



MILL PARK
SECONDARY COLLEGE



MILL PARK SECONDARY COLLEGE

Prospectus

Discover how you can *Create your future!*



Welcome

It is with great pride that I welcome you to Mill Park Secondary College, where we invite you to create your future.

As the newly appointed Principal, it is with a sense of pride and excitement that I welcome you to Mill Park Secondary College.

Selecting the right school for your child is an important choice. At Mill Park Secondary College we are committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes in learning and wellbeing for all our students.

Our students join us with diverse interests, talents, and learning needs. We are proud to engage them with a rich and varied curriculum, specialised facilities, and excellent teachers. This is supported by the multi-campus structure of the College which allows students to learn in an environment which is tailored and targeted to their stages of schooling.

At the Middle Years Campus, we ensure that students make a strong transition to secondary education and develop the habits, aptitudes, and character strengths to be successful learners. The Senior Campus provides students with extensive options to meet their individual needs, building their confidence and independence to ensure that they have a clear pathway towards 'creating their future.'

We have high expectations for all our students. Not just in their academic pursuits, but also in their engagement with the many programs and opportunities that make this school the vibrant place it is. Whether it is in the Science lab, on the stage of our Performing Arts Centre, in the classroom, or on the playing fields, our committed teachers work to ensure that our students thrive.

We are focused on ensuring that every student has the opportunity and support to be the best that they can be. I invite you to explore our college through making contact with us, booking a tour and exploring our website. We look forward to welcoming you into our school community.



Tim Natoli

Tim Natoli
Principal



We Value Your Future

Mill Park Secondary College operates on a set of four agreed values: **Respect, Responsibility, Achievement and Enjoyment**. These values form the basis for all interactions between staff, students, parents, and the broader community. Our aim is to ensure our students enter the world as well-educated and motivated individuals who have pride in their achievements.

Learning at Mill Park Secondary College

The dual campus structure of our college ensures that our learning environment is tailored to the needs of our students, and their 'age and stage' of learning, growth and development. This means that our curriculum, learning environment, and approach is integrated and informed by evidence about differing needs of Middle Years and Senior students.

Our comprehensive Middle Years program is designed to progressively develop core skills and concepts across all learning areas. It also ensures that students become increasingly independent and self-aware as learners, so that by the time that they reach the end of Year 9 and graduate from the Middle Years Campus they are capable across a broad range of subjects, calm and confident in their approach, can identify their passions and begin planning a pathway through their final years of schooling and beyond.

Our timetable structure is designed specifically to support these aims and at the Middle Years Campus lessons range in length, allowing us to deliver:

- **Targeted 30-minute sessions** to reinforce key concepts and skills, particularly in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy, and regular check-ins on student engagement and wellbeing through Engage.
- **Core 60-minute sessions** to support the introduction of new knowledge and skills, underpinned by our College Instructional Model.
- **Extended 90-minute sessions** allowing students explore concepts in depth, apply their new learning, developing confidence and mastery in their skills and understanding.

Teachers at the Middle Years Campus are specialists at these year levels and are committed to supporting young people to thrive through this important stage of learning and development. The dual campus structure means that the number of students on each site is large enough to ensure that students are provided with choice and positive connections, and small enough to ensure that the learning environment is manageable, and that every student is known and supported as an individual.

Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Student engagement is an integral part of supporting the wellbeing, development and learning of students at Mill Park Secondary College. In addition to a range of targeted programs and wellbeing focused events, time is created in our timetable to support students with social, emotional, and personal growth.

In Years 7 to 9, students participate in Engage lessons twice a week that focus on establishing strong routines, building positive relationships, setting personal goals, and developing resilience. Year 7 students are given additional transition support through the Explore program which allows them to find their place within Mill Park Secondary College and explore their personal interests through Clubs.

In Years 10 to 12, students have a weekly Connect session where they set goals, develop skills for study and life, and receive mentoring from their peers and teacher.

Students are also supported by Student Engagement Leaders at each year level. These coordinators develop strong relationships with students of their cohort and promote student welfare through supporting positive peer relationships and promoting students to demonstrate the College values of Respect, Responsibility, Achievement and Enjoyment.

To support a positive transition to secondary school at Years 7 to 9, a Programs, Learning and Events coordinator arranges incursions, excursions, events, and camps to enrich student experiences, while Engagement Mentors assist students to navigate issues, and become confident, independent learners.





Middle Years Program

Year 7

Our Year 7 program is focused on supporting a smooth transition to the College and building the foundations of a successful secondary education. Students are introduced to a variety of subjects, with specialist teachers and facilities studying English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Health and Physical Education, Hindi or Italian, Information Technology, Visual Art, Materials Technology and Dance and Drama.

