

Canberra
Grammar
School



READY FOR
THE WORLD

BOARDING IN AUSTRALIA'S CAPITAL



WELCOME TO CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

At Canberra Grammar School, we pride ourselves on our long-established history. Being founded in 1929, we are proud of our rich heritage and full of desire to push forward into the future.

At CGS, from Pre-School to Year 12, we ensure our students thrive in a safe and supportive environment, recognising the different needs, interests and strengths of every student and instilling virtues of respect, resilience and responsibility. They are encouraged to be creative, curious, confident and compassionate learners who grow to lead their life as citizens of the world. This is why we offer a choice between studying the New South Wales Higher School Certificate (HSC) or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP). The IBDP is a culmination of global-minded learning, following the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and the Middle Years Programme (MYP). No matter their programme, we prioritise our students' opportunities beyond Year 12, push them to nourish their strengths, and explore a world of global tertiary opportunities.

In Canberra, we enjoy all the opportunities that a capital city can offer at the pace and ease of a small town. The School takes advantage of the breadth of those opportunities, encouraging students to explore and succeed beyond the classroom. With the benefit of access to state of the art facilities, we support our students' physical, social and emotional development with a focus on identity and community.



WELCOME TO CGS BOARDING

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all families to Canberra Grammar School Boarding and introduce the modern boarding experience currently provided for students. Boarding has been an integral part of CGS since our earliest days and remains a crucial part of all that CGS offers for our students. Boarders bring a variety and depth to our community life and enrich the experience of all students. They are integrated within the day school Houses, which provides the opportunity for those from different cultures, geographical areas of Australia and countries across the globe to share their lives and experiences in an environment of respect and inclusion.

Our girls and boys boarding community is known as Manaro House, and we desire that it will become a House where:

- Every student will be known, valued and truly cared for throughout their time at CGS
- Every student will feel they belong and can contribute meaningfully to the House and School; and
- Parents will be encouraged to be part of, and contribute to, the community so that they feel connected even if distance makes it challenging to be physically present.

Boarding provides a unique opportunity for students to benefit from the fantastic grounds and facilities at CGS and all that the nation's capital offers as a vibrant and dynamic city that still retains many peaceful aspects not present in larger cities. Boarders have every opportunity to develop as Curious, Creative, Confident, and Compassionate Citizens of the World in a supportive and safe environment. I sincerely believe that our boarding provision will allow students to develop and thrive in a school that truly ensures they will be ready for the world.

Mr David Smart

Deputy Head (Senior Specialist Care)

Mrs Jenny Hunter

Head of Girls' Boarding

Mr Chris Stearn

Head of Boys' Boarding



THE BEST BOARDING EXPERIENCE ARISES
WHEN BOARDING TRULY BECOMES A HOME
AWAY FROM HOME – A PLACE WHERE
STUDENTS CAN BE SAFE, COMFORTABLE,
AND DEVELOP IN CHARACTER IN A
COMMUNITY THAT IS KIND AND CARING.

