

# ABSA

## BOARDER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

26 OCTOBER  
2023

## DELEGATE WELCOME PACK



**Burn Bright**

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# HELLO FROM ABSA

Dear Leaders,

We are very excited to welcome you to our third ABSA Boarder Leadership Conference. Boarding is a very unique and special environment and will hopefully be a place where you build life-long friendships and many life skills which will hold you in good stead for the future. This conference is designed to assist you in your boarding leadership role to help create a better environment for your fellow boarders.

The conference will have a range of collaborative lecture style sessions to ensure practical leadership skills and plans can be taken away and used within the boarding setting. ABSA have engaged Burn Bright who are experts in running engaging and impactful leadership programs for high school students to jointly host this conference.

Through experiential learning and inspirational team leadership from keynote speakers and practical sessions with the engaging youthful team at Burn Bright, our aim is for you to leave confident and with the knowledge about how to lead in a boarding setting.



Richard Stokes  
CEO, ABSA



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# HELLO FROM BURN BRIGHT

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2023 ABSA Boarder Leadership Conference!

We are beyond excited that you are joining us. In partnership with the Australian Boarding Schools Association, it is my greatest pleasure to officially welcome you to the conference.

As leaders in your schools and communities at large, we trust the Boarder Leadership Conference will be an experience that will allow you to continue to grow as individuals and as leaders.

Our hope is you will feel more connected to your vision, who you are, and where you want to go in the future. Be ready to share, dream, encourage and reflect as we journey together for what will be a great day.

In this pack you will find all the information you will need to prepare for the conference. Please familiarise yourself with the program and key requirements.

On behalf of Burn Bright, thank you!



Andy Skidmore  
CEO, Burn Bright



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# BURN BRIGHT 101

Burn Bright is a social enterprise, not-for-profit organisation, that was established in 2014.

At Burn Bright we encourage, challenge and develop students through tailored experiential leadership, wellbeing programs, digital programs and national camps. We are student leadership and wellbeing specialists who work with students from Year 5 to Year 12 in a collaborative, fun and inclusive team culture. This brings about positive behavioural change, a shift in mindset and personal wellbeing, allowing students to make informed choices and decisions.

We have a team based in Sydney who travel to all parts of Australia to work with young people and partner with schools on a daily basis.

The acquired leadership behaviours, wellbeing habits and character traits help build meaningful, healthy and positive long-lasting skills and friendships that will continue beyond the school years.

For more info, and to check out what we do, head over to our website via the button below.

If you really enjoy the day and our vibe, check out National Leadership Camp - hosted in July each year. Welcoming 120 young leaders from across Australia and New Zealand from Years 10 - 12. Maybe, see you there.

» [CLICK HERE](#)

Looking for more info on Burn Bright?

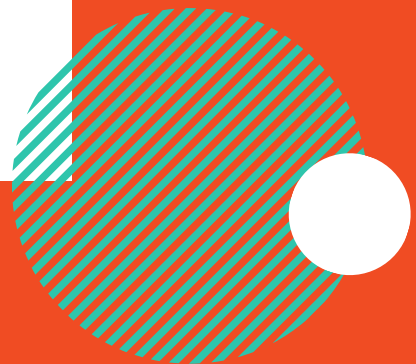




# WHAT'S UP



# NEXT?



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# THE PROGRAM

## Welcome from ABSA & Burn Bright

**Keynote Speaker** - Practical Leadership - Leading within a Boarding Environment Andrew Hawkins - Headmaster, The Southport School

**Burn Bright Workshop #1:** Building Foundations for Legacy Leadership - Leadership foundations - we all have them, but how strong and effective are yours? In this collaborative workshop, Burn Bright will explore what makes you, you, and how to leverage these traits to shape the leader you want to be known and remembered for.

**Keynote Speaker** - Foundation of Leadership - Becoming an effective Leader Saxon McGregor and Ma-Janneh Miller - Bond University

**Burn Bright Workshop #2:** Turning Leadership into Reality. Putting our vision into action can be daunting at times, however it doesn't have to be. In this collaborative workshop Burn Bright will use the foundations built in Workshop #1 to create a plan for turning it all into reality.

