



Notre Dame
COLLEGE

To Seek, To See, To Respond

Year 7, 2025

Information and Subject Guide



Welcome

Dear Students,

We are thrilled to welcome you to Notre Dame College. This is a place where you will grow, learn, and make many lasting memories.

We understand that starting in a new school can bring a mix of excitement and nerves, but know that you are not alone. Our teachers, staff, and fellow students are here to support you every step of the way.

This year is a fresh opportunity to explore new subjects, make new friends, and discover your talents and passions. Embrace every challenge, ask questions, and take pride in your achievements – big or small. Remember, school is not just about textbooks and exams. It is about building a community, sharing ideas, and helping each other succeed. We are all in this together, and together, we can make this next year amazing!

So get ready to learn, grow, and enjoy this exciting new adventure. Welcome aboard, and let's make your first school year at Notre Dame College unforgettable!

Again, welcome and best wishes for every success.

John Cortese

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

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SOUTH SIDE ↓

Bishop Joe Grech Building

- Science Laboratories
- Jennings and Mungovan Classrooms
- Temporary MacKillop Classrooms

Wellbeing and Learning Diversity Centre

Mercy Centennial Stadium

- Sports Stadium
- College Assemblies

Chisholm Trade Skills Centre

- Automotive and Technology Centre

Marian Centre

- Art, Textiles and Media Classrooms
- Kennedy Classrooms
- Temporary McGann Classrooms

Brother Ray Martin Hospitality Centre

- Cooking Classes
- Crane Classrooms

Notebook Service Centre

- Information Technology Helpdesk

New Wellbeing Centre

(Under Construction 2024-2026)

- Future home of McGann and MacKillop Classrooms, Wellbeing, Learning Diversity, ICT and Canteen

NORTH SIDE

KNIGHT STREET

SOUTH SIDE

NORTH SIDE ↑

- I** Ursula Frayne Library
▪ Library and Study Area
- J** Canteen
- K** Student Reception
- L** Mother Bernard Conlan Building
▪ College Reception
- M** Mother Ignatius Starkie Hall
▪ Drama Classroom
▪ Music Tuition (Instrumental Pods)
- N** Sacred Heart Hall
- O** St Brendan's Catholic Church



College Houses

and Pastoral Care



Notre Dame College employs the House system to oversee the pastoral care and wellbeing of your child. Upon entering Notre Dame College, your child will be assigned to one of six Houses - Crane, Kennedy, Jennings, Mungovan, McGann or MacKillop – and this House will become their “home” throughout their years at the College.

The House system provides students with a clear connection to a Pastoral Group Leader, Head of House (Head of Community at Year 9), and the ability to adapt to life at the College gradually. Your child's Pastoral Group Leader and Head of House are your initial points of contact if you have any questions or concerns or would like to share information regarding your child.



Students are allocated to Houses based on the following criteria:

- Placement of any current siblings at the College into the same House
- Transition information provided by the Grade 6 teacher
- Learning Diversity needs and supports required
- Balancing of gender, academic ability, and experience in Catholic schools

Each House consists of year level-based Pastoral Groups that meet every morning before classes commence. Each House has two Pastoral Groups for each year level, so your child will be allocated to Pastoral Group 7-1 or 7-2 in their House. Regular House Assemblies are conducted to share information and celebrate student achievements, while House-based activities (such as lunchtime sports) provide opportunities for students to interact and have fun!



Year 7 Camp

New Friendships and Adventure



The Year 7 camp is held at Lady Northcote Discovery Camp, outside Bacchus Marsh. In 2025, the camp will take place in early February. This gives our students opportunities to meet new people and develop positive relationships with fellow students in their Pastoral Group, House and sister House. Students will also connect with their Pastoral Group Leader and Head of House throughout their time away.

Lady Northcote Discovery Camp is an adventure camp with a wide range of activities for the students to do, including archery, giant swing, high ropes, initiatives, low ropes, mountain bike riding and canoeing. Accommodation at the camp is in cabins.



Wellbeing Support Service

The College Wellbeing Support service are here to listen and provide support. Our dedicated service is free and confidential and can support students with a wide range of different concerns.

