



Medowie
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS



Got Dreams?

Thinking Globally, Educating Locally



August 2016

MEDOWIE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

PROSPECTUS

CONTENTS

- 5** Message from our Principal
- 6** Delivering Quality Education
- 8** How we Grow Courageous and
Compassionate Global Citizens
- 9** With Truth and Wisdom in Christ
- 11** Primary School
- 12** Secondary School
- 15** Getting to Our School



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Medowie Christian School, Port Stephen's hidden gem. MCS is an innovative learning community where every child is known and presented with opportunities to grow individually, all within a caring environment. Our vision is to grow compassionate and courageous global citizens with truth and wisdom in Christ. Our goal is that every student will develop confidence and resilience and that they are well equipped to make a difference in an ever changing world. We would consider it an immense privilege to partner with you on the educational journey of your child.

At MCS we offer a comprehensive educational learning community that meets the needs of students from Kindergarten through to Year 12 on one site. We see every student as a unique diamond which requires skillful attention and appreciation. Producing a polished diamond that fulfills all that it was created to be involves a strong partnership between home and school. At MCS we have an outstanding team of teachers and facilities that provide the platform to develop vibrant thinkers who are entrepreneurial and successful beyond the school fence.

We are committed to providing extensive subject choices for all students. In 2015, 37 students sat the HSC examinations in 13 courses that were offered for study. We are committed to providing opportunities comparable to much larger schools, whilst providing our students with small classes, individual attention and innovative learning schedules. These combine to provide a head start on their chosen career or university journey.

The opportunities that are presented to our students are as unique as they are broad. From our new venture into robotics, to chess tournaments, public speaking, sports gala days, biathlon and triathlon events, science and engineering challenges and national mathematics competitions. Secondary students participate in core subjects, as well as specialised subjects such as Agriculture, Industrial Technology, PDHPE, Food Technology and the Performing Arts, to name a few. Our teachers use the latest resources, all in a technology rich environment. Each primary student has access to class iPads and every secondary student has their own laptop computer.

Ultimately, every parent wants their child to feel safe, enjoy their experience at school and reach their full potential. At MCS every student in the school is valued and we recognise that social, emotional and spiritual developments are as important as academic. We offer a supportive and caring environment where every student's God given gifts and talents are recognised and developed. Our desire is that every student in our school would dare to dream big and that together we can see their dream become a reality. Our discipline and care management systems are developed from a position of every student being 'at promise' where they are nurtured to succeed and grow in their strengths.

Our staff, students and families love their school. I invite and encourage you to visit us to see and experience it for yourself.

Mr. Simon Herd
Principal

DELIVERING QUALITY EDUCATION

Our Vision

Delivering quality education to grow courageous and compassionate global citizens with truth and wisdom in Christ.

Our Foundation Verse

"My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

- Colossians 2:2-3

Our History

Commencing operations in 1995 with 41 students, two teachers and two demountables, the school has grown steadily with the introduction of secondary education in 2005.

Today, Medowie Christian School is a healthy, thriving learning centre delivering quality education for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. Our school has a multimillion dollar multipurpose hall with full-size basketball court. All classrooms are fully air-conditioned and equipped with interactive technology.

MCS is accredited and registered with the NSW Board of Studies and active members of Christian Schools Australia (CSA) and the Association of Independent Schools (AIS).

Our Educational Philosophy

MCS strives to provide a centre of teaching and learning excellence which reflects a Christian world view, dedicated to nurturing the whole child - academically, emotionally, socially, spiritually and physically. As a Christian educational community, we offer academic

programs that promote critical and creative thinking, founded on Biblically based values, beliefs and behaviours. We are passionate about recognising and developing the abilities of each student, encouraging them to achieve at their personal best in everything they do.

Co-curricular Activities

In addition to high academic standards, MCS promotes a full schedule of sport, arts and service based activities as part of a commitment to provide a well-rounded education. MCS students can further develop their skills through a range of co-curricular and extension activities including:

- Musicals
- MADD nights and choral festivals
- Interschool sporting events
- Empowering
- Science & Engineering Challenges
- Student leadership training
- Private music lessons
- Debating and Public Speaking
- Musical ensembles such as choir and ministry band
- Participation in competitions such as the UNSW Tests

Learning Enhancement

MCS has a strong commitment to support and enrich the learning experience of all its students. The staff of the Learning Enhancement Department work collaboratively with students, class teachers and parents to deliver effective differentiated instruction for students with learning difficulties or special abilities.

