

# Entry into Year 7 in Government Schools

2014 Placement Process Booklet



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## Purpose of booklet

To advise parents and the general community of the procedures to be followed in the Grampians Regional Office of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) for the placement of students into Year 7 at the following Victorian Government schools:

- Ballarat High School
- Ballarat Secondary College (Wendouree Campus and East Campus)
- Beaufort Secondary College
- Daylesford Secondary College
- Mount Clear College
- Phoenix P-12 Community College (Sebastopol Campus)

Note that Yuille Park P-8 Community College caters for students seeking a transition into early secondary school, other than through a mainstream secondary college. The College caters for students from the whole of Ballarat.

## Objectives of placement

DEECD has adopted a neighbourhood school policy as the basis for planning initial placements of students into secondary colleges. A 'neighbourhood school' is determined by the student's residential address in Year 6, in relation to a school's defined neighbourhood area (see maps in this booklet showing defined areas). In carrying out this policy, the aims are:

1. To **guarantee** the right of each student to a place in the student's neighbourhood government secondary college.
2. To **provide** parents with an opportunity to send a Year 7 child to the same secondary college as an older brother or sister.

To make a "sibling claim" to a school, the prospective Year 7 student must have a brother or sister enrolled in that school on the second Wednesday in July this year, who will continue to be a student the following year.

3. To **contain** the Year 7 enrolments in each college within the limits of existing classrooms and other physical resources.

4. To **provide** parents not wishing to send their child to the neighbourhood secondary college with an opportunity to select an alternative secondary college as long as there is sufficient accommodation.

## Bus transport

Contract buses are provided for most students who live outside the Ballarat Transit Area and attend secondary colleges in Ballarat.

Students using these contract buses are eligible to be transported to any college in which they are placed.

Creswick, Miners Rest and Buninyong school buses are part of the Ballarat Transit Area bus network.

**Students outside the Ballarat Neighbourhood Area** (see maps in this booklet)

- Students can apply for places at secondary colleges on the understanding that there will be no provision given for free contract school bus travel or conveyance allowance reimbursement for travel between these places and Ballarat.
- If placed in Ballarat, these students may be able to access school bus travel as a fare-paying traveller, provided there is space available on the bus.
- Students accepted in the Year 7 SEAL Program at Mount Clear College may be eligible for a conveyance allowance.

## Application form information

- A Student Placement Application Form will be sent to parents in April via the primary school that their child is attending.
- The completed form must be returned to the principal of your child's primary school the child is attending this year in Year 6 for verification that the address given is correct as at **1 June**.
- Should your address change after submitting your application you must contact the Placement Coordinator. You will be asked to provide appropriate evidence of the new place of residence.
- The form advises the closing date for the return of completed applications to the primary school principal.

## Placement procedure

The procedures as set out below have been developed in consultation with an Advisory Placement Committee consisting of the Principals of the seven colleges taking Year 7 students.

1. DEECD's Regional Director, in consultation with the Placement Committee, will determine the appropriate level of Year 7 enrolments in each secondary college within the limits of existing resources.
2. Following confirmation of addresses, each child will be allocated to the college of first preference, where the college is the 'neighbourhood college'. The neighbourhood of each of the colleges is shown on maps in this information booklet.
3. Places will then be allocated to children for whom the college of first preference is a college in which an older brother or sister is enrolled. To make a sibling claim, the prospective Year 7 student, must have a brother or sister enrolled in that school on the **second Wednesday in July** this year and who will continue to be a student next year at that school.
4. Any remaining places within the level of Year 7 enrolments determined for each college will then be allocated to first preference applications, with regard to proximity to the college's neighbourhood boundary, until the enrolment limit has been reached.
5. Applicants not obtaining their college of first preference may be allocated their second preference or, if necessary their third preference, using the same procedure as above.
6. Appeals against Year 7 placement decisions should be directed in writing to the Regional Director no later than the **last Friday in August**.

