In Australian education there was something missing. There were schools for students with special talents but nothing for gifted sports students. For all talented young sports person there was a competition between education and sport – a competition that led to significant numbers of Australian youth dropping out of sport. There was a strong need for a partnership between education and sport.

Founding Principal, Mr Philip Tucker saw there was a need for the establishment of a special school – one that could provide sports persons with a pathway to the Australian Institute of Sport, and to an education that provided for a life after sport. Westfields Sports provides that pathway.

Westfields Sports, Australia’s first Sports High School, is located in Fairfield West, Sydney, Australia. Westfields Sports is committed to providing each student with the educational opportunities and quality resources essential for the achievement of personal excellence in scholarship, citizenship, sport and the arts.

In 2012 Westfields Sports received funding under the Federal Government National Partnerships Program. The focus will be on improving literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students and providing extension and enrichment work for gifted and talented students.

The extended educational community provides a caring and supportive environment, recognising and rewarding individual and co-operative achievement. The students are our focus. Direct links have been established with the Australian Institute of Sport, universities and major sporting associations.

Since the declaration of Westfields as a Sports School on 24 April 1991, the Westfields’ model has been established in all Australian states and has been recognised in European, South Eastern Asia and United Kingdom schools. The Commonwealth Government has described Westfields Sports as “a project of national significance”

Sport is an integral part of the Australian culture – participating, coaching, teaching, spectating and administering. The development of Westfields as a Sports School results in both improved standards and increased levels of participation in sport at local, regional, state, national and international levels. Providing for the planned development of talented sports persons promotes the individual and collective self-confidence of students, enhancing their ability to successfully face the future.

Outstanding sports persons from Sydney, New South Wales, other states and overseas, are offered the opportunity to complete their primary and secondary education in a strongly supportive environment. The school has a strong academic and sporting tradition, a reputation for innovation and a staff committed to encouraging personal excellence. The philosophy of the school is to allow talented sports students to pursue their sporting dreams in partnership with their education. The successful development of the school rests on the outstanding work of dedicated staff, talented students and Parent Support Groups.
Westfields Sports

Westfields Sports is one of the most recognisable school names in Australia. The achievements of our students and staff in academic and cultural pursuits, creative and performing arts, school and community service and sports make Westfields Sports an internationally significant and sought after place of education and training.

The school’s contribution to sport was recognised by the International Olympic Committee in 2008 when it was awarded the prestigious Sport and Youth Trophy by them. This is the first time this trophy has been awarded in Australia.

Westfields Sports is committed to providing opportunities for all students to fulfil their dreams, whether it be competing on the world stage or becoming successful in their chosen careers. This is epitomised by Dani Samuels, who as a 21 year old won the discus gold medal at the 2009 World Athletic Championships in Berlin.

Early History

Since its establishment in 1963 and opening by the honourable E.G. Whitlam, Westfields Sports has produced many successful and distinguished graduates. Amongst the original 300 students was Denis Evans, now professor of theoretical Chemistry at ANU, and William Devenish who was a swimming gold medallist at the 1966 Commonwealth Games.

Current member of parliament, the honourable Richard Amery MLA, local member for Mount Druitt is a former student. Over 250 current and former students have represented their country in the chosen sport. Harry Kewell (Football) and Michael Clarke (Cricket) are former students who have represented at the highest level on the international stage.

The vision of the 60’s was reflected in the 70’s, 80’s and 90’s giving rise to a tradition of striving for personal excellence – a tradition reflected in the school’s motto: Fortitudo - endurance and perseverance.

Facilities

The school is situated on 5.7 hectares and great care is taken with the physical environment. This extends beyond maintaining the grounds to conservation through recycling programs. Westfields Sports has just completed a $1.4 million sporting facilities upgrade. Some of the special facilities available include:

- well resourced computer rooms
- multimedia classrooms
- specialist subject rooms
- a well-equipped library
- well maintained oval
- cricket nets
- dance and drama studios
- digital media analysis room
- FIFA approved synthetic training facility
- indoor sports stadium
- offsite softball/baseball diamond
- purpose built gymnastics facility
- sand based turf training facility
- school buses (4)
- sports medicine and physiotherapy centre
- strength and conditioning room
- synthetic athletics runway
- tennis courts
- throws cage
- training recovery centre
- primary school class at King Park Public School

When asked on the Today show what was the highlight of the 2006 Commonwealth Games, Linford Christie replied “That 18 year old Aussie girl (Dani Samuels) who beat the big guns with her last throw in the discus to snatch the Bronze medal”

Westfields Sports is about producing athletes, not collecting them.

Daniel Suchy – Director of Athletics, Westfields Sports

Roger Davis
Principal

When asked on the Today show what was the highlight of the 2006 Commonwealth Games, Linford Christie replied “That 18 year old Aussie girl (Dani Samuels) who beat the big guns with her last throw in the discus to snatch the Bronze medal”

John Coates – Australian Olympic Committee President, 19/8/08
Westfields Sports offers a most comprehensive junior and senior curriculum. The school gives outstanding sports person the opportunity to complete their secondary education in an environment that supports their rigorous training and competition. For all students, the achievement of their best academic performance is the main objective. The school’s curriculum has been recognised with the receipt of the Director General’s Award for Outstanding Teaching and Learning Programs.

