



ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

EST 1988

2022 PROSPECTUS

Respect

"We are but travellers here"

St. Mary MacKillop



Welcome to St Mary MacKillop College

That you are reading this prospectus suggests you are a step closer to making the decision to enrol your child at St Mary MacKillop College. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about our school and the community within.

St Mary MacKillop College is a Year 7 to 12, coeducational Catholic Secondary School in the tradition of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – Australia's first Saint. At St Mary MacKillop College we are committed to developing the potential of all members of our school community. We strive to provide an education that encompasses the spiritual, academic, artistic and sporting dimensions of school life.

In this prospectus you will get a taste of what school life is like at St Mary MacKillop College including:

- College Overview
- Our Vision and Mission
- Curriculum
- Opportunities
- Pathways
- Wellbeing and Pastoral Care
- Our House System
- Uniform Policy
- Enrolment Policy



Need more information?

If you have any questions about St Mary MacKillop College or would like detailed information on our enrolment process, please phone 03 5032 9771 or visit our website smmc.vic.edu.au.

If you have not yet visited our school, please take the time to do so. You will be impressed with our grounds, outstanding facilities and people.

COLLEGE OVERVIEW

‘There, where you are, you will find God.’

These words of Mary MacKillop in 1871 and the teaching of Julian Tenison Woods ‘for us to have faith in God’s presence in every circumstance’, sums up what spirituality is for the Sisters of St Joseph. It is this spirituality that we seek to incorporate into all that we do at St Mary MacKillop College, as the core values of the school are centred on knowing and living the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. The Sisters of St Joseph have played a key role in the development of the College, and the College maintains a strong commitment to the charism of Australia’s first saint, Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the Josephite Order. This connection is further enhanced in our membership of the Association of Josephite Secondary Schools in Australia and New Zealand.

The Order of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart was co-founded by Fr Julian Tenison Woods and Mary MacKillop in 1866. Mary and Julian had a deep sense of call to respond to the needs of the isolated children in outback Australia who were not receiving any education and in 1866 the first Josephite school was opened in Penola following the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph Congregation.

Catholic Education commenced in Swan Hill in 1923 when the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart opened St Mary’s Primary School. St Mary MacKillop College sprang from the Catholic Primary School, St Mary’s, in the 1980s and in 1988, the first Year 12 students completed their studies at the school.

The College has kept a stable enrolment over the past few years with an enrolment of around 430 students. It is situated centrally in Swan Hill, a large town on the south bank of the Murray River. The school makes use of the town services and facilities, and the College itself is well resourced with a strategic plan that includes:

- The opening of a Hospitality Trades Skills Centre (2016)
- Refurbishment of the Maths classrooms (2017)
- Refurbishment of the Learning Resource Centre (Library) to include IT and Learning Support (2017)
- Year 12 Study Centre, Pathways and Teaching and Learning Offices (2019)

Vision

As partners in Catholic education and open to God's presence, we pursue fullness of life for all.

Mission

At St Mary MacKillop College we are people who affirm the dignity of every person, who act with respect and compassion, who reverence relationships, who have hearts for generosity and forgiveness.

- We celebrate our Catholic identity.
- We respect the unique dignity, faith and gifts of each person.
- We value learning, aspiration and connectedness and we work together to create a positive future.

Our Values

We are people who recognise and value the dignity of every person.

We believe in -

- the capacity of all members of our community to make meaningful contribution to the life of our school
- having the opportunity to express, celebrate and live out our faith
- Teaching and Learning that is creative, engaging, purposeful and dynamic
- striving to push the boundaries of our capabilities in order to learn and grow
- a learning environment that allows each member of the community to flourish.

We are people who strive to act with respect and compassion.

We believe in -

- building positive and respectful relationships with all members of our community
- living lives that reflect loving care and service and compassionate hearts
- demonstrating empathy and love of neighbour
- responding to others in our local and global family
- respecting, sharing and caring for the resources of the earth as part of the community of creation.

We are people who give reverence to the relationships formed in our community.

We believe in -

- an attitude of openness, understanding and welcome to others
- a spirit of hospitality and inclusion
- building relationships based in equality, trust and integrity
- listening, speaking and communicating in a way that is respectful and reflects sensitivity to others
- working with others in a spirit of inclusion and authentic collaboration.