They also receive weekly Literacy and Numeracy lessons to strengthen and support core learning and life skills. Students are supported to build relationships and set personal goals and reflect on their progress in Engage lessons, while exploring their personal interests through their nominated Club once a fortnight.

SUBJECTS
English & Literacy
Mathematics & Numeracy
Science
Humanities
Health and Physical Education
Italian / Hindi
Visual Art / Dance Drama
Information Technology / Materials Technology
Engage
Explore
Clubs

Year 8

In Year 8 students extend their learning in English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Health and Physical Education, and Hindi / Italian. Literacy and Numeracy lessons continue to support students to strengthen these core skills and enhance their learning across other subjects. Students also participate in semester-long studies of Music, Food Technology, Visual Art, and Fabrics Technology, where they develop a wide range of skills before selecting electives in Year 9.

SUBJECTS
English & Literacy
Mathematics & Numeracy
Science
Humanities
Health and Physical Education
Italian / Hindi
Visual Arts / Music
Food Technology / Fabric Technology
Engage

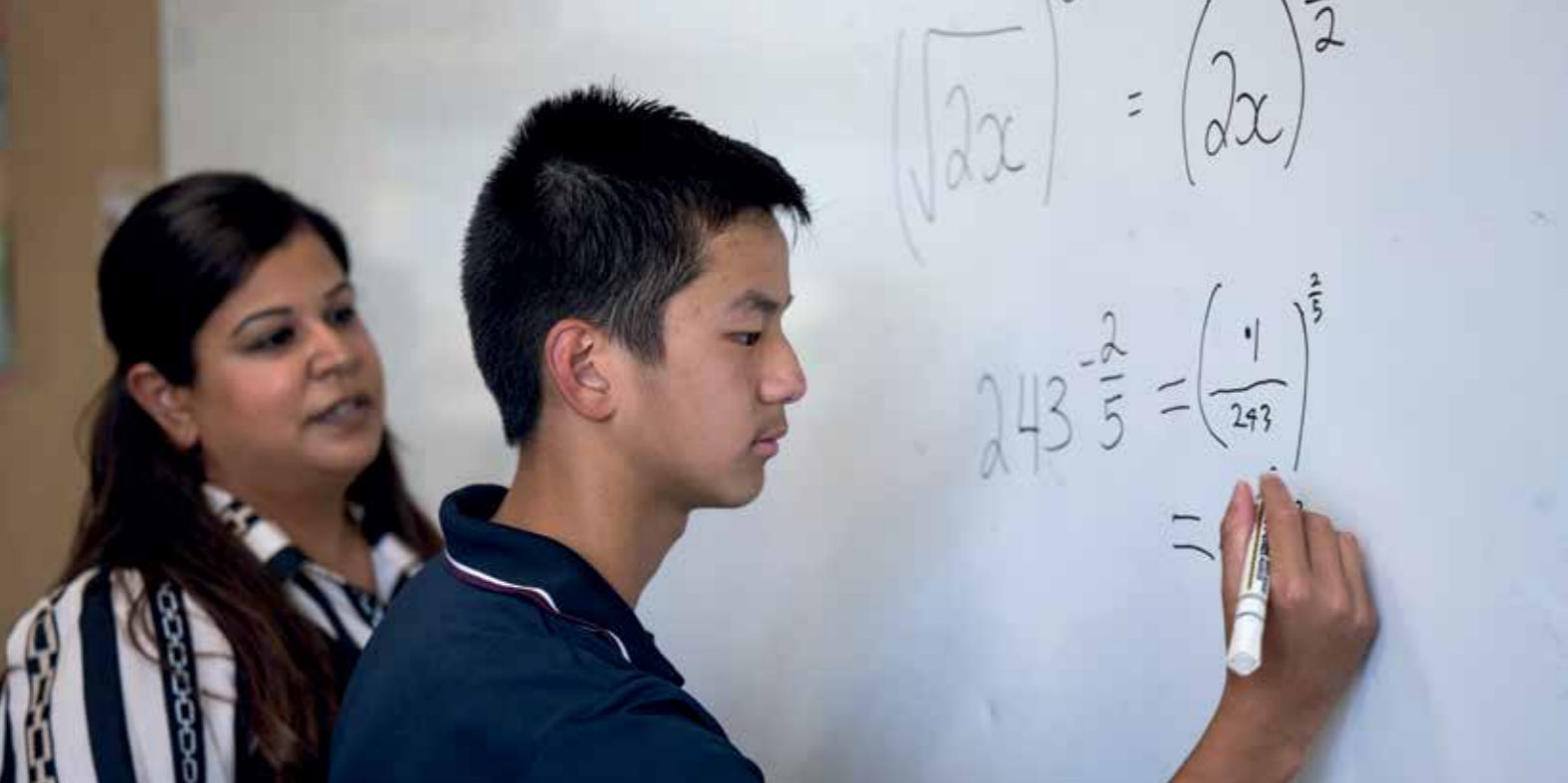
Year 9

Students in Year 9 expand their horizons by participating in a broad range of electives and special programs. As well as their core subjects students can choose six electives from a selection of more than 30 across the full range of learning areas. Students have the opportunity specialise in areas of interest and try subjects they might be considering for their Senior Years.