**It should be noted** that only appeals based on extreme compassionate grounds will be considered. All government schools which take Year 7 students provide a broad comprehensive curriculum. Consequently, appeals based on curriculum grounds will not be considered.

**It should also be noted** that, although many of our primary schools have linking arrangements with a school offering placements to Year 7 students, attendance at any primary school does not guarantee enrolment at a particular school.

## Notification of placement

Notification of the College in which their child has been placed will be sent to parents on the **first Friday in August**. Each Secondary College will subsequently organise an information and orientation program for the new group of Year 7 students and their parents.

Any requests for clarification of this procedure or changes to the placement of a child, should be directed to:

Placement Officer

Ballarat High School

*Postal address:*

Sturt Street West, Ballarat, VIC 3350

Phone: 5334 1015

Fax: 5334 2623

Email: hayles.kylie.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

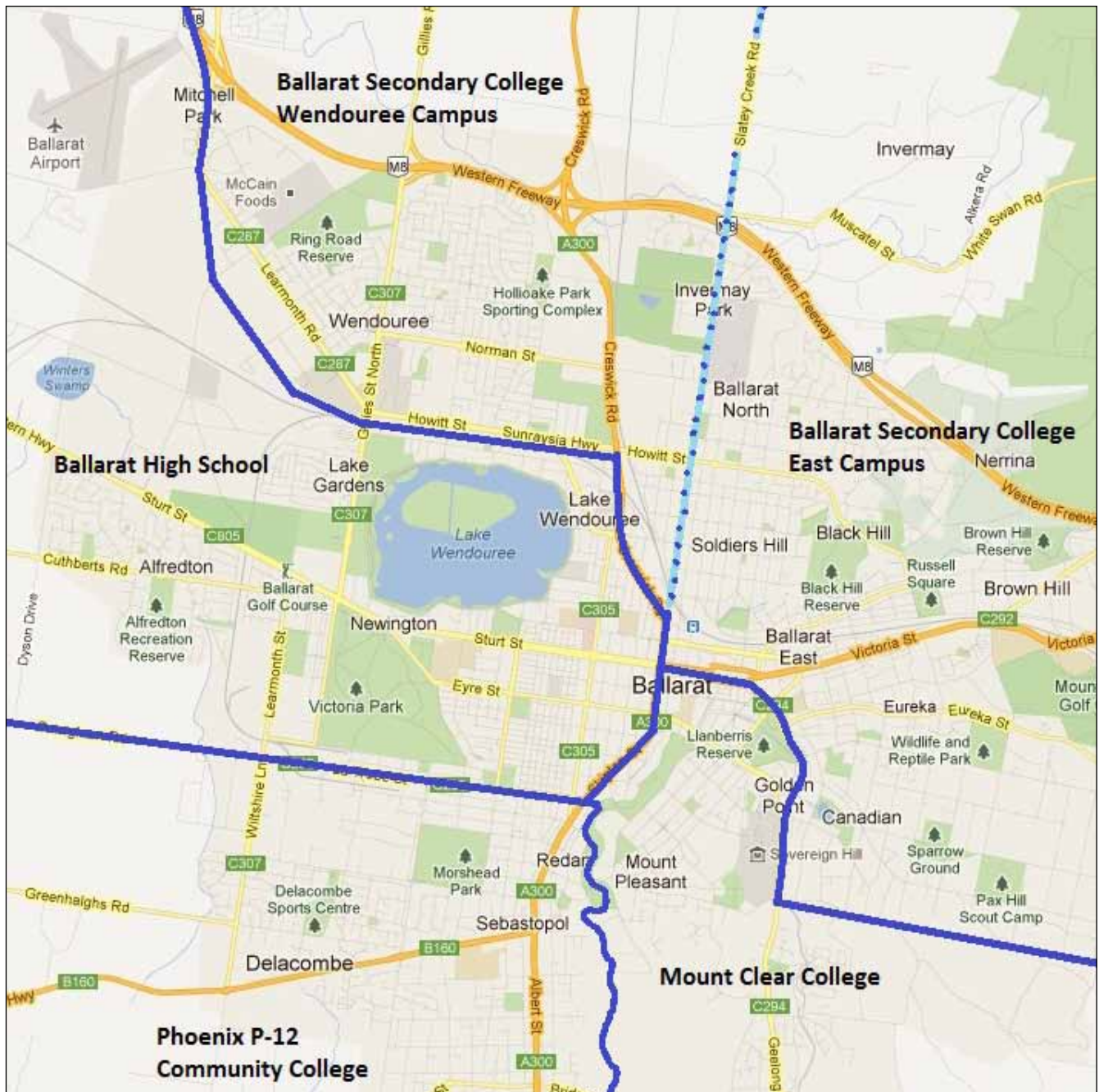
## Parent Information Nights

- These are held so parents can gain a better understanding of the curriculum and facilities available at their neighbourhood college, have an opportunity to ask questions to clarify any general issues of concern and to learn about the Department's neighbourhood policy.
- The Parent Information Night schedule for Year 7 student placement will be provided with the Student Placement Application Form.
- The Principal and staff representatives will be there to meet you on these evenings.

*Note that, in addition to these evenings, each secondary college holds a more detailed orientation activity later in the year.*

