



St Patrick's College
Ballarat
Information Booklet

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College Contacts

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College Office Hours 8:15am – 4:45pm

2023 Leadership

Principal	Mr Steven O'Connor
Deputy Principal (Acting)	Ms Carol Roberts
Business Manager	Mr Andrew Jirik
Director of Risk & Compliance	Mr Jamie Bobrowski
Assistant Principal – Mission and Identity	Mr Geoff Brodie
Assistant Principal – Learning Innovation	Ms Carol Roberts
Assistant Principal – Pastoral Care & Wellbeing	Mr Kevin Robillard
Assistant Principal – Staff and Culture	Mr Simon Peake

Head of Senior School	Mr Mark Robson
Head of Middle School	Mrs Karina Dunne
Head of Junior School	Mr Rodney Clarke

Director of Community Development	Mr Roger Le Grand
Director of Library and Information Services	Mrs Ingrid Perkins
Director of Boarding	Mr James Hopper
Registrar	Mrs Caitlin Bennett

College Auxiliaries

SPC Foundation Secretary:	Mr Roger Le Grand	(03) 5322 4450
Old Collegians' Association:	President: Dr Charlie Flynn	(03) 5331 1688
Rowing Club:	Contact: Mr Tom Nash	(03) 5331 1688
Friends of Music:	Contact: Mrs Sonya Roberts	(03) 5331 1688

St Patrick's College Expectations

1. Students are to attend regularly, be on time for classes and be properly prepared.
2. Students are to contribute to a conducive and effective learning environment in the classroom by following instructions and obeying classroom rules.
3. Students are to contribute to a welcoming, caring and supportive environment by showing consideration for each other and ensuring that their words and actions cause no harm or offence to others.
4. Students are expected to strive for personal excellence in all areas of College life. All College staff will do their utmost to foster a learning environment that enables students to pursue and achieve excellence.
5. Students are to contribute to a safe, orderly environment by moving and acting in a way that is not disruptive or unsafe to themselves or others. The school strictly enforces a 'hands off' policy between students in recognition that every student has the right to feel safe at all times within the College.
6. Students are to contribute to a secure, clean and pleasant environment by acting in ways which look after their own, other peoples' and College property. Students are to contribute positively to the health and hygiene of the school surrounds and wider community in a manner consistent with the importance of preserving and maintaining the natural environment.
7. Students are to take pride in their College by wearing the uniform correctly and acting in a way that reflects well on themselves, their families and the school.



College Leaders 2023: College Captain Sam Clark flanked by Vice Captains Lachlan Brodie and Matthew O'Brien

Pastoral Care

“The Pastoral Care Policy of St Patrick's College is based on the necessity of care for others as demonstrated in the life of Jesus”. – Excerpt from the Pastoral Care Policy.

Pastoral Care permeates the total climate of relationships within the Catholic School. It has the individual as its focus and reflects the support, the encouragement and the tender care shown and experienced in gospel-based communities. – *“Pastoral Care in Catholic Schools” CEO.*

St Patrick's College provides an environment which integrates the Gospel values of love, faith, honesty, integrity, service and justice with daily living and learning. It provides a structure where teachers and other professionals are responsible for the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of individual students and where strong relationships are established between teachers and students and their families. Furthermore, the caring philosophy is reflected through all major sections of the school such as careers advisor, counselling, learning enhancement and an extensive horizontal pastoral care structure incorporating Heads of School, Year Level Co-ordinators and the Homeroom teacher. This philosophy is also deeply ingrained in discipline and the curriculum, especially Religious Education.

Pastoral Group Tutors

Each student is assigned to a Pastoral Group within his year level throughout Years 7-12. In the Junior and Middle Schools, the Pastoral Tutor will teach this class for at least one academic subject.

The Pastoral Tutor undertakes a role which is primarily a pastoral one where they endeavour to maximise opportunities for the development of students in the Home Room. The Pastoral Care program is overseen by the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator who, with the support of the Deputy Principal -Student and Staff Wellbeing, liaise closely with Pastoral Care Tutors and other staff members to ensure that all students feel supported in all aspects of College life. The Pastoral Care Tutor is the first point of contact regarding any concerns about a student and should normally be seen before the Year Level Co-ordinator, Director of School or Deputy Principal.