MANARO HOUSE VALUES

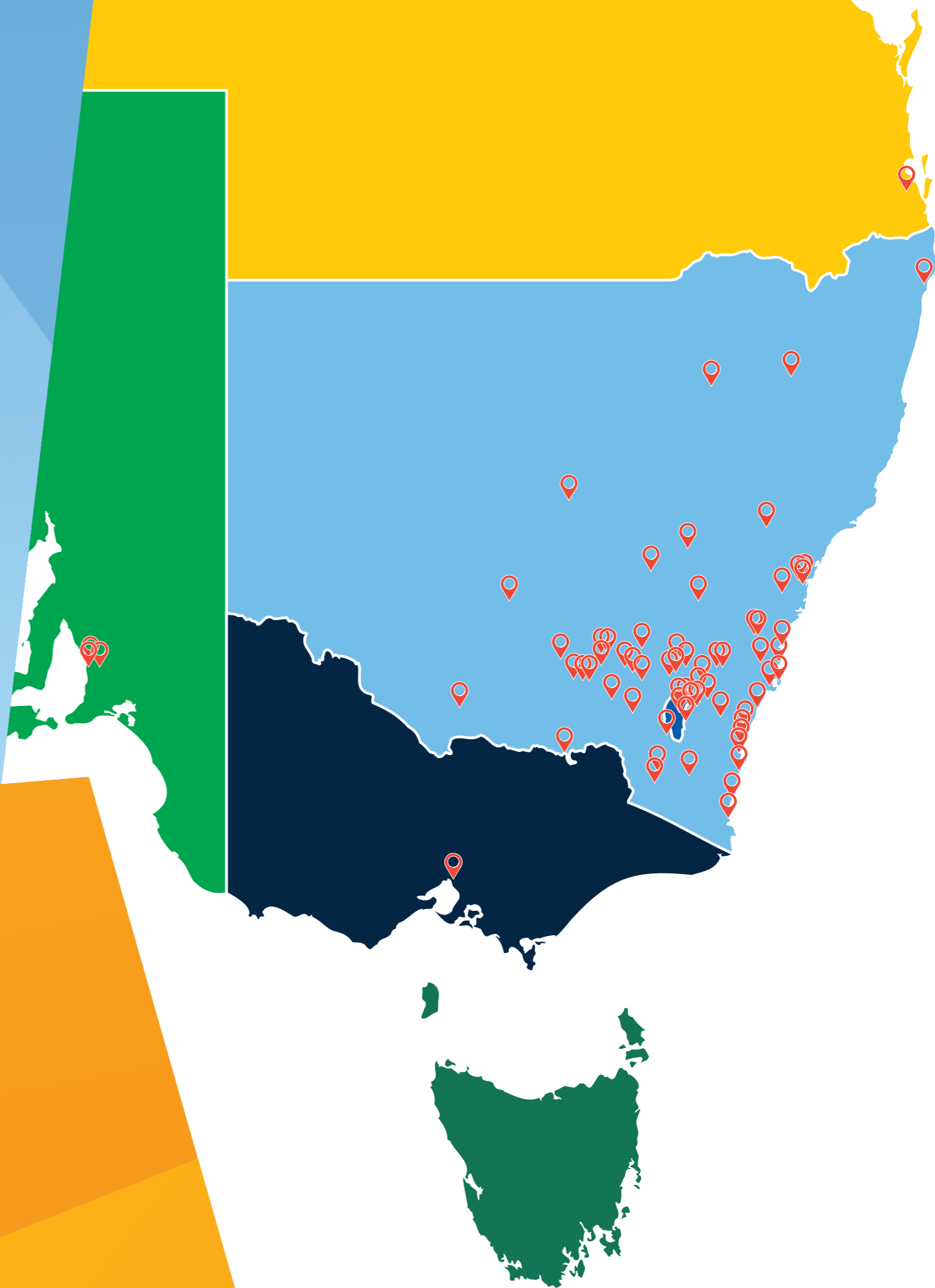
