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# Macarthur Anglican School

PROSPECTUS



## INTRODUCTION



Macarthur Anglican School is nestled amongst 85 beautiful acres in the historic and picturesque township of Cobbitty, a 45-minute drive from the Sydney CBD.

From its humble beginnings in 1984 Macarthur has established itself as the premier school within the region, with an enviable reputation and strong record of student achievement. It is a Transition (Pre-Kindergarten) to Year 12 school that is Christian, independent and co-educational.

**Macarthur is an environment that inspires students to learn.**

Macarthur Anglican School aims for students of all ages to achieve their God-given potential in the academic, sporting and co-curricular realms and grow into men and women of conviction and character.

Upon entry to the School, you will be immediately struck by the green fields and wide-open spaces for the students to enjoy. The natural environment is complemented by modern, purpose-built classrooms that blend sensitively to the natural surroundings.

With an extensive array of leading educational programmes and co-curricular activities, students enjoy many rich and diverse opportunities throughout their schooling.

As you navigate the pages of this prospectus, we trust you will discover more of the unique features of our school and be inspired to join the Macarthur family.

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**Enter to  
Learn,  
Go out to  
Serve**

# HEADMASTER'S WELCOME



DR D P NOCKLES

It is an extraordinary privilege to lead a school that continues to be innovative and forward-thinking in its passion for teaching and learning. Macarthur staff are committed to assisting each child to develop as a well-rounded individual ready to participate and lead in their various communities.

Whether in the academic realm, in music performance, through outdoor education, service roles, on the sporting field, or any of the diverse range of other activities available, Macarthur students can broaden interests and enhance skills that will be foundational for a life of learning. Involvement in these activities helps students to enjoy school, building their social community, and equips them with a range of skills and learning habits to cultivate a confident future.

Macarthur is a Christian school in the Anglican tradition. We believe every person is created in the image of God and that to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves, as

Jesus taught, brings a greater sense of purpose to our lives.

Service to others is a key element of life at Macarthur.

Macarthur Anglican School has a strong international focus and a strong Indonesian Language Programme that is taught from Transition.

Students have the opportunity to attend overseas cultural tours, exchange opportunities and outreach missions. A number of international students study alongside our Australian students. Macarthur graduates are equipped to be global citizens and take their place in a changing world.

I trust that you find the following pages of our prospectus helpful as you explore the idea of a Macarthur education for your child. We will be honoured to partner with you in empowering your child for their tomorrow.

## Empowering students for their tomorrow



# The Macarthur Way

At Macarthur, we do not settle for minimum standards, but we encourage our students to develop their God-given gifts and abilities in the pursuit of excellence in academic, sporting, service and co-curricular pursuits.

Our aim is to see students progress to tertiary studies and careers with a strong work ethic, a wide set of interests and a disposition to be life-long learners. Our school motto, Enter to Learn, Go out to Serve is a lived reality. Students are given many opportunities to serve their school and the community in preparation for a life of service. Service is practised through diverse activities such as

charity work and fundraising, outreach and mission trips (both domestic and international), the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and the exercise of leadership roles such as Peer Support Leader and School Prefect.

Research consistently shows that engaged students are happy students. For that reason, Macarthur provides students with a rich co-curricular programme. Opportunities exist in a whole range of sports and interest clubs. Diverse activities such as the Agricultural Show Team, adventure camps, snow sports, public speaking and debating competitions, Art Club, overseas cultural

tours, Christian groups and bible studies (just to name a few), ensure that there is something for everyone to find their place at Macarthur. The School's Music Programme also provides a vibrant dimension to the School's culture. Outstanding musicals and dramas are a regular feature of our co-curricular calendar.

Macarthur is a Christian school where teaching and learning occur within an ethical Christian framework. Biblical Studies lessons and attendance at school camps and Chapels are also an essential part of a Macarthur education. Students have the freedom to learn more about

God in bible studies and other Christian groups the School provides. At Macarthur, we endeavour to educate the whole child. That is, we seek to develop a student's academic, physical, emotional and spiritual domains and bring them to maturity.

