



ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE CANBERRA



Prospectus 2012



Our Crest

Our College Crest is rich in symbolism:

The Circle – symbolises the partnership of College, families and church, community and Trinity.

The Eucalyptus Tree – able to survive in very dry conditions, symbolises the indomitable Australian spirit of perseverance in difficulty, and of our Australian heritage. The gum nuts remind us that life can and does emerge from unexpected sources; even in dryness there is life. The eucalyptus leaves redolent, useful, ubiquitous, speak to us of our Patron, St Mary MacKillop, Australia's first saint. These leaves are featured on the medal which was struck in her honour, on the occasion of her Beatification, in February 1995.

The Southern Cross – symbol of our Australian heritage and a reminder of God's redeeming love for the people of this land.

The Brindabella Mountains – remind us of our location in the Tuggeranong Valley of Canberra. More importantly, they symbolise the bridge of unity which extends between both campuses of our College.

Welcome

A message from the Principal

The key to any good school is its commitment to engaging, challenging and encouraging its students to develop their love for learning. I am sure that the 21st century will be one of constant change. The ability of the individual to embrace and manage change, to think critically, to communicate with others with integrity, clarity, and imagination and to recognise their interdependence with all who share the planet will be paramount to a successful life.

MacKillop is a large, dynamic school possessing energy, opportunity, and first class resources. I believe that faith, courage, individual achievement and the enjoyment and pride that comes from a shared identity makes co-educational secondary schooling a worthwhile experience.

Graduates of St Mary MacKillop College proceed to tertiary studies or the workplace as confident young women and men possessing initiative, self belief, a readiness to participate, and who can make decisions that are good for themselves and others.

The College strongly promotes within its students a preparedness to accept responsibility for their actions and thus be a model of courage and maturity to others.

In 2011, St Mary MacKillop College will open its Trade Training Centre which will dramatically increase the range and quality of industry delivery in the area of vocational education. Also this year, the College welcomed to our Isabella Campus the secondary teacher education program of the Australian Catholic University, enabling a stronger relationship between our two communities. A new library facility and the redevelopment of science laboratories all mean significantly enhanced teaching facilities for MacKillop staff and students - some of which are unique to MacKillop.

St Mary MacKillop College seeks to authentically adhere to the values of the Gospels: faith, hope, and love. We draw our mission from the life, example, and teachings of Jesus Christ and our distinctive pastoral and social justice emphasis from the inspirational work of our patron, Saint Mary MacKillop.

We see in Mary MacKillop a person who responded with total commitment to God; a person who gave her life in service of others. She challenges us to be people who dare to search for the truth; people who can take a stand for Christian values in a secular



world; people who dare to make a difference to the world in which they live, with "Faith and Courage", the College motto.

Success in all its forms is celebrated at the College. The success of our students in cultural, sporting, and academic life serve as a source of pride to the College community.

As the proud provider of Catholic secondary education to the Tuggeranong Valley for 12 years, the College continues to warmly welcome any students and their families who wish to positively contribute to our College.

All of us at MacKillop are keen to be part of your secondary educational experience; it will last you a lifetime.

Michael Lee
Principal

Mission

Teaching & Learning

Curriculum

The curriculum at St Mary MacKillop College is undertaken in an environment where each person is valued and respected as an individual whose personal growth is of paramount importance.

The curriculum provides excellence in education by:

- Teaching and fostering Christian ideals.
- Encouraging critical thinking, innovation and challenging of assumptions.
- Ensuring that learning is relevant, rigorous, inclusive and accessible for all.
- Developing the skills and desire for individual life-long learning.
- Empowering students to take responsibility for their decisions.
- Building students' self-confidence and self-esteem through success.
- Enabling students to understand how they learn.
- Emphasising the development of spiritual, intellectual, emotional, physical and creative capacities.

Our staff fulfil the role of teacher, mentor, carer, guide and challenger. They help to motivate students and develop in them a love of learning.

Years 7 to 12

Students coming into St Mary MacKillop College will be given opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes in a range of learning experiences across such areas as:

- Religious Education and personal development.
- Language and communication.
- Information Technology.
- Aesthetic and creative studies.
- Social and cultural studies.
- Mathematics, Science and Technology.
- Health and Physical Education.
- Vocational Education.

Learning Enhancement

While the standard classroom employs progressive and effective techniques to provide for mixed abilities, the College also acknowledges the specific needs of students requiring enhanced learning opportunities.

Skilled teachers and assistants provide specialist support for students requiring help with basic skills and those who need to be challenged beyond the normal requirements of classroom activities.