Students with learning difficulties are supported by individual, in class or small group sessions, or through targeted intervention programs, while highly able students are extended through enrichment activities within the classroom and through a growing number of interest-based small groups and activities.



HOW WE GROW COURAGEOUS AND COMPASSIONATE GLOBAL CITIZENS

Behaviour Management

Behaviour Management is the term we use for discipline and welfare. In partnership with parents, we aim to provide a rich and supportive context for the personal, spiritual and social development of each child.

This is supported by:

- Positive and clear Behaviour Management Policies
- Pastoral programs such as Care Groups, Chapel, Shine, Strength and Empowering
- Support staff including a counsellor, chaplain and teachers' aides
- Classroom devotions that focus on God's character, along with Biblical knowledge and its daily application
- Leadership development through peer nurturing, public speaking opportunities and small group leadership
- A positive, respectful and safe school environment

Community

At MCS, we aim to work in partnership with parents and the wider community to provide the best possible resources and opportunities for the children in our care. We also aim to nurture the family atmosphere of the school, and to encourage the children towards responsible involvement in their wider community – locally, nationally and globally.

Service and Mission

Mission and service are very important parts of our school culture. Students are given many opportunities to serve others in the community, both locally and globally. See the Primary and Secondary sections for more information about this aspect of our school.



WITH TRUTH AND WISDOM IN CHRIST

Spiritually

We acknowledge the Bible as the standard for faith and practice in order to:

- Give each member of the community the opportunity to develop a personal relationship with God through Jesus
- Inspire faith and model citizenship
- Promote an informed, extensive world view for the transformation and blessing of society

Cognitively

Within a Christ-centred environment, we provide quality education by:

- Identifying and supporting individual needs
- Programming in accordance with NSW Board of Studies guidelines
- Recognising and promoting excellence
- Teaching skills required for knowledge and understanding
- Instilling values that foster a love of learning

Socially/Emotionally

We teach and model skills which:

- Promote the motivation and ability to serve others
- Inspire, encourage and build self-esteem
- Foster acceptance and valuing of every person
- Create an environment which encourages innovation and creativity
- Values growth in character

Physically

We promote a healthy lifestyle through:

- Developing respect and appreciation for God's creation, with particular relevance to the human body and the environment
- Encouraging God-honouring choices





PRIMARY SCHOOL

Primary

At Medowie Christian School, we aim to provide your child with a safe, nurturing environment in which to make new friends, discover the world around them and explore the endless possibilities that come from independent, collaborative and whole class activities.

Our teachers are committed to giving your child a caring and positive experience of school as they begin their journey of lifelong learning.

In partnership with parents we are delighted to lovingly guide each child as they grow into all that God has called them to be.

Staging

We follow the Board of Studies curriculum which is based on stages of learning. Each stage is equivalent to two school years with Early Stage 1 being the exception.

- Early Stage 1: Kindergarten
- Stage 1: Years 1 and 2
- Stage 2: Years 3 and 4
- Stage 3: Years 5 and 6

Each class has its own teacher who will be with the students for most lessons. Depending on student needs there may be times when students are grouped together for Literacy and Mathematics and are taught by another teacher of that stage.

A streamed Guided Reading program is run across Stages 1 to 3. Students are grouped according to benchmarked reading levels with each group focusing on two to three levels.

This allows for intensive teaching, targeted at students' specific needs. Students are tested regularly and change groups according to their progress.

A range of reading schemes are used including Rigby Collections, PM readers and a program called MiniLit for our struggling readers. Sport in the Primary may at some stage include jump rope, gymnastics, swimming, netball, soccer, basketball, tee ball, AFL, cross country and athletics. Students in K to 2 participate in a yearly SPLASH intensive swimming course. MCS has a strong commitment to using technology to support quality learning. All staff integrate the use of technology in their teaching and learning programs.

Service and Mission

Our vision at MCS is to educate children so that they are able to understand what it means to serve others. Regular opportunities for mission and service include performances at retirement villages, singing at community carols events and fundraising for our school's Compassion sponsor children.