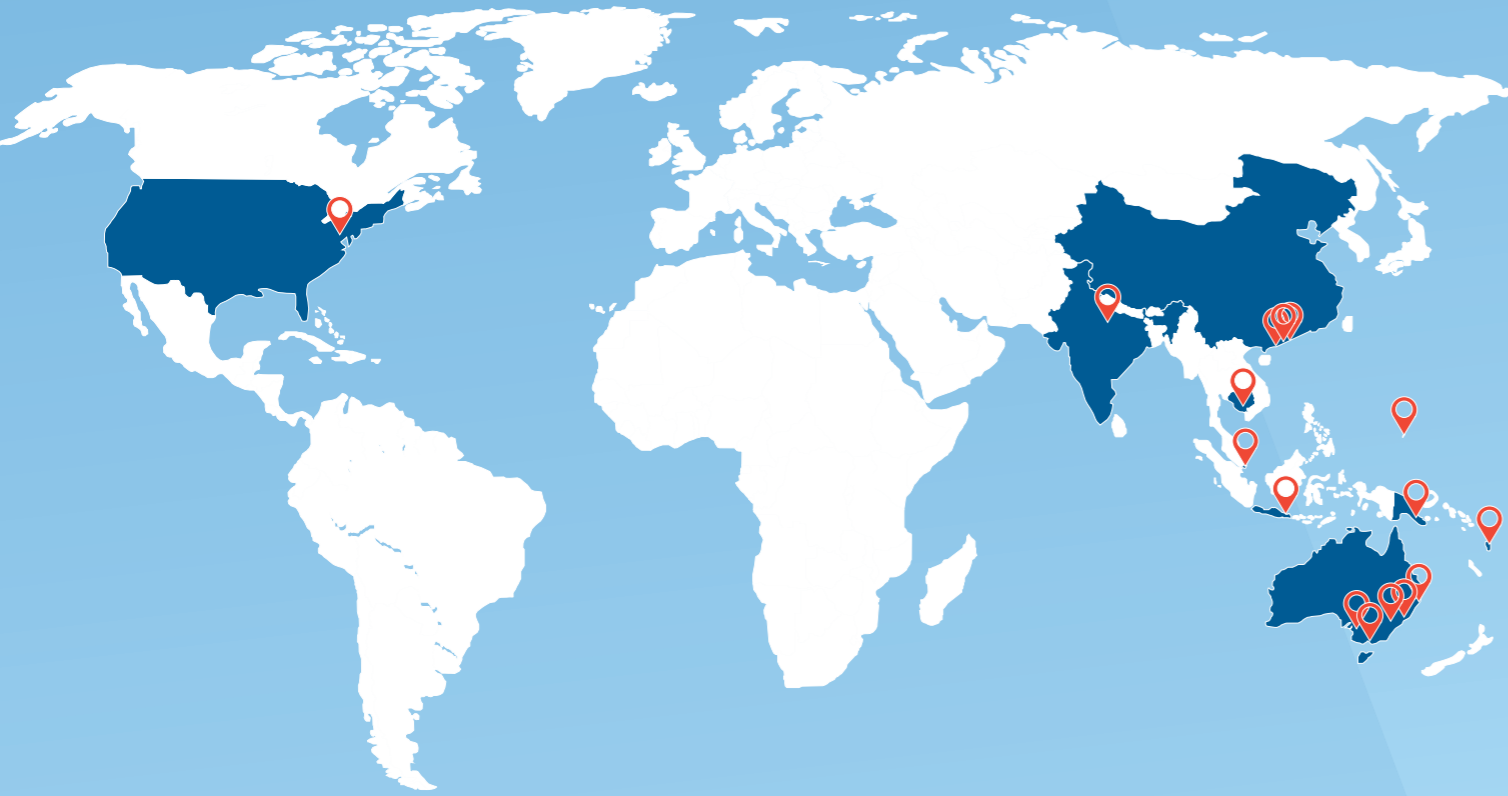