Appropriate models of curriculum delivery ensure that all of our students enjoy maximum learning opportunities.



Pastoral Care



Dynamic and Welcoming Community

St Mary MacKillop College strives to be a welcoming and dynamic community, receptive to the needs of students, parents, staff and parish. As a community we seek to share, recognise and promote the skills, talents and abilities of each of our members. We offer an environment that is open, affirming and interactive for all. The development and use of good communication skills is the aim of all members of the St Mary MacKillop College community.



Gospel Values

The College seeks to promote the values of faith, hope, and love, believing them to be at the core of Christ's teaching, the work of Mary MacKillop's life, and at the centre of our College's mission. We model and share knowledge of these values and accept the challenge they pose to each of our lives.

Excellence in Education

St Mary MacKillop College strives for excellence in education. We provide strong curriculum and pastoral structures which are dynamic and responsive. We encourage students, parents and staff to strive for personal and professional goals. We recognise that all members of our community have a unique contribution to make to the growth of the College.

Nurturing Community

St Mary MacKillop College is concerned with the well being of every member of its community. We seek to affirm, value, support and challenge individuals by caring for and listening to them and by celebrating their progress.

Empowered to Face the Future

St Mary MacKillop College provides opportunities to develop self-esteem, critical thinking, the acceptance of differences and the promotion of social justice through Pastoral Care programs and a forward-thinking curriculum which caters for individual needs. The College strives to promote life-long learning practices to enable students to face the risks and challenges of the future and to be agents of positive change in that future.

Faith and Courage

St Mary MacKillop College strives to empower and encourage members of the community to own their faith and develop it. We seek to affirm and recognise those who have the courage to stand up for their beliefs and for the rights of others. Further, we seek to provide opportunities for the integration of faith and life, particularly through liturgy, prayer and daily living out of Gospel values.



Wanniassa

The Junior Campus

The Wanniassa Campus accommodates students for Years 7, 8 and 9.

The Year 7 program is based on principles of belonging and of integrated learning. Year 7 students are placed in a pastoral class belonging to one of the Houses: Gurabang, Meup Meup, Mindygari or Ngadyung. This pastoral class remains together for Integrated Humanities, which includes Religious Education, English and Studies of Society and Environment. The curriculum offered to students in Year 7 meets the requirements of the Australian Curriculum in the core areas of English, Mathematics, Science, and History.

Students also undertake studies in the areas of Modern Languages, Science, Art, Food and Textiles, Music, Physical Education and Health and Technology.

Year 8 students have pastoral classes based on House groups. In Year 8, students undertake study in the core areas as well as being able to choose from a range of elective courses.

In Year 9, students have a greater choice of courses. All students undertake the Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science, and History, as well as studying Religious Education and Physical Education. The range of elective courses in Year 9 is much more varied.

To support the breadth of curriculum offered at the Wanniassa Campus, an excellent range of facilities exist. These include music rooms, a theatre, gymnasium, kitchens, science and technology laboratories, art and textiles rooms and computer laboratories. The library and science labs are currently undergoing an extensive refurbishment.

An extensive team of support staff including counsellors, technical assistants and teacher aides assist students and teachers within and outside the classroom.

Enrichment and Challenge

The College seeks to address the needs of all students. In Year 7, students are placed in mixed ability classes for all subjects except Mathematics, where small remedial classes are offered to students who require additional assistance. Within each class, the teacher seeks to challenge and extend individual students and support others who need additional help with their studies. Students with learning difficulties may also receive assistance in the classroom from teacher aides.

In Year 8, Extension and Support classes have been added in English and Mathematics. These additional classes have been introduced in those subject areas where literacy and numeracy are crucial, and to offer further extension and support to students. Students in Years 7-9 who are identified as gifted are invited to participate in a separate program to challenge and enrich their educational experiences.

In Year 9, students are placed in Mathematics, English and Science classes concomitant with their ability and application to studies. In other subject areas, students have a great deal of choice as to units studied. This way they are able to select units that suit their abilities and interests.

At Wanniassa, students are encouraged to engage in a range of leadership and co-curricula opportunities, including Student Representative Council, musical productions, sport clubs and the band program.



Isabella

The Senior Campus



The Isabella Campus accommodates students in Years 10, 11 and 12.

