising camps and excursions. Our three focus areas are goal setting, resilience and teamwork which we teach our students.

Mrs Thomas' interview by Laila Carroll Yr 6 Goondi, Georgia Anderson Yr 6 Mourilyan and Denae Torrisi Yr 6 Goondi



What will you be teaching Yr 7s next year?

They will have a lesson a week of reading, writing, speaking, punctuation, grammar, spelling, vocabulary, history and geography.

In five words how would you describe Innisfail State College?

Mrs Thomas described the school as a small city, complex, different, busy and exciting to work in.

How is high school different from primary school?

There is a difference in size, teachers, permanent tuckshop, special school teachers, workshops and industry standard kitchens.

What is your job as a teacher?

I am Head of Department for English. It is my job to check students' marks and to make sure everyone understands the lessons.

Mr Wilson's interview by Sally Everson Yr 7 Goondi, Mia Morales Yr 6 Innisfail East and Jemma Turner-Maher Yr 6 Mourilyan

What are three things you like about Innisfail State College?

The buildings, students and staff.

What duties do you cover working at the College?

I help in the social and emotional well-being of students and staff. A big part of my job is career counselling for students for both university study and jobs.

What made you decide to be part of the College?

I wanted to be a Guidance Officer and this is where I was appointed.

