



Carey
Baptist Grammar School

Prospectus



Find your place



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which this document was created – the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation – and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We respect their Elders past and present and recognise the injustices endured by the First Nations peoples of this country.

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Welcome to Carey

In our complex and ever-changing world, it's clear that today's young people will be faced with a unique set of challenges in the future. To meet these challenges, fulfil their ambitions and contribute to the wider world, students need to be equipped with capabilities that will enable them to thrive in a changing environment.

At Carey, we understand that every child is unique, and that we must provide a range of different pathways to support the learning and growth of each student.

Guided by our Christian foundations, our values of Care, Respect and Growth underpin everything we do at Carey. Along with our school motto, *Amino et Fide*, which means 'by courage and

faith', we endeavour to approach every challenge and opportunity with our values in mind.

In these pages you'll find information about some of the most important aspects of the journey through Carey.

A balanced approach

The wellbeing of every student is at the heart of everything we do at Carey and our fully-integrated wellbeing program underpins all our activities. Through nurturing student wellbeing and supporting their individual interests, we foster an environment that enables students to achieve their best while also developing integrity, resilience and a social conscience.

'We understand that every child is unique, and that we must provide a range of different pathways to support the learning and growth of each student.'

– Jonathan Walter,
Principal

Jonathan talks about
our educational
philosophy



An education for the future

Co-education is a vital part of helping our students develop who they are from an early age and we are proud that our school maintains an even gender balance. By encouraging children to work effectively and respectfully with a diverse group of people, we are encouraging them to embrace differences and to learn to understand and empathise with others.

A complete education

While we are proud of our strong academic results, we also understand there's not only one script for success, and the pathway to personal fulfilment will look different for each student. Developing the whole student means looking beyond the traditional measures of success to also support and celebrate achievements of creativity, innovation, aspiration, community, curiosity and courage.

An exceptional learning environment

We have a strong commitment to creating a physical environment that is inspiring, sustainable and meets the needs of education

in the 21st century. We are fortunate to have access to five campuses – two learning campuses in Kew and Donvale, a sport complex in Bulleen, a dedicated Outdoor Education campus in Toonallook on the Gippsland Lakes and a base in Mission Beach, Queensland to support our Year 10 Carey Zero program (read more on page 27).

A thriving community

Over many years, Carey students have benefitted from the support that comes with being part of a large community. The ongoing and important contribution of our community enables the development and success of the young people in our care and is testament to our belief in a shared responsibility for creating tomorrow's thinkers, leaders and positive change makers.

I warmly invite you to join one of our regular tours or Open Mornings to learn more about the difference a Carey education makes.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Jonathan Walter
Principal



A balanced approach

'What distinguishes Carey's approach to teaching and learning is that we marry the academic with a focus on developing and understanding holistic competencies within our students. It's not just the core skills you're learning. Rather, you're learning how to be a successful and thoughtful learner and a successful and thoughtful human being.'



– Francesca Ohlert, educator



Student wellbeing

Student wellbeing is more important than ever, which is why we have a fully-integrated wellbeing program that underpins all learning at Carey. Students are pastorally cared for by mentors, and frequent House sessions are used to focus time on student wellbeing, building meaningful relationships between students and their peers and strengthening their connections with teachers.

The Student Wellbeing team at Carey is dedicated to the care and wellbeing of all students. The team includes School Nurses, School Psychologists, Student Guidance Co-ordinators, Wellbeing Project Co-ordinators and wellbeing administrators. This team works with the school section wellbeing leaders to develop a student wellbeing program that is safe, sequential and backed by evidence.

Each school section also has a dedicated chaplain who provides spiritual and wellbeing support and guidance.

Complex Competencies: new metrics for success

We believe that a future-focussed education must incorporate the development of the personal attributes and skills young people will need to thrive in our rapidly changing world. Alongside measuring student growth based on their performance in the classroom and in assessments, we formally recognise their development in seven specific competencies, in an ongoing research partnership with the University of Melbourne. These are skills, attitudes and values that enable learners to thrive and include: Agency in Learning, Acting Ethically, Active Citizenship, Communication, Collaboration, Personal Development and Quality Thinking.

The seven competencies are teachable, learnable, assessable and observable. They are used in formal classroom teaching as well as experiential learning to enhance students' abilities to achieve success.

