



Senior School
Handbook

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Welcome to the MC family. We are glad that you are a part of our school community and are looking forward to supporting your individual learning journey.

Welcome

Welcome to Macquarie College Senior School. We are fortunate to have a community of dedicated educators who prioritise high-quality, nurturing and future-focused teaching. Our mission is to empower each student with age-appropriate skills and perspectives essential for the workplaces of tomorrow.

At Macquarie College, we offer a supportive environment that blends faith and learning. Our commitment extends beyond academic excellence to preparing young individuals to not only excel today but also to confidently embrace the evolving opportunities in global workplaces and communities of the future.

Gary Marsters
Principal



Gary Marsters
Principal



Jonathan Roennfeldt
Director
MCX Wellbeing SS



Jenna Smit
Director
MCX Academics SS



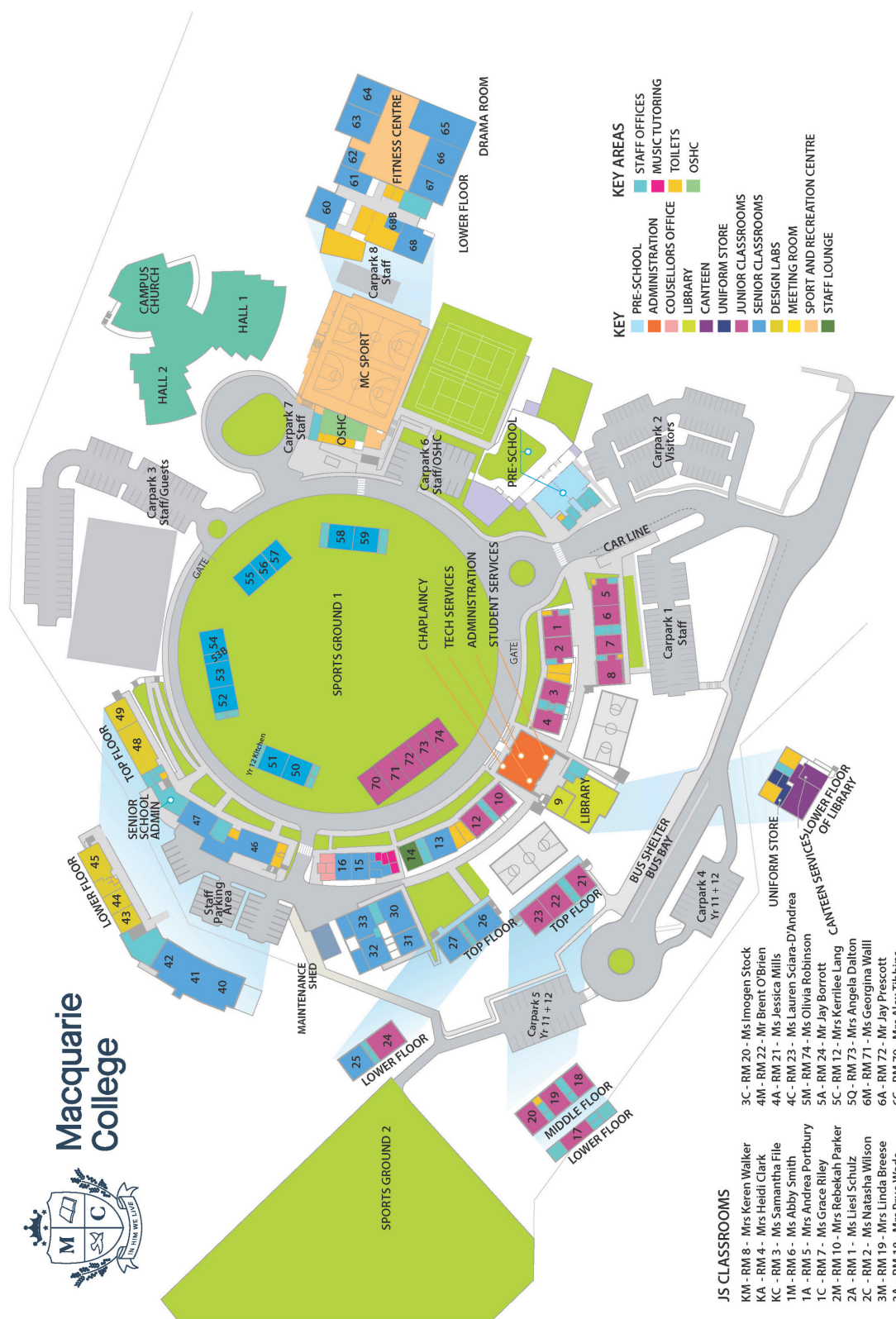
Louise Whitaker
Director
MCX Design K-12