Student Welfare

Student Welfare has, as its primary function, the support of students within the school. The program is administered by the Deputy Principal and is constantly being reviewed and updated to best meet the needs of students and their families. The School Counsellors are available to students for confidential and personal support when required, and act as a resource for parents, providing information and facilitating contact with community and government agencies. An extensive list of agencies is available to which students may be referred. All new students are interviewed upon arrival and are made aware of the support facilities available.

Enrolment Guidelines

The Guiding Principles

Inspired by the good news of Jesus and the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice, St Patrick's College educates the whole person – mind, body, heart and soul – and through this, liberates our students and equips them with resilience, good humour and character, commitment, compassion and wisdom which both enables and ennobles them to contribute significantly to the world.

'Educating hope-filled, compassionate and confident young men for their place in the world'

(From the Mission Statement of St Patrick's College, 2023-2025)

Whilst St Patrick's College is a Catholic school it embraces all boys and their families who are committed to living out the Gospel values and make a commitment to respect the Catholic philosophy of the College. A significant number of the College's students are from non-Catholic families and enjoy full participation in the life of St Patrick's College.

Conditions for Admission

- The prospective student and his parents are required to respect the values underlying the Catholic philosophy of education.
- The student undertakes to participate in the faith practices and observances of the College. The parents undertake to support the College in its program of religious and spiritual formation.
- When accepting a place at the College, the prospective student and his parents accept the obligation that the student will abide by the College rules and standards of conduct and behaviour as they are at the time of appointment and as they evolve overtime.
- Upon confirmation of enrolment, the student and his parents become members of the St Patrick's College community. It is understood that the acceptance of enrolment implies an undertaking on the part of the student, with the support of his parents, to participate fully in all College activities as required of him.
- Those accepted for temporary enrolment, for example exchange students and their sponsors, are bound by the same conditions as all other students, insofar as this is not an unreasonable demand.
- Continuing enrolment depends upon the student and his parents abiding by the original conditions for admission.

Enrolment Process

Criteria for Acceptance of Enrolment

- The Principal of St Patrick's College determines enrolments for the College, based upon the conditions and criteria stated in this document.
- The normal year for entry into the College is Year 7. Enrolment may occur in subsequent years if places are available.
- The student must have a genuine and personal desire to be at St Patrick's College and to be involved in the life of the College.
- The degree of faith commitment of the student's parents or legal guardians is given serious consideration by the Principal of St Patrick's College.

Categories of Enrolment

The College welcomes all applications. It needs to be noted that even though all criteria for enrolment may be met, that usually there are many more applicants than places available. Inevitably there will be applicants to whom the College will be unable to offer a place. Please note that not all applicants will receive an interview and not all families interviewed will necessarily receive an offer of a place. In these situations, preference in enrolment will normally be given to students in the following order:

1. Catholics from Catholic schools within the Diocese of Ballarat who have completed all sacraments of initiation continuing in the practice of their faith.
2. Brothers of current or past students and sons of Old Collegians to the College.
3. Catholic students who have completed all sacraments of initiation from outside the Diocese of Ballarat or other schools where there is no closer Catholic school to their place of residence.
4. Baptised Catholic students from outside the Diocese of Ballarat or other schools where there is no closer Catholic school to their place of residence.
5. Non-Catholic students from Catholic schools.
6. Baptised Catholic students from any other schools, regardless of whether they have completed their sacraments of initiation.
7. Non-Catholic students from other schools within the Diocese of Ballarat.
8. Non-Catholic students from other schools outside the Diocese of Ballarat.

Evidence of sacraments must be provided with the enrolment application. The Principal has ultimate discretion in determining all offers of enrolment.

