

19 November 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope this letter finds you well and that your student is feeling confident as they wrap up their current year of studies. It's an exciting time as they look ahead to new challenges and opportunities in their education journey here at Notre Dame College.

The school-wide Early Commencement Programme (ECP) will begin on Monday 1 December. This programme aims to engage every learner with essential content for their chosen courses by helping them prepare for a successful 2026. In the two weeks of ECP, your student will experience a complete cycle of their subjects. Students have already received their subject allocations for 2026 and have been encouraged to request any changes prior to the start of ECP. From this point, subject changes will only be considered in extenuating circumstances. Significant time has been dedicated to supporting students in their subject selection process to ensure they make well-informed choices. This planning has guided our strategic decisions. Where possible, teachers delivering the ECP programme will be the same teachers assigned to those subjects in 2026. Please keep in mind that this may not apply to new staff joining our community next year. Student timetables are now available on SEQTA Learn and Engage.

Booklists for 2026 can be accessed on the Notre Dame College website under Learning and Teaching. Students need to keep their current student planner and new planners will be issued when students return in the new year. For ECP, students require their stationery items, **new** exercise books / folders with loose leaf and school laptop. It is highly recommended that students read the English subject texts prior to 2026 as per booklist requirements. Booklists can be found on our [website](#).

During ECP students will be required to complete home study and/or complete unfinished classwork each day. Additional holiday homework is also expected of Year 11 and 12 students.

It is expected that all students in all years attend every day of ECP in full and correct uniform. A reminder that students in year 10 in 2026 are required to be in the new College uniform at the beginning of 2026, not for the early commencement programme. If a student is absent normal practise should be followed and the school contacted. Furthermore, if a student has an appointment, it would be preferred if these were outside school hours. However if this is not possible, the usual process for late arrival to school and leave passes should be followed. External VET courses will not be running during ECP; these students will attend the classes on their timetable for that day. Students who have an existing School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship are still able to attend their workplace during ECP, however all other students are required to be at school.

For Year 8's travelling to Emmaus for ECP they will not be required to present a bus card or pay during this time. From 2026, all students under 18 can travel free on local buses and country school buses across Victoria. For local buses, you will no longer be required to complete a form however you will need a Youth myki card (cost \$5) to access free travel. Further information regarding the Myki card will be available mid December via [Transport Victoria website](#). For information regarding pick up / drop off information and bus travel routes please click to view [Emmaus Travel Information](#).

The following table contains key dates and information for each year level:

Date	Year level in 2025	
Thursday 27 November	Year 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson 1: House assembly Lessons 2 – 6: Normal classes
	Year 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson 1: House assembly Lessons 2 & 3: Normal classes Lesson 4: Pack up lockers and BBQ lunch at Knight St Lunchtime – Buses to Emmaus Lesson 5 & 6: Year 9 orientation <i>Students will return to Knight St for end of day</i>
	Year 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson 1 Mass (Year 9 Community) Lesson 2: Assembly Lesson 3: Clean up & Pack up lockers, Lesson 4 – Community celebration & BBQ lunch Lunch break – travel to Knight Street Lesson 5 & 6 – Year 10 Orientation <i>Students will be dismissed from Knight Street</i>
	Year 10	Final day of exams.
	Year 11	Final day for Year 11 VM Work Placement
Friday 28 November	All year levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Planning Day for Teaching Staff (Student Free Day)
Monday 1 December ECP commences (extended PG)	Year 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2026 Year 8 Pastoral Group Lessons 1 – 6: New timetable
	Year 8	<i>At Emmaus</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance with buses from Skene St provided. In 2026 Year 9 Pastoral Group Lessons 1 – 6: New timetable
	Year 9	<i>At Knight Street</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2026 Year 10 Pastoral Group Lessons 1 – 6: New timetable
	Year 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2026 Year 11 Pastoral Group Lessons 1 – 6: New timetable
	Year 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2026 Year 12 Pastoral Group Lessons 1 – 6: New timetable
Tuesday 2 December - Friday 12 December	All year levels	ECP Timetable
Friday 12 December		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly timetable (9.05 - 10.05am) - End of Year Liturgy & 2025 Academic / Citizenship Awards - Mercy Stadium ECP Timetable

If you have any questions please contact Deputy Principals, Kris Walker or Mark Borthwick on 5822 8400.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Emma Reynoldson
Acting Principal