



'a place to inspire discovery, to value and seize opportunity.'



*'At Mooroolbark College we have evolved and refined our programs
to ensure the needs of our students are met, comprehensively.'*



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At Mooroolbark College, our students are valued and warmly welcomed into our committed and supportive learning environment and as a consequence, Mooroolbark College is a close knit community of students, teachers and families.

We offer a vibrant, dynamic and supportive learning community to students and take great pride in maintaining a clear focus on the 'whole student'. This approach is demonstrated in how our highly committed, talented and professional teachers go about their work on a daily basis.

The College offers a learning culture that promotes achievement and excellence, solid values and the attributes of citizenship in an orderly and disciplined environment. Students are encouraged to strive for success in an environment that sets high expectations and encourages the achievement of high standards.

We welcome your interest in our school and warmly encourage you to visit the College to discover more fully the many opportunities we offer our students, your children.

Ann Stratford
Principal

WHY CHOOSE MOOROOLBARK COLLEGE?

There are many Pastoral, Academic and Community Programs which combine to differentiate schools, making some good and others great. In keeping with our ethos of focusing on the 'whole student', at Mooroolbark College we have evolved and refined our programs to ensure the needs of our students are met, comprehensively.

At Mooroolbark College we provide outstanding opportunities for academic success through our quality VCE programs and varied pathway options.

MOOROOLBARK COLLEGE VALUES

By explicitly teaching and modelling the Mooroolbark College values, an environment which is positive, safe and promotes excellence exists for student and staff. The College values are framed in positive and action orientated language and are embedded into everything we do at Mooroolbark College.

- **Respect** Thinking and acting in a way that considers the feelings and rights of myself and others.
- **Endeavour** Making an ongoing attempt towards achieving excellence and reaching my potential.
- **Resilience** Having a positive attitude to learning from mistakes and overcoming challenges.
- **Compassion** Considering the feelings of others and interacting in a kind and caring manner.

RECOGNISING THE 'NEED TO BELONG'

Mooroolbark College successfully operates a House System which is well established in the life of the College. The main benefit of the House System is that it brings students of all year levels together and creates meaningful relationships between students and staff, resulting in a safe and well connected school community.

HAPPY STUDENTS GENERATE STRONG ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Our students' success starts early through participation in a range of academic extension programs - such as the Aspire program - which are tailored to the individual. Within the Yarra Valley state school sector, Mooroolbark College consistently achieves the highest mean study score and continually enjoys excellent VCE results across a wide range of subjects.

CONSTANTLY MOVING FORWARD

Our teachers are committed and dedicated professionals. They recognise that educational practices evolve over time and they are supported to continue to advance and improve their own skills through ongoing professional learning. The result of their professional dedication is that our students receive an outstanding educational experience because the staff at Mooroolbark College are heavily invested in the success of their students.

VARIETY IS THE 'SPICE OF LIFE'

Mooroolbark College offers a huge variety of subjects and electives as well as a comprehensive range of pathway opportunities in VCE, VET and VCAL to our students. We have strong connections to a wide variety of Tertiary training centres. It is our goal to ensure that all students find their destiny. They can only achieve this by exploring options, so at Mooroolbark College, we ensure those 'options' are available.



BEYOND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Life skills, community contribution, the pursuit of interests, mastering challenging skills, health and fitness, travel and mental well-being are all essential to the development of a well-rounded individual. At Mooroolbark College we introduce our students to an extraordinary range of co-curricular opportunities and encourage them to explore and challenge themselves through participation in excellent Performing Arts, Instrumental Music and Sports programs as well as tours to many corners of Australia and around the world and ongoing involvement in many community based and social justice programs.

CONTEXT AND DIRECTION

At Mooroolbark College we coach, guide and direct our students to discover a suitable pathway to their future. That pathway may be academic or it may be vocational. Whichever direction our students take, we like to think we have supported them to reach their goals and achieve their dreams.





A RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT

At Mooroolbark College, the Pastoral Care structure is centered around the student, with their most immediate pastoral needs being met and nurtured by their Home Group Coordinator and Home Group Teachers - but it doesn't stop there.

