



DONCASTER
SECONDARY COLLEGE

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE *together*



Working together, Learning together

COLLEGE PROSPECTUS



Hello and welcome

Doncaster Secondary College is a vibrant and friendly community where students thrive and are engaged to achieve their potential.



Welcome to Doncaster Secondary College, where we are committed to nurturing the aspirations and dreams of our students within a supportive and dynamic learning environment. It is with great honour that we invite

prospective students and families to join our community, characterised by a shared vision of excellence, inclusivity, and personal development.

At the core of Doncaster Secondary College is our unwavering commitment to maximising learning growth for all students. Our vibrant community is dedicated to providing an educational experience that not only challenges and engages but also supports each student in achieving their personal best. We believe in an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated, and every student is given the tools and opportunities to thrive academically and personally - this is enacted through our school motto *"Working Together, Learning Together"*.

Central to achieving our educational goals is our team of exceptional teachers. Each educator at Doncaster Secondary College brings a wealth of knowledge, passion, and innovation to the classroom, fostering an atmosphere of curiosity and lifelong learning. Our teachers are deeply committed to understanding the unique needs of each student, guiding them with expertise and empathy towards achieving their best.

In our Junior School, we lay the cornerstone of our strategic goal by fostering an atmosphere where young learners develop a solid foundation in literacy and numeracy, alongside essential personal and social capabilities. We are dedicated to nurturing positive, resilient learners who embrace challenges and celebrate their unique paths to success.

Transitioning to the Middle School, our focus expands to developing learners who are self-aware, respectful of diversity, and skilled in navigating complex social relationships. Our curriculum and extracurricular activities are designed to empower students with a strong sense of identity and community engagement, preparing them for the multifaceted roles they will play in a diverse society.

The Senior School epitomises our commitment to excellence and readiness for the future. Here, we intensify our efforts to ensure each student achieves significant academic and vocational growth, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to pursue meaningful pathways after graduation. Our emphasis on self-awareness and respect for diversity continues, preparing our students to contribute positively and effectively in an increasingly interconnected world.

Our college is anchored by four core values: Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, and Teamwork. These values are integral to our mission and strategic goals, shaping every aspect of school life. They guide our approach to teaching and learning, ensuring that we cultivate an environment where every student can grow into a well-rounded, empathetic individual ready to make a meaningful impact.

As we look forward to the future, we warmly invite you to become part of this exciting journey at Doncaster Secondary College. Our commitment to each student's success is unwavering, and we eagerly anticipate the opportunity to welcome new families to our community. Together, we will achieve exceptional outcomes, guided by our strategic goals and shared values.

Glenn Morris
College Principal



TEACHING & LEARNING

Doncaster Secondary College is a coeducational government secondary school where students thrive and are engaged to find their true potential.

Our College motto, *'Working Together, Learning Together'*, reflects our commitment to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment. Our teachers will deliver a diverse and challenging curriculum with an assessment framework that is purposeful and easily understood by all members of our community, thus strengthening the partnership between school and home. Furthermore, students take responsibility in accurately identifying their knowledge, skills and capabilities to progress their learning. A culture of collaboration, student agency and effective learning partnerships are the key drivers to maximising student learning growth at Doncaster Secondary College.

Doncaster Secondary College operates under a three 'mini-school' structure, each with a clear intent and understanding of a student's learning journey. Instructional leaders have been appointed within each mini-school to develop centres of teaching excellence. We achieve this through a process of peer observation, data driven dialogue and a sharing of best practice to meet our students' diverse learning needs.

Diversity is our strength. Our College celebrates a rich tapestry of cultures, with over 46 nationalities represented in our community of learners. Around 60 full fee paying international students further add to our diversity and support the provision of broader academic opportunities.