We are people who act with generosity and forgiveness.

We believe in -

- promoting resilience and perseverance
- Teaching and Learning for the whole person
- opportunities to live out the Gospel imperative of loving our neighbour
- working to resolve conflict in a restorative way
- active participation in our community
- reaching out to support others.

CURRICULUM

At St Mary MacKillop College we have high expectations of our students so we equip them with the knowledge, skills and dispositions for lifelong learning.

We pursue excellence through a teaching and learning environment that is inclusive, engaging and encourages growth.

We value collaboration, innovation and building strong relationships.

St Mary MacKillop College builds on the foundations established in primary education and adds depth through the core curriculum offered at Year 7 and 8. During these years students are part of a learning environment which introduces them to a range of experiences. This enables students to identify their interests and strengths.

From Years 9 to 12, students are involved in designing their own learning program through the subject selection process. In adopting a curriculum that is both flexible and inclusive, we can best meet the individual needs of each student in our College and prepare them for their future pathways.

Our goals are to help our students confidently develop their skills and abilities in an educational environment where they feel valued. Whilst maintaining a strong framework in the key areas of learning, we provide our students and parents with increasing choice and control over their learning.

It is the aim of the College to help each individual student develop his or her full academic and personal potential. That is why we have such a broad curriculum that celebrates the Arts, technology, sport, cultural undertakings, the spiritual and the academic.

It is our vision that we guide our students through a range of experiences that inspire them to develop to their full potential.

We encourage our students to become independent thinkers and learners. For some students there are aspects of learning they find challenging. At St Mary MacKillop College we have a Learning Support team which works with classroom teachers in supporting these students with their learning needs. We also offer intervention programs that allow students with areas of need to develop their skills

The College strives to constantly review, refine and expand the curriculum to meet the changing demands of society, technology, environment and national curriculum guidelines.



Mr Nathan Lane
Deputy Principal
Teaching and Learning

JUNIOR YEARS

In Years 7 and 8 students at St Mary MacKillop College have the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge across many subject areas.

Electives are designed to deepen understanding and to assist in identifying their strengths and challenges. They expose students to a range of subjects so that they can make informed decisions in the following years and future pathways.

Core Subjects at Year 7 & 8:

English
Humanities
Mathematics
Physical Education
Religious Education
Science
Wellbeing
Languages: Students choose to study either Italian or Japanese in Years 7 and 8.

Elective Subjects at Year 7 & 8:

Year 7 and 8 students study the following elective subjects, two each term.

Art and Design
Digital Technology
Drama
Food Studies
Health
Music
Textiles
Woodwork

This curriculum is derived from the Victorian Curriculum and reflects the priorities and approaches to learning and teaching in Victoria.



MIDDLE YEARS

In Years 9 and 10, students are consolidating their practices and skills in their core subjects, whilst making informed choices about electives they may choose to study. Elective choices provide a broad-based exposure to the options available and assist in the preparation for the more specialised and advanced subject content of studies at VCE level. VET subjects are offered to Year 10 students who wish to pursue areas of special interest.

Core Subjects at Year 9 & 10:

Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Science
Pathways
Year 9 Good Health
Year 9 History
Year 9 Physical Education

Elective subjects for Year 9 & 10 students include:

All Fun and Games
Anatomy of Sport
Art Express
Creative Writing & Film Studies
Dance
Digital Technology
Drama
Economics
Environmental Science
Food for Entertaining
Funky Fabrics
Geography
Graphics Mix
Healthy Choices
History
Languages: Italian
Languages: Japanese
Leap into Literature
Metal Magic
Money, Markets & Citizenship
Music
Peer Support
Physical Education
Psychology
Science Investigations
Studio Art
Textiles
Visual Communication & Design
Wood Technology



SENIOR YEARS

Our Year 11 and 12 students have a choice of pathway to suit their various learning styles and future aspirations. Our senior curriculum incorporates a large range of academic subjects, as well as opportunities for our older students to undertake vocational courses on-site or at nearby training facilities.