We aim to work flexibly with students. This means we might see some students once, and other students for four-six sessions. Our sessions are usually held during class time. Students are allocated to a member of the Wellbeing Support Service during our weekly meeting, and we will reply to emails or referrals as soon as we are able to respond.

Our team works with families and staff to ensure that students are receiving the right care for their individual circumstances. Once your Wellbeing Support person has an understanding of a student's concerns, they may need to refer them to an external support such as a family doctor or Headspace. However, they will speak with the student about this before taking any action.

Students can contact the Wellbeing Support Service by emailing the Wellbeing Team at wellbeing@notredame.vic.edu.au or by speaking with their Head of House (HoH). Alternately, you can do this on your child's behalf. In any situation, students' participation is voluntary.





Information

for Parents and Guardians

What to do if your child...

ARRIVES LATE TO SCHOOL

Pastoral group starts at 8.50am at Knight St and the first class starts at 9.05am.

> If arriving after the start of Pastoral Group, but before the start of Lesson 1, students must go straight to Pastoral Group

> If arriving after the start of Lesson 1, they must sign in at Student Reception before going to class

Students are required to bring a note from their parent/guardian explaining why they are late. There is a template at the back of the student planner to show what this note should contain. Students who arrive late to school without a note may receive a lunchtime detention.

IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

You will need to notify the school. You can do this using one of the following methods:

- > On the SEQTA app > absences
- > Send an email to absences@notredame.vic.edu.au
- > Phone our Absence Line on 5822 8400 before 9am
- > Provide a note when your child returns to school

You will be notified daily of any unexplained absences by SMS. Remember! Every day counts.

IS FEELING SICK OR INJURED

- > In class: They should inform their teacher, who will sign their planner and send them to Student Reception
- > Out of class: They should go to Student Reception, where they will be assessed by our staff

Your child is not to contact you directly – Student Reception staff will do this.



NEEDS TO LEAVE EARLY

Students must have a signed note from their parent/guardian requesting to leave school at a specific time. This note also needs to contain the reason for this early departure. There is a template at the back of the student planner to show what information this note should contain. Students should have their note signed by their Head of House before Pastoral Group. At the time they need to leave, your child should show their signed leave pass to their classroom teacher. They should then go to Student Reception, hand the note to the Student Reception staff and sign out using the kiosk. You can meet your child out the front of the College.

IS OUT OF UNIFORM

Write and sign a note for your son or daughter. They should take your note downstairs in the Bishop Joe Grech building before Pastoral Group to receive their uniform pass. They should carry this pass all day and show it to teachers as requested.

Out of uniform days are always communicated ahead of time. On these days students are welcome to wear casual clothes to school. However, there are some requirements they need to be aware of:

- > Clothing needs to be appropriate and safe
- > Covered shoes are still required
- > Broad-brimmed hats are still required in Term 1 and 4

IS BRINGING VALUABLES TO SCHOOL

Large sums of money, jewellery and other items of value should not be brought to school. Money and other valuables should always be stored in a locked locker. The College takes no responsibility for any loss of personal property.

HAS LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is located at Student Reception. All items of school uniform should be clearly marked with the student's name.

WANTS TO LISTEN TO MUSIC

Music can be listened to during class time if the teacher has given students direct permission. **The music must be on the student's laptop, not a mobile phone or other electronic device. Students are to use headphones and the music must be appropriate for school.**



Travelling To and From School

Knight Street Campus

BICYCLES

Your child must lock their bike in the bike racks provided on South Side. They must remember to walk their bike while on school grounds and when crossing at the lights on Knight Street. Students are responsible for ensuring that they follow all state laws regarding road rules and the wearing of a helmet.

BUS TRAVELLERS

Students are expected to move directly from their bus into College grounds when they arrive in the morning. When on the bus, they are expected to follow all rules and expectations communicated by the bus company. After school, they should wait safely and sensibly for their bus on Skene Street.



See website for more information

Contract & Conveyance bus travellers

This applies to any student who lives more than 4.9 km from their main campus.

To be eligible, you must complete a form which is located on our website. If St Anne's is the closest Catholic college to your home, you will not be eligible for conveyance or contract bus travel. However, there are some exceptions to this rule, so please contact the College Office if you have any questions. Students are required to take the bus allocated to them on their bus pass.

