



We can see the capabilities our students have

Capabilities & Learner Profile Brett Knowles, Deputy Principal at Blackfriars Priory School

The Learner Profile fits with the values and direction of our school. We're enthusiastic about being involved and think that in general terms the direction of the Learner Profile is important. When we talk to our students and families you can see the value, that they're all bringing so many different strengths to support where they're heading when they leave Year 12. We value all our students' pathways.

I think the biggest and most important change is that we're looking at different ways to profile and understand the students. We're looking at the strengths and the capabilities they have that are valuable, which we don't always see in the classroom and in schoolwork.

Some students might find it challenging in the traditional classroom environment, and then on a camp, excursion, or retreat I see a completely different side to that student in a completely different context. These students might be supporting each other, helping unload the bags from the bus, helping other kids put their tents up, and generally showing personal interactions we might not have seen in class.

The Learner Profile even helps us to communicate with our highly academic students; there are always areas they can improve on as young adults. A student might excel academically but need help with collaborative or organisational skills. We can also see a range of capabilities from the diverse backgrounds our students have, including those with EAL and refugee backgrounds.

We're using our experiences and what we have learned with the SACE Learner Profile to inform and shape our work generally. We have a better understanding of capabilities and while we are developing our own capabilities specific to our school, it is important to us that we link them to SACE capabilities so that the two are connected.