Parent(s) who believe that they may be unable to pay the fees in full have an obligation to discuss this with the Principal or his representative when applying for enrolment if it is known at that time, and at any other time after enrolment if such a situation arises. Some level of fee alleviation is available in all genuine cases.

Note

For the purposes of this policy, boys baptised in an Orthodox tradition will be treated equally with those baptised in a Catholic tradition.

Enrolment Procedures and Timelines

ENTRY TO YEAR 7 2025

The Principals of St Patrick's College and Damascus College work collaboratively, within the guidelines of their respective enrolment policies, in order that Catholic Secondary Education may be made available to as many boys as possible each year in Ballarat. Ideally application should be made to one school only unless there is genuine uncertainty about which of the two Colleges is preferred.

College Tours

College Tours are offered each term led by Student Leaders and Assistant Principal's. Bookings are made online by visiting www.stpats.vic.edu.au

Online Application

Applications for Year 7 2025 are now being accepted. The closing date for applications is **Friday, 2 February 2024**. While applications continue to be taken after this date, applicants could be disadvantaged should the number of applicants exceed the number of positions available. Visit <https://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/prospective-families/enrolment-process/> to formally apply for enrolment for your son.

Enrolment Interviews for 2024/2025

All applicants and their parents are interviewed by a member of the College Leadership. Year 7 2025 applicants will be contacted to identify a date and time that is most convenient. Offers will be communicated to all parents following the Interview process.

Testing Day

All finalised students will be required to complete a range of diagnostic testing. This date will be communicated to all families.

Orientation Day 2024

An all-day Orientation Day for all Year 7 2025 students will be held at the College in Term 4 in 2024. For new students in Year 8-12 an Orientation Day will also be held.

YEARS 8 TO 12 ENTRY 2023/2024

Applications for all other year levels are accepted at any time and will be offered subject to interview and availability. Interview processes are conducted for all families.

Parents should be aware that enrolments later in the year could be difficult if the number of enrolment applications exceeds the number of places available for a particular year level. Enrolment forms should be accompanied by a copy of the student's most recent school report, evidence of sacraments undertaken and details of a senior contact person at the student's current school. To be processed the enrolment form must be accompanied by a \$50 non-refundable Application Fee.

Interviews for Years 8 to 12 will be conducted by a member of the College Leadership Team. Parents will be notified of the status of the enrolment application within four weeks of the interview.

Scholarships

The College may offer academic, sporting, leadership, art and performing arts scholarships based on testing or audition to eligible students. The scholarships offered will provide fee subsidies to various levels and to various aspects of College life. The provision of such scholarships shall be at the absolute discretion of the College Executive for an initial period of up to 3 years (subject to regular and ongoing semesterly review). Application for up to a further 3 years will be considered subject to the boy's success in meeting the requirement of the scholarship, his academic progress, behaviour and contribution to the life of the College.

Should you have any queries about the offerings available or the process please direct these to the Director of Community Development via development@stpats.vic.edu.au.

Registration is via the College website at <https://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/prospective-families/scholarships/>

Fee Concessions

Parent(s)/guardian(s) who believe that they may be unable to pay the fees in full have an obligation to discuss this with the Business Manager when applying for enrolment if it is known at that time, and at any other time after enrolment if such a situation arises. The College is ever mindful to provide excellent learning opportunities and facilities for its students, whilst also making every effort to maintain the affordability for our community of an Edmund Rice Education. To achieve these outcomes, fees must be charged, however, some level of fee alleviation may be available to all genuine cases at the College's discretion.

Should you wish to confidentially discuss your needs in this regard please direct your enquiries to the Business Manager.

Uniform

All items of uniform are available from the College Shop which is located on the school premises. The costs of all items sold in the College Shop are kept as low as possible. Any profit made by the College Shop is re-invested into the College and the students' needs.

