



Hunter Valley
Grammar School

**Parent and Student Guide
to the
Annual Presentation Ball**

Newcastle Exhibition and Convention Centre (NEX)
Corner King and Union Streets, Newcastle West
Friday 27 September 2019

WHAT IS THE PRESENTATION BALL?

Since 1990, the School has held a formal Presentation Ball for Year 11 students as a way to introduce the new leaders to the School community. The Ball is similar to a debutante ball in that the boys wear a black morning suit and the girls wear white gowns. Each student has a partner; once all students have been introduced, they dance three dances which have been rehearsed throughout Term 3.

The Ball takes place on the last day of Term 3, and all students are encouraged to attend. While it is not compulsory, it is an opportunity for them to interact with the whole year in both a formal and social setting and provides them with a memorable introduction to their last year of school.

It is important that all parents and students understand the requirements of the evening and the expectations of the School. It is especially important to note that this is a 'dry' event for all HVGS students regardless of age.



ORGANISATION ON THE DAY

MORNING REHEARSAL

- 9.00am – 11:30am, on the day of the Ball
- Newcastle Exhibition and Convention Centre (NEX is upstairs at WESTS Newcastle)
- This rehearsal is compulsory
- Students are required to make their own way to and from the venue.
- Parking at the venue will incur a cost to be paid prior to leaving venue.

ARRIVAL FOR THE BALL (STUDENTS)

- Students arrive from 4:30pm depending on their scheduled session with the photographer
- Once the couple and individual photos are complete, the group photo will be taken
- Students must be at the venue no later than 5:45pm for the group photo.

ARRIVAL (GUESTS)

- Doors open at 5:45pm and guests should be seated by 6:30pm
- The bar will be closed during the formal part of the evening
- Admission by ticket holders only.

GIRLS DRESS REQUIREMENTS

All girls are to wear long **white floor length** dresses with no coloured trimmings and with substantial straps. Cream or off-white dresses are **not** suitable for the occasion.

- All shoes are to be white or nude
- Gloves must be worn – girls to purchase their own in their preferred length
- A tartan sash will be supplied by the School on the evening of the Ball and it must be returned at the end of the evening to Mrs Oliver.
- Girls will also receive a wrist corsage

The following dress designs are **not** suitable for the occasion:

- Strapless
- Fishtail or train
- Backless
- Plunging necklines
- High splits

A photograph of the dress or similar must be shown to Mrs Oliver and the heads of house -Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Dean to check its suitability by the end of Term 2 (this avoids any obvious embarrassment on the night).



BOYS DRESS REQUIREMENTS

BOYS HIRE SUIT COST - \$130.00

Boys wear a hire suit from Gentleman's Outfitters, Charlestown. This includes, pants, jacket, shirt, gloves and shoes.

FITTING

- Boys will be measured for their suits at 3.00pm Wednesday 31 July.
- Fittings in Cameron Centre foyer

PAYMENT

- Payment must be made **no later than Friday 30 August**.
- Pay via Trybooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BCKJC>

COLLECTION OF SUIT

- Pickup on Wednesday 25 September from the School Administration office.
- It is essential that suits are collected promptly, and they are tried on early to ensure that any fitting issues may be rectified prior to the Ball.
- If there is an issue, you must contact Gentlemen's Outfitters directly on 4943 3621.

RETURN OF SUITS

- Monday 30 September – late fees will apply.
- It is the responsibility of boys to ensure their suit is returned to Gentlemen's Outfitters at Pearson Street, **Charlestown**. (Please note they are not affiliated with the store at Newcastle).
- Please ensure that your gloves and shoes are returned along with the suit

Days and times of business are indicated below:

Saturday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm

Weekdays 9.00am to 5.30pm

SASHES, BOW TIE AND CUMMERBUNDS

- These must be returned to Mrs Oliver at the completion of the evening. \$20 per item will be charged to the student's account to cover the cost of replacement of the items.

PARTNERS

Students may advise Mrs Oliver who they will be partnering for the Ball. If there are not enough boys or girls, Year 12 students will join the group. It is not recommended that students partner with their boyfriend or girlfriend as circumstances sometimes change through the year.

Partners need to be decided by Friday 7 June.

The attached Presentation Ball Agreement needs to be handed in to Mrs Pinnock in the Senior Centre by Friday 7 June.

Partners can be found by Mrs Oliver if you prefer. Mrs Oliver will arrange partners after Term 2, week 8.

DANCING AND DANCE LESSONS

TERM 3 - 3.05pm until 4.30pm (refer to schedule received via post)

Dancing Lessons commence at the start of Term 3, in the Cameron Centre. Attendance at all rehearsals is compulsory.

Students will receive dance lessons with Mr Taylor and Mrs Oliver. It is very important that students and their partners attend all dance practices.

School uniform is to be worn but it is advisable for girls to wear the shoes they will be wearing on the night to feel comfortable dancing in them.

During the evening, students have opportunity to dance with their mother or father or a special person of choice (not boyfriend/girlfriend). On Thursday 29 August and Wednesday 4 September, students will rehearse at their normal time of 3.05pm to 4.30pm; however, parents or friends are invited to attend from 4:30pm to learn the dance.

PHOTOGRAPHY

MSP Photography are the official photographers. Students can decide to have individual and couple photos taken in addition to the group photo. All students are to be a part of the group photo.

Students will be given an allocated time for their photo by Mrs Oliver.

Photographs must be prepaid in the envelopes which will be provided via post. Envelopes and cheques must be returned no later than Friday 30 August to Mrs Pinnock, Senior School Assistant, in the Senior Centre.

Cheques are to be made payable to MSP Photography.

Photo times will be allocated once all envelopes have been returned. Anyone wishing to have photos with family and friends can do so following the presentation, in the Friendship Room.

TICKETS

- Tickets will only be available via TryBooking.
- <https://www.trybooking.com/BCKJC>
- Ticket sales will commence on Tuesday 11 June
- Tickets are \$120 each. Last day for ticket purchase is Friday, 30 August
- There is no cost for participating Year 11 students. Tickets for Year 11 students have already been put aside.
- Tickets will need to be presented on entry to the venue

SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

You will not be able to select your seating online; however, you may indicate your preference when booking and we will endeavour to accommodate your request.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate any dietary requirements at the time of purchasing your tickets. (Please indicate the person's name).

QUESTIONS OR ENQUERIES

Questions or enquiries you may have regarding the Presentation Ball can be directed to Mrs Joanne Oliver during school hours on 4934 2444 or by email at oliverj@hvgs.nsw.edu.au.



PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE AGREEMENT BELOW.

Hunter Valley
Grammar School

2019 Hunter Valley Grammar School Presentation Ball Agreement

I have read and understand the information outlined in the Presentation Ball Parent and Student Guide Handbook and requirements for the 2019 Presentation Ball.

- My child and I will respect the expectations of HVGS
- Girls - I will return the school sash provided on the evening.
- Boys - I will return the cummerbund and bow tie **at the end of the evening**, and I understand the return of the Hire Suit to Gentleman’s Outfitters Charlestown is my responsibility.
- I will be participating in the Presentation Ball.

Partner’s name: _____

- I will **not** be participating in the Presentation Ball.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Dietary Requirements: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date: _____

Please return this form to Mrs Pinnock in the Senior Centre no later than Friday June 7, 2019.

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