

#### GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL® EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION





# Welcome!



#### We are delighted you are considering our School for your child.

At Geelong Grammar School we do things differently; knowing it takes more than theory to make an impact beyond the classroom. Our educational philosophy is intentional and enduring; we exist to enable wisdom.

We invite you to partner with us to ignite the wisdom of acquired skills; of acquired knowledge. Wisdom that emerges from the challenge of adventure; wisdom awakened from a deliberate commitment to wellness; wisdom that ignites through curiosity and creative imagination; and the wisdom of a life lived ethically, usefully, kindly.

I hope this booklet allows you better insight into our School values and a sense of the deep care we have for our learners. I am equally hopeful that in the future we can share further with you the vibrancy and vigour that is Geelong Grammar.

Yours towards the promise of Exceptional Education.

Rebecca Cody Principal









Toorak Campus

and every single step matters.

Bostock House

Corio Campus

ELC – Year 4

**BOSTOCK HOUSE** (Newtown, Geelong) **TOORAK CAMPUS** (Toorak, Melbourne)

Our early years' programmes provide the building blocks for a love of learning – establishing a strong foundation in numeracy and literacy, whilst nurturing curiosity and creativity. Our Early Learning Centres reflect the Reggio Emilia philosophy, whilst our Prep to Year 4 level curriculum is committed to the principles of the Primary Years Programme (PYP) of the International Baccalaureate (IB) as a candidate school.

 Fundamental skills development through play and formal learning

> • Wide range of specialist subjects

 Emphasis on curiosity and creativity

### Years 5-6

**TOORAK CAMPUS** (Toorak, Melbourne) MIDDLE SCHOOL (Corio, Geelong)

Our Years 5-6 programme is focussed on the middle years between childhood and early adolescence. Our students learn through practical experience during these crucial growth years. The understanding continues through the philosophy of the IB programme.

> Focus on experiential learning

 Explicit teaching of Positive Education

 Introduction of laptops and eLearning

MIDDLE SCHOOL (Corio, Geelong)

Years 7-8

Our Years 7-8 programme provides a more traditional secondary school structure, with a wider range of specialist subjects and teachers. Concepts are explored through a series of multi-domain units, fostering inquiry and critical thinking skills. An extensive sport and co-curricular activities programme encourages balance and personal development.

> Wider range of specialist subjects

 Extensive arts and sports activities

 Ideal preparation for Timbertop

#### Year 9

TIMBERTOP (Victorian Alps)

SENIOR SCHOOL (Corio, Geelong)

Timbertop provides a unique opportunity to experience a rigorous academic programme alongside a challenging outdoor education stream. Whilst hiking, skiing and running dominates weekends, for five days a week our students are engaged in a full Year 9 academic timetable free from the distractions of the modern world.

> • Unique Campus environment

 Experiential learning through and with nature

 Building courage through inspiration and adversity

 Explicit teaching of Positive Education

## Spanning four campuses, Geelong Grammar School offers a unique educational journey to meet the diverse needs of our students. We believe that learning is life's greatest adventure

#### Year 10

#### Years 11 – 12

**SENIOR SCHOOL** (Corio, Geelong)

Year 10 focusses on consolidating academic skills and preparing our students for the final two years of their secondary education. It provides a wide range of elective subjects. It builds on the skills and knowledge acquired at Timbertop, further developing resilience and self-knowledge through explicit teaching of Positive Education.

> Consolidation of academic skills

• Wide range of elective subjects

Our Years 11-12 programme provides the opportunities, environment and academic support to enable all of our students to flourish. It offers the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma for entry into tertiary study. The broad range of academic subjects is complemented by dynamic co-curricular and sporting programmes.

Choice of VCE or IB

 Dynamic co-curricular activities

World-class facilities

# It's only together we can improve each other.

We are the largest co-educational boarding school in Australia. Across our four distinct campuses, we have over 1,500 boys and girls at our School.