Fare-paying bus travellers

Students can either pay the driver of the bus per trip, or they can purchase a weekly, monthly or term bus pass directly from the bus company. Students with a bus pass must ensure they are carrying it and show it to the driver. If students need to take a connecting bus, remember to purchase a transfer ticket so they only have to pay the fare once per trip.



Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Support

When students receive their laptops at the beginning of Year 7 and Year 10 (*or when they first commence at the College*), they will read and agree to the College's Acceptable User Agreement.



View ICT Acceptable User Agreement

Students are to bring their laptop to school each day with the battery fully charged. If your child's notebook runs out of charge during the school day (*even though they charged it the night before*), there are charging stations in the Library that can be accessed during recess and lunchtime. If students use this facility, they are to remain with their laptop and only use it during this time for schoolwork. Students can also ask their teacher for permission to collect a battery pack from the NSC – they will sign the student planner to allow this.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT - NOTEBOOK SERVICE CENTRE

Students can access the Notebook Service Centre (NSC) before school, at recess, lunchtime or after school. If this is not possible, they can ask their classroom teacher for permission to attend during class time – the teacher will sign the student's planner to allow them to go.

SOFTWARE ISSUES

If students have an issue with software, they should send an email to nsc@notredame.vic.edu.au for remote support. They can do this during class time, but they should make sure they check with their teacher first.

HOTSPOTS

Notre Dame College provides internet access to all students via the school servers. The use of personal hotspots can interfere with the signals from these servers and impact the effectiveness of internet connectivity for everyone. Therefore, students are not permitted to use personal hotspots while at school. If students are experiencing issues with connectivity, they should see the Notebook Service Centre.



SOCIAL MEDIA

The College recognises the importance of social media as a tool to communicate and share information with others. Students of Notre Dame College are expected to uphold the values of the College both physically and online. This means they will:

- > Use social media in an appropriate, respectful and responsible manner
- > Think before they post, comment or share
- > Consider the impact that their social media posts may have on themselves, others and the College
- > Respect the rights and privacy of others
- > Not photograph, film or share images and/or videos of members of the College community without the express permission of the College and the other people involved

MOBILE PHONE USE AT SCHOOL

All student mobile phones are to be switched off and stored in locked lockers between the first and last bells of the day. Any phone seen during school hours will be confiscated. If students need to make contact with their parent/guardian during the school day, they can do so through Student Reception during breaks. Inappropriate use of mobile phones, especially to bully, intimidate or harass others, can have serious consequences including police involvement.

Please note that the use of mobile phone hotspots to connect to the Internet while at school is in breach of the ICT User Agreement.



Ursula Frayne Library

Knight Street Campus

The Ursula Frayne Library is located at the Knight Street Campus, North Side. *(Refer to campus map)*

Library opening hours (during term time)

These times include recess and lunch

Monday to Thursday 8:00am until 4:30pm

Friday 8:00am until 3:15pm

Borrowing allowance

Students in Year 7 to 9 may borrow up to seven items.

Online access to the Library

The library website offers access to a host of online information and resources. The Library Catalogue (a digital reflection of our physical titles) can also be reached through the website.



View Library Website and catalogue

When students come to the library, they should:

- > Remember that it is a community space and that we treat all staff and students with kindness and respect
- > Consume or leave any food and drink (other than water) outside the library
- > Make sure they have their planner signed by their teacher if they are coming from class
- > Bring their student ID card with them for easier borrowing. We have many places to study, engage with learning opportunities or kick back with a great read



Buying Food from the Canteen

Knight Street Campus

The canteen is open at recess and lunchtime. Students can order their lunch in the morning by placing their order in the box outside the canteen or Student Reception. Students' orders should include:

- > Their full name and Pastoral Group.
- > Their order (written neatly and in detail).
- > The total amount of the order.
- > The total amount of money included or whether they are paying by EFTPOS.

When lining up at the canteen, students are expected to be polite and respectful to other students and staff. They should wait their turn patiently and use their manners.

EFTPOS

If students are paying by EFTPOS, they must have the physical card. Contactless payments are not accepted. Please note there is a \$5 minimum spend for EFTPOS.



[View Canteen Menu on website](#)

Volunteering in the Canteen

We are always looking for volunteers! The canteen is a busy and fun environment to work in, interacting with other parents and staff whilst engaging with our wonderful students. Volunteers work with the Canteen Manager and Assistant on a roster basis (that suits their availability). Volunteers are needed between the hours of 10am – 1.30pm each day.

