



**Co-education**

Newington College







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## From the Director of Co-Education

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am thrilled to welcome you to Newington College as we embark upon an exciting new chapter – the introduction of co-education to our historic school.

For more than 160 years, Newington has provided an exceptional education to boys from Kindergarten to Year 12, and now we are proud to extend this opportunity to girls.

We know that by fostering an inclusive and diverse learning environment which embraces all individuals, we create a richer, more dynamic educational experience that better reflects the world our students will inhabit as they journey through their lives.

As you explore the information in this document, you will find that we are thoughtfully and purposefully preparing for this transition.

From uniform design to infrastructure upgrades across our campuses, to further enhancing our extensive curricular and co-curricular programs, we are implementing every measure to ensure all our students receive the internationally respected academic, co-curricular and wellbeing programs Newington is renowned for in an environment second to none.

We understand that being among the first co-educational cohort at Newington is a significant milestone, and we are committed to providing our students with the support and attention they need to thrive and grow. We believe that your child's experience as a pioneering trailblazer at Newington College will not only shape their personal growth but contribute to the rich tapestry of our school's history and future path. We are excited to witness their remarkable achievements and the indelible mark they will leave on our community.

As we embark on this new journey together, I invite you to explore the life-changing opportunities that await your child at Newington College. We are here to answer any questions you may have to support you throughout this exciting transition.

Welcome to our Newington family.

**Ms Brigid Taylor**  
**Director of Co-Education**

## Why Newington

Care for our students is at the centre of everything we do at Newington College. As we look forward to welcoming our first girls in Kindergarten and Year 5 in 2026, our entire staff is focused on ensuring that all our students' co-educational experience is excellent. Our community is excited for the prospect of having your child join us at the College; we simply cannot wait for them to arrive.

Our outstanding teachers and staff are undertaking significant professional learning as we prepare for co-education. Our school leaders have developed well thought-out processes and structures to not only teach your children but also engage with them outside the classroom in all their endeavours. This will ensure that Newington brings out the very best in every child and empowers each student to become the best version of themselves, to discover what's possible. We want all our students to be fierce advocates and passionate Newingtonians of the future. Our rigorous and thorough planning, with your child at its core, will enable your son and daughter to thrive from the outset.

Newington College is committed to helping children develop inspired minds, great hearts, strong wings and firm foundations, ready to take their place in the world as kind, caring and engaged global citizens.

Newington plans to be the best co-educational school in Sydney and this is your child's chance to lead the way. Since our inception in 1863, we have evolved and looked to the future, and once again, we are proud to be adapting as the world around us continues to change.

We know that rigour, resourcefulness and commitment are required to deliver on our educational promises to you, and to prepare our students and College for the next 161 years which lay ahead.

It's an exciting opportunity and one we are more than prepared for as a vibrant, caring and courageous school where all our students are valued, known and inspired to be the best they can be.



**INSPIRED  
MINDS**



**GREAT  
HEARTS**



**STRONG  
WINGS**



## Uniforms

The College has engaged our existing uniform supplier, Midford, to work with us on an exciting refresh of our uniform. Designs have been shared extensively with the community and we are currently finalising all feedback. The uniform will be designed with Newton's core value of inclusivity front of mind and reflect our strong heritage. It will be both smart and practical.

## IPSHA Sport offerings – Prep Schools

Our Prep Schools are members of the IPSHA NSW Sport Association, the leading primary school sport association for independent schools. Sport runs on a Saturday, and students are placed in graded teams after school trials.

Mixed teams will be available in the competition – this is highly popular amongst co-ed schools.

Girls' sports offered by the IPSHA	Boys' sport offered by the IPSHA
Sport for girls is offered termly. <u>Summer:</u> Football (Term 1), Basketball (Term 4) <u>Winter:</u> Netball (Term 2), Touch Football (Term 3)	<u>Summer:</u> Cricket, Tennis, Basketball and Water Polo for Years 5 and 6 <u>Winter:</u> Rugby, Australian Rules Football, Soccer, Fencing, Tennis and Fencing Years 5 and 6

## Requirements

- All students must be involved in Saturday sport.
- Students need to attend pre-season trials to be graded and placed into teams.
- Students are required to make a whole term commitment to a weekly team training session (possibly off campus) with a sport-specific coach.
- Students must attend all games on Saturdays at various locations around Sydney.

## IPSHA carnivals

- Athletics
- Cross Country
- Swimming
- Gymnastics





## Sport offerings – Senior School

Newington students will compete in the Independent Sporting Association (ISA) and Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (GPS). These provide students with the representative pathway to CIS (Combined Independent Schools), NSW All Schools and eventually Australian All Schools.

<b>Girls' sport – ISA</b>	<b>Boys' sport – GPS Competition</b>
<u>Sample sports:</u>	Athletics
Netball	Basketball
Basketball	Cricket
Football	Cross country
Rugby	Football
Australian rules football	Australian rules football
Hockey	Rifle shooting
Tennis	Rowing
Touch football	Rugby
Softball	Swimming
Swimming	Tennis
Volleyball	Volleyball
<u>Other opportunities:</u>	Water polo
Rowing	
Water polo	

### Requirements

All students must be involved in Saturday sport.

