

## Queenwood Principal Transition FAQs

Tuesday 19 July, 2022

### **Why is Ms Stone leaving her position as Principal of Queenwood?**

Ms Stone has accepted a ground-breaking opportunity to become the first female Head in the 640-year history of [Winchester College in the UK](#).

### **When was Ms Stone's intention to depart announced?**

Queenwood Council announced Ms Stone's intention to depart on 19 July, 2022. You can read the announcement [here](#).

### **When is Ms Stone departing as Queenwood Principal?**

Ms Stone will remain in her role until the end of June 2023.

### **What will happen during the transition period?**

Ms Stone and the senior leadership team are absolutely committed to the ongoing success and stability of Queenwood and ensuring the School maintains its steady focus on excellence in teaching and learning.

### **Who is choosing the next Queenwood Principal?**

The Council has an established succession plan and has appointed leading recruitment firm Odgers Berndtson to begin the global search for the next Principal of Queenwood.

### **Who will be included in the selection committee?**

The selection committee will be led by Council Chair Dr Amanda Bell AM and two Council members who will be working with Odgers Berndtson.



### **What is the timing to select a new Principal?**

We hope to have a shortlist of leading candidates by September 2022, with the intention of inducting a new Principal prior to Ms Stone's departure at the end of Term 2, 2023. We will implement an interim leadership plan if necessary.

With 12 months' lead time and Queenwood's strong reputation, the Council is confident of attracting a talented field of leading educators, thereby ensuring a smooth transition period.

The Council, staff, and Ms Stone are equally committed to maintaining the highest standard of education for the girls, business continuity and a smooth transition. The School community will be updated about the process of selection and recruitment.

### **What will this change mean for Queenwood?**

Our new Principal will build upon the strong foundation established under Ms Stone's leadership, continuing to uphold Queenwood's core values of *Truth*, *Courage* and *Service*. We are confident that we will bring in a new Principal who will build on what Ms Stone has created in ways that propel Queenwood to new heights for the students and staff.

### **Will Queenwood keep its distinctive structure, size and strengths?**

A contemporary liberal education will remain the hallmark of a Queenwood education. We will remain a non-denominational mid-sized K – 12 girls' School with strong community connections. We will continue to offer both HSC and IB pathways in Years 11 and 12 and remain true to our tradition of balance that encourages girls to combine their studies with cocurricular activities and community contribution.



### **What about the proposed capital works program?**

Delivering new education facilities to support learning outcomes for our girls is a strategic priority for our new Principal. This is an exciting project and while the pandemic delayed our plans, we are now eager to move forward.

### **What will the next era look like for Queenwood?**

Ms Stone's leadership has undoubtedly been transformational for Queenwood, and the School is in the best possible position to enter a new phase of leadership. Ms Stone has focussed on guiding and communicating Queenwood's vision and values to staff, students and community. And in the process, she has built a culture founded on trust and teamwork – a culture that will support a change of leadership and allow the School to continue to flourish.

### **Will the students be affected?**

The wellbeing and care of students are always a high priority for staff and the Council. We recognise that change can sometimes be unsettling and we have prepared for this. With the commitment of Ms Stone, the senior leadership team, teachers and professional staff will ensure stability for the girls within our strong structures to support pastoral care and wellbeing.