

# Year 7 2021 Transition Information Night 2/09/2020

St Columba's College welcomes our Year 7 2021 families and looks forward to a rewarding partnership over the next 6 years. We thank you for entrusting your daughters to us to nurture, support and educate them academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally.

Below is a summary of the presentation on Religious Education, Learning and Teaching, and Wellbeing.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### How do we live the Gospel and serve the poor?

Students will learn about the founder of the Sisters of Charity and Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

Venerable Mary Aikenhead (1797 – 1858)

Sisters of Charity (1815)

First Sisters in Australia (1838)

St Columba's College (1897)

### Holistically forming our community

We learn to listen

- to God,
- to those in their community
- themselves
  - praying often
  - studying the big question in many fields
  - works of justice, solidarity and love.

### We dare to be God's love

- voices speaking for the silenced;
- voices comforting and reassuring the poor;
- voices advocating for change;
- voices questioning and searching for new and better ways to be, and to do God's work;
- voices imagining and dreaming;
- voices of women – heard in strength, in certainty, in faithfulness, and in service.

## LEARNING & TEACHING

- Every member of our community is a learner. Each individual is encouraged to be fearless and courageous to optimise their opportunities for success.
- By placing the child at the centre of our teaching, we see them and listen to them, as important citizens of the future. We believe our students can, and have the right to flourish and learn.
- We cater for individual differences in student learning by knowing our students as learners. Professionally, we seek to refine learning and teaching through ongoing assessment, providing feedback, reflective practice and evidence-based instructional strategies.

### In valuing learning, we:

- Nurture authentic and respectful relationships;
- Establish an inclusive learning culture;
- Set high expectations for all learning;
- Promote ownership of learning through goal setting and reflective practice;

- Teach resilience, critical thinking and self-determination;
- Encourage creativity and independence in all learners;
- Foster collaboration in all aspects of teaching and learning.

The Year 7 timetable runs over 10 days and comprises of 4 x 75 minute lessons per day. Lesson allocations as follows:

**3 lessons per cycle:**

Religious Education

**6 lessons per cycle:**

English, Mathematics

**4 lessons per cycle:**

Science, Humanities, Health and Physical Education, Languages

**2 lessons per cycle:**

Music, Dance/Drama

**4 lessons per cycle:**

Visual Arts/Rich Task

**1 lesson per cycle:**

House Group

## Languages

The study of a language is compulsory from Years 7 – 9. The College offers a choice from French, Italian and Japanese.

The language selection process is now completed. Students will find out the language they will study on Orientation Day as information will be included in the pack received on this day.

## Music

- All students learn a musical instrument (choice from 4 instruments per class)
- Small group tuition
- Opportunity to sample 3-4 instruments on Orientation Day
- Compulsory weekly ensemble rehearsal before or after school
- If you are considering private lessons, please submit the enrolment form prior to Orientation Day

## Assessment and Reporting 7-10:

- Scored numeric Assessment Tasks
- A short description of the content/skills
- Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory achievement of the Unit of Work
- Learning dispositions
- Criterion-referenced assessment tasks with numeric score
- Progression points at Years 7 - 10

## Co-curricular Program

- The co-curricular program seeks to develop the whole person and foster the development of confident, resilient individuals
- Across a variety of areas: sport, debating, book club, social justice
- Participation is strongly encouraged
- House/School based activities
- Some rehearsal or training may take place before or after school

## Technology

St Columba's College considers technology as a valuable resource which can be used to engage our students in their learning. It also enhances inquiry and creativity in learners and connectivity with the wider world.

The College adopts a 1:1 Laptop Program. St Columba's College will provide laptops to all Year 7 students via a Purchase Program.

## Home Learning

Homework will comprise of work not completed in class, work set by the teacher and your daughter will also be required to spend time revising her learning to reinforce the concepts. Direct communication with the Subject Teacher or House Group Teacher is encouraged

## WELLBEING

When students commence at the College, they are allocated to a House and House Group

- Siblings – not in the same House Group but in the same House
- Spread interests and talents where possible
- Mixture of Primary schools
- Balance numbers between House Groups and between Houses

## Pastoral Chain

Head of Students – House Leader – House Group Teacher

Students are well supported through this pastoral chain and there are 3 College Counsellors who support students with programs and counselling services.

**Orientation Day** is on Friday 20 November. A letter will be sent early Term 4 with details for this day.

**Induction Day** will be held early February with the date to be confirmed later this year.

A House Welcome will be held early February and it is an opportunity to formally welcome Year 7 students and their families to the College to join together in faith.

Starting high school is a new beginning and signifies a number of changes. Through this time of transition, the College will support and encourage your daughter

- to build new friendships
- to build personal resilience
- to develop teamwork skills
- to further develop her communication skills

## **Medical Conditions**

We have a number of students starting in Year 7 2021 who have identified medical conditions. Students with diagnosed medical conditions are required to have a management plan signed by their doctor. If your daughter has a medical condition requiring a Health Care Plan, please call the College First Aid Officer to discuss the requirements.

Updated **Medical plans for Anaphylaxis, Asthma and Allergies and other medical conditions must be submitted to the College.**

## **Uniform**

The College Academic uniform supplied by Noone. Information will be provided regarding making appointments for a uniform fitting and ordering uniform items.

## **REMINDERS**

- Laptop Purchase & Agreement Form to be returned to Reception by Friday 11 September
- Achievement & Ability Testing - was 19 September, now postponed; new date will be communicated to parents as soon as possible
- Information available on the website in the Year 7 2021 file includes:
  - St Columba's College Parent Handbook and Student Handbook
  - Parent Access Module (PAM)
  - Private Music, Speech and Dance lessons, registration and payment (TBA)
  - Uniform Price List
  - The House system
  - An introduction to the Parent Engagement Committee
- Students will receive a pack on Orientation Day that will contain their booklist and information about our Second-hand Books and Uniform Sale held in December
- Please advise if you are not receiving IONA and notify Reception of any change of details

## **PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Parents are warmly invited to join the Parent Engagement Committee. There are meetings and events hosted throughout the year. Contact Nicole Purcell – details on the website.