Students graduating from Doncaster Secondary College leave with a strong sense of school pride and are equipped with the knowledge, capabilities and attributes to thrive throughout their lives.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Students with a positive sense of wellbeing are more engaged learners, caring citizens and thriving people. Doncaster Secondary College has a well-established Wellbeing program and students have access to a Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Youth Worker, Counsellor, Social Worker, Careers Coordinator, Health Centre Officer, Mental Health Practitioner, and our pastoral program, 'Managing Me' for Junior & Middle School students.



COLLEGE VALUES



Respect

- Treating people how you want to be treated.
- Actively listening when someone is speaking.
- Having a high regard for oneself, others and the learning environment.
- Understanding and responding appropriately to the differences in others.



Responsibility

- Attending on time, with correct uniform and equipment; ready to learn.
- Understanding the learning intentions of the lesson, and what needs to be done to achieve success.
- Ensuring work is submitted on time, and catching up on any work missed.
- Accepting the consequences of your actions.



Resilience

- Taking realistic steps when facing challenges.
- Using feedback to grow and improve.
- Exploring different ways to learn and achieve goals.
- Using initiative and asking for regular help and feedback.



Teamwork

- Participating and working within different groups.
- Contributing and valuing each members' input.
- Utilising your strengths to encourage and help those around you.
- Giving, receiving and responding to feedback from within your group.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEARS 7 & 8

Our aim in Junior School is to create an environment where students feel empowered to learn and achieve. Our teachers will prepare our Year 7 and Year 8 students to be healthy, positive, resilient learners who have the literacy, numeracy and personal and social capabilities required to achieve their best.

At Doncaster Secondary College, students in Years 7-10 gain a sound knowledge in each of the areas identified by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority prescribed curriculum, the Victorian Curriculum. In our Junior School (Years 7 & 8), there are three learning focuses: **Literacy, Numeracy and Personal & Social Capabilities**. Our teachers will use various approaches to build, improve and extend these skills, coupled with the Victorian Curriculum Achievement Standards. Doing so supports students to succeed in all their subjects and prepare them for transition into Middle School.

MANAGING ME

Unique to Doncaster Secondary College, we provide the **Managing Me** Pastoral Care program to our Year 7 & 8 students. Meeting for 30 minutes several times a week, students will be supported with their transition to high school and develop connectedness with their peers. Managing Me is also a focused class on building Personal and Social Capabilities, such as emotional expression, resilience, empathy, an understanding of the importance of diversity, respectful relationships and teamwork.

At Doncaster Secondary College, we believe these skills are essential for students to maximise their learning growth and exhibit positive learning behaviours. Our most successful students in VCE are often the students who have strong organisation, resilience, empathy and the ability to handle challenging situations.

Year 7 Subjects:

English/English as an Additional Language, Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Numeracy, Science, Humanities, Health & P.E., Italian or Mandarin, Managing Me.

Term-length subjects: Art, Music, Digital Technology, Food Technology

Year 8 Subjects:

English/English as an Additional Language, Reading, Mathematics, Numeracy, Science, Humanities, Health & P.E., Italian or Mandarin, Managing Me.

Semester-length electives: English Extension, Maths Extension, STEAM, Drama, Digital Technology, Food Technology, Design Technology, Music, Visual Arts.





MIDDLE SCHOOL

YEAR 9

Having consolidated the basics of Junior School, our Middle School students are looking for increasing independence and agency. Doncaster Secondary College will provide our Year 9 students the learning opportunities they need to help them understand the world, how it works and how they can influence it.

At the same time, Year 9 students are preparing to enter Senior school, with its relentless pursuit of academic excellence, and that this is a year of transition and preparation for that all-important step. Attendance, effort, aptitude, achievement and growth are all closely monitored to ensure learners are achieving their full potential and setting themselves up for future success in a pathway suited to their individual interests, aspirations and skills.

Highly motivated students who excel in each of these areas in Year 9 will be eligible to complete a VCE Advancement or VET subject in their Year 10 program.

Year 9 Subjects:

English/English as an Additional Language, Mathematics/ Mathematics (Extension), Science Inquiry, Humanities, Health & P.E., Future Ready, MYSELF.