Aaron Williams
Assistant Principal
Community K-12



Campus map



Learning schedule

Period	Start
Homeroom	8:20am
1	8:40am
2	9:30am
Recess	10:20am
3	10:40am
4	11:30pm
Lunch	12:20pm
5	1:10pm
6	2:00pm
Finish	2:50pm



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

House leaders



William Bennett
Charlton



Jonathan Roennfeldt
Dobell

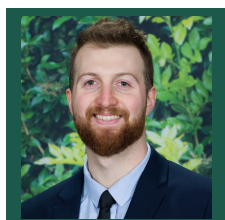


Amber Ozols
Shortland

Assistant house leaders



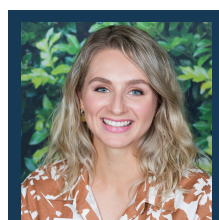
Amy Tyler
Charlton



Finn Wood
Charlton



Douglas Hunt
Dobell



Olivia Lis
Dobell



Harrison Deanshaw
Shortland



Olivia Bush
Shortland





MCX Learning Program

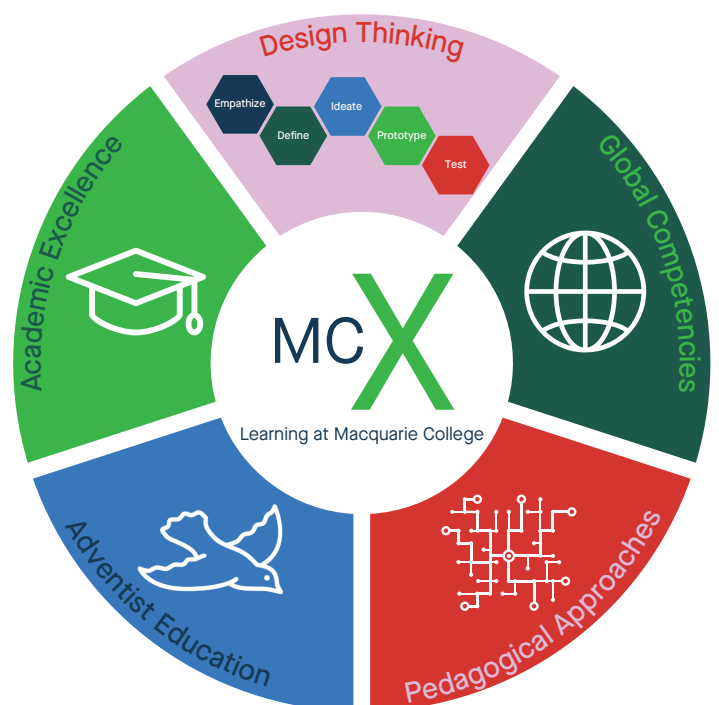
MCX is a whole school future-focused learning program, equipping young people with the skills and dispositions to succeed in the communities and workplaces of the future.

MCX describes our K-12 learning program at Macquarie College. MC is an abbreviation for Macquarie College and the X represents the multiplicity of teaching approaches that exist when designing learning pathways for our K-12 young people. It is a comprehensive approach to learning which is designed by courageous and adaptive MC educators.

Iterations of the MCX program include, but are not limited to: explicit/direct instruction, collaborative project work, individual learner research and exploration, play-based learning, design lab exploration and prototyping and the infusion of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

At MC we do not believe that current credentialing (academic excellence) and the global competencies (teaching the skills to design solutions to real-world challenges) are in competition. It is not one or the other, instead, it can, in fact, be both.

MC aspires to co-evolve a new exemplar of future-focused schooling which mobilises K-12 learners by building their adaptive capacity to navigate complex challenges and opportunities – both present and yet to be imagined.



The MCX Program is built upon 5 pillars:

Pillar 1: Adventist Education

Educators who authentically reflect the character of Christ and infuse the values and ethos of Adventist Education throughout all elements of their practice.

Pillar 2: Academic Excellence

Academic excellence in the context of current credentialing which is designed by courageous and adaptive educators who are themselves lifelong learners and inspire their students through best-practice application of the AITSL Standards and NESA syllabi.