The uniform consists of:

- Navy-blue suit
- Navy blue shorts (Term 1 and 4 only)
- White shirt
- SPC tie
- College pullover
- College hat
- Regulation leather, black lace-up shoes

Regulations

- In wet weather students may wear the College Spray Jacket.
- The suit coat is the outer garment which should be worn to and from school on all days unless specified (e.g. extremely hot weather).
- The suit coat will be required for school assembly and other special occasions.
- The pullover may not be worn as the outer garment, when travelling to and from school.
- Blue uniform shorts, with College socks, are permitted.
- White T-shirts or singlets that are not coloured or printed may be worn under the shirt.
- All articles of clothing are to be clearly marked with the owner's name.

Year 12 Jumper and Tie

- Year 12 students have the opportunity to purchase a Year 12 jumper and tie.

Physical Education

- SPC rugby top, SPC polo shirt, blue SPC shorts, SPC football socks or white socks and gym or track shoes.

THE COLLEGE SHOP

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Friday

8:15 am – 3:45 pm

For more information please phone Shop Manager, Mrs Michelle Roberts on 5322 4313

Tuition Fees and Charges: 2023

The comprehensive tuition fee includes items such as most classroom teaching requirements, Years 7 to 12 Retreats and the Years 7 to 9 Camps. Also included is 24-hour student accident insurance. Excluded are items or services provided by the College for individual students (for example, newspapers, musical instrument hire, optional sportswear and special creative arts or technology supplies) that are charged for at various times during the year.

- **Tuition and Boarding Fees**

Tuition and Boarding Fees are charged annually and will appear on your January statement. Subsequent statements will be issued on a monthly basis showing payments received and any additional charges incurred.

Fees for 2023 are:

Years	All Students Tuition	Boarding Weekly	Boarding Full Time	Boarding Flexi (per night)
7 & 8	\$7,100	\$15,800	\$18,500	\$74
9 & 10	\$7,450	\$18,000	\$21,100	\$85
11 & 12	\$7,900	\$20,900	\$24,600	\$95

Please note that fees charged are full year fees and are payable regardless of whether your son sits for examinations or not. When students leave the College during the year a pro rata credit for tuition and capital fees will be granted where this is confirmed in writing prior to the commencement of Term 4.

- **Capital Fee**

A Capital fee of \$1,100 per family will apply. Funds raised from the Capital fee are used for the development of facilities for all students at the College. As the Capital fee is a compulsory levy no receipt for taxation purposes is available.

- **Resource Fee**

To facilitate student learning the College makes available a variety of eResources, eTextbooks and other resources. To cover the cost, the following Resource fee will appear on your fee account.

Year	Fee(s)	Amount
7	Resource Fee	\$340
8	Resource Fee	\$340
9	Resource Fee	\$260
10	Resource Fee	\$260
11	Resource Fee	\$305
12	Resource Fee	\$305

- **Device levies**

The following year groups will incur laptop levies as follows:

Year group	Device	Amount	Period
7	Lenovo Laptop	\$500	2023 – 2025
8	Lenovo Laptop	\$520	2022 – 2024
9	Lenovo Laptop	\$500	2021 – 2023
10	Lenovo Laptop	\$500	2022 – 2025
11	Lenovo Laptop	\$520	2022 – 2024
12	Lenovo Laptop	\$500	2021 – 2023

Each year group will receive specific communications about the terms and conditions of their program.

- **Other Charges**

The tuition fee covers costs related to College tuition, administration, most subject levies, camps, excursions, and other incidental costs. The tuition fee does not cover optional aspects of the College’s program or services provided such as music lessons, rowing, some extra-curricular activities, non-compulsory tours and camps or damage to College property. These expenses will be charged as required at various times through the year on a separate sundry account which will need to be paid by the relevant due date.

- **Shamrock Association Fee (Boarding only)**

A Capital levy of \$520 will apply for each boarding student. As the fee is a compulsory charge, no receipt for taxation purposes is available. Funds used from the Shamrock Association Fee will be used for the development of boarding facilities at the College.

- **VET Charges**

Parents of students who elect to participate in an external Ballarat Schools Cluster VETiS course will be required to pay the difference between the course cost and the Catholic Education Funding for that particular course. This funding difference will appear as an external VET levy on your tuition statement.

