



Cranbrook School

# Boarding at Cranbrook



CRANBROOK  
SCHOOL



Boarding at Cranbrook offers boys a strong supportive home in an outstanding educational environment. As a school we are committed to providing an all-encompassing social and academic boarding experience so that they become responsible and successful young men of the future.





## **Boarding provides endless opportunity to be fully immersed in school life, to interact with the whole of the Cranbrook community and make life-long friends from all corners of the globe.**

Located four kilometres from the heart of Sydney, boarding at Cranbrook offers boys a strong, supportive home in an educational environment which epitomises creativity, exploration and a generosity of spirit. The boarding experience helps develop important study skills and discipline essential for life beyond the school gates. Our students feel known, valued and purposeful.

With access to exceptional facilities and learning opportunities, boarding offers a well rounded education that empowers boys to recognise their own unique potential, and achieve their personal best in the pursuit of excellence. On our beautiful campus overlooking Sydney Harbour, boarders enjoy unrestricted access to expansive sporting grounds, a fitness centre which includes a gymnasium, indoor and outdoor basketball courts and an indoor pool.

Boys also have out of hours use of all academic facilities including the IT centre and library. Supported by our outstanding boarding academic team, the opportunities for learning beyond the classroom are extensive.

Boarding provides endless opportunity to be fully immersed in school life, to interact with the whole of the Cranbrook community and make life-long friends from all corners of the globe. Being a member of the Cranbrook boarding community teaches boys to be independent, responsible for themselves and others, so they grow into mature and self-reliant young men leading adventurous and generous lives.



## Boarding at Cranbrook offers a remarkable bridge to university life and beyond. Boarders learn to love and enjoy their urban setting.

Boarding offers a powerful and remarkably contemporary form of schooling. Being at the centre of school life gives an experience filled with valuable activities and engagements: living, and working, alongside peers and adults enables the growth both of self-belief and of interpersonal skills. All too often modern society seeks to deal with young people by turning them into precocious consumers or passive spectators to be entertained by confections of celluloid perfection, easy wins and self-centred gratification: by way of contrast, boarders have the opportunity to study, socialise and create alongside and with other people from a variety of backgrounds.

In a way, boarding offers slow cooking in an age increasingly addicted to fast food; it works towards the formation of character and the creation of friendships which can last a lifetime. Adult members of the boarding team provide both guidance and warmth: they are absolutely committed to the building of a safe and kind but stimulating and ambitious residential community.

Boarding at Cranbrook offers a remarkable bridge to university life and beyond. Boarders learn to love and enjoy their urban setting: our heritage buildings within a beautiful site form an excellent harbour from which to voyage out into metropolitan Sydney.

Boarders can, therefore, be at the heart of so many worthwhile things: they contribute generously to school life and grow in range, confidence and experience so that they can enrich their horizons, discover their talents and realise their potential.

**Mr Nicholas Sampson**  
Headmaster



# Cranbrook has two Boarding Houses, Rawson and Street, which together care for approximately 75 students from Year 7 to Year 12. There is a good mix of boys from Sydney, rural Australia, and overseas.

Our Boarding Housemasters live on site and have families of their own providing powerful pastoral support and instilling a sense that boarders are very much an extension of the Housemasters' family life.

With the support and guidance of our boarding staff, Cranbrook boarders learn valuable life lessons in independence, compassion and companionship.

## ABOUT CRANBROOK'S HOUSEMASTERS

Cranbrook's Housemasters have extensive boarding experience and understand the pastoral needs of raising boys and the challenges they can face as they progress through their teenage years. The Housemasters are ideally placed to help shape the development of your son through each age and stage.

Each Housemaster is supported by three resident members of the School staff, male and female.