Semester-length electives: The Arts: Media, Drama, Music Performance, Music Technology & Production, Visual Arts - 2D, Visual Arts - 3D, Visual Communication and Design. The Technologies: Electronics, Food Technology, Woodwork, Digital Technology. Languages: Italian, Mandarin Chinese, French.

MYSELF PROGRAM

Uniquely, our College provides Year 9 students the opportunity to engage in both **Leadership Development** and **Design Thinking skills** as a way to contribute positively towards the community. Students select four electives that will develop their capabilities in meaningful decision-making, leadership, healthy risk-taking and real-world applications of learning.

Term-length electives: Leadership: My Future Leader, My Peer Leader, Duke of Edinburgh. Design Thinking, Entrepreneurship & Community: My Animal, My Business, My City Planning, My Coding, My Community, My Fitness, My Outdoor, My Product Design, My Urban Art.



ARE YOU FUTURE READY?

Doncaster Secondary College provides our Year 9 students a dedicated Careers Planning and Pastoral Care program, called **Future Ready**. In this subject, students will identify their personal strengths, undertake Morrisby profiling, build awareness of academic and vocational pathways, continue to develop personal and social capabilities, and activate the Year 10 subject selection process.



SENIOR SCHOOL & BEYOND

YEARS 10 - 12

Students enter Senior school at a pivotal point in their learning journey. Before undertaking Years 11 and 12, we will ensure our students have the attributes to achieve their future goals. Our Year 10 program is defined by careers experience and course counselling. Our VCE program will deliver a high standard of academic tuition and allow students to pursue academic and vocational excellence.

VCE

With over 30 VCE subjects on offer at Doncaster Secondary College, our students have the opportunity to tailor a VCE program to suit their interests, talents and future pathways. High achieving students have the option of completing accelerated studies.

Year 10

Year 10 students undertake six subjects. In order to prepare students for the rigours of VCE or VCE-VM, our Year 10 program adheres to a model designed to create

a positive learning environment and support students to develop their study skills and personal best. A Year 10 Certificate is given to students who are able to meet the College expectations around attendance, behaviour and effort.

Year 11 & Year 12

Students normally undertake five subjects in Year 11 and five subjects in Year 12. Students following this pathway will benefit from an enhanced focus and deeper learning of their VCE subjects.

Accelerated VCE program

High-achieving students may be invited to undertake the Accelerated VCE Program where they have the option to complete a sixth VCE unit in a variety of ways. Students who demonstrate outstanding achievement in Year 11 also have the opportunity to undertake University Enhancement Studies or CHES programs as they enter Year 12.

Study periods are built into the VCE timetable and they are an opportunity to attend Masterclasses, Learning Catch Ups and are a dedicated time for assessments, which free up tuition time in regular classes.

VCE-VM

The VCE Vocational Major (VCE-VM) is a two-year vocational and applied learning program that enables students to transition into an apprenticeship, traineeship, further education or directly into employment. VCE-VM students have the option of adding a Vocational Education & Training (VET) course or a School-Based Apprenticeship (SBAT) to their study program.

To be eligible for the VCE-VM program at Doncaster Secondary College, students must have successfully completed Year 10, have met the minimum 90% attendance requirements and have completed a VCE-VM interview.

CAREERS PLANNING

The Doncaster Secondary College Careers Centre is a dedicated space in the Senior Centre where all students have access to Career Advisors and materials from tertiary institutions and industry. Strong career support is provided to students, including a weekly Careers Newsletter and access to the College Careers website. The Careers department will also work with students to prepare their individual **My Career Portfolio** which builds a Career Action Plan, stores their career and course resources and has access to useful links.

PERFORMING ARTS

Doncaster Secondary College has a reputation for a vibrant performing arts environment. From stirring instrumental music concerts to dynamic school productions, our students absolutely shine on stage.

