



Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

Parent Information 2022





Pyramid Hill College
Respect Learn Community
A Child Safe School

School Vision

The Pyramid Hill College community is committed to providing an inclusive, caring and rigorous learning environment that engages our students and challenges them to reach their full potential; academically, socially, emotionally, physically and creatively.

Students are empowered to demonstrate and value knowledge and skills that will support them as life-long learners, to participate in and contribute to a wider community.

We promote a positive school culture that ensures staff, students and parents feel valued, have meaningful opportunities to contribute to the school, and can effectively engage in the learning journey.

School Values

Respect Learn Community

Values Statement:

We are respectful of self, others and the environment.
(We are thoughtful with our words and actions.)

We are learners who strive for excellence.
(We challenge ourselves to do our best.)

We are community minded and embrace diversity.
(We foster a sense of community and belonging for all.)



The Staff

Principal	Fiona Moon
Assistant Principal	Sean McCann
Business Manager	Joy Colvin
7-10 Neighbourhood Leader	Luke Roberts
F-6 Neighbourhood Leader	Tania Burke

Principal

The Principal oversees the operation of the whole school with particular emphasis on Management and Resources. The Principal is the final arbiter in matters of student discipline and most other matters. It is the Principal's responsibility to make sure the College is staffed correctly, operates within Department of Education and Charter guidelines, is financially viable and provides a safe and effective learning environment for staff and students.

Assistant Principal

The Assistant Principal manages the College on a day-to-day basis and is responsible for the College's education program, curriculum development and implementation. The Assistant Principal becomes involved in student discipline issues that are not resolved by teachers or Neighbourhood Leaders.

Neighbourhood Leaders

The Neighbourhood Leaders have responsibility for the operation of their sub-school as student managers and curriculum overseers. They are a point of contact for parents and also for students who are having discipline problems.

Business Manager

The Business Manager attends to the financial procedures and student records, paying accounts, cash collection etc., and is usually the first point of contact for parents. Enquiries should be directed through the Business Manager as she has an excellent knowledge of the workings of the College and can advise who is the best person to contact.

Please advise the Business Manager if there is a change to any of your details, such as address or phone, or emergency contacts. Please contact the Business Manager if your child is normally a bus traveller and there is a change e.g. they travelled by bus in the morning, but won't be on the bus in the afternoon or vice versa.

Classroom Teacher

Classroom teachers are responsible for the curriculum delivery in their classroom as well as classroom management. Being a small college, classroom teachers usually have several other responsibilities as well. Classroom teachers will communicate student progress directly to parents. They may also contact parents if there are any problems in terms of behaviour or learning. Parents are welcome to contact classroom teachers, but need to phone for an appointment first, so that there is adequate time to discuss any matters.



Staff at Pyramid Hill College

Teaching Staff

Mrs Tania Burke: Year Foundation/1 Home
Mr Nick O'Connor: Year 2/3 Home Room
Mrs Rachel Cain: Year 4/5 Teacher/Auslan
Mr Bryden Morison: Year 6 Home Room
Mrs Bron James: 7-10 Maths/English
Mrs Fiona Moon: F-10 Maths/English/Art
Mrs Jenny Tracy: F-10 Food Technology/Health
Mrs Leanne Talbot: 5-10 Art/Graphics
Mr Luke Roberts: F-10 Maths/PE/
Hands on Learning
Mrs Tracy Rogers: F-10 Music
Mr Sean McCann: F-10 PE/Health
Mr Ian Everett: F-10 Humanities
/Digital Technologies
Miss Elizabeth Fox: 5-10 Maths/Science
Bu Kelly Gould: F-10 LOTE Indonesian/English
Mrs Dorothy Kaye: 3-10 Technology - Textiles/
Woodwork/Plastics
Mr Will Mulvaney: Science F-6
Mr Tom Jones: 7-10 English/Drama
Mrs Barb Bear: Careers Advisor
Ms Danielle Millard: EAL Teacher

Education Support Staff:

Mrs Nola McKinnon: Library and Resource
Support
Mrs Wendy Bolch: Student Support
Mrs Carlene Darker: Student Support
Mrs Helen Garchitorena: Science Laboratory
Technician /Hands on
Learning
Mr Braydon Springthorpe: Computer Technician

Wellbeing Support Staff

Mrs Narelle Windridge: School Chaplain
Mr Adam Johnson: Mental Health Practitioner

Grounds and Building Staff

Mr Bill Quinn: Groundsman
Mrs Judy Perry: Gardener
Ms Janine Worth: Cleaner
Mrs Maria Ceballos: Cleaner



Neighbourhood Structure

Pyramid Hill College is currently divided into two neighbourhoods which correspond with identified learning ages. The Primary Neighbourhood comprises students from Foundation to Year 6, and the Secondary Neighbourhood from Years 7 to 10 students. Each sub-school has a Neighbourhood leader.

Years F-6 concentrates on the development of Literacy (reading and writing) and Numeracy (number) skills. A large proportion of each day is allocated to Literacy and Numeracy. The other main focus in the F-6 area is the teaching and learning of social skills. These skills are vital so students can learn to co-operate and participate in their community, firstly at school and later in the general community.

Students at Pyramid Hill College are very fortunate to be able to participate in specialist subjects including LOTE - Indonesian/Tagalog/Auslan, Physical Education, Music, Healthy Living, Science, Art and Digital Technologies.

Students are involved in excursions, both local and further afield, which help develop their understanding of areas of study undertaken.

Years 3-6 students have the opportunity to participate in an annual three day camp. Years 5-6 students are also given the opportunity to attend a five day camp to Canberra.

Senior School, Years 7 to 10

The curriculum aims to prepare students for further study, give them life skills and appropriate information about possible careers. We try to open doors with curriculum choice rather than close them by allowing students to specialise too early.

At all stages, we try to establish the student as an independent learner with appropriate skills to handle the curriculum, social and life situations. Extension enrichment is provided wherever possible to take students to the full extent of their potential and become life long learners.

Bell Times

Students are expected to be on time for school.

Music	8.52 am
Home Rooms	8.56
Period 1	9.00
Period 2	10.00
Recess	11.00
Music	11.16
Period 3	11.20
Period 4	12.20
Lunch	1.20
Music	1.56
Period 5	2.00
TAP	3.00
End of the Day	3.20

Arrival & Departure Times

Please note that students **should not arrive at school before 8.40 am** as there are no teachers on duty before this time. Similarly, students should not be left at school after 3.30 pm. The school cannot be held responsible for children at school when there are no teachers on duty. Students arriving late or leaving early, must sign in or out at the office.

Should an emergency arise and it is not possible to collect students on time, please phone the college and we will make arrangements for the safety of the students. Calling also relieves anxiety when students are expecting to be picked up at normal time.

Parent/Teacher Contact

Parents are welcome to come to the College at any time, however, if you wish to speak to one of the teachers, it is necessary to telephone and arrange a suitable time. **All visitors to the school, including parents, must go to the main office and sign in first before going to classrooms etc.**

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Interviews are held during the year, following the distribution of either an Interim or Semester Report. Precise appointment times are allocated to parents. These occasions are an opportunity for parents, staff and students to meet and to discuss the progress of students. Phone and Webex interviews are also available.

Absences

It is an Education Department requirement that all absences must be approved by parents. Therefore, parents need to contact the college, provide a note or submit the absence via Compass when:

- Your child is absent, giving reason for absence
- Arrangements are different from normal e.g. Student leaving early for any reason, or there is a change in the person picking the child up in the afternoon.
- Your child is a bus traveller and will not be travelling home on the bus on a particular day.

Parents will be contacted if their child has been marked absent on the roll and the college has not been informed by phone/note/compass entry.

Illness

Sick Bay - the sick bay is equipped to cope with emergency illness and injuries only. **A sick child should not be sent to school.**

Where possible, parents will be contacted and arrangements made for the student to go home if the matter is serious. In an emergency, the child will be consulted by a community nurse (if available) or an ambulance called, depending upon the situation. We recommend that all families have ambulance cover.