## RAWSON HOUSE

### James Boyd

**Director of Boarding/Rawson Housemaster**  
(BA Honours in History, Post-Graduate Certificate in Education)

Originally from the UK, James commenced his teaching career at Eton College. He then had his first experience of teaching in Australia at SHORE. James returned to the UK and taught at St Edward's in Oxford where he was an Assistant Housemaster before a move to Merchiston Castle School in Edinburgh to become a Housemaster. James joined Cranbrook in 2013.

James is married to a Sydneysider, has three young children and they live in Rawson House. James teaches History and also coaches the schools 1st XV Rugby.

James is a firm believer that it is important for the boys to be busy but not over-scheduled. He encourages the 'boys to be boys' whilst they are at Cranbrook and to take part in many of the activities that the school offers. James and his team of resident tutors place emphasis on the importance of manners and respect towards each other and learning to live in a close-knit community. James and his team regularly join the boys on the numerous trips that are organised in and around Sydney; he strongly believes that the boys should take advantage of living in such a great location.

## STREET HOUSE

### Matthew Banes

**Street Housemaster**  
(BA Honours in Ancient History)

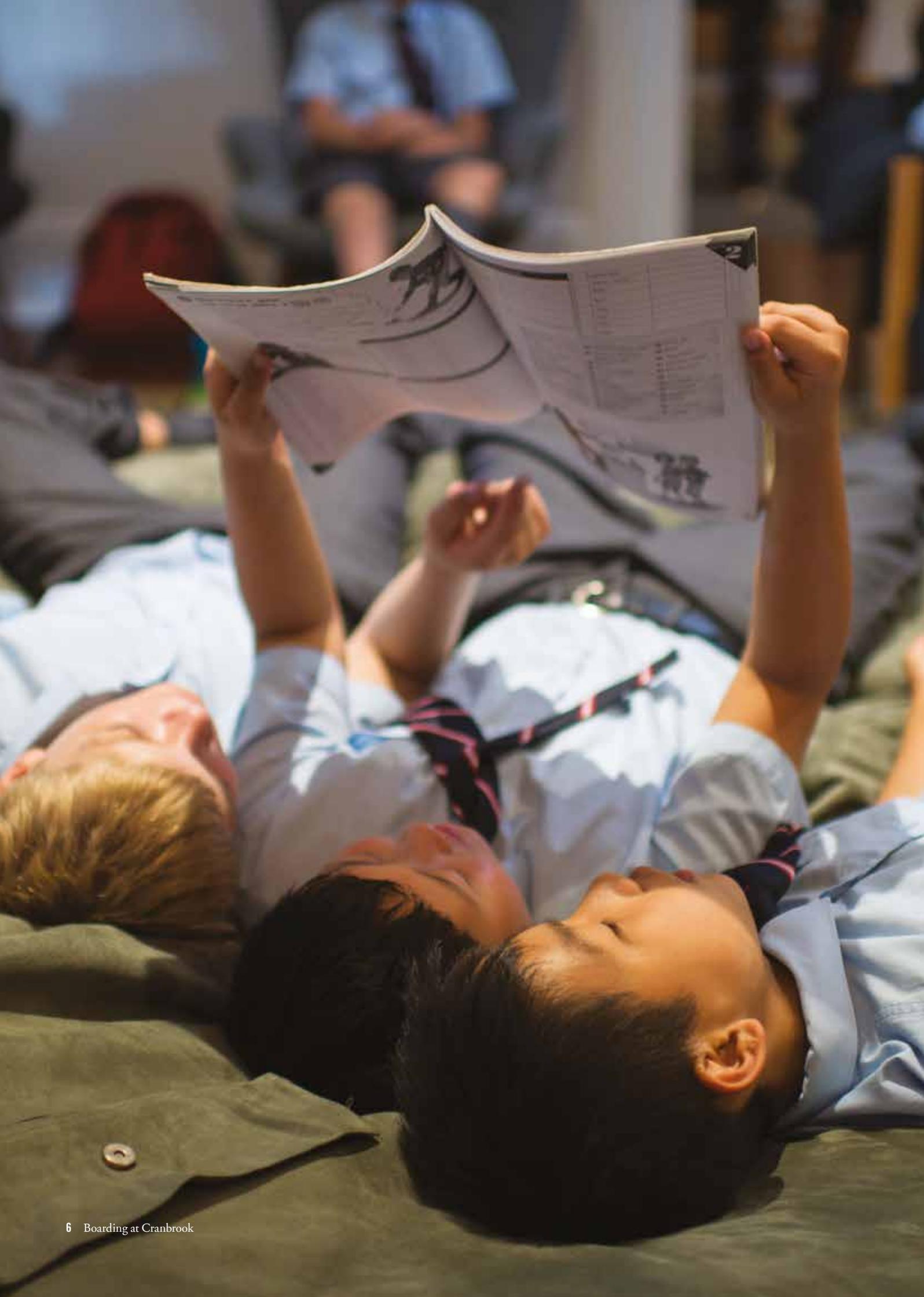
Before joining Cranbrook at the start of 2016, Matt worked for 10 years at Eastbourne College in England where he was Housemaster, Master in Charge of Cricket and 1st XV rugby coach, and a teacher of English and Classics to all ages.