The senior campus provides a variety of curriculum options. In Year 10 students undertake study in the core areas of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science and Studies of Society and Environment, as well as being able to choose from a wide range of elective units. In Year 10 students are placed in Mathematics and English classes concomitant with their ability and application to studies. In other subject areas, students have a great deal of choice as to units studied. In this way students are able to select units that suit their abilities and interests. It is important for Year 10 students to have a sound understanding of their academic strengths so that, when they arrive at their senior studies, appropriate choices can be made. Year 10 students undertake formal counselling with their parents in order to help inform their decisions regarding senior studies.

In Years 11 and 12 students undertake a program of study designed to provide a pathway to the workforce or tertiary study. All courses offered in Years 11 and 12 are accredited and approved by the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies. It is compulsory for students enrolled at MacKillop to study English, Mathematics, and Religious Education in Year 11. In Year 12, students are required to study English. Mathematics, however, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Students with aspirations to attend university are offered a wide range of tertiary subjects as well as choices in Accredited and Vocational subject areas including Information Technology, Fashion Design, Hospitality, Media, Music, Business Administration and Furniture Construction. Individual student packages are developed to meet the needs of each student. Counselling is provided for all students to ensure their package is appropriate and that it will prepare the student for future career options.

Specialist facilities on the Isabella Campus include well-equipped science laboratories, two commercial kitchens, textile and art rooms, industrial technology workshops and Trade Training Centre, gymnasium, drama, dance and music rooms, a comprehensive Information Resource Centre and computer laboratories complete with modern equipment.

Staff promote an atmosphere conducive to learning, are approachable and encourage students to achieve their potential. Pastoral structures exist to ensure students are cared for and enhance the bonds that form between students and staff.

Students are encouraged to develop leadership skills in a range of activities and programs on offer at the College. These include camps and retreats, the Student Representative Council, drama, musical productions, the opportunity to play in or coach a variety of sporting teams, and to become involved in outreach programs in feeder primary schools.

Middle School Year 7

Core Subjects

- Integrated Humanities
 - ⇒ Religious Education
 - ⇒ English
 - ⇒ Studies of Society and Environment
- Mathematics
- Science
- Physical Education
- Food & Textiles Technology
- Modern Languages
- Performing Arts
- Technology
- Visual Arts

Middle School Year 8

Core Subjects

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Studies of Society and Environment
- Physical Education

Elective Choices

- Food & Textiles Technology
- Information and Communication Technology
- Modern Languages (French/Japanese/Italian)
- Performing Arts
- Technology
- Visual Arts

Bridging School Years 9-10

Core Subjects

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Studies of Society and Environment
- Physical Education

Elective Choices

- Food & Textiles Technology
- Information and Communication Technology
- Modern Languages
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- Technology
- Visual Arts



Years 11 - 12

Religious Education

- Religious Studies (T/A)

English

- English (T/A)

Mathematics

- Specialist Mathematics (T)
- Mathematical Methods (T)
- Mathematical Applications (T)
- General Mathematics (A)
- Mathematics for Living (A)

Studies of Society & Environment (SOSE)

- Business Studies (T/A)
- Economics (T)
- Geography (T/A)
- History (T/A)
- Legal Studies (T/A)
- Psychology (T/A)
- Sociology (T/A)

Information & Communication Technology

- Business Administration (A/V)
- Information Technology (T/A/V)
- Media (T/A/V)

Food and Textiles

- Hospitality (A/V)
- Fashion Design and Textiles (T/A/V)
- Social and Community Work (A/V)



Technology

- Design and Graphic Communication (Technical Drawing) (T/A)
- Furniture Construction (A/V)
- Construction Pathways (A/V/C)

Modern Languages

- Continuing French (T)
- Continuing Japanese (T)
- Beginning Italian (T)
- Beginning Mandarin (T)

Performing Arts

- Dance Studies (T/A)
- Drama (T/A)
- Holistic Music (T/A)
- Production for Live Theatre (A/V)
- Music Industry (C)

Physical Education

- Human Movement (T)
- Physical Education (A)
- Sport and Recreation (A/V)

Science

- Biology (T/A)
- Chemistry (T)
- Physics (T)
- Applied Science (A)

Contemporary Transition

- Work Education (A/V)

Visual Arts

- Graphic Art (T/A)
- Photography (T/A)
- Visual Art (T/A)

Registered Courses

- First Aid Intermediate
- Sports Participation
- Recreational PE
- Sport Training for the Elite
- Questacon Schools Training Program
- Faith in Action
- Choral Performance

All accredited courses can be modified as 'M' courses to cater for the needs of all students.

A full description of senior courses is available in the 2012 Senior School Handbook.