Research indicates that cognitive development cannot take place separately from the influences of self-esteem and inter-personal relationships. We take the responsibility of teaching our students to be responsible citizens very seriously. We set clear behavioural expectations of our students and support them to uphold the standards of Mooroolbark College, where orderly teaching and learning promotes outstanding outcomes.

At Mooroolbark College, we consider it is the responsibility of **all** teachers to get to know students in the broadest sense and to establish a respectful classroom atmosphere that encourages growth, self-discipline and the acceptance of personal accountability. It is actually the classroom teachers who set the tone of the school by ensuring pastoral care is regarded a normal part of every teacher's daily interaction with students. Consequently, students at Mooroolbark College feel secure in the strong and respectful relationships between staff and students.

TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Our aim is to ensure every Year 7 student feels happy, secure and confident to provide a solid start to their secondary education.

Our Transition Program begins in primary school and is supported by the Transition Coordinator all the way through Term 1 of Year 7. Supported by a Year 10 Peer Support Leader, our Year 7 students are mentored and involved in many friendship-building activities as they are immersed into the day to day life of the College.

QUALITY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Mooroolbark College is committed to fostering the talents of all students so that individual potential is maximised. The College provides a wide range of programs and academic support services designed to ensure a high level of interest and enthusiasm for students around learning.

The College is a Year 7-12 school that reflects and responds to current research regarding how young people develop and learn. Students have a structured and sequential learning program exposing them to a wide variety of subjects that provide them with a solid foundation in literacy and numeracy, while digital technology is fully integrated into the learning program.

Creative and innovative use of technology throughout the College ensures fabulous opportunities for 'anytime - anywhere learning' for students. Our Technology program covers food, textiles and various materials including wood and metal and provides a balance to our students' academic education.

Academic rigour, initiative and self-discipline constitute the central philosophy as students progress through Years 10, 11 & 12. The majority of our students undertake the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). Access to acceleration and enrichment opportunities are optimised through a vertical structure in Years 10, 11 and 12. The Pathways Team at Mooroolbark College supports students to develop goals and career pathways. The College enjoys excellent relationships with a number of tertiary education providers and students are presented with a range of tertiary and workplace options and opportunities.

DYNAMIC LANGUAGE PROGRAM

At Mooroolbark College we have a dynamic and engaging language program for students from Years 7 to 12. At Year 7 students are offered the choice of two languages; German or Mandarin. Students are immersed in both language and cultural studies. With each language choice, comes the opportunity for students to develop their cultural understanding through either a German heritage tour or an international tour to China as part of our sister school exchange program.

'At Mooroolbark College, students' dreams are accepted, embraced and supported.'





ASPIRE - CREATIVE THINKERS

WHAT IS ASPIRE?

Mooroolbark College has provided excellence to the local community and surrounding district for 40 years. We know from experience that all students' learning needs are different and as such we provide a diverse range of programs to cater for our students. Our VCE results are consistently high, a testament to the culture of excellence we engender at Mooroolbark College.

Mooroolbark College ensures that we continue to meet our students' growing needs through a broad program including the ASPIRE program. This program targets students with high aspirations who actively set and strive to meet challenging learning goals. ASPIRE students consistently aim for their personal best.

These students learn through engaging in a stimulating curriculum, which is designed to respond to their abilities, interests and needs.

HOW DOES THE ASPIRE PROGRAM WORK?

The ASPIRE program encompasses Mathematics, Science, English and Humanities. ASPIRE students are students that are looking to maximise their learning at school through increased effort and dedication.

ASPIRE is not an acceleration program. It is a program targeted to harness the efforts and abilities of hard working students in order for them to develop transformative problem solving skills that can be applied to all aspects of their schooling.

ASPIRE students will engage in tasks which require higher level, complex thinking and they will be encouraged to participate in a range of intellectual pursuits including: additional educational excursions, externally organised competitions with an emphasis on team work and collaborative learning.

