



Mount Barker
Community College



PARENT HANDBOOK

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Welcome to Mount Barker Community College

Established in 2008, Mount Barker Community College was born from the community belief that the educational needs of our students would be better served by having one K-12 college. It was formed by joining the former Mount Barker Primary School (Est. 1921) and the former Mount Barker Senior High School (Est. 1962).

MBCC is a rural campus serving the needs of our diverse local community, and capturing students within a 70 km radius.

We extend the opportunities for our community's children right across the spectrum from pre-kindy programs, with the Child Health Centre on campus, right through their learning journeys to individualised pathways in our senior school utilising our Registered Training Organisation status. We offer VET Certificates on our college farm, in our Trade Training Centre, and have a significant number of students completing School-Based Traineeships.

Our community takes pride in supporting our students through many partnerships and workplace opportunities. We acknowledge our cultural diversity with our increasing Afghani student enrolments and our proud local Noongar history.



Our Values



Together We Strive

The whole college community shares values and works in partnership to achieve success for all.

Excellence

Quality teaching and learning is expected, recognised and celebrated for all.

Belonging

Fostering strong caring relationships in a safe and inclusive environment where we all feel encouraged respected and valued.

Community

A culture where our college and community are interconnected to benefit all

Meet Our Principals



Leanne Prior

Principal



Pamela Felton

Associate Principal - Year 10 to 12



Callum Gribble

Associate Principal - Year 7 to 9



Rebecca Smyth

Associate Principal K to 6



Peter Dines

Deputy Principal K-6



Sasha Claughton

Deputy Principal K-6

To reach any of our staff members, please contact the office, and they will connect you with the appropriate person.



Communication



Connect - Year 7 to 12

Connect is an online platform created by the Department of Education for staff, students, and parents. It is used to deliver educational content through an online classroom. Students can share their learning and submit assignments from anywhere at any time.

Key Features of Connect:

- Provides easy access to important information including reports, assessment results, and attendance records;
- Ensures families are kept informed of essential updates.

To access Connect:

Download the Connect Now app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.
Obtain login details from our helpful office staff.



Compass

Compass is a our school management system that allows parents and carers to access up-to-date information about MBCC and your student's progress. Compass includes many different features, including the ability to:

- Monitor your student's attendance, and enter an explanation for absence or lateness;
- Communicate with your student's teachers, and update your family contact details;
- View your student's timetable and the school calendar;
- Provide consent for events.

To access Compass:

Download the Connect Now app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.
Obtain login details from our helpful office staff.

Mount Barker Community College

Phone: (08) 9851 5800

Email: MountBarker.CC@education.wa.edu.au

Absentee Email: MountBarker.CC.away@education.wa.edu.au



ClassDojo

ClassDojo is used in the K-6 school area to share learning moments through photos, videos, messages, and more. Families can join by signing up for a parent account on ClassDojo. You can use it on any device. It's a simple, free mobile app for iOS and Android, and can also be accessed from your computer.



Facebook

Mount Barker Community College's Facebook page is a great place to stay informed about what is happening at MBCC. From celebrating our students' achievements to keeping you in the loop with updates and upcoming events. Join the fun and follow us.

Facebook @MountBarkerCommunityCollegeWesternAustralia

Newsletter

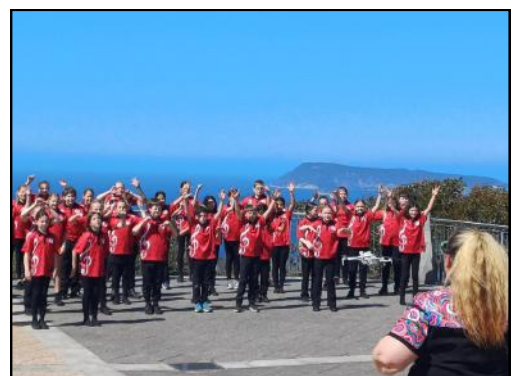
Our fortnightly newsletter showcases various college events, achievements, the term planner and includes updates from our Principal. The newsletter is sent via Compass to your email, phone and can be found on our website.



College Website

Our website is a central source of information for parents, students, staff, and community members of Mount Barker Community College. It provides access to our college calendar, newsletters, and showcases our diverse college community. Explore the website for opportunities and resources supporting student growth and community connections.