Opportunities

Curricula

Years 7 - 10

Year 7 Integrated Humanities

In Year 7 students study Integrated Humanities (IHum). IHum includes Religious Education, English and Studies of Society and the Environment. Integrating these subjects offers a holistic approach to learning. A significant benefit for students is that the transition into High School is made easier by reducing the number of teachers and subjects.

Core Subjects

All students in Years 7 to 10 study Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, SOSE, Physical Education and Pastoral Program. This selection ensures students are engaging in a broad educational package in these key years.

In Years 9 and 10 students are able to study English and Mathematics at Level 1, 2 or 3 and choose Science subjects that provide pathways into senior units.

Teaching at MacKillop is diverse, interactive and engaging, targeting student needs. We operate on a principle of inclusion and, to meet the varying needs of students, deliver differentiated curriculum in all subjects. Similarly, assessment takes a variety of forms, allowing students to demonstrate their strengths over each semester. Student progress is reported to parents at the end of each semester.

Electives Range

To foster different skills and talents, MacKillop offers students a wide choice in elective subjects with specialist teachers and facilities. These include Food and Textiles, Information and Communication Technology, Modern Languages, Performing Arts, Technology (industrial), and Visual Arts. In Year 7, students experience each of these electives for a term. From Year 8, students are encouraged to make subject choices that build on their strengths and interests.



Tutorials

In order to assist students with their studies, Mathematics tutorials are conducted by staff on a weekly basis. Tutorial assistance is also provided by a number of faculties at peak assessment times.

Years 11 - 12

In Years 11 and 12 students can choose from a wide variety of Tertiary (T), Accredited (A), Vocational (V), and Higher Education (H) courses. Studying any of these courses at a Senior level will qualify the student for a Year 12 Certificate. Only T and H courses qualify students for an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

The Vocational Program

In addition to the Vocational subjects, ASBA (Australian School based Apprenticeships) Programs are available. Currently, MacKillop students are involved in areas of Automotive, Hairdressing, Hospitality, Retail, Spray Painting/Panel Beating, Community Pharmacy and Aged Care. Students who undertake vocational studies may participate in work placements and may qualify to receive a nationally recognised certificate.

The External Linkages Program

The ANU Secondary College and the Canberra School of Music are external agencies that work in conjunction with MacKillop to enable talented or high performing students to study concurrently with each agency while at school.

Year 12 AST Program

All Year 12 students who are seeking university entrance participate in a weekly program aimed at preparing them for the Australian Scaling Test (AST). This includes workshops related to the Writing Task, Short Answer Response and Multiple Choice Tests.

Co-Curricula

St Mary MacKillop College considers education as more encompassing than providing a sound curriculum within the classroom. With parents, we strive to provide a balanced education that not only prepares students academically but also physically, socially and spiritually.

Supporting the formal curriculum, the College provides a range of co-curricula opportunities for students to further explore their interests and talents. Since co-curricula activities are usually conducted out of normal school hours, students are able to work with their peers in a less formal environment. These valuable opportunities are made possible by the generous support of teachers, parents and friends of the College.

The College has a long tradition of involvement in sports, debating, public speaking, musicals, Duke of Edinburgh Award Program, liturgy, camps, retreats and youth ministry.

Students enjoy participating in competitive and social sports including swimming, cross country, athletics, netball, softball, basketball, squash, cricket, tennis, hockey and the various codes of football. The College competes in carnivals and events organised by the Associated Southern Colleges and ACT Secondary Schools Sports Association.

MacKillop students are also given the opportunity to participate in the sport of fencing after the College created a program in conjunction with the ACT Fencing Association in 2009.

Students are able to learn musical instruments through the Musicorp program, which operates on the Wanniasa Campus. There are senior and junior band programs as well as student choirs.

Camps and retreats provide an invaluable opportunity for students to associate with each other and with staff in an informal learning environment. These activities also allow students to further explore areas of their development such as teamwork and personal faith.

Formal leadership opportunities exist for students from Years 7 to 12 in the Student Representative Council. Students assist in the leadership of the College, campus or one of the Houses. The SRC oversees our outreach program that fundraises for local and national charities and organises events for students, including fundraisers, fashion parades and variety night.

Programs such as the Science and Engineering Challenge, Tournament of the Minds, RoboCup, and Debating, among others, offer opportunities for extension and for exploring new interests.



Home and College



St Mary MacKillop College recognises that parents are the primary educators of their children and aims to support them in the education process.

