Welcome to our school...
Welcome
TO KYNETON SECONDARY COLLEGE

Kyneton Secondary College is a Year 7 – 12 school; large enough to offer a comprehensive curriculum, but small enough to be friendly and personal.

At our school, we embrace

Respect, Diversity, Sustainability and Excellence

and work together to embed these values into the everyday college life.

In this booklet you will find an overview of core, elective and extra-curricular programs, and information about student life at KSC, including:

- Our safe and friendly learning environment
- Diverse curriculum including flexible VCE, VET and VCAL pathways
- Year 7 – 8 Homegroup Program
- BOOST Program – Accelerated literacy and numeracy support at Years 7 & 8.
- Career Action Plans for all students
- Safe Schools, Respectful Relationships and Live4Life programs
- Welfare team and Wellbeing program providing support for all students.
- A wide range of extracurricular activities
- Opportunities for student leadership, engagement and participation
- Free bus travel for students living within our catchment area
- $11 million major school upgrade starting this year

To all of our prospective families,

Thank you for taking the time to consider us for the future education of your child. We hope that you find your visit today informative and enjoyable, and look forward to welcoming you to our community in the future.

Yours Sincerely,

Pam Macdonald
Assistant Principal & Transition Coordinator
BUILDING PROGRAM

2017 is an exciting time for Kyneton Secondary College. As part of the new Kyneton Education Precinct, the Victorian School Building Authority is delivering the Victorian Government’s $10.9 million investment in facilities at our school. This investment includes a new Training and Innovations Hub that will offer students in the Macedon Ranges enhanced learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) as well as providing a unique educational resource for the broader community. In addition, our Year 7 and 8 ‘Boomerang’ building is being completely refurbished and refitted to reflect the needs of 21st Century teaching and learning practices, where collaboration and creative spaces are paramount to preparing our students for their futures.

For more information on this program, please speak to Cate Burton (Assistant Principal) and head to the VSBA Website for our project: https://engage.vic.gov.au/KynetonSecondaryCollege.
At Kyneton Secondary College, we are committed to ongoing improvement of ourselves as students and teachers, and as a school as a whole. We support our students to take on responsibility and to build resilience through our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support model.

In conjunction with our school values of Respect, Diversity, Sustainability and Excellence, we use our Ready to LEARN acronym to guide our students towards success in their learning.

**Ready to**

- **L**: Listen to and follow instructions
- **E**: Enter and exit class on time and prepared
- **A**: Aim high and always be your best
- **R**: Respect yourself, others and your environment
- **N**: Never give up trying!

**Pastoral Care and Wellbeing**

The wellbeing of our students is of utmost importance to us at Kyneton Secondary College. We draw on the ‘Berry Street’ model in looking after the best interests of the young people at our school. Many staff are trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid, the Safe Schools and Respectful Relationships programs, and we build knowledge about self-care and care for others in our students through our Health curriculum, Homegroup program and involvement in other initiatives such as Live4Life.

Students and staff are supported by a highly professional Welfare team including a school counsellor, nurse, chaplain and most recently a visiting GP as we pilot the new ‘Doctors in Schools’ program.
HOMEGROUP PROGRAM

Upon arriving at the College, Year 7 students are allocated a Homegroup and Homegroup teacher. To ease the transition from primary to secondary schooling, this program provides a sense of consistency and security at a time that many students would otherwise find quite daunting. Homegroups will primarily work in the newly refurbished Boomerang wing, allowing for flexible learning arrangements. They will establish daily routines and a sense of belonging in their learning area.

Year 7 & 8 students are involved in a broad range of subjects to increase opportunities for them to become confident, creative and literate learners. The Junior school aims to builds essential school and life skills, respects student contributions and actively engages them as co-designers of creative projects.