<https://mountbarkercommunitycollege.wa.edu.au>



Bell Times

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

Period 1	8:50am - 10:00am
Period 2	10:00am - 11:00am
Recess	11:00am - 11:20am
Period 3	11:20am - 12:25pm
Lunch	12:25pm - 1:00pm
Period 4	1:00pmm - 2:05pm
Period 5	2:05pm - 3:10pm

Wednesday

Please note that on Wednesdays, there are changes to the bell times, and we have early close. This adjustment is made to accommodate form classes for our high school students, and time for professional development and staff meetings in the afternoon.

	K- 6	7 - 12
Form	No form	8:50 - 9:05am
Period 1	8:50am - 9:55am	9:05am - 9:55am
Period 2	9:55am - 10:50am	9:55am - 10:50am
Recess	10:50am 11:10am	10:50am 11:10am
Period 3	11:10am - 12:05pm	11:10am - 12:05pm
Period 4	12:05pm - 1:00pm	12:05pm - 1:00pm
Lunch	1:00pm - 1:35pm	1:00pm - 1:35pm
Period 5	1:35pm - 2:30pm	1:35pm - 2:30pm



Student Attendance

Students benefit from consistent attendance at school to optimise their learning experience. By attending regularly, children can reinforce their learning and fully grasp new concepts. Moreover, consistent school attendance aids in the development of confidence, social skills, resilience, and teamwork among students.

If your student is absent, kindly notify the college by:

- Responding to the text message link sent to your phone
- Use the Compass App
- Email: mountbarker.cc.away@education.wa.edu.au
- Phone: 9851 5800

We follow up on all unexplained absences. This may be done by phone call, email, or by sending letters home. For continuous absences, medical certificates are necessary.

Arriving Late and Leaving Early



Late to school?

Students who arrive late to school must get a late note. They can print their late notes at the Student Services office, while parents or guardians can request late notes from the Front Office. The late notes should then be given to the classroom teacher.

Leaving early?

If a student needs to be picked up during school hours, K-6 families should visit the Front Office for a leave pass.

Students 7-12 can sign out through Student Services with permission from their parent or guardian.



College Uniform

The Mount Barker Community College uniform was developed in consultation with the College Board and members of our college community including our students.

Our uniform plays a part in supporting college values and establishing a sense of belonging and identity for our students. It also promotes positive personal presentation and work ethic. Uniforms are available to purchase from Duggins, 33 Lowood Road, Mount Barker.

Students are expected to wear college uniforms. Please clearly label uniforms with student name.

K-6 Uniform

- Black pants, skirt, skort or shorts
- Red polo shirt with logo
- Faction shirt (sports)
- Red checked dress (K-3)
- Red polo fleece jumper
- Black and red hoodie with logo
- Black and red zipper jacket with logo
- Red bucket hat
- Enclosed shoes/backed sandals with non-slip soles

7-12 Uniform

- Black shorts, skirt, skort or pants
- Red and black polo shirt with logo
- Black and red hoodie with logo
- Black and red jacket with logo
- Black bucket hats
- Year 7-12 students should bring a change of clothing for P.E
- Mouth guards for contact sports
- Enclosed shoes with non-slip soles

Formal Uniform

- Black formal pants, skirt with stockings White collared shirt
- College blazer with logo
- Black leather shoes

Trade Training Centre Uniform

- Long sleeve cotton workshirt
- Long cotton pants
- Work boots

Please note –

- Discrete jewellery may be worn, subject to safety considerations
- In practical areas long hair needs to be tied back or suitable headwear worn
- Students must wear non-flammable clothes and relevant PPE for Technology, Farm and Science areas where there is machinery, heat, chemicals, or open flame



Positive Behaviour



At Mount Barker Community College, we pride ourselves on supporting personal excellence in our students and we are active in seeking opportunities for enrichment through clubs, camps, excursions, incursions and community service.

We place great value on our students feeling safe and included as we strive to enhance their learning journeys through a range of experiences both in and beyond our college environment.

With opportunities come responsibility and for this reason, students at our college need to embrace Good Standing and our expected PBS Behaviours, and strive to achieve their personal best.