From the classical world he looks to impart to the boys the advice of an inscription on the temple of Apollo at Delphi 'know thyself', and from the sporting world the thoughts of W.G. Grace on what life should involve: 'healthy effort, endless variety and delightful good fellowship.'

In Street House, Matt aims to foster all three elements in equipping the boys with skills that will stand them in good stead for when they leave school. He believes in providing opportunities for boys to grow and develop character in a structure that allows both independence and communality.

Matt is married to Sarah and they have three young children – Gracie, Bea and Lachlan. It is very much an open door policy in Street with one big, extended family.







### CHOOSING CRANBROOK BOARDING

At Cranbrook, boarding is not just about the student – it is the whole family. We pride ourselves on the close relationship boarding staff have not just with the boys but with each and every parent.

This is key to ensuring our boarders feel settled in their home away from home. With only 75 boarders our boarding staff are able to provide each family with a high level of communication that is tailored to their son's activities; personal and consistent in approach.

This coupled with regular parent functions such as welcome drinks, Mother/Son weekends and Father/Son trips to sporting events ensures the boarding community remains close-knit.

We understand that choosing a boarding school for your son is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent and the reasons why parents send their boys to boarding schools are varied.

### BENEFITS OF BOARDING

- Close supervision of academic work by members of teaching staff who are residents
- Two Boarding Houses where students feel known, valued and nurtured
- Boys learn to be independent, responsible for themselves and others, building self-confidence
- Live-in Housemasters have extensive experience and provide guidance
- Opportunity to make life-long friends from all corners of the globe
- Spacious boarding rooms and recreational areas enjoy the spectacular views of Sydney Harbour
- Central location ensures boarders can enjoy all that Sydney has to offer
- Unrestricted access to all of the school facilities.

### PASTORAL CARE

- Orientation of new boarders is a priority
- Boarding staff are fully equipped to care for boys if they experience homesickness at any stage
- Boys are encouraged to enjoy all that Cranbrook has to offer and to become immersed in boarding life
- Boys form deep and longlasting friendships and have a network of support
- A mentor and buddying system ensures continuous support
- Network of school Counsellors, boarding staff, Chaplains and Registered Nurses.

### WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

- Surfing and swimming at nearby beaches e.g. Bondi Beach
- Swimming at Redleaf Pool located on Sydney Harbour
- Supporting favourite professional teams; rugby, NRL, AFL and A League
- Cultural experiences; theatre trips, museum and gallery exhibitions
- Go-karting and bowling
- Sailing and rowing on Sydney Harbour
- Regular joint social events are arranged with local girls' schools such as dragon boat racing, quiz evenings, cooking and the cinema
- Opportunity to be involved in charity work
- Duke of Edinburgh.

### SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- Sport: AFL, athletics, basketball, cricket, cross country, fitness, football, rowing, rugby, sailing, snowsports, swimming, tennis and waterpolo
- Music: violin, flute, viola, oboe, cello, clarinet, double bass, saxophone, bassoon, piano, recorder, guitar, music technology, choral, electric guitar, trumpet, french horn, trombone, tuba and percussion
- Drama, debating, outdoor education (Cranbrook in the Field), chess, public speaking and social service.

### SCHOOL FACILITIES

- State of the art music recording studio
- Drama performance theatre
- Fitness centre including access to two gymnasiums, indoor swimming pool and weights room
- Expansive sporting facilities including indoor and outdoor basketball courts, four sporting ovals and four Rebound Ace tennis courts
- Modern library
- Year 12 College; a place of study for our most senior students
- Health Centre; registered nurse on-site 24 hours a day
- Kitchen; all meals nutritionally balanced and prepared by professional chefs.

### BOARDING FACILITIES

- Secure and modern accommodation for all boarders
- Junior boarders are accommodated in small grouped rooms which encourages the building of companionship, generosity of spirit and mutual respect
- Year 12 boarders enjoy the privacy of single rooms providing private study areas in preparation for tertiary education
- WiFi
- FOXTEL
- Pool tables
- Large communal relaxation areas
- School laundry service provided on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
- Seamstress available on site.



# The academic potential of each boarder is thoroughly understood, and appropriate and achievable goals are set.

Boarding at Cranbrook involves learning that continues beyond normal school hours. With access to the school's exceptional academic facilities, boarding empowers the boys to recognise their own unique potential and provides a level of academic advantage that is only possible from being in close contact with peers and academic staff after hours.

The academic potential of each boarder is thoroughly understood, and appropriate and achievable goals are set. Supported by an outstanding boarding academic team, the opportunities for learning beyond the classroom are extensive. Time is designated for completing homework and tutoring, and is carefully managed. Close communication between the class teachers and boarding house staff ensures that the boys' study programme meets the expectations of the boys and their teachers, as well as the creation of personalised study plans for the boys in Years 11 and 12.

Many of Cranbrook's boarders appear on the Headmaster's List for Outstanding Academic Effort and regularly achieve higher average grades than day boys, indicative of the significant resources that are made available to the boarding community.

## TAILORED STUDY PROGRAMME

The evening study programme, known as prep, is tailored to meet the needs of the boys and is Year Group appropriate. Prep is an integral part of each boy's boarding experience.

## JUNIOR YEARS (YEARS 7-9)

The foundations for learning are set from the early days as a Year 7 boarder; these skills will be used throughout their time at Cranbrook.

The boys complete their prep in the school library every evening from 6.30pm until 8pm under the supervision of the librarians and resident tutors. During prep the following areas are covered:

- IT organisational skills and the creation of digital folders
- Wider reading of literature
- Note making and the use of OneNote
- Reading: learning to skim and scan
- Effective revision techniques
- Research skills
- How to use the Library effectively
- Handwriting classes.

## SENIOR YEARS (YEARS 10-12)

Our senior students complete their prep in House in their own private study areas within their bedrooms. Single rooms are offered to the older years as they require greater independence in preparation for the challenges and opportunities of university.

Each bedroom is equipped with access to WiFi and is an excellent studying environment. There are printing capabilities within both Houses. Prep within each House is supervised by the resident tutors; all of whom are full time members of Cranbrook's academic staff and specialise in a range of subjects. There are break-out areas in each House for the boys to work collaboratively with their peers which is an invaluable method of learning.

For Year 12 students there is also the opportunity to use the Year 12 College and have access to specialist subject tutors; visiting university lecturers and Old Cranbrookians who volunteer their time to assist the boys in their most senior, and academically challenging year.

Boarders can easily access the early morning extension classes and academic clinics on offer. With no travel time to factor in to their timetable the boys can put extra effort in to their study, sport, music or any of the other co-curricular activities on offer.