For minor injuries/ailments, if a student is treated, a Sickbay incident report is logged on Compass for parents to view. All staff are trained in CPR and Level 2 First Aid.

Communication

Compass

Compass is our electronic form of communication. It is available as an app or through a website. Teachers, parents and students can communicate through Compass. Compass requires an individual login and password for each family.

Compass is used to inform parents of forthcoming events. It also houses learning tasks for the students and interim and semester reports.

Parents can also log student absence and view sickbay entries through Compass.

Newsletter

A school newsletter is published every Wednesday. It contains official notices, a diary of coming events, students' work, articles of interest and a report from the Principal. The newsletter is emailed to every family and a paper copy is available for those whose internet access is limited. It is also available on the school's website - www.pyramidhill.vic.edu.au

Pyramid Hill College
ChildSafe
Newsletter
February 24th, 2021

Diary 2021
March
3 PFS Interviews
4 NCD Triathlon
5 Primary Division Swimming
8 Public Holiday - Labour Day
12 College Assembly
23 Year 7&8 Immunisations
30 Hot Shot Tanna 1st 5/6
April
1 Last day of Term 1

Principal's News
NCD Swimming Sports
We left early Monday morning to head to St Armand and were greeted with a freezing southerly breeze. Leaving many of us wondering why we didn't bring a jumper. Nevertheless, the temperature soon rose and we had students representing the school and community in various events. The effort and endeavour on the day was excellent and the students involved should be proud of the manner in which they conducted themselves. Many students swam in events well above their age group which was an impressive sight to see.
I would like to thank Kelly Gould for conducting the role of team manager on the day and for encouraging students throughout the day and for encouraging students throughout the day and for encouraging students throughout the day. Thank you also to Kim Lister for her assistance on the day including taking brilliant photos and supporting the students. Congratulations to all the students involved, you set an excellent example for the school.

Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences
will take place on Wednesday March 3rd from 1pm-4pm.
To book an interview please go to the following website:
• <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/qaqzjz-QdsKbb>
• Make a Booking
• Type in: z3zyr
Or go to the following link:
• <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code/code-z3zyr>
Please note that normal classes will run for students on the interview day.

Pyramid Hill College Values
Respect: We are respectful of self, others and the environment. (we are thoughtful of our words and actions)
Learn: We are learners who strive for excellence. (We challenge ourselves to do our best.)
Community: We are community minded and embrace diversity. (We foster a sense of community and belonging for all.)

Pyramid Hill College
Killy Street, Pyramid Hill, 3575
Tel: 5455 7377 -
Email: pyramid.hill@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.pyramidhill.vic.edu.au

School Council Election
Nominations are now being called for the vacant positions on School Council. Please consider becoming involved in this vital aspect of the College governance. Your views and input would be greatly appreciated and are a critical aspect of the functioning of the College.
Nominations open on Friday 19th February and close on Friday 12th March. A ballot if needed will be held on Monday 15th March. Parent Representatives whose term has finished are Alison Farrer and Adam Caggan. There are four vacancies on School Council - to make up the constituting order of 8 parent members.
Outgoing members, parents and staff are encouraged to stand for School Council, as a vibrant and active School Council is a key ingredient to the effective running of the College. Thank you to everyone on School Council and in particular to outgoing members for their support, effort and contributions to the college. Nominations forms are available from the College.
Luke Roberts
Fiona Moon, Principal

Facebook

The College has a "members only" Facebook page - Pyramid Hill College News which is used for official events notices etc. Membership is restricted. There is also a public promotional Facebook page - Pyramid Hill College.

Wellbeing Program

It is widely known that for learning to take place, children need to feel cared for and safe, both emotionally and physically. For this reason, at Pyramid Hill College, the wellbeing of students comes first, before teaching even begins. The development of Emotional Intelligence is the crux of our student wellbeing approach. It is an important component of the school's operation and every child's education.