Canberra Grammar School's boarding community is collectively called Manaro House.

In addition to being allocated to day Houses under the care of Heads of Student Houses, belonging to Manaro House allows our boarders to maintain a more distinct home environment whilst integrating fully into the broader life of CGS.



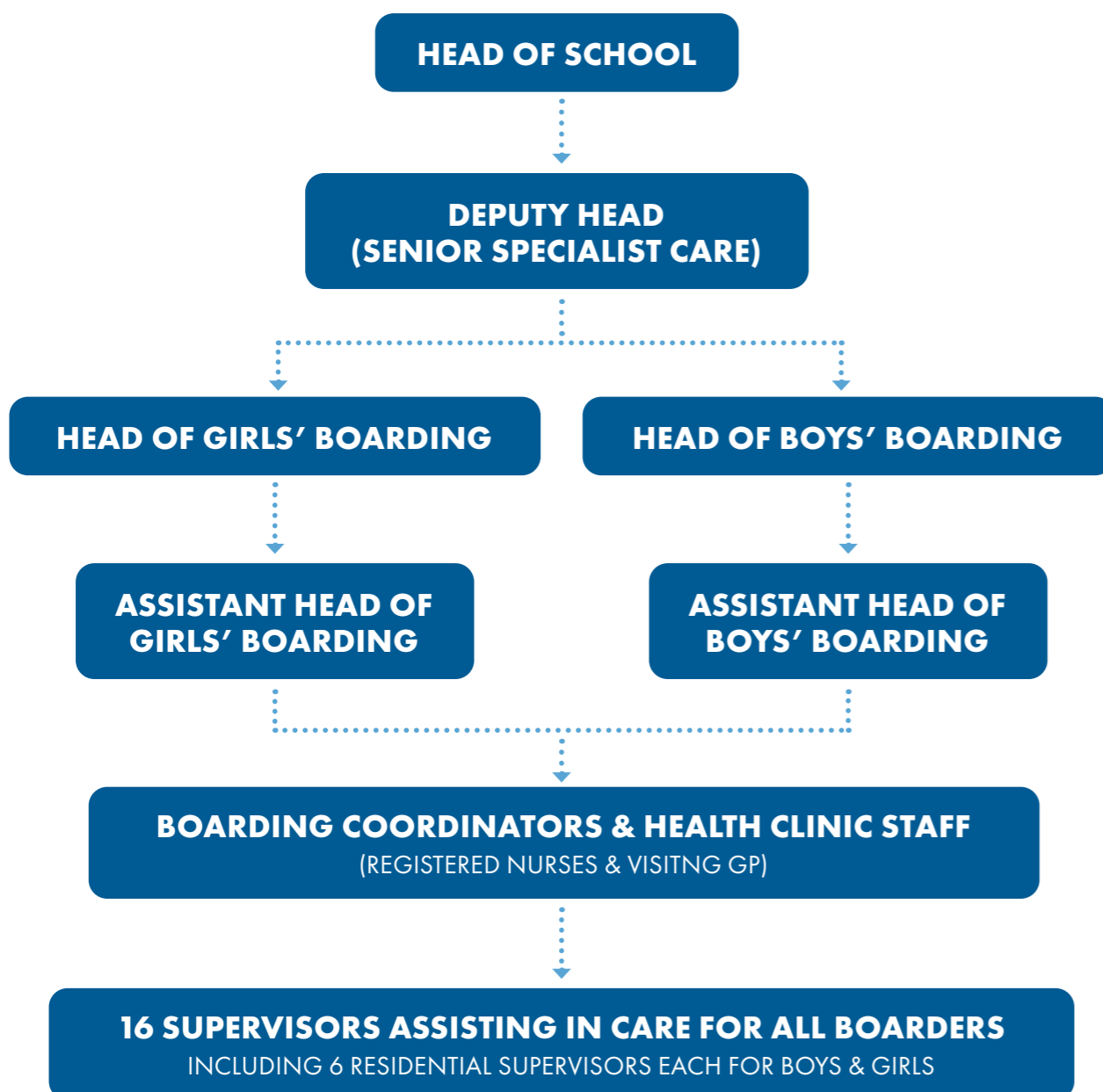
WHERE ARE OUR BOARDERS FROM?



Our boarders come from far and near – rural and regional Australia, overseas schools and international defence and diplomatic communities. This offers great diversity to the community, and a unique opportunity for all students to learn from and grow with each other.

PASTORAL CARE & SUPERVISION

BOARDING STAFF STRUCTURE



DAY SCHOOL PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care involves the development of the intellectual, physical, spiritual, social, and emotional aspect of every boarder. The Boarding Leadership Team have the primary responsibility of being the carers of the boarders. However, through the day student House structure, each boarder has a team of teachers who are involved in the pastoral care of the boarders in their day Houses. The Heads of Boarding and the Heads of Student Houses work closely to ensure that pastoral care between boarding and school is seamless.