- **Building Fund Contribution (Voluntary)**

The College is currently in the process of building a brand new Performing Arts Centre, the next great step towards providing students with state-of-the-art learning facilities. Building works flowing from this planning will be funded by a combination of borrowing, family contributions, donations and government grants. Families wishing to assist the College may make a voluntary donation to the Building Fund and a receipt for taxation purposes will be forwarded.

- **Mentoring Fee**

In order to cover the additional administration and supervision costs with respect to Indigenous and Overseas students a mentoring fee is charged to the relevant students. This is currently \$5,800 p.a.

- **Overseas Student Fee**

Overseas students, in accordance with Commonwealth Government regulations, are charged an additional fee of \$16,130 over and above all other fees. This fee represents the government grants applicable to Australian resident students and other administrative and infrastructure charges.

- **Departure Without Notice Fee**

Parents are reminded that a term's written notification of a student withdrawing during the College year is required. If such notice of withdrawal is not received a 'Departure without Notice' payment of one full term of fees will be charged to your fee account.

- **Retaining Fee**

With the written approval of the Principal students may participate in a student exchange program and will be charged 25% of the annual tuition fee, as a retaining fee for the duration of their absence in order to retain their place at the College.

- **Discounts – Sibling**

Family discounts apply where more than one child in a family is concurrently enrolled at St Patrick's College Ballarat. There is an automatic student discount on tuition fees only, as follows:

1st student – no discount

2nd Student –18%

3rd Student – 50%

4th and subsequent students – 100%

- **Concessions**

The College understands that families may experience financial hardship that leaves them unable, reasonably, because of illness, unemployment or other genuine circumstances, to fulfil all the financial obligations of enrolment. Where these circumstances arise please contact Mrs Maureen Ralton to arrange for a concession application form and an appointment with the Business Manager. Where appropriate your application will be considered confidentially with the College Finance Committee.

- **Scholarships**

The College also offers a limited number of scholarships of an academic, artistic or sporting nature. Enquiry into the details of these opportunities and the eligibility of your son can be made by contacting the Director of Community Development Mr Roger Le Grand.

Registration is via the College website at <https://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/prospective-families/scholarships/>

- **Health Care Card Holders**

Parents who hold a valid Health Care Card are entitled to receive a credit of **\$450 off their fee account** made up as follows:

- Camps Sports and Excursions funding (CSEF) payment: In 2016 the State Government introduced CSEF to assist eligible families cover the costs of camps, excursions, and sporting activities. The annual payment for a secondary school student is \$225. To apply for CSEF please complete the enclosed application form or download one from www.education.vic.au/csef.
- Health Care Card concession: Parents who have successfully qualified for the CSEF funding will automatically have this amount matched by a further \$225 concession from the College.

The following two options for the payment of College fees are available:

- **Payment in full**

OR

- **A Payment Arrangement Plan**

To assist families in managing their cash flow across the year a 'Payment Arrangement Plan' form must be completed and returned to the Finance Office by 28th of February 2024.

All Payment Arrangements must be completed by 30 November each year. You may do this via

- Per Week or Per fortnight payments
- Per Month payments
- Per Term payments

Please note that arrangements that fall outside of the above options must be approved by the Business Manager by appointment only. Instalment plans may be arranged to suit family budgets. Please contact the Finance Office if you would like some assistance in working out the required payments to clear your account balance prior to the end of the 2023 College year.

Payment Facilities Available

The following payment options are available to pay your account: BPay, Cash/cheque, Credit Card, Direct Debit, EFTPOS and Salary Packaging.

Curriculum

Religious Education is the most important element of the Curriculum. This reflects the distinctively Catholic nature of the school and its mission. Therefore, it is compulsory at all year levels and underpins the manner in which all subjects are delivered.

The College has three distinct cohorts, Junior (Years 7 and 8), Middle (Years 9 and 10) and Senior (Years 11 and 12) schools. This distinction is made upon strong educational grounds and provides students with teaching and learning experiences and opportunities that are consistent with their level of development. The structure challenges each student to pursue and achieve excellence in a range of exciting curricular and co-curricular areas.