Wellbeing Staff

Wellbeing Team Leader: Mrs Kelly Gould

Chaplain: Mrs Narelle Windridge

Mental Health Practitioner: Mr Adam Johnson

Pyramid Hill College also has regular service available from:

Northern District Community Health

Youth Social Worker: Ms Rachel Weaver

Youth Liaison Officer: Mr Matt Allen

Loddon Campaspe Student Support Services (SSS) :

Psychologist: Mr Kym Holmberg

Speech: Ms Sarah Walmsley

The Principal and Assistant Principal and Home Room Teachers are an integral part of the Wellbeing Team. Please be sure to make contact if you or your student require wellbeing support.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Program Support

In 2019 Pyramid Hill College introduced the School-Wide Positive Behaviour Program Support (SWPBS). SWPBS is a framework that brings together school communities to develop a positive, safe and supportive learning culture. SWPBS assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

A co-created matrix of behaviours that are expected at Pyramid Hill College is the cornerstone of the program.

Students earn 'Hill Climber' tokens for displaying college values. These tokens can be redeemed for vouchers and prizes from the 'Hill Climber' shop. When SWPBS is implemented well, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction.

Students and staff benefit from:

- increased respectful and positive behaviour
- increased time focused on instruction
- improved social-emotional wellbeing
- positive and respectful relationships among students and staff
- increased adoption of evidence-based instructional practices



Participation

All students are expected to participate in the activities offered by the College. No one likes doing every subject or all sports, but the aim of the College's program is to provide an overall education. Participation in everything is therefore important and parents are requested not to give in to requests for notes excusing students from activities they may not like or that are new to them.



Reading Program

All students are expected to read every night. Students in F-6 are expected to read to their parents every night and this needs to be recorded in their reading log.

Within classrooms, children are required to have a reader and their progress is monitored by their class teacher. F-6 students need a reader bag to protect the school books taken home each night. Foundation students are supplied with one as part of their booklist. If the bag is lost, a new one can be purchased from the office.

The Reading Assistance program has been developed for students who are at risk in Year One. The children have daily one to one contact with the Reading Assistance teacher for 30 minutes.

Parents are welcome to assist class teachers by coming in to the school to listen to children read. Some classroom teachers are also trained in Reading Assistance, and are able to apply these principles to classroom teaching.

Book Club

All primary students are able to purchase books through Book Club. A brochure is issued monthly for students and parents to order from if they wish.

Homework Club

The College sets aside one afternoon a week to run a Homework Club from 3.20pm until 4.15pm. A healthy snack and teacher supervision is provided.

Camps, Sports & Excursion Funds (CSEF)

School **camps** provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, **excursions** encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and **sports** teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

\$125 for primary school students

\$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Sun Smart Policy

Pyramid Hill College is a Sun Smart School. All students must be wearing a hat whilst outside and is compulsory from 1st September until 30th April.

School hats with logo can be purchased from the office. Hats are only a part of the solution and students are encouraged to wear sunscreen and clothing which covers susceptible areas.

Swimming Program

The Swimming Program begins the second week after school resumes for the year and usually runs for three or four days per week for three weeks. Full details will be made available at the start of each year.

The children require bathers, towel, hats, T-shirt or swim shirt, sunscreen and a plastic bag.

Parents helpers are always needed and are most welcome.



Property & Personal Goods Brought to School

All books, lunch boxes etc. and uniform, MUST be clearly named. Clear naming helps reduce the chance of items being taken by mistake and makes the task of returning them to the owner much easier. Lost property should be taken to and reclaimed from the office.

Students are reminded that valuable equipment and personal goods brought to school is at their own risk.

If it is necessary to bring money or valuables to school, they should be handed to the class teacher or general office for safe keeping. The school cannot accept the responsibility under other circumstances. Students should not leave valuables or money in bags.

Money for excursions etc. should be handed to the office as soon as possible at the start of the day, preferably in a sealed envelope marked with name and purpose e.g. Harry Smith, Year 2, Bendigo Excursion or in envelopes provided for this purpose.