MUSIC

Our Instrumental Music program strikes the perfect chord between comprehensive musical education and an enriching school experience. Tuition takes place conveniently during school hours in our dedicated Music Centre, ensuring seamless integration with our students' academic schedule. We offer tuition on a wide variety of instruments. Students will learn in small groups or receive private tuition if studying music at VCE level.

Joining our program means becoming a member of our esteemed College ensembles. From orchestras to jazz and rock bands, our ensembles offer boundless opportunities to showcase talent before live audiences.

Our Instrumental Music program welcomes students of all levels, including beginners. In fact, many of our passionate musicians embarked on their musical journey with no prior experience, discovering hidden talents and forging lifelong connections along the way.

DRAMA

Our school productions, meticulously crafted and delivered to a high quality standard, provide a platform for students to creatively express themselves and captivate audiences with their performances.

Beyond the spotlight, and for students preferring to work behind the scenes, they can participate in a myriad of opportunities to shine. From lighting and sound design, to prop creation and makeup artistry, all students can play a vital role in bringing our school productions to life. Students also delve into the realms of promotion and marketing, gaining valuable insights into the business side of the performing arts.

From the thrill of opening night to the final curtain call, our Drama program instils invaluable life skills and cultivates a spirit of collaboration, resilience, and creative expression that resonates far beyond the stage.





SPORT

At Doncaster Secondary College, sport goes beyond competition; it is a powerful vehicle for physical and mental wellbeing. Our programs are designed to embody and nurture our College values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Teamwork.

Health and Physical Education is a compulsory subject in Years 7 to 9, and an elective subject in Senior school. All students are invited to participate in our vibrant intraschool sports events which include the athletics carnival, swimming trials and our cross country day. Our grounds transform into a kaleidoscope of colours as our Yarra, Kiewa, Ovens and Murray houses compete to earn points.

We also run a highly successful interschool sports program where our dedicated physical education teachers don't just provide training and coaching, they inspire our students achieve their best.

Sports Precinct

Our sporting facilities are a hub of energy and students benefit from outstanding sports and recreation facilities

such as a FIFA-grade synthetic sports oval, tennis courts, weights room, and a 650-seat multi court sports stadium.

Lunchtime activities

Throughout the year, our Sports department will run lunchtime Futsal and Basketball round robins which are well-attended and is where College spirit takes centre stage. Students also have access to a supervised gym and weights room.

Sport options

- > Netball
- > Basketball
- > Cricket
- > Soccer
- > Volleyball
- > Badminton
- > Lawn bowls
- > Ultimate frisbee
- > Athletics
- > Swimming
- > Tennis
- > Handball

FUELLING HOUSE SPIRIT AND CELEBRATING TEAMWORK AND DETERMINATION AT THE COLLEGE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



ACCELERATION & ENRICHMENT

SEAL

Our Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) program is for high-ability students in Years 7 – 9. The SEAL program will enrich and extend students in philosophy, ethics, STEAM and politics. There is an emphasis on collaborative learning with other academically-minded students, as well as engagement in higher-order thinking skills, community-based projects, and inquiry-based learning and leadership opportunities.

ENRICHMENT

We offer a raft of activities to challenge our students to achieve their potential. Our opportunities are ever-evolving and in recent times, our students have had great success at the Australian Maths competitions, Girl Power in STEM, the Australian Geographic competition, the Victorian Schools Music Festival, and the Victorian Global Learning Awards.

LEADERSHIP

We encourage our students to make a difference in both the school and the wider community and include:

- Student Representative Council
- Peer Leader program
- College Council
- School Captaincy
- Youth Leadership Forum team
- Leadership camps such as Alpine School
- Community service opportunities, such as Anzac Day
- Lead significant event days, such as RUOk Day, Wear It Purple & Body Kind month



OUR UNIFORM CONTRIBUTES TO THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND FOSTERS A SENSE OF COMMUNITY PRIDE

UNIFORM

Students are required to wear the correct College uniform. A uniform dress code positively contributes to the overall learning environment and fosters a sense of community pride. The College makes every effort to ensure uniform items are affordable. For families requiring support with uniform items and materials, our College **We've Got Your Back** program can provide assistance.