MBCC Behaviour Expectations	Be Your Best <i>Confidence</i>	Be Resilient <i>Persistence</i>	Be Responsible <i>Organisation</i>	Be Respectful <i>Getting Along</i>
<i>In our College and community we...</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participate in all activities to the best of our abilities are good role models seek to improve demonstrate a "You Can Do It" attitude 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognise and manage our emotions accept that there is more than one way to succeed maintain an optimistic approach to challenges join in community events rise above / ignore / seek support for online trolling try new things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> choose to behave safely and report unsafe behaviour to protect others take care of our well-being stay in our designated areas put our rubbish in the correct bin return items to the correct location and in the same condition follow bus and road rules follow game rules use technology, including social media, appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> acknowledge traditional custodians of our land accept and celebrate differences listen attentively to others follow staff instructions promptly follow College dress code keep noise at an appropriate level treat College property and the natural environment with care follow venue rules and procedures when representing the College
<i>In our classroom we...</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> set goals and strive to achieve them take pride in our work stay on task and complete work in the set time seek feedback and act on it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> remain calm and positive in all situations collaborate and cooperate effectively persevere and never give up show patience celebrate everyone's achievements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> arrive on time bring essential equipment submit our own work on time are organised and ready to learn adhere to "off and away all day" (devices) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are polite and courteous use appropriate and respectful language and tone are considerate of others care for ourselves and our belongings support everyone's right to learn

Doyntj-Doyntj Ngalak Warn Kobadjil*
"Together We Strive"

Mobile Device Policy

The Department of Education does not permit students to use mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher-directed educational purposes. This includes the use of headphones and smartwatches.

Families can contact students by ringing the front office to leave a message. Students who need to contact parents urgently can access phones at the Front Office after getting permission from Office Staff.



Mobile Device Policy

Mount Barker Community College discourages students from bringing mobile phones or smart watches to school. However, if a parent chooses to provide their child with one for safety reasons, the device must not be accessed during the school day.

To support this, students may hand their devices in at Student Services upon arrival and collect them at the end of the school day. Devices will be stored securely during this time. Students who choose not to utilise this option do so at their own risk, and the school accepts no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged items.

Expectations

- All devices must be turned off or set to aeroplane/school mode upon arrival at school.
- Students are encouraged to hand in devices to Student Services for safekeeping.
- If a student is found using a mobile phone or a smart watch during the school day, the device will be confiscated and taken to Student Services for safekeeping.

Breach of Procedure

First and Second Breach:

- The student must hand their device to the staff member immediately.
- The staff member will deliver it to Student Services, where it will be logged.
- The student may collect the device at the end of the day.

Third and Subsequent Breaches:

- The same process will apply.
- A parent or guardian will collect the device from Student Services.
- The device will not be returned directly to the student.
- Repeated breaches may result in further consequences and or loss of privileges.

Serious Misuse

Any student found using a mobile phone or smart watch to record, share, or upload images or videos of students, staff, or parents on school premises may be suspended.

Failure to surrender a device when instructed will result in escalation to the relevant Associate Principal for follow-up.

Contributions and Charges

Each year, Mount Barker Community College publishes a Contributions and Charges Booklet, which outlines the costs associated with educating our students. These contributions directly support the delivery of quality educational programs and enhanced learning opportunities.

We strongly encourage families to make payment, as this funding is vital for resourcing classroom activities, materials, and specialist programs. In addition to these contributions, compulsory charges may apply for electives and programs that require specific consumables or additional resources beyond the core curriculum.

Statements detailing the upcoming year's charges will be issued to families by December 1. All Contributions and Charges are approved by the College Board and made available two months before the start of the school year to allow families time to plan.

Payment Options

Electronic Funds Transfer (Preferred Method)

Payments can be made via EFT to the following account:

Account Name: Mount Barker Community College

BSB: 633 000

Account Number: 115 451 163

Reference: Student surname/fees (or surname/reason for payment)

Cash or EFTPOS

- Payments can be made in person at the Front Office or Student Services.
- We also accept credit card payments over the phone by calling 9851 5800

Payment Plans

Families are welcome to set up a payment plan by completing a Direct Debit Authority Form or arranging a personalised schedule with our Student Services team.



Student Services

The Student Services team is important to enhancing the school experience for our students. Committed to helping students achieve their full potential, the team focuses on supporting their social, emotional, mental, and educational well-being.

The MBCC Student Services Office serves as the primary point of contact for students in need of assistance. Staffed by knowledgeable, caring professionals from the Student Services team, it addresses various student and family needs. The services provided include:

- Lost property
- Timetable printing for students
- Managing attendance records
- Communicating with parents/carers regarding student health, messages, or unexplained absences
- Offering general health and well-being support for students
- Connecting students and parents with relevant resources for a positive school experience.

