



The Knox School

CO-EDUCATIONAL | ELC TO VCE

P R O S P E C T U S

At The Knox School we value:

Achievement

Responsibility

Respect

Resilience

Care and Empathy



Welcome



At The Knox School, we understand that choosing the right learning environment for your children is one of the most significant decisions you will make as a parent, not only financially, but also emotionally.

At TKS, we view education as an holistic journey and a partnership. In taking this first step in considering TKS, you are taking the first steps in this important journey and forming the basis of the partnership which will continue and evolve throughout your child's years at TKS and life beyond.

Over the next few pages we hope to give you a flavour of what to expect as part of that exciting journey and introduce you the many elements of the vibrant learning village that you will discover at The Knox School. With an attractive campus, comprising ELC, Junior and Senior School, in Melbourne's leafy eastern suburbs; The Knox School offers students a unique, safe, and caring

learning community filled with opportunities to explore new passions and experience exciting challenges. The Knox School students are privileged to enjoy excellent learning facilities and be supported by outstanding teachers, who are leaders in their fields.

With a dedicated Personalised Learning strategy, at TKS, we help each student achieve their best, building on their strengths through intentional frameworks of learning and support across individual learning journeys designed to ensure the holistic growth of every student.

We have a commitment to small class sizes to provide greater engagement between teachers and their students. Our classroom sizes allow the building of strong relationships where students are known, understood and celebrated as unique individuals.

At TKS, your child will be known, will have a voice and be valued.

As a non-denominational learning community, our strong values underpin everything we do – Values of Achievement, Responsibility, Respect, Resilience, Care and Empathy. These values are embodied by our students who are proud to belong; upon graduation they will join the ranks of our alumni (The Falconians) who are changing the world in many wonderful ways. To make a difference for not only their own lives, but in those of others too.

Learning is an adventure that, as humans, we all engage in; it is a common but complex process. At The Knox School, we consider learning to be

not just a singular undertaking, but rather a journey on three levels.

The first journey is one with which we are all familiar; the knowledge journey. The transfer of knowledge and information is important, and it is easy to see every day in any given classroom. This knowledge is valuable, in fact it is essential. However, if we look a little closer, we will see that this is just the surface of activity in a TKS classroom. And what happens next is part of what makes us unique.

The second journey is a little more complicated to see, but in many ways, below the surface level activities, this is where the real learning takes place. It is here we focus on the development of skills: communication, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. The skills required for life of meaning and purpose. This learning is complex and can be challenging. Indeed, these skills are not developed in a singular lesson or classroom, but over time. As such, this development requires carefully planned sequences of learning experiences, which allow our students to wrestle with challenges and apply their skill set in different circumstances and complexities. Over time, we see them actively grow, not only in a specific subject or discipline, but in their overall capacity as learners.

The third journey is without doubt, the most complex, yet perhaps the most rewarding of all. This is where we find the gradual development of attributes and dispositions that influence the overall learning itself; at TKS, we focus on character and contribution. These fundamental attributes and dispositions determine how our students

respond to difficulty, uncertainty, and complexity, in the world around them.

Through an intentional focus on the development of character and contribution, our students are well positioned to advocate for themselves as learners, contribute to their own learning and that of others and thrive in the complex world around them. To 'ACT out their lives.' These are not just skills for the classroom, for today or even tomorrow. This is deep learning. Learning with real world meaning. Learning for life.

At TKS, we understand the responsibility we have in planning for and supporting our students through these three journeys. It is a creative and complex framework that is required to strike the correct balance for each of our students; to ensure the personalised learning experience.

The Knox School is a school beautifully positioned to grow and promote the learning and wellbeing of each student, so they can thrive and contribute in a complex and changing world; to become the architects and advocates of their future.

It is my privilege to lead the TKS community and I look forward to meeting you on campus when you visit our vibrant learning community.



Nikki Kirkup
Principal and Chief Executive



Three Schools *One campus*

The Knox School campus covers eight hectares, providing academic and co-curricular facilities to 770 students.

The Knox School has all sub-schools located on one campus:

ELC – 3 & 4 Year Olds

Junior School – ELC to Year 6

Senior School – Year 7 to Year 12

The Knox School is located on attractive grounds on Burwood Highway, between Stud Road and Mountain Highway in Wantirna South, Victoria. The School lies only 500 metres from the Burwood Highway interchange of the EastLink Freeway, making it easily accessible from most of Melbourne's eastern and southern suburbs.

