

---

# Prospectus

## Maribyrnong College



**Maribyrnong Secondary College**  
**Gordon Street, Maribyrnong 3032**

P: +61 3 9091 8100  
W: [www.maribsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.maribsc.vic.edu.au)  
E: [maribyrnong.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:maribyrnong.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

---

# Mission Statement

**Schools are complex organisations, at Maribyrnong College we aim to develop:**

**Students who are:**

- ◆ Capable and conscientious
- ◆ Engaged, connected and successful
- ◆ Co-operative and respectful
- ◆ Well presented and well behaved
- ◆ Proud of their achievements and school

**Programs which:**

- ◆ Are challenging, rigorous and innovative
- ◆ Are engaging and creative
- ◆ Provide individual support and improved outcomes
- ◆ Provide diverse pathways to meet students' needs
- ◆ Are recognised as best practice

**Staff who are:**

- ◆ Dedicated, innovative and collaborative
- ◆ Energetic, outward looking and positive
- ◆ Caring, sensitive and supportive
- ◆ Role models
- ◆ Proud of their work and workplace

**An environment with:**

- ◆ Attractive facilities, inside and outside
- ◆ High quality recreation and relaxation areas
- ◆ Prominent gallery and notice board displays
- ◆ A security fence and quality canteen
- ◆ Specialist sporting facilities
- ◆ Priority given to continuous improvement

# Enrolment

The process of applying to enrol at MSC varies depending on your circumstances. Tours of the College can be booked via our website

## General Enrolment

The Grade 6 to Year 7 enrolment process is completed through your primary school during Terms 2 and 3 of your Grade 6 year.

The DET has a specific timeline for applications to Secondary Schools. Details can be obtained from your Primary School.

## Year 8 and above:

Maribyrnong College receives a large number of applications for enrolment in Years 8 - 12. In order to manage the process fairly, we have an application system and require you to provide a range of information, which will be considered at an interview.

## Sports Academy

Places in the Sports Academy are offered on the basis of academic reports and sporting ability. An extensive state-wide selection process is undertaken. Details are provided via the link on the College website.





# Curriculum

At MSC we aim to provide challenging programs in all curriculum areas and have high expectations that students will strive to achieve their personal best.

The Year 7-10 curriculum is based on the Victorian Curriculum. Students participate in a sequential curriculum program across the Key Learning Areas (KLAs):

- ◆ English/ English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ Science
- ◆ Humanities
- ◆ The Arts – Music, Drama, Art, Visual Communication and Media
- ◆ Health and Physical Education – in addition to a Sport program for students in Years 7 and 8.
- ◆ Technology – Food Technology, Woodwork and Information and Communication Technology (ICT).
- ◆ Language Other than English (LOTE) – in Years 7 and 8.
- ◆ High Performance Preparation Program – for students enrolled in the Sports Academy Program.

The curriculum is organised into 'core' and 'elective' subjects. In Years 7 and 8, the curriculum is predominantly core to ensure that all students have acquired the skills and foundation for future learning. In Years 9 and 10, in addition to some core subjects, students have the opportunity to pursue particular interests through the elective program.

In Years 11 and 12, students have access to a range of VCE subjects and some VET programs. The program of VCE studies offered at the College is designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to gain entry into their chosen tertiary courses and future career choices. Students usually undertake VCE over two years but in some cases a three-year program is advised.

For current VCE subjects offered at Maribyrnong College please refer to the Course Selection Handbook or the College website: [www.maribsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.maribsc.vic.edu.au)





# ACE Program

## Advanced Curriculum Enrichment Program (ACE)

Students entering Maribyrnong College at Year 7 have the opportunity to be selected for our Advanced Curriculum Enrichment (ACE) Program.

While Students in the ACE Program will undertake the same core subjects as other students in their year level, the work presented is more challenging and adapted to the needs of talented learners.

Enrichment is provided by broadening curriculum content as well as allowing for in-depth study of units of work.

Year 7 students in the program undertake the same core subjects as other students with enrichment provided by broadening curriculum content as well as allowing in-depth study. There is a greater emphasis on higher order thinking and learning skills, as well as independent learning and research.

In addition to this, students in the ACE program will also engage in extension activities through academic competitions, excursions and school based activities.



# MPL

## Managed Personal Learning

In MPL students develop personal skills such as organisation, planning, goal setting and time management.

The Careers Education is also embedded in the MPL Sessions. The structure of the program varies according to the year level and is designed to meet the specific needs of students as they move through their secondary education.



# Extra Curricular Programs



The College runs a range of lunchtime clubs aimed toward facilitating the development of student confidence, develop friendships and encourage collegiality amongst the various year levels. These clubs include Choir, Drama, Chess, Weightlifting and Badminton.

## **Creative & Performing Arts**

At Maribyrnong College, music, drama and the visual arts play an important role in the school curriculum and co-curricular program.

