



Achievement | Respect | Commitment | Community



**DROUIN  
SECONDARY  
COLLEGE**

# College **PROSPECTUS**











# Welcome to Drouin Secondary College

**A**t our college, we are committed to providing all students with a high-quality education which prepares all students to be successful in a global community. Student learning and wellbeing are at the centre of everything we do. We are a well-established college that continues to be forward looking and dynamic. We emphasise the power of a strong partnership between our students, staff, families, and the local community.

Student learning is supported by an innovative curriculum designed to meet the individual needs of every student. The school has high expectations for all students to learn and achieve personal growth and success.

The College culture is centred on our vision and core values. Our vision states: "Drouin Secondary College is committed to ensuring every student develops the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to positively contribute as a responsible and caring citizen of a changing global community." Our four core values of Achievement, Respect, Commitment and Community are integral in our day to day life at the College.

At Drouin Secondary College we firmly believe that all children can learn and realise their own personal learning goals. The college has a positive learning culture which is focused on student achievement in combination with a focus on the building of positive relationships. We believe that learning is maximised in an environment where students are supported to develop personal confidence and resilience as they grow into young adults. Our college is proud of our ability to cater for individual students' needs, abilities and interests.

I look forward to discussing how our college and the college community can support every young person in their educational journey.

**Elizabeth Godwin**  
**Principal**





# History of Drouin Secondary College

**D**rouin Secondary College was founded in 1956 and has grown rapidly in recent years. The college is situated in West Gippsland, in the South-Eastern Region of Victoria. It is a medium sized rural, Years 7 to 12 school. Students attending the College come from a large geographical area including the major centres of population – Drouin, Bunyip, Garfield and Longwarry.

The college's growth allows us to maintain a community feel while offering a wide range of subjects, opportunities, pathways, and co-curricular activities, effectively catering for students' strengths and interests.

The College has a 21st Century approach to curriculum delivery with a strong focus on literacy, numeracy, creativity, thinking and the provision of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). We continue to support a managed Bring Your Own Device, and all students have a personal device. All buildings and outside spaces are technology enabled and support the learning of all students.

Other strengths include a stable, motivated, talented and committed staff, and excellent facilities. Our teaching and support staff continually improve their practice through the completion and sharing of targeted professional development based on best practice and research. Our college is a Professional Learning Community, where continuous school improvement is the basis of a collaborative approach to student learning, and the focus is on improving student outcomes.

Our students have access to a variety of learning environments and spaces including flexible learning areas, a senior study centre, science and visual arts hubs, library, auditorium, dance studio and a commercial training kitchen and restaurant. Sporting facilities include a double court gymnasium, heated swimming pool, oval, hockey field and basketball/netball/tennis courts.

We will continue to grow and improve for the benefit of the students in our college and community both now and in the future.















# Our Vision and Values

## *Our Vision:*

**D**rouin Secondary College is committed to ensuring every student develops the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to positively contribute as responsible and caring citizens of a changing, global community.

We believe each core value can be expressed simply in the following statements:

### ***Achievement***

- We value and pursue excellence
- We encourage critical thought and questioning
- We have a growth mindset
- We are risk takers and problem solvers
- We make connections between learning in different contexts

### ***Respect***

- We build positive relationships
- We are not afraid to express ourselves
- We show compassion for ourselves and others

### ***Commitment***

- We value effort and endeavour
- We are resilient
- We seek joy in learning
- We seek to understand ourselves as learners

### ***Community***

- We build partnerships with our community
- We embrace diversity
- We help each other
- We are lifelong learners



# Partnerships with parents and the community

For students to achieve at a high level, they need to be supported by their community: students, staff and families. The development of these positive partnerships with families and the broader community requires trust and good communication. We believe that learning is maximised when students have a strong connection to the college community.

Each student belongs to a learning group and our year level teams spend time getting to know the students in their care and their families. Teachers foster an encouraging and friendly atmosphere in which students can learn effectively and focus on the prevention of problems before they occur. Each learning group also belongs to a year level community led by a Learning Culture Leader. This support includes close monitoring of the academic and personal growth of each student. Leaders liaise with families as the need arises.

Parents have access to the online platforms Compass and Microsoft suite. The Compass platform allows parents, students and staff with access to up-to-date information about a student's learning and progress at school.

