

MANNING VALLEY ANGLICAN COLLEGE

Prospectus



Welcome to

Manning Valley Anglican College

Manning Valley Anglican College commenced as an educational institution on Thursday 30th January, 2003. On this day, our Foundation Students walked through our gates for the very first time, and our mission began in earnest.

That mission, which continues to this day, is complex and fluid, yet always comes back to one simple notion:

To Foster Learning Excellence in a Christian Environment

We have since grown into a College that delivers a comprehensive, holistic education for boys and girls, from Kindergarten right through to Year 12. We acknowledge the importance of social development and spiritual guidance, and infuse these aspects into everything we do, in order to assist each child in discovering their fullest potential and becoming successful members and leaders in our community.

We recognise that our student body has a variety of talents in all things academic, athletic and creative, and we work tirelessly to ensure that each child is given the opportunity to explore their interests and aspire to excellence. The College, through its teaching staff, promotes a positive attitude towards learning and growing, setting our students on the life-long path of curiosity and discovery. We strive to make learning engaging and relevant, knowing that the critical skills our students build will assist them regardless of their path in life.

Christianity is taught by the College to be the fundamental spiritual and moral basis of our lives. We encourage students to come to a personal faith in Jesus Christ, and guide them in applying his teachings to their everyday lives.



“Let Your Light Shine”

Explore, Dream, Discover



From the Principal

Welcome, and thank you for considering Manning Valley Anglican College. I hope I can give you an insight into our school and our values.

Choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make in his or her life because school will play such a fundamental role in shaping the person he or she will become. I am sure that you will want a school which looks to ensure that each child is known and encouraged to flourish in a holistic manner. At Manning Valley we challenge students to

- Be themselves
- Care for others
- Achieve academic excellence
- Embrace opportunities
- Make a difference to the world
- Be resilient and strong
- Contribute to the culture of the College

and, above all, to be always striving **to be the best that they can be.**

MVAC provides a number of academic, cultural and sporting opportunities which will support your child's emotional, intellectual and spiritual development. We are a learning community which values exploring, dreaming and discovering all that is possible.

Our students are encouraged to think about their place in the world, to hear the Christian message and to form a personal response to the issues that face them, so that they can make a difference to society. There is a culture of high expectation within the College that stimulates their young minds to aim for a personal best in all that they do, while always being aware of those around them.

MVAC is a caring, happy school where each child is valued, nurtured and extended. I encourage you to come and visit us and see first-hand our wonderful school and students in action.

Mr Darren Parks, Principal

Junior School

Kindergarten to Year 6

It is important to have a good start in life, and our Junior School is committed to providing each student with a strong foundation on which to build a love of learning.

Our teachers are committed to nurturing the original spark that lies within each child, bringing them to their fullest potential. We want to see every child grow to be intellectually curious, persistent and eager to follow their aspirations.

We understand that literacy and numeracy are the foundation of academic success, and these are a focus of our teaching. However, we believe that ability is nothing without the right attitude. As such, we encourage young minds to develop a positive relationship with learning, by placing a strong emphasis on the social, athletic and emotional aspects of education. It is our ultimate goal to see students transition to further schooling, eager to seek out knowledge to achieve their own purposes.

Our Curriculum

NESA defines six Key Learning Areas, and our core curriculum recognises their importance, devoting the bulk of our class time to the following subjects:

English

Mathematics

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

Science and Technology

Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)

Creative and Practical Arts

We are also able to offer further unique learning experiences, reflecting our emphasis on spiritual and cultural guidance, with classes in:

Music

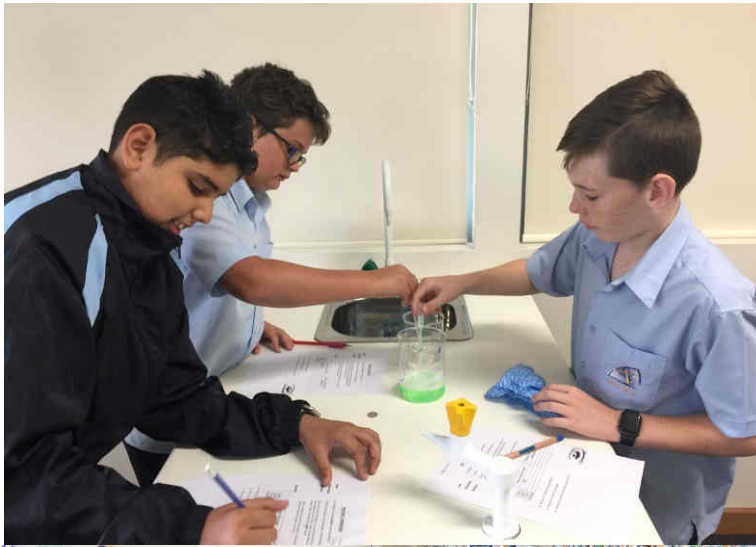
Christian Studies



Creativity

As a K-12 school, Primary students benefit from the experience of specialist Secondary teachers in specified subject areas.





Senior School

Years 7 - 10

The Senior School builds on the strong foundation developed in younger years, so that each child follows a continuum of education in an enriching and stimulating environment.

Students have the distinct advantage of individual attention, with ready access to excellent equipment, resources and technology. Our Secondary teachers work with students to develop them holistically, identifying their strengths and talents so that they are able to let their light shine.

As students move towards their Senior studies, the College offers a broad range of subjects which allow them to choose the direction that best suits them. Our aim is to assist each student to become an intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually grounded young person, in the College community and beyond.

Our Curriculum

From Years 7 to 10, students must meet the mandatory requirements determined by NESAS, New South Wales Educational Standards Authority. The following subjects form our core curriculum over those four years:

From Years 7 – 10

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Agriculture
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Christian Studies

From Years 7 - 8

- History and Geography
- Visual Arts and Music
- Technological and Applied Studies
- French Language and Culture

From Years 9 - 10

- Australian History and Australian Geography

Elective Subjects

Students in Years 9 & 10 have the chance to select a number of electives through which to carry on their studies in certain areas, including:

- Design and Technology
- Food Technology
- Visual Arts
- Commerce
- Drama
- Music
- Dance
- History



Facilities

The College rests on an extensive site on the northern edge of Cundletown, on the outskirts of Taree. Our existing buildings form part of an ambitious master plan allowing for future expansion. These facilities provide our students with modern, comfortable learning environments and resources.

Junior School

Each class within the Junior School has its own home room, allowing for a stable and familiar learning environment. Each room is outfitted with all the elements of a pleasant learning experience.

A separate, fully-fenced playground exists for students from Kindergarten to Year 2, including a sandpit, modern playground equipment and shade sails, to ensure they remain safe during play sessions.

Senior School

Students in the Senior School split their classes between various teaching spaces designed to complement the diversity of the secondary curriculum. In addition to general purpose classrooms, students make use of a fully equipped kitchen, Visual Arts room, materials workshop, music room and science labs, all with their own storage facilities.

Senior students are also able to make use of dedicated study spaces in the Senior building..

Secondary sport makes use of the school oval and nearby council-owned sporting facilities.

“Our classroom is really interesting and it has a cool setup. I love doing all the different activities and learning in a fun way.”



Compassion and Care

Confidence and Curiosity



Activities

College Activities

Our students are encouraged to participate in sporting activities throughout the year, through our annual Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country Carnivals, as well as join in with school sporting teams in various age groups from Year 3 onwards.

We also provide opportunities for students to express themselves through entering poetry, essay and art competitions, to join the Junior and Senior Choirs, the College Band, debating teams, drama clubs and dance troupes. Students can choose to explore in these pursuits through regional Eisteddfods or the bi-annual major production.

Interschool Activities

As a member school of the Hunter Region Independent Schools organisation, students at Manning Valley Anglican College have the chance to take on students from other HRIS schools, competing at the next level by representing the school at HRIS Sporting and Cultural events. Friendly sporting matches are also held

with other schools in the Taree area and the wider Mid North Coast from time to time, including the annual SCAS-MVAC Challenge with St Columba in Port Macquarie.