### **Instrumental Music**

We currently offer small group lessons in Guitar, Woodwind, Brass and Voice. Small group ensembles perform for students and in public. An established College Band regularly performs at College events including assemblies and parent evenings which are part of the annual music program.

### **School Production**

Each year, the College puts on a major arts event, either in the form of a school production or a concert showcasing the acting, singing and dancing talent of our students. This also provides opportunities for students to gain experience in backstage support (e.g. lighting, sound, costume and make-up).

### **Debating and Public Speaking**

Students in Years 8-12 from Maribyrnong College are invited to participate in the Debating Association of Victoria (DAV) Schools Competition. Our students compete in the Essendon region of this competition along with over 20 other schools from

the region. Debating offers students the opportunity to gain confidence in public speaking, to work in teams, to develop communication skills and to learn about important issues affecting our world. Students may also apply to participate in a number of Public Speaking competitions, including the VCAA Plain English Speaking Competition, Lions Club Youth of the Year and the DAV Junior Public Speaking Competition.

## **Tournament of Minds (TOM)**

Maribyrnong College successfully competed in Tournament of minds for the first time in 2015. TOM is a problem solving program for teams of 7 students. Featuring challenges from a choice of disciplines including Science, Engineering, Technology, Literature etc., TOM is one of the fastest growing international school programs with the involvement of thousands of participants. TOM aims to enhance students potential by developing diverse skills including: creative thinking, enterprise, time management and working collaboratively within a competitive environment.

### **After School Tutoring**

To support all students in their endeavours to meet their academic potential, the College has introduced a formal tutoring program that runs Monday to Thursday after school. This program, staffed by teachers, provides students with the opportunity to complete homework or seek individualised support in a well-structured study environment.

### **Interschool Sport**

The students are provided opportunities for selection in a range of sporting competitions offered by School Sport Victoria (SSV).

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students have a timetabled session for "sport" every week. In addition to this they can select the sport at interschool level in which they may wish to participate. Teams are trained within the timetabled class and selected from the group. In the Senior Years, students may nominate for one sport per term. Competition goes through stages, from local to district, regional and finally State Championships.

Our policy about participation is that students should show good team spirit and good sportsmanship, rather than focussing on talent alone. Students in the sports teams have the advantage of being able to play in teams alongside elite athletes who are in our Sports Specialism Program.

# Sports Academy Program

The Maribyrnong Sports Academy (MSA) is Victoria's only State Government Funded Specialist Sports High School and provides a high performance sports program for emerging teenage athletes, which is delivered within Maribyrnong College.

Established in 2006 the Academy is currently home to 550+ student-athletes who compete in a range of sports including the larger participation sports such as cricket, soccer, AFL and netball but also smaller sports including badminton, taekwondo and baseball/softball.

The program aims to support and develop each individual student-athlete to maximise their potential athletically, academically and in citizenship. The high performance environment starts with the physical facilities which are of international standard, however the true strength of the program is the holistic approach to each student's academic, athletic and personal development. This approach is delivered by a team of passionate, highly committed professionals, working together in an integrated manner.



Student-athletes within the Academy are coached, taught, trained and mentored on a daily basis by teachers, coaches, dietitians, psychologists and sports scientists which include a number of Olympians, numerous National Representatives and individuals with significant experience working at the AIS, VIS, professional clubs and with professional athletes.

From a sporting point of view, the Academy is achieving some amazing results in all sorts of areas. Approximately one third of our student-athletes will represent Victoria and/or Australia in National and International competition in a 12 month period. Many of our athletes are recruited by US Colleges where they continue to study and compete in US College sports.

Numerous partnerships have been developed with organisations including Victoria University, Western Bulldogs FC, Victorian Institute of Sport and many state and national sporting organisations.

Entry to the program is via an application and selection process which considers high performance sport potential and suitability for the balance between sport, academic performance, effort and behaviour. Student athletes applying for a place in MSA are NOT required to live in the local area.





# Careers Education

## Future Pathways Planning

Maribyrnong College assists students in Years 9 -12 to develop a carefully detailed Managed Individual Pathways plan. This plan allows students to explore potential careers, seek support and obtain advice with regard to making decisions about their post school education and training options.

Our students develop skills in the area of setting goals, developing clear and achievable career direction and experiencing the real world of work.

## Work Experience

All Year 10 students undertake one week of work experience each year. Extensive career planning and preparation precedes the work experience program and is delivered through classroom programs.

VCE Course Planning and Tertiary Entrance Advice

Our experienced Careers Co-ordinator and Senior Years Teams provide ongoing advice and support to students in VCE, related to appropriate course planning and careers and tertiary entry pathways. A range of lectures, seminars and parent information meetings are punctuated with individual student counselling sessions.

## Community Partnerships

The College has forged strong links with external providers such as the Youth Pathways Support Services, Western Bulldogs, Workplace Connect and other support agencies across metropolitan Melbourne.

