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Trinity Grammar School

Trinity Grammar School – A World Academy of Sport accredited Athlete Friendly Education Centre

Trinity Grammar School last week became the first school in Australasia to be accredited as a World Academy of Sport Athlete Friendly Education Centre. The School is one of only nine IB schools in the world to receive accreditation.

The World Academy of Sport (WAOs) launched a global initiative to accredit schools, universities and other education centres as Athlete Friendly Education Centres (AFEC) in March this year. Trinity Grammar School completed its accreditation visit by the WAOs in 2014 during which the School showcased its impressive sport programme and state of the art facilities that support the requirements of its high-performing student athletes.

The School has 7 Olympic representatives among its graduates and numerous current students competing at a national level in a variety of sports – a testament to its ability to foster the talents of world-class athletes.

“It is a pleasure to recognise the work that Trinity Grammar School has achieved to date and to welcome it to this pioneering project. For athletes committed to their sport, it is sometimes a struggle and sacrifice for which either the sport or education must take priority. Through this initiative we aim to be able to work with schools and universities throughout the world to ensure that sacrifices which athletes have had to make in order to achieve their goals in both school and sport are more streamlined and manageable, whilst maintaining the highest sporting and academic performance,” Chris Solly, WAOs Director said.

Trinity will be a leading school in providing flexibility and support to exceptional student athletes following the IB Diploma Programme, allowing them to gain their IB diploma over a period of up to 4 years instead of the normal 2 years by enabling them to combine their challenging training schedules and commitments with their academic studies.

“Through such an initiative we hope athletes will be able to achieve a better life balance, be better prepared to make important life decisions and ultimately to be able to choose their life direction as they transition from competition to retirement from their sport,” Mr Solly said.

“If I were given the opportunity to complete the International Baccalaureate over a 4-year period, I would have taken up the offer immediately. Being a competitive water polo player, I constantly find myself missing out on school for extended periods of time. The additional time allowed to complete the IB would allow for a greater level of flexibility giving the student the opportunity to fit in all the necessary work with the students sporting endeavors with no disadvantage to the

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student's marks. This flexibility also reduces the students' pressure to succeed both academically and in their chosen sport. To anyone wondering whether to choose to take this IB pathway program, I would strongly recommend this option to any students who find himself or herself partaking in sport and a high level," said Chris Artemi, Trinity Grammar School Year 12 and current Water Polo Australian Born '98 team representative.

The World Academy of Sport is the world's leading educational partner to International Sporting Federations and their worldwide member constituents. The Academy offers a wide range of educational programmes and learning pathways for sport and event participants. Trinity Grammar School is honoured to be recognised for its ability to provide high quality education for competitive student athletes.