The Department of Education and Training does not hold any insurance for personal property brought to schools and will generally not pay for any loss or damage of such property. Schools cannot accept this responsibility either.

Mobile Phones

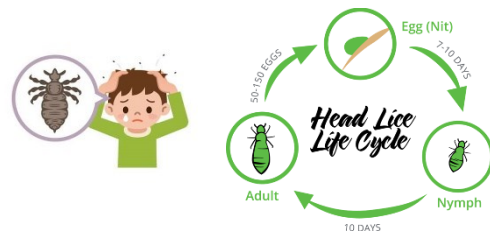
In 2020 the Victorian Government has mandated that mobile phones may be brought to school but will be housed in a locked cabinet in the office and may not be used during the school day.

Pyramid Hill College's current mobile phone policy is located on the college website

Head Lice

Head Lice are a problem that breaks out in schools all over Australia from time to time. Having head lice is not a life threatening condition, nor is it a condition that has anything to do with hygiene. In fact, head lice prefer nice clean hair. Unfortunately, over a period of years, head lice have built up an immunity to the treatments. The treatments still kill live lice, but they don't kill all of the eggs.

The life cycle is about six days. If all of the eggs are not removed, then six days later, the problem starts all over again. The School Council would prefer that students not return to school until all of the eggs are removed since the inconvenience and lost time for other students is very frustrating for parents.



If you find evidence of head lice in your child's hair, they should be treated immediately and all eggs removed. This can be a painstaking task and eggs can be easier to remove by using conditioner and a very fine tooth comb. Check after the hair is dry for any further eggs and remove. Check again 2 days after the initial outbreak and be vigilant until there is no further sign.

It would be appreciated if you also notify the school, so that steps can be taken to check other students. This is done by the Student Welfare Coordinator with assistance from teacher aides.

A form giving permission for staff to check your child's hair, is signed when students enroll at the College and is kept until the students leave the school. All primary students are checked every 3-4 weeks.

It is wise to keep a check on your child's hair yourself as well though.

Lunch Orders

The College has adopted the “Go for Your Life” Healthy Food program as required by the Department of Education & Training. We encourage all students to have a healthy lunch with only a limited amount of ‘junk’ food. A healthy food routine has been prepared in conjunction with the Pyramid Bakery Café and The Coffee Bank. Lunch Orders are delivered daily to the school from the Pyramid Bakery Café and on Fridays from the Coffee Bank. Lunches must be ordered directly by parents or students, before 11.00 am for delivery at lunch time. During Term 2 & 3 students are able to bring suitable food to be heated in a pie warmer.

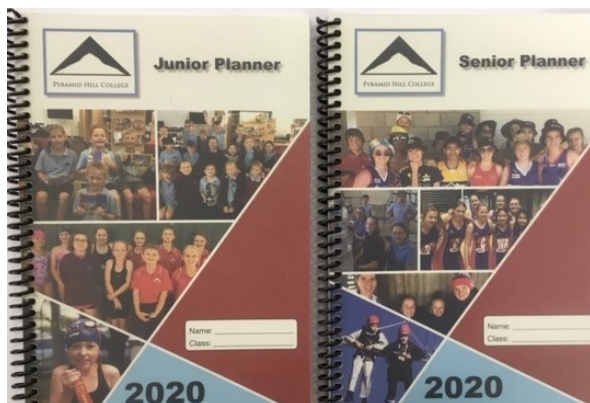
Healthy Snack

The school encourages our students to develop a healthy lifestyle. Regular Physical Education lessons and sporting opportunities are provided to all students. At approximately 10 am daily, Year F-6 students are encouraged to eat a healthy snack - this could include any unprocessed foods such as fruit, vegetables, cheese, nuts or seeds - something not too messy, so students can continue working. Secondary students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle.

Student Requisites

In the F-6 area, parents may pay a set amount which allows the school to purchase all necessary stationery and materials in bulk. This has proved to be convenient to parents, cost effective and practical in the classroom, where all students are required to share and look after community property.

