

Parent Portals



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Did You Know?



PARENT PORTAL UPGRADE

We are excited to inform you that the Parent Portal is currently undergoing an update and is moving from SharePoint 2010 into the latest SharePoint 2016 platform. Check out our [Sway presentation](#) to get a sneak preview of what this means for you.

OPTIMIZING YOUR PARENT PORTAL PICTURES

Prior to uploading pictures into the Parent Portal, some care should be taken to ensure the picture has been optimized for a web environment.

Large, high-resolution images are appropriate for high quality photo printing – but not the web. They take too long to render on a page.

Optimizing your image files means striking a balance between file size and picture quality. Your pages will be needlessly slow if the original large files are used. A bit of effort in this area goes a long way towards improving the user experience.

The most common mistake is to upload large image files and then and resize them in SharePoint thinking this will optimize them. This forces browsers to show a smaller version of the picture but the file size, and therefore load time, is unchanged.

There are many tools available to help you optimize web images e.g. [Preview](#) (Mac), [Image Resizer](#) (Windows). Regardless of which tool you use, the two important settings to tweak are compression and resizing.

Should you discover your images are displaying rotated within the Parent Portal even though they appear correctly on your computer, log a Service-Now support call and we will provide you with the necessary steps to alleviate this.

- **PARENT ACCESS OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS** - Parents/Guardians will still have access to a Parent Portal until the student status flag is set to "Closed" in

eMinerva. Over the Christmas holidays, enrolments will not move to "Closed" until mid-February.

- **GETTING READY FOR 2017** - In readiness for the 2017 school year, it is advisable for schools to archive any 2016 information that is not required. This allows for new information e.g. new staff to be added to the school directory, at the commencement of next year. If schools would like assistance with this, please log a [ServiceNow](#) call.
- **SCHOOL OF THE MONTH** – We are aiming to share with you what schools are doing to encourage Parent Portal use. **St Sebastian's, Yeronga** created a digital sign for their billboard. Have you ideas you would like to share? Please let us know.



Professional Learning

- **MY STUDENTS - ACADEMIC REPORTS** – Due to the success of a number of schools uploading reports in Semester 1 and positive parent feedback, further training days are being offered this Semester. Schools are encouraged to enrol in these half day workshops, for Semester 2. Four workshops are available with the first one commencing on **20th October** at School Service Centre, South. In iLearn search for - 'Uploading SRS Reports to the Parent Portal' - BCE05270.

The Parent Portal Team wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas and every blessing for the coming year.



Our team looks forward to working with you again in 2017