## Co-curricular offerings

Newington currently offers a full range of co-curricular activities including music, art and drama across our Prep Schools and Senior School.

A vast array of clubs currently run in our Prep Schools and will continue to run in 2026 and beyond. These include public speaking and debating, chess, STEM club, Code Camp, Lego club and artist clubs to name but a few. Our co-curricular offerings are based on student interest and popularity. This means our clubs program is constantly evolving and changing.

### Critical Thinking

Newington's Centre for Critical Thinking and Ethics is emblematic of our commitment to critical thinking, that is, the capacity to question. Teaching our students to listen, explore, shift and entertain other points of view is part of our teaching pedagogy across all our four campuses from ELC to Year 12 students. We often welcome Speaker in Residences to the College who work with all year groups.

### Drama

Co-curricular Drama provides a creative outlet for students of any experience level who do not study Drama as a subject, while also allowing Drama students to further their performance skills across several areas including singing, acting and dancing. Our Senior School produces a musical and up to four plays a year, while our Wyvern Prep School in Stanmore stages a school musical every two years, featuring Years 5 and 6. Both Wyvern and Lindfield Preps also hold weekly Drama classes as part of our co-curricular program with expert Drama teachers, with speech classes to also be started in 2026. There are also cross campus opportunities for our prep students to visit our senior Stanmore campus to watch older students' productions.

Newington College also has a thriving and successful Impro program that includes students from years 7 to 12 and Theatresports teams.

### Music

Hundreds of Newington students across all years embrace the opportunity to learn a musical instrument as part of our private music lesson program. Most also commit to our ensemble program and share the experience of collective music making. The series of music opportunities is vast: from the string ensemble to woodwind, brass and percussion to vocal ensembles to pop, rock and jazz, the College has opportunities for all musicians to practise and perform.





Throughout the year, there are concerts showcasing the talents of the school's various student ensembles, orchestras, choirs and bands.

## **Public Speaking and Debating**

The Newington Public Speaking program runs four terms a year, with training weekly and a range of competitions for both Prep and Senior students of all abilities. In addition to public speaking, there are opportunities for students to participate in competitions and events of diplomacy and negotiation, such as Model UN and International Model European Parliament.

Debating is likewise prominent at our Prep and Senior campuses. Students can participate in our internal social debating competition and in many external debating competitions. While competitions are an exciting part of public speaking and debating, it is not expected that all students will participate in competitions. Some students may just wish to attend training to improve their confidence, voice and spoken clarity.

## **STEM**

Our Prep School interdisciplinary STEM program is designed to solve real-world problems across geography, history, and beyond. Students will think like scientists, build like engineers, and work with code, using different lenses to approach challenges. By engaging in hands-on science experiments, creative design thinking, and purposeful use of technology, Newington Prep students are inspired to develop a deeper understanding of the scientific and engineering principles that shape our world.







## Mix of genders on transport

Many students travel on public transport, and we have our own buses with set seating for different age groups. We are also able to connect buddy families for those who live near your transport route.

## Library catalogues

The selection of books in the library is dynamic and ever-changing, and we are currently updating our catalogues across the entire school to ensure a broad range of texts for both girls and boys.

## Infrastructure including bathrooms

The College is taking a future-focused approach to the development of campus facilities, and we are currently in the master planning stage. Construction has begun on bathrooms and playgrounds and you can be assured that we will have change room facilities, classrooms and sports facilities that build upon what we already have and meet the needs of all our students.

## Number of girls

Year 5 2026 will have both co-educational and single-sex classes. Our co-educational classes aim to be balanced with approximately 12 girls and 12 boys in each. Kindergarten 2026 will be fully co-educational.

## Wellbeing

Newington is currently engaged in the AIS Whole School Wellbeing project. Drawing on the Australian Student Wellbeing Framework that identified goals to support overall student wellbeing, Newington is implementing a whole-school vision and approach to wellbeing. We understand that we must provide every student with the firmest foundations possible if they are to reach their full potential, both at school and as they enter the world beyond our gates. Our focus is firmly on building upon the ways we promote student mental health and wellbeing, safety and positive relationships so all students thrive.

The College already implements the Second Step social and emotional wellbeing program from Kindergarten through to Year 6.

## Staff professional learning

Most of our highly qualified teachers have taught in co-educational settings and all teachers and staff at Newington will receive additional training on gender equality, stereotyping, child development and neurology, inclusivity and respectful relationships including visits to co-educational schools across Australia.

## Student leadership opportunities

Student leadership is an essential aspect of our student experience at Newington and this will not change. From 2027 in the Prep Schools, we will have girl and boy prefects including dual School captains, vice captains and House captains and vice captains. We also have an Student Representative Council (SRC) where both boys and girls will be representatives.

There will be considerable opportunities for our girls to also lead both formally and informally as our 2026 Year 5 cohort take on peer support roles for ELC and Kindergarten students. Our first girls will be trailblazers at Newington – the first female student leaders in the College’s history.

All students will also be involved in leadership development as they move through Newington K–12 and this will be aligned to our Wellbeing framework.







**CO-ED**  
**FIND OUT MORE**

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