The Director of Student Development works closely with the Heads of Boarding and the Heads of Student Houses to develop and implement our holistic wellbeing programmes school-wide. Key pastoral care staff include:

- Head of Student House
- House Tutor
- School Psychologists
- Chaplain and Associate Chaplains
- Indigenous Student Coordinator
- Health Clinic; and, for some
- The Defence Transition Mentor
- Individual Learning Team; and
- Elite Athlete Development Programme.

SUPPORTING OUR BOARDERS



ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT



Our boarders find unity and flourish in following their shared Academic Programmes and routines.

Prep is a vital part of boarders' routine, where they do homework and independent study with uninterrupted support. Prep times vary by year group and occur in a classroom near the Boarding House, supervised by on-duty staff.

Boarders are encouraged to take ownership of their academic progress by using their support systems, developing positive study habits, applying consistent effort, utilizing supervised study time, and seeking assistance for planning, motivation, and progression.

Boarding provides easy access to these opportunities, including assistance from:

- Boarding Supervisors
- Senior Students
- Teaching Staff
- Departmental Tutorials; and
- A-Team Tuition (attends prep regularly to assist with tasks and study skills)



HEALTH & MEDICAL CARE



The CGS Health Clinic is staffed by registered Nurses, and boarders are visited by a GP up to two times a week. Our boarders can also access a physiotherapist and a team of psychologists on-site. The Boarding Coordinators assist boarders to attend required off-site appointments with other allied health professionals.

COMMUNITY BUILDING



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Year 12 boarders have the opportunity to be elected as School Captains and House Captains as part of the Day School. Additionally, Seniors for Manaro will be chosen to represent the boarders 'at home' in the Manaro boarding community.

Captains and Seniors are excellent role models for their peers and the younger boarders. They are responsible for setting high standards of behaviour. They talk regularly with the boarders in the Boarding House allocated to them, attend meetings with the Heads of Boarding, assist in the operation of events for boarders and on occasion, organise weekend activities.

Captains and Seniors act as spokespersons for the boarders and raise issues of concern with the Boarding Leadership Team and the boarding staff.

INDUCTION

The School invites our incoming boarders to a sleepover and experience day in Term 4 of the year prior to commencement. This enables our new boarders to allay some worries that may arise over the summer break before starting the new school year.

Upon arrival, no matter when that may be, we ensure a thorough handover between parents/guardians and boarding staff and a warm reception at the Manaro Common Room. We provide boarders and their families with our service objectives and all relevant policies, procedures and documentation on Welcome Day at the start of the year.

We have a series of induction processes which include:

- A welcome by a relevant boarding staff member upon arrival at the School
- A tour of the Boarding Houses and Day School
- A Boarding Handbook that contains all boarding information needed
- The assignment of a 'buddy' within the Boarding House who will assist with settling into boarding life
- Completing a Boarding Passport, a booklet that encourages students to learn boarding community policies, daily routine, boarding community members and how to access facilities and services such as the Health Clinic, Mail and Laundry
- An IT orientation session and REACH Boarding APP Training; and
- The provision of a personal locker in the Day House.

BOARDER'S SERVICE

Our Boarders are involved in Service throughout the term, divided into two elements – Community Service and Individual Service. Students are split into groups across the boarding houses to enable relationships to develop with students outside of their usual friendship circles and foster community spirit and responsibility in Manaro House.

SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY

The aim is for students to be aware and involved with the upkeep of their Boarding Community at CGS and beyond, to develop a sense of pride and belonging, as well as understanding some hard work! Tasks given include cleaning of Common Room Kitchen, sweeping the floors, polishing school shoes, sweeping common areas, raking leaves and vacuuming the Boarding Vehicles as examples. In addition to this, there is a daily responsibility for clearing and cleaning the Dining Hall at each meal time.

SERVICE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

With this element of service, we want the students to be able to recognise the importance of looking after themselves both physically and mentally. Activities can include yoga, mindfulness, walks up Red Hill, cross country running, circuits, fun games and stretching.



FACILITIES & SERVICES

Nestled in the idyllic surroundings of Red Hill, close to both nature and the heart of the city, the CGS campus provides the perfect setting for students to grow and thrive. With access to modern amenities designed to provide a comfortable and supportive living experience and state-of-the-art athletic, arts, and academic facilities, students are equipped with all the resources they need to succeed.