Some topics covered in the Homegroup program include:

- Cooperative team/group skills
- Personal Identity
- Sexuality
- Community Health Issues and Programs
- Friendships & Family
- Skills for conflict management
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Personal organisation
- Thinking Skills
- Decision Making
- Safe Living
- Mental health awareness

SUBJECTS

All students in Years 7 & 8 cover the core subjects as well as experiencing a diverse range of enrichment subjects. At Year 8, students may select an elective subject based on their own interests.

- English
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- Visual Art & Design
- Automotive
- Electrotechnology
- Mathematics
- LOTE French
- Homegroup
- Music
- Metals & Plastics
- Food
- Science
- LOTE Indonesian
- BOOST Literacy & Numeracy
- Drama
- Wood
At Kyneton Secondary College, we place high importance on ensuring our students are set up with the skills they need to succeed. In addition to their regular English and Maths classes, all Year 7 & 8s take part in our Literacy and Numeracy Enhancement program, known as Boost. Students experience targeted instruction to develop their literacy and numeracy skills in groups that cater to their individual skills and needs. The program aims to instil confidence in students, as well as to promote high personal growth in these skill sets.

**LIVE4LIFE**

Year 8 students are also involved in Live4Life: a program designed to develop student understanding of mental health and well-being. Students participate in education sessions focusing on awareness of signs and symptoms and positive coping strategies. Attention is placed on informing students about support services to access help for themselves or their friends. This program brings together all year 8s from Macedon ranges schools. Parents also have opportunities to learn about Youth Mental Health Fist Aid. This is supported as a Macedon Ranges Shire Youth Project.

**CAMPS**

To build students’ resilience, self-confidence and ability to work in teams, our Junior School Camps program engages students in challenging and fun activities.

Year 7s attend camp early March to get to know others and make new friends. The Homegroup teachers always find this a great opportunity to learn more about the students and build positive relationships. Year 8 camp is late in Term 3 when students can take on more individual and team challenges. It also provides an opportunity to work with others ready for the changes as they move into year 9.

*Photos from the 2016 Year 8 Camp.*
**A DAY IN THE LIFE...**

Here, you can see a typical timetable for a Kyneton Secondary College Year 7 student.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period 1</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Boost Literacy</td>
<td>Technology*</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Boost Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>Arts*</td>
<td>Health &amp; P.E.</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 4</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>Technology*</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Health &amp; P.E.</td>
<td>Arts*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 6</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td></td>
<td>Boost Literacy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Home Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Arts: Students are in a rotation of subjects including Music, Drama and Visual Arts subjects.

*Technology: Students are in a rotation of subjects including Wood, Trade Drawing, Automotive, Metals, Foods and Electronics

**STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES**

At the end of each semester, Year 7 & 8 students present a selection of work from different subjects to reflect on their learning. The aim is to encourage students to reflect and comment on what they achieved and how they could improve, whilst sharing their successes and challenges with their parents. Students learn when they observe the other presentations and they improve considerably in knowing how to prepare for it and gain confidence in presenting to an audience. Some parent feedback:

- It was great to actually see what they have been doing at school rather than just reading it in a report.
- This was a good opportunity to engage with the school & learn more about content & curriculum. It also gave me a good insight into the positive school culture & allowing students to embrace their strengths & reflect on opportunities for improvement.
- It was great to see the children’s work from their own perspective.
- We found that our child, while still nervous, is gaining confidence each time.
INCREASED INDEPENDENCE

In the Middle Years, we aim to equip our students with the skills to set them up for success with their future education and lives.

As well as the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Health & P.E., students can choose from a wide range of electives to suit their individual interests and needs. These electives may complement the learning outcomes described in the eight domains or may supplement the curriculum, including subjects such as Robotics & Mechatronics, Production, Creative Cooking, Fabrics and Fashion, Media & Photography, LOTE, Environmental Science, and Outdoor Education to name a few.

ME, YOU, COMMUNITY (MYC)

At Kyneton Secondary College, we run an enrichment program at Year 9 that builds independence, interpersonal skills and helps students recognise and make the most of their place in the wider community. Students select a volunteer community service project during the year. They plan, organise and undertake the tasks to meet their objectives. Later in the year students, parents and community members are invited to an Expo of the projects to see the variety and scope of the work achieved.