## BREAK - (30 min)

## Welcome Back from Burn Bright

**Keynote Speaker** - Inspirational Leadership - Being a Leader with Mental Health in mind Dr Anastasia Hronis - Clinical Psychologist, Australian Institute of Human Wellness

**Burn Bright Workshop #3:** Setting a Successful Vision - What is vision? How do we set ourselves a vision? How do we set ourselves a vision that is going to be successful? In this collaborative workshop Burn Bright will explore the elements of a successful vision and provide students with the tools to set a short term goal (6 months) and a long term goal (12 months).

We believe accountability is a major contributor to success; students will have the opportunity to connect and share their vision with others, to ensure a support network in achieving their goals.

## Wrap up and Goodbye

End of Day





# LEADERSHIP KEYNOTES



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# MR ANDREW HAWKINS

BAPPSC/BED (UQ) M.ED. GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING (UQ)



Andrew Hawkins is the first Old Boy Headmaster of The Southport School (TSS) on the Gold Coast. Andrew entered TSS as a boarder from Emerald in Central Queensland giving him a unique insight into regional areas of Australia. After graduating from TSS in 1995, Andrew ventured off on a Gap Year to the UK and it was there that he fell in love with teaching whilst working as a teaching assistant in West Sussex, UK.

After returning to Australia, he studied a combined Bachelor of Applied Science (Human Movement Studies) and Education degree at The University of Queensland with the sole purpose of becoming a Physical Education and Science Teacher. After several years teaching at Corinda State High School and Indooroopilly State High School in Brisbane and a Boarding Master at Brisbane Grammar School, Andrew assumed a full-time teaching position at TSS in 2004. While at TSS, Andrew has held the various leadership roles of Head of Faculty, Dean of Students, Boarding Housemaster, and Deputy Headmaster – Head of Senior School, before being appointed as the ninth Headmaster of The Southport School in 2021.

Central to Andrew's appointment as Headmaster was his unwavering commitment to ensuring all students in his care experience a well-balanced wholistic education where they were ardently supported in their scholastic, vocational and athletic pathways. Andrew continues to embody this philosophy, investing much time and resources into the wellbeing of all students as they progress through adolescence in the modern Australian education environment.

Andrew is an assessor of highly accomplished and lead teachers for Independent Schools Queensland.



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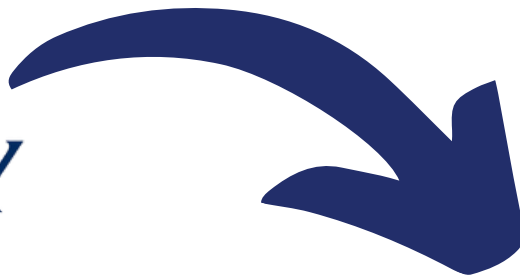
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## MR SAXON MCGREGOR



Formerly of Cowra, New South Wales, Saxon moved to Toowoomba, Queensland, in 2017 and completed high school at St Joseph's College. Saxon studies the Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of International Relations at Bond University, where he is a Resident Fellow and Vice President of the overarching student association. Saxon aspires to explore higher degree research and join the Australian foreign service upon completion of his undergraduate studies.

Originally from Toowoomba, Ma-Janneh (MJ) finished high school in 2021 at The Glennie School, an all-girls day and boarding school. MJ now studies the Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of International Relations at Bond University and has lived on campus for two years. Her favourite thing about Bond University is the bubbling culture.

## MISS MA- JANNEH MILLER



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# DR ANASTASIA HRONIS

(B PSYCH (HONS), M CLIN PSYCH, AMUSA, LMUSA, PH.D)

Dr Anastasia Hronis is a clinical psychologist, working both in clinical practice and in academia. In 2019, she founded the Australian Institute for Human Wellness, an organisation dedicated to providing high quality and evidence-based mental health care. The Institute provides individual therapy, group therapy, interventions for various organisations, and research partnerships. Anastasia is also a lecturer and researcher at the University of Technology Sydney, where her main areas of research are addictions, gambling and disabilities. Anastasia's PhD focused on adapting therapy for the needs of children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities.