Students in Years 7-10 purchase their own stationery requirements.



Conveyance Allowance

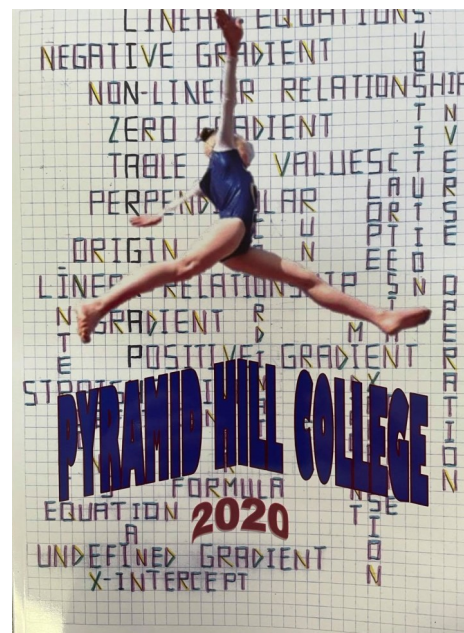
Students who live more than 4.8 kilometers via the nearest accessible route from the school or a school bus stop, may be entitled to a Conveyance Allowance. An application form may be obtained from the school.

Magazine

The College produces a magazine every year which highlights the activities of the year and contains photographs of students, activities, pieces of writing and art work. This is an excellent record for your child to have and the school heavily subsidises the cost.

School magazines tend to be appreciated more in later life when they become something to look back on.

Magazines can be ordered via an order form later on in the school year.



Uniform

All students are required to wear school uniform. For secondary students, if a student is ‘out of uniform’ they must have a note from parents and go to the office for an “Out of Uniform” pass. A list of uniform requirements is on the back page.

School jackets, navy blue polo shirts with logo, pants, shorts and hats are available from the office.

Red sports polos are also available and can be ordered with the student’s name embroidered on the back.

SCHOOL UNIFORM – YEARS F-10

All students are required to wear uniform. Students not in correct uniform must bring a note of explanation to the Assistant Principal/Office for a Uniform Pass which is valid for the day that they are out of uniform.

Uniforms can be purchased from the Uniform Shop in the office.

Summer

Navy blue shorts - \$15 and navy blue/sky blue polo shirt with logo - \$16 (for sizes 6-14) and \$22 for S,M,L

Year 6 polo shirt (optional)

Summer dress in official summer uniform material.

The summer dress should include a collar and full or cap sleeves.

Dresses can be made by local dressmakers.

Socks – white/black

Shoes – black lace ups, velcro or buckled shoes

Winter

Jumper – F-4 navy blue polar fleece with logo - \$25

Years 5-10 navy blue soft shell jacket with logo - \$35

Year 9/10 rugby jumper (optional)

Pants - navy blue (jeans are unacceptable) - \$25

Polo top - navy blue/sky blue - \$16 (for sizes 6-14) and \$22 for S,M,L

Socks – white/black

Shoes - black leather (black or brown boots acceptable), all black runners – no logos, no street shoes

Note: Students in all practical classes must wear solid shoes such as boots or leather shoes due to safety issues



SPORT

Shorts, skirt – navy/black. red polo shirt - \$15 (\$20 with name embroidered on the back).

Shoes - runners

Track suit - navy. Hats are compulsory in terms one and four

This uniform is a requirement for students in Years 5-10

INDUSTRIAL CLOTHING FOR HOME ECO/ART/WOOD AND METAL CRAFT

Strong footwear must be worn in the Woodwork/Material Studies room, as heavy or sharp objects may be dropped accidentally. Sandals are not to be worn. Jewellery is not to be worn and students' hair must be tied back, or a helmet worn. Protective aprons are supplied.

Hats

Bucket Hat with PHC emblem - \$12

Beanies with PHC emblem - \$20

These can be purchased from the Office.

Coats - Choice of style - navy or grey

Jewellery - Apart from watch, sleepers or studs, jewellery must not be worn.

