



St Paul's
ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Transition

Connection & Belonging



Years 7 & 8 Transition
Warragul

It's time for Secondary School

For Students

From The Principal

Welcome to the St Paul's experience, where we are committed to assisting you to pursue your potential.

Secondary schooling can be both exciting and challenging, and we will support you every step of the way!

From Year 7, the adventures in academic and co-curricular endeavours begin. We provide opportunities for you to choose electives to personalise your learning experience, discover individual passions through co-curricular activities and equip you with strong foundations for your future.

With over 100 co-curricular and sporting options to choose from as you progress through secondary school, as well as our specialised Academy of Music and High Performance Program, we provide a tailored learning experience designed just for you.

Your happiness is very important to us. St Paul's creates an environment where you will feel included and make meaningful connections with your peers, teachers and support networks. Beyond the classroom, you will share experiences with your Mentor Group, become part of a thriving house community and spend time with your Peer Support Leaders, all activities which are dedicated to your wellbeing and achievement.

It is my pleasure to welcome you and your family to our Secondary School at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School.

Cameron Herbert
Principal

For Parents

Philosophy & Values

St Paul's prides itself on offering a unique learning environment that not only provides an outstanding education but in addition develops each student in the spiritual, social, emotional, physical and intellectual domains.

We are a school where wellbeing comes first and success in whatever area your child chooses to pursue will follow. We support every child to pursue and achieve their personal best, whatever that may be.

We offer a safe, inclusive and caring environment, where thoughts can be expressed, achievement can be celebrated and where each student belongs to a community that supports them to achieve their potential.

Underpinning all of our actions are our ethos and the embedded values of:

- Wisdom
- Integrity
- Compassion
- Respect

Spirituality

St Paul's is an Anglican school founded on the ethos and values of the Anglican Church. We nurture learners from all faiths and beliefs to pursue their potential.

We provide opportunities for every child to find and follow their purpose, and foster an environment where every faith and belief is respected and valued. We do not expect students, families or staff to share our Christian beliefs. Instead, we ask that our learners develop and share their perspectives on spirituality and faith with openness, respect and humility.

Our Anglican tradition is observed through Chapel services and faith study which all students are required to attend. These provide a space for each student to experience encouragement and exploration of faith within a strong and supportive community. Further opportunities for faith development are offered through voluntary student Christian groups.

Acknowledgement Of Country

St Paul's Anglican Grammar School acknowledge the Gunaikurnai as the Traditional Owners of Country on which we learn, share and grow.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present who have cared for the mountains, rivers, sea and sky where our schools are located. We will continue to stand in solidarity with all First People on our journey to reconciliation.

Happy students thrive

Student Wellbeing

At St Paul's, student wellness is the focus of each school day and the core purpose of our Mentor Groups. We aim to understand the 'whole' child to create a meaningful connection between our students and staff.

Every student has access to support staff, including counsellors/psychologists and chaplaincy staff, who help our students thrive as both learners and individuals. We understand that wellbeing is dynamic and our program changes to meet the unique needs of students.

Our comprehensive Pastoral Care Program includes a combination of Chapel, guest speakers, assemblies and house meetings designed to cultivate a sense of belonging. We pride ourselves on our students being known, valued and celebrated within our school community – believing every student should be recognised for their personal learning, creative pursuits and sporting achievements.

A weekly pastoral session provides students with the opportunity to think meaningfully about the world they live in. Our Mentors and Heads of Year explore a range of issues that are relevant to the physical, spiritual, emotional and intellectual wellbeing of our students, preparing students with real-world skills for the future.

Growing With Your House

We are known for creating a sense of family amongst our students and staff through our House, Mentor and Peer Support Programs.

Our school has six houses which form the foundation of interhouse activities, pastoral care and support. Each student is allocated to a house, with members of the same family placed together. Students are also placed

in a Mentor Group and Mentors and Heads of Year monitor the daily needs of individuals in their care, working together to foster a happy and safe learning experience.

Our houses are: Chisholm, Franklin, Gilmore, Lalor, Monash and Paterson.

Trust Mapping

At St Paul's we believe that connected students are those that feel happy, safe and respected. Year 7 students conduct a short relationship mapping activity each term, providing staff with valuable information that assists them in teaching each child, both as an individual and as part of a classroom cohort. The mapping also provides information about students' social and emotional concerns, allowing for early intervention on potential issues.

