



## Macleans College

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

### ***Study skills a success at Macleans College***

When Darren Pereira presents his two hour 'Study Skills for Success' seminar to our Year 12 students, the auditorium is buzzing and the atmosphere is electric. For the last 7 years, he has presented to our 500 Year 12 students over two sessions and the reaction from them has been brilliant. They were highly engaged, very motivated and truly interactive.

Darren has an amazing way of relating to adolescents. He uses personal anecdotes, music, great presentation material, structured workbooks and excellent learning strategies, to motivate our students from start to finish.

Our evaluation feedback tells us that students leave feeling ready to plan a study and homework plan, get started on quality revision and use a range of techniques to get the most out of the time they spend.

For the last 3 years we have offered a similar session to our parents called "Study Strategies for Teenage Success". We believe it is important for there to be a three way partnership to promote student success and raise achievement. A partnership between student – teacher and parent. Feedback from our parents has reinforced the need for this partnership and they tell us that learning how to use a growth mind-set with their teenager, have strategies to help them set up and maintain a study programme and also guide them in ways to make the revision successful, has lowered their stress levels and ensured that they can engage with their child in an aspect of their education.

A similar session has also been run for staff.

Darren is now working with students at each level of our school with learning strategy sessions for groups of Year 9 and 10 students, a leadership programme for a group of Year 13 students and a "Shape your Destiny" session for all 500 Year 11 students. Like the study skills sessions, this programme has been offered at Macleans for a number of years and student feedback consistently tells us that after Darren's session they are clearer about their future, aware of the need to set goals, confident about ways to identify their talents and passions and knowledgeable about strategies to use that help with motivation.

The investment we make in offering this range of programmes to our students is definitely value for money. We will be repeating all the programmes again next year as 90% of our students and parents said they wanted a follow up seminar.

Heather Compton  
Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning  
Macleans College