In addition, a boarding mentoring programme has been introduced and is specifically designed to ensure each student progresses on their journey as a Cranbrook boarder. We provide our boys with the environment and support network for success.

## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE: MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME

There has been an important change in the curriculum delivery for boys in Years 7 to 10. Cranbrook is already an authorised International Baccalaureate (IB) school for Pre-school to Year 6, running the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and now the Senior School is preparing for the introduction of the IB Middle Years' Programme (MYP) with the expectation that we will be authorised by Year 7 2018.

Currently the School is using MYP teaching methodology to strengthen delivery of the Australian curriculum. Students commencing in Year 7 2018 will be MYP students. The MYP encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world, preparing them for success in further study and in life. It aims to develop learners and internationally minded young people who can empathise with others and empower them to inquire into a wide range of issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally and globally.



# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CRANBROOK BOARDER



**7am**

Wake up. Sports training, rehearsals and academic clinics

**7.30am**

Nutritious and hearty breakfast in Governor's Ballroom or on the veranda in summer

**8.20am**

Meet with academic tutor to discuss progress in the classroom

**8.40am**

Classes commence

**10.30am**

Recess: Head back to the kitchen to pick-up a healthy snack and spend time with friends

**10.55am-12.40pm**

Classes

**12.40pm-1.25pm**

Lunch: served in the Governor's Ballroom; a variety of hot and cold menu options

**1.30pm-3.15pm**

Classes

**3.15pm**

Afternoon tea available

**3.15pm-5.30pm**

Sport training, Open Studio for Art, Science Club, Photography Club, Orchestra rehearsals, or take part in a joint House activity





**8pm**

Prep ends: for Years 7-9.  
Junior boys have access to sports hall,  
pool in the evenings or opportunity  
to relax in the House

**8.30pm**

Prep ends: for Years 10-12

**8.45pm**

Supper in House

**9.30pm/10.30pm**

Bed for all Year Groups



**5.45pm**

Dinner: served in the Governor's Ballroom

**6.30pm**

Prep begins: Years 7-9 in the library,  
Years 10-12 work in the Boarding House  
and are supervised by the duty member  
of staff. Year 12 students can access  
the Cranbrook Year 12 College to work  
away from the House







## The boarding families are a diverse group culturally and career-wise which makes for very interesting conversation when we meet at the various school functions throughout the year.

### **CAMERON AND JO CROWLEY** Parents of a Year 10 boarder

‘What was important to us was that our son could experience an education that best prepared him for adult life. Academic rigour a necessity whilst the important features of Cranbrook include the fact that the school invests heavily in sport whilst the view on sport is balanced in relation to its importance in adult life; and it ensures an environment and experiences that will broaden our son’s view of the world, contributing to him being a more rounded young man upon school completion.

There is a strong focus on all individuals becoming all that they can be, irrespective of their chosen passion, in an environment showing strong mutual respect across the entire community. Good sportsmen are encouraged and very well coached alongside the many other endeavours being ably pursued.

The Boarding House is designed to be like a home and the culture within, incredibly family like. I have been to Boarding House functions on weekends and was amazed how the interaction among the entire group was like a large group of brothers.

The smaller Boarding House ensures the boys interact heavily with the day students which greatly enhances their Sydney boarding experience, another key feature that attracted us to the school. The day parents have been incredibly welcoming to our family as a whole and many have treated our son like their own.

The boarding families are a diverse group culturally and career-wise which makes for very interesting conversation when we meet at the various school functions throughout the year; and once again provides our son with a broader view of life and its many possibilities. Cranbrook School has a strong history and is a strong brand. We believe it is preparing our son optimally for life, and a career in this vast and ever changing world.’

### **KEVIN & MADDI’ PARKER** Parents of a Year 10 boarder

Sending our 11 year old son to boarding school in Sydney was a big decision. An all-rounder, we wanted an educational opportunity that allowed him to unfurl all of his potential across the spectrum.

