



**WILLIAM CLARKE
COLLEGE**
CHRIST OUR WISDOM

WILLIAM CLARKE COLLEGE

SECONDARY CURRICULUM



COMPASSION
COURAGE
HOPE
INTEGRITY
HUMILITY

WILLIAM CLARKE COLLEGE'S VIRTUES



OUR SECONDARY CURRICULUM APPROACH

“We achieve this through a future-focussed curriculum that empowers students with a strong sense of agency. This means students are equipped to become owners and directors of their own learning, gaining the essential knowledge, skills and attributes for success beyond success at school. We call this Deep Learning.”

A SECONDARY CURRICULUM DESIGNED FOR DEEP LEARNING

The world is changing at an accelerating rate. The skills and knowledge that students once required to succeed in a relatively predictable working environment have changed. As a Christ-centred community we want our students to thrive in these turbulent, complex and unpredictable times. As such, we seek to develop extraordinary learners with a passion to serve others.

We achieve this through a future-focussed curriculum that empowers students with a strong sense of agency. This means students are equipped to become owners and directors of their own learning, gaining the essential knowledge, skills and attributes for success beyond success at school. We call this Deep Learning.

Extraordinary learners engage in deep learning through meaningful and authentic, real-world learning experiences that develop Christ-like Character, Academic Mastery and Enterprise Skills.

Christ-like Character: commitment to a life of virtue that allows one to bring hope to others by showing compassion, courage, hope, integrity and humility.

Academic Mastery: proficiency in literacy, numeracy and a rich understanding of the big ideas that matter.

Enterprise Skills: key competencies that describe the skills and attributes deemed necessary for learners to flourish as citizens of the modern world – the 5 Cs of collaboration, critical thinking, communication, creativity and citizenship.

We believe our approach to learning in the Secondary years provides students with more freedom to explore their interests and take ownership of their learning journey.

This booklet outlines our approach to teaching and learning in the Secondary years. We are passionate about enabling our students to develop a sense of agency so that they are responsible for their learning and ultimately, best positioned to experience success at the College and beyond their school days.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College if you have any further questions. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards,



Mr Mitchell Clarke
Head of Secondary School



Mr Ben Carr
Director of Teaching and Learning (7-12)



Mr David Hall
Head of Curriculum





PURSuing PASSIONS AND INTERESTS IN THE SECONDARY YEARS

Secondary School begins to prepare students for success beyond the accomplishments they have experienced during their time at the College.

We believe that God has created us in His image with the capacity to reflect His goodness, wisdom and creativity into the world. In the Secondary years, we seek to activate our students as positive change agents. We do this by giving each student a voice in their learning, and enabling them to make meaningful choices about their learning options and how to apply their learning into the real world.

Students are empowered to take control of their future by pursuing and developing their unique strengths, passions and interests. We approach this through three stages:

Foundation

In Year 7 and 8, students learn the foundational knowledge and skills for deep learning in and across the core disciplines of Drama, English, French, Mathematics, Science, Christian Studies, History, Geography, PDHPE, Music, Technology and Visual Arts.

Students begin their involvement with the College's Darug Culture and Language Program. This program has been developed in partnership with members of the Darug community. Students engage in learning that progresses their knowledge of the culture, history and language of the Darug people, developing their respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and histories.

Year 7 and 8 students will also be offered the following:

MySpace for Year 7 – space in the timetable for students to progress their own learning in a personalised way.

MyDesign for Year 8 – a course to help students understand their unique strengths, interests and motivations.

Exploration

In Year 9 and 10, students continue to build proficiency in the core disciplines and explore their passions and interests through an extensive range of elective options from pathways aligned to knowledge, personal interest and future careers. These include Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Art and Design, Business and Entrepreneurship, Practical Skills, Performing Arts, Sport and Health, Literature and Communication, and Faith and Life.

Acceleration

In Year 11 and 12, students elect to study courses for the Higher School Certificate to accelerate their learning into life beyond the College.

During the Acceleration stage, students also participate in the College's Christian Studies program, focused on personal reflection and faith formation through weekly lessons following grade-based Chapel.

LEARNING STRUCTURES

In Years 7–10, courses such as Mathematics and English are studied throughout the year, enabling the ongoing mastery of literacy and numeracy skills. Courses such as Science, History, Visual Arts and Technology are studied more intensely for half the year. This means students will have fewer classes at one time which decreases daily organisational demands and helps build stronger relationships through more frequent contact with their teachers.

In the Secondary School, students attend three extended learning blocks rather than a traditional six period day. This provides students more time to dive deeply into rich concepts and engage in authentic, real-world problems. Central to our curriculum is the prioritisation of the development of enterprise skills and Christ-like character, two critical areas to position our graduates for success beyond school.

In English and Mathematics, students will have one extended learning block and six shorter learning blocks each fortnight. This enables more frequent contact with the teacher, opportunity for short bursts of instruction and time for independent practice between lessons.

YEAR 7 AND 8 SUBJECTS

FOUNDATION STAGE

In Year 7 and 8, students build their Foundation for deep learning, strengthening their skills and knowledge in and across the core disciplines of Christian Studies, English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, PDHPE, Music, Technology and Visual Arts.

