



Senior School
Handbook

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Welcome to the MC family. We are so glad you have joined our school and are looking forward to supporting your learning journey of adventure and possibilities.

Welcome

Welcome to Macquarie College Senior School. We are privileged here to have a community of high-quality, nurturing and future-focused teaching and learning professionals who are committed to providing each of our young people with age-appropriate skills and dispositions to equip them for the workplaces of tomorrow.

I commend the Macquarie College program to you, a community of faith and learning that's committed to supporting young people to not only thrive today, but also equipping them to embrace the emerging opportunities which will be presented in the global workplaces and communities of the future.

Rohan Deanshaw
Principal



Rohan Deanshaw
Principal



Tonia Bentley
Deputy Principal



David Chapman
Assistant Principal
Innovation & Partnerships
K-12



Aaron Hodges
Assistant Principal
Student Wellbeing
K-12



Vanessa Baywood
Assistant Principal
Teaching & Learning
K-12



Aaron Williams
Assistant Principal
Strategic Organisation
K-12



Macquarie College

Senior School Handbook

Campus map



Learning schedule

Period	Start	Finish	Minutes
1	8:20am	9:10am	50
2	9:10am	10:00am	50
3	10:00am	10:50am	50
Lunch	10:50am	11:40am	50
Homeroom	11:40am	12:00pm	20
4	12:00pm	12:50pm	50
5	12:50pm	1:40pm	50
Recess	1:40pm	2:00pm	20
6	2:00pm	2:50pm	50



House & vertical homerooms

Vertical homerooms began at Macquarie College in 2022. The vertical homerooms are intentionally small groupings of approximately 15 -18 students. These homeroom groups are grouped vertically, so that a diverse range of age groups across Yrs 7-12 are represented, allowing for intentional peer mentoring of students both academically and relationally, as well the development of a coaching-based leadership structure within the student body.

Our vertical homegroups are based on our three house groups; Charlton, Dobell and Shortland. There are approximately 180 students in each house, with around 11 homeroom groups in each house. As the school continues to grow, and in order to keep house groups at a size that is beneficial to a relational approach, the growth of houses may occur.



Visit this QR Code to find out more about our vertical homeroom structure

Vertical homeroom leaders



Jonathan Roennfeldt
Dobell



Amber Ozols
Shortland



William Bennett
Charlton





Student voice & choice

Student voice and choice at Macquarie College is central to future-focused learning. We believe that learning improves when students are engaged, and that engagement is enhanced through voice and choice. In the Senior School this is reflected in programs such as the MC X Design course in Year 7 where students have substantial choices in their learning directions. This will be expanded in time into the Year 8 program as well. In Years 9 and 10, students choose from a variety of electives, many of which are locally designed for MC students specifically. It is also possible for students to design a subject of their own choosing as one of their electives. Year 11 and 12 students have a considerable range of subjects to choose from in order to ensure their engagement in their learning.

Student Council

At Macquarie College, a significant amount of time and effort is invested into the student leadership program. Subsequently, there are many noteworthy aspects of the program that may be of interest to young leaders joining the College. The Student Council is the keystone of the student leadership program. The council provides a voice for the student body and a mechanism by which the student leaders can engender change. Student voice is not only a mechanism for change in the wider school community, it is also a mechanism for personal development. The Student Council presents students with the opportunity to build confidence and to prepare themselves for roles in society. Many of the events that are executed around the school are organised by the leaders in the Student Council. These events range from sporting and multicultural days to fundraisers. Any student who aspires to join the Student Council can be assured that they will develop a healthy set of leadership skills.

Mahmoud Khamis - Yr 10 Student & Student Council Leader 2021

Wellbeing

Chaplaincy

Macquarie College has built an environment that nurtures the growth of every student, supporting academic excellence, social wellbeing and spiritual awareness.

This is the cornerstone of Senior School and is encouraged by our Chaplaincy department. Each Thursday, Senior School students meet for a Chapel service in the campus church. This program runs for approximately 45 minutes and may include an icebreaker, prayer, presentation of work, musical items, drama and a message.

Guest speakers also feature and share reflections on Bible stories. Week of Worship (WOW) is a special week occurring in the first and third terms of the year. With a session timetabled for each day, it features interesting guest speakers and includes songs, activities and a themed approach to encouraging faith.



Counselling

Our College counsellors service all school years, and play a pivotal role in helping students who may be experiencing challenges in their school or home environments. They can provide short-term counselling or therapy, advocacy and support, referrals to specialists, group work, professional development for teachers, as well as information and support for parents and caregivers. Our College counsellors help students deal with difficult issues such as loss and grief, family conflict, child protection, bullying, transition through key phases and mental health.