Almost 900 of our students live and learn at the Corio Campus. This is home to our Middle School (Years 5-8) and Senior School (Years 10-12).

The student population at our Corio Campus comprises of 70% boarders, and 30% day students or day boarders.

Each student – whether day or boarding - joins one of our fourteen boarding or day houses.

Our Houses:

- two Senior School co-educational day houses (Allen and Fraser)
- eight Senior School boarding houses (Clyde, Elisabeth Murdoch, Garnett, and the Hermitage are female boarding houses, and Cuthbertson, Francis Brown, Manifold and Perry are male boarding houses)

- two Middle School co-educational day houses (Highton and Otway)
- two Middle School boarding houses (Parrwang for boys, and Kunuwarra for girls).

Nearly 100 staff residences are also located on our 262-hetare campus. Staff members, together with their families, live in or near the boarding houses, contributing to a warm, nurturing community, where each student is known well, and safe.

Every boarding house is comprised of a team of compassionate staff, who dedicate boundless time and energy into the care and support of each individual. Just like a family, our houses thrive on honest human connection - respect, trust and understanding.

Through the experience of boarding life, our students learn how to build strong relationships, and importantly, how to navigate social environments.

Our committed educators live and learn together with our young people. Beyond teaching, they serve as sports coaches, tutors, mentors and boarding house supervisors. Meaningful relationships ensue, as our learners interact with our educators multiple times each day in a variety of contexts.

At a time when universities are considering not only academic success but also commitment to extracurricular activities and service, our School provides an easier pathway for learners to pursue passions beyond the traditional school hours.

Our learners enjoy extended access to exceptional learning facilities and specialist areas - libraries, the Music School, the SPACE, the Art School and our state-of-theart Handbury Centre for Wellbeing. They can participate in a wide range of co-curricular activities, from music and performance rehearsals to sports practice and art events. In addition, every student has access to nightly academic support through evening prep (homework) - supervised by a House Mentor. Our day boarders also complete their extra-curricular activities and homework, and enjoy dinner with their peers before heading home for the day.







We have a culturally diverse community that is made up of learners, educators and staff members who come to us from all over Australia and across the world.

Consequently, we celebrate a culturally rich and diverse community, where every individual possesses a unique identity, life experience and perspective.

From rural to metropolitan, international, interstate or local, we are committed to nurturing an equitable and inclusive community, and supporting the myriad of learning opportunities that such a diverse community brings.

To live and learn together, to develop insights and abandon prejudices, to celebrate what makes us different and foster what is familiar: this is our School's unending commitment - to promote inclusivity - to shape a better world.

#### Nurturing Belonging and Inclusivity

# Learning for the future.

We believe that a curious mind and collaborative predilection are essential for young people to thrive in an ever-changing global world.

At the heart of our Academic Programme is a curriculum that fosters critical thinking, agile problem posing and solving, collaboration and curiosity across all disciplines. Acquired knowledge is important; so too are the enterprising skills that will assist our learners to be wellequipped for the challenges of tomorrow.

## Intersecting the science of learning with the art of teaching

At Geelong Grammar School, we take great care to ensure all our learners strive and persevere to achieve the best of their personal abilities. We employ learning measures to track individual progress and provide diagnostics for evaluation to identify where and how support is needed. One measure is Challenge Grades: aspirational grade point averages that students set in consultation with their mentors. These measures provide our learners with the goals and motivation to push further in their learning journey.

The continuum from knowledge to skills to capabilities and competence cannot take place without expert teaching. We equip our students with the skills and motivation to be lifelong learners. We ask our educators to model this behaviour through the Performance and Development Programme (PDP), a two-year programme undertaken across all campuses, which strengthens our capacity in achieving excellence in our professional practice.



#### Diversity in learner life paths

In Years 11 and 12, our School offers both the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma programme.

The VCE and the IB Diploma programme are academically challenging and balanced. Both programmes provide an internationally accepted qualification for entry into higher education and are recognised by many universities worldwide.