The Knox School is well-serviced by a wide variety of transport systems and we offer several chartered bus routes from surrounding suburbs, comprising coach services run specifically for The Knox School and our own fleet of mini buses.



First *Class* Facilities

The first class facilities at The Knox School include the Information Common Building, a resource shared by the whole school, featuring a unique Multimedia Recording Studio, an IT Helpdesk, Libraries, Careers and Counselling Services and a Health Centre with a fully qualified nurse.

At The Knox School, technology plays a pivotal role in the daily life of our students. Digital Technologies are introduced from year 5 and are changing the way teachers teach and students learn. High speed wireless broadband connections are located throughout the entire School.

The 400 seat Auditorium is a modern and lively venue where students and their families come to celebrate student achievement, creativity and



talent during assemblies, productions and performances. The Auditorium also features a function space and an Art Gallery with student artwork on display.

Our Hospitality Centre is an industry standard facility featuring a wide variety of commercial equipment and a small café, allowing students to prepare and present their creative dishes and beverages.

Located throughout the grounds is a wide range of sporting facilities including an Olympic size, synthetic turf, floodlit hockey field; extensive ovals; tennis courts; basketball courts; grassed playing areas and a multi-purpose sports centre housing two indoor basketball courts, a fully-

equipped weights room and cardio room.

Our classrooms are spacious and filled with natural light. All rooms are heated and air-conditioned. Electronic whiteboards and projection equipment are available in all classrooms to enhance student learning. We offer customised Technology, art and design rooms to immerse students in robotics and virtual reality. Our modern Science Laboratories feature the very latest in scientific equipment including digital microscopes.



Learning to be at
SCHOOL

Junior School

The Junior School caters for students in the first stage of their formal education offering an ELC program for three and four year olds and classes for Prep to Year 6 students. Playgroup is also available in the Junior School.

The environment is warm and supportive, bright and vibrant – encouraging students to explore their surroundings and develop an appetite for learning and life.

The ELC program introduces our youngest children to the School in a program that draws on play and children's natural interests. Specialist classes in Performing Arts, Library and PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) are part of the curriculum. The ELC program allows children to make the transition to Prep very smoothly and with greater confidence.

From Prep to Year 6, students are introduced to a greater range of opportunities. The Specialist Program allows our specialist teachers to work closely with classroom teachers to develop a

curriculum that links concepts and skills across a range of topics.

Literacy and numeracy skills are a primary focus of the Prep to Year 6 program and integrated units are underpinned by Science, Health, Technology and Humanities. Years 5 and 6 are housed in a bright and colourful learning centre atop the Information Common building with plenty of space and light for collaborative learning and teaching.

Special days provide a focus for a different approach to learning such as our Oktoberfest where students participate in activities that consolidate class sessions and generate an interest in another culture.

The home-school connection is important in the Junior School and we welcome family members to the School on Special Persons' Day; to assist with School productions, assemblies and as classroom helpers during the term.

Year 7

Years 7 provides a seamless transition from the Junior School, building on the wonderful values-based programs established during the younger years.

Year 7 has a dedicated learning and transition centre catering for the needs of developing students by encompassing both individual year level classrooms and an open learning space. The centre space allows for innovative collaboration and the use of technology and electronic media.

The school day is structured to provide six periods of 50 minutes duration allowing for the inclusion of in-depth learning and consolidation within each lesson. In Year 7 the program will allocate a team of dedicated Year 7 specialists to provide engaging units of study. At all levels, specialist teachers will deliver a varied creative, artistic and technology-rich program.

In these important formative years, students' needs evolve and specialist staff are available for Pastoral Care and mentorship.

To improve self-confidence and personal growth, students are encouraged to further develop their public speaking and debating skills.

To facilitate the transition of the large number of students who will join the School at Year 7, The Knox School conducts Orientation Days for all incoming students to make them feel welcome and to allow them to experience the exciting times ahead.

The adolescent years offer a challenging time for many young people and our dynamic and unique School has at its core a curriculum focus on adolescent health and wellbeing. We aim to develop in our students, greater social and personal development, confidence, resilience and self-esteem.