Referrals can be made via the Student Services Office, or to a College counsellor directly.



Invictus Wellbeing Program

The Invictus Wellbeing Program is a mental fitness and resiliency course that has been recognised internationally, with our homegrown program currently being rolled out over 25 schools in Australia and New Zealand. The program focuses on teaching young people resilience by engaging with their own psychology, the environment and each other. It aims to teach students how to recognise and cope with their emotions, find their purpose, build empathy and maintain resilient relationships.



QR Code
For more info
on Invictus



MC Learn

MC Learn is part of the expansive Wellbeing Department at Macquarie College. We understand that all students have been created as unique individuals and, for some, the learning journey may be more challenging.

Our MC Learn team collaborates with parents, students and teachers to develop individualised plans to support our young people in their learning journey.

Support is available for students with physical, social, emotional or intellectual challenges, and is based on an inclusive model which allows for these students to remain a part of day-to-day classroom activities.



Important information

Car parking

Please note the following car park rules on the College grounds:

- Carpark 1 is for staff only.
- Carparks 2 and 4 are for parents.
- Carpark 3 is church and student (Year 11) parking.
- Carpark 5 is for students (Year 12) only.



Driver drop-off & pick-up

Some points to remember when travelling by car on the College grounds:

- Speed limit is 10km/h.
- If parking to drop off your child, please use designated carpark at all times.
- Please only park in the disabled bays if you have a permit to do so.
- Observe the crossing/stop signs.
- SS parents may also use the ring road to drop off students on the western side of the oval.

Bus services

The College campus is well serviced by direct bus travel from across the region including:

- The City (Newcastle, Hamilton)
- The West (Wallsend, Jesmond, Rankin Park)
- The South (Belmont, Charlestown)
- The Lake (Wangi Wangi, Toronto, Eleebana, Valentine, Warners Bay, Speers Point)
- The Lower Hunter (Cessnock, Kurri Kurri, Maitland, Hexham)

Bus services are provided by Newcastle Transport, Hunter Valley Buses and Rover Coaches.



QR Code
For more info on
our bus services



Canteen

An extensive vegetarian menu is offered daily by our Canteen and regular specials are advertised through the College newsletter and social media outlets.

Our Canteen uses MunchMonitor, an easy way for parents and students to order from our Canteen and Uniform Shop. In order to use MunchMonitor, parents must first set up an account. For more information on how to do this, please visit our College website by scanning the QR Code.

To speak with the Canteen directly, please call 4944 6222 (ext 113).

QR Code
For more info on
our Canteen



Uniform

The Macquarie College Uniform Store is located under the Library, next to the Canteen. The Uniform Store stocks the full range of the Macquarie College uniform, including both new and secondhand uniforms. You are able to order any uniform item through our MunchMonitor account (see Canteen). Good quality second hand items are also available to purchase directly from the Uniform Store.



QR Code
For more info on our Uniform
Policy and to see our Uniform
Guide

Lockers

Each student in Senior School will be given the use of a locker. The locker is to be kept locked at all times. Students finding damage to their locker should report the matter to Student Services immediately. Students damaging lockers will be required to meet the cost of replacement or repair and may lose the privilege of having a locker. Damage to school property, e.g. textbooks due to locker misuse, will be charged to students. The College will not assume responsibility for students' personal equipment that may be damaged or lost as a result of a locker not being locked properly.

Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)

BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) allows for teachers to teach appropriate online behaviours in the context of the regular teaching and learning activities. Our aim is to normalise the ICT integration into teaching, learning and life in an appropriate way, removing the aspect of the online world being an escape from parents and teachers. BYOT opens the doors to creative aspects of teaching and learning only possible through digital means.

The BYOT program is compulsory for all Senior School Students. Students will be expected to each bring a device, with appropriate software, that will connect to the College Wi-Fi network. Headphones should also be brought from home.

Personal ownership brings many advantages, and reduces the cost of duplication (a device for home and another for school) is avoided. The BYOT device remains the property of the student/parent, with insurance also remaining a responsibility of the parent. Software becomes a personal choice (the cloud is a free solution for everyone).