Whilst the VCE enables specialisation, the IB requires students to work across a broad cross-section of subjects.

Our commitment to both programmes reflects the diversity of our young people's future aspirations, and the multiplicity of pathways available to them.

### Explore your Choices

StoringAccountingAgricultural and Horticultural<br/>StudiesBiologyBusiness ManagementChemistryEconomicsEnglish

English (EAL): English as an Additional Language

Geography

**Global Politics** 

History

Chinese

French German

Health and Human Development

Japanese

Legal Studies

Literature

Mathematics

Media

Music Industry (VET)

Music Performance

Physical Education

Physics

Product Design and Technology

Psychology

Studio Arts

Theatre Studies

Visual Communication Design

Group 1 - Language and Literature English A: Literature English A: Language and Literature

Group 2 - Language Acquisition Language B (French, German, Japanese, Mandarin) Spanish (ab initio)

Group 3 - Individuals and Societies Economics Geography History Psychology

Group 4 - Experimental Sciences Biology Chemistry Design Technology Physics Sports, Exercise, and Health Science

Group 5 - Mathematics Analysis and Approaches SL/HL Applications and Interpretation SL/HL

Group 6 - The Arts or Electives Visual Arts Music Theatre Arts

Core - Extended Essay Theory of Knowledge Creativity, Activity, and Service



# Purposeful choices.

A central pillar of a Geelong Grammar School Education is Positive Education, which brings together positive psychology and other evidence-based approaches to wellbeing in order to equip our students, staff and broader community with the knowledge and skills which will enable them to flourish. In essence, Positive Education provides a repertoire of internal resources that our young people can draw on - to cope with negative emotions, strengthen relationships, magnify positive emotions, enhance personal resilience, maintain realistic optimism, ensure academic buoyancy and lead a life of meaning and humanity.

Through teaching these valuable life skills, we provide our students with an increased capacity to learn effectively and a strong foundation to build a successful and purposeful life.

# Commitment to wellbeing and growth.

At Geelong Grammar School, Positive Education is integrated into the broader curriculum across ELC to Year 12 – contributing to a holistic educational experience for students.

In the Middle School, the tenets of Positive Education form a part of our Navigate programme – which teaches students skills for learning, personal wellbeing and what it means to belong to a community.

In the Senior School, students are supported by the Pathways programme – also emphasising skills for learning and personal wellbeing, as well as career and tertiary pathways and service.

Across both programs, students engage with a Learning Coach who facilitates the identification and pursuit of goals for wellbeing and performance.

# GGS Student Wellbeing Model.



Learning to Flourish



# Building Self Efficacy through Adventure Education.

Founded in 1953, Timbertop offers an unforgettable - and often transformational learning adventure for all our Year 9 students. Surrounded by the peace and beauty of the Australian bush, our learners experience a dynamic year-long programme of intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual challenge, at a pace that understands the strength and vulnerability of adolescence.

Timbertop students live and study together in self-contained Units in groups of 15 or 16 boys or girls. Units are the essence of Timbertop; rustic in appearance and spartan in nature. Organising rosters and chopping wood for the slow-combustion heaters and boilers are part of the daily routine.

At Timbertop, we provide a comprehensive academic programme coupled with a strenuous outdoor education programme that takes full advantage of our natural setting. The academic programme runs from Friday to Tuesday. A typical day can include morning classes, cleaning across lunchtime, singing practice in the Chapel, running together in the afternoon, and dinner duties in the evening. Wednesday and Thursday are 'weekends' for Timbertop students. Depending on the time of year, a weekend may consist of bushwalking, skiing, camping or participating in our service learning programme in the local comunity. Our young learners spend between 50 to 55 nights over the academic year camping away from their Units, including in the snow, on Campus bushland, in the neighbouring Victorian Alps and on solo expeditions.

