

Year 7 Handbook



2024



Welcome

from the Principal

Dear Students

Our students and staff have been looking forward to your arrival for the Year 6 Orientation Day and we hope this is an opportunity to have some of your questions about the College answered.

Your commencement in Year 7 next year will be the start of a completely new chapter in your educational journey. At Bunbury Catholic College, we have a great team of dedicated teachers and support staff to ensure that you have every opportunity to reach your full potential in a safe and welcoming environment. Please remember that we are all here to help you, so do not be afraid to ask all your questions!

Our College offers a wide range of subjects from Year 7 to Year 12, to cater for the great variety of student needs, interests, gifts and talents present in all our students.

In Year 7, in addition to Religious Education, English, Humanities, Mathematics, Science, Health and Physical Education, you will have the opportunity to study Italian or Indonesian and many new and exciting courses such as Art, Digital Technologies, Drama, Foods, Music, Metalwork and Woodwork.

By studying the wide range of courses available, you will be able to make the best decisions for your studies from Year 8 to Year 12.

Commencing high school is an exciting time for students, and I am sure that while here, you will make many new friends; friends who will accompany you throughout your entire journey as a student at our College.

My challenge to every new student coming to Bunbury Catholic College is the same; try your hardest and always strive to achieve your personal best.

My best wishes to you for a happy and successful start to Year 7.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah Garbutt". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "D" and a cursive "Garbutt".

Mrs Deborah Garbutt
Principal

Religious Education

at Bunbury Catholic College

At Bunbury Catholic College education in the Catholic beliefs, values and practices takes place in all aspects of College life.

1. Religious Education: This is a course like any other course that you will study. Therefore, the expectations for students participating in Religious Education classes is the same as for all subject classes – a determination to learn and succeed, positive attitudes and behaviour choices, and respect for everyone who is part of the class.

In Religious Education the focus is on understanding what it means to be you in your community and in your religion. There will be assignments and, at the end of each semester, a grade is awarded.

2. Campus Ministry: This refers to the experiential aspect of Religious Education. Masses, liturgies, prayer events and retreats are organised in each year group or as whole school events. The focus is on spiritual experience. Students are invited to contribute to these events by sharing their talents in events management, in reading, singing, playing music, or in the creative construction of sacred space. Through participating in **Christian Service** students learn what is meant by the Gospel call to be of service to others. Campus Ministry co-ordinates service learning opportunities that enable the students to respond to the needs of others, and be good stewards of the environment.

3. Finally, Bunbury Catholic students are asked to choose behaviour that is grounded in Catholic values. The College motto, **“To act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God”** (Micah 6:8), clearly asks that we treat all people with dignity and respect.



Ms Daria Smith

Head of Religious Education



Tips from our current Year 7s to the new Year 7s



The school is not as big as it seems, and it is not hard to find your way around. Other year groups and the teachers are very good at helping new students find their way around BCC.



Do not try to be better than someone else. Be the best version of you.



When I came to BCC, I was just as nervous as you might be now. However, I just acted my normal self and that easily got me through. Good luck!



Do not stress if you do not make friends on the first day. Remember, it is everyone's first day in a new school, so everyone will be feeling nervous.



You may be in the same class as one of your primary school friends, but still try to spread yourself out to other new friendship groups. I was the only one from my school and I talked to other people and made new friends.



Make sure you be yourself; do not try to change the way you act just to fit in with everyone else. Be yourself.



No matter what you are interested in, there is something for everyone at BCC.



Tips for Parents and Guardians



Sometimes your child may have some problems at school. Always ask how their day was at school and what has happened. We are hoping and expecting your child to have a happy six years at BCC.



Have a study space for your child, help them stay organised, and make time for them to do their homework.



Encourage your child to do their homework.



Trust the school, the students and the teachers. Do not be afraid to let your child take the opportunities the College provides.



All students will be offered plenty of opportunities at the College. Students are encouraged to accept opportunities that are of interest, which will help them to feel more involved around the Campus.



The Year 11 Peer Support students are very helpful at making the transition from primary school to secondary school easier for your child.



The Peer Support Program

Guess what? You do not have to know everything about high school on the first day! You will be assigned some expert Year 11 students called 'Peer Support Leaders' to guide you on your journey.