Service

Service to the community is an important part of the MVAC philosophy. Our students are involved in a number of schemes and projects which impact our local community, from donating blood and nature conservation to Clean Up Australia Day and forging relationships with the residents of nearby Bishop Tyrrell Place. The College plans to grow it's service of learning opportunities in the future.

Excursions

Excursions and camps form part of the College's strategy to keep learning engaging and relevant. Excursions are organised across a range of subjects, allowing students to conduct studies and gain practical knowledge in biology, chemistry, technology, geography, human society and more. These events also give them the chance to participate in sporting and cultural events in conjunction with other schools.

Teaching and Learning

At Manning Valley Anglican College, we are working towards a continuum of education from Kindergarten to Year 12, made possible by our staff working cooperatively to provide the best possible learning environment and exploring new ideas to keep our methods modern and relevant.

Our teaching and learning programs empower our teachers to assist each child one-to-one, tailoring programs to meet individual needs.

Students are assessed in a number of areas at the beginning of each year, then tracked to see their improvement over time. Under this program, we can identify areas in which the student excels or provide them with extra support in those areas where they may fall behind. We can also track the effect of any shift in our programming or curriculum on the students' educational outcomes, allowing us to select the best possible approach for each child.

Having identified their strengths and interests, we can provide them with stimulating tasks which play to their abilities and keep them both engaged and sufficiently challenged. In both the classroom and extra-curricular pursuits, students are encouraged to extend themselves, developing both socially and culturally.



Classroom Technologies

21st Century learners need to be technologically intuitive to succeed in the digital age. Computers are no longer just for offices and laboratories, they are in our pockets and in our schoolbags.

We are a BYOD school. In the Senior School students provide their own device provided that it meets minimum specifications. BYOD allows each child to have their device at hand for each lesson.



Excellence

Pastoral Care

Spiritual and personal development plays an important role within the College at every level. We are an Anglican school and the Christian ethos underpins our teaching and pastoral care.

Chapels and Services

The involvement of the local Anglican clergy, including our own dedicated Chaplain, allows us to run regular Chapel services for the school community as part of our weekly assembly, complementing lessons in Christian studies with practical instruction in the Anglican faith.

Students take part in a whole-school Eucharist and Holy Communion once per semester, providing them with a more formal experience in worship. Our end-of-year service is held at St John's Anglican Church in Taree.

Lastly, through our relationship with other schools in the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle, we are able to take part in a Schools Celebration Day each year, held at Christ Church Cathedral in Newcastle. This is a valuable opportunity for students to interact with their peers from across the Diocese.

Pastoral Lessons

The day commences with a Pastoral Care lesson. These sessions give teachers a chance to sit down with students in small groups and discuss topics such as goal setting and personal evaluation, signs of a healthy relationship and any issue which may be of concern to students.

Students are also encouraged to approach their teachers or the Chaplain at any time if they feel they are in need of personal or spiritual support.

“Chapel is really fun. We learn more about God, and I really like Mr Anderson’s stories.”



Resilience and Respect

Community

Parents are valued as partners in all facets of College life and there are many opportunities to get involved. Our parents are committed to the College, and their partnership and support is an important and welcome aspect of our community.

Parents and Friends

Our Parents and Friends Association is vital to the life of the College. Without the P & F many of the activities we hold could not take place. We are blessed with an enthusiastic and active Association that is supportive of the goals of the College, and who conduct and assist with a number of events including:

- Free dress
- Hamburger days
- Discos
- Easter raffles
- Christmas raffles
- Chocolate Drives
- Grandparents Day
- Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls
- Book Fair

and many fundraising ventures over the course of each and every year.

All parents and community members are welcome to join the Association.



“ Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much

- Helen Keller





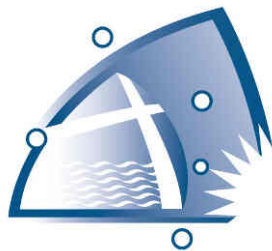
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*“If you want to go fast, go alone.
If you want to go far, go together.”
-African Proverb*



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