It is designed to provide easy access to learning, school news, events, upcoming assignments, and reports. Student learning is enhanced by a range of online platforms including the Microsoft suite.

We encourage parents to be involved in college life through volunteering, reading the Drouin Secondary College News (DSCN) and following events on Facebook. Opportunities also exist for parents to join the College Council and parent liaison committee. We run information sessions for transition into Year 7 and for course selection in later years.

The college maintains and enhances community connections through participation in a wide range of activities and events. Annually, the college participates in the Ficifolia Festival, ANZAC commemorations, whilst regularly engaging with community organisations. The College is involved with many other organisations such as the RSL, Rotary, Lions and Drouin & District Community Bank.







## Our Staff

**T**he College has outstanding and dedicated staff who work in Professional Learning Teams to continually reflect on and to improve their practice as “lifelong learners”. All staff share the vision and philosophy of how an effective teacher at Drouin Secondary College approaches their work and enriches the learning environment through high expectations, challenge, inclusion and support.

Effective teachers at Drouin Secondary College:

1. Are **enthusiastic** and **passionate** about students' learning and their own learning.
2. Have a range of relevant experiences and an in-depth **knowledge** of content, along with good **communication** and **organisational** skills.
3. Positively **engage** students in learning, providing a range of teaching and learning activities that are **relevant** to students, which develop thinking and **deep understanding**.
4. Encourage wellbeing by building positive, caring **relationships**.
5. Monitor student progress by providing regular, quality **feedback** to students and parents.
6. Have **high expectations** of themselves, colleagues and students.





# The College Curriculum and Pathways

**D**rouin Secondary College is committed to creating an inclusive and caring learning environment where all students are supported to achieve their very best. Our learning community ensures that strong partnerships between students, teachers, families, and the broader community are maintained.

The college prides itself on offering a comprehensive curriculum which includes all key areas outlined in the Victorian Curriculum. Our curriculum covers vital disciplines, with special emphasis on English and Mathematics, to foster robust literacy and numeracy skills. Simultaneously, our students are introduced to an expansive array of subjects in Science, Humanities, Languages, The Arts, Technology and Design, and Health and Physical Education. Each of these disciplines is crafted to spark curiosity, promote comprehensive skill development, and instil a lifelong passion for learning.

Our students are given an opportunity in Year 7 and 8 to experience all the subjects on offer, before moving into Middle and Senior School where students are provided with guidance and support and empowered to make choices over their individual pathways.

Drouin Secondary College offers the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), including the new VCE Vocational Major and Vocational Pathways Certificate, and a range of VET offerings. We are focused on ensuring we offer a broad range of subjects that reflect student demand and are committed to ensuring that students can access pathways that they enjoy and have a strong affinity for.

Across Years 7-12 students are supported to understand career pathways and this comes into sharp focus in Years 9-12 as we work with students and families to help them understand the extensive information and to discuss options with our expert staff. This ensures that students are fully supported to make the right subject and pathway selections.

We are proud of the inclusive learning environment at Drouin Secondary College, whereby all students are supported at their point of need.







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## Learning Culture

**D**rouin Secondary College identifies supportive and positive relationships between students, staff, parents and the wider community as being vital to the success of young people. We aim to acknowledge and celebrate student achievement, success, improvement, and self-awareness.

We believe a school wide positive behaviour approach to student wellbeing is fundamental to reinforcing the College values of "Achievement", "Respect", "Commitment" and "Community". This framework assists in the development of pathways aimed to encourage engagement, purpose, direction and the development of lifelong learners. The College has implemented the Berry Street Education Model across all areas of teaching and learning, which equips schools with strategies to facilitate high student engagement to support progress in academic achievement.

The College continues to integrate the Respectful Relationships Program, in all elements of the school which supports curriculum and a positive school culture. Teaching, modelling and, importantly, rewarding positive behaviour in all aspects of student lives promotes connectedness at the College level and in the wider community, and enhances learning opportunities. We encourage young people to develop skills and knowledge that make connections between the educational programs on offer and their future aspirations and pathways.