Junior School (Year 7 and 8)

A broad and comprehensive curriculum is emphasised in Years 7 and 8. The Junior School structure is designed to enable students to make an effective and enjoyable transition into secondary school. Science, Humanities, Music, visual and performing arts, Technology, Computing, Language education (Japanese) along with Physical Education and Health combine with a focus on key literacy and numeracy skills to form the comprehensive core which underpins the Junior School. The Enhanced Learning Department assists in developing an understanding of the individual's strengths and weaknesses. Programs can be adapted to cater for individual needs.

Middle School (Year 9 and 10)

Research indicates that in Year 9 and 10 boys are faced with a range of challenges that could impact upon their performance at school. The aim of the Middle School program is to engage students in a range of educational experiences that will ensure they remain focused upon their schooling.

Research highlights that at this stage of the learning journey, boys need practically focussed activities that provide them with challenges and effectively link-up different parts of the curriculum. Students in the Middle School will continue to build numeracy and literacy skills whilst being involved in an exciting range of experiential learning experiences.

Year 10 is characterised by a significant increase in program and subject offerings. While the typical Year 10 boy will continue studies based on the Victorian Curriculum, others will commence VCE studies.

Senior School (Year 11 and 12)

The senior years are marked by a broad range of subject choices that equip students with many of the skills and much of the knowledge required to confront the challenges of an ever-changing world.

Access to a wide variety of subjects and pathways for each Year 11 and 12 boy with the maximum flexibility to meet his learning needs and to attain the certification most relevant to his future education and employment goals.

Senior School students can undertake:

Senior School students can undertake:

- VCE or a SPC Senior Years Certificate
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificates (internal or external)
- Structured Workplace Learning (SWL)
- Higher Education Studies
- School based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT) are also being explored.



Whelan Food Technology Centre

1:1 Program at St Patrick's College

In line with the College's vision from the Strategic Plan '*Educating hope-filled, compassionate and confident young men for their place in the world*' the vision for eLearning is:

To provide state of the art facilities and technology-enriched learning opportunities that enable students to achieve high quality learning outcomes, preparing them for further education, training and to live and work in a digital world.

St Patrick's aims to improve each boy's ability to thrive and think critically in an information rich world. This requires that technology be seamlessly accessible and integrated throughout the curriculum. Our learning programs are constantly being reviewed and refined to meet the opportunities that new technologies will provide for your son.

Our eLearning vision will be fulfilled through the explicit use of digital pedagogy. Digital pedagogy is a way of working and learning with ICT to facilitate quality learning experiences for 21st century digital learners. It is defined as the convergence of ICT tools, technical skills, pedagogical practices and understanding of curriculum design appropriate for digital learners. Used effectively, the appropriate and relevant choice of digital pedagogy:

- Supports, enhances, enables and transforms learning and teaching to provide diverse and flexible learning opportunities for a digital generation;
- Provides the tool for engaging students in actively constructing and applying rich learning in purposeful and meaningful ways;
- Enhances opportunities for authentic, contextualised assessment that supports learning in a digital context; and
- Requires teachers to understand how teaching practices that are already commonly used in the classroom can be redesigned to incorporate digital tools and technologies to enhance and extend the learning experience for students.

The 1:1 program is based on the use of a Windows based notebook. To make this device as affordable as possible for parents, the College administers a three-year lease (which includes the device, an appropriate bag and all required software pre-installed).

The costs associated with this lease will be directed to parents annually and will appear on the tuition fee account. The device will be owned by the parents/student once all lease payments have been made (or earlier by negotiation should a student leave St Patrick's before Year 12).

Sport

Sporting opportunities are plentiful at St Patrick's College. Students are provided with an opportunity to represent the College in a wide range of sporting activities available in each of the four terms.