REACH WORKSHOPS

The aim of this series of workshops, run through the REACH Foundation, is to encourage young people, no matter what their circumstances, to know and believe that they can achieve. Students are encouraged to: recognise individual strengths; improve self-awareness; strengthen resilience; enhance emotional and social skills; improve levels of self-esteem and optimism.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS CURRICULUM

Our school was one of the pilot schools involved in this exciting initiative aimed at reducing gender based violence. Through this program, students are taught the skills to build respectful relationships, as well as to recognise and challenge gender-stereotyping and violence-supportive attitudes.

MY FUTURE

The aim here is practical application of all that students have achieved to date. They learn about education pathways, the workforce and skills to set them up for success through their lives.

YEAR 10 STEP-UP PROGRAM

We are proud of our record of placing Kyneton Secondary College graduates into successful post-secondary pathways and the preparations for this begin at Year 10. Students undertake work experience as part of their Careers subject, and participate in a Pre-Driver Education Camp. Through these opportunities they participate in ‘real-life learning’ and gain skills that will serve them well into adulthood. In conjunction with their Year 10 subjects, students have the chance to get a head-start on their studies by undertaking a VCE or VET subject from the Senior Program, giving them the a broad range of opportunities within a planned and comprehensive educational pathway. Having this subject under their belt before Year 12 can also relieve pressure in their final year of school, and in many cases can boost their ATAR.
VCE

The Victorian Certificate of Education is a program that engages students in rigorous study leading to tertiary pathways. This can provide for challenging and stimulating learning experiences, culminating with the completion of the VCE Certificate and the gaining of an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank).

A VCE Program at Kyneton Secondary College usually consists of twelve units at the Unit 1 and 2 levels (Year 11), and ten units at the Units 3 and 4 levels (Year 12). Students who are capable and interested may also choose to partake in University Enhancement studies. We are proud to offer a comprehensive and diverse range of VE subjects at our school, including:

- Biology
- Classical Studies
- Food Studies
- Indonesian
- Further Mathematics
- Media
- Physics
- Systems Engineering
- Engineering
- Business Management
- Computing
- French
- Legal Studies
- Mathematical Methods
- Outdoor & Environmental Studies
- Psychology
- Theatre Studies
- Hospitality
- Chemistry
- English
- Health & Human Development
- Literature
- Specialist Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Studio Arts
- Visual Communication & Design

We are very proud of our students’ VCE success and we aim to give every senior student the opportunity to excel. In recent years, we have consistently had several students attaining ATARs in the 90s.

2017 COLLEGE CAPTAINS
Left to right: Vice Captain Claudia Pearce, Captain Allea Ferguson, Captain Bradley Reeves, Vice-Captain Talicia White
VET

VET (Vocational Education and Training) is designed to reinforce classroom learning with hands-on training and practice in industry. A VET program enables Year 11-12 students to complete a nationally recognised vocational qualification (Certificate II or III) whilst obtaining direct experience of business and industry. VCE VET programs support students to become ‘job ready’ with a high standard of general education, broad vocational skills and the ability to take on further study as skill requirements change. VET subjects, when taken in conjunction with a VCE program, also count towards a student’s ATAR.

Building on the school’s strong technical history, we offer:

- Cert. II Automotive
- Cert. II Building & Construction
- Cert. II Community Services
- Cert. II Engineering
- Cert. II Horticulture
- Cert. III Catering Operations
- Cert. III Community Services
- Cert. III Music
- Cert. III Music Tech. Production

VCAL

The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is an option for students who enjoy authentic, hands-on learning. VCAL at Kyneton Secondary College is a rigorous program for students who wish to start a qualification in their vocational pathway.