At Timbertop, electronic entertainment is not permitted nor provided. This creates a radical new silence in which our learners revert to writing and reading letters to parents and family, formulating meaningful connection through genuine conversation. Removed from modern day distractions, Timbertop presents students with the freedom to move and the time to breathe.

A central component of the Timbertop experience is the running programme which involves the whole School. Each week, runners will participate in cross-country runs on bush tracks across the rugged terrain. The length and difficulty of the runs increase steadily to culminate at the end of the year in a 33-kilometre Timbertop Marathon, which learners anticipate eagerly and remember with pride.

# The Spirit of Timbertop.

Timbertop was founded on the principles of isolation, connectedness to nature, life in the Units and service to others. In this age of significant technological and societal change, we continue to uphold these values as fundamental to shaping courageous and compassionate young people, well prepared for their Senior School years and, most importantly, the adventures and challenges that lie beyond.



# Enlivening Camaraderie and School Spirit.

Sport is an integral part of a student's time at Geelong Grammar School. Not only does it establish the value of active living, it also exposes our learners to the importance of sportsmanship, commitment, support, and overcoming challenges. Together our learners strive; sharing in the joys of success and harnessing the disappointment of defeat.

Whilst the spirit of competition is embraced, it is the development of character, friendship and expanding our understanding of ourselves and each other that is a point of emphasis.

Geelong Grammar School participates in a combination of APS, AGSV, VSRU, and other Geelong-based sporting competitions throughout the year. We also have individuals that have competed at national and international level, including athletics, kayaking, triathlon, netball and football. Our School encourages a healthy and competitive House Sport programme, with major competitions including swimming, athletics and cross-country events.

Sport is a compulsory component of our School programme and we ask all our learners to participate. This requires a commitment to weekly training and participation in Saturday morning competition.

The sporting programme is divided into three seasons - Summer, Winter and Spring - and a wide variety of sports are offered within this programme across the different year levels.





#### SUMMER SPORT

Badminton Cricket Diving Equestrian Rowing Sailing Softball Swimming Table Tennis Tennis **Touch Football** 

#### WINTER SPORT

Cross Country Equestrian Hockey Netball Rugby Soccer

Australian Rules Football

#### SPRING SPORT

Athletics Water Polo Snow Sports





# Finding ways to express what lies within.

The Arts have long been a central and vital plank in the School's curriculum and character.

Our vibrant Visual Art, Drama and Music programmes help our learners to find their own special voice, opening their eyes to the world of possibility, or simply opening the eyes of the rest of us to what is already there. An education rich in the Arts strengthens not only creative imagination but has the capacity to engender the values of cultural awareness, social connection and stretching one's perspective.







## Drama

From simple role-playing in Early Learning through to stagecraft and full-scale musical productions in Senior School, the Drama Programme offers inspiration, opportunity and imagination.

The School hosts a vibrant and diverse range of dramatic compositions. School productions, which collectively equate to 12 per year, vary from musicals and classics to the latest in contemporary drama, House plays of all types and smallcast, physical theatre pieces. Students learn the elements of theatrical production: stage and set design, lighting, costume, make-up and sound. Each year we work with students who are committed not only to what they bring themselves to each production but also to the collaborative processes of theatre; sharing the joys and the burdens of production together.

# Music

The Music School is an energetic community space, aspiring to excellence in both performance and academic work. Each week, the department hosts over 320 private music lessons, expertly guided by over 40 instrumental staff. From bagpipes to brass, from cellos to choral singers, there is an opportunity for every musician to thrive. Our exciting Music curriculum framework stretches from ELC to Senior School, including both the IB Diploma programme and VCE, which now also includes the study of VCE/ VET Music Industry in the Academic Programme.

Participation in instrumental and choral ensembles inspires loyalty, teamwork, and dedication. The Symphony Orchestra, Senior Jazz Band, McKie String Ensemble and Senior School Band offer opportunities for our learners to perform in a wide variety of styles, whilst the Senior School Choir maintain our School's strong choral tradition.

