At MacKillop Catholic College we aim to educate the whole person, spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally and morally. We believe in the importance of a broad curriculum suited to the needs, abilities and interests of the students. We aim to provide encouragement and opportunity for each student to reach excellence, achieving to the best of his or her God-given talents.

As you would understand the College can not achieve these things in isolation and we are grateful for the support of parents in helping to reach the aims outlined above. Parents can provide this support in a number of ways:

- by ensuring students wear their uniform with pride;
- by encouraging their son/daughter to contribute in a positive way to College life;
- by promoting private and regular structured home study; and
- by maintaining open channels of communication with the College.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The Religious Education program is an integral part of life at MacKillop Catholic College. It is not simply another academic subject, but it involves all aspects of life in the College.

It concerns the welcome students receive to the College community and the friendships they develop. Students learn to celebrate together such things as the repairing of friendships (Reconciliation) and the celebration of our faith at Mass (Eucharist). Above all they learn to thank God for the many things He has given them and to tell him of the things they need for themselves and others (Prayer).

**STUDENT WELLBEING and COMMUNICATION**

Minor welfare, academic or behavioural issues can be communicated through the student’s College planner. Regular communications between parents and teachers should be maintained through the use of the planner and parents are asked to check it regularly. The planner also contains some simple College expectations and other guidelines for students.

If a parent contacts the Home Room teacher, they may suggest that concerns be referred to the Year Level Coordinator. In addition our College Counsellor, Diane Pitman, is available to work with students and families and our Educational Psychologist, Rowena Gibson, conducts psycho-educational assessments of students if there are concerns with academic progress.

A College newsletter is issued fortnightly. It is given to students on a Wednesday to be taken home to their parents and is published on our website. This can also be emailed if requested. Please contact enquiries@mackillop.tas.edu.au

At the beginning of each Semester, parents are contacted in writing about planned excursions and are required to return a consent form.
The purpose of the Board is, within the provisions of its constitution and subject to the general policies of the Archdiocese, to assist the Principal in the general operations of the College and in planning for the future.

Present membership of the Board is as follows: Mr Michael Verrier (Chair), Mr Ben Wallace (Deputy Chair), Mr James Versteegen (Treasurer), Mrs Annette Jakobovski, Mr Tom Wallace, Mr Tim Petrusma, Father Peter O’Loughlin (Parish Priest), and Mrs Sue Howard (Acting Principal).

MacKillop Catholic College offers a comprehensive and contemporary curriculum, in line with the development of the Australian Curriculum, which endeavours to meet the needs of all of its students. The Australian Curriculum involves the development of a national curriculum and year level standards, providing a consistent guide for all schools. Our model will reflect our own Catholic identity and Religious Education will play an important role within all subject areas. This will ensure that our students are well equipped to meet the challenges that lie ahead as they pursue further studies and work.

**Assessment and Reporting**

In Year 7, assessment is ongoing throughout the academic year, in each of the courses studied. Interim reports are sent home at the end of Terms 1 and 3 while semester reports are sent out at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

**OUR SCHOOL DAY**

**DAY 1**: School commences for Year 7 in 2016 on **Thursday, February 4**.
All other year levels commence on Friday, February 5, 2016.

Students are allowed to enter the school buildings after 8.15 am. This gives students time to go to their lockers and get organised for the day before Home Room begins.

**SPORT**

MacKillop Catholic College offers a diverse and varied sports program for students, providing them with many options during the summer and winter seasons. Below are some sports that are offered: athletics, basketball, cricket, cross country, equestrian, fun runs, gymnastics, hockey, indoor rockclimbing, netball, orienteering, badminton, sailing, soccer, surf-lifesaving, surfing, swimming, table tennis, tennis, touch football and waterpolo.

**iPADs**

The incorporation of iPad technology at MacKillop enables us to provide flexible learning opportunities, allowing for inquiry-based and self-directed learning. iPad technology will encourage an integrated curriculum, enhance group work, allow for differentiated learning and individualised instruction, and greater opportunities for students to work together in a team.