Year 9 prepares students for their transition to Senior Campus, making appropriate and informed subject selections and establishing pathways that support their future goals. All Year 9 students undergo Morrisby career testing and counselling, and participate in our City School Program, where they spend time in the CBD pursuing an inquiry project.

SUBJECTS
English & Literacy
Mathematics & Numeracy
Science
Humanities
Health and Physical Education
<i>Six units of elective chosen from all learning areas.</i>
Engage
Explore





Academic Excellence

SEAL Program

Mill Park Secondary College is an accredited provider of Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) programs for gifted and high ability students. Students are selected for this program through a combination of academic testing and demonstrated strong learning behaviours, and participate in an accelerated program from Years 7 to 10 that recognises their high potential as learners. SEAL students progress through year level subject content at an accelerated pace, allowing for additional time to be spent on mastery of skills, deepening of thinking through inquiry projects, and enrichment activities that expose students to real-world problems.

Working in a setting with like-minded peers and skilled teachers, SEAL students are expected to demonstrate commitment to their learning beyond the classroom. Students are encouraged to participate in student leadership activities as well as extra-curricular programs that suit their interests (including sport, public speaking, and community engagement).

SEAL students are expected to undertake a minimum of one early start VCE subject in Year 10, with many students undertaking two. This provides students the opportunity to develop core study skills and habits and participate in a wider variety of VCE subjects by the time they complete Year 12.

Accelerated English Program

Mill Park Secondary College offers an Accelerated English Program to a selected group of students commencing at Year 7. The Accelerated English program will mirror the SEAL English subject in terms of its text selection and degree of rigour. Students will study advanced texts and be exposed to a higher range of literary skills and techniques. In Year 10, Accelerated English students will participate in a hybrid course that prepares students for success in all three VCE English streams – English, English Language, and English Literature – with students encouraged to complete two VCE English subjects.

Accelerated Science Program

Mill Park Secondary College offers an Accelerated Science Program to a selected group of students commencing at Year 7. The Accelerated Science Program supports students to develop an understanding of important scientific concepts and processes in Biological, Chemical, Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences. The Accelerated Science program is designed for students with above level Mathematical skills as well as a clear interest in Science and Technology. Accelerated Science students progress through the year level curriculum at a faster pace, allowing for deepening of scientific thinking through inquiry projects, scientific investigations and real-world application tasks. In Year 10, students will study an Accelerated Science subject incorporating Laboratory Skills and VCE Science preparation and are encouraged to accelerate into an early start VCE or VET science subject.

Scholarship Program

Mill Park Secondary College offers scholarships to Year 7 students who have displayed outstanding commitment to their education and involvement in the College community. The College looks for outstanding young people who are exceptional in different areas and possess personal qualities and values that will contribute to the life of the College. Scholarships are available in the following categories: Academic, Community – Good Citizenship, Student Leadership, Sport and Performing Arts. Scholarships are awarded for two years, and are available for Years 7 – 8.

Diversity of Choice

As well as the formal curriculum, Mill Park Secondary College has an extensive range of programs that allow students to participate in learning and engagement opportunities and activities beyond the classroom.

The school has three areas of focus in its co-curricular program:

Music & Performing Arts

The College offers a flagship program in the performing arts. Many students choose to undertake instrumental music lessons available in percussion, guitar, keyboards, and voice. Performance groups such as choirs, bands and dance ensembles offer exciting opportunities for developing skills, confidence, and performance opportunities for students.

Held annually in our 400 seat Performing Arts Centre, the College Production, and Song and Dance Night are highlights for our school community. These events support a long tradition of showcasing the talents of our students, and the dedication and expertise of our specialised staff.

Sport

Sport and physical recreation are important elements of leading a balanced and well-rounded school life. At the Middle Years Campus students can engage in afterschool basketball and soccer squads, building skills, fitness, and social connections. At the Senior Campus there are regular lunchtime tournaments across several sports which are also a popular fixture on the school calendar.