While a dedicated team of staff ensures that key learning areas are met, there are a number of self-discovery programs that students will participate in – all programs that are very important as they deal with the varied challenges of adolescence in the modern world.

The School is sensitively staffed with a mixture of male and female teachers who are specifically trained to deal with young people.

Students experience programs such as the Tournament of Minds, the KEEP (Knox Educational Experience Program) city project, Outdoor Education, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award and our unique multidisciplinary elective program known as The Cube

The School allows students to enter the senior years with confidence in the uniqueness of self, in their talents and with their relationships. At this important stage in their schooling, students have developed an independence and belief in the dream of what they can achieve.



Establishing my place in a
BIGGER WORLD



POSITIONING
for the FUTURE

Upper Senior School

This is the final stepping stone for students as they position for their future.

The Knox School provides opportunities for our senior students to achieve academic success and to enhance their individual wellbeing, giving them the best possible start to life beyond school.

The Knox School's vision acknowledges enterprise, business acumen and the importance of preparing for the technology-based society of the 21st century.

The curriculum is constantly reviewed to be a reflection of the demands of our dynamic world.

Personal development is encouraged through many opportunities and we have an emphasis on development of a growth mindset, personal excellence, leadership and continual improvement. Our School's values encourage responsibility towards the environment, respect for our uniform, acceptance of others and tolerance of difference. It is our aim to develop in the young people who graduate from The Knox School a respect for citizenship, honesty, thoughtfulness, loyalty and a willingness to serve others.

Co-curricular programs, emphasising leadership and the acceptance of responsibility for others, underpin the School's values and practices. Leadership is developed through our School Captains, Prefects, House Captains, Music Captains and Peer Mentors.

Students are encouraged to participate in an extensive program of activities that centre on building self-confidence, public speaking skills,

improving organisational abilities and building sound personal relationships.

At The Knox School, size is our advantage. Class sizes enable students to receive the individual attention that they may need at this critical time.

The Knox School offers both VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) and VET (Vocational Education and Training) subjects to meet the prerequisites for tertiary and vocational training.

The VCE curriculum offers the choice of more than thirty subjects including three foreign languages. Our VET focus is on Hospitality and Multimedia, through membership of the Mullum Cluster and a range of other courses.

Leadership is central to the development of character for all our students. Our students are encouraged to speak publicly, to accept responsibilities in a variety of co-curricular activities and to join programs which specifically target the skills of leadership and good followership.

The development of leadership skills is fundamental to our ethos. Young people who support each other in all aspects of school life are likely to live and work together with purpose. Our School leaders are encouraged to support and care for their younger peers. Every student of The Knox School should feel secure and comfortable to seek help and advice from a School leader.

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a blue suit and a light blue shirt, is playing a cello. He is looking intently at the instrument. In the foreground, a music stand with white sheet music is visible. The background is slightly blurred, showing other instruments and the setting of a school orchestra.

*“At The Knox
School, there is
an expectation of
personal excellence.*

*Our students are
challenged every
day to be the
best they can
possibly be.”*

*“A large range of
co-curricular
opportunities
and activities
exist for students.*

*These include
anything from
sport to hospitality,
interschool
competitions and
a **strong focus**
on visual and
performing arts.”*



