



Annesley Junior School

HERITAGE | VALUES | INNOVATION

 28 Rose Terrace
Wayville SA 5034

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1 June 2022

To the Annesley Community,

Our much loved and widely respected Principal Luke Ritchie has informed the Council that after nearly six years in the role, this term will be his final term at Annesley Junior School.

Luke leaves Annesley during a period of strong growth and clear strategic direction for the School, which will continue into the future.

While I know this news will be met with some disappointment, the Ritchie family have made the decision to embark on extended travel around Australia for the remainder of 2022 while their children are at a suitable age to do so. Luke will also be seeking to publish his work on the future of education and to collaborate on a range of other leadership projects during this time. Please find a video from Luke [here](#).

Jo Rossiter, Director of Primary School, will fill the role of Acting Principal while a thorough recruitment process is undertaken. A leading consulting group has been engaged to carry out this search. Drawing on their extensive experience, Jo and the senior leadership team will ensure the learning and nurturing of our students continues to the highest standard during this transition period.

We appreciate that this change may evoke some questions from your child, and we will ensure the appropriate supports are in place to facilitate a smooth and transparent transition for our staff and students. As always, pastoral care services are available to the Annesley community led by our trusted and highly regarded Pastor Pete.

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognise the significant contribution that Luke has made at Annesley over the past six years. With the support of the wonderful staff, he has established and implemented an outstanding and innovative framework of education that sets Annesley apart. The positive community spirit and continued growth of our school are testaments to these efforts.

The leadership team has worked tirelessly to develop a market leading ELC to Reception transition and our experiential learning programs have been embraced by the school community to become trademark programs at Annesley. We have recently celebrated our ELC and Primary School having the highest enrolment ever in our 120-year history and we will commence Term 3 with an impressive 20 classes of students.

In addition, we recently celebrated our most successful external International Baccalaureate Evaluation and formalised Secondary School Partnerships with St John's Grammar School and Westminster School. These successes are indicative of the high regard with which education at Annesley Junior School is held within the broader community.

Under Luke's leadership, Annesley has achieved notable operational efficiencies with a significant renewal of school policies and the creation and recruitment of over 60 staff positions. This places us well for the future and brings an important diversity of skills to our school community. Our strong and experienced senior leadership team, combined with our exceptional teaching





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and support staff, will continue to innovate in the area of education and guide our school into the future.

I acknowledge and am grateful for Luke's measured and thoughtful leadership of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic as Annesley Principal and in his capacity as Board Chair of the Association of Independent Schools in SA.

The Annesley Council, with you all, will miss Luke's passion for each child and staff member, his commitment to progressive education, and his open and transparent leadership style.

We wish Luke and his family all the very best on their travel adventures and look forward to welcoming them back as Annesley parents in 2023, as is their current plan.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at chairofcouncil@annesley.sa.edu.au should you have any questions or concerns. I will keep you informed of updates in a timely manner and expect to announce our new Principal later in 2022.



Bruce Spangler AM
Chair of Annesley Council

