

*“We are called to
love one another”*



YEAR 7 TRANSITION – YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

At the recent family information session for Year 7 Transition for 2024 a range of information was shared with families – this included subject information, timetables, communication, house and pastoral care structures.

To further support families, we have included below, some frequently asked questions, including the questions that were asked prior to the evening, and links to relevant information. We encourage all families to become familiar with this information, as well as the information available on our website. We look forward to continuing to share and support your transition journey.

KEY ONLINE RESOURCES

www.nazareth.org.au

Calendar [Calendar | Nazareth Catholic Community](#)

Weekly Newsletter [Newsletter | Nazareth Catholic Community](#)

Financial Information [Fees & Finance | Nazareth Catholic Community](#)

Uniform Information [Uniform | Nazareth Catholic Community](#)

RELIGION & CATHOLIC IDENTITY

My child is at a Department primary school where religion is not a part of their schooling. How will this be introduced in year 7? The schools approach to supporting students to gain a sense of belonging to the school community if not a part of the religious community. Catholic Identity and Mission is central to our Nazareth identity; however, we embrace all students and families regardless of their experiences of faith. All students in Year 7 participate in a Faith Formation Day, which provides them with an introduction to the Nazareth experience of Catholic Identity and Mission. Additionally, our Religious Education Curriculum encourages discussion and dialogue whilst providing students with an understanding of Catholic theology and mission.

How do children in public schools, not used to catholic schools fit in and make strong friendships? Our House system is key to ensuring all students have a strong sense of belonging and positive relationships. Encompassed as part of the house system are our Mentor Group program and wellbeing programs. Additional opportunities throughout Year 7 in particular are aimed at fostering strong friendships and include activities such as Year 7 camp (read more about our Pastoral Care Program below).

PASTORAL CARE PROGRAM

Are siblings in the same house? Yes – but they will not be in the same MG class.

Can they choose a different house each year? Students stay in the same house for all of their schooling, the fosters a strong sense of belonging and relationships.

How do you make sure that students are not separated from their friends in primary school since many parents select school where the group of friends join. Process of placing students in their house? Will friends be considered? Will Nazareth attempt to keep students together who attend from the same primary school?

This will not necessarily be the case, it will dependent on which houses students are placed in, if they have older siblings or if there are specific requirements around students wellbeing and learning. Again, one of the key purposes of the House system is to ensure all students have a strong sense of belonging and positive relationships. Often times, students from the same school, where possible are placed in the same house.

There are many opportunities for students to continue to nurture primary years friendships across learning, wellbeing and informal activities.

Information regarding placements for students that is important to their wellbeing and/or learning are normally shared as part of the enrolment conversation and transition process. This information may be shared by either the family, but more often, the student's class teacher/school.

When will they find out what house they are in? Students will find out on Orientation day what House and Mentor Group they are in. They will meet their Mentor Group teacher on the first day of Term 1.

What strategies does Nazareth adopt to retain staff at Nazareth? Our staff love Nazareth! Nazareth is one of South Australia's leading Catholic Education communities and is well known for being a forward-thinking, innovative, progressive, and inclusive employer.

Read more about our [Patron's and House System](#)

STUDENT WELLBEING

Will the College let us know if children are struggling with their transition to year 7 - (whether it's academic or social/emotional)? Who can students turn to if they're feeling overwhelmed? What support is available when students are struggling with subjects, friendships etc?

We encourage families, students and staff to be in regular conversation to support both wellbeing and learning. Your key contact initially will be your child's Mentor Group teacher. If it's an academic concern, this will be a conversation with your child's teacher. We also have counsellors available on site.

How do you manage bullying? We use what is known as a restorative practices approach – first and foremost, we need to know about it if it's happening. Again this can be through your child's Mentor Group teacher, house coordinator, counsellor or other staff member.

Do you have a Bullying Harassment Policy? Information on supporting student wellbeing, codes of behaviour and bullying and harassment can be found on our [Policies, Documents and Forms page](#).

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Our Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy is available on our [Policies, Documents and Forms page](#).. If you need to contact your child, this can be done via contacting Student Services – very similarly to how you would now do it at your primary school.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

How different are the subjects compared to Primary? In 2024 Year 7 students will study a selection of compulsory subjects from the Australian Curriculum, together with a range of Elective Subjects. Compulsory subjects are Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, Health & Physical Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Languages (Japanese or Italian).

Students will study each of the following elective subjects for a term to develop skills and inform their future choices; Art, Dance, Drama, Music, Cook & Create, Digital Competencies, Digital Technology and Design & Technology.

Subjects are undertaken in a number of different learning spaces and specialist facilities with key teachers.

