



# WODONGA MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE

# YEAR 6 - YEAR 7 TRANSITION BOOKLET

2023



# WELCOME TO OUR COLLEGE

Wodonga Middle Years College specialises in age-appropriate teaching and learning which aligns with the curriculum and the developmental stages of our students.

## Our College Motto

Every Student, Every Opportunity, Success For All

## Our College Vision

Government secondary schools in Wodonga are student focused learning communities. Our graduates will display confidence, be optimistic about their future and be committed to personal achievement and global citizenship.

## Our College Mission

To be a student focused learning community from which our graduates will:

- Be confident, capable and self-motivated.
- Be comfortable living in a world of diverse people, cultures, and beliefs.
- Be able to establish and maintain effective relationships.
- Be tolerant and act with empathy.
- Be respectful of self and others.
- Make meaningful contributions to society – the local and global community.
- Demonstrate intellectual tenacity and persistence in problem solving.
- Be skilled analytical, critical, aesthetic and creative thinkers as the situation demands.
- Respond positively and appropriately to change and challenges.
- Set high expectations for themselves and act to meet those expectations.
- Flourish in a digital world and be a skilled user of evolving technologies.
- Be aware of post school options and successfully access them.



Approximately 1000 students attend one of our two campuses located at either side of the city. This allows students to benefit from the opportunities offered at a large school whilst enjoying strong connections with teachers and peers.

Underpinning the culture of the College is our values:



Our College caters for all abilities and has access to facilities which meet the diverse needs of our students and the wider community. Both campuses have teaching and learning spaces for Science, Digital Literacy, Mathematics, Literature, Humanities and Language as well as spaces for more applied learning subjects including the Trades and Hospitality. Students also enjoy well equipped sporting and performing arts centres.

Our students benefit from highly professional teaching and support staff. Of our teachers, 61.3% have five or more years experience. This blends well with a consistent flow of new teachers each year. The Executive Team consists of five Principal Class who focus on high quality education and continuous improvement for all students. This team is supported by nine leading teachers.

The College has a strong commitment to the wellbeing of students and this is demonstrated through the four house leaders and assistants as well as a highly competent wellbeing team made up of social workers, Doctors in School program, Koorie Support mentor, Inclusion Support, Careers practitioners and a Defence Transition Mentor.

There are a range of inclusion programs to ensure the diverse needs of all students are met. The Academic Advancement Program is offered to students in Year 7, 8 and 9 and runs as part of the transition process to Wodonga Senior Secondary College. It caters for gifted and high potential students who are capable of working at a significantly faster pace and in greater depth than their peers.

To ensure students with additional learning needs receive the support they require, the College works closely with families to design individualised plans to meet their learning needs and goals. Students have access to a range of inclusive equipment to assist their learning.

Wodonga Middle Years College is proudly an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) school that embraces the WICOR model: Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organisation and Reading. It is through AVID that we create a teaching and learning environment that provides opportunity and success for all. Our school wide AVID practices include the following: Binders, Interactive Notebooks, Cornell Note-taking, Reading with Purpose, Costa's Level of Questioning, and collaborative learning environments.

We invite you to browse the information in this booklet and on our website to investigate the learning journeys undertaken by our students.