ON THE WEEKEND

CGS Boarding provides a varied programme of excursions and activities that are age-appropriate for our boarders, generally on an 'opt-in' basis. We aim to provide fun and appealing opportunities to a range of interests, as well as those that assist in social development and encourage a healthy, active lifestyle.

Activities may include bushwalking, swimming, ten-pin bowling, laser tag, golf lessons and games, cooking, movies, lake visits, mountain biking, indoor rock climbing, theatre, and cultural and local sports events. In Canberra, we have all the opportunities for entertainment that a city can offer but at the pace and ease of a small town. We are fortunate to be within a two-and-a-half-hour driving distance of the South Coast beaches and the snow fields, and we run trips to each at least once a year. All activities are supervised by the boarding staff and, when necessary, qualified professionals.

We provide free activities as much as possible, but some will necessitate a cost. We aim to keep costs to a minimum and require parental permission for any activity for which the cost exceeds \$50. Costs for activities will be added to a student's school account.

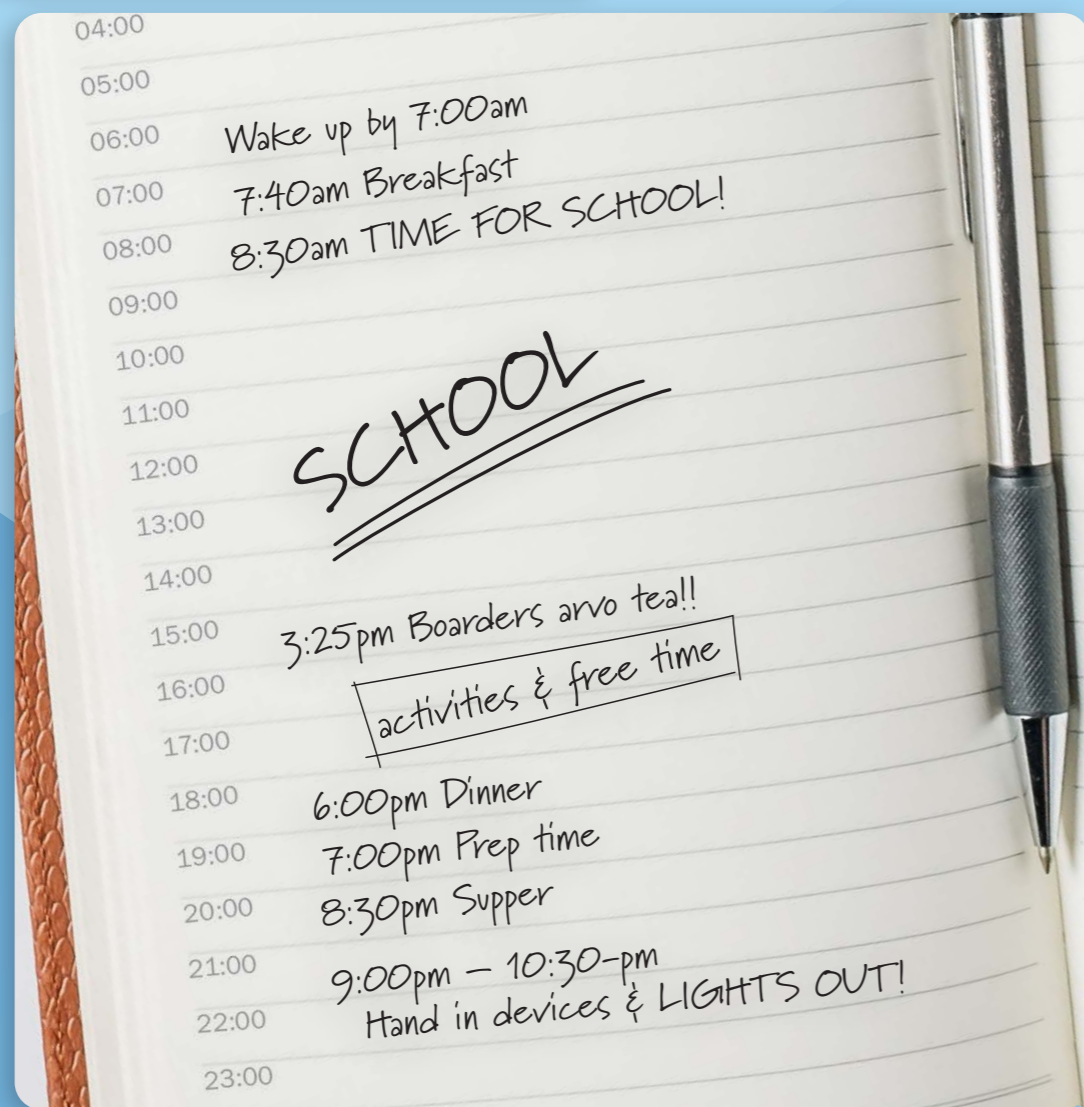
On weekends and in their free time, boarders may, with the relevant leave approved, venture to nearby areas such as Manuka, Woden Centre, and the City Centre to explore, eat, shop, and socialise. Manuka is a particular favourite; just a 15-minute walk down the road, it is a safe and small shopping village where students pick up comfort foods or just enjoy the walk with friends.