Part of the foundation of our Pastoral Care Program is encouraging our students to identify a trusted adult or adults within our school community. Respectful relationships underpin everything we do and encouraging our students to recognise and identify them is crucial in our ability to support them.

Building Connection

Our Peer Support Program partners Year 7 students with senior students who support their transition into secondary school. Peer Support Leaders provide advice and create meaningful connections with our Year 7 students to foster a sense of belonging in their new environment.

Commencing at Friendship Morning, Peer Support Leaders continue to engage with students throughout Term 1, at camp, and then on occasions throughout the year. Becoming a Peer Support Leader requires commitment and training, and they act as mentors, guides

and occasional confidantes, working together to establish new friendships that will flourish over the coming years.

All Things Outdoor

Our camp and outdoor education program is designed to: develop skills in a range of outdoor pursuits; enhance relationships with others and the environment; and promote personal growth in self-awareness, self-confidence, teamwork and leadership through challenge and adventure.

Our Year 7 camp in early Term 1 is part of our secondary school transition program. The camp aims to foster positive relationships and welcome new students into the St Paul's community. Peer Support Leaders join the students as they experience a range of adventure activities.

The Year 8 program visits Phillip Island; utilising the sand and sea of this iconic location, we build upon the skills introduced in Year 7.

Students participate in surfing, canoeing, stand-up paddleboarding, and personal and group challenges continuing to further their own individual growth whilst forging closer connections with their peers.

The focus of our Year 9 adventure camp is personal wellbeing and discovery. We spend three days combining mindfulness activities with adventure sessions to push comfort levels and develop self-reflection techniques.

Our camp program acts as a pathway into studies of Sport and Recreation in Years 11 and 12.

Getting you ready!

Student Information

Let's Talk

Starting secondary school is a big step for many students, but at St Paul's we work hard to make the change as seamless as possible to ensure that you feel safe, happy and respected. We equip you with skills and knowledge and provide activities that build nurturing friendships. We extend your classroom learning to help you grow in the school values of wisdom, integrity, compassion and respect.

Our aim is to ensure that you develop a strong set of skills that will prepare you for success in the secondary years of education and beyond. Through our high-quality teaching program, we personalise learning to uncover your intentions and aptitudes. We provide opportunities for elective study, leadership and co-curricular activity that will support you to pursue and achieve your potential.

We hope this booklet provides you with knowledge of, and excitement about, a St Paul's education.

How To Prepare Six Steps To Transition

Commencing secondary school is a time of anticipation and change.

Meet The Team Warragul Campus



Debbie Cameron
Head of Secondary School



Bethany Thearle
Director of Studies Middle School



Megan Schreyer
Head of Year 7



Grant Coulthard
Head of Year 8

Whether you are transitioning from a large or small primary school, or are already at St Paul's, our priority is to ensure you feel comfortable in your new learning environment as soon as possible.

1. Information Evening

You and your parents begin to hear about and experience firsthand the array of educational and co-curricular opportunities on offer at secondary school at St Paul's. You can take a tour, hear from our staff and gain an understanding of what learning at St Paul's will be like.

2. Welcome Interview

For families new to St Paul's, you will be invited to attend a personal interview where we get to know your family and discover your unique interests, aptitudes and abilities. We will also take the time to answer any questions you may have.

Existing St Paul's students will spend time getting to know our Secondary School Leadership Team through Junior School activities.

3. Friendship Morning

Friendship Morning is a fantastic opportunity for you to familiarise yourself with our teaching staff and pastoral leaders, find your way around the campus and meet your

new classmates. The Peer Support Program commences and you will enjoy a fun-filled morning of activities and games.

4. Orientation Days

An extended three-day orientation provides you with more time to interact with your new friends and have lessons with many of our teachers. You will find out about our laptop program and participate in a music session. School Prefects, House Captains and Peer Support Leaders will be on hand to help you settle in.

5. Welcome Evening

Families gather at an informal barbeque which provides students the opportunity to organise their lockers before the first day of school.

6. Peer Support Camp

Designed to foster and develop new friendships, you will experience a range of adventure and problem-solving activities with an emphasis on personal responsibility, independence and collaboration. This is the perfect time to meet others across your year level and establish friendships that will last a lifetime.