The Complex Competency assessments will contribute to official learner profiles that students, educators and tertiary institutions can access to understand, holistically, each individual's strengths, abilities, motivations and potential contributions to the community both during and after their time at school. Through these new metrics and this research partnership, we aim to achieve what we call ATAR+, a more nuanced understanding of our students to aid them in their choices and success after their school journey.



[Read more about Complex Competencies at Carey](#)

An education for the future

'An education isn't just to get a good ATAR or climb a career ladder, but, actually, life is about wonder, beauty, curiosity and, most of all, relationships. That makes for a much richer life. Education awakens lifelong curiosity, it's more than just setting you up for a career.'



– Rev. Tim Costello AO, alum (1972)



Why co-education?

We believe the world shouldn't be segregated by gender.

It is not enough to suggest that girls learn one way and boys learn another when there are so many additional ways to define students that are interesting and important – like their strengths, passions, interpersonal skills and ability to collaborate and communicate. Our co-educational model enables us to offer a much broader program to all students.

Carey has a whole-school emphasis on respect, especially across genders, because we know it is crucial to the development of good people. We are committed to shaping young people who are ready to face the world with confidence, compassion and resilience and who can easily work with people of other genders.

Guiding young people in the development of healthy, respectful, collaborative relationships is most effective in a co-educational environment. It is through developing respect in the classroom, in the school yard, on the sports field, in the musical cast and on camp that functional relationships outside of school can be achieved.

As a proudly inclusive school, we provide a safe learning environment where all students can truly be themselves and can find their place and their passions. In shaping their own identities, it is important that our students grow alongside others, be witness to life experiences different to their own and learn to understand different viewpoints. When students are exposed to a wide range of perspectives and experiences, they learn to empathise and listen to others while also learning to express their own ideas in a supportive environment.

Co-education is an important part of our educational philosophy. We believe co-education is the best way to develop world-ready, confident and compassionate young people.

Read more about why co-education is the best choice for your child





Embracing individuality and diversity

In line with our Baptist values, we are a proudly inclusive community. Diversity matters to us.

We respect, celebrate and nurture individual, cultural and societal diversity. We recognise that individuals are unique and positively acknowledge and affirm the oneness and equality of humankind in all its dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, neurodiversity, physical ability and religious or political beliefs.

At Carey, we adopt a whole-school approach to providing an environment of mutual respect, fairness, equity and justice. We believe that all students, staff, parents and alumni should be treated with dignity and respect and we seek to provide an environment that is safe, supportive, inclusive and free from discrimination so that their physical, emotional and intellectual needs can be nurtured and developed.

We are committed to working with our community to implement and continually improve practices that foster diversity, inclusion and belonging within our school environment and within our community more broadly.





A complete education

'Being able to actually express yourself and who you are is really important to finding yourself.'

– Alex, Senior School student





The most important learning does not always happen in the classroom. The leadership skills established on outdoor education expeditions, the collaboration developed through musical ensembles or team sport, the empathy and critical thinking engaged through community service initiatives – these are all important to create balance and develop independent, motivated and well-rounded young people.



Academic excellence is a priority...

Each student is supported to strive for excellence in their studies. We know that not all students are inspired by traditional academic pathways, but we motivate and encourage them to be the best they can be. Our expert teachers, robust wellbeing program and focus on balance all work to allow students to grow across the learning program.

We provide the pathways that allow students to thrive, including an inquiry-based approach in Junior School, a wide range of elective subjects in Middle School, and IB and VCE in Senior School. As a result, we are proud that many of our students achieve some of the highest ATARs and IB scores in the state.



...but a Carey education is about more than just academic studies.



We strongly believe that every student should have the opportunity at school to develop their individual strengths and follow their passions, whether that be as academics, creators, innovators or athletes. At Carey, we understand that every child is unique, and that we must provide a range of different pathways to support the journey of each student.

As part of our co-curricular program, students can get involved in music, drama, community service, debating, theatre production, outdoor education, exchanges, sport and other non-competitive activities that promote physical activity, such as yoga, dance and bike riding.





Sport and activities

We offer a wide range of competitive sports, and we cater for both beginners and more experienced participants. All Carey students participate in physical activities based on their age and abilities, and all students from Years 5 to 12 participate in a compulsory co-curricular sport and activities program.

We compete in the Associated Public Schools (APS) or Associated Grammar Schools of Victoria (AGSV) competitions in the following sports: athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, cross country, diving, football, futsal, hockey, netball, rowing, snowsports, soccer, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, touch rugby, volleyball and water polo.