Subjects offered to our Year 11 and 12 students include:

Accounting
Agricultural Studies
Biology
Business Management
Chemistry
English
Environmental Science

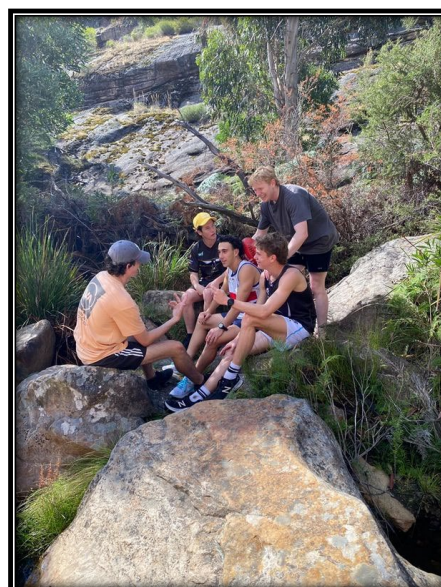
Food Studies
Geography
Health
History
Legal Studies
Literature
Languages: Italian
Languages: Japanese
Mathematics
Music Performance
Psychology
Physics
Physical Education
Religion and Society
Studio Art
Software Development
Textiles
Theatre Studies
Wood Technology
Visual Communication and Design

VCAL:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Personal Development Skills
- Work Skills

VET:

- Agriculture
- Automotive
- Beauty (Nail Technology)
- Building and Construction
- Community Services
- Electrotechnology
- Engineering
- Equine Studies
- Hospitality
- Salon Assistant
- Sport and Recreation



OPPORTUNITIES

St Mary MacKillop College strives to provide our students with a well-rounded education, encouraging a love of learning that will allow them to continue to grow and develop throughout their lives. We provide a range of academic, cultural and sporting opportunities, balanced by a focus on spirituality and education in the Catholic faith.

At St Mary MacKillop College we are committed to supporting each student to maximise their learning goals. Dedicated staff members encourage the students to become creative and confident future learners through a focus on academic rigour while nurturing a strong sense of social justice.

In expressing our Catholic identity, the College provides opportunities for students to participate in Masses, Liturgies and Reflection Days.

Charity fundraising events are supported each year, with students encouraged to engage with the global community.

Student leaders are developed through our Student Forum and participation in many activities including student led committees and extended pastoral care sessions.

The College fields teams in whole school carnivals, as well as Regional Sporting competitions. Teams and individuals that perform at a high standard may also progress onto the State or National levels.

St Mary MacKillop College has a tradition of producing a musical production each year, with the 2021 cast and crew of about 40 students putting on the huge performance of "A Little Shop of Horrors".

The wide range of recreational, artistic and cultural activities offered by our College encourages students to express individual creative talents and be active members of their College and local community.

These include:

- Academic Committee
- Activities Committee
- ANZAC Day Commemorative March
- Arts Committee
- College Formals
- Mathematics, English and Science Competitions
- Environmental Committee
- Excursions
- Faith and Mission Committee
- Harmony Day
- Library Committee
- Musical Productions
- NAIDOC Day
- Peer Support Program
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Public Speaking
- Social Justice Committee
- Student Forum
- Wellbeing Committee
- Year Level Camps and Retreat Days



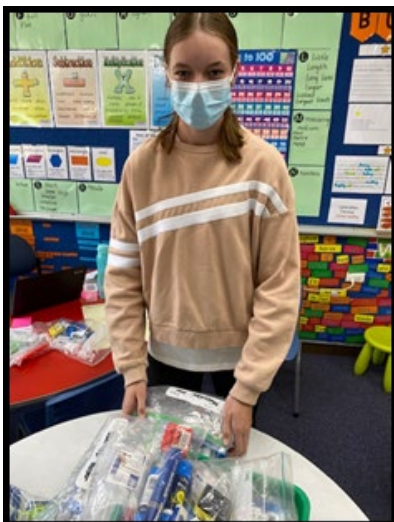
PATHWAYS

St Mary MacKillop College runs a comprehensive careers program to assist students with their career pathways.

All students are welcome to access Pathways support, which may include assistance in the areas of: resume writing support, job applications, subject counselling, pathway direction, work experience support, further education options and home study support. Our Careers team aims to provide all students with information and opportunities to help them make informed choices.

In Years 9 and 10 students have class time dedicated to Pathways each fortnight. Senior students attend Pathways sessions twice per term. Pathways education provides young people with the tools they need to make informed career decisions and transitions from secondary school and throughout their lives. Students are prepared for a variety of pathways, including further training through tertiary education, employment, apprenticeships and traineeships.