All about learning

Classroom Learning Core Subjects

Each day is divided into six lessons, with breaks for recess and lunch. All students study subjects in the following core areas of learning:

- Christian Studies
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities
- Language (Japanese)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Arts/Technology
- Sport

Students study Japanese as a Language Other Than English (LOTE) until the end of Year 9 and may choose to continue studying LOTE through to the VCE level. An alternative language subject can be undertaken at extra cost through the Victorian School of Languages and is studied as an additional subject. Please read our Course Guide for further information.

The Arts/Technology program is an exciting part of the curriculum. Every student will have the opportunity to be involved in each of the Arts/Technology strands through a rotation of subjects. The subjects are delivered through the faculties of Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Science/IT and Health.

Please read the electives information on the following page and access our Course Guide for more detailed information.

Download our Course Guide at <https://stpaulsags.vic.edu.au/enrolment/for-our-families>

Academic Transition Individualised Education

Effective transition ensures every child can feel safe, known and acknowledged as they begin to navigate the requirements of learning at secondary school.

We welcome conversations around any learning difficulties or requirements and contact is made by our Individual Education Program staff with schools and families, as appropriate.

Upon commencement, testing in Mathematics and English, alongside NAPLAN data and previous school reports, helps guide student placement in classes, allocate support resources and promote enrichment opportunities.

Learning With Laptops Laptop Program

Modern learning requires students to be familiar with computing technology and the ability to research and complete work using digital methods. Students will use laptops regularly for learning and will be required to bring these to school every day.

Students will be provided with training regarding the safe use of the laptop and learn how to access resources on the school network. Instruction and guidance regarding the use of key programs will be implemented as part of the academic program.



Spoilt for choice

Electives

Your Choice Of Adventure

Our elective offering allows our students to develop a passion for subjects they love to learn.

These classes are tailored, fun and engaging and present a learning pathway all the way through to VCE. What will your learning passion be?

A variety of electives form a two-year program across Years 7 and 8.

Each elective runs for one semester.

Over the course of two years, students must choose at least:

- One Performing Arts subject (Find Your Groove is compulsory)
- Two Visual Arts subjects
- Two Technology subjects (Code and Create is compulsory)
- Three other subjects, from any category.

Please read our Course Guide for more detailed information.

Pick Your Passion

Students choose from the following:

Technology

Making Stuff That Moves

Creatively imagine, design and build products with moving parts.

Code and Create (compulsory)

Learn the basics of coding and write your own code with continuous feedback and support.

Gamers: IT and Games Programming

Enter the exciting world of computer programming as you conceive, design and test your own games.

Textiles: Designers In The Making

Imagine, design and create custom products using textiles, or soft materials.

Robotics

Ponder the future of artificial intelligence (AI) as you learn to program robots to successfully follow your commands.

Foodies

Enjoy experimentation and creativity in the kitchen by learning to prepare food safely and extending your culinary skills.

Performing Arts

Find Your Groove (compulsory)

Engage with making music or build on your existing skills by playing body percussion, drumkit, keyboards, guitars and a wealth of other instruments.

Bring On The Music

Prerequisite: Find Your Groove.

Develop your ensemble/solo skills by making music in styles ranging from Rock to Classical.

Drama: Make A Scene!

Enter, stage left! Develop your creative skills and love of performance and stagecraft.

Visual Arts

Art In 3D

Unleash the artist in you by designing and producing artistic creations in 3D.

A Slice Of Art

Get creative with drawing, painting and printmaking using traditional methods and 'see' the world in a new way.

Photos In Motion

Learn about the mediums of digital photography, media and animation.

Architecture and Design

Draw and sketch like a designer as you find creative solutions to design challenges.

Active For Life

Be physically active and participate in a range of individual, fitness-based, recreational and leisure sports.

Crime Scene Investigation: Forensics

Learn how scientists examine evidence from crime scenes and enjoy hands-on practical activities to determine the pivotal question: who done-it?



Finding your niche...

Co-curricular Options

St Paul's offers many activities beyond the classroom and we strongly encourage students to participate. Being part of a co-curricular activity provides an opportunity to make new friends, learn and practise skills in a particular area and spend time with like-minded peers.

The main aim is for students to embrace all aspects of school life and make the most of opportunities.

Activities and competitions are subject to change, may be based on student numbers, may be year level dependent, may run every two years or be deferred.