Nail Polish - is not permitted.



Labelling - Names must be attached to all garments.

Year 7-10 Learning Neighbourhood

2022 Staff

Manager: Mr Luke Roberts

The role of the Neighbourhood Manager is to oversee the running of this area and will also deal with any discipline problems in conjunction with the Assistant Principal.

Home Room Teachers: Miss Elizabeth Fox
Mr Luke Roberts

Teaching Staff

Mr Luke Roberts:	Maths/PE
Mrs Bron James:	Maths/English
Mrs Jenny Tracy:	Food Technology/Health
Mrs Leanne Talbot:	Art/Graphics
Mr Tom Jones:	English/Drama
Mr Will Mulvaney:	Science
Mrs Tracy Rogers:	Music
Mr Sean McCann:	PE/Health
Mr Ian Everett:	Humanities/Digital Technologies
Miss Elizabeth Fox:	Maths/Science
Bu Kelly Gould:	LOTE Indonesian/English
Mrs Dorothy Kaye:	Technology - Textiles/ Woodwork/Plastics
Mrs Barb Bear:	Careers
Ms Dannielle Millard	EAL



English

The English curriculum encompasses reading and viewing, writing, speaking and listening.

Students are exposed to a variety of written, spoken and visual texts and are required to respond to these in a variety of modes.

Students focus on identifying the purpose, features and structures of a range of texts and are encouraged to use a variety of writing styles to demonstrate their understandings. Speaking and listening activities may be informal such as whole class and small group discussions, or formal activities such as debates and public speaking competitions.

Homework

Weekly English homework aims to reinforce class content and improve technical skills such as spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Number of lessons per week: 4 x 60 minutes



Mathematics

Middle School mathematics is structured to maximise individual learning; hence classes are arranged to provide all students to build breadth and depth. Classes are also structured to promote the development of cross curricula skills including English, Technology and time management.

Maths Pathway is a program that is utilised to target specific areas of need for individual students.

Students will study the mathematic domains outlined by the Victorian Curriculum document which will include: Number, Space, Structure, Measurement, Chance and Data and Working Mathematically. The work in each of the classes will differ depending on the students abilities within the class although the focus will be to identify student's pre-existing ideas and then implement effective teaching strategies to support students to develop more sophisticated mathematical understandings.

The intent of the mathematics curriculum is to provide the opportunity to maximise student learning. This requires the use of a range of different tasks including those which are hands on, use computer programs and/or application assignments that relate the skills and concepts they are learning to the "Real World", exploring the usefulness of mathematics. Through this we aim to improve students attitudes towards the subject by making learning relevant to their lives, providing students with the skills to work mathematically.

The Maths Mate homework program provides a weekly revision sheet which covers the Year 7 curriculum.

Number of lessons per week: 4 x 60 minutes.

Room: CASTLE

Science

Year 7 Science offers an introduction to students of basic Science principles. Students cover broad topics within the disciplines of: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth Science and Astronomy. In these areas there will be both practical and written reports and activities. Safety in the Science room is an important early topic.



Number of lessons per week: 3 x 60 minutes.
Room: Science Room

Food Technology

Students further develop the skills they have acquired in Year 6. This subject covers basic nutrition principles with focus on gaining knowledge and skills they can apply to every day living. Students expand their existing food preparation skills and cook items of increasing complexity. Practical activities are a combination of lunch activities and take home items.

Number of lessons per week: 1 x 90 minutes

Cost: \$3.50 per practical session or \$30 per term if students wish to take their cooking home.

Room: Food Technology Room

Students also need to bring a container to transport cooked items home.

Physical Education

Students will participate and develop skills in the following areas:

- Swimming
- Athletics
- Cross Country
- Dance
- Invasion games, which may include basket ball, netball, AFL, soccer and handball.
- Net court games, which may include tennis, badminton, volleyball
- Striking games/Fielding games, which may include softball, cricket
- Target games, which may include golf, lawn bowls, bocce...
- Basic healthy living—hydration, fitness, being active.