Peer Support Leaders will work with you regularly during Term 1 to teach you these things and more:

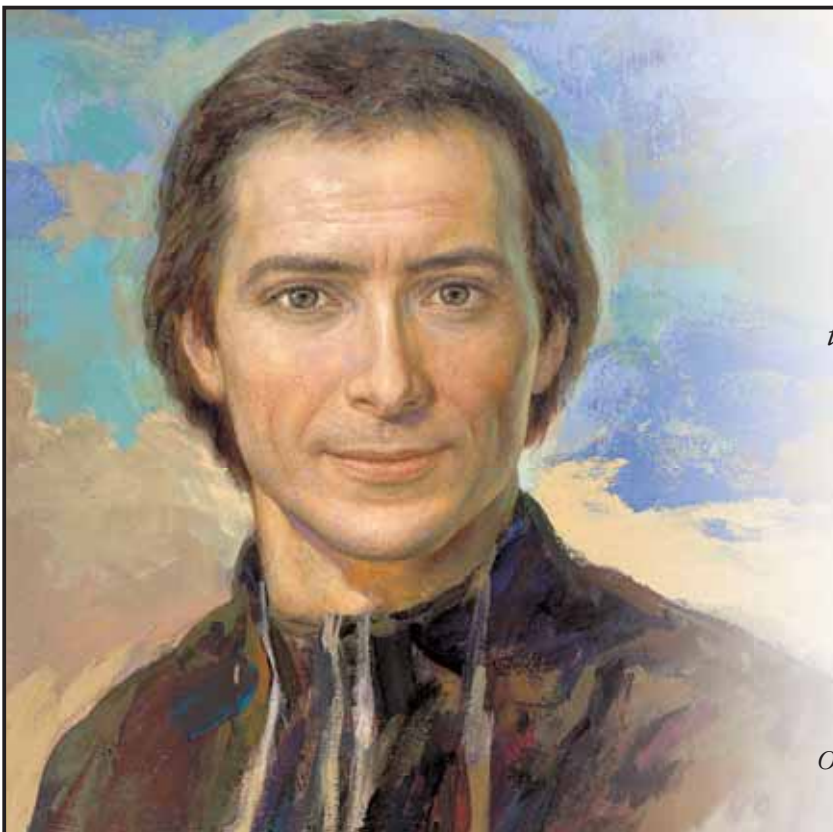
- 🎓 Using your timetable 🎓 Finding your way around the school
- 🎓 Getting to know your classmates 🎓 Communicating with teachers
- 🎓 Using your device/managing technology 🎓 Building resilience
- 🎓 Problem solving 🎓 Maximising your social and mental well-being
- 🎓 Managing homework and study 🎓 How to use your lock and maintain your locker



Your Peer Support Leaders have undergone intensive leadership training. They are competent, experienced high school students who remember what it is like to be a new student at Bunbury Catholic College.

Your leaders are students to look up to and confide in. They have volunteered their time for the sole purpose of helping you flourish as a new high school student. They are proficient listeners and they are qualified to help you problem solve your way through this new phase in your life.

You will get to know your Leaders well as they share their knowledge and skills with you. Follow their instructions as you participate in activities and games designed to help you transition smoothly into life as a member of our Bunbury Catholic College family.



Our Vision

Our students will become confident and compassionate young adults, inspired by the teachings of Jesus, to make a difference in a changing world.

Our Mission

We strive to be a learning community in the Marist tradition, empowering students to achieve their personal best.

*Our College Patron and Founder of the Marist Brothers,
St Marcellin Champagnat (1788-1840)*

The School Day

Drop Off

The school has a dedicated 'Kiss and Drop' area located beside Albert Oval. Entry is via Rodsted Street and the exit is on Petherick Street. For extended visits, there are visitor bays located adjacent to the Administration Carpark.