When students take advantage of the opportunities that are presented, a Macarthur education will provide them with a rich resource from which they can draw to meet any obstacle they will face in life. Taking the opportunities presented and embracing the challenges they bring is what it means to be educated in The Macarthur Way!

**We set high expectations and give students the opportunity to rise to the challenges before them to achieve their potential.**





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# Junior School

## Transition to Year 4

Firm foundations for academic, social and emotional success are established as children enter the Junior School at Macarthur Anglican School. As the entry point to the School, Transition children (4 year olds) begin their learning journey with a combination of direct instruction and developmental play. In these early years, children learn to develop appropriate social skills as they interact with their peers and teachers, while establishing a strong sense of wellbeing and identity.

Macarthur aims to grow confident, curious and enthusiastic learners. Differentiation is applied according to the children's needs to challenge and support each individual. A rich and stimulating curriculum, together with the guidance and

care of teachers, ensures that students are well-prepared to enter Kindergarten. The Transition Programme includes pre-numeracy and literacy activities, music, indoor and outdoor developmental play, visits to the Junior School Library and the opportunity to learn an additional language.

As children progress through the Junior School, camps, competitive sport and co-curricular opportunities are provided to enhance the children's overall educational experience. Macarthur Anglican School provides a rich, supportive environment where children are cared for pastorally and are individually known so that each child can reach their full potential.

**Macarthur's Junior School is a rich and creative learning environment that is enveloped by the loving care of inspiring teachers.**

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# Middle School

**Macarthur's Middle School provides structures that are essential to support the developmental needs of the students in Years 5 to Year 9. The Head of Middle School oversees the pastoral care of all students in this area of the School. Learning is increasingly supported at this stage of schooling with the use of technology, that includes an iPad as a personal device.**

## The Primary Years

Years 5 and Year 6 are traditionally structured with a designated classroom teacher. However, students also experience a range of specialist teachers in Science, Indonesian, Music and Library. For high potential learners the GATEway class is also provided as a two-year educational programme. The mix of teachers, together with attendance at Middle School assemblies and house events, prepare students for the diverse experience and routines of secondary school.

## The Secondary Years

Year 7 marks a significant milestone in the life of any student. Macarthur assists students with this important transition through the care and oversight of house teachers and a highly successful Year 11 Peer Support Programme. Students are introduced to a greater breadth in the curriculum and in Year 9 begin choosing from a diverse range of elective subject choices. The secondary years of Middle School feature a significant increase in the variety and number of enrichment and co-curricular activities in which all students can participate and ensure they find their place at Macarthur.





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# Senior School

Macarthur has a proven record of academic success. Students in the Senior School are instilled with a strong work ethic and are taught to be critical and creative thinkers. Study skills programmes, visits to universities, supervised study evenings together with high expectations from teachers helps build a vision for a student's future and develops a culture of learning and aspiration within the Senior School.

Macarthur's curriculum follows that of the NSW Higher School Certificate and a wide range of subjects are offered to enable students to match their interests and abilities and to

achieve their potential in the senior years.

The Head of the Senior School, together with the Dean of Studies and the Year 12 Advisor help guide each student to achieve their post-school ambitions.

Whether students desire to pursue tertiary studies beyond school or enter the workforce, they will be served well at Macarthur. The guidance of Senior School staff and the rigours of a Macarthur education develops a spirit of self discipline, hard work and service to others.

**A highly developed co-curricular programme and service opportunities brings both a sense of fun and purpose to the students' studies, making the hard work both meaningful and enjoyable.**



### ALUMNI REFLECTION JONATHON BEKES

I am remarkably lucky to have spent my secondary school years at Macarthur. The School provided me with a mountain of opportunities and experiences in a huge range of disciplines that gave me the best possible start that I could have wished for. I was able to travel on music tours to China, Canada and New Zealand, I taught English at orphanages in northern Thailand, I attended leadership conferences across Europe and also got to compete across Australia representing the School in golf competitions; just to name a few highlights.