The Student Services team also comprises a College Psychologist, Secondary School Nurse, Primary School Nurse, College Chaplain, Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers (AIEO), and administrative staff. Together, they create a strong support system for our students. To get in touch with anyone on the team, please phone 98515800.

School Bus Service

MBCC families have access to a school bus service that transports students up to 70km to the college. To be eligible, students need to register online at www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au and receive approval from the Public Transport Authority (PTA) before commencing travel. Should you require any support, please reach out to the college.

Students K-6

- Young students are on a bus list and will be checked off every day. If they are not traveling on the bus, families must provide a note or a phone call to the office before 2:00pm

Students 7-12

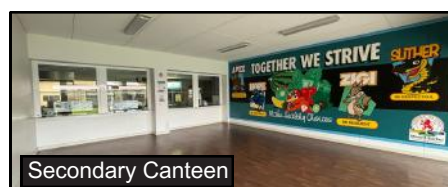
- It is up to the student to inform their bus driver if they are not traveling on the bus. The bus driver will not wait for these students to arrive for the bus

Booklists

During Term 4, the booklists for the following year will be available on our website, email and in paper form from Student Services. Details of how to order will be on the forms provided.

P&C Canteen

The Mount Barker Community College P&C Canteen provides an array of food choices for recess and lunch. The best way to place a lunch or recess order is through the Flexischools app or website. Food is delivered to classrooms for students from Kindergarten through to Year 3. Students in Year 4 and above can collect their orders from our friendly canteen staff.



The Frances Wright Library



The Frances Wright Library is open from Monday to Friday, from 8:30am. Explore our library resources anytime through the online Oliver Library Catalogue, accessible 24/7 via our website.

During operating hours, library officers are available to assist with book selection, borrowing, and general inquiries.

In addition to book borrowing services, the library offers computer access, private study areas, video conferencing facilities, and SIDE lessons.

Aside from fiction, non-fiction, and reference materials, the library provides current curriculum-related resources, a collection of comics and popular magazines, and a variety of quiet games and activities for students to enjoy during lunchtime.



Community Involvement

Workplace Learning (WPL)

Students in Senior Secondary as part of their courses, can do workplace learning (WPL). If you can offer a workplace opportunity to a student or wish to know about this program please contact the office to be directed to our WPL coordinator.



Community Service

Community Service encourages volunteering for students to give back to the community through various activities. It offers opportunities to develop skills, expand social networks, boost confidence, and showcase initiative to future employers. Completing 50 hours of service and a work booklet can earn students a 'C' grade towards their WACE. It is a rewarding experience benefiting both individuals and communities.



College Board

The Mount Barker Community College Board collaborates with the school community to enhance student outcomes. It aims for representation across different parent groups and includes staff and community members. The Board contributes to effective school governance, making decisions on matters like fees and dress codes. Meetings are held once a term, and public attendance is allowed as observers.

MBCC P&C

The Mount Barker Community College Parents & Citizens Association usually meets once a month at 6:30pm in the MBCC Staffroom. You can attend in person or via a web link. The P & C meeting provides an important forum for a two-way flow of information between the college and parents. The role of our P & C is to develop strong partnerships between parents and the college, to support parenting, to fundraise to extend the curriculum and improve the college environment for all. You can follow the Mount Barker Community College Parents And Citizens Committee on Facebook.





Families and Volunteers On Site at MBCC

We love having parents, carers, and volunteers visit our college to support our students! To keep everyone safe and ensure we know who is on-site in case of an emergency, we ask that all visitors sign in and out at the Front Office.

When Must You Sign In?

Monday to Friday: 8:50 am – 3:00 pm

Wednesdays: 8:50 am – 2:20 pm

Please note that Student Services is not a sign-in point for visitors.

Visits During School Hours

Visitors are permitted on campus during school hours for the following purposes:

- Meetings or appointments
- Parent help
- Paying accounts or seeking information
- Dropping off or collecting items or students

Dropping Off Items or Bringing Students in Late?

If you need to drop off a forgotten lunch, uniform, or bring your child in late, please come to the Front Office.

Please do not proceed directly to classrooms or to Student Services.

What about Assemblies, Book Fairs, Sporting Events and Other Large Group Activities?

You do not need to sign in when you have been invited to a large group event at the college such as an assembly, carnival, or special function.

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