Pillar 3: Design Thinking

Design thinking inspired by the Stanford University d.school methodology.

Pillar 4: Global Competencies

Making the Global Competencies tangible and attainable through learning which is relevant to real life and equips young people

Pillar 5: Pedagogical Approaches

Understanding that the X in MCX represents the multiplicity of teaching and learning approaches that exist when designing pedagogical pathways that equip young people to solve complex, real-world challenges.

Student voice & choice

Student voice and choice at Macquarie College is also 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 where students have substantial choices in their learning directions. 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.



CAPA

Creative & Performing Arts

Macquarie College prides itself on its outstanding Creative and Performing Arts program, providing opportunities for students in the areas of music, drama and visual arts.

Music

Music in our senior school is offered at all levels, from mandatory courses in Years 7 and 8, through to extension level in Year 12. Students study a variety of music and develop abilities in performance, musicology, aural and composition. These abilities include familiarisation with music software for composition, performance and recording, and performance skills such as standing on stage and running lights and sound from backstage.

Drama

As a faculty, we continually adapt and change with technology, and students utilise film and production forms such as lighting and sound to enhance or differentiate their work. The students present their projects at performance nights, chapel programs, CAPA nights and major productions throughout the year.

Visual Arts

During visual art lessons, students are given a range of media to experiment with in order to choose their area of expertise to extend to major artworks. They also explore art history and visit a variety of locations to view art in the real world and discuss the importance of visual arts as a stand-alone art form. Students will have the opportunity to display their works both inside and outside of the school, as well as delve into the digital community through the CAPA Instagram page.



Get involved

Stage Band

Stage band is an extension ensemble in the school featuring more advanced players. They explore repertoire in jazz and funk styles and students are expected to learn this far more quickly. While predominantly an instrumental ensemble, there is also an opportunity for vocalists to feature within this group.

Vocal Ensemble

Vocal ensemble is open to all students from Years 7 to 12. Repertoire for this ensemble is mostly based around popular music, in a variety of genres. Part singing is taught to students, but the focus is on allowing students to sing in a group. An advanced group will be selected for students who wish to sing in a more challenging ensemble.

Chapel Band

Our Chapel band is a great opportunity for senior students to be involved in sharing pieces of music during our weekly Chapel programmes. Songs can range from Praise & Worship to mainstream, focusing on a positive, uplifting message. Students don't need to be in any music classes to perform.



Sport

We offer our Senior School students an outstanding school sports program, where they have many opportunities to participate in a wide range of sporting endeavours.

Macquarie College is a member of the Hunter Region Independent Schools sport association (HRIS), the Association of Independent Coeducational Schools (AICES), and the Combined Independent Schools sport association (CIS). Our College athletes regularly attain excellent results in regional sport carnivals against other much larger schools in the Hunter region. We deliver an integrated approach to sport, where all sport classes are conducted by trained physical education specialists. Our PDHPE program focuses not only on traditional development of sporting processes and skills, but facilitates student learning in elite athlete performance, the psychology of sport and managing personal choices relating to a healthy lifestyle. Students who excel in their sport of choice are also given the opportunity to explore avenues for representative selection to Regional, State and National levels.

Opportunities available

Students have the opportunity to compete in athletics, basketball, cross country, golf, mountain biking, netball, rugby, tennis, touch football, triathlon, soccer and softball. They also participate in three interhouse sports carnivals throughout the year including swimming, cross country and athletics. Representing Charlton, Dobell and Shortland houses, students enjoy these interhouse rivalries in a collegial and spirited manner. Our MC Sport and Recreation Centre features international standard flooring, competition infrastructure, additional learning spaces and mixed-use fitness zones. The centre serves as an additional resource for teams' training and competing across a variety of sports, while also accommodating regular PDHPE classes. They are encouraged to participate in a variety of programs in order to experience active and healthy lifestyles

After school sports

Several outside sporting bodies hire our sports facilities after school and many of these are available to Macquarie College families for an additional fee. Some of the sports offered in the last several years have included futsal, basketball, football and tennis.



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 Friday, 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.



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.



Child safe program

Our Child Safe Program is based on the NSW government child safe standards. When you open the 'About Us' section of our college website you will find the public facing documents which make up our Child Safe Program. The public facing documents include a Child Safe Policy, the Codes of Conduct for adults and for young people. Along with these there is a process of reporting any incidents/concerns that may arise. The other public facing documents assist in the management process of investigating the evidence and resolving the issues associated with the incidents or concerns.