In 2013 iPads were introduced to all year levels across the College. Students in Year 7 in 2016 are required to bring with them an iPad with the following minimum specifications: iPad Air, 16Gb. All students and parents are required to sign a User Agreement Form prior to the iPad being brought into the College.

**CAMPS**

Year 7 camp in 2016 is in the first week of March. Home Room groups will attend a two-day camp, which focuses on the development of individual strengths and contributions to the class dynamic. Details will be sent to parents in the first week of 2016. Camp is an important part of transitioning into our College community and all students are expected to attend.
BOOKLISTS

Stationery will be available for purchase through Birchalls Education. Parents/students can peruse stationery items and purchase what they require at Birchalls Showgrounds store commencing January 2016.

UNIFORM

To assist with the fitting and purchasing of uniforms for next year, extra opening times will be provided by the Uniform Shop. The last trading day for the Uniform Shop in 2015 will be Tuesday, December 8.

Other additional hours will be: Thursday, November 19 - 12.30 pm - 5.30 pm
Tuesday, November 24 - 8.15 am - 3.45 pm

The Uniform Shop will also be open in 2016 for purchases of new and second-hand uniforms.

- Wednesday, January 27 – 12 noon – 6.00 pm
- Thursday, January 28 – 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
- Friday, January 29 – 1.00 pm – 6.00 pm

The College is grateful to those parents who have volunteered to help with clothing sales on those days. The uniform is a symbol of the pride we have in our College and the pride our College has in each person.

Wear your uniform with confidence.
Wear it with care. Be aware of the correct uniform and what is acceptable at our College.

The College uniform is a mark of our identity to the wider community. It should establish a sense of belonging and an acceptance of the values proclaimed by MacKillop. The blazer is worn to and from the College and to all College assemblies. At the start of the school year students will be wearing the SUMMER UNIFORM.

Both boys and girls are expected to wear the full school uniform at all times, unless otherwise directed, and to take pride in their personal appearance. Shoes should be clean and should be regulation, black leather lace-up school shoes. Hair should be well groomed. Extra clothing for warmth should not be visible.

Girls and boys with hair that is below the collar must tie it back. Girls may wear a navy, white or red ribbon which can be obtained from the College Uniform Shop. Students are not permitted to wear any noticeable make-up. One pair of plain silver or gold studs or sleepers worn in the lower ear lobe of each ear is the only acceptable type of earring.

Boys’ hair styles should avoid extremes, such as a number one cut. Boys may wear one plain gold or silver stud in the ear lobe. Boys with long hair will also be expected to wear it in a neat, tidy and safe style which will include tying it back if it is below the collar. Boys are required to be clean shaven at all times.

Summer Uniform:

Girls
- Navy blazer
- Tartan dress
- Short white socks
- Regulation black lace-up shoes (no buckle or ballet shoes)
- College jumper
- College hat/cap
- College ribbon

Boys
- Navy blazer
- Grey shorts/trousers
- Grey short socks
- White short-sleeved open-neck overshirt with the College logo
- Regulation black lace-up shoes
- College jumper
- Grey belt (optional)
- College hat/cap
FEES and CHARGES

Although the College receives substantial funding from both State and Commonwealth Governments, we cannot survive financially without charging fees.

School fees for 2016 are yet to be approved by the College Board and Governing Council. Tuition fees are invoiced in March. Families can enter payment plans to pay fees over 9 months (March to November). Tuition fees can be paid by cash, cheque, credit card, Centrepay, Bpay and direct debit or credit card automatic instalment arrangements. Families are eligible for a discount if 3 or more children are enrolled in any Catholic School. 3 children: 10%, 4 children: 20%, 5+ children 30%. Fees are subject to change on an annual basis. Please contact our College Business Manager, Mr Jorrick Chivers, on 6245 0099, if you require further information.