**Vern Hilditch**  
*Executive Principal*

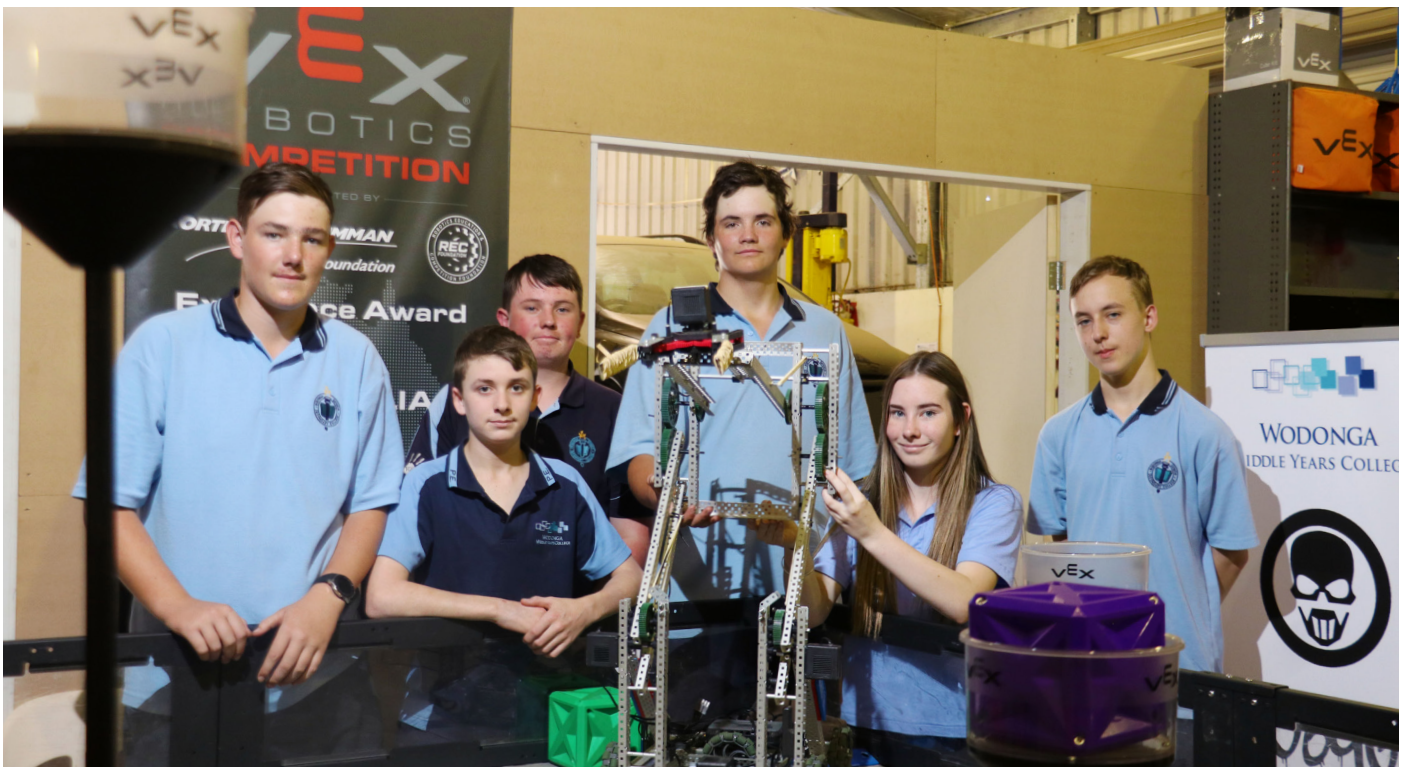


**Maree Cribbes**  
*Campus Principal*

## Year 7 Curriculum Information

Our broadly-based curriculum is designed to ensure our goal of educating the whole person. We encourage our students to aim for their personal best. The Year 7 staff are specialists at delivering this curriculum to the Year 7 students. Integrated into this structure is the CARE program; giving the students a strong connection to a significant teacher. The College's Year 7 curriculum offers a range of core subjects which are delivered across the entire year. Also offered are a range of Art, Technology and Language classes. Students will receive an introduction to these on a rotating basis across the four terms.

Core subjects are: English, Maths, Humanities, Health and Physical Education, Science, Arts, Technology and Languages (ATL). Our Year 7 areas of specialisation are Performing Arts: Music and Drama, Visual Arts: 3D and 2D Technology, Food and Textiles, Languages: Japanese and Indonesian.



## Numeracy Program

The Numeracy program at Wodonga Middle Years College aims to increase student capacity and confidence to work fluently with numbers. This in turn gives students the ability to apply mathematical concepts, problem solve, and analyse data.

Using the information provided by the primary schools along with Essential Assessment data gathered throughout the year, teachers spend a portion of the lesson focusing on the individual needs of students, before delivering a more detailed curriculum in which students can use these skills.

In Year 7, the first 10 minutes of every Maths lesson is devoted to practising the skills required to be confident in Mathematics. Essential Assessment is our diagnostic tool to determine students' level of understanding and create an individualised learning plan for each student.

Students are taught strategies to navigate number problems more efficiently. They are then encouraged to practice these skills on a daily basis.

## Academic Advancement Program (AAP)

The AAP program is offered to students in Years 7, 8 and 9 at Wodonga Middle Years College. It also runs as part of the transition process to Wodonga Senior Secondary College. The program caters for gifted and high potential students who are capable of working at a significantly faster pace and in greater depth than their peers.

The program has a limited number of places for very capable and committed students.