Our Child Safe Program provides us all with a transparent process to keep our children/young people safe. It is the responsibility of the whole school/college community to know about these public facing documents so we can assist in keeping our children and young people safe.



Important information

Car parking

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

- Carpark 1 is for staff only.
- Carpark 2 is for parents.
- Carpark 3 is church and staff parking.
- Carparks 4 & 5 are for Yr 12 students only.
- Carpark 6 is for staff parking.



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 pick-up and 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



MC Eats (canteen)

MC Eats is our College canteen, serving all students and staff on site at Macquarie College.

MC Eats offers fresh, delicious and nutritious meals that fuel both body and mind. We take pride in our innovative approach to crafting primarily plant-based meal options that are full of flavour and packed with wholesome goodness that our young people love!



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).

Uniform

The Macquarie College Uniform Store is located under the Library, next to the Canteen. The Uniform Store is operated independently by Noone and stocks the full range of the Macquarie College uniform. You are able to order any uniform item through the online portal via the Noone website.



QR Code
For more info on our
Uniform Policy



QR Code
Noone website

Lockers

Each student in Senior School will be given the use of a locker. Each student must provide their own lock. 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)

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.

The 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).

For help purchasing a device, please scan the QR code and follow links to the MC Order Portal where you will be given an opportunity to purchase devices that meet our College requirements at competitive rates. Please note, this is a optional service, you may prefer to purchase a device independently.



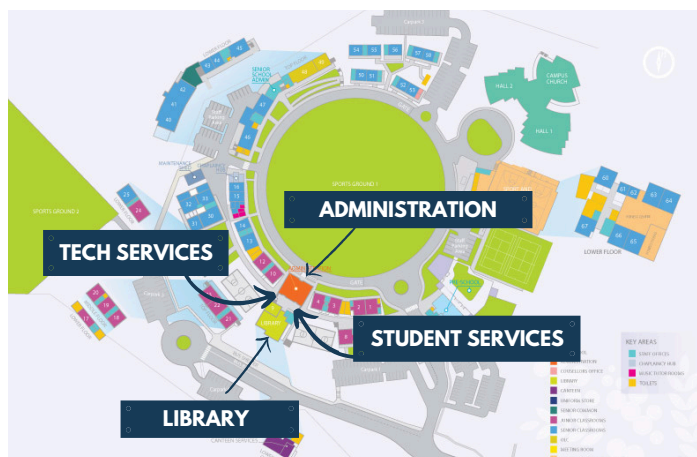
QR Code
For more info on our
BYOT Guidelines



Student Services

The College Student Services office is located at the back of the Administration Building, opposite the Library under the breezeway. It is open to students from 8am to 3pm, Monday to Friday. Students may come to Student Services for a number of reasons including:

- Sickness or injury
- Late arrival to College
- Early departure from the College
- Lost property



Tech Services

The College Tech Services is located at the back of the Administration Building, opposite the Library under the breezeway. It is open to students from 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. Students may come to Tech Services for any device support or access issues. A limited amount of loan devices are available.

Please note, most of the applications students will need to access can be found on the MC Portal via the College website:
<https://www.macquariecollege.nsw.edu.au/mc-portal/>

Communication Pathways

As a College, we value working collaboratively alongside our parent and carer community and, as such, aim to offer a simple communication pathway.

Your young person's homeroom teacher is the first port of call for wellbeing matters, and subject teachers for academic or class specific matters. If additional support or clarification is required after liaising with the homeroom teacher, our House Leaders are the next appropriate point of contact. Our House Leaders are able to provide guidance or triaging to the appropriate staff member within the College community to support you through your enquiry.

The contact details for these leaders in the Senior School are:

Charlton - Mr William Bennett william.bennett@mc.nsw.edu.au

Dobell - Mr Jonathan Roennfeldt jonathan.roennfeldt@mc.nsw.edu.au

Shortland - Mrs Amber Ozols amber.ozols@mc.nsw.edu.au

SS Forms and Important Info Online

We have a number of important forms that will need to be signed and returned to the College prior to commencement.

On our website, there is a dedicated page with all of the forms that will need to be completed, along with some other documents which you might find useful including term dates, a stationery list, SEQTA guide and fee schedules to name a few.