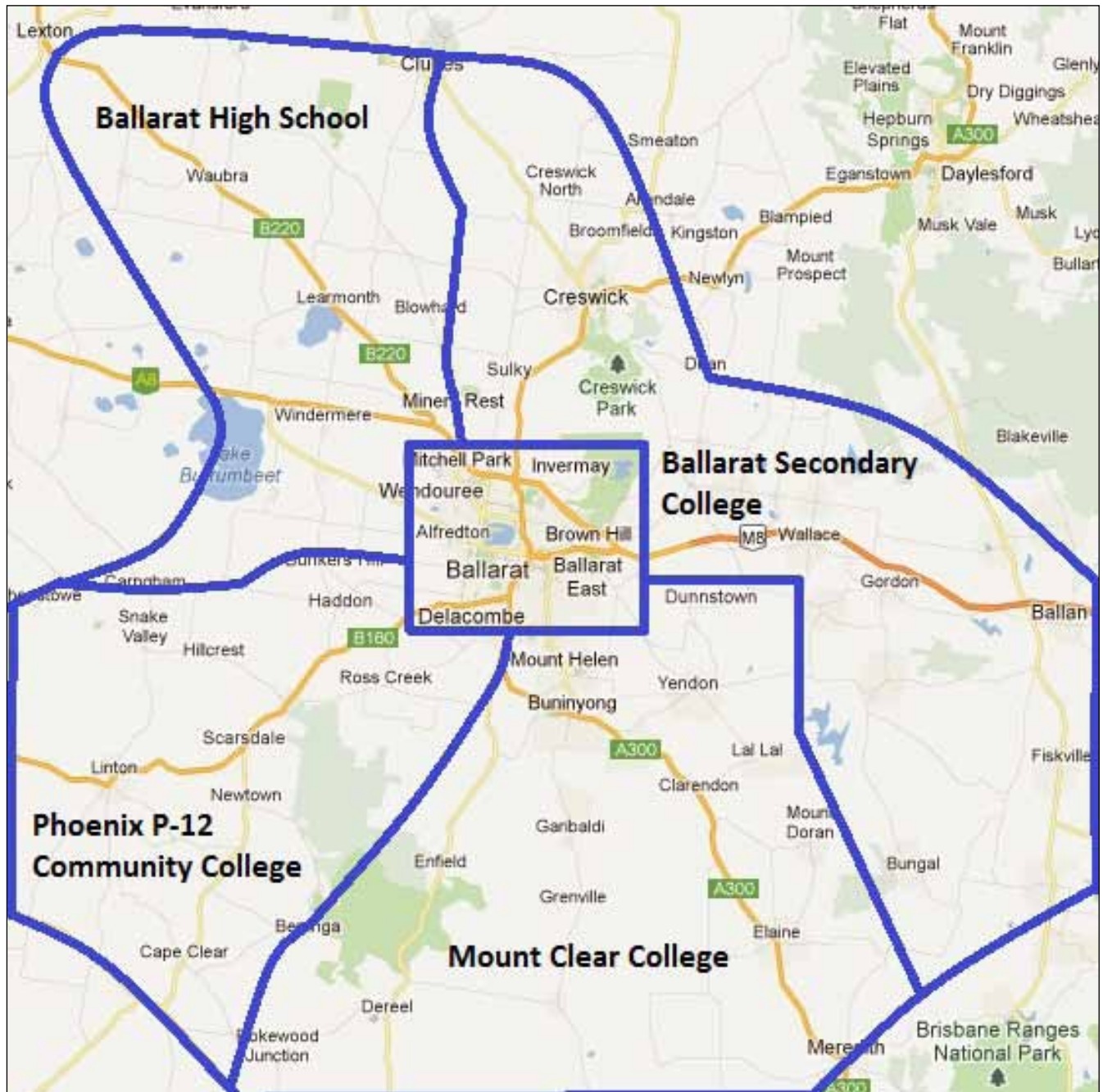


# School Neighbourhood Boundaries Ballarat



*This map was based on one downloaded from [maps.google.com.au](https://maps.google.com.au)*

# School Neighbourhood Boundaries District



*This map was based on one downloaded from [maps.google.com.au](https://maps.google.com.au)*





# Ballarat High School

pride, respect and responsibility

## Our school community

Ballarat High School has a shared learning framework which places the learner at the centre. As a community of learners we place significant emphasis on student connectedness and engagement. Our small team structures allow students and teachers to build positive and enduring relationships.

## Our values

Ballarat High School has a tradition of pursuing and recognising excellence under the motto of 'Duty Always'. Our ethos is supported by the core values of **Pride, Respect and Responsibility**.



## Year 7 curriculum

Our comprehensive curriculum provides students with ongoing exciting and challenging learning opportunities. Throughout their schooling students are provided many opportunities to participate in an extensive range of extra curricula activities such as debating, public speaking, sporting teams, bands, camps and excursions to further enhance their development.

## Sporting opportunities

Ballarat High School runs a Specialist Sports program, for which Year 6 students can apply. In addition, the school is a participating member of the Ballarat Associated Schools (independent) and this provides opportunities for students to participate in a wide range of after school and weekend sporting opportunities. The outstanding quality of the program

has led to high level recognition for the school and individual students through regional and state sporting awards.

## Musical opportunities

The school offers Instrumental Music both as a classroom and extra curricular activity, and there are Year 7, Year 8, Intermediate, Senior and two Stage Bands which provide many opportunities to play to an audience.

## Leadership opportunities

We offer a broad range of opportunities for students to further develop their leadership skills through both specific leadership programs but also through students role modelling our school values.

## Student wellbeing

The care of students to support high learning outcomes is our priority. Team Leaders and teachers take a personal interest in the progress of their students. The Student Services Faculty consists of the Student Welfare Coordinator, Youth Counsellor, Chaplain, First Aid Assistants, Managed Individual Pathways and Careers personnel. We also provide extra literacy and numeracy support where required.

## Parent involvement

Parents are encouraged to become actively involved in their child's learning. Parent Teacher Student conferences are held regularly and parents are encouraged to keep in regular contact with their child's key teachers. The School Council, Curriculum Committee, Chaplaincy, Boat Club and Music Support Group are all opportunities for parent participation and for parents to provide input into the school.