Performing arts

At Carey, we have an exceptional performing arts program that extends well beyond the classroom. We are a school that is known for producing impressive performances in both theatre and music. Many Carey students discover their passion for performance and continue to pursue it beyond their school years.

Students who are interested in music can be involved in bands, orchestras, choirs, chamber groups and contemporary ensembles. These groups have many opportunities to perform throughout the year. We offer extensive instrumental and vocal tuition from specialists who are experts in their field.



Outdoor education

Our extensive outdoor education program offers unique experiences and creates lasting memories.

We believe that learning beyond the classroom is important to student development and growth, so from Years 4 to 10 our students journey to various rural locations for exciting and fun outdoor activities, challenges and adventures. In Year 11, students have the opportunity to attend a younger year level's camp as a student leader.

Spending extended amounts of time in the outdoors helps students to develop greater resilience, independence and self-confidence. They learn how to respect the natural environment and interact with it responsibly. They face age-appropriate physical and social challenges that encourage personal growth through collaboration and problem solving.



Giving back

Throughout the learning journey at Carey, community service and social justice make up an important part of student growth. Through connections with refugee communities, First Nations communities and a huge array of charitable organisations, our students develop a broader perspective of the world and an understanding of their responsibility to give back to their local and global communities.

An exceptional learning environment

We have a strong commitment to creating a physical environment that is inspiring, sustainable and meets the needs of education in the 21st century.

To support the learning program, we recognise the importance of innovative facilities, inspiring resources, purpose-built spaces, sustainable building practices and a sense of connectedness across our campuses.

Carey has five campuses: ELC to Year 6 at the Donvale campus, ELC to Year 12 at the Kew campus, our Bulleen Sports Complex, our Outdoor Education facility on the beautiful Gippsland Lakes and our Carey Zero base at Mission Beach in Queensland.





Kew campus

At the Kew campus, the Early Learning Centre and Junior, Middle and Senior Schools each have their own dedicated and purpose-built areas for learning, collaboration and play.





Centre for Creativity and Collaboration

The newest addition to the Kew campus is the Middle School's Centre for Creativity and Collaboration, with award-winning educational architecture.



Centre for Learning and Innovation

The impressive CLI is primarily used by our Senior School. It features modern, best-practice learning spaces and is crowned by our UN Room.



Take a virtual tour of our Kew campus





Take a virtual tour of our Donvale campus



Donvale campus

The Donvale campus provides students from Early Learning to Year 6 with facilities that blend seamlessly with the surrounding natural bushland and the adjoining Mullum Creek. Small class sizes, the beautiful native bush surroundings and a strong sense of community are the cornerstones of our Junior School – Donvale campus.





Early Learning Centre

'We really want the children to be able to say "I can" when they move on to their next step.'

– Anne Fahey, Director of ELC – Donvale campus





Our three and four-year-old programs provide an inspiring, fun and supportive learning environment.

Carey's Early Learning Centre (ELC) at both our Kew and Donvale campuses offers three and four-year-old kindergarten. Our ELC program is designed to provide inspiring, fun environments where children feel nurtured, supported and engaged in their learning and play.

ELC – Donvale campus

The Donvale campus offers a unique learning experience surrounded by beautiful native bushland. This bushland provides us the opportunity to offer our fully integrated Bush Kinder program, where ELC students explore, investigate and learn about the abundance of flora and fauna they can find there.

During Bush Kinder sessions, children encounter and engage with the natural environment, establish a meaningful relationship with it and develop their curiosity, resilience and sense of agency.

ELC – Kew campus

Our ELC students enjoy their own purpose-built, separate section within the Kew campus. This allows for the future years of schooling to be anticipated with enthusiasm and for older students to visit the ELC for special performances, reading or sports activities.

**Find out more about our
Early Learning program**



Junior School

'The best thing about Carey has been the opportunities they provide for all the students ... Everyone is so supportive and they really care about the students and where they're going in life.'

– Georgia Tayler, alum (2022)





Our Junior School provides a nurturing and supportive environment for students completing Prep to Year 6.

The Junior School campuses at Donvale and Kew are vibrant, busy and welcoming. Our inquiry-based learning approach and tailored curriculum allow each student to develop at their own pace, providing the challenges, encouragement and support every child needs to thrive.