A number of formal and informal opportunities exist at St Mary MacKillop College to assist teachers and parents in working together in the education and welfare of their children. Parents are always welcome at College and campus functions such as liturgies, presentation assemblies and information evenings. These occasions help provide parents with a taste of the life of the College as well as an opportunity to meet and speak with each other and staff. This informal interaction is integral to the life of the MacKillop community.

Formal communication between College and home is also of high importance. Through publications such as newsletters, mail-outs, and the College website, the College is able to inform families of College news, upcoming events, important information and relevant issues.



Our student diary assists with the day to day communication between home and College. Parents and teachers communicate through the diary if and when the need arises. At times it may be necessary for either a teacher or parent to initiate an appointment.

Formal progress interviews involving student, parents and subject teachers are conducted in Terms 1 and 3. Within this forum, student progress and related matters are discussed in an atmosphere of collaboration. At the end of each semester a formal report for each student is prepared and posted home. This report provides an overview of student performance and progress throughout the semester.



The College Board is a key body in the administration of the College. Its membership consists of staff and parent representatives and feedback from Board meetings is published in the College Newsletter.

St Mary MacKillop College is part of the wider Catholic community within the Tuggeranong Valley. Parish Priests are actively involved in the school and provide invaluable support in the classroom, on retreats and in other aspects of the sacramental life of the College.

To further support students, professional counsellors, a Defence Force Transition Mentor, and Indigenous Home School Liaison Officer are located at both the Wanniasa and Isabella Campuses.

Quality Conduct

The Catholic School



It is a requirement that students of St Mary MacKillop College conduct themselves in a manner which shows respect and support for staff, for their peers and for their environment. Parents are viewed as the first teachers of their children and thus are an essential link in assisting students to meet College expectations.

The College is committed to the spiritual, physical, emotional and mental welfare of staff and students. To this end it seeks to affirm students whose conduct is responsible and redirect those whose behaviour is inappropriate.

Pastoral Care Policies within the College seek to promote growth, self-worth and dignity through:

- The merit system.
- Focused pastoral care programs.
- Participation in social justice action within the College and the wider community.
- Acknowledgement of good works and achievements through notes in the Diary, merit points, certificates, status awards, MacKillop reward tokens, assemblies and end of semester presentations.

The Quality Conduct Policy, based on restorative justice processes, seeks to have students understand that with rights come responsibilities. Students have the right to be treated with courtesy and with justice but must also accept responsibility for self-discipline and for accepting that poor decisions and inappropriate behaviour have consequences.

Management of inappropriate behaviour includes:

- Communication with parents and guardians.
- Consultation with relevant Pastoral staff such as Pastoral Care teachers, Pastoral Care Coordinators, Counsellors, Assistant Principal Pastoral Care and Campus Head.
- Interviews with school personnel and outside agencies.
- Counselling of students.

Consequences for inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour include:

- A report of the incident inserted in the student's file.
- Restorative meetings and reflective letters.
- Removal of privileges i.e. school excursions, College representation, access to physical resources and use of school equipment/facilities.
- College detention – school hours – post-school hours.
- In-house suspension.
- Suspension.
- Exclusion (as per CEO guidelines).

Acts of violence, vandalism, discrimination, racial vilification, harassment, bullying or intimidation are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Students may not be in possession of weapons of any kind at school or when involved with school-related activities.



St Mary MacKillop College strives to be a “no drugs” College. No student may be in possession of or receipt of illegal substances, alcohol or cigarettes at school, travelling to or from school, when engaged in a school activity or when representing the school at any sporting or other extra-curricular activity.

A student may be required to make available for inspection their school bag or locker if directed by the Principal, Campus Head or other senior member of staff. Lockers remain the property of the College.



Uniform

The MacKillop Uniform

JUNIOR GIRLS SUMMER UNIFORM (Years 7-10)

Teal check summer dress or tailored navy slacks with College monogram
White over-blouse with College monogram
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Plain short white socks
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



JUNIOR BOYS SUMMER UNIFORM (Years 7-10)

Tailored mid-grey school shorts or trousers
White shirt
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Black belt
Grey or black socks (if shorts are worn, socks must be grey)
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



JUNIOR GIRLS WINTER UNIFORM (Years 7-10)

Pleated tartan winter skirt or tailored navy slacks with College monogram
White over-blouse with College monogram
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Teal kerchief
Opaque navy tights (optional)
Plain short white socks
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



JUNIOR BOYS WINTER UNIFORM (Years 7-10)

Tailored mid-grey trousers
White shirt
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Junior school tie
Black belt
Grey or black socks
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



SENIOR GIRLS SUMMER UNIFORM (Years 11&12)