VCAL is focused on providing students with the opportunity to develop essential skills in their career pathways. Learning in the core subjects of Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development Skills and Work Related Skills is centred on projects such as primary school partnerships, industry visits, work placements and community service. Pictured is the 2016 VCAL class who organised our annual School Carnival that promotes school spirit, and celebrates the diversity of students and activities we have at the College.
SPORT

Sport at Kyneton Secondary College is about encouragement, participation, and excellence. We take pride in the success of our sportspeople – not only in terms of winning, but also in bettering a personal time or improving on a team performance. Success is measured by striving to achieve personal or team goals.

College Sport enables students to be introduced to new sports or further develop their ability in sports in which they are already involved. We offer a broad range of individual and team level sporting activities, including more traditional sports such as football, netball, cricket, basketball, athletics, swimming, tennis, as well as cross country and touch rugby. A number of one-off clinics are run through the year with professional sportspeople – most recently with players from the Carlton Football Club and Melbourne Storm.

Students compete in the House Athletics and Swimming Carnivals in which there is equal emphasis on participation and achievement. They also have the opportunity to compete against other schools at a regional and state level. Within the local region there are also number of inter-school sports days.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

The School Production is a major part of the school’s performance program. Students from Years 9 – 12 can elect to be involved in producing a theatrical performance for the College community and members of the public. Students may participate not only in a performance capacity, but in a number of other roles – singing, playing music, dancing, choreography, set design, costume and make-up design, lighting, audio visual technology, ushering, program design and promotion.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

At Kyneton Secondary College, we have an exciting instrumental music program open to all students with any level of experience. Students can elect to take part in music lessons with experienced, professional teachers through the school. Individual or small group lessons are held once a week during the school day. Students are withdrawn from class on a rotating timetable so that they don’t miss the same class from week to week.

Instruments currently taught at the school are Guitar, Bass, Piano, Drum kit, Voice (Singing), Flute, Saxophone and Clarinet, with some lessons being highly subsidised. Students may also elect to take part in an ensemble like a band or a choir. There are many opportunities for performance. Teachers will be able to prepare students for exams if that is the wish of the student and their family, but we also encourage learning music for enjoyment and leisure.
Lunch times at Kyneton Secondary College are vibrant and bustling with activity. There are a number of clubs and activities open to students from all year groups and to cater to all interests.

**STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP** – A group promoting leadership, initiative and community service. Year level leaders are elected to represent their peers.

**INTERACT CLUB** – A group promoting leadership, initiative and community service in projects focused at the local, community and international level.

**AEROBICS TEAM** – A team that takes aerobics very seriously! They compete annually and represent our College admirably in this sport.

**GAMES CLUB** – Run through the library – student come to socialise and play a variety of board and card games.

**Z-CLUB** – A high school club sponsored by our local Zonta Club dedicated to promoting the interests of women worldwide.

**PRIDE CREW** – Supporting LGBTQI+ students and allies as well as promoting awareness of Queer issues.

**MAKERS’ GROUP** – For those interested in arts and crafts of all kinds.

**GREEN TEAM** – Students work with staff finding ways to make our school community more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

**BOXING CLUB & GYM** – Training for fitness and fun.

**SUPERCOACH CLUB** – For fantasy football enthusiasts!

**ASX SHARE MARKET GAME** – Students learn about the share market and compete with students around the state.

**CHESS CLUB** – Students learn from and compete with each other, and with students from other schools.

**DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS CLUB** – A haven for those who wish to escape to a fantasy world during their lunch break!

**YOGA GROUP** – Students learn skills in mindfulness and relaxation whilst taking part in this centuries-old practice.

**PRESS CLUB** – For students interested in journalism, design, photography, writing and drawing.

**CHOIR** – For all those who love to sing!

**BREAKFAST CLUB** – Toasted sandwiches provided through the Welfare Team on Wednesday mornings.

Fresh Fruit Fridays – Fresh Fruit available for all students to spread a healthy message!
We thank you for your interest in our College and look forward to welcoming your family into our community again soon.

for further information, please contact Pam Macdonald – Assistant Principal & Transition Coordinator

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