## Further information

Website: [www.ballaraths.vic.gov.au](http://www.ballaraths.vic.gov.au)

Phone: 5338 9000

School Principal: **Mr Gary Palmer**

Associate Principal: **Ms Jessica Sargeant**

Associate Principal: **Mr Rod Homburg**

Associate Principal: **Mrs Michele Kennedy**

Assistant Principal: **Ms Michele Riethoff**

Initial contact is best through: Community Development Leader: **Mr Grant Luscombe**

***Ballarat High School where Learning is Personal***





# Ballarat Secondary College

believe, respect, learn, achieve

A large, multi-campus secondary college, Ballarat Secondary College is unique in our city. It offers excellent programs at its East and Wendouree Middle Years Campuses (Years 7–10) and at the Barkly Senior Campus (Years 11–12). The Ballarat Deaf Facility is located within our Wendouree Campus.

## Purpose

Ballarat Secondary College enables all students to achieve to their highest possible level in an environment that:

- engages and challenges them in learning
- prepares them to choose appropriate pathways
- supports their wellbeing
- readies them to move into the adult world successfully.

## Believe, Respect, Learn, Achieve

In order to make these values live within the college, Ballarat Secondary College is committed to successful achievement for all students and comprehensive, engaging and personalised curriculum that prepares students for the future.

## Pathways Program – student wellbeing

The Pathways Program is curriculum based and involves all students from Year 7 to Year 12. It develops personal learning and interpersonal skills. Students, supported by their parents, set and manage their own learning goals and individual learning plans with one significant teacher who acts as a learning mentor within the Pathways Program.

## Years 7 & 8 curriculum

At both the Wendouree and East Campuses, students undertake a core program including Integrated Studies (English and Humanities), Mathematics, Science, LOTE Indonesian and Health and Physical Education. Other subjects include The Arts (Music and Drama, Art, Graphics) and Technology (Fabric, Food Technology, Metal, Wood and Mechanical).

## East Campus

This campus boasts a library, which was purpose-built for ICT (Information and Communication Technology) and provides an excellent, modern flexible learning environment for staff and students.

Extensive indoor sporting facilities are accessed by the Campus in the adjacent Ballarat East Recreation Centre catering for basketball, netball, volleyball as well as squash and racquetball. Outside, there is a full size hockey field and cricket/football ovals.

## Wendouree Campus

This campus incorporates excellent academic, technical and sporting facilities, including flexi-pave basketball, netball and tennis courts.

Students undertake the Advance Program, which is a nationally recognised student leadership program that works with Victoria Police and incorporates the Duke of Edinburgh and Scope Young Ambassadors awards.

## Literacy and numeracy

Every student enrolled in Years 7–9 at our college is assessed to determine their literacy and numeracy skill levels. The assessment results inform teachers' planning of curriculum and learning tasks to ensure the needs of each student are addressed.



## Barkly Campus

On completing Year 10 at one of our Middle Years Campuses, students move to the Barkly Senior Campus to undertake Years 11–12 in a well-equipped senior secondary environment offering VCE, VCAL and a broad range of VET programs.

## Extra curricular activities

These include a wide range of sporting opportunities, leadership through the Student Representative Council and Advance Program, music programs and programs which link into the community.

## Further information

Visit our website: [www.ballaratsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.ballaratsc.vic.edu.au) or contact the school on **5336 7200**.



# Beaufort Secondary College

Our Year 7–12 college, set on five hectares, provides approximately 170 students with all the advantages of learning in a rural environment, while being located close to the regional centre of Ballarat. Parent, student and staff surveys consistently show high level student connectedness, approachability and satisfaction with our school.

The college takes advantage of its smaller number of students by organising programs that ensure a high level of personal attention and a responsive curriculum characterised by flexibility and innovation. The college has a quiet and friendly but determined atmosphere where students strive to achieve their best.

## Curriculum

Our excellent and comprehensive curriculum covers all key learning areas with a balance of academic and vocational studies. Key features of our challenging and engaging programs:

- students required to take an active part in their learning by setting personal goals and engaging in self-assessment
- the full range of ability levels catered for, with an emphasis on individual achievement of excellence
- Information Communication Technology (ICT) used to support learning
- practical learning coupled with traditional classroom approaches
- extension studies provided for talented students.