An important feature of the Pathways program is the involvement of students in work experience. Each Year 10 student is supported to attend a week long work experience session. Senior students completing VET or VCAL are also able to complete work placement as part of their program. These years are crucial for young people to achieve their potential through education, as research indicates that for young people to be deeply engaged in their learning, they need to see relevance and purpose in their education.



Mrs Sally Looney
Pathways Coordinator

WELLBEING & PASTORAL CARE

At St Mary MacKillop College we believe that strong student wellbeing allows for the best possible learning to take place and we are committed to ensuring that every student in our community can thrive. Our success is enhanced through positive partnerships between staff, students, parents and our community.

We acknowledge that talents, gifts, abilities and personalities are unique to every individual and encourage students to strive for 'personal excellence'.

Of particular importance is that your child will be able to form respectful relationships that will establish the foundation of their life's challenges and achievements.



The Student Wellbeing Team leads the many and varied wellbeing programs that take place within the school.

In 2022, all staff at St Mary MacKillop College began their ReLATE journey, a program that will be implemented over three years.

The ReLATE Program

- Empowers schools to create safe, supportive and predictable environments for enhanced teaching, learning and wellbeing.
- Strengthens staff understanding of how adverse childhood experiences and complex trauma can impact behaviours, attitude and learning.
- Enhances whole school culture and teacher attitudes, including teacher perspectives and responses to student behaviour and disengagement.

Within ReLATE, wellbeing is understood as an essential pre-condition for quality teaching and learning. Safe, predictable and supportive learning environments are created and maintained in classrooms where students and staff are not just known, but deeply understood.

Other Wellbeing programs include:

Accreditation as an E-Smart school

Retreats and Reflection Days

Vertical Homerooms

Grade 6 and Year 7 Transition Program

ManCave – Boys Wellbeing program

Flourish Girl - Girls Wellbeing program

Seasons for Growth Grief education program

The BRAVE program for children and teenagers

Pastoral Care Class Sessions

Student leadership training

Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships

Year 7 and 8 Wellbeing classes

Year 9 and 10 Pathways classes

Student Support Sessions for Year 11 and 12 students

Wellbeing Student Committee



Mrs Mandy McCallum
Director of Wellbeing

OUR HOUSE SYSTEM

At St Mary MacKillop College, every student and staff member belongs to one of our four Houses: Solomon, Tension, Woods, or Xavier. The House system underpins the Pastoral Care Program and is central to a student's sense of belonging at the school.

On enrolment, each student is assigned to a vertical Homeroom in their House, consisting of students from Years 7 – 12. This allows younger and older students to build relationships together, where the former can gain advice, information and support from the latter, who can, in turn, develop their leadership and mentoring skills as they act as role models for the younger students.

Students will remain in this Homeroom, ideally with the same Homeroom teacher, for the length of their journey at the school. Their Homeroom teacher is the first point of contact for families to discuss student progress, difficulties, illness, achievements or a variety of other matters.

The House system works to strengthen the College's Josephite heritage, enhance the connection of students across and within year groups and encourage greater student and staff engagement in school events and activities.

Teacher Advisor Program

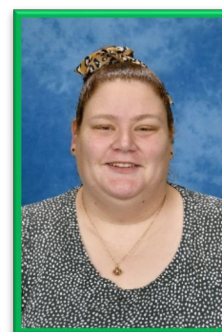
The Teacher Advisor program is part of the support Homeroom teachers provide students. Each term every student meets individually with their Teacher Advisor to discuss and monitor their academic and pastoral progress. This regular contact builds trust and ensures that families and teachers know each student's strengths and needs.

Mackillop Cup Points

House members work together every month to earn points for their House, and at the end of the year, the winning House is awarded the Mackillop Cup trophy at our Presentation Night. Points can be earned in the areas of: academics, arts, sport, community service, and living out the school values. The House System encourages teamwork, friendship, service, and leadership as students work for the good of their House.