Year 7

- Christian Studies
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography
- PDHPE
- Technology
- Music
- Drama
- MySpace

Year 8

- Christian Studies
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- PDHPE
- Technology
- Visual Arts
- French
- MyDesign





YEAR 9 AND 10 SUBJECTS

EXPLORATION STAGE

In Year 9 and 10, students continue to build proficiency in the core disciplines and explore their passions and interests through an extensive range of elective options.

MANDATORY SUBJECTS

- Christian Studies
- English
- Geography/History
- Mathematics
- PDHPE
- Science

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS ON OFFER

Art and Design

- 2D Media
- Animation Effects and Motion Graphics
- Aperture to Zoom
- Ceramic Forms
- The Design Studio
- The Fashion Designer
- Filmmaking
- The Human Form
- Sculpture

Business and Entrepreneurship

- Shark Tank
- Show Me the Money

Literature and Communication

- So You Want to Be a Writer?

Our Society

- Crimes and Conspiracies
- Criminology
- The Global Citizen
- Oceanography
- Philosophy

Performing Arts

- The Art of Performance
- Dance Works
- Drama
- Film Storytelling and Acting
- Musical Theatre
- Staging a Production

Practical

- Cosmetology
- Food Safari
- From Passion to Product
- MasterChef
- Metal Masters
- Timber Masters
- Vehicles and Automotive

Sport and Health

- The Coaching Blueprint
- Moneyball
- The Outdoor Challenge
- The Performance Edge

STEM

- Aeronautics and Space Exploration
- Engineering Solutions
- Good Game
- Medical Mavericks
- Practical Chemistry
- Psychology
- Robotics and Mechatronics

Please Note: Subjects are as at February 2024.

YEAR 11

SUBJECTS

ACCELERATION STAGE

In Year 11, students elect to study courses for the Higher School Certificate to accelerate their learning into life beyond the College.

MANDATORY SUBJECTS

- Christian Studies
- English Advanced, English Standard or English Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS ON OFFER

- Ancient History
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Community and Family Studies
- Dance
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Economics
- Engineering Studies
- English Extension 1
- Enterprise Computing
- Food Technology
- Geography
- History Extension
- Industrial Technology – Multimedia
- Industrial Technology – Timber
- Investigating Science

- Languages (external to College)
- Legal Studies
- Mathematics Advanced
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Mathematics Standard
- Modern History
- Music 1
- Music 2
- Music Extension
- PDHPE
- Physics
- School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (in consultation with the College)
- Society and Culture
- Software Engineering
- Studies of Religion I (1 unit)
- Studies of Religion II (2 unit)
- TVET Courses
- Visual Arts

Please Note: Subjects are as at February 2024.



YEAR 12

SUBJECTS

ACCELERATION STAGE

In Year 12, students elect to study courses for the Higher School Certificate to accelerate their learning into life beyond the College.

MANDATORY SUBJECTS

- Christian Studies
- English Advanced, English Standard or English Studies

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS ON OFFER

- Ancient History
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Community and Family Services
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Economics
- English Extension 1
- English Extension 2
- Engineering Studies
- Enterprise Computing
- Food Technology
- Geography
- History Extension
- Industrial Technology – Multimedia
- Industrial Technology – Timber
- Investigating Science

- Legal Studies
- Mathematics
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Mathematics Standard
- Modern History
- Music 1
- Music 2
- PDHPE
- Physics
- Science Extension
- Society and Culture
- Software Engineering
- Studies of Religion II (2 unit)
- Textiles and Design
- TVET Courses
- Visual Arts

Please Note: Subjects are as at February 2024.



SUPPORTING SECONDARY STUDENTS IN THEIR LEARNING JOURNEY

One of the ways we pursue student formation is through our Mentor Program. In addition to being key to providing exceptional pastoral care, it is here that we are able to speak into the lives of our students most effectively with regards to their academic and faith journey, and their character formation. As part of this program, each student is assigned a staff Mentor for Years 7-9 and again for Years 10-12. The Mentor will travel alongside each student throughout their time at the College and support each child to set goals and feel known, valued and included. Students will develop an enhanced sense of connection with others through their relationships in Mentor Groups and with their Mentor.

Importantly, the Mentors support students to develop a deeper understanding of themselves, both in their learning and wellbeing. Students learn about the various aspects in their lives that contribute to their wellbeing, and how to self-monitor and self-regulate so they gain increasing independence in their overall wellbeing. Ultimately, the Mentors will nurture student agency, giving students the opportunity to direct and take responsibility for their learning and wellbeing.

Students will benefit from:

- Regular check-ins with their Mentors throughout the year
- Meeting three times each week with their Mentor Group
- Attending Chapel, Assembly, Year Group Meetings, House, Conferences and Camp with their Mentor Group.

Ultimately, through varied programs and opportunities both in and outside the classroom, the Secondary School aims to equip students with the leadership skills, emotional maturity and resilience needed to thrive in today's world.









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T. (02) 8882 2100
E. info@wcc.nsw.edu.au
wcc.nsw.edu.au

1 Morris Grove
Kellyville
NSW 2155 Australia

PO BOX 6010
Baulkam Hills BC
NSW 2153 Australia

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