The positive learning culture permeating throughout our entire College community lays the foundation for elevated student engagement and success. When students step into an environment brimming with encouragement, support, and a shared enthusiasm for learning, they are naturally inclined to participate actively in their educational journey. Our staff prioritise fostering curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking, instilling in students a genuine love for learning. Moreover, when students witness their peers and teachers alike embracing challenges as opportunities for growth, they feel empowered to take risks and persevere through difficulties. This collective mindset cultivates resilience and a growth-oriented approach to education, ultimately leading to enhanced academic achievement and personal development among students. Furthermore, a positive learning culture fosters a sense of belonging and community, where students feel valued, respected, and motivated to excel not only for themselves but also for their peers and the school as a whole. Thus, the ripple effects of a positive learning culture extend far beyond the classroom, shaping students into lifelong learners poised for success in an ever-evolving world.



# Learning Culture

## *continued*

### Laptop Program

The College has a managed BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program where all students in Year 7 to 12 have access to a personal device to complete their studies at school and home.

By embracing BYOD, we empower students to leverage their own devices for learning, fostering a personalised and dynamic educational experience while also preparing them for the technology-driven landscape of the modern world.

The College online curriculum can be accessed by students and parents 24/7 enabling "Learning, Anytime, Anywhere".

### Transition

Our partnership with the Drouin Cluster of Schools supports the transition process from our primary schools and includes a comprehensive orientation program. This ensures teachers understand our new students and can support them in feeling confident in their new school. We also build connections with local primary schools through our students visiting these schools to participate in various programs.

A coordinated Information Day & Evening for prospective students combined with the State-wide Transition Day in December provides students with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the college. Further, we have a program offering additional transition days for students needing a higher level of support.

All enrolled Year 7 students will participate in a conference with a member of the Drouin Secondary College team, and their family, in the second half of their Grade 6 year.

We take the time necessary to know and understand our new students whether they are joining our community at Year 7 or a higher level.

### Student Wellbeing

We believe that happy, healthy and resilient students learn best and we prioritise the care and wellbeing of our students. The Student Wellbeing Team supports the College's learning culture and works alongside the Learning Culture team. The team works with a case management model and includes a Leading Teacher, full time Student Wellbeing Counsellors, a Youth Worker, Mental Health Practitioner, a School Nurse as well as Koorie Education Support Officers.

The Wellbeing Team also supports proactive strategies including teacher understanding of the effects of trauma on learning and the development of young people.

Drouin Secondary College also supports a Doctors in Schools Program. The college has a purpose-built facility on site as part of the Victorian Government initiative to have an adolescent health-trained GP attend up to once a week to provide medical advice and health care to its students.

### Careers & Pathways

The College careers and pathways program is underpinned by a personalised learning approach to support each individual student to identify and complete their own journey through their secondary education.

The college has qualified careers advisors who support students to realise their own goals and provide guidance and support from Year 7 to 12. Students are provided with numerous opportunities to explore the variety of careers available with visits to universities, TAFE and career expos, and can complete work placements as part of their journey. Work experience is offered as part of the program at Year 10.













## Co-Curricular Activities and Sports

The college commitment to offer co-curricular and sporting activities enhances our students' learning experience. These programs are designed to enrich the learning, providing additional support for some students and enhancement for others.

These activities may have an educational, cultural, environmental, social or outdoor emphasis. For example:

- Inter-house Sports - Athletics, Swimming and Cross-country.
- Inter-School Competitions across a wide range of disciplines such as Sports, Human Powered Vehicles, Chess and Debating.
- Performing Arts - School Production, Instrumental Music, Choir, Rock Band.
- Clubs and Activities - Chess Club, Art Club, Anime Club, Quiet Games Club, Casual Clothes Days to fundraise for charity.
- Collaborative projects with National and International Partners.
- Camps, Excursions and Incursions - Careers expos, outdoor education and city camps, international online forums and study tours, mindfulness and wellbeing incursions, etc.
- Presentation Balls, Year 11 Formal and Year 12 Valedictory.
- Student Representative Council and leadership opportunities



# Enrolment Applications

Please contact the College's General Office for enrolment enquiries.

## *ENROLMENT AT YEAR 7*

For all enrolments into Year 7 for the following calendar year, please refer to your local Primary School for initial advice. Government Primary schools will distribute the 'Enrolment into a Secondary School' form to all Grade 6 students.

## *ENROLMENT AT YEARS 8, 9, 10, 11 AND 12*

For enrolments at these year levels, enquiries can be made by contacting the College on (03) 5625 1002. An appointment to discuss your child's needs and provide a personalised tour of the College will be organised by the enrolment officer. The prospective student and at least one parent/guardian are required to attend the enrolment interview.











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