

# Enrolment Information Booklet



*"Never see a need without doing something about it"* Mary MacKillop 1871

## Welcome

Welcome and thank you for taking the time to explore the opportunities available to your child at Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College.

As a Catholic school, we strive to develop Christian values within our students. Nurturing the whole person developing their spiritual, physical, social and emotional wellbeing which will guide their decision making, enhance their personal growth, and impact on the quality of their whole lives.

We bring the Josephite Charism to all members of our College community.



## Acting Principal's Message

Education is progressing at an ever-increasing rate. Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College is committed to constant review supported by data and research, to ensure best practice in contemporary learning in order to engage and connect our students in learning. It is our aim to assist them in developing the confidence and competence as well as the relevant skills and aptitudes they need to enter the world as good Christians and ethical global citizens.

Our students are engaged in a learning environment that is real and purposeful, that embraces 21st century learning pedagogies and technologies. All key learning areas use teaching, learning and assessment styles that draw on each child's strengths. Upon entering the Senior School, each student will have been provided with the opportunity and support to reflect on his or her special interests and abilities in order to identify the ideal pathway towards further study or career opportunities.

The Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College Vision Statement speaks clearly of our strong desire to build partnerships with families as together we nurture our students as they develop within a child safe environment. It is in this spirit of collaboration that I warmly invite you to consider Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College as you discern the next stage in your child's educational journey

Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer Acting Principal

## Enrolments

Our enrolment process includes multiple opportunities for your family to become familiar with the College environment and values, so that your child is ready to begin their Mary MacKillop College experience.

- The enrolment process for Year 7 will begin when your child is in Grade 5.
- Grade 5 Discovery Day
- Grade 6 Activity Day
- Information Sessions
- Enrolments Close May 31st of the year preceding entry

#### **Required documents for application**

- Completed Application for Enrolment Form
- Birth Certificate
- Sacrament Certificates (if applicable)
- \$150 non-refundable non-transferable enrolment deposit

## Contacts

Enrolment enquiries College Registrar Contact: Mrs. Carly Kitchingman Phone: 03 5662 4255 Email: ckitchingman@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au

## Courses

The full program at Year 7 includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- French
- Religious Education
- Physical Education and Health
- LAUNCH
- Pastoral
- Art
- Drama
- Music
- Food Technology
- Design Technology/Graphics
- ICT (Information Communication Technology)

## Pathways

At Year 10, 11 and 12, students choose their personalised program from either

- Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)
- Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)
- VETiS courses are available in both VCAL and VCE Pathways.



## Developingthewholeperson

## Spiritual Development

Our College supports students to find God in everyday life and activities, We believe that a student's spiritual journey and values are an important tool in negotiating the social and emotional challenges that occur during adolescents. The College's strong connection with Mary MacKillop can be seen around the College with faith and prayer markers visible for students to remind them of their encounter with Christ.

## Student Leadership

Student leadership is encouraged at all year levels with class captains. At the senior school level there is a number of opportunities for students to participate in leadership with the Student Mission team – College Captains and Vice Captains, Justice team and House Captains.

## Academic

In the junior years, the academic program at Mary MacKillop College builds core skills and knowledge. Through Years 7 and 8 students are given a taste of all subject areas. Students are encouraged and supported to develop more initiative and greater capacity for independent thought and work as they progress through the College. By graduation, each student will have been helped to reflect on his or her special interests and abilities and will have identified a pathway for further study or careers.

## Sport

All students in Years 7 through to 10 are involved in the school's multi-activity Physical Education Program. Activities undertaken are both team-based ball sports and individual sports. Our students are involved in the following levels of sporting competitions, events and inter-house competitions:

- Swimming
- Athletics
- Cross Country
- Inter-school competition
- School Sports Victoria (SSV)

## Arts

In Year 7 and 8 all students participate in Performing Arts. This subject is a combination of classroom music theory and introductory drama skills. Students who wish to learn an instrument that is part of a concert band ensemble may enrol in the College Instrumental Music Program.

## **Extra Curricular Activities**

Extra Curricular activities assist is the holistic development of every student. At each year level students are able to participate in a range of extra curricular activities. Some of these such as camps and excursions form part of the compulsory components of learning at the College, whereas you child may select from a wide range of other activities:

College Production Junior and Senior Choirs Instrumental Music Program Instrumental Band Science Club School Sports Victoria (SSV) Sport Debating Tournament of the Minds STEM Muzarts and Artzfest And more!

## Learning Adjustment

### **Providing adjustment**

The Learning Adjustment Program at Mary MacKillop College offers students with extra, disability-based needs, adjustment to participate in all areas of schooling in our community.