College Bell Times are as follows:

Standard Timetable		Assembly Timetable	
8.25 am	Bell	8.25 am	Bell
8.30 am	Homeroom	8.30 am	Homeroom
		8.40 am	Assembly
8.45 am	Period 1	9.30 am	Period 1
9.37 am	Period 2	10.15 am	Period 2
10.29 am	Recess	11.00 am	Recess
10.54 am	Bell	11.25 am	Bell
10.59 am	Period 3	11.30 am	Period 3
11.51 am	Period 4	12.15 pm	Period 4
12.43 pm	Lunch	1.00 pm	Lunch
1.13 pm	Bell	1.25 pm	Bell
1.18 pm	Period 5	1.30 pm	Period 5
2.09 pm	Period 6	2.15 pm	Period 6
3.00 pm	Dismissed	3.00 pm	Dismissed

Pick Up

The 'Kiss and Drop' area runs exclusively from 3pm onwards. From 3:10pm students may also be collected from in front of the Performing Arts Centre (PAC). Please try to avoid collecting students from bus or high traffic areas.



Bus Services

TransBunbury school bus services information can be found at pta.wa.gov.au, under TransRegional. SmartRider cards used on all TransBunbury buses can be purchased using the online form from smartrider.monitorwa.com.au/buyonline.

Students residing outside the TransBunbury school bus service area may be eligible to use the Public Transport Authority's School Bus Services. Applications can be submitted via pta.wa.gov.au, under School Bus Services.

Pastoral Care

The Head of Year and Homeroom Teacher are there to support the pastoral needs of each student while at Bunbury Catholic College. These two people can be contacted to assist with any queries or concerns.

Head of Year

The Head of Year is a teacher who oversees the pastoral care for an entire cohort and liaises with students, staff and parents in all aspects of College life. The Head of Year will be with students throughout their high school journey from transition to graduation.

Homeroom Teacher

The Homeroom Teacher sees students every morning to support a successful start to their day. Daily prayers, notices and other important information are covered during this time. The Homeroom Teacher also guides students through The Resilience Project, an empowering mental health program.



ELITE SPORTS PROGRAM



ELITE PREPARATION OF THE PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL LEADS TO ELITE PERFORMANCE

Our College Uniforms



*Please Note: All College uniform items are available through the Uniform Shop.
The school does have good quality secondhand uniforms available for purchase.*



Our College Uniforms

BOYS: Summer Uniform

1. College shirt.
2. Grey College shorts.
3. Grey College socks.
4. Black lace-up leather school shoes.

BOYS: Physical Education Uniform

1. College House and white sports shirts.
2. College sports shorts.
3. College sports socks and PE jogging shoes.

GIRLS: Summer Uniform

1. Green College uniform skirt.
2. College shirt.
3. College ankle socks.
4. Black lace-up leather school shoes.

GIRLS: Physical Education Uniform

1. College House and white sports shirts.
2. College sports shorts.
3. College sports socks and PE jogging shoes.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

The Uniform Shop is located below the College Hall, easily accessed from Rodsted Street.

Hours of operation are:

**Monday and Thursday mornings
8.00 - 11.30am**

A copy of the
Personal Presentation Policy
(Uniform)

can be found in the Parent
Information section on SEQTA.
This will also include the winter
uniform and optional uniform items.

The 2024 Open Day will be held during Term 3 on Thursday September 5



Frequently Asked Questions

General Administration

Q I need to contact my child during the school day. Can I send them a text?

A All parents are urged not to contact students on their personal mobile phones, make arrangements to leave messages at a certain time, or ask students to call home, at any time during school hours. These actions lead to students having to contravene the ICT Policy, which has real implications for all students.

As is standard practice, it is preferable that all communication from and to students, is through the College Administration. For their own safety, a student who is unwell should report to the College Nurse in the Wellness Centre, instead of texting this information to parents. The College asks that parents do not respond to texts from their child, during the school day, but instead parents are encouraged to contact the Administration, if there is a concern.

Q I need to collect my child during school hours. What is the procedure?

A When a student is to be collected from school during the school day, a note must be given to the student from a parent/guardian to present to the relevant classroom teacher. The student must meet the parent/guardian at Administration – Student Services. The student must be signed out by a parent/guardian.



Our **ACES** are going places!

ACADEMIC **C**HALLENGE AND **E**NRICHMENT **S**TUDIES

Q
A

My child is going to be absent from school. Do I need to let anyone know?

