

The Newington Citation acknowledges the considerable contribution made by parents or families to support Newington's vision during and beyond their son's schooling.

NEWINGTON CITATION 2021

Ms Shelagh Doyle

Ms Shelagh Doyle's association with Newington College began in 2012, when her eldest son Vincent (ON 2017) commenced in Year 7. He was soon joined by his brothers Morgan (ON 2019) and Leo (ON 2021).

Shelagh has degrees in history and law and has many years' experience as a manager in oversight bodies in the state and federal public sector, with a major part of her work focussed on improving service provision to vulnerable communities. Shelagh is a passionate advocate of the benefits of volunteering, appreciating its positive impact on the quality of community life, its ability to connect people, and how it helps to build individual and community resilience and social inclusion. She also has a deep appreciation for the ability of the creative arts to inspire and unite community.

Shelagh's association with the Newington Creative Arts Association (CAA), whose purpose is to support the numerous Music, Drama, Visual Arts and CineArts programs, first began when she became a member in 2014. She went on to become Vice President in 2016 and was elected as President between 2017 and 2021.

During Shelagh's presidency, she and the CAA Executive have supported and fundraised at more than a dozen events across the school each year. Monies raised have funded various prizes and creative arts-related activities, and sponsored a range of creative arts projects across the College. This includes Mikala Dwyer's artwork *A Weather of Signs* for the Drama Centre, the play *Michael Swordfish* in association with PLC, the purchase of unique hand cut and painted theatrical masks from the UK for the Drama Department and the sponsorship of an Indigenous mural for the College by a Wailwan Elder to commence in 2022.

Shelagh and the CAA also locked in yearly sponsorship of the annual art prizes given by the Visual Arts Department and the People Choice Award at the CineArts Festival, and funded event apparel for Rockfest and the CineArts Festival. The CAA has also funded one-off donations for the Drama Tour in 2018 and the music tutelage of Tongan students at the College, and has refurbished the CAA storeroom.

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Volunteering has always been a big part of Shelagh's life – she has been a management committee member on various committees and boards over the past 20 years including her sons' community childcare centre, the P&C and music support committees at their primary school and her local community centre. She was recognised for her contribution to the community with an Australia Day Award in 2009.

For Shelagh, volunteering with the CAA has provided much treasured connectedness and given her a unique exposure to the impressive array of creativity generated at the College. Shelagh's energy, enthusiasm and selfless contribution to our Newington community have been nothing short of exemplary. Her friendly and unassuming manner, extraordinary organisational skills and good humour, coupled with her endless energy and desire to unite and connect our community, make her an extremely worthy recipient of the 2021 Newington Citation Award. Congratulations Shelagh.

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