Pleated tartan skirt or tailored navy slacks with College monogram
White senior over-blouse with College monogram
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Plain short white socks
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



SENIOR BOYS SUMMER UNIFORM (Years 11&12)

Tailored mid-grey school shorts or trousers
Chambray shirt with College monogram
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Black belt
Grey or black socks (if shorts are worn, socks must be grey)
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



SENIOR GIRLS WINTER UNIFORM (Years 11&12)

Pleated tartan skirt or tailored navy slacks with College monogram
White senior over-blouse with College monogram
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Teal kerchief
Opaque navy tights (optional)
Plain short white socks
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



SENIOR BOYS WINTER UNIFORM (Years 11&12)

Tailored mid-grey trousers
Chambray shirt with College monogram
Teal jumper
Traditional, lace up, black, polishable school shoes
Senior school tie
Black belt
Grey or black socks
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat
Navy Kea jacket with College crest
College blazer (optional)



SPORTS/PE UNIFORM (BOYS AND GIRLS)

Plain navy shorts/track pants with College monogram
Lace-up tennis shoes or joggers
White College polo top
White sports socks
Rugby-style College top
School cap/plain navy broad brimmed hat

Why MacKillop?

Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION: Will my child be welcome?

ANSWER: MacKillop celebrates the fact that we offer more places in Year 7 than any other secondary school in Canberra. Fifty per cent of our students belong to a faith tradition other than Catholic, over 30 primary schools are represented at MacKillop, and our low fee structure and significant financial support of families means that we are a genuinely inclusive community.

QUESTION: Will co-education benefit my child?

ANSWER: Yes! Learning is a lifelong experience. Learning in kindergarten and early childhood centres is co-educational, most K-6 primary schools are co-educational, and CIT and university are both co-educational, as is the work place.

Boys and girls learn together at MacKillop, promoting a mutual respect for gender difference, cohesive intellectual energy, and a learning community that best reflects the society our students belong to and are being prepared to one day lead.

QUESTION: How will the faith life of MacKillop benefit my child?

ANSWER: The faith tradition of your family will be respected and honoured. MacKillop respects the contribution each student, teacher, and their families can make to building an inclusive, welcoming faith life that promotes the life, teaching, and example of Jesus Christ and the Church He gave us.

At the heart of a MacKillop education is the idea of a loving God; the trust, affection, consideration, and sacrifice we show each other are some signs of the presence of the Kingdom of God in all of us.

QUESTION: What will the teachers be like?

ANSWER: The teachers of MacKillop vary in age, experience, academic background, interests, and cultural pursuits. They are united in their dedication to the Catholic mission of the College, the achievement of optimum results for their students, the creation of a positive learning environment, and to ensuring that no child slips through the cracks in this large, vibrant school. The best thing about MacKillop is the staff.

QUESTION: How will I be included in my child's MacKillop education?

ANSWER: Parents are listened to at MacKillop! Of course we have regular academic and pastoral reporting, information evenings, a College Board with strong parent representation, open assemblies, welcoming liturgies, newsletters, and websites, which are all available to parents.

A parent can expect to be able to meet with and talk to their child's teachers, have phone calls promptly returned, emails responded to, interviews arranged, and to have their questions, hopes, concerns, and anxieties listened to and acted upon. At MacKillop, we recognise parents as the first and best teachers of your children.

QUESTION: What projects do you have in plan for the near future?

ANSWER: In 2011, St Mary MacKillop College began construction on several projects that will enhance the resources at the College's disposal.

The Isabella Campus has seen the development of a new Trade Training Centre, which has extended its stellar Vocational Educational facilities. The refurbishment of the Wanniasa Campus Library into a state-of-the-art facility will support the College's commitment to critical learning and research, the use of the latest technologies to support that learning, and to sustain the College as a community of readers. In addition, the science laboratories and classrooms at Wanniasa will undergo extensive refurbishment in 2011, which will underpin the outstanding teaching of science at MacKillop.

The major ICT project for 2011 and beyond is the laptop rollout. Year 7 students will each receive a laptop or netbook computer as part of the Federal Government's 'Digital Education Revolution'.

These exciting projects are providing MacKillop students with more opportunities than ever before!

Why MacKillop?

Testimonials



Seanne Inkpen
Year 12, 2011 - College Captain

Great Teaching, Fun Learning!

"Our teachers are the best! MacKillop's Vision speaks of a 'learning environment where excellence in education is valued,' and our teachers seem to live by this motto. Whenever I have a problem in class, my teachers are there to help. They go the 'extra mile' to offer their support and in doing so, they provide their students with so many opportunities. I love that they respect us and treat us like adults – they are really the strength of the College."