Q&A

WITH KAYLAH UPFIELD & MAX CROZIER

Q What does a regular week day look like?



Q What's the food like?

Breakfast is the best meal of the day; we get hot and cold options every day. Not every kid loves every meal, but it is decent. Sometimes they try something new and it doesn't work out, which is fine; we have a food committee to talk to. I love sandwich day. And burger day.

Q How does laundry work?

We have a laundry service. It is amazing; I'm so grateful. The turnover is within a day. It's like magic!

Q Do you do chores?

We sure do. That is actually really important for feeling gratitude for our common areas. Teamwork makes the dream work.

Q What about phones?

We hand them in at night, and I rate it. It's been great to easily prioritise work and sleep.

Q Do you have your own room?

Yep. All the girls do, but younger ones sometimes have a shared door. All the boys except Year 7s do as well.

Q Anything else I should know?

It really is awesome living with your friends. It is such a good atmosphere.





While sending my children to boarding school was not an easy decision, I am gratified and proud to see the new levels of independence, resilience, and maturity in my children. They are fiercely proud of their 'boarder' status and believe they are a special element of the broader CGS community.

– RACHEL ROMNEY-BROWN (PARENT)



I'd like to think I adjusted to boarding fairly quickly. Being neighbours with someone who was also in my year group definitely helped me settle in quicker, and the boarding house also conducted lots of activities in the first few weeks to help everyone to get to know each other.

– SHAURYA, YEAR 12

I have found great comfort in talking to my teachers about settling into boarding, homesickness, and other issues. Having teachers that live in the boarding house has been a great advantage to my sporting and academic endeavours as whenever I am confused or worried about something to do with school, I can ask the teachers, and they are usually a great help.

The one thing that I enjoy most is the relationships, the loyalty from each and every person, the humour and banter that is ever present in the boarding house, and most of all, the accepting nature of everyone, always willing to adapt and meet new people.