When a student is absent from school, it is required that on the day of the absence, a parent contacts the College before 9.30am. A medical certificate is required if a student is absent for a period of more than three days. On their return to school, students are to provide a written note, signed by their parent/guardian, explaining their absence.

Q
A

Do we need to purchase a computer?

No. A school computer will be provided to your child early in Term 1, when parents will receive information regarding the devices. There is also a permission form that will need to be signed before the students are provided with a device. This document will be sent electronically during February.

Q
A

What is SEQTA?

SEQTA is a Learning Management System. The SEQTA Suite is an all-in-one teaching and learning ecosystem that enables teachers, students and parents to work together in an interactive, supportive online community. All student course programs, assessment outlines, resources are located in SEQTA. In addition, communication occurs to and from school via SEQTA: Direct Message. Parents will be provided with their login details in Week 3 of Term 1.

Q
A

Where can I find copies of the policies to be followed by College students?

Copies of the various College Policies (e.g. Choose Peer Respect Policy, Personal Presentation Policy (Uniform), Attendance Policy, Assessment Policy, Alcohol and Drug Policy, ICT Student Use Policy and the Healthy Food and Drink Choices Policy) can be found in the Parent Information section of SETQA and on our College website.

VET - Career Pathways

Are you industrious?



**Can't wait to get practical and create something?
Stop carering about and get into vocational training.**

Pastoral Care and Health

Q *How can my child access a counsellor at the College?*

A There is a form for your child to fill in at the Wellness Centre, near Administration, to request an appointment with a counsellor for the first time. Otherwise, a Homeroom Teacher, Head of Year or Class Teacher can send your child in the right direction if there is an issue. Students may also send a direct message to the College Counsellor.

Q *Does BCC have a nurse on site?*

A Yes we have a full time College Nurse in the Wellness Centre near Administration. If your child is sick during the school day, they are to visit the nurse who will make contact with home. Students are not to call home themselves please.

Q *Will my child receive any vaccinations at school?*

A All Year 7 students will be offered participation in the WA school-based immunisation program in 2024. A consent form will be sent to parents and must be returned by the specified date. Please contact the College Nurse on 9721 0000 if you have further questions.

Q *Do I notify the school if there is a change to my child's health status?*

A Yes, please notify the College Nurse if your child's wellbeing differs/alters in any way whilst they are at Bunbury Catholic College. This includes the commencement of medication.

Q *If my child has an EpiPen, what do I need to do?*

A You will need to provide a current action plan from your GP and an EpiPen (x1) which will be stored in the Wellness Centre. If the student attends any activity off campus, their action plan and EpiPen will be given to the supervising staff member attending the activity.



Q Can I take the EpiPen home during the school holidays?

A Absolutely ... just remember to bring it back when school recommences.

Q If my child takes medication prior to commencing the school day and they forget to have it, what can I do?

A The College Nurse encourages parents to supply a small amount (no more than three tablets) for such occasions.

Medications are stored in a locked draw and are only accessed by the College Nurse. Parent/Guardians will need to contact the College prior to the administration of the 'missed' medication, by either phone, email or SEQTA: Direct Message.