You will be required to complete a 'volunteer' working with children check (which is quick and free).



[View Volunteer form](#)



Bell Times

Knight Street Campus

Warning bell 8:45am

Pastoral Group 8.50am – 9.05am

Lesson 1 9.05am – 9.55am

Lesson 2 9.55am – 10.45am

Recess 10.45am – 11.15am

Warning bell 11.10am

Lesson 3 11.15am – 12.05pm

Lesson 4 12.05pm – 12.55pm

Lunch 12.55pm – 1.35pm

Warning bell 1.30pm

Lesson 5 1.35pm – 2.25pm

Lesson 6 2.25pm – 3.15pm



Year 7

Subject Guide

At Notre Dame College, we provide a broad based and innovative curriculum which aims to develop the intellectual, physical, spiritual, and social aspects of every student. While engendering a love of learning, we also encourage each student to strive to reach their full potential.

As a student in Year 7 you will experience a range of subjects from each of the Learning Areas. You will undertake seven core subjects, as well as experience each of the subjects from the Arts and Technology Learning Areas, studying one Arts and one Technology subject each term.

Across all year levels, learning and teaching is enhanced by the provision of a one-to-one laptop program which is supported by the resources and expertise of the ICT Team.

YEAR 7 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Subjects studied for the whole year

Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Science
Health & Physical Education
The Humanities
Language (Italian or Japanese)

Subjects studied for one term each

Drama
Media Arts
Music
Visual Arts
Digital Technology
Food
Metal/Wood
Textiles



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

With our theme of Church (Ecclesia) running throughout the year, you begin by looking at the concept of Belonging and what it means to belong to the Notre Dame College community. You go on to look more broadly at how we belong to God, focusing on how we fit into the overarching Christian story through Sacraments, Prayer and Old Testament stories in the Bible.

ENGLISH

English is at the core of the curriculum because it enables you to become an effective communicator in an increasingly connected world. You are expected to complete a collection of original pieces of writing, write regularly, read and respond to texts studied in class and at home, and prepare and present oral presentations.

MATHEMATICS

Year 7 Mathematics focuses on the development of mathematical skills. You can fill gaps in your background knowledge and have the opportunity to accelerate your learning up to a Year 10 level. The course has a focus on mathematical competencies, and includes development of skills such as problem solving, understanding, reasoning and application of mathematical knowledge. Mathematics topics include Number and Algebra, Space and Measurement, Statistics and Probability. In the classroom, you are tested at your current level of understanding across the curriculum. This is done so that your education program is tailored to your needs. In class, you and your teacher work together in regular learning cycles to increase math skills. There is an emphasis on your development and growth, with effort and accuracy being a focus. You are exposed to a variety of explicit teaching and self-directed learning.



SCIENCE

Semester One involves theoretical and practical studies in Introduction to Science (safety and equipment) and States of Matter and Separation Techniques. You investigate the safe use of laboratory equipment and the techniques associated with separating mixtures and solutions.

Semester Two involves theoretical and practical studies in Forces, Classification and Ecology. You plan and conduct a scientific investigation on parachutes to test different forces before exploring the benefits of classifying organisms and understanding the important role of ecosystems. You are assessed using a range of assessment tasks and progressive feedback is provided on SEQTA.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course aims to introduce and develop knowledge and skills in a variety of team sports, such as basketball, netball, soccer, soft lacrosse, softball, European handball, table tennis, minor games and individual sports, such as athletics. The health component involves lessons covering bullying, respectful relationships, mental health and wellbeing, risk taking and strategies to improve these.

HUMANITIES

Humanities is the study of Business and Economics, Civics and Citizenship, Geography and History.

In Semester One you explore the ancient civilisations of Egypt and Australia. You also complete topics that help you understand the nature of Australia's values linked to citizenship. You conduct research and investigation and you build on interpretation, analysis and evaluation skills. In Semester Two you will complete topics which will help you understand the nature of water as a resource and how Australia manages the different needs for its limited water supplies. You will also develop an understanding of economic choices and decisions. Through your studies you will begin to develop research and investigation skills as well as the ability to interpret, analyse and evaluate information.