For a full list of uniform options and prices, please visit the PSW website or store.

PSW

12 Strathalbyn St, Kew East
www.psw.com.au

Second hand uniforms can be purchased and sold through

Sustainable School Shop

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

In addition to our curriculum, we offer students numerous opportunities to get involved in a large number of clubs and extra-curricular activities where they can develop skills and mix with students with similar interests. Our lunchtime clubs are supervised by a staff member.

Camps & Tours

- Year 7 Orientation camp
- Year 9 MYSELF camps
- Duke of Edinburgh
- USA Space camp
- Central Australia tour
- Nepal World Challenge
- Day excursions

Interest Clubs

- Breakfast Club
- Chess club
- Environmental club
- Crafternoon
- Slime club
- Hoops program
- Rainbow Collective
- Art Club
- Movie club
- Weight training

- History club
- Homework Club
- International student club
- Friday Badminton

START YOUR JOURNEY

To discover more about Doncaster Secondary College, we invite you to visit our website and register for a school tour, which are run regularly throughout the year.

Application Process

Enrolment of students from Grade 6 are managed in conjunction with local primary schools following the Victorian government procedures.

For Year 8 to Year 12 enrolments, please visit our Enrolment page on the College website and complete an online Enrolment Enquiry Form. Our Enrolment Administration

Officer will be in touch.

Transition to Year 7

Our College has a well-developed Transition Program to assist students in their adjustment from primary school to secondary school. Upon confirmation of enrolment, students will have access to a number of Transition events that they can attend prior to their first day of school. Events include Exploration Afternoons, the Learning Partnership webinar, Open Afternoon and Music Tryouts, plus the Orientation Day.

Website

www.doncastersc.vic.gov.au

Address

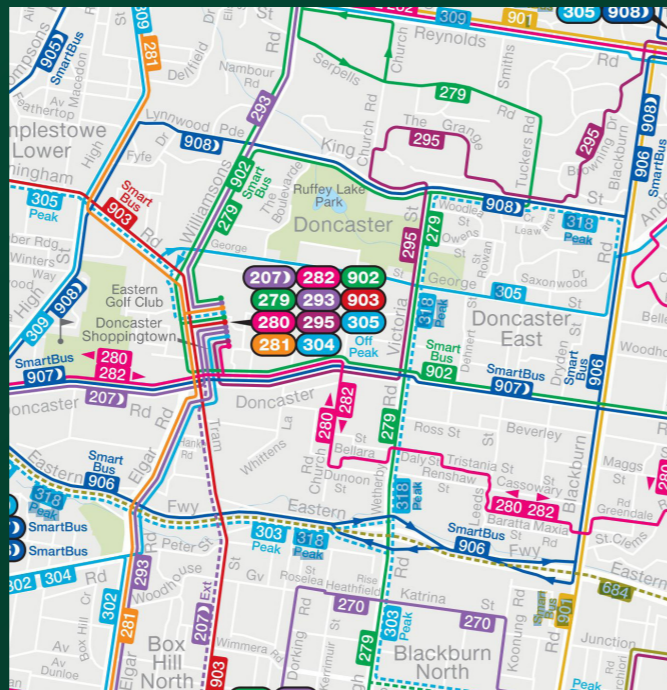
123 Church Rd,
Doncaster, Victoria 3108
Tel: +61 3 9848 4677

CRICOS Provider Code: 00861K

Getting to Doncaster Secondary College

Our College has two official bus services solely for our students' use. Please visit Kinetic Melbourne (www.wearekinetic.com/au/melbourne/school-travel) and click on the Doncaster Secondary College tab for details about our bus routes.

Doncaster has a well-connected bus network. Please refer to www.ptv.gov.au for all local routes and timetables.





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