We interviewed other leading schools, but from the outset Cranbrook was the front runner. The emphasis on pastoral care with a wide range of offerings covering the arts, sport and academia seemed to fit the bill. There was more to it than that though.

Everyone that we met displayed genuine traits of a compassionate community, value-based whilst focusing on allowing every boy to become the best that he could be.

He has good friends in the house and the wider school community. The families of day boys have been extremely generous and supportive throughout.

Academically, he has been supported in his choices. Boarders have compulsory study time underpinned by specialist in-house tutors who provide help with subject matter and strategy. As a result of this, his own drive and the solid standard of teaching, he is achieving terrific results and has been given the opportunity to take-on some HSC units a year early. It was a relief to find that the teaching staff are approachable and contemporary in both their emphasis and skill-sets.

For our lad it is rugby in winter, cricket in summer. Well-resourced coaching facilities are backed by a league of professional sport coaches. The option of interstate and overseas trips for sports and other academic disciplines for the boys has been a bonus.



Ex-curricular options are manifold. Our son is a part of the debating team and has taken a role in the Year 10 Drama production. An on-going challenge is developing time management skills to balance the choices on offer.

The leadership and support provided by the Boarding House Staff have been exemplary. We are co-parenting with the Cranbrook team, so well-defined boundaries, whilst not getting in the way of teenage development, are welcome. The smaller boarding houses engender a family feel with the brotherhood keeping an eye out for each other. Facilities are modern and comfortable whilst not compromising the heritage aspects of the buildings. Leisure activities involve trips out on the harbour, go-karting, trips to the beach in summer or such like.

**CAITLIN AND SCOT HAYMAN**  
**Parents of a Year 9 boarder**

We all want the best for our children. If, as in our case, our chosen school is not nearby, boarding is a requirement. Luckily for us, we couldn't have asked for a more suitable environment for our son's development than Cranbrook's Street House.

Learning to get along with people from diverse backgrounds is a critical life skill. Living in a boarding house during the formative years of senior school, ensures the Cranbrook boys are well prepared for their future. Our son has benefitted greatly from the mentoring and friendships he has formed with boys across the various year groups and between both Boarding Houses.

We have been so impressed with the guidance and support he has received from the senior boys in the Boarding House. Walking into the House on weekends, the smiling faces and welcoming greetings of both staff and boys make us feel a part of a broader community.

The boarding house is well designed and conducive to boys feeling at home. The ability to gather and share some laughs while watching *State of Origin*, or playing pool in the common room ensures they are never lonely. Equally we have been into the House and seen some boys enjoying a quiet moment reading or studying in their work space. The boys are provided with a balance of social opportunities as well as time to rebuild and reflect on their own.

The staff are so professional and superb. We could not have asked for more wonderful, caring, dedicated and passionate educators with the essential sense of humour, to care for our son. They clearly appreciate his strengths and work with him to develop areas where he needs support. The staff manage the boys fairly and build relationships based on respect.

Role modelling is key when developing young men and at Cranbrook, our son has many impressive mentors. Mr Banes has been a wonderful addition to Street House this year and we are so blessed to have our son under his care and leadership. He inspires the boys, demands them to be their best and actively supports them to achieve greatness.

Cranbrook develops worldly, humble young men. The boarders are actively involved in community service and understand their role and the significance of making a difference.

I am grateful for the way the boys are exposed to global issues and are guided through the keys to good leadership. The boarding environment has produced many of the school's leaders, across a broad range of activities. They show a capacity to value each other's strengths – whether it be on the rugby field, in the science lab, or in the music rooms. The boarders all respect each other and support one another's endeavours.

Academic rigour is another benefit for our son whilst boarding. Not only does he receive the highest quality of education during the day, he then has the support of many of the academic staff as Tutors in the boarding house. He has received hours of extra tuition and assistance when completing assignments, assessment tasks and preparing for exams. The Prep structure ensures he has the time to manage his homework and study routines. There is an excellent balance between sporting commitments, musical rehearsals and allocated homework time.