QR Code
For more info on our
BYOT Guidelines





Subject list

Year 7

English, Music, Science, MC X, Geography, Bible, Maths, PDHPE, Technology (Engineered Systems, Agriculture and Food Technologies, Materials Technologies, Digital Technologies), Invictus, French

Year 8

English, Music, Science, Invictus, Bible, Maths, PDHPE, Technology, History, Visual Arts

Year 9

Subjects

English, Music, Science, Invictus, History, Maths, PDHPE, Technology, Bible, Visual Arts

Electives

STEM, Entrepreneurs and Innovation, Food and Catering, Design and Tech, Graphics, Industrial Technology, Passion Project (student designs their own class), PASS, Sustainable Futures, Photography, French, Visual Arts

Year 10

Subjects

English, Mathematics Standard, Mathematics Extension, History, Geography, PDHPE, Bible

Electives

Design Tech, Investigating Science, Industrial Tech, Chapel, Food Tech, Visual Arts, Drama, STEM, PASS, Studies of Religion, Passion Project (student designs their own class), Economics, Modern History, Ancient History, Biology, Physics Engineering Studies, Economic Opportunity and Global Citizens, Music

Year 11

English Standard, English Advanced, English Extension I, Mathematics Standard, Mathematics, Mathematics Extension, Chemistry, Physics, Studies of Religion, Business Studies, Legal Studies, Modern History, Ancient History, Chapel, PDHPE, Biology, Geography, Visual Arts, Engineering Studies, Design and Technology, Economics, Music, Drama

Year 12

English Standard, English Advanced, English Extension I, English Extension II, Mathematics Standard, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension I, Business Studies, PDHPE, Geography, Studies of Religion, Chemistry, Physics, Visual Arts, Design and Technology, Chapel, Music, Modern History, History Extension, Legal Studies, Economics, Biology



Camps & outdoor education

The Macquarie College Camps and Outdoor Education Program focuses on developing our students' communication, decision making, problem solving, mental toughness, team building, leadership and self confidence.

Each Senior School year level will have the opportunity to attend a camp each year, and each camp is designed to positively enhance a student's education through the promotion of relational and social development, experiential learning opportunities, the facing of one's fears through challenge by choice activities, the enrichment of community within their cohort, as well as an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of Christian values and teaching.

While camps for 2023 are still being finalised, some examples of camps in previous years include:

- Year 7 - Yarrahappini
- Year 8 - Dubbo
- Year 9 - Kosciusko National Park
- Year 10 - Lake Glenbawn
- Year 11 - Jindabyne
- Year 12 - Nepal

Through increased wellbeing and life skills, the Macquarie College Camps & Outdoor Education Program seeks to equip students for adult life in an increasingly complex world.



Rights & responsibilities of students

Rights

- I have the right to be safe.
- I have the right to expect my property to be safe.
- I have the right to obtain maximum benefit from all lessons and classes. Other students should not deprive me of this by their behaviour.
- I have the right to not have my health jeopardised in any way.
- I have the right to have pleasant, clean and well-maintained grounds.
- I have the right to be provided with a College in which I am not in any physical danger. When defects occur, they will be fixed.
- I have the right to expect the local community to support, respect and have pride in the College.
- I have the right to be helped to learn self-control.
- I have the right to expect that all my rights will be mine so long as I attend to my full responsibilities.

Responsibilities

- I have the responsibility to make the College safe by not threatening, hitting or causing harm to anyone.
- I have the responsibility not to steal, damage or destroy the property of others, and to take good care of my own property.
- I have the responsibility to cooperate with teachers and other students to make sure that lessons proceed and that I keep up-to-date with required work. I will not behave so as to interfere with other students' rights to learn. I also have the responsibility to be punctual, to attend school regularly and to take part in activities that will be of benefit to me. I have the responsibility to bring required books and equipment for each lesson.
- I have the responsibility not to jeopardise the health of others by smoking, vaping, taking alcohol or drugs; and I have the responsibility not to encourage others in this way.
- I have the responsibility to care for the College environment - to keep it neat and clean and to be prepared to remove litter.
- I have the responsibility of telling teachers about defective buildings and facilities.
- I have the responsibility to behave so that the community will respect and have pride in the College.
- I have the responsibility to wear my College uniform in a way that brings honour to the College.
- I have the responsibility to learn self-control.
- I have the responsibility to protect my rights and the rights of others by carrying out my responsibilities at all times.





SEQTA

SEQTA Engage is a student management system which provides a communication pathway for parents and school. Through the SEQTA Engage portal you will have access to the College calendars, class information and your child's school reports. Access is via a username and password. If you haven't yet received an email from the College to set up your account, or you are having trouble with access, please contact the College Administration Office.



QR Code

For a video tutorial on
how to use SEQTA





Future-focused

Macquarie College is an aspirational, future-focused learning community, where the pursuit of excellence is nurtured in an inclusive, Christ-centered environment.



Believing in futures
since 1901.

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