



Dr Libby Robinson commenced as Principal of Kingston High School at the beginning of 2018. This is actually a return 'home' for her, as she was head of English at Kingston High School during 2009-2010 at the old campus (seeing the concrete pour for the new campus) and moved up to the new campus in 2011.

Dr Robinson took leave from KHS to become Principal Education Officer for Literacy and Numeracy in a state-wide role for the Tasmanian Education Department. After three years in her PEO role, she re-joined the life of schools at Sorell School and also spent two years as principal of Risdon Vale Primary School before returning to Kingston. "I've always been a very keen high-school English teacher in larger high schools and colleges, so being at Kingston High School, especially in the role of principal, feels like the culmination of 25 years of work, experience and learning. I feel extremely lucky to be here."

Dr Robinson completed her PhD in 2017 and was awarded a Chancellors Commendation for her thesis. Her doctorate explores how challenging but how vitally important it is to try and understand the needs of students with trauma. Dr Robinson observed that, "it is complex and confronting work to support very traumatised students but every young person has a human right to an education and what that looks like might vary greatly from one student to another". Her vision for Kingston High School is to enable every student to attain their best educational and wellbeing outcome in a responsive, safe and supportive learning environment – where partnerships with families in the education of their children is about high-expectations, problem solving and rich communication.

Recently returned from a Hardie Fellowship, involving two months study at Harvard and school visits in New York, Dr Robinson is looking forward to working with the team at Kingston High School and associated primary schools to learn from the 2018 steep learning curve, and plan an exemplary 2019 school year. "I grew up in Smithton, home was a take-away shop and the sale yards. My parents didn't have an education past primary school themselves but they believed in education. So, their way of engaging with our schools was to back the school, to make us four kids responsible for our learning – they knew what it meant to miss out and they didn't want that for us."

Dr Robinson looks forward to working into the future with the Snug Primary School community as a partner with the Kingston High School community.

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