Courses in Years 7 – 10

Courses in Years 11 – 12

Academic Achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Top UAI score</th>
<th>Achievement Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>99.35</td>
<td>Most students and subjects in top 50% of State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>99.05</td>
<td>Above average (District &amp; State) results in many HSC courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>99.65</td>
<td>2 Premiers All Rounder Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>70 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>97.32</td>
<td>28 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>48 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>99.55</td>
<td>1st in State in PDH/PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Premiers All Rounder Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>64 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>73 HSC candidates gained entry to university in Australia and overseas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>1st in State in Japanese Extension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>31 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>74 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>97.8</td>
<td>1st in State in Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>37 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>93 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>99.25</td>
<td>2 Premiers All Rounder Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>43 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>69 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>1st in State in Spanish Continuers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>46 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>98.50</td>
<td>1st in State in Spanish Continuers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2 Premiers All Rounder Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>110 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>1 Premiers All Rounder Award</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>54 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>35 Distinguished Achievers Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>93 HSC candidates gained entry to university</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Those extra training sessions over the seven years I was there were invaluable … it was a great experience going there and I feel very privileged to have been there.”
— Dani Samuels – Australian Olympian, 19/8/08
ATHLETICS
- National All Schools Knockout Champions – Senior Boys 2001, 2006
- National All Schools Knockout Champions – Junior Boys 2002, 2004
- National All Schools Champions 1995 - 2007

STATE SCHOOL SPORTS

- 2006 Commonwealth Games – Karyn Di
- 12 World School Games Representatives
- 8 World Youth Representatives

ATHLETICS
- All Schools Boys Open Champions – 2000, 2003, 2006-08
- All Schools Open Boys Champions – 2000, 2003, 2006-08
- All Schools U15 Boys Champions – 1998-00, 2002, 2005-08, 2010
- All Schools U15 Girls Champions – 1998-00, 2003-08

SWIMMING
- National Schools Girls U13 Champions – 2006
- National Schools Girls U12 Champions – 2007

NETBALL
- State Schools Girls Champions - 2004 – 05

FOOTBALL
- 169 State Representatives
- 89 National Representatives

GYMNASTICS
- National Clubs Elite Champions – 2003
- National Championships – 2 gold medals, 3 silver medals, 3 bronze medals - 2010
- State Schools Girls Champions - 2001, 2009-10

STATE LEAGUE

- All Schools Boys Open Champions – 2000, 2003, 2006-08
- All Schools Open Boys Champions – 2000, 2003, 2006-08
- All Schools U15 Boys Champions – 1998-00, 2002, 2005-08, 2010
- All Schools U15 Girls Champions – 1998-00, 2003-08

STATE LEAGUE

- National All Schools Knockout Champions 1995 - 2007

STATE LEAGUE

- National All Schools Knockout Champions 1995 - 2007
- State Schools Champions 1993-2007, 2009-10

STATE LEAGUE

- National All Schools Knockout Champions 1995 - 2007
- State Schools Champions 1993-2007, 2009-10

STATE LEAGUE

- National All Schools Knockout Champions 1995 - 2007
- State Schools Champions 1993-2007, 2009-10

STATE LEAGUE

- National All Schools Knockout Champions 1995 - 2007
Staff Profile

There are 109 teachers at Westfields Sports including the Principal, four Deputy Principals, Director of Sport, two Head Teachers Administration, Head Teacher Student Welfare, Head Teacher Teaching & Learning, Head Teacher Secondary Studies, Head Teacher Timetable, Head Teacher National Partnership, and ten Faculty Head Teachers. In addition the school has 27 professional coaches, a physiotherapist, and 19 ancillary staff.

The school has one LOTE (Languages other than English) and one STLA (Support Teaching Learning Assistance), a Librarian, a Careers Adviser and three School Counsellors. Many staff have been selected for School Certificate and Higher School Certificate marking and the HSC Advice Line. The Board of Studies has seconded staff for curriculum support and advice. A number of staff have undertaken postgraduate studies, while others have achieved positions in professional organisations and one has received the Premier’s Teacher Scholarship.

Seven staff members have been selected for national and state coaching positions. Five staff members have been awarded Australian Institute of Sport scholarships. Forty seven staff members have achieved promotions positions. Visiting overseas staff from Japan, Sweden, UK and USA have enhanced Languages, Visual Arts, Basketball, Football and Track & Field Programs.

Fifty two staff members have attended overseas conferences or accompanied teams on international sporting and cultural tours.

Student Welfare

The Student Welfare Program is central to the management and function of the school. It provides the mechanism that develops and ensures excellent discipline and a caring, supportive environment.

The key feature of this program is the recognition and reward of student effort, excellence and service. Its main objective is to “catch students being good”. The recognition of achievements makes a contribution to the excellent self-discipline of the students. During 2011 over 55 000 merits were awarded to students. Such is the strength of the Student Welfare Program that the school received the Director General’s Award for Student Welfare. The Westfields Sports Welfare Program has become a model for many Australian and overseas schools.

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Web: www.westfields-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Medical Centre Phone: 9604 3122
Gymnastics Hall Phone: 9604 3773
Sports Stadium Phone: 9604 9361

If you would like your son or daughter to play soccer for Australia, you might try sending them to Westfields (Sports).

J Pearlman –
Sydney Morning Herald, 9/3/02