In the senior levels, students are offered VCE, VCAL, VET and school-based apprenticeships.

## Local school and community links

Beaufort Secondary College has forged strong links with local primary schools and the community, including local farmers and businesses, with agriculture and environmental education being emphasised in science and also VCAL. Parent and community helpers are valued for their assistance with a range of school programs.

## Facilities and specialist programs

Smaller numbers mean that students have a high level of access to facilities and specialist programs. The college has state-of-the-art ICT facilities that provide all students with access to high speed online resources from around the globe, and an excellent gymnasium/ drama/student centre. Interschool sport, library facilities, drama, instrumental music and choir are available to all interested students.

The Beaufort Education Regeneration Project currently underway will, over the next few years, result in the rebuilding of the schools and kindergarten so that children from early childhood to Year 12 undertake a seamless curriculum and learn in contemporary facilities all on the one site.

## Student engagement and wellbeing

The college ensures that a safety net is provided for students with special needs. Effective transition of students from Grade 6 to Year 7 is seen as very important to student wellbeing. Students work within a safe learning environment supported by welfare programs that promote resilience.

The college's welfare coordinator and year level coordinators work proactively as part of a team which includes our chaplain and nurse.

Our students are proud of their school and through involvement in the Student Representative Council, School Council, and a range of other leadership programs, they have a valued role in decision-making.



## Further information

Prospective parents are most welcome and encouraged to call, or visit the school and observe the school at work.

Phone: **5349 2305**

Email: **[beaufort.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:beaufort.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)**

Website: **[www.beaufortsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.beaufortsc.vic.edu.au)**



# Daylesford Secondary College

respect, endeavour, cooperation, courtesy, honesty

## Introducing our college

Daylesford Secondary College first opened as the Daylesford School of Mines in 1890 before relocating to Smith Street in 1961. The college has pleasing VCE results both in academic terms and in terms of students achieving their aspirations for post school pathways. A high proportion of students gain entry to their desired university and TAFE courses, and others gain placements into their desired apprenticeship and training pathway options.

## Year 7 curriculum

Daylesford Secondary College is sufficiently small to allow for students to be treated as individuals, yet is able to provide a comprehensive curriculum to meet student needs.

During Years 7 and 8, students experience all areas of the curriculum to enable them to make informed choices in the following years: English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Italian, Physical Education, Health, Art, Visual Communication, Information Technology, Food and Technology, Woodwork, Systems, Plastics, Textiles, Drama, and Music. In addition,

- a literacy and a numeracy program is provided for students needing extra support in those areas
- individual or group music lessons can be provided and instruments hired
- regular parent-teacher interviews are conducted and parent contact is welcome at all times.

## Learning Communities

Our Junior, Middle and Senior Learning Communities enable greater contact with students and the development of curriculum and individual pathways and personalised education plans to meet student needs.

- Junior Learning Community: Years 7 and 8
- Middle Learning Community: Years 9 and 10
- Senior Learning Community: Years 11 and 12

## Student Wellbeing

Our Whole School Expected Behaviour Guidelines have been developed with staff, student and parent input. These Guidelines are firmly implemented and school uniform is compulsory. Learning Community Managers, our student welfare team and all staff work closely to support students during their time within our college.



## Extra curricular activities

There are opportunities for involvement in a large range of extra curricular activities including our Annual College Production (involving students from Years 7 to 12), debating, college magazine, extension activities and inter-house and interschool sporting activities, wide instrumental music program, including four bands.

There is an active Student Representative Council, which participates in decision-making activities within the school.

Students have access to an outdoor education and camping program. The college bus enables a wide range of excursions and supports school camps.