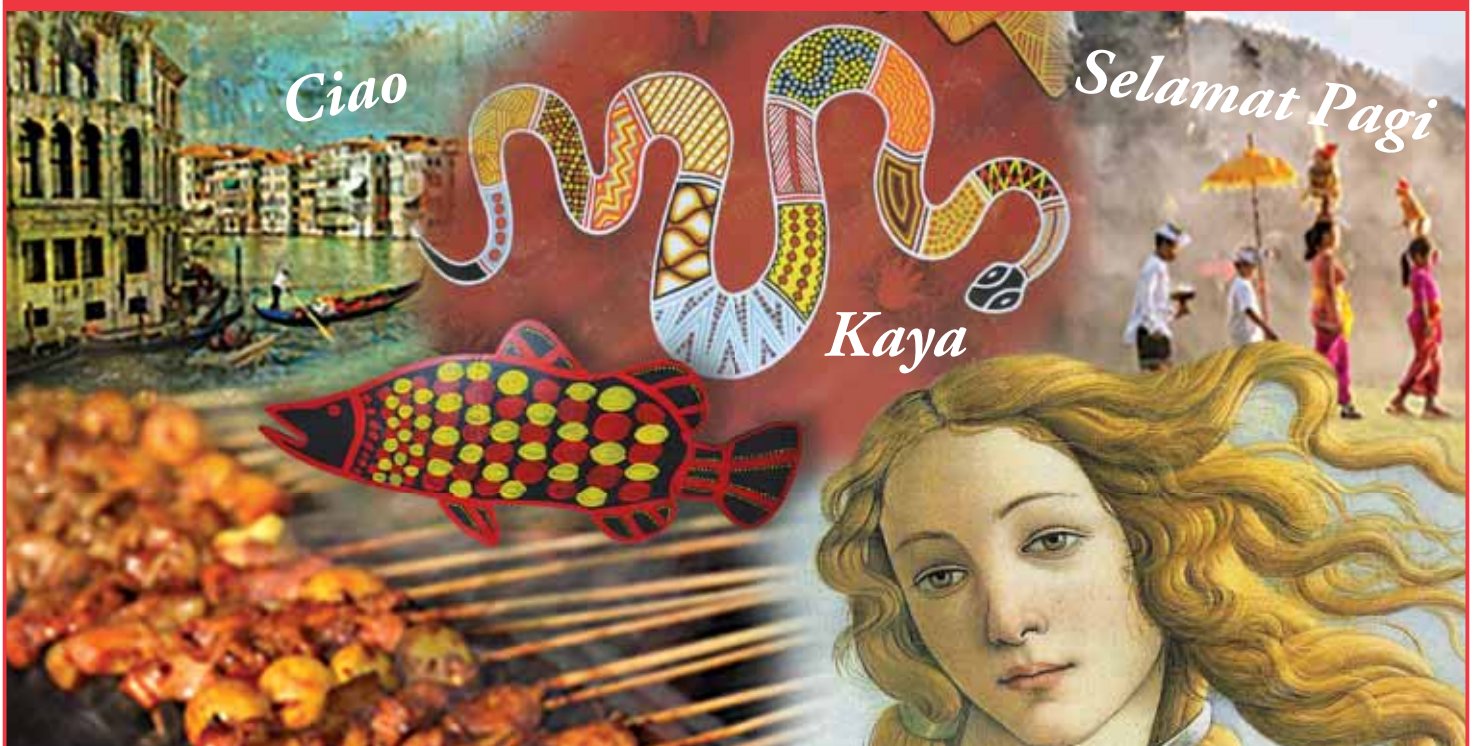
BUNBURY CATHOLIC COLLEGE HOUSES



Cultural Learning

Indigenous, Italian and Indonesian Cultural Immersion

Discover cultural connections, get closer to people by sharing food, fun and fellowship



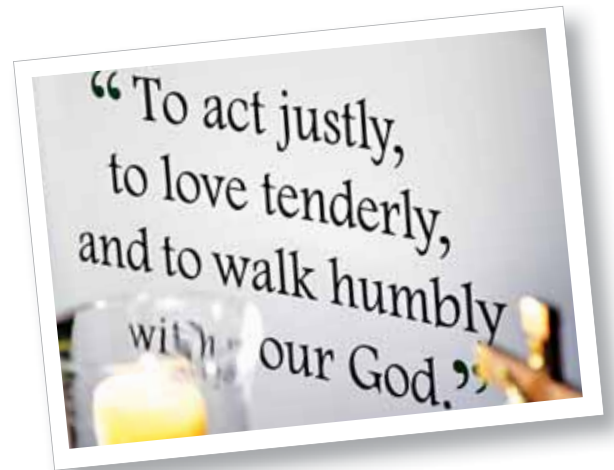
Academic

Q Will my child need to do any assessments in their language class?

A Yes, language courses attract a number of assessments: speaking, writing and listening. Constant revision is required in order to build vocabulary and become familiar with new grammar structures.

Q What is Education Perfect?

A Education Perfect is an online learning and assessment tool that will be used extensively as part of the teaching program. It enables students to make use of their computer devices to engage with interactive learning modules, participate in learning at their own pace, both in school and at home, to test their knowledge and receive immediate feedback, and to participate in some within-class and national competitions.