Student eligibility is determined by:

- Aptitude test
- Interviews
- Learning data from primary school

### Application Process

- 1. The Academic Advancement Program Information Night, Thursday, April 28, 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm**, will be online. Join Wodonga Middle Years College Facebook page to receive your Information Night notification.
- 2. Complete an Online Expression of Interest Form by Friday, June 17**, <https://bit.ly/3oxHn8O>  
Primary schools to supply Assessment Data.
- 3. Complete the AAP Aptitude test on Thursday, August 4, 9.00 am to 10.30 am or 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm** at Felltimber Campus.
- 4. Attend an AAP interview on Tuesday, August 9 or Wednesday, August 10.** Bookings are essential. Details to follow.
- 5. Confirmation of AAP placement and campus via email and post, Friday, August 26.**

For more information please visit WMYC website or by contacting Miranda O'Shea (Huron Campus) or Sam Hall (Felltimber Campus), Curriculum Leaders at Wodonga Middle Years College on (02) 6057 9000.



## Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program

The AVID elective class operates from Year 8 through to Wodonga Senior Secondary College. The elective class works intensively with the students to engage organisational skills, reading and writing to learn abilities, collaborative skills and inquiry skills. The class also works toward building confidence through public speaking, field trips to Universities/TAFE's, community work and engaging in regular tutorials to support success in all subjects.

Raising achievement scores in preparation for a student's future is a fundamental aim of the AVID program. In Year 7 students are immersed in a rigorous environment that pushes them to think critically and problem solve harder than ever before, and also supports them on their road to success by engaging in Critical Reading and Socratic Seminars to 'deep dive' into the content they are learning in all domains. All teachers are trained in AVID methodologies. We call this the AVID bridging program in Year 7, and students will be working on the foundations mentioned above. Students will also be explicitly taught how to take Cornell Notes and how to manage their week through using their Interactive Notebooks in all classes.

In Term 3 all Year 7 students will have the opportunity to enrol in AVID electives for Year 8, to continue to work towards high achievement levels, post-secondary skill preparation and career readiness.

## iPad Program

Wodonga Middle Years College aims to empower students to fully engage in a 21st Century learning environment through the iPad. An iPad provides the opportunity for students to tap into powerful and personal learning networks. This technology engages students in ways not previously possible, creating new learning and teaching possibilities. An iPad information evening will be held for prospective students and parents in Term 4.



## Desire To Learn - D2L

To link all student iPads to a learning platform we have incorporated the D2L company and its flagship product called Brightspace. The foundation of our integrated learning platform combines use and accessibility in one online learning environment to help ensure a mobile-ready experience is available anytime, anywhere. Students will be able to access all of their learning materials via Desire to Learn so that they are able to work on this at school or at home. Students will also submit assessments and receive teacher feedback through this online platform.

## Independent Reading Program (IRP)

The Independent Reading Program aims to foster lifelong readers who will build their confidence and passion for a variety of text types. Students will develop their comprehension skills through explicitly taught comprehension mini lessons that target the three stages of 'Reading with Purpose'.

Through choosing 'Just Right' texts, students get to have direct input into the materials that they engage with in the classroom. With the support of their Independent Reading teacher, students will reflect on their present reading skills and set goals for their reading journey.

By participating in the Independent Reading Program students will:

- Practice decoding and comprehension strategies
- Practice and reinforce vocabulary
- Practice reading fluency
- Think critically about texts
- Enjoy reading for extended periods of time.

To support literacy growth we recommend students read independently for 30 minutes each night.



## Student Wellbeing

Our College is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students. We have extensive wellbeing expertise and programs designed to support our students to achieve and enjoy their experience at the College.

## CARE Program

The CARE program is a student support and advocacy program that aims to promote the College values and improve the wellbeing of all students within the College. Students will build respectful relationships while exploring their academic aspirations within a supportive learning environment.

The CARE program focuses specifically on developing the individual. It offers opportunities to engage in learning about: Positive Behaviour Supports, Interpersonal relationships, Organisational Strategies, Cybersafety, Mindfulness, Goal Setting and Monitoring and Career Pathways.

## Case Management

Qualified wellbeing staff are able to assess and identify needs for individual support; where appropriate make referrals to community organisations, provide recommendations and liaise with teaching staff.

## School Nurse

Our College has a school nurse who provides the following services:

- Health promotion and education in classes and small groups
- Student support
- Co-facilitation of health days and events
- Monitoring of student medical conditions

## Doctors In School

A doctor and nurse from Federation Clinic attend the Huon Campus once a week to see students regarding general health needs, mental health plan etc. This service is available to both campuses and parents can request an appointment either through the College or by contacting the Federation Clinic directly.



## Defence Transition Mentor

Our College has a Defence Transition Mentor to support Defence students within our College and those transitioning to our College. The Mentor will work with students to become part of the College community, monitor Defence Student's social and emotional wellbeing and support the College in appreciating the unique lifestyle of Defence families.