Using an inclusive model, students predominately remain with their peers in the mainstream classroom, accessing support from teachers and learning assistants to access the curriculum at their current level. Care is taken to design learning adjustments to ensure our students are able to experience success, progressing through goal-based programs targeted at the individual's needs, and fostering a culture of success.

Program Support Group (PSG) meetings are offered each term to share and review goals and achievements and to make sure needs are met as your child progresses throughout their secondary schooling.

Personal Learning Plans (PLP) are designed early on, to make sure all teaching staff have a clear understanding of your child's needs. A PLP is made in conjunction with parent feedback, allied health reports and assessments, and employ evidence-based practice to meet extra needs.

Teachers are in regular contact with the Learning Adjustment Coordinator to ensure their practise caters for the variety of needs they manage. Teachers are able to discuss extra needs as they arise and work collaboratively to build complex responses to individual needs. Students who access Learning Adjustment are further supported by wellbeing and pastoral care to ensure the whole person is supported through the challenges of the teenage years.

Through their inclusive learning, our students access meaningful, rigorous and dignified learning programs, personalised to get the most out of their time at Mary MacKillop College. Students have access to Allied Heath professionals including a speech pathologist.

### **Providing extension**

The Tree Tops Program is a special initiative offered to Years 7-9 students to facilitate accelerated academic growth. It is offered to students whose results reflect a diligent approach to learning and consistent standard. The benefits are making connections to like-minded peers and the opportunity for students to collaborate and think deeply within an academic context.

The program offers a range of enrichment activity days focussing on literacy, numeracy and problem solving which are held each term. Students are excused from classes for the day to participate in the workshops. These days are hosted by 'experts in their field', such as published authors and poets, mathematicians, historians and scientists. Activities have included escape rooms, collaborative poetry writing, maths games and robotics.

Additional programs such as Tournament of the Minds and Tree Tops assist high ability students to develop skills in a real world context and take ownership for their learning. These metacognitive skills are transferrable into classroom activities and assist students in their progression through curriculum focused learning.



## **Student Wellbeing Program**

We have a strong focus on student and staff wellbeing, supported by a shared set of values and programs in order for everyone to feel safe, valued and well cared for throughout their school years and beyond. Feeling comfortable at school and being happy and healthy has a direct impact on each student's capacity for optimal learning – and for them to be the best they can be. Equally, enjoying school and being engaged in learning influences a student's wellbeing – in particular, their confidence and resilience.



## **Student Transition**

We know that the commencement of secondary schooling is a major step and a time of big change in your child's life. We ensure that the transition is well supported and provides your child with opportunities to feel connected and settled into this new phase of learning. Each of the following programs assist both you and your child to build new friendships, meet teachers and experience the values of the College in action.

## Year 7 Orientation Program

#### ICT Information evening

Our ICT Information evening is where students receive their Mac Book.

#### • Year 7 Activity Day

Activity Day is a series of homeroom based activities aimed to instill a sense of belonging and provide further opportunities for students to meet new friends.

#### Year 7 Orientation Camp

Year 7 Camp helps students to consolidate friendships and meet a broader range of students in their year level. They are encouraged to extend themselves both socially and physically while having fun across a broad range of camp activities.

#### • Year 7 Families Welcome Mass and BBQ Dinner

Year 7 students and families are invited to attend a Welcome Mass and shared BBQ dinner.

#### • Peer Support Program

The Peer Support Program is run for Year7 students by a group of trained Year 10 students.

For families looking at transition to other year levels please speak to the Registrar.

## **Parents and Friends**

Parents and Friends Association (P&F) is a group of parents and friends of the College who work together to assist the community in the development of the College. P&F work closely with the College to fill the void in fundraising that would not ordinarily be picked up in the standard budget that the College allows for.

New members are always welcome. If you would like to join our Parents and Friends please contact the College office on 03 5662 4255.

## Uniforms

All students are expected to wear the full regulation College uniform (Summer or Winter) whilst at school and travelling to and from the College. All items of the uniform including the shoes, must always be kept clean and tidy.

Sports uniforms is not worn to and from school except for year level sport day and SSV School Sports Days.

## Buses

Students travelling to the College from Korumburra, Leongatha and Foster are able to travel to and from the College using Department of Education buses.

Students travelling from the Koo Wee Rup, Cowes, Wonthaggi and Inverloch are provided with transport by contract buses.

There is no additional cost for the bus, this is incorporated into the school fees.



"The Wisdom of the Lord teaches us"