Curriculum

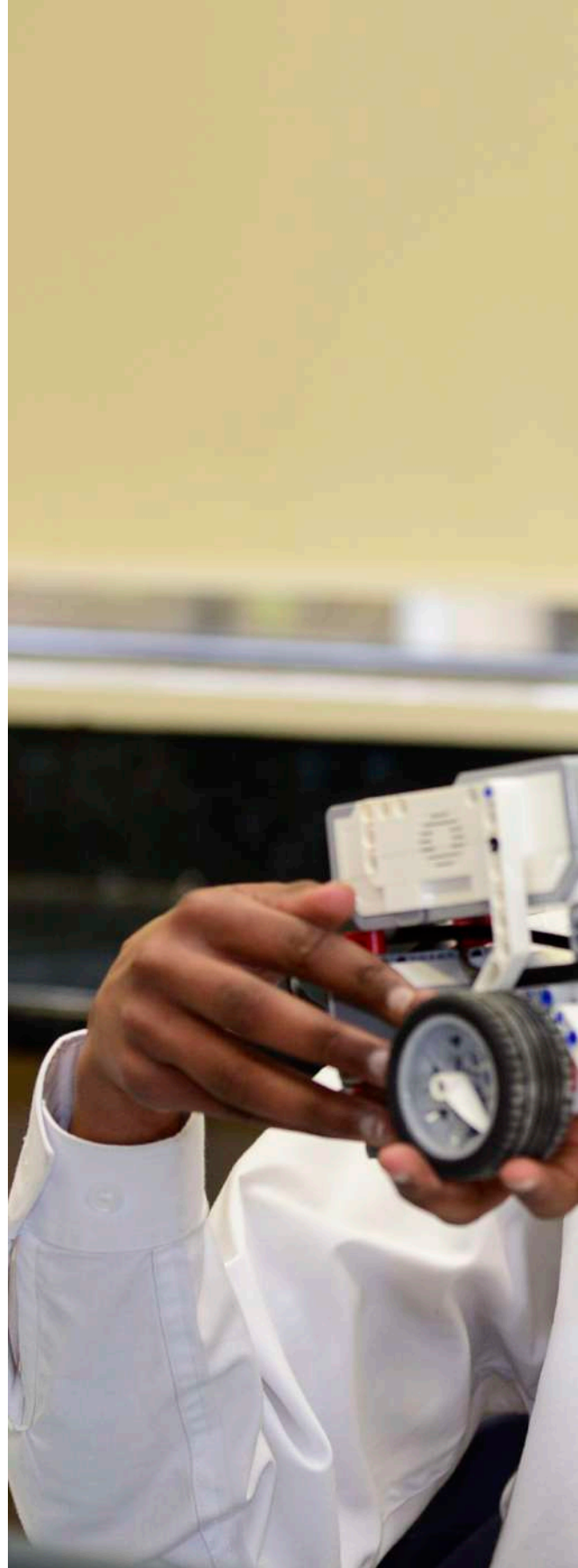
At The Knox School our mission is to enhance and develop the aspiring mind with a passion for life-long discovery and learning. The curriculum is the structure through which we deliver this mission.

Throughout the entire School we recognise the importance of the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and The Humanities and we aim to provide the opportunity for every individual to gain the satisfaction of realising their academic potential. From the support of our Assisted and Accelerated Learning Department to the challenge of enrichment programs, we strive to ensure that every student at every level is individually catered for.

The curriculum is designed to meet the challenge of preparing young people for the technology-based global society of the 21st century. We incorporate Learning Technology across a broad range of subjects including Multimedia, Robotics, Games Programming, Music Technology, Web Authoring, Graphic Design and Photography. Our unique multimedia facilities allow us to integrate this technology, utilising our fully equipped studio to create audio and visual recordings.

The curriculum is constantly reviewed to ensure that it continues to provide the optimum choice of subjects to suit the widely differing career paths and goals of individual students.

In the Junior School the curriculum is designed to challenge and stimulate young minds all while providing a strong focus on literacy and numeracy skills. The Senior School curriculum aims to improve students' self-confidence and to develop individuality.






Catering
for INDIVIDUALS

A young woman with dark hair in a braid, wearing a dark blue school blazer over a white collared shirt and a striped skirt. She is smiling and looking to her right. In the background, a young man with glasses, also in a school uniform, is looking forward. The setting is outdoors with trees and a stone wall.

*Working in partnership
with you*



The Power of Feedback

The Knox School is immensely proud of its place in the digital age. Across the entire school we have embraced the latest technology to enhance, not only our educational outcomes but to communicate with our community and to provide timely and up to date parent-school access.

Continuous Online Reporting is available to parents from Year 7 and above who can be kept informed of students' assessment tasks and their progress through them.

At any time during the year, they are able to see the task, the date due, the criteria for marking and the achieved result.

The reports are up to date with the progress of all subjects and results published a short time after the assessment task is completed and marked.

By seeing the criteria for marking, both parent and student can see where they need to improve and action can be taken immediately so that subsequent tests show improvement.

This Continuous Online Reporting system helps students improve in all areas of learning.



Co-Curricular Activities

Co-curricular activities are those that extend learning beyond the core curriculum. They are an essential and enjoyable part of school life for all students at The Knox School.