Selection into the ASPIRE classes is by examination, with student acceptance into the program being dependent on the result. Places in the class are limited to 25 students. Upon reaching Year 10, ASPIRE students will be expected to take on an accelerated VCE subject.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

	English	Science	Technology	Arts	Mathematics	Humanities	Physical Education and Health	Languages	Vocational Studies
		STEAM (Science, Technology, Arts, Mathematics)							
Year 7 & 8 <i>A time to explore and be inspired.</i>	English	Science	Food Studies Design and Technology Product Design (wood, plastic, metal) Year 7: Digital Technologies 21st Century Skills Year 8: Digital Technologies	Music Drama Art Visual Communication	Mathematics	History Geography	Physical Education Health Peer Support	Year 7 and 8: Choose between German and Mandarin Year 8: Cultural Studies Option	
	Year 7 & 8 Independent Reading Program (2 hours per week)								
Year 9 <i>Connecting to your community.</i>	English Core Electives Literature Writing for Writers	Science Core	Elective Units: Food Studies Food For Life Special Occasion Foods Product Design: Textiles – Cosplay and Garment Construction Textiles – Textile Design Wood – Storage Solutions Wood – Sustainable Products Metal – Metals System Engineering – Robotics Game Design	Elective Units: Art Ceramics Art and Design Art Print Dance Digital Discovery Drama Music Production Studies Visual Communication Design	Mathematics Core Elective How Long is a Piece of String?	Core Units Making a Modern World World of Work Electives Economics and Business Hazard Geography	Core Units: Physical Education Health Education Advance – Sports Leadership Advance – Duke of Edinburgh Bike Education	Electives Units: German Mandarin	
Year 10 <i>When you become the master of your own destiny.</i> In Year 10, students are required to study in all areas, but the difference is that they can choose the unit which they are passionate about. At Year 10, students are encouraged to challenge themselves by choosing a subject from the VCE suite of subjects as an accelerated subject.	English Core Elective Literature	Electives Units: Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology Chemistry & Physics Environmental Science	Elective Units: Food Studies - Bakers Bakery and the Melbourne Experience Product Design: Textiles – Cosplay and Garment Construction Wood – Wooden Toys Plastic and Metal – Jewelry Metal – Metalwork System Engineering – Electronics Software Development Visualisation and Web Design	Elective Units: Art Theatre Studies Ceramics Media Music Performance Music Performance & Recording Photography Visual Communication Design Visual Communication Design – Digital	Choose between Foundation Mathematics General Mathematics General Mathematics Plus	Elective Units: History – Australia & the Modern World People and the Planet Small Business Accounting Economics	Physical Education Core Electives Unit: Health & Human Development Talented Sport Program Leadership Development Outdoor Education Sport and Recreation	Electives Units: German Mandarin	Cross Roads
Year 11 & Year 12 <i>This is where pathways become alive.</i> At Year 11 & 12 students choose between VCE and VCAL.	English English Language Literature	Environmental Science Biology Psychology Chemistry Physics	Computing Food Studies Product Design and Technology System Engineering	Art Media Studio Arts Visual Communication	General Mathematics Further Mathematics Mathematical Methods	Accounting Business Management Geography Legal Studies History	Physical Education Outdoor and Environmental Education Health and Human Development	German Mandarin	VCAL Literacy Numeracy Personal Development Work Related Skills



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Students at Mooroolbark College are actively involved in leadership training and development from Years 7 to 12. Leadership provides students with increased confidence, self-esteem and understanding of the significant role of the leader.

There are many opportunities for students to take on leadership. The College boasts an active Student Representative Council, College Captains, Senior House Captains, Middle School House Captains, Environmental Committee, Social Committee Captains, Peer Mediators and Peer Support Leaders.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

At Mooroolbark College we have a long standing tradition of providing a meaningful 'student voice' for our student body. One of the many ways we do this is through our Student Representative Council (SRC). This provides students with the opportunity to make a real and lasting difference to the learning experience of all students at the College. Each House is represented at each year level to form the general SRC Committee. The SRC executive meets regularly with the College Principal and the SRC President represents the College student body on School Council. The SRC is a student elected body and the SRC President reports back to the student at each General Assembly. Being part of the SRC provides opportunities to develop leadership, communication and interpersonal skills. SRC members are involved in leadership training, VIC SRC and also take part in model United Nations and parliamentary opportunities. SRC representatives work closely with an SRC Liaison staff member to guide and mentor them, to ensure they are an effective student body within the school.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AND ADVANCE SPORTS LEADERSHIP - DEVELOPING COMMUNITY MINDED STUDENTS

At Year 9, students participate in either the Duke of Edinburgh or the Advance Sports Leadership.