Mr Chris Joyce
Solomon House Leader



Ms Jessica Curtis
Tension House Leader



Mr Joel Murphy
Woods House Leader



Ms Courtney Bell & Mr Jeremy Wood
Xavier House Leaders

UNIFORM POLICY

At St Mary MacKillop College students are expected to maintain a high standard of dress and grooming which:

- Supports a positive atmosphere where study and learning flourish
- Promotes school unity and pride
- Promotes individual pride and helps prepare students for employment
- Takes away the need to keep up with the latest fashion trends
- Presents a positive image of our College to the broader community

We ask that all parents embrace our College uniform and the role it plays in your child's day to day life at St Mary MacKillop College.

College uniform is compulsory. In 2023, St Mary MacKillop College will be introducing a new uniform policy. Currently a Uniform Committee, comprising of staff, parents and students, are considering the current uniform and are considering items that will allow our uniform to be trans-seasonal and gender inclusive. The new uniform policy will include a suite of uniform items that students may choose to wear as the seasons change, to allow for personal comfort.

All families with students enrolled at St Mary MacKillop College for 2023 will receive detailed information about our new uniform in Term 4, 2022.

Elements of our Uniform Policy that will see limited change are:

Personal Presentation

- Hair must be one natural colour only. Extremes in hair colour and styles are not acceptable. Students with extremes of hair colour and/or style will be sent home to remedy the situation.
- No dreadlocks or coloured beads in the hair are permitted.
- Excessively short hair is not permitted – a cut below a number two is unacceptable.
- Hair must be clean, brushed and kept off the face.
- If hair is longer than the bottom of the collar, regardless of gender, all hair must be completely tied back with a ribbon or an elastic band in school colour/s (black, navy or maroon). If a headband is worn it should be black or navy.
- Minimal make-up is permitted.
- Coloured nail polish shall not be worn while in school uniform. Acrylic, false nails or shellac are also not permitted.
- Students shall be clean shaven upon arriving at school.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted.

Permitted Accessories

- One watch and/or one fine metal bracelet.
- A maximum of one plain stud or sleeper per ear lobe. Additional piercing or 'taping over' is not permitted (including additional plastic studs). Spacers are not permitted at school.
- One fine neck chain with a religious pendant.
- No bags may be carried to lessons or around the school, with the exception of classes in the Technology Centre, Lesson 4. Sports bags for Physical Education lessons are permitted, however these must be stored in the Jubilee Centre once the student has changed.

Eyebrow, nose, lip or other visible jewellery is not acceptable and students will be asked to remove these items while wearing school uniform. Any form of tongue piercing jewellery is not acceptable and students and their parents will be instructed to have it removed immediately (during school time if necessary).

ENROLMENT POLICY

The St Mary MacKillop College enrolment policy has been developed to assist the Principal in the assessment of potential future students' suitability for enrolment at the College. St Mary MacKillop College caters for all who are committed to living out the values and the charism of St Mary MacKillop of the Cross.

Background

All Catholic primary and secondary schools are central to the mission and work of the Diocese of Ballarat and to the life-quality of students and their families. Inspired and governed by the message and person of Jesus Christ, and committed to the physical, intellectual, social and spiritual development of each person, they provide education of the highest quality to their communities. In line with the self-understanding of the Church, they are welcoming to all who share their educational philosophy. Through their distinctive educational style, Catholic schools make an irreplaceable contribution to the intellectual, ethical and spiritual well-being of their own community and of Australian society (Awakenings, 1998).

Each Catholic school in the Ballarat Diocese "participates in the evangelising mission of the Church and is the privileged environment in which Christian education is carried out. In this way Catholic schools are at once places of evangelisation, of complete formation, of enculturation, of apprenticeship in the lively dialogue between young people of different religions and social backgrounds. The ecclesial nature of the Catholic school, therefore, is written in the very heart of its identity as a teaching institution" (The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium, 1997, n.19)

Guiding Principles

St Mary MacKillop College embraces the mission of the Church by welcoming the enrolment of all students and families who share their vision and educational philosophy. Catholic schools, established, maintained and governed by the Ballarat Diocese, or in partnership with Religious Institutes and/or ministerial public juridic persons, strive to be authentically Catholic and faithful to the mission of the Catholic Church.

A Catholic school is open to all who are willing to commit to support the philosophy, values and aims of Catholic schooling. While there is an invitation to all, the practicalities of being able to accommodate enrolments beyond current physical facilities may be limited by available resources.