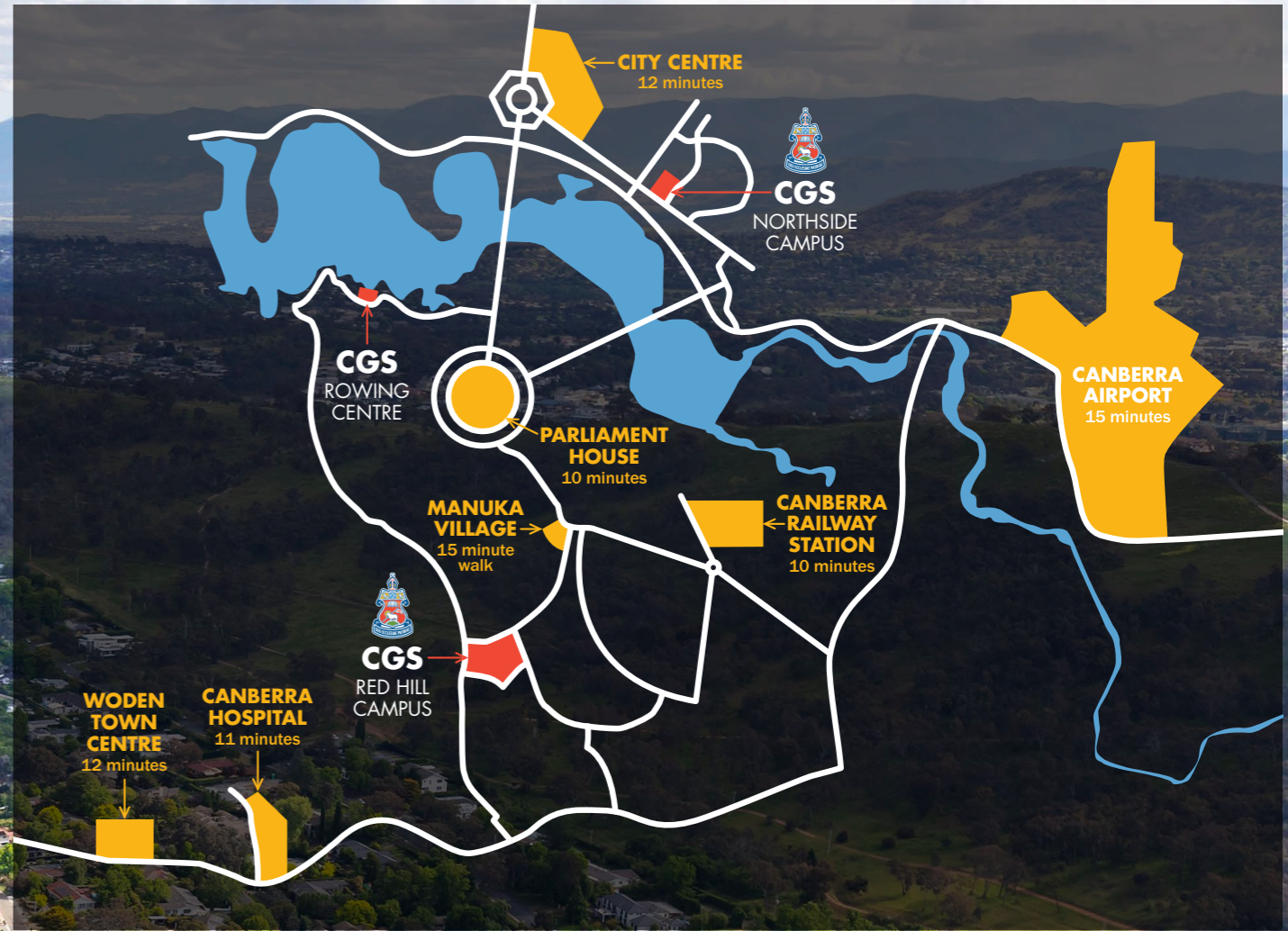
– TOM, YEAR 9



The peer support I have experienced in the boarding house at CGS has helped me so much in all areas of life. The tutors provide us with academic support and help us learn life skills that will benefit us in the future. I love the community aspect of boarding and how everyone here is very accepting, regardless of age or where you come from.

– MIA, YEAR 11





CONTACTS

Senior School Reception

T +61 6260 9700

E seniorschool@cgs.act.edu.au

Boarding Coordinators

T +61 6260 9876

E boardingcoordinator@cgs.act.edu.au

Head of Admissions

T +61 (2) 6260 9700

E admissions@cgs.act.edu.au



SCAN HERE TO ENROL

Canberra
Grammar
School



40 Monaro Crescent,
Red Hill ACT 2603

T +61 (2) 6260 9700

E admissions@cgs.act.edu.au

CGS.ACT.EDU.AU

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