Number of lessons per week: 2 x 60 minutes

Room: Stadium, outside and classroom



Students are expected to have a change of clothes for all PE lessons. A red polo shirt can be ordered with name embroidered on back.



Technology

Year 7 students concentrate on learning basic textile skills which include sewing machine familiarisation and gaining their sewing machine licence. They sew simple projects which gradually become more complicated and allow for their creative input. The students study natural fibres such as wool, cotton and linen. They will also explore various textile crafts and history of textiles and clothing.



Material Studies

Students study different types of plastics and learn how to work safely and efficiently in the workshop. Using a variety of tools and sheet acrylic, students produce a range of acrylic and wood projects such as key tags, games and moulded scoops. Students also study how technology has changed the lives of people and the things we use in everyday life.

Number of lessons per week: 2 x 60 minutes

Room: Woodwork /Textiles room

Humanities

History

In this subject, students undertake an examination of the medieval or ancient civilizations.

The subject is strongly research-based and students are required to complete several major assignments on topics. Other methods of assessment include tests (open and closed book), comprehension exercises, class talks and multimedia. Various computer programs are also used when undertaking a wide range of assessment tasks

Geography

This unit aims to introduce students to key geographical skills such as mapping, data preservation, and study of Asia/Pacific and introduce individual research methods. The focus of study is within geographical environments particularly Australia's natural environments.

Economics

Students look at the production of goods and services, needs and wants and consumerism.

Number of lessons per week: 2 x 60 minutes

The Arts

Visual Art/ Visual Communication

Students will be introduced to a variety of visual arts/ visual communication methods and experimental techniques including painting, print making, ceramics, paper maché, drawing etc. Artists and artworks will be studied. A sketchbook will also be kept which will be an illustrative record of all work produced, and artists and artwork studied.

All students have an art folio in which their work is stored. Students will do two and three dimensional artworks. Art is often integrated with the thematic units of other classes. Students will undertake one semester of Visual Arts and one semester of Visual Communication.

Number of lessons per week: 2 x 60 minutes

Room: Art Room



LOTE

Indonesian

The aim of this subject is to further develop students' conversational Indonesian language skills on given topics and expand their knowledge of the culture. They will further develop their vocabulary, comprehension and expression skills through practical activities and will be assessed both formally and informally in the areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students have some input into the topics covered to make it more appealing to them.



Number of lessons per week: 2 x 60 minutes



Homework

Year 7-8 students are expected to do homework of approximately one hour's duration every night. Each night you are expected to devote some time to three to four subjects. The following is an example:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Humanities	Maths	Graphics/ Art	LOTE	Humanities
Textiles	LOTE	English	English	English
English	Home Eco	Humanities	Maths	Maths

Homework Night: is held once a week for students in Years 5-10 for one hour. This provides an opportunity for students to catch up on homework. This program will be fully supervised by a teacher and provide a healthy snack to those attending. Please note that your child's teacher/s may contact you if they require your child to attend these sessions due to incomplete work. This is an otherwise voluntary session where students can access assistance from a teacher for their work. Students/parents are notified via the newsletter when/where homework night is running.

Lockers

You will be issued with your own locker during the first day of school, so bring all your books to school on the first day.

Diaries

The diary is aimed at helping you keep track of important school dates and homework given. All homework must be recorded in your diary on the date given and the date it is due. After the week has passed, you may fold down the page or cut the corner off. If you have any questions see your Home Room teacher. Your diary will be checked by your Home Room teacher on a day to be advised (usually a Monday) and parent signature is required. Graffiti that is offensive to others will not be allowed and students should not write on their diary in this manner, or let others use it in this way.

Organisation

During the first day of school the Home Room teacher/Welfare Co-ordinator will assist you with the organisation of your folders eg sorting subjects, placing dividers and so on. However, if you have an older brother or sister then they may help you to arrange your folders. When the bell goes you must collect all your books for all lessons - that is two lessons before recess, two lessons before lunch and one after lunch. Students are not to go to their lockers between subjects.