I am now employed as a cellist in the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, with a varied career in music performance and education that takes me across the globe. I don't think I would have been able to achieve the things that I have without the experiences, the inspiration and the confidence that I gained as a student of Macarthur Anglican School. I feel that the Music Programme offered here, sets it apart significantly from other schools and I'm very thankful for its lasting influence on my career.

I graduated in 2010 and after over a decade, my relationship with Macarthur is still just as relevant and positive as it has always been. I have been able to give back by holding masterclasses for current students and inspiring the Junior School String Programme.

Co-curricular endeavours outside the classroom are a key feature of the value of a Macarthur Anglican School education for your child.

## Co-curricular

These programmes provide many opportunities to develop character and skills in activities where our students explore and challenge themselves.

Co-curricular programmes include Music (performance in Orchestra, Concert Band, Swing Band, Choir, Drum Corps), Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (including hiking, community service, skills and

physical activity), Sport, Agricultural Show Team, Drama Club, Chess Club, Public Speaking, Debating, Photography Club, Sound and Lighting, Robotics and many more.

Sport at Macarthur is compulsory and we offer both representative and recreational sport during school hours. There are no weekend sport obligations at Macarthur Anglican School.







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## Opportunities and Service

Macarthur holds strong to the idea that service is a key element of developing our students and our motto, Enter to Learn, Go out to Serve, reminds them as they enter the School daily. Students are encouraged to look beyond themselves and seek opportunities to assist and support those in the Macarthur community and beyond.

Macarthur provides an extensive array of activities where students can exercise their sense of service to both the School and wider community. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Outreach Tours, connections with Anglicare and other local

organisations provide students with opportunities to serve those around them.

Our school leadership and Peer Support Programmes provide structured opportunities for service, however incidental opportunities are created throughout the year.

Whether it be front of house handing out programmes at a musical, being a buddy for a new student, assisting staff as they set up for events, speaking as Master of Ceremonies at recitals and any other array of activities, all students can find their place at Macarthur.

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## Pastoral Care

A strong pastoral care system is a cornerstone of a Macarthur education. Our Pastoral Care Programme is overseen by the Dean of Students and designed to make sure every student is well-cared for and supported. Along with building friendships in their cohort, each student is placed in a House Group

that provides them with another peer community of belonging and a sense of school spirit. The Head of House and house teachers guide a student's learning, social and pastoral needs, and ensure that they are directing their energies into positive contributions to school life.



### ALUMNI REFLECTION DANIEL FAVRETTI

I thoroughly enjoyed my years at Macarthur. It was a school where I was encouraged to achieve my potential in all aspects of life. Teachers genuinely cared for us and helped us navigate the turbulent years of adolescence. Since leaving Macarthur and becoming a teacher myself, I appreciate the learning environment I was in. I also respect, in hindsight, the focus on character development that is engrained in the culture and structure of the School. It was a safe place that extended me beyond my comfort zone. I was also able to experience God's love and character through my teachers, despite at the time, not really knowing God.

As I was finishing Year 12, there were several teachers that encouraged me to look into education as they saw a passion in me to teach. It was not something I originally considered, but it was those conversations, along with having key role models, that nudged me in the right direction. I am thankful for them and many others because I love being a teacher. I am also thankful that my parents worked hard to ensure I could attend Macarthur.

# ENROLMENT PROCESS

The main entry points to Macarthur are Transition, Kindergarten, Year 5 and Year 7. Other entry points are possible subject to availability.

Families may enrol a student at any entry point from their birth. Applications are received and managed according to the School Enrolment Policy which can be found on the School website.

Macarthur experiences high levels of demand for positions. Parents are encouraged to apply well in advance to avoid disappointment.

Children cannot begin Transition unless they turn 4 on or before 1 March. Children enrolling in Kindergarten must turn 5 on or before 1 March of their first year in the School.

To enquire about enrolling at Macarthur please contact the School on the number below or by email at [enrol@macarthur.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrol@macarthur.nsw.edu.au)



## HEAD OF ADMISSIONS

Trish Cartwright  
02 4647 5333

[enrol@macarthur.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrol@macarthur.nsw.edu.au)





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