The School offers a wide range of co-curricular activities designed to enable all students to develop interests, skills and personal qualities that will enrich their lives now and in the future.

The co-curricular activities on offer at The Knox School are extensive and encompass Music, Performing Arts, Sport, Outdoor Education, Equestrian, Debating and Technology.

A highlight of our co-curricular program is the unique opportunity to learn a musical instrument from Year 2 to Year 7 at no extra cost.

Students at The Knox School have the opportunity to participate in School productions; large scale events that involve many students as dramatic or musical performers and backstage crew.

School concerts are exciting musical events and an opportunity for The Knox School to showcase our musical talent with performances by choirs, orchestras, concert bands, big bands, brass ensembles, percussion bands, rock bands and more.

The Knox School offers students the opportunity to participate in numerous professional and competitive events in local, national and international arenas. We have achieved state and national recognition in competitions such as the Tournament of Minds, and received international acclaim for our Music Ensembles.

Sport is also a significant part of our co-curricular offering. Students have the opportunity to experience a range of sports and compete with other independent, co-educational Melbourne schools in the Inter-school Sports Program.



Enriching
LIVES

Individual Care

The Knox School's personalised attention is not only a feature of our teaching but also extends to the care of our students. We provide a network to support students in every aspect of their study and personal life.

The Knox School offers a range of services to assist students with their academic and personal needs including:

- Subject selection
- Career guidance
- Counselling
- Pastoral care

- Academic support programs
- Medical assistance
- Access to holiday programs

The Assisted and Accelerated Learning Department provides support for students with special learning needs from Prep through to Year 12. As students have strengths and weaknesses and different learning needs, the student support program is tailored to suit the learning needs of individual students.

The Enrichment Program has been developed for gifted and talented students and is designed



to enrich and supplement the individualised learning already in place across the School.

Pastoral Care is concerned with the emotional, physical, intellectual and moral development of the individual student. Pastoral Care is important in all stages of transition, helping students develop a positive self-image, resilience and a feeling of belonging.

Individual counselling, group support, specialist program development, staff discussions and working with families are all used to enhance the continuing health and wellbeing of individuals

and the broader School community.

The Knox School has a strong House tradition. Every student is under the care of a Head of House. The Head of House is the first point of contact for students and parents and provides support and encouragement to extend students' wellbeing.

A feature of The Knox School is the intimate size of each sub-school where all students and their families are known to every member of staff. This creates a strong sense of belonging which supports the students through their various developmental stages.





Community

The Knox School community includes our students and families, staff, School Board, and our Alumni association.

Led by our Principal, Ms Nikki Kirkup, The Knox School staff consists of dedicated professionals who value the importance of a well-rounded education. They are caring, passionate, approachable and innovative.

Teachers maintain contact with parents throughout the year via regular parent-teacher interviews and reports, and contact via email. Parental involvement in the life of the School is encouraged and parents are welcome to seek further feedback and advice from teachers throughout the year.



The staff at The Knox School extend beyond the classroom with teachers and administrative personnel working together to provide our students with a pleasant, secure and safe learning environment.

The Knox School values the on-going support of our community and we work closely with all

members to ensure that our School is an active and established member of the wider community. The Knox School supports many charities and appeals throughout the year as a way of giving back to our community.



Discover the Difference

At The Knox School, we celebrate each person's unique spirit.

Students can explore their talents in a large number of ways: on the sporting arena, the concert platform, the hospitality kitchen, the performance stage.

A recent survey of our Senior students showed they are optimistic; connected to school;



encouraged by teachers and engaged in the process of learning.

One of our core values is Resilience, the mental or psychological skill to properly adapt to stress and adversity. In doing this we each draw upon the best in ourselves and those around us.

Building resilience involves creating the three things every parent wants for their child, every

teacher wants for their students, and every community wants for its young people: that is for children and teens to have **safe, happy and fulfilling** lives.





Thank you

Thank you for spending a few minutes of your time to consider The Knox School.

We invite you to take a personal tour of the School so that you can experience our wonderful facilities and meet our friendly staff and students.

Please contact our Registrar on 8805 3800 or email registrar@knox.vic.edu.au to arrange an appointment or to join our monthly School Tours led by our Principal, Heads of School and School Captains.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Staff & Students,
The Knox School

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