What does a normal day look like? Students have lessons timetables across the week, with a combination of single and double lessons. The timetable includes time for Mentor Group. Students will join a neighbourhood, consisting of 4 classes and a team of teachers who know the students well. Teachers will teach multiple classes within each Neighbourhood and each neighbourhood will base themselves in a home classroom. This provides a transition into Middle School and is new in 2024.

Number of students per class? We have 24 – 25 students per class – no larger than other secondary schools.

Curriculum design – how does it assist children in their area of expertise to move into preparing for their career of choice? We offer a wide range of pathways across a wide range of curriculum areas, these pathways include Vocational Education & Training opportunities for students. Visit our website for more information in [our curriculum handbooks](#).

How do parents stay informed of their child's school work, due dates and results? We utilise the learning management system called SEQTA. This is a partnership between students, families and staff. Further information will be provided about SEQTA in your information session in Term 1.

Does each class have a class teacher or a go-to person? Yes – each class has a team of teachers across their Neighbourhood, subject teachers, and each Mentor Group class has a Mentor Group teacher.

Do you have any plans for IB curriculum in the future? At this stage the IB Curriculum is not part of our planning.

LAPTOPS

When do students get their laptops? Are they provided? Laptops are provided to students at the beginning of the year. The cost is included as part of their tuition fees.

ICT Acceptable Use of ICT Procedure can be found on our [Policies, Documents and Forms page](#).

Are the students allowed to take their laptops at home and are they allowed to download anything they like on it? Students are expected to take their laptop home each night, where it will be utilised for homework. The laptop must be charged at home. Laptops are centrally managed by the College Network Team, which includes access to the necessary programs required for learning.

TEXTBOOKS

Are textbooks purchased or supplied? A booklist is provided and these can be ordered online and delivered at Lighthouse Books on Grange Road. Lighthouse Books provides a service to school and purchasing non compulsory items through them is optional.

STUDENTS REQUIRING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

What supports are provided for students with extra needs? My child has Dyslexia. How will she be supported? 1 on 1 support / lessons if required? If your child has been identified in the transition process as requiring additional support discussion will take place prior to commencement with our learning diversity team. Your child's transition to secondary schooling may look different to support them. Additional support can look a number of different ways; sometimes it may be a learning diversity team member working with a student, or small group of students in the classroom, or outside the classroom for that lesson, or alternatively, the student may join the designated learning diversity learning spaces. We encourage families to be in conversation with us around your child's learning.

How do we support students who may be falling behind in their work? There are a number of support systems in place to ensure your child remains on-track. SEQTA is a fantastic platform that allows families to see all assignments, homework tasks and due dates in real time. As a school we offer Homework support after school in the Library and Maths support 2 nights per week. We encourage ongoing communication between home and school and work together to assist students to stay on track. More information on SEQTA will be shared at the beginning of 2024.

HOMEWORK

We have homework guidelines at Nazareth and as a guide in Year 7 we recommend 5 hours a week (1 hour Monday – Thursday) and 1 hour on the weekend. A significant amount of time is given throughout the school day in lessons to complete work, so when students stay organised and on task the amount of homework is less. These guidelines are available on our SEQTA platform when you commence – along with other policies and guidelines.

As mentioned above, there is homework support regularly offered in the library after school also.

SEQTA

When will parents/students receive a link for SEQTA? Prior to your child starting, a profile will be created on SEQTA and a detailed information session will be provided for families at the beginning of 2024 – where we take you step by step through how this platform works.

How do students access SEQTA at school for timetables laptop? Phone? Ipad? All of the above! SEQTA is available for parents and students on a desktop or mobile device. Students will have access to SEQTA on their school laptops. They will be supported in setting this up on their first days in Term 1.

COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

What extra curricular activities are on offer?

There are a wide range of opportunities across many activities and abilities at Nazareth. Our co-curricular activities are thriving, with anything from Pedal Prix and Mountain Biking, to Debating and Titration competitions. We cater for a diverse range of interests! Find out more [Opportunity | Nazareth Catholic Community](#)

What other clubs (other than music or sport) do you offer? We offer a range of opportunities in; service and leadership, specialist academies, sport, expressive and performing arts, music, digital technology, art and faith formation. Look under [Opportunities](#) on our website for more information.

If the children are studying music, when do they get their instruments? Instruments can be hired for students who are undertaking instrumental tuition. Read more about our [music program and tuition](#).

School Sports Competitions when do they run? Co-curricular sport runs for the entire year, with Summer Sports occurring in Term 1 & 4 and Winter Sports Term 2 & 3.