The College participates in Ballarat Associated Schools (BAS) competition in the following school terms:

- Term 1:** Cricket, tennis, croquet, lawn bowls, volleyball, swimming and rowing.
- Term 2:** Football, soccer, senior hockey, senior basketball, rugby union and badminton
- Term 3:** Football, intermediate hockey, junior and intermediate basketball, junior baseball, table tennis, squash, racquetball and cross-country.
- Term 4:** Cricket, golf, junior hockey, touch rugby and rowing.

The College participates in Associated Catholic Colleges (ACC) competition in the following school terms:

- Term 1:** Athletics, lawn bowls, cricket and swimming.
- Term 2:** Football, soccer and golf.
- Term 3:** Basketball and cross-country.
- Term 4:** Golf and lawn bowls.

Please view the sports curriculum by going to the St Patrick's College website

<https://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/students-parents-staff/sport/>

House Sport

The College organises three competitions as House Competitions: Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country running. The House system enables students to compete in a wide variety of sports and strongly complements the College's inter school sporting programs.

Health and Physical Education (HaPE)

HaPE is a compulsory study in Years 7-9. The program endeavours to provide each student with a positive experience in a wide range of activities, a weekly contribution to their physical fitness, a chance to develop positive attitudes towards regular physical activity, the development of basic skills such as hitting, throwing and catching as well as fundamentals of PE such as swimming and gymnastics.

HaPE is also offered as an elective subject in Years 10-12. During this time students participate in both recreational and sporting pursuits with an emphasis on teams. Students take on the roles of player, coach, umpire and administrator.

In Health Education students focus on the following topics: Year 7 – Healthy Living, Year 8 – Adolescence and Year 9 – Drug Education.

Music and Performing Arts

Music

Classroom Music is a compulsory subject for all Year's 7 and 8 students, as an elective subject in Years 9 – 12. Our classroom music focuses on contemporary music repertoire, such as film and popular music, and integrates music technology (e.g. Digital Audio Workstation). It provides a highly flexible learning environment and activities to cater for the diversity of skills and interest from our student cohort.

Students experience music making through learning a range of instruments such as keyboard, tuned percussion, guitar, ukulele, melodica, drums and aux percussions as well as engaging in practical activities that provide lots of opportunity for them to make decisions on how to perform, manipulate and create their very own musical arrangement, fostering all rounded musicians and individuality. Brass and woodwinds instruments are highly welcome and encouraged to be used during class activities for those who are taking up music lessons at or already learning outside the College.

The College also runs an extensive co-curricular - Instrumental Music Program, providing opportunities for students to undertake private music lessons. We offer a comprehensive range of instruments choices with our highly experienced and specialised instrumental music tutors (IMTs). Students who are taking up music lessons are invited to participate in a wide range of ensembles, such as Junior Band, Inter Band, Senior Stage Senior Band, Symphonic Winds Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Contemporary Band, Guitar Ensemble, based on their progress and interests. These ensembles perform and compete numerous local and statewide music events, including ACCent on Music at Hamer Hall, Royal South Street Festival, Victorian State Music Festival, Geelong Eisteddfod. Students also perform at a variety of school and community-based events.

Any Year 7 student taking up private music lessons will be provided with free access to a musical instrument in their first year of learning. Instrument hire fee will only apply in the second year of learning.

Drama

Drama is a compulsory subject in Years 7 and 8. Confidence and co-operation are fostered from which individual and group performances are developed. In Years 9 and 10 Drama is studied over three periods a week with a focus on developing dramatic and stagecraft skills. Units 1 – 4 of VCE Theatre Studies are offered to all students.

Co-curricular involvement in drama for students at every level is staged. The College has an annual joint production with Loreto College as well as a number of performances involving only St Patrick's College students. Recent performances have included *Spamalot*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Les Miserable*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The 25th Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Alice in Wonderland*.

The College's Performing Arts program is also supported by an extensive involvement with Public Speaking Competitions. All St Patrick's College students are actively encouraged to develop skills in the important area of public speaking via curricular and co-curricular activities. Students compete in number of state and national level debating and public speaking competitions and have an outstanding record of success. Each year students compete for the prestigious Breach and Purton Oratory Speaking Prizes.

(Produced August 2023)