## Further information

Visit our website: [www.daylesfordsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.daylesfordsc.vic.edu.au)

Phone: **5348 2367**

Email: [daylesford.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:daylesford.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Principal: **Tiffany Holt**

Transition Coordinator: **Carol Gleeson**



At Mount Clear College we pride ourselves on our core values of: Care, Commitment, Respect and Responsibility. These values form the basis of our Welfare and Discipline Policies, our Student Management Protocols and our Pastoral Care Program – Links. They guide our policies and actions in order to provide all students with a safe, secure and challenging environment with extensive educational, cultural and sporting opportunities.

The college has high expectations of its students and, as a condition of enrolment, expects all students to demonstrate their commitment to our school community through behaviour, actions, appearance and effort.

### Challenging curriculum

Our comprehensive core curriculum in Years 7 and 8 covers all key learning areas. Students experience all learning areas before they narrow their focus in Years 9–12. We take a whole school approach to the teaching of literacy and numeracy across the curriculum.

The SEAL (Select Entry Accelerated Learning) Program is provided for students with high abilities.

### Enrichment opportunities

There are many opportunities for enrichment at our college including:

- active and engaging Music Department providing individual tuition, bands and ensembles, choirs and rehearsal and performance events
- outstanding Performing Arts Calendar including Joining the Chorus, State Schools Spectacular, annual school productions and performance evenings
- an extensive sporting program involving local, state and national tournaments. Membership of Ballarat School Sports Association for weekly competitions.

### Extensive and effective welfare support

An extensive primary to secondary transition program supports students through this crucial time of change. A dedicated program for Year 7s at the beginning of the year assists students to become familiar with the new environment, organisation and challenges.

Our mini-school structure minimises the anxiety of this transition process by providing a smaller environment for students to navigate. Curriculum structure minimises the number of teachers and classrooms a Year 7 student experiences.

We provide welfare, health and personal counselling, with a doctor and psychologist on-site, as well as access to other professional wellbeing support.

We incorporate an intercultural awareness program across the College to ensure our students become good local and global citizens.

We also provide support for our Aboriginal and international students.



### Exceptional facilities

These include the EarthEd Centre and our new Language Centre, which forms the centre of our studies of Japanese and Chinese and houses the first Confucius Classroom in the country supported by the Chinese Government.

We have dedicated computer labs, enhanced by laptop trolleys and an iPad Program at Year 7 so all students each have access to learning technologies.

In addition, we have a fully equipped 300-seat theatre and state of the art dance studio, a professionally equipped media centre and TV studio, full sized gymnasium, ovals, basketball and tennis courts, synthetic soccer field and cricket nets.

### Further information

The college welcomes enquiries at any time.

Principal: **Mrs Linda Flynn**

Assistant Principal: (Enrolments) **Mr Alan Archbold**

Phone: **5330 1500**

Email: **mount.clear.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au**

### Purpose and values

The mission of Phoenix P-12 Community College is to excel in the provision of broad, flexible and inclusive educational pathways for our students that highlights our strong sense of community and our continued tradition of excellence. This is achieved through a stimulating, comprehensive and challenging academic focus and is supported by specialist activities in sport, drama, music, public speaking, student leadership and the arts.

There is an emphasis on developing positive global citizens for the future. The College values of Integrity, Cooperation, Respect and Responsibility guide our fundamental principles of action across all areas of the school.

We pride ourselves in providing an environment that is conducive to each child achieving their personal potential. Student wellbeing is seen as critical in empowering students with the social and emotional competencies to experience success and happiness in their lives. A broad student wellbeing structure is in place throughout the college to focus on student care.

Phoenix P-12 Community College is a student-centered and community-based college that offers exciting and extensive pathways to facilitate 21st century learning.

### Year 7 Curriculum

The Sebastopol Campus of Phoenix P-12 Community College provides Year 7 students with:

- A small and dedicated team of teachers focused specifically on the needs of all Year 7 students.
- A comprehensive program of studies that provides a strong grounding in foundation skills in all curriculum areas, with extension classes available in English, Science, Humanities and Mathematics.
- Extensive opportunities to participate in creative learning, leadership, academic, music and sporting activities beyond the classroom.
- A stable, supportive pastoral system with a strong focus on ensuring a smooth and happy transition to secondary school.