Adam Refki
Year 12, 2011 - College Captain

A Wealth Of Opportunity

"There's something for everyone at MacKillop – it caters for every hope, dream, personality, and talent! If you want to play sport, engage in the arts, partake in special academic programs, better the world through charities and special groups, or chase personal goals, you can do it right here! All students are encouraged and empowered to be the men and women that we want to be – that's why I wouldn't want to be anywhere else for my secondary schooling!"



Anisha Reddy
Year 7, 2011

An Easy Transition

"I was nervous to come to high school but I settled in really quickly – I came to MacKillop knowing very few people, but it didn't take long for me to make heaps of new friends! I feel safe here and the teachers are really supportive; they help us with everything. My favourite subjects include iHum, which is our core class, and Art, because we get to be creative. I've had lots of fun so far!"



Ismail Hammoud
Year 8, 2011

A Welcoming Community

"Everyone accepts you for who you are at MacKillop. There's a great energy and it's easy to get along with people. I remember back to when I arrived in Year 7 – all the older students were really welcoming and the teachers were friendly. People come to MacKillop from all sorts of backgrounds and some even come from as far as NSW just to be here every day. There are so many interesting people here!"



Nathan Bizjak
Year 9, 2011 - Wanniasa Campus Captain

Leadership

"MacKillop students are given many opportunities to be leaders through the SRC, the Anti-bullying Committee, the Social Action Group, and through other committees. I've gained confidence and have learned many different skills from my involvement in the SRC. MacKillop students are very generous and socially aware and they love getting involved. It's great to have responsibility and to know that I am contributing to this large community."



Claudia Holland
Year 9, 2011 - Wanniasa Campus Captain

Nurturing The Future

"What's not to love about MacKillop? There are so many opportunities here to explore all sorts of subjects and activities. We have lots of enthusiastic teachers who have made it their goal to prepare us for all the challenges of our futures. I feel that I'm being nurtured and guided in an atmosphere that is very welcoming and tolerant of others."

Testimonials



Toby and Jasmin Hunkin
Junior Campus Students

The Co-educational Environment

“For us, one of the best things about MacKillop is that it’s co-educational, which means that we can both come to the same school as brother and sister. Because we learn with boys and girls we get many different perspectives on things in the classroom. Also, co-education is relevant to the wider world. Everyone is friendly at MacKillop – the boys respect the girls and the girls respect the boys.”



Jemma Griffiths
Year 10, 2011

The Two Campuses

“I think there are so many positives to having two campuses. When we arrived at Wanniasa in Year 7 we had our iHum classes that helped to settle us into high school. Then, in Year 9, we had the experience of being campus leaders, which helped us to mature. There’s a different feel to Isabella – I feel like we’re treated more like adults, which is great because we’re slowly being prepared to be more independent and responsible for our actions.”



Lachlan Monger
Year 12, 2010

A Sporting College

“As an athlete, I’ve found MacKillop to be very supportive of my sporting pursuits and I’m eternally grateful. MacKillop has had a lot of successful athletes like Soccerroo Carl Valeri and Sprinter Melissa Breen, and I’d love to follow in their footsteps and represent my country one day, too. Whether you want to be an elite athlete or just participate in a wide range of sports, MacKillop is the place to be.”



Grace Seanson
Year 12, 2011

Faith Life

“Two of the highlights in the College calendar are the Opening Mass and MacKillop Day, where we celebrate the life of our patron. There’s a great community spirit at MacKillop! People from all faith traditions are welcome here, which helps us to develop a respect for the beliefs of all people. I feel that MacKillop has helped to strengthen my connection to God and has nurtured me into a well-rounded person.”



Samantha Crane
2009 ACT VET (Vocational Education and Training) Student of the Year

Education For The Workforce

“In Year 11, I started doing an Australian School Based Apprenticeship in the field of Business Administration, which allowed me to get a head start on an apprenticeship while I gained my Year 12 Certificate. MacKillop is truly a leader in Vocational Education and provides great advice so students can make informed decisions about their futures.”



Jordan Pitt
2010 DUX and ACT Indigenous Student of the Year - Now studying Science at ANU

Excellence In Education

“Staying at MacKillop for Years 11 and 12 was always my preferred option, and it proved to be a wise choice. The ANU Secondary College Mathematics program helped me get a foot in the door. The Academic Program challenged me and prepared me for university – it put me in a position where I’m in full control of my future. I cannot thank my teachers enough for the support they gave me through my six years at the school – I had a blast!”