Our son is so lucky to be a boarder at Cranbrook – a boarding school that is supporting him to become a confident, responsible and successful young man. We couldn't ask for more.





**Boarding equips students with the important study skills and discipline for post-secondary and vocational success. A sense of purpose and responsibility is instilled in our boarders from the junior years.**

**MALCOLM DAN**  
(Old Cranbrookian 1952)  
Senior Diplomat.

My first year was memorable because Cranbrook had leased one of Bellevue Hill's great mansions, 'Rona', as a Boarding House for some twenty-five boys who were supervised by a live-in master, K.C Jolly. Rona was an annex of the main school's Boarding House, Rawson House. The following five years were spent in the main historic Cranbrook building with its wonderful dormitories that included the much sought-after open verandahs with superb views of the harbour and bridge. I greatly valued the companionship of my own classmates but also the boys from different school years. Study time was especially important and we were able to help each other with our school work. Boarders enjoyed access to the school library at all times. Also, with the encouragement of our Housemaster,

we formed poetry reading groups that met on Sunday evenings. Boarders also had outings arranged for them to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, stage plays, films and major sporting events. We had a full program including chess competitions and music evenings. We lived an active and exciting life. My time as a boarder at Cranbrook living and working at close quarters with a wide variety of other boys of different ages prepared me ideally for my transition at the age of 18 years to St Paul's College at Sydney University where I remained for the following four years. My boarding experience gave me the maturity and confidence to interact with many others and prepared me for my later career in the Australian diplomatic service embracing 37 years, 20 years of which I spent overseas.



**WILLIAM (BILL) MACKAY**  
(Old Cranbrookian 2012)

**Currently studying at Newcastle University.**

I started boarding at Cranbrook in Rawson House in 2007 and finished in 2012. I met a great number of people from all walks of life and backgrounds. Coming from a farm in Coonamble, NSW it was a real shock but none the less it was an enjoyable experience. I found that there were unlimited opportunities as a boarder. I was a member of the Rowing Club for five years, refereed Rugby Union for four years and also participated in many other social events.

Although the opportunities I have mentioned are also open to day students, boarding teaches you many things that you only learn from being a part of it. This includes the value of mates, looking after one another, learning solid routines and being disciplined. Because of this, a boarder is a step ahead of the rest once he

leaves Cranbrook because he knows how to be independent and look after himself once out in the real world. This makes settling into university and work life a lot easier.

Coming from a small country town, I could never have imagined what lay ahead at Cranbrook, but I enjoyed my full six years there and what I have learnt in boarding will be with me for a very long time to come.

**HARRY WHITE**  
(Old Cranbrookian 2015)

**Currently studying Economics and Law at Sydney University.**

I began boarding in Rawson House in Year 7, 2009. One of the great parts of Cranbrook boarding is the size of the Houses. The smaller community made it felt like I was living with 40 brothers. However, these were brothers of a different nature, coming from all different walks of life. This exposure to people from all over Australia and the world meant that there was always something to talk about and always something to learn.

Being a boarder at Cranbrook gave you a double hit of all the great opportunities the School has to offer academically, culturally or on the sporting field. Having access to a range of facilities for extended periods of time meant you had the opportunity to absorb as much as you wanted out of the School.

I will always cherish my six years at Cranbrook as a boarder. I wholeheartedly believe that it has provided me with a strong set of academic, social and life skills that I will use for the rest of my life.

### **More information**

For more information about boarding at Cranbrook or to arrange a tour of the school and our boarding facilities, please contact:

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### **Australian Boarding Schools' Association**

Cranbrook School is a proud member of the Australian Boarding Schools' Association (ABSA). The Association is the leading authority in Australia on boarding for school-aged children, promotes the interests and well-being of boarders, boarding staff, boarding parents and boarding institutions in Australia.



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