The Duke of Edinburgh Certificate requires students to complete four sections: providing service to others, participating in physical recreation, learning a new skill or further developing a new skill and undertaking an adventurous journey. The Duke Edinburgh Award is an internationally recognised and global service based program which builds the skills to equip Mooroolbark College students for life and work, by creating opportunities to get physically active, give service and experience adventure.

The Advance Sports Leadership Certificate has three areas of learning: developing community links, enhancing communication skills and project management skills. With a focus on sports leadership, this program involves working within local primary schools and other community groups to assist in the running of sports and recreation programs. Advance gives Mooroolbark College students a chance to do something great in their community. Students are able to plan projects, meet new people, build skills and make a difference in their community.

CLUB 3 - 4

At Mooroolbark College we provide opportunities for students to learn in a variety of situations, both in and out of the classroom. Each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon we support student learning in a supportive and encouraging environment at Club 3 - 4. Twice a week we offer homework clubs for both junior and senior students. Staffed by our teachers, it is an opportunity for students to work individually or work in study groups. In addition, our Year 9 and 10 students support our Year 7 and 8 students by providing peer tutoring through the Supportive Friends Program.

GOING HIGH TECH

Whether you like coding, robotics or electronics, Mooroolbark College provides multiple opportunities to develop skills and interests in STEAM (Science, Technology, Arts and Mathematics). Providing opportunities for students to experiment and learn using a range of technologies is essential as we move further into the 21st Century. Coding skills to create life-like models, using 3D printing technology or manipulating robots, are everyday parts of the Mooroolbark College curriculum. Mooroolbark College is proud to be partnership member of the state of the art Yarra Ranges Discovery Centre, which provides all Mooroolbark College student the opportunity to work with all advanced technology in a problem solving and creative environments.



PASTORAL CARE

HOME GROUP AND HOUSE STRUCTURE

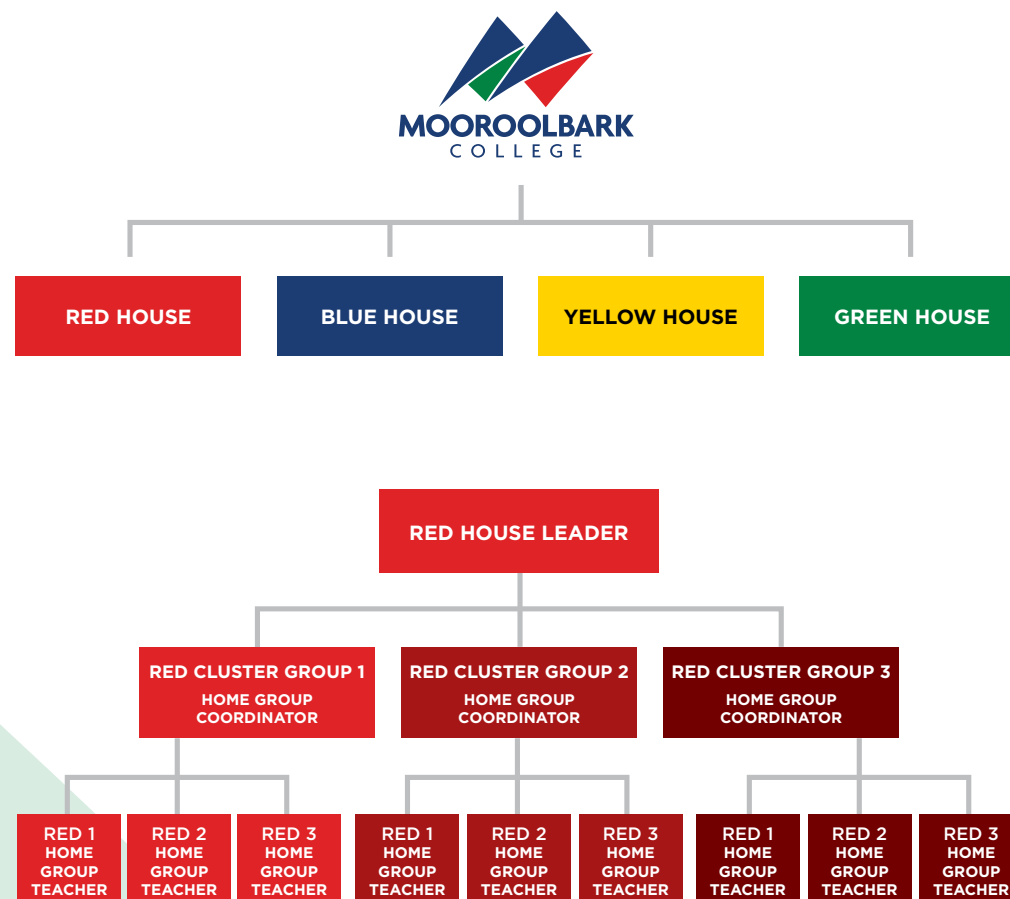
At Mooroolbark College, we know that positive, productive relationships are the foundation of any student's success and therefore the development of meaningful relationships is essential and must be actively facilitated. We do this through our Home Group and House Structure.