Join the band

Do you want to be a rock star?

Pick up an instrument at BCC - become the next big thing!

Q
A

Are the Year 7 classes streamed in Mathematics?

Mathematics at Bunbury Catholic College is streamed in the second semester of Year 7. This means that Mathematics teachers will collect a lot of data in the first two terms of 2024 in order to decide the best place for each student commencing in Term 3. We endeavour to meet the needs of each student in their Mathematics class, therefore movement can happen at any point of the year following Semester 1.

Q
A

Will I see all my child's Mathematics assessments?

Some of the assessments in Year 7 Mathematics do not leave the classroom and all students are encouraged to review these tasks in the room with their teacher and peers.

Q
A

How can I help my child succeed in Mathematics?

Mathematics, as one of the core subjects, is likely to be taught with greater frequency and time each week than students coming from primary school are accustomed to. This can mean that greater content is covered and this can be a challenge for students. It is important that students develop a strict study routine early in Year 7 to ensure that they do not fall behind in the completion of homework, study, assessments and assessment preparation.

Mathematics tutorials are held after school every Thursday from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. Students of all ability levels are encouraged to attend.

Mathematics is a fun and exciting, yet challenging, subject. Students are provided the opportunity to thrive and enjoy this learning area. Therefore, it is important that the attitudes towards Mathematics that they are exposed to, in and out of school, are positive, allowing all students to connect with Mathematics and generate an opinion of their own.



Academic Support

Q My child has been receiving extra literacy support in primary school. I would like my child to continue receiving literacy support in Year 7, instead of learning a Language. Is this a possibility?

A The literacy level of all in-coming students will be assessed by the English department, using standardised testing, during Term 1. If your child is identified as requiring additional literacy support, they may be offered a place in an English Acceleration program, focusing on the development of functional literacy, to help them catch up on lagging skills. If your child has a diagnosed learning disability or difficulty, subject to assessment of their literacy level, they may be eligible to participate in a dedicated literacy support group.

Q My child has a diagnosed learning disability. Who do I see to discuss this?

A Information concerning learning difficulties is requested and provided during the enrolment process. Information is also obtained during BCC staff transition visits to primary schools prior to new Year 7 students commencing at the College. If, after completion of the enrolment process, your child receives a new or updated diagnosis, it is important that parents provide this new information to the College so that we can best meet the needs of your child. A staff member from the Learning Centre will then be in contact with you to discuss the new information.

*The College Performing Arts Centre...
where students can tread the boards
in front of their classmates.*

*LISTEN OUT
for
AUDITIONS
in 2024*

**School productions are presented at the
Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre!**

Electives

Q What Year 7 electives are offered at Bunbury Catholic College?

A All Year 7 students at Bunbury Catholic College have the opportunity to complete **eight electives** over the year. Electives are varied, fun, engaging and provide practical, hands on 'Taster Courses' from the Arts and Technologies learning areas. Students will be placed into mixed groups and will complete **two different electives** each term.

Q What are the Arts learning area courses in Year 7?

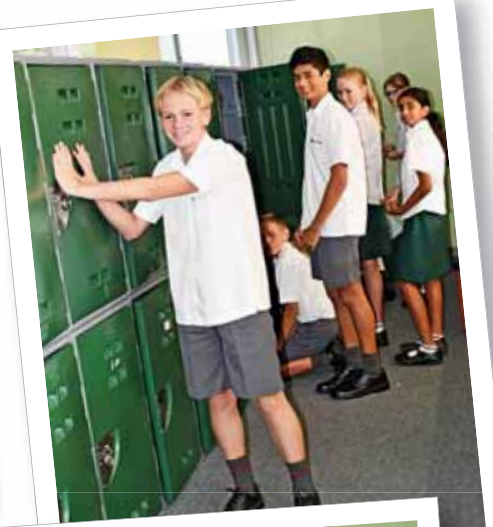
A Drama, Dance, Music and Visual Arts.

Q What are the Technologies learning area courses in Year 7?

A Food Technology, Metal Design, Wood Design and Robotics.

Q Do I get changed for Dance?