- A Catholic school has a particular responsibility to provide access to children baptised in the Catholic faith.
- Catholic schools have a responsibility for being inclusive and therefore welcome, accept and support those most in need.
- Catholic schools seek actively to engage families and carers as partners in their child's education process and the life of the school in an atmosphere of co-responsibility and co-accountability.

All enrolments at St Mary MacKillop College will be at the discretion of the Principal, who will be informed by, but not restricted to the following guidelines.

St Mary MacKillop College aims to make available places to any student who seeks enrolment and is prepared to commit to respecting the Catholic nature of the school and its educational goals.

ENROLMENT POLICY

The College welcomes all applications. When the number of applications exceeds the number of places that can be made available, preference in enrolment will normally be given to students in the following order:

- Siblings of children already enrolled in the College
- Baptised Catholic children who are resident in the parish.
- Baptised Catholic children who do not reside in the parish but are recognised as parishioners by the Parish Priest
- Baptised children of Catholic families from parishes that do not have a Catholic school.
- Baptised children of Catholic families from other parishes (for pastoral reasons).
- Children not baptised from families in the parish with one parent a baptised Catholic
- Students of other Christian denominations who have attended a Catholic school (Primary or Secondary)
- Children from another Christian tradition where adult baptism is active in that tradition
- Children baptised in another Christian tradition who reside in the parish
- Children baptised in another Christian tradition who reside outside the parish
- Children from a faith background other than Christian or other pastoral considerations.
- Children of current staff members
- Children of past pupils of the College
- Other children who, in conjunction with their parents, display a willingness to support the philosophy and ethos of the College.

Enrolments will not be considered if the enrolment form is incomplete.

Criteria for Enrolment

Enrolment is ongoing provided the College expectations continue to be met.

No child shall be excluded solely on the grounds of race, religion, intellectual or physical disability or the financial situation of the parents.

Students applying to VCE study after a prolonged break will be considered on an individual basis. These students will in most cases be recommended to continue their studies at TAFE or a setting with an adult enrolment.

Class Sizes

All enrolments are subject to class sizes.

At Year 7 and 8, the total number of enrolled should be (or almost be) a multiple of the class size e.g. 24, 48, 72, 96, 120.

Outcome

It is believed that through this Policy, each applicant will be assured a fair and just process.

The full Enrolment Policy is available on our website, <https://smmc.vic.edu.au>

2022 FEES AND CHARGES

Composite School Fee

Year 7	\$ 4,195.00	Year 10	\$ 4,130.00
Year 8	\$ 4,245.00	Year 11	\$ 4,200.00
Year 9	\$ 4,340.00	Year 12	\$ 3,945.00

The Composite School Fee includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Resource and reference material, certificates, awards and presentations.
- Administrative fees.
- Retreats, Camps and Reflection Days.
- Transport for camps/retreats.
- Local school excursions, swimming program, subject competitions.
- Year 7 to 10 elective subjects (excluding VET subjects).
- Student ID cards.
- Year 7 to 12 MacBook Laptop.

Family Discounts:

Discounts are offered to those families who have more than one student attending St Mary MacKillop College.

2 children	\$564.00
3 children	\$1,692.00
4 children	\$4,512.00

Additional costs:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| • Kerang Bus | Annual fee per student |
| • VET programs | Annual fee per student (per VET subject) |
| • VCE subject fees | Additional cost associated with studying particular VCE subjects |
| • Year 11 Ski Trip | Fee per student, to be paid prior to the camp |
| • VCAL Camp | Fee per student, to be paid prior to the camp |
| • Distance Education | Fee per student, per subject, to be paid prior to the start of the semester |

Note: Other excursion charges may apply throughout the school year as opportunities arise.

Payment Options

Fee payments may be made by Cash (in person at the front reception), Cheque, EFTPOS, Credit Card or Direct Debit.

For families who opt to **pay per term**, payment is due in March, June and September.

For those who opt for a **one off yearly payment**, payment is due on 31st May 2022.

Arrangements can be made to pay fees by instalments on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

The College offers support to families experiencing financial hardship or where special/difficult circumstances exist. Parents/guardians are invited to contact the Assistant Business Manager or the Principal, and make an appointment to discuss the options to assist with the financial requirements of the School Fees.



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Mrs Michelle Haeusler
Principal