On arrival at Mooroolbark College, students are assigned to one of our four Houses and then placed into a corresponding Home Group, new students are placed with their siblings (if applicable).

Home Groups consist of approximately 30 students from Years 7 to 12 which results in students forming meaningful relationships across all year levels. The Home Group provides students with the same Coordinator during their time at the College. They meet daily, creating a valuable opportunity for pastoral care activities, social interaction as well as the practical duty of distributing important school information. The Home Group Coordinator comes to know their student group very well, they provide advice, support and consistency throughout the students life at the College.

The House System is an essential feature of College life with Houses competing in Sport, Drama, Performing Arts and many other co-curricular activities throughout the year.

Recent surveys of our students indicate they are 'happy' at school and feel 'connected' to their educational environment. This connectivity can be attributed to the success of our Home Group and House Structure as the lives of our students are greatly enriched by strong relationships across the entire student body. This happiness directly correlates to our academic success.



THE MOOROOLBARK COLLEGE HOUSE CUP

Mooroolbark College encourages students to participate actively in all aspects of College life. Therefore, our House Cup promotes active involvement in academic, sporting, musical and dramatic pursuits as well as recognising acts of social justice.

ACADEMIC

Students are encouraged to earn merit certificates for academic success and pursuits. As a result of the merit certificates earned, students are awarded the highly sort after Principal's Award.

SPORTING

Participating in the Mooroolbark College Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals, as well as competing in interschool sporting competitions all earn points toward the House Cup.

PERFORMING ARTS

Whether it be behind the scenes work, on stage in the annual musical, performing in one of the College bands or being one of our 'tech crew', these are all opportunities to earn house points through participation in the performing arts.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

At Mooroolbark College contributing to the whole school community is an expectation of every student, but sometimes students go above and beyond. At these times, it is important to recognise their community and social attitudes to the whole school community.

CREATIVE ARTS

Opportunities exist across the College to undertake creative arts projects within the school and in the wider community. We take pride in showcasing student work throughout the College.





BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The College boasts an extensive co-curricular program to foster student engagement and connectivity.

Significant initiatives include: interschool sports, leadership training, regular lunchtime activities, talent quests, socials, debutante balls, valedictory dinners, state and national competitions in English, Science, Mathematics, German poetry and Art and Drama productions. In addition, the College also provides an exciting Outdoor Education Program that includes ski excursions, surf camps, bushwalking, bike riding, kayaking and sailing.

CAMPS AND TOURS

Camps are an integral part of the Mooroobark College program. They support students to develop friendships, confidence, initiative and self-reliance. The camps offered by the College include:

Transition Camp (Year 7)

South Australian German Tour (Years 8 & 9)

Tasmanian Tour (Year 9)

Central Australia Tour (Year 10)

Coastal Tour (Year 11)

Cambodia – Volunteer Experience (Year 12)

Wujiang: Senior Middle School – Sister School Student Exchange (Years 7-12)



PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

Mooroolbark College provides exceptional opportunities with a strong tradition of fostering creativity and performance. Students develop their talents through performing in drama and music or showcasing visual and tactile arts. The Visual and Performing Arts Program complements the academic program, providing opportunities for students to pursue an area of passion, skill development, creative expression, teamwork and co-operation.

The co-curricular programs also provide opportunities to develop meaningful relationships with staff and fellow students beyond the classroom and away from traditional learning areas. Students are also provided with valuable opportunities to learn from older students and show leadership to younger students.





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