Other Programs and Activities

- Assemblies
- Chapel
- Bounce Back
- Peacemakers
- Competitions
- Kinder Buddies
- Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Program
- Clubs
- Camps and Excursions

SECONDARY SCHOOL

At MCS we understand that secondary students desire greater freedom and increasing opportunities to show more responsibility, and to further develop their academic and creative talents. As students move into the senior years of secondary school, the professional relationship between teacher and student becomes more of a learning partnership, helping provide the basis of a friendly, collegial environment.

The Secondary Department offers a broad and balanced curriculum with a strong academic focus, where each student is encouraged to pursue their personal best.

Curriculum

- **Yr 7/8 Subjects:** English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE (Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship), PDHPE (Personal Development, Health and Physical Education), Technology Mandatory, Christian Studies, Music, Visual Arts, Chapel, Sport and Languages (Japanese in Year 8).
- **Yr 9/10 Core Subjects:** English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE (Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship), PDHPE (Personal Development, Health and Physical Education), Christian Studies, Chapel and Sport.
- **Yr 9/10 Electives:** Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Textiles, Japanese, PASS (Physical and Sports Studies), Industrial Technology, Food Technology and Agricultural Technology.
- **Yr 11/12 Subjects:** Advanced English, Standard English, Mathematics, General Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Ancient History, Modern History, Business Studies, Legal Studies, Music 1, Visual Arts, Textiles, Design and Technology, Software Development and Design, Community and Family Services (Distance Education), PD/H/PE, Japanese Continuers, Food Technology and Industrial Technology. Access to VET, TVET and Distance Education is available.

Creative and Performing Arts

All students have the opportunity to participate in various performing and creative arts events including MADD nights (Music, Art, Dance, Drama), school musicals and other community performances.

Sport

Secondary students have the opportunity to participate in an increasing number of sports. Many of our students have enjoyed sporting success at a national, state and regional level. Students can participate in a variety of inter-school gala days in sports. In 2016, we will be launching our High Performance Sports Academy.

In addition to Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics Carnivals, organised sports may include soccer, cricket, sandboarding, fishing, touch football, AFL, rugby league, basketball, futsal, golf, hockey, netball, volleyball, fitness, tennis, tee-ball, softball, baseball, squash, lawn bowls, cycling, walking groups, ten pin bowling, gymnastics and dance.

Stage 6

Students are able to complete their Higher School Certificate at MCS through an innovative blended HSC model, which has several benefits for senior students. Stage 6 students study English and Mathematics for two years while undertaking two compressed electives in each of Years 11 and 12. This means that the students will complete the Preliminary and HSC courses in two subjects within one year and sit for two HSC examinations at the end of these courses. This may mean that the maximum number of examinations completed at the end of Year 12 is four.

Senior students at MCS have the support and encouragement of all staff through a mentoring program which allows each student to meet regularly with their mentor.

Service and Mission

Mission and service are very important parts of our school culture and provide students with opportunities to help fulfill the vision of the School by serving others in the community, both locally and globally.

Other Programs and Activities

- Technology program
- eDiary
- Care Groups
- Chapel
- Camps and excursions
- Public Speaking
- Shine
- Strength
- Empowering
- Robotics
- STEM
- Musicals
- Music Recording
- Work Experience
- Innovative interest-based electives
- High Performance Sports Academy





GETTING TO OUR SCHOOL

Transport

Medowie Christian School is conveniently located for travel by car or public transport. Direct buses run to Raymond Terrace, Karuah, Swan Bay, North Arm Cove, Tea Gardens, Hawks Nest, Salt Ash, Oyster Cove, Tanilba Bay, Lemon Tree Passage and through Medowie.

Contact Hunter Valley Buses (ph 4935 7200) or Busways (ph 4983 1560) for a timetable.

Did you know?

Medowie Christian School is:

- 15 minutes from **Fern Bay**
- 10 minutes from **Raymond Terrace**
- 30 minutes from **Stroud**
- 30 minutes from **Tea Gardens**
- 30 minutes from **Lemon Tree Passage**
- 30 minutes from **Newcastle**
- 40 minutes from **Bulahdelah**

How Do I Enrol?

Enrolment forms have been included with this Prospectus.

For further information please contact the Registrar

Phone: **02 4981 7177**

Email: registrar@medowiecs.nsw.edu.au

Or visit our school website:
www.medowiecs.nsw.edu.au



Medowie
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Medowie Christian School | 6B Waropara Rd, Medowie NSW 2318 | +61 2 4981 7177
registrar@medowiecs.nsw.edu.au | www.medowiecs.nsw.edu.au



medowiechristianschool