Why MacKillop?

Seven reasons to choose MacKillop

Why is St Mary MacKillop College Canberra's largest Catholic coeducational school?

Because of the great teaching: A school can be no greater than its teachers, and MacKillop prides itself on employing the very best. With teachers committed to engaging, challenging, and encouraging each and every student to develop their love for learning, it's no wonder the students often say that MacKillop's strength is truly found in its talented staff.

The College's NAPLAN results show that students who enrol in Year 7 at MacKillop achieve remarkable progress by the time they are in Year 9 – the kind of progress that continues into their senior years. The "like school" NAPLAN data reflects brilliantly on the quality of our academic environment. Students do well at MacKillop!

Because of the safe and dynamic community: MacKillop boasts a Pastoral Care program that has been held in high regard by teachers, students, and parents alike. It promotes an open school that is welcoming, respectful of differences, enthusiastic about different talents, and where students can speak openly about their concerns and where they can expect that they will be helped. There's an energy at MacKillop that is fun, safe, and truly irresistible!

Because of the opportunities for each and every child: With the development of a new Trade Training Centre, to extend MacKillop's stellar Vocational Education facilities, a new state-of-the-art Information Resource Centre, and the refurbishment of the College's science laboratories all set for completion this year, future and current students will have more opportunities than ever before.

The Trade Training Centre will include a new commercial kitchen and an extension to the technology facilities, allowing MacKillop to offer additional vocational certificates in the senior years.

The laptop program will begin rolling out to Years 7 and 11 this year (and will continue in 2012), while online education programs StudyWiz and Yourtutor continue to provide students with academic assistance outside of the classroom.

It's coeducation – the way of the future: Boys and girls learn together at MacKillop, promoting a mutual respect for gender difference, cohesive intellectual energy, and a learning community that best reflect the society our students belong to and are being prepared to one-day lead. Co-education is normal, healthy, and the way life-long learning occurs. Why would you not have it in those critical secondary school years?

You can achieve at MacKillop: If you want academic achievement, MacKillop is the place to be. If you want to achieve your sporting goals, MacKillop is the place to be. If you want to set yourself up to begin a trade or join the workforce, MacKillop is the place to be. Students come to MacKillop with many different talents and dreams, which MacKillop's teachers seek to nurture and encourage. MacKillop's achievements in cultural, sporting, and academic life serve as a source of pride to the student body and the wider community.

Maybe it's because we're Catholic: At MacKillop, we're faithful to the Gospels, attentive to the example of Jesus Christ, and challenged by the life and work of St Mary MacKillop. We are not perfect at MacKillop but we endeavour to be just, loving, faithful, inclusive of all, and joyful in each other's company. MacKillop is a Catholic school for all!

Because our students love their school (and the feeling's mutual, really): When MacKillop bids farewell to its Year 12 cohort, they leave knowing they were deeply loved by their teachers and their friends. MacKillop students are enthusiastic, generous, proactive, intelligent, and have a good sense of humour. They become young women and men who proceed to tertiary studies or the workplace with confidence, possessing initiative and the ability to make informed decisions.



Contacts

**College Principal
Business Manager**

Mr Michael Lee
Mrs Louise Davidson

Wanniassa Campus (Years 7 - 9)

**Campus Head
Deputy Principal Curriculum (Cross Campus)
Assistant Principal Pastoral Care**

Mr Paul O'Callaghan
Mrs Michelle Marks
Mrs Lois White

Isabella Campus (Years 10 - 12)

**Campus Head
Deputy Principal Curriculum (Cross Campus)**

Ms Sandra Darley
Mrs Michelle Marks

Postal Address PO Box 1211
Tuggeranong ACT 2901

Phone: (02) 6209 0100

Fax Isabella (02) 6292 8632
Fax Wanniassa (02) 6296 2383

Email enrolments@mackillop.act.edu.au

Website <http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au>

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/mackillop.act>

Isabella Ellerston Avenue, Isabella Plains
Wanniassa Mackinnon Street, Wanniassa



St Mary MacKillop College is a dynamic welcoming community based on Gospel values.

It is a learning environment where excellence in education is valued.

Members of the community are nurtured and empowered to face the future with *Faith and Courage*.



Contact Us

Phone	02 6209 0100
Email	enrolments@mackillop.act.edu.au
Website	www.mackillop.act.edu.au
Postal	P.O. Box 1211, Tuggeranong ACT 2901