Clubs & Activities

- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Debating (Debaters Association of Victoria)
- House Cultural Festival
- Public Speaking
- Robotics
- SEISA Cultural Festival
- Sustainability Student Group
- Team Timor

International

- Japan Language and Culture Tour
- East Timor Culture Tour
- French Language Tour

Sport

- Athlete Development Program (acceptance based on criteria)
- Badminton
- Cycling
- Elite Sports Performers Program (acceptance based on criteria)
- Equestrian
- Gymnastics
- House Carnivals: Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming
- House Tug of War
- Mountain Biking

- Snow Sports
- Sport Aerobics
- Nationals Basketball
- SEISA Athletics
- SEISA Badminton
- SEISA Basketball
- SEISA AFL Boys
- SEISA AFLW Girls
- SEISA Cricket
- SEISA Cross Country
- SEISA Hockey
- SEISA Netball
- SEISA Soccer
- SEISA Softball
- SEISA Surfing
- SEISA Swimming
- SEISA Table Tennis
- SEISA Tennis
- SEISA Volleyball
- Victorian All Schools Swimming Championships

Performing Arts

- Backstage Crew
- Big Band
- Centrepiece Concert
- Ceremonial Collective
- Choir
- Clarinet Ensemble
- Codetta Concert
- Community Strings
- Concert Band
- Drama Club
- Drama Ensemble
- Drum Battery
- Jazz Combo
- Kammer Konzert (Academy of Music)
- Kapelle Konzert (Academic of Music)
- Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod
- Pipe Band
- Saxophone Choir
- Scholarships Holders' Concert
- Secondary School Dramatic Production/Musical
- Sinfonia
- Studio Concerts

Leadership & Service

We take pride in watching our students become confident, articulate, resourceful and committed young adults capable of contributing to the wider community. As they progress through secondary school, their skills and understanding are honed through a range of leadership, service and fundraising efforts.

- Co-curricular Captain
- Community Ambassador or Tour Guide
- Community Service
- House Captain
- Peer Support Leader
- Prefect
- Student Representative Council



Need a little extra?

Beyond the Classroom Enrichment & Extension

At St Paul's, we believe in developing a lifelong love of learning in our students and this is embedded in our culture, teaching and curriculum. We provide opportunities for all types of learners with all types of interests, recognising that every student has an individual education journey, which at times will require enrichment and extension.

A small snapshot of some of the enrichment activities at St Paul's includes:

- Australian Maths Competition
- Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
- ICAS Digital Technologies
- ICAS English
- ICAS Mathematics
- ICAS Science
- ICAS Writing
- Science Talent Search (STAV)
- Science Week Competitions (in-house)
- STEM Club
- Tournament of Minds
- Vicspell

(Note: Activities and competitions are subject to change, may be based on student numbers, may be year level dependent, may run every two years or be deferred).

**To learn more, please contact:
Jen Christensen on 5623 5833 or email
enrolments@stpaulsags.vic.edu.au**

High Performance Program

Elite Sports Performers (ESP) Program

The ESP Program caters to a growing number of secondary students at St Paul's who are competing in their chosen sport at a junior elite level and require additional support and flexibility of curriculum to manage their studies concurrently with training and competition commitments.

The program has two main components: the support of the student athlete and the development of the student athlete. Students also benefit regularly from elite athlete guest speakers and presentations by industry leaders in athlete development. Program students are supported by the INSPIRE app which is designed for young athletes to monitor their wellness and assist in their holistic development.

Athlete Development Program (ADP)

The ADP nurtures student athletes who are highly committed to their sport at a community level and are focused on progressing in their chosen sport.

The ADP caters for students who may be at a high local level in their sport but are yet to experience the training, travel and competition commitments of the highest level.

ADP students receive access to the Athlete Development App and guest speakers to motivate them and teach them how to monitor their wellbeing while becoming a better athlete (as do ESP students).

**For further information, please contact:
Scott Armour on 5623 5833 or email
sarmour@stpaulsags.vic.edu.au**

Academy of Music

The first of its kind in a Gippsland school and a rare opportunity for orchestral, choral and keyboard students, the Academy of Music offers students access to specialist ensemble training and performance along with musical mentoring opportunities.

Open to students by audition, the Academy offers a dedicated focus through timetabled classes for the development of students' chamber and orchestral skills. With professionally delivered workshops in addition to combined, cross-campus orchestral and choral rehearsals, students have many opportunities to perform at a range of venues.

Incorporating live concert exposure and collaboration with professional conductors, educators and performers alike, the Academy inspires students to take their musical studies and ensemble skills to the next level.

**For further information, please contact:
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bsim@stpaulsags.vic.edu.au**



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