Where can my child find out about the different clubs? We have a wide range of activities. Daily notices available on SEQTA and as part of Mentor Group also assist in students awareness of activities.

Is there a chess club?? Yes! We have so many different opportunities for students – anything from Mountain Biking, Anime, Games Club, Chess, Design & technology, Japanese club, pedal pax, Crochet club, Culture Club, Debating as well as music and sport.

CAMPS

Do you have a camp in Year 7? Yes a Year 7 camp is held for all students. The camp is an opportunity for students to build new friendships and relationships. The cohort participates in camp with students from their house and is one of the highlights of the Year 7 year!

UNIFORM

Visit our website for all [uniform information](#)

What shoes can you wear? Sneakers for PE days and Black School shoes for Formal Day

FEES & FINANCE

Visit our website for all [financial & fee information](#)

Will the fees rise because of the new campus? Tuition fees are determined and approved on an annual basis. The decision has been made that our 2024 fees will remain the same as 2023.

Is there a fee concession if one of the sibling in primary school and elder one is in senior school?

There are a number of discounts and concessions available to families including: early payment discount, sibling discounts (for up to 5 students), external sibling discounts (for siblings attending another Catholic Primary school) and school card. We encourage you to speak with our finance team about fees and payment plans as early as possible.

Are there scholarship opportunities and how do they work? We don't offer scholarships, however we do have a range of ways in which we support families to ensure their child can access their education at Nazareth. This may be in the form of fee remissions; payment plans and other agreed payment options. We really encourage you to have a conversation with our finance staff if you are finding it challenging – we don't want this to be a barrier.

VOLUNTEERING

Are there opportunities for parents to volunteer at the school? If so, what might they be and how can we put our hand up to get involved? We are excited to be moving back into a space where we can welcome parents and families back to volunteering. These volunteer opportunities are growing and some include Friends of Music, NazConnects Cook Ups (1 x per term), coaching, mentoring and support for key activities or celebration days. Keep your eye on the Weekly Newsletter and our official Facebook Page for information and opportunities.

SCHOOL BUSES

School bus service/ transportation? We have 2 mini buses and 1 coaster bus that are used for excursions and some small camps. The Metro buses operate on normal routes as well as additional routes for schools – including Nazareth. Metro bus stops are located on both Hartley and Holbrooks Road and are supervised before and after school. Further information on [travel to and from school](#) can be found on our website

SCHOOL TIMES

What time can they stay in the library if parents can't pick them up on time? Our Veritas Resource Centre is open from 8am in the morning and until 5pm in the afternoon Mondays - Thursdays, with a teacher supervising homework support.

What time does school start? School start time for 2024 will be 8:45am, and school finishes at 3:25pm

What is the first day of year 7 school in 2023? Monday 29 January, 2024.

What is the earliest you can drop off students in the morning to school? The library is open from 8am – we encourage students to move into the courtyard where there is supervision from 815am. Some sports trainings and other cocurricular activities may train / meet from 730am.

MEDICATION

Key information regarding student health and welfare can be found in the [parent handbook](#)

For students with health problems, like allergies, do student services keep their medications for them like they do at their primary school? A medical management plan is required for all chronic conditions e.g. asthma, diabetes and allergies, outlining the student's condition, treatment and emergency signs and procedures. This plan must be updated as required, and all medications must be presented to Student Services. Students in Years 7-12 may accept the responsibility for their own medication, including the use of aerosol 'puffers'. It is the parents/caregiver's responsibility to ensure that the medication is in original packaging from the doctor or pharmacist, outlining the dose and frequency of the medication

CANTEEN

Do you have a canteen? Yes! We have a canteen and an onsite café. Our Canteen at Flinders Park is outsourced by Rory's and students can purchase on the day or orders can be made online using the QKR app. Our Café is operated by Nazareth staff onsite, and from 2024 will be available for students at break times (no coffee). We also have a number of vending machines available for students. [More about our Canteen and Cafes](#)

WHAT TO EXPECT ON DAY 1, TERM 1

Students will be supported closely in the first weeks of their time at the Flinders Park Campus as they transition.

On the first day, we ask students to wear their formal summer uniform. They will receive their laptop, timetable and combination lock for their locker on the first day. So they just need to arrive, with their school bag and lunch/waterbottle. After the first day, students can then begin to bring their books and stationery to school as needed based on their timetable.

SAVE THE DATE: Year 7 Parent Meet & Greet, Tuesday 13 February 6 – 8pm. An opportunity to meet your child's neighbourhood teachers, mentor group teacher and house coordinators, becoming familiar with SEQTA and enjoy some drinks and nibbles with other new parents.

We look forward to welcoming you in 2024!