ITALIAN

You are expected to develop your awareness of the language, gain further insight into the culture of Italy, and appreciate the ways in which the language and culture interact. At this level you introduce yourself, greet and farewell others using the appropriate register and reproduce modelled use of language. You are developing habits that will lead to effective learning behaviour, including study routines, following instructions, time management, planning, prioritising, and positive self-talk.

JAPANESE

You are expected to develop an awareness of simple grammatical structures of the language. You will demonstrate an ability to read and write Japanese Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji. You will develop your oral and listening skills and appreciate the ways in which the culture and language interact. You develop your ability to manage your learning by identifying and using strategies that assist with study and by completing tasks within set time frames. You begin to develop an appreciation for Japanese culture.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

You plan and manage individual and team projects with some autonomy. You consider ways of managing the exchange of ideas, tasks and files, and techniques for monitoring progress and feedback. You will be introduced to digital devices and their uses. Over the term, you will have the opportunity to construct simple digital devices.

FOOD

You will get a "taste" of Food through production and theory classes. The aim is for you to investigate the kitchen and its utensils, equipment and appliances, develop skills in safe and hygienic preparation, cooking and serving of foods, and create healthy food items each week. You will complete a practical assessment to make Energy Fruit Muffins.

METAL/WOOD

During this introductory course you will be exposed to a number of production techniques. You will learn how a variety of hand tools are used and will have the opportunity to demonstrate your new skills. You will investigate materials, including how they are sourced and used.



TEXTILES

Technology Textiles aims to have you develop your knowledge and skills using a variety of tools, materials and production techniques. The correct use of tools, equipment and relevant safety precautions are emphasised. Design forms an integral part of Technology. As well as developing your manual skills, you will develop skills of investigation, design, production and evaluation.

DRAMA

During this course, you explore different ways to express yourself. Your key learning focus is developing fundamental acting skills such as vocal expression, facial expression, gestures and body movement. Through participating in class activities, you learn to improvise, create and sustain characters. You work collaboratively with fellow students to prepare and present performances. You participate in ongoing reflection and self-evaluation throughout the term.

MEDIA ARTS

Year 7 Media is an introduction to Media studies with a focus on photography and the construction of digital images. You begin this subject by analysing a variety of media forms and reflecting on the role that the media plays in your life. You study and apply the six basic photography composition techniques in practice. You present and reflect on your own work as well as analyse the photography work of other artists. You also have the opportunity to create your own media products using digital imaging techniques. Here you develop and refine media production skills using technical and symbolic design elements and the interplay of images and text within an original film poster and advertising product. You develop an understanding of structure, intent, character, settings and genre-specific conventions in your media artworks and explore design intent for specific audiences.



MUSIC

Throughout this course, you develop your individual instrumental skills and ensemble musicianship. In particular, you learn about beat and rhythm, develop your listening and aural skills and write basic music notation. You then apply these skills to playing the keyboard, ukulele and various percussion instruments and perform to the class. You will also explore different music styles to encourage an appreciation for all music and complete a listening diary to record your understandings and reflections.

VISUAL ARTS

You will explore a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media which might include drawing, painting, printmaking, collage and modelling. Using the basic Elements of Art, you will create and convey ideas and feelings in visual form. This course encourages you to express and explain your own individual preferences for particular artworks and styles.



Contact Information

CONNECT

Phone (03) 5822 8400

Email ndc@notredame.vic.edu.au

www.notredame.vic.edu.au



KNIGHT STREET CAMPUS

139 Knight Street Shepparton VIC 3630

EMMAUS CAMPUS

95 Grace Road Shepparton North VIC 3631

PRINCIPAL

Mr John Cortese

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Catholic Identity Mr Jason Giuliani

Learning and Teaching Mrs Kristine Walker

People and Environment Ms Jennifer Frisardi

Wellbeing Mrs Emma Reynoldson

HEADS OF HOUSE (YEARS 7-8)

 **Crane** Ms Leanne Lemon

 **Kennedy** Ms Jacqui Hudgson

 **MacKillop** Miss Mikaela Reeve

 **McGann** Mrs Josie Hamilton

 **Jennings** Mrs Wendy Watt

 **Mungovan** Mr Colin Finn