### Extra curricular activities

In addition to our academic program, the Sebastopol Campus also offers a broad range of opportunities for students. These include community-based initiatives, public speaking, event management, catering and hospitality, musical performance, sporting, theatre studies and leadership development.

### What supports are available for my child?

- A structured pastoral care program from Year 7 to Year 12
- Students are in House groups, linked to one specialist House Manager for up to three years
- Careers and pathways planning support
- Structured homework and after school tutoring program
- Targeted literacy, numeracy and programs for students with special needs
- Adolescent Health and Wellbeing program (with access to dental and medical services on site).



### From Year 8 onwards the College provides:

- An individual learning plan tailored to meet the specific needs, goals and abilities of each student.
- A flexible curriculum enabling every child to progress at their own rate in each area.
- Inspiring, challenging and informative Middle School units in a variety of fields, such as Advanced Mathematics, Ceramics, Forensic Science, F1 Race car competition and German.

Our college provides extensive choices within the major pathways of VCE, VET and VCAL. Our wide range of VCE subjects prepare students for University and further education. The VCAL program provides various hands-on learning experiences, leading into apprenticeships, employment or further education.

### Further information

Prospective parents are most welcome and encouraged to call, or visit Phoenix P-12 Community College Secondary and Primary Campus.

Phone: **03 5329 3293**

Email: **phoenix.p12.cc@edumail.vic.gov.au**

Website: **www.phoenix.vic.edu.au**



# Yuille Park P-8 Community College

## The school

Yuille Park P-8 Community College is a new school formed from the merger of Yuille Primary School and Grevillea Park Primary School. Over the past four years the College has expanded to accommodate students from Kindergarten through to Year 8 and disengaged students at our second campus, known as Y2.

Our school provides a stimulating, nurturing and dynamic learning environment that engages students to develop lifelong learning skills in an atmosphere of cooperation and respect. Our school reflects and sustains the community's commitment to the development of lifelong learning skills for young people.

## Purpose and values

We provide high quality opportunities to extend learning experiences in literacy, numeracy, Information Communication Technology (ICT) whilst developing social competencies for lifelong learning.

We have high expectations of every learner, giving students the confidence and skills to engage and succeed.

Our personalised learning approach means every young person's needs are assessed and their talents developed through diverse teaching strategies in a rich and modern learning environment.

## Attributes of learners

### Living to Learn; Learning to Live

Strive for personal attributes of:

- Confidence
- Resilience
- Respect for self and others

### Standards of Achievement Excellence in:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Research and investigation skills

### Learning qualities of:

- Desire to succeed
- Risk taking
- Independence

The building of a sense of community and links with different community groups has been a major achievement at this school and provides a good foundation for building stronger partnerships in the future.



## Curriculum

We run an integrated enquiry approach for Year 7 students. Students negotiate learning goals and areas for improvement and are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. ICT is seen as an integral part of learning in Year 7 where we have a ratio of 1:1 computers for students. Students will participate in literacy and CAFÉ reading programs that target the individual needs of the students to advance their development in these areas. Numeracy lessons are hands on activity based and develop students' abilities to use mathematical reasoning strategies that develop their higher order thinking skills.

## Extra curricular activities

The school provides a wide range of specialist and extra curricular programs delivered through hands on activities in order to support the diverse learning needs of the students.

These areas include Physical Education, Technology, ICT, Visual and Performing Arts, Music, Media Productions, Kitchen Garden Program, Outdoor Education, Bike Education, School CAFÉ and catering business, F1 in schools, and the RACV Challenge.

## Further information

Contact: **Yuille Park P-8 Community College**

Phone: **5339 5555**

Address: **Violet Grove, Wendouree, Vic 3355**

Email: **yuille.park.p-8.cc@edumail.vic.gov.au**