QR Code
For SS Forms
& other info



Subject list

Year 7

English, Music, Science, D lab, Geography, Biblical Studies, Maths, PDHPE, Mandatory Technology, Spanish

Year 8

English, Music, Science, Biblical Studies, Maths, PDHPE, Mandatory Technology, History

Year 9

Subjects

English, Music, Science, History, Maths, PDHPE, Technology, Bible, Geography

Electives

Line 1: Visual Art, Drama, Design & Technology, Commerce, PASS, Food Technology, STEM

Line 2: Computing Technology, Visual Art, Industrial Technology, Psychology, Food Technology, Music, PASS

Year 10

Subjects

English, Mathematics, History, Geography, PDHPE, Biblical Studies, Science

Electives

Line 1: Visual Art, Design & Technology, Commerce, PASS, STEM, Passion Project

Line 2: PASS, Industrial Technology, Food Technology, Music, Psychology, Investigating Science (must be achieving A in Yr 9 Science).

Year 11

Line 1: English Advanced, English Standard, English Studies

Line 2: Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension, Cert 3 Fitness

Line 3: Biology, Design and Technology, PDHPE, Legal Studies, Music

Line 4: Ancient History, Community and Families Studies, Chemistry, Earth & Environmental Science

Line 5: Business Studies, Food Technology, Geography, Physics

Line 6: Visual Art, Biology, Design & Technology, Modern History, Investigating Science

Line 7: Studies of Religion 1

Extension: Mathematics Extension 1, English Extension 1

VET/Offline: Early Childhood Education & Care, Cert 3 Fitness, various externally delivered courses

Year 12

Line 1: English Advanced, English Standard, English Studies

Line 2: Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Standard

Line 3: Ancient History, Biology, Design & Technology, Modern History, Food Technology

Line 4: Music, Earth & Environmental Science, Engineering Studies, PDHPE

Line 5: Chemistry, Geography, Design and Technology, Legal Studies

Line 6: Visual Art, Biology, Business, Physics

Extension: Mathematics Extension 1, English Extension 1

VET/Offline: Externally delivered courses available, Investigating Science, Drama



Teaching team

Student Life (Religion, CAPA, PDHPE)

Correct as at February 2025.



Christina Naidoo
MCX Academics
(Student Life)



William Bennett



Olivia Bush



Douglas Hunt



Tennille Lowrey



Mark Neal



Amy Howard



Krista Richards



Jonathan Roennfeldt



Lesa Scully
K-12 Director (CAPA)



Bryce Watters



Jack Whitling



Katrina Winch



Jim Zenith

STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics)



Elise Babic



Vicki Budden



Fiona Butler



Michelle Cottier



Brad Cox



Harrison Deanshaw



Ben Duncan



Luke Franklin



Tania Gillanders



Tessa Greive
Design Lab Coordinator



Kye Horton



Graeme Howard



Marg Ladru



Olivia Lis



Matthew Lohan
Coordinator (Sport)



Grant da Silva Lindner
Leader (MCX Academics)

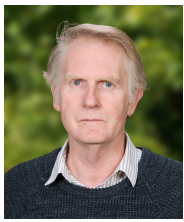


Tracy Martin



Debbie McCord
K-12 Leader
(MCX Design)





Allan O'Hern



Caroline Phillips
K-12 Leader (MCX Design)



Samuel Spence



Jakobi Stegh



Bryce Watters



Finn Wood

Humanities (History, English, HSIE, Languages)



Nate Miller
MCX Academics
(Humanities)



Ian Ball



Olivia Bush



Gareth Chandler
Leader (MCX Academics)



Lisa Corbett



Zane Hick



Susanna Je



Amber Ozols



Krista Richards



Jenna Smit
K-12 Leader
(MCX Design)



Brooke Stockley



Amy Tyler



Ria Van Der Merwe



Aaron Williams



Stacey Lynch

MC Learn



Leigh Zenith
K-12 Leader
(MCX Academics)



Elyse Reay
MC Learn Teacher



Noah Cook
Learning Assistant



Chloe Parkinson
Learning Assistant



Georgia Winegardner
Learning Assistant



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.

Our 2024 camps were:

- Year 7 - Southern Highlands
- Year 8 - Blue Mountains (held locally due to flooding)
- Year 9 - Namadgi National Park
- Year 10 - Sydney
- Year 11 - Jindabyne & Sydney
- Year 12 - Nepal

Our 2025 camps will be announced early in 2025.

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 which will be emailed to you in the weeks before school begins. If you haven't yet received an email from the College to set up your account prior to school commencing, 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-centred environment.



Believing in futures
since 1901.

Macquarie

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Macquarie College