## Restorative Practice

Our College understands that relationships are vital to a young person's healthy and positive experience during their educational journey. Restorative practice forms the foundation of our student management and wellbeing policy. Restorative practice is an approach that seeks to repair relationships that have been damaged, resolve issues and strengthen relationships.



## Instrumental Music

Our College encourages students to engage in our Instrumental Music program. This high quality and affordable program has many benefits for students and their learning. Tuition is offered in the following: Woodwind, Voice, Bass Guitar, Guitar, Drum/Percussion. The College also has various Music Ensembles that students are encouraged to join.

All Year 7 students are offered one free term of tuition. Please contact the College for more information.

## Performing Arts

Inspiring creativity and expression via Drama and Dance is extremely important at the College. Students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in local performance as well as experience a talented performance from experts further afield.

## A World Of Possibilities

Students at the College have the opportunity to discover a world of possibilities. Our diverse and inclusive learning environment engages students in this modern global world. Students can participate in our International Study tours. Students can learn a language other than English from Year 7 to 12 as part of their individual pathway plan.

## Activity Afternoon

Every Thursday all students at the College participate in the Activity Program. This program helps students strengthen positive relationships within the school and broader community, engage in their interest area and follow a passion or even develop a new one. Each term students select an activity that runs for the full term.



## Sports

At the College we offer an extensive sport and physical education program for students to participate in, enjoy and excel at. Participating in these activities promotes a healthy lifestyle and strengthens confidence.

Students can improve their personal best and sense of belonging to the College through our House system. Annual whole College events include the swimming and athletic carnivals. Students also have the opportunity to represent the College at local, State and National levels.

## Camps And Excursions

Learning outside the classroom is integral to the learning that occurs at the College. Students are given the opportunity to attend excursions which are directly related to their subject content as well as a range of camps to enrich their personal development. Camps and excursions include Sydney and Melbourne. Camps and excursions are fondly remembered by students, years after graduating.

## Uniform

Students are expected to wear the complete uniform whilst at the College, travelling to and from the College and when attending College activities, unless otherwise directed. The official College uniform is:



- College Jumper, Windcheater, Navy V-neck
- College Shirt
- Navy Pants
- Long Skirt
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Shirt
- Skirt
- Navy Shorts
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Shirt
- Navy Shorts
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Jumper, Windcheater, Navy V-neck
- College Shirt
- Navy Pants
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Dress
- Enclosed Footwear

## Long Term Vision

Wodonga Middle Years College and Wodonga Senior Secondary College work collaboratively to ensure students receive the benefits of a vibrant secondary education system. Students transitioning from Year 9 at our College to Year 10 at Wodonga Senior Secondary College are well supported through the House structure and the sharing of information.

At Wodonga Senior Secondary College students will determine their own timetable from the broadest range of subjects offered in the Region. In doing so, they have the opportunity to pursue an academic and/or vocational pathway.

The Senior College treat students as young adults and their specialist teachers inspire, mentor and facilitate learning and help students to understand their strengths and passions. They equip them with skills, knowledge, confidence and connections that lead to a successful future. The College has close links with Universities, Wodonga TAFE and industry.

Wodonga Senior Secondary College is renowned for its modern and industry standard facilities. These include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) regional centre, Performing Arts Centre, a commercial kitchen and Trade Training Centre.

## Year 7 Transition Key Dates

### From Week 1, Term 2 2022

- Your Primary School will distribute a transition information pack.
- ***Return your application for enrolment into Year 7 to your Primary School.***

### Thursday, April 28, 2022 - 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

- Academic Advancement Program Information Session.
- Join Wodonga Middle Years College Facebook page to receive your Information Night notification.

### Friday, May 13, 2022

- Application for Year 7 Placement 2021 forms to be returned to primary schools by this date.

### Wednesday, July 20, 2022

- Primary Schools will notify families in writing of secondary placement offers.

### Thursday, July 21, 2022

- A welcome letter will be sent to families of transitioning students to Wodonga Middle Years College.

### Thursday, August 18, 2022 - 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

- iPad Information Session.
- Join Wodonga Middle Years College Facebook page to receive your iPad Information Night notification.

For further information about enrolments or to arrange a tour of our campuses, please contact our Assistant Principal Sarah Kilner.

**Phone:** 02 6057 9000

**Fax:** 02 6059 2900

**Mobile:** 0408 675 449





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(02) 6057 9000



[wmyc.vic.edu.au](http://wmyc.vic.edu.au)



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