In addition to this, our Careers Advisor is an active member of the Career Education Association of Victoria. We ensure that all advice provided is up to date and relevant to the student needs.

# Facilities

MSC boasts excellent facilities and resources that enable us to provide a safe learning environment that is conducive to high achievement, these include:

A state of the art sports complex, including basketball and badminton stadium, complete with classroom spaces, fully equipped gymnasium and cafeteria, tennis courts and athletics, hockey and soccer fields

- ◆ A 230 seat performing arts/lecture theatre
- ◆ New Wood, Food, Music and Systems Technology Rooms
- ◆ A Year 7 precinct with landscaped gardens and play spaces.
- ◆ Multimedia projectors or plasma screens TVs in every classroom.
- ◆ Five computer labs
- ◆ Well resourced library
- ◆ VCE student centre
- ◆ Air conditioning in every room
- ◆ Media Centre
- ◆ 2 Canteens (operated by contractors)
- ◆ Uniform Shop on campus



# Special Programs



## Literacy Support & Development

Students who are identified as needing additional support in their reading decoding skills are offered a place in the SRA Corrective Reading Program. This program focuses on improving students' word attack skills, reading speed, accuracy and comprehension. Students develop increasing confidence in their ability to read aloud in class and manage the work demands in each of their subjects. Students are withdrawn four times a week from regular classes to participate in small group lessons.

The Reading Success Program is also offered to students who would benefit from extra help in reading comprehension. Students work in small groups to develop targeted literacy skills.

In addition to identified student support, teachers in all curriculum areas are encouraged to explicitly teach and model reading comprehension, vocabulary development and writing strategies and skills.

## Student Leadership

The College encourages students at all levels to undertake various leadership opportunities including involvement as School Captains, House Captains, Senior, Middle and Junior Leaders. These roles provide them with opportunities to plan, participate in and lead whole school and year level assemblies, assist with information evenings, fundraising, as well as developing and implementing special projects for the whole school community. Each year, two student leaders also represent the student body on the School Council.

## House System

When students first enrol at the College they are allocated a House. Following a proud tradition, dating back to 1945, the College has continued to use its original house names: Kurrajong, Banksia, Manuka and Waratah. Throughout the school year, inter-house competitions are held to foster and encourage teamwork and enthusiasm across the College.





# Supporting Students

MSC offers a range of supports for all students, these include:

**Junior, Middle and Senior Sub-Schools** - The College is divided into three Sub-Schools (Years 7 & 8; Years 9 & 10; VCE Years 11 & 12). This enables us to maximise our capacity to get to know our students well and to support every aspect of their academic and social development. Each Sub-School is managed by two highly effective Leading Teachers who work with the Year Level Co-ordinators to ensure that students develop their academic and social potential.

**Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator** - Our Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator (SWC) oversees the work of visiting specialists and the Mental Health Practitioner. This role is to liaise between parents, teachers and specialists in delivering services and support to students who require assistance with emotional, social and academic issues. A variety of wellbeing programs are conducted.

**Visiting Specialists** - The College has access to specialists such as Educational Psychologists, Social Workers and Speech Pathologists, who visit the College on an as-needed basis and work with the College to assess student needs and advise about support that may assist.

**Integration Program** - The College has a small number of students who are funded under the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD).



# Code of Conduct

---



Our College rules are designed to protect the rights of all students to learn and be treated with respect, in a safe and secure environment. Students are expected to behave in a co-operative manner and follow teachers' instructions at all times. Classroom teachers will implement staged disciplinary consequences if school and classroom rules are disobeyed.

Simple consequences may range from a reprimand to a warning and perhaps removal from the classroom for a short period. More serious consequences may range from longer removal from class to detention by the classroom teacher and possibly an official after-school detention. At this stage it is most likely that the Year Level Co-ordinator will become involved.

Detentions are given for serious or recurrent infringements of the school rules. Students may be detained by teachers for up to half of recess or lunchtime and up to 3.30pm after school, without parent notification. If a student is to receive an official After School Detention, parents will be notified beforehand. After school detentions are for 45 minutes – until 4pm.

In a small number of situations a student's misbehaviour may be sufficiently serious to warrant a **SUSPENSION**. This may result from a student consistently breaking school rules, or breaking rules in an extreme way (e.g. through abuse, violence, vandalism or theft). In such situations, parents will be contacted and may be invited to attend an interview. Suspension is a most serious consequence in that it becomes filed in the student's records and removes their right to attend school for the period of the suspension. It also sets an example to other students of the importance of obeying school rules.

Depending on the misbehaviour, in some circumstances a **SATURDAY DETENTION** may be offered. For example, students who continually disregard school rules on bags, lockers, electronic devices, uniform etc. Saturday Detentions take place in the school library from 9.00am until 12pm. Students who miss a Saturday Detention will have a formal school suspension during the following week.





# Enrolment Zone