A Yes, you need to wear your Physical Education uniform so you can move comfortably. You will change from your school uniform in the PE change rooms. You may not come to school in your PE uniform if you have Dance in period 1 of that day but may go home in PE uniform if you have Dance in period 6.





College Cafeteria

Q Does the College Cafeteria need volunteers?

A Yes! With your assistance, we are able to serve students promptly and provide them with fresh healthy food at a reasonable price. Volunteering in the café provides you with the opportunity to meet other parents and view the variety of food offered on the café menu. As a volunteer, you will receive morning tea and lunch in a relaxed and friendly environment.

We are not scary! Grandparents are welcome. Come in and give it a try!

Q How do lunch orders work?

A The easiest way to place a lunch order is via the Bunbury Catholic College website, using the 'Shop' button - go to **www.bunburycatholic.wa.edu.au**. These online orders have a dedicated fast track queue for pick up at lunchtime. Lunch orders can also be made before Homeroom begins or during Recess, using a paper bag order form available from the 'Lunch Orders' table in the Cafeteria - fill in the form and then join the checkout queue to make your payment.

If you have any questions, contact our friendly Cafeteria staff.

Q Where can I find a menu for the Cafeteria?

A Go to the College website **www.bunburycatholic.wa.edu.au** and look under Parent Essentials. The menu is updated on a seasonal basis and can cater for specific dietary requirements.

Q How can my child pay for their lunch?

A Until students receive their College Student ID Card, they will need to use cash or eftpos to pay for their purchases at the Cafeteria. Once they have their Student ID Card, you will be able to load money onto the card online so they can use a 'tap and pay' service at the Cafeteria.

Students can expect to receive their Student ID Cards early in Term 1.

Lunch orders can be made online and more information about using Student ID Cards can be found on the College website

www.bunburycatholic.wa.edu.au/parent-essentials/college-shop

A Shop icon can also be found on the opening page of the College website.

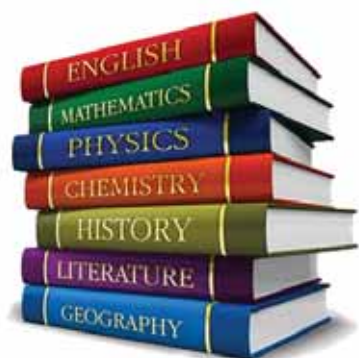
Secondhand Books

Q When is the Secondhand Bookshop open?

A The Secondhand Bookshop operates out of the Marist Sports Pavilion, located on the Albert Oval, adjacent to Rodsted Street.

If you have books **to sell**, they can be dropped off at the Pavilion on **Monday December 11** between 8am and 12 noon. No sales will occur on this day.

If you are wishing **to purchase** secondhand books, sales begin at 8am on **Tuesday December 12**. The shop closes at 12 noon.





1 Administration	13 VET Centre (V1 - V8)	24 Property Services
2 Uniform Shop	14 Pastoral Services & Classroom (S1)	25 Bus Shed
3 Woodwork/Metalwork (E1, E2)	15 Marcellin Champagnat Centre	26 Trade Training Centre
4 Building and Construction (E3, E4)	16 Science/Art Classrooms (S5, S6, S7, S8)	27 Staff Carparks + Visitor Bays
5 Classrooms (D1, D2, D3, D4, D5)	17 Classrooms (C1 - C9)	28 Staff Carparks + Visitor Bays
6 Classrooms (B3, B4, B5)	17A Chapel	29 TTC Carpark
7 Classrooms (B1, B2)	18 Hall	30 Bus Carpark
8 Classrooms (B6, B7)	19 Performing Arts Centre	31 Staff Carpark - Rodsted St
9 Classrooms (B8, B9, B10)	20 Change Rooms	32 Sports Centre Carpark
10 Learning Centre	21 Sports Centre	 ACROD Parking
11 Home Economics (B11, B12)	22 Marist Sports Pavilion	 Kiss and Drop
12 Classrooms (S2, S3, S4)	23 College Cafeteria	

Secondary Assistance Scheme

Holders of a Centrelink Health Care Card, or a Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card, or a Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card may be eligible for up to \$350 towards school expenses.

Applications close on March 28 2024.

For more information, book an appointment with our Finance Staff at BCC on 9721 0000.