Students can join and participate in a variety of interschool sports teams including volleyball, tennis, cricket, soccer, badminton, hockey, basketball, table tennis, football, netball, softball, and baseball. Major intra-school carnivals are also held during the year, with successful students progressing to represent the school in the Northern Zone Finals and State Finals.

The College has access to outstanding on-site sporting facilities, including gymnasiums, and a full-sized football/cricket oval. Nearby facilities include the Meadowglen Athletics Track, Mill Park YMCA, and Mill Park Basketball Stadium.

Leadership and Community Engagement

Mill Park Secondary College is proud of its student leaders who are an active voice in their school and local communities. As well as formal development programs for student leaders, the school provides a range of opportunities to connect with representatives from Local and State Governments, and to network with other young leaders from local secondary schools.

Our students are active participants in Interschool Debating and Public Speaking competitions and many students compete regularly across the school year.





Year 10

Year 10 students design their learning course to suit their specific passions, career goals and pathways. As well as their core studies, they also choose five electives from over 40 options within the learning areas of English, Science, Mathematics, Humanities, Arts, Language, Technology and Health and Physical Education.

Year 10 students have the possibility of completing a Year 11 VCE or VET unit a year early and they are encouraged to do this where it is considered a positive option for their learning. All students receive extensive course and career counselling throughout the year to ensure they choose the most effective, challenging, and suitable VCE program.

Years 11 & 12

Students at Mill Park Secondary College can choose from one of the broadest and most comprehensive ranges of VCE, VET and VM units in the northern suburbs. More than 50 units are offered. Students can complete a full VCE program, a VCE program mixed with VET training units, or a VCE Vocational Major program.

The timetable at the Senior Campus is designed to support independence and success. This includes no scheduled classes on Wednesday afternoon. During this block students complete formal assessments under supervision on campus, undertake study skills and subject based seminars, and receive individualised support for their learning. Students also complete VET certificates during this period which minimises clashes with their other studies.

The Senior Campus has a strong academic emphasis and has a comprehensive program of examinations at each year level, including trial exams and revision programs for Year 12 students in their final year. Students also have access to multiple supervised study spaces including the Library and Senior Study Centre, and are supported to use these spaces independently to help achieve their goals.

Years 10, 11 & 12 - Senior Years

At Mill Park Secondary College the specialised Senior Campus provides a more independent learning environment where students can pursue individualised choices in their learning, supporting them to navigate their pathway to the world beyond secondary school. While the campus has a strong academic emphasis, it also has excellent support for students – this includes mentoring and study support, careers advice and support, and specialist VCE teachers who are passionate about their subject areas and who go above and beyond to support their students to achieve success.

The structure and size of the campus ensures that students have access to a wide variety of subjects to suit their interests and future pathways. Most students undertake the VCE in their final years and enter University at a tertiary level, however, many students undertake the VCE Vocational Major and are supported to commence work related training, and a certificate-based VET study as part of their course. These vocational studies occur on-campus, but also off-site at the school's specialised trade training centre (Outer Northern Trade Training Centre) or at other local secondary schools. With a diverse range of students, we are proud to be able to offer senior programs which respond to their varied needs and support their aspirations for success.



VCE Units Available for Study

ART

Art Making & Exhibiting
Dance
Drama
Media
Music
Music: Contemporary Performance
Music: Repertoire Performance
Product Design and Technology: Textiles and Fashion
Theatre Studies
Visual Communication Design
VET Applied Fashion Design and Technology
VET Dance
VET Music Industry: Sound Production

ENGLISH

English
English as an Additional Language
English Language
Literature

HUMANITIES

Accounting
Australian and Global Politics
Business Management
Global Politics
Economics
Extended Investigation
Geography
History: Ancient
History: Modern
Legal Studies
Philosophy

LANGUAGES

Italian
Chinese First Language

MATHEMATICS

General Mathematics
Mathematical Methods
Specialist Mathematics

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health & Human Development
Outdoor and Environmental Studies
Health and Physical Education
VET Sport and Recreation
VET Community Services

SCIENCE

Biology
Chemistry
Environmental Science
Physics
Psychology
VET Laboratory Skills

TECHNOLOGY

Applied Computing
Food Studies
Product Design and Technology: Materials
System Engineering

VET Units Available for Study (on campus)

Applied Fashion Design & Technology
Community Service
Dance
Laboratory Skills
Sport and Recreation

VCE Vocational Major

Vocational Major students receive a full Year 12 certificate upon completion of their two year course, and study 5 strands:

Numeracy
Personal Development Skills
Industry Specific Strands
Literacy
Work Related Skills

Vocational Major students also have the option of integrating VCE units into their program of study, if they choose.

University Extension Programs

Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES)
VCE Plus at La Trobe University





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Middle Years Campus

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