

In 2006 Richard faced the difficult decision whether to pursue his musical interest and audition for the National Concerto Competition in violin or to continue to indulge his passion for Physics. He chose Physics

He was placed first in the ACT in both the Australian Olympiad National Qualifying Exam for Physics and the Australian Olympiad National Qualifying Exam for Chemistry. He was invited to take part in the Australian Physics Olympiad Scholar Program in 2007 and subsequently selected to represent Australia at the 2007 Asian Physics Olympiad, which was held in April in Shanghai. However, he then missed the opportunity to compete in the 2007 International Physics Olympiad in Iraq when Australia decided not to send a team for security reasons.

Richard has also achieved High Distinctions in first year Mathematics and Physics at the Australian National University (ANU) Secondary College. He is concurrently enrolled in the Board of Studies HSC Distinction Course Cosmology at Charles Sturt University, and is achieving at the highest level in that course. He was one of a small number of students recently selected to gain entry to the prestigious Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours Program) run by ANU.

Richard has not totally abandoned music. He is an exceptional musician and is Captain of Orchestras, Leader of the Combined Grammar Schools Symphony Orchestra and Leader of the Combined Grammar Schools Chamber Orchestra.

He is a member of the Ulysses Society.

Richard has won numerous awards and prizes in Music, Science, Languages and Debating but it is Physics that is his forte. He stands out as one of the best academics the School has ever seen, not only because of his total immersion in the field but also his ability to think abstractly at the highest level.