



*Welcome to*  
**Junior School**



# Welcome to the **Collegiate Junior School**

Welcome to St Michael's Collegiate's Junior School. These years of schooling are such a special and important time in a child's life. It is a time of great growth across all areas of development and our teachers play a pivotal role in this. Research shows that the teacher is a key factor in supporting student success and we take this responsibility earnestly. Our teachers are committed to ongoing professional learning and growth and keep abreast of educational thinking for all our students.

Our curriculum is designed to support the holistic development of each child including academic, spiritual, physical and social development. The class mentor has the responsibility for the pastoral care of each student, as well as teaching many of the core subjects such as English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography. This is extended by specialist teaching of Chinese, Faith and Life, Music, Art, Physical Education and Outdoor Education.

Our approach to pastoral care is restorative by nature and has positive outcomes at its core in order to promote engaging learning environments in which children can thrive. Safe, happy learning environments mean productive and creative students and teachers, and this is a highly valued aspect of our school. The Anglesea Village campus provides a unique environment that encourages enquiry, play and creativity.







## Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

Each student is assigned a class mentor. This person will have a focus on their wellbeing and they will ensure individuals are known, cared for and connected to our learning community. The first point of contact for parents is the class mentor. We see education as a partnership between home and school.

Our pastoral care is strengthened by eight Houses, each with its own identity and House spirit. Being an active House member ensures students enjoy a sense of fun, connection and purpose within a group.

**LAUNCH** Life Skills, **A**ltruism, **U**nderstanding, **N**ourishment of Self, **C**ommunity and **H**earth

The Collegiate student care system is supported by robust research and a depth of experience and knowledge about the development and education of young people. Our LAUNCH program is designed to provide students with the ability to successfully navigate the highs and lows of life, learn about themselves and serve others.

## Experiential Learning at Collegiate

Our Experiential Learning programs aim to bring learning to life through experience, reflection and action. Through areas of outdoor, project-based, service and global learning, students at Collegiate are exposed to immersive practical opportunities that aim to facilitate personal growth and contribute to the School vision “to empower every student to embrace the fullness of life.”

The Junior and Middle School programs offer transdisciplinary experiences featuring outdoor learning, classroom themes and pastoral themes.

## Sport

Sport at Collegiate is all about having fun and trying something new. We offer a variety of sports in our program each term, competing in school competitions or just improving skills and techniques from our professional coaches. Our students have a lot of fun learning and competing together and this is reflected in the way they play. We are delighted in the mass participation in our Junior sports program – it’s a sea of red and white on the oval each lunchtime. There’s a wonderful culture of commitment to sport in the Junior School.



## Junior School Subjects

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Faith and Life
- Chinese
- Music
- Art
- Health and Physical Education
- Chapel
- Instrumental (Years 3 and 4)
- Experiential Learning
- Library







“ I invite you to come and see for yourself the blend of people, place, tradition and innovation that makes Collegiate such a special place. ”

Principal, Dr Adam Forsyth





## The Spalding Method

Beginning in early childhood classes, students are actively involved with their learning, developing critical thinking skills applicable across the curriculum.

The Spalding Method for teaching English provides explicit, sequential, multisensory instruction in listening, handwriting, spelling, reading, writing, punctuation, grammar, and vocabulary.

The Spalding philosophy has a child-centred approach, where teachers set realistic, but high expectations for the children. We promote the development of higher-level thinking by providing opportunities for analysis and evaluation in the context of literacy learning.

At Collegiate, a Spalding lesson consists of:

### Spelling

We teach phonemic awareness, which is essentially the knowledge that spoken words consist of individual sounds, and the skills required to identify and manipulate these sounds to make meaning. Phonograms, which are the printed

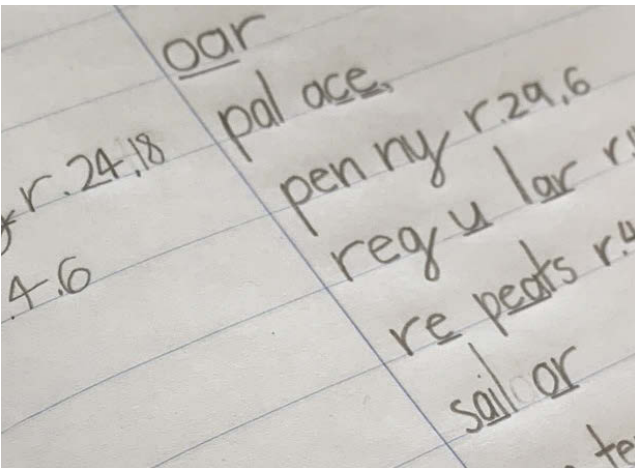
symbols representing speech sounds, are learned and practised daily through reading and writing. Dictation of high frequency used words helps children to use words correctly while learning spelling rules and concepts of writing.

### Writing

Children are taught how to construct quality sentences, apply spelling and language rules and strengthen vocabulary. They progress to writing informative and narrative paragraphs and text compositions. The children learn how to analyse text, developing editing and critical thinking, including in their own writing.

### Reading fluency and comprehension

Students learn to read with speed, accuracy and appropriate expression. Through experiencing a range of quality texts, the students are taught mental actions to understand all types of print, and to use these comprehension strategies across different subjects. They build skills to actively connect ideas in print with their prior knowledge, which provide an essential basis for developing a love of reading.



Feedback from a Year 1 parent

“ The Spalding Method is a multisensory approach that highly benefits students with dyslexia. It is inclusive and means children can learn using the same program, in the same classroom, with their peers.

The use of Spalding is the reason that I enrolled my daughter at Collegiate, and it is worth every dollar invested. My daughter has made such great progress as a result.

With so many families seeking a curriculum that teaches their dyslexic children inclusively and effectively in the classroom, I feel lucky that we moved to Collegiate. ”

## SPALDING METHOD FAST FACTS

Spalding provides a framework for literacy lessons with listening, speaking, spelling, writing and reading taught explicitly.

Students listen, say, see, write and read in every lesson. This interactive multisensory teaching helps strengthen neural pathways.

Spalding is differentiated to students' needs with high expectations for student participation and learning, including ongoing assessment and self reflection.

Every literacy lesson includes: phonemic awareness, phonograms (sounds into writing), handwriting, high frequency vocabulary, parts of speech, spelling and language rules.

The Spalding Method also incorporates word study: structure, origin and meaning (morphology and etymology), along with sentence and text construction.







St Michael's   
**Collegiate**  
ESTABLISHED 1892

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Scan this QR code to access the detailed information in the online Junior School Directions Handbook.