In the classroom, students have specialist classes every week in addition to their daily literacy and numeracy classes. These specialist classes are Art, Music, Chinese, PE, Library, Integrated Studies (Humanities, Physical, Personal and Social Learning) and CARE (Community and Religious Education).



Learn more about the Junior School experience at Carey



Carey is a Member School of Associated Public Schools of Victoria (APS). From Year 5, students participate in an APS sport of their choice. This program gives students the chance to work in teams, develop their athletic skills, meet students from other schools and be part of a supportive community.

Upon completing Year 6 at Donvale and Kew, students gain automatic entry to Middle School for Year 7 at Kew. Moving from Junior School to Middle School is a big step and the familiarity students will have with Carey from Junior School makes the transition smooth and exciting.

Middle School



'I regard Carey as a very caring community ... I had some wonderful teachers who were very caring individuals and real role models for me. And I think that gives you a sense of what's important in life.'

– Justice Rowan Downing KC, alum (1970)



Years 7 to 9 are an exciting time of discovery, exploration and development.

Middle School at Carey is made up of Years 7, 8 and 9, and is based at our Kew campus. These years are focussed on making connections, finding passions and developing independent, motivated students.

The transitions from Junior School and to Senior School are managed carefully and sensitively for our Year 7s and Year 9s. Before their first or last day arrives they will already feel a part of their new Carey environment. Our Middle School is separate but not isolated from our Junior and Senior Schools, allowing for cross-age activities and connections.

Middle School is an important and exciting time of discovery, exploration and the social and emotional development of our young people. The curriculum and environment are tailored to their particular needs, with a wide range of elective subjects for students to choose from, a strong focus on wellbeing and real-world learning experiences.



Discover the wide range of elective subjects available in Middle School



Senior School



Years 10 to 12 represent the culmination of the school journey, with all its growth, development and learning.

At Carey, we provide Senior School students with an environment specifically designed to help them become self-directed, lifelong learners and independent, motivated members of society.

We offer a pathway through school to suit every learner. In Year 10, students choose from a wide range of subjects, helping them to find their strengths and interests and guide their decisions for their final years of school. In Years 11 and 12, students can choose to study the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma or the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

Whichever pathway our students choose, our expert teachers and wide range of subjects ensures that Senior School is rich in challenges and experiences to stimulate and engage the students.



IB or VCE? If you're not sure about which pathway to choose, read this





Carey Zero

Carey Zero is a full-year subject for all Year 10 students that is made up of two components: Zero at Kew, an immersive classroom subject that nurtures students' physical, mental, social, spiritual and academic wellbeing, while also fostering leadership and essential life skills; and the Zero Journey, a three-week expedition to northern Queensland. The program offers an exciting opportunity for all students to learn about environmental sustainability and our responsibility for the land we live on.

During the three weeks of the Zero Journey, students undertake conservation work and participate in important environmental research projects with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy at their Mount Zero-Taravale Wildlife Sanctuary, learn about the Great Barrier Reef at James Cook University's Orpheus Island Research Station, and develop a deeper understanding of our country's history with the Nywaigi people at the Mungalla Cattle Station.



[Find out more about Carey Zero](#)





A thriving community

'I love being part of the Carey community. It's not just a school, it feels like a family to me. As a student, everyone was looking out for me and I had lots of opportunities ... and now I know that my children's wellbeing and mental health is being taken care of.'

– Shirley Lam, parent and alum (1994)





Community groups

Carey is a positive and engaged community made up of students, staff, families, alumni, donors and friends.

We have a strong school community that provides a breadth of opportunities for students. This connection continues to evolve and grow as generations of students come through the School, before leaving to become active, positive contributors to others and the world around them.

Lifelong friendships are formed at Carey, and not only among the students and staff. Parents who participate in activities and support groups also make lasting friendships and there is a broad range of sporting and interest groups that not only provide important support to activities, but also provide enjoyment and social occasions for parents and students alike.

There are many opportunities for parents to become involved at Carey. We have four school section-based Parents Associations who provide a support network and regular social events for parents and friends.

A number of community groups across sport, music and performing arts help to organise events and raise funds for student programs and activities. We also have a dedicated group to support our international student community and their families.

Carey maintains a close relationship with its alumni community. We engage with our 12,000 members through social events and regular reunions. Old Carey Grammarians also have the opportunity to connect through other initiatives such as business and career sessions, sports and performing arts clubs, and giving back through social impact, mentoring and speaking opportunities.

Meet our community and find out more about life at Carey





Kew campus

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