Anastasia has a background as a concert pianist. She has performed on stages around the world including the Sydney Opera House as a soloist seven times, and the internationally renowned Carnegie Hall in New York. Anastasia now works to combine her passion for both music and mental health, working closely with those in the performing arts and entertainment industries.



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**ABSOLUTELY  
CANNOT MISS**

**MUST READ**

**INFO!**



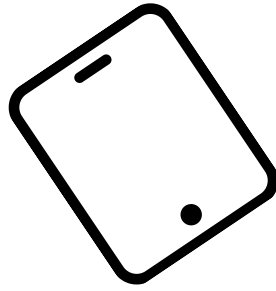
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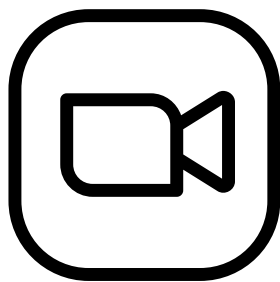


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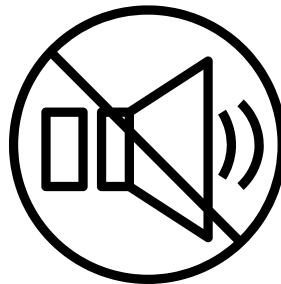
Please have some headphones ready to go as this will allow you to hear us and us to hear you well.



Please prepare some blank sheets of paper and some markers or something to write with.



Please have Zoom downloaded on your device ready to use the Zoom link provided.



Please, if possible, ensure you are in a room where there is limited background noise and you can move freely.



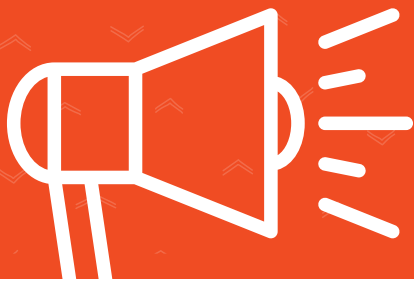
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# MORE INFORMATION

Due to the conference being facilitated online, there are some specific technology and spatial requirements in order for the conference to run smoothly. Here is more detail in complement to the above.

## COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

A laptop or desktop computer is preferred (either Mac, Windows or Chromebook).

- Apple computers: minimum of macOS Catalina is required.
- Windows computers: minimum of Windows 10 is required.
- Chromebook computers: latest operating system is required.

Your computer is required to have a functioning **webcam** and functioning **microphone** or the ability to connect a microphone (through headphone etc). All delegates require a pair of headphones which are to be worn during all sessions.

*As a last resort an iPad may suffice however this will make the experience more challenging. All iPads must have IOS 14.0.1 as a minimum.*

## SPACE REQUIREMENTS

During the conference it is important that all students have an appropriate space to view and participate in the conference. As ABSA delegates, you are asked to be in a room that gives you the ability to have conversations without being interrupted, is well lit so that you can be easily seen and has enough floor space to move around comfortably (for example, space to do a star jump or push-up).

Delegates are asked to be situated at a desk or table throughout the conference and be on their own device. I.e please, no device sharing as we would like to interact with students equally from their own platform.



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# GET SOCIAL

Want to connect with ABSA or Burn Bright? Check out the socials and websites below.

Both organisations exist to invest in and help develop young people in their leadership journey, so please feel free to connect and reach out, anytime!



@austboarding  
@burnbrightau



[ABSA@BOARDING.ORG.AU](mailto:ABSA@BOARDING.ORG.AU)

[INFO@BURNBRIGHT.ORG.AU](mailto:INFO@BURNBRIGHT.ORG.AU)



[WWW.BOARDING.ORG.AU/](http://WWW.BOARDING.ORG.AU/)

[WWW.BURNBRIGHT.ORG.AU/](http://WWW.BURNBRIGHT.ORG.AU/)



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