# Visual Arts

The Visual Arts Department is an inspiring and engaging environment. We strive to give our students an opportunity to be original and brave, to experience unfamiliar methods, media and materials, and to extend the artistic boundaries.

In addition to academic classes, our learners are encouraged to participate in our extensive co-curricular programme, which includes Life Drawing, Printmaking, Henna Art, Digital Art and Ceramics. As part of our Open Studio programme, all learners are welcome to work in the Art School during afternoons and weekends. The Academic Programme is punctuated by many creative events: school exhibitions such as Middle School, Coriobald and Primed, Artist-in-Residence programme, House Art competition and Year 10 Creative Arts Workshops.

Championing Collaboration and Creativity

# Discovering new talents.

Co-curricular activities complement the whole-child learning experience at Geelong Grammar School and are an important extension of our academic day. Augmented by challenge and choice, our programme is designed to empower our students to explore and cultivate their talents, passions and interests outside of the classroom.

#### LIFE SKILLS

Debating First Aid Lifeguarding Public Speaking

#### RECREATION

Chess Cooking Juggling Laser Strike Mountain Biking Pilates Rock Climbing Skateboarding/Scooter Surfing Trampolining Yoga

#### SERVICE

Amnesty International Duke of Edinburgh Awards Karen Homework Club Market Garden Meals on Wheels Landcare Lorne 160 Relay For Life S.A.V.E (Students Against Violation of the Environment) Soup Kitchen Sustain and Remain Wetlands

#### SPORT

Badminton Clay Target Shooting Equestrian Fencing Golf Squash Table Tennis Trap Shooting

#### TECHNOLOGY

Coding/Video Game Development Textiles/Fashion Design

#### THEATRE AND MUSIC

Ballet Choir Contemporary Dance Theatre Parties Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Music Ensembles

#### VISUAL ARTS

Ceramics Computer Animation Drawing Film Appreciation Jewellery Making Life Drawing Mask Making Painting

#### WELLBEING

Personal Fitness Pilates Yoga















# Our Anglican Tradition and Spirit

Geelong Grammar is an Anglican School that welcomes students from a variety of Christian denominations and other faith traditions.

Choosing to be a part of Geelong Grammar School is to choose to live and learn in a community where Christian values such as kindness, inclusivity, compassion, integrity, respect and generosity are central to our Christian character.

They guide our actions and interactions within our community.

The Chapel of All Saints at the Corio Campus and the Chapel of St. John the Baptist at the Timbertop Campus are an important part of the natural rhythm of school life. These beautiful spaces provide the setting for regular worship where we gather to give thanks, sing, celebrate, reflect and seek wisdom.



# Serving Others

Serving others is a central part of our Christian values. With this in mind, we aspire to encourage every individual not to accept the world as it is, but to work for the world that could be through service towards others.

An example of this is the Lorne 160 eventinitiated in 1991. It is the School's largest student fundraising event, and an example of student capacity and willingness to serve.

Every year, a group of Year 11 learners dedicate a term towards raising money for a chosen charity. Driven by the need to make a difference, our learners devise activities to raise funds, which can include doorknocking, baking stalls, babysitting and silent auctions, culminating in a 160-kilometre run from our Corio campus down the Great Ocean Road to Lorne and back to a very warm reception from a large student gathering.

# Our GGS Community

The relationships nurtured at our School last a lifetime. Once your child becomes a student with us, your whole family becomes a part of our inclusive and welcoming community.

There are many opportunities throughout the year for you and your family to be involved in your child's learning experience and to contribute to our vibrant community spirit. Such events include Family Day and Athletics Day, Grandparents Day, specific sporting support groups, Friends of Middle School (FOMS) and Friends of Senior School (FOSS) committees.

Upon graduation, your child will automatically become a member of our Old Geelong Grammarians Association, and you can also stay connected through our Past Parents' Network events.







Thank you for considering Geelong Grammar School. We very much look forward to seeing you again... you are always welcome.

# Shaping a better world



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