

Mount Barker Community College

YEAR 7 INFORMATION HANDBOOK





Welcome to Year 7 at MBCC

We are delighted to welcome our Year 7 students and families to Mount Barker Community College.

Starting secondary school is a big milestone, and we know it can feel exciting and a little daunting. That's why our Year 7 model is designed to bridge the gap between primary and secondary school, giving students the best of both worlds.

At MBCC, we help students build confidence as they take the next step in their learning. They spend 10 periods each week with their homeroom teacher, giving them the security of a classroom base and a teacher who really gets to know them. With dedicated Year 7 support staff and their own spaces to learn and play, students are well supported as they settle into secondary school life.

At the same time, students begin exploring everything secondary school has to offer. They learn from specialist teachers in subjects such as Agriculture, Materials and Technology, Media Arts, Home Economics and more, while gradually building the independence and organisation they'll need in the years ahead.

By the time students move into Year 8, they're confident navigating secondary school because they've had a full year to develop those skills with the guidance of teachers who know them well.

As a Kindergarten to Year 12 college, we're proud of our strong sense of community. Whether students have been with us since Kindergarten or are joining us from one of our partner primary schools, they quickly become part of a College where they are known, valued and encouraged to get involved.

Year 7 is about making new friends, discovering new interests and taking on new challenges. From sport, music and agriculture to leadership, camps and clubs, there are countless opportunities for every student to have a go and find where they belong.

We know students achieve their best when schools and families work together. This handbook has been designed to answer your questions and help your family prepare for this exciting next step.

Janine Keall
Principal

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Our Vision and Values



Dear Year 7's for 2027

Welcome to Year 7!

As your Year 7 teachers, we know that starting secondary school brings a mix of excitement, curiosity and maybe even a few nerves. That's completely normal.

Whether you're continuing your journey at MBCC or joining us from one of our partner primary schools, we're looking forward to getting to know you. Many of you will already recognise familiar faces from local sport, community events or friends you've met along the way, and it won't take long before you feel part of the Year 7 group.

Our job is to help you settle in, learn the ropes and enjoy everything that secondary school has to offer. There will be new subjects to explore, different teachers to meet and plenty of opportunities to challenge yourself, discover new interests and make lasting friendships.

Don't worry if you don't know where every classroom is or if you forget something in the first few weeks, we expect that! Ask questions, give things a go and remember that we're here to help. Every Year 7 student starts somewhere, and before you know it, you'll be helping next year's Year 7s find their way.

We can't wait to welcome you to Year 7 and be part of this exciting next chapter.

Year 7 Teachers
MBCC

Your First Day of Year 7 at MBCC

Starting Year 7 is a big milestone, and we're excited to welcome you to the secondary school at Mount Barker Community College.

On your first day, you'll meet your Year 7 teachers and our Student Support team in A Block. This will be your home base for the morning and the place to go if you have any questions or need a hand. During this time, you'll meet some of the key people who will support you throughout the year, learn about what to expect in Year 7 and find out how the school day works.

There'll be plenty of opportunities to ask questions, meet new classmates and start building friendships.

Our goal is to make your first day relaxed, enjoyable and help you feel at home at MBCC.

What do I need to bring?

You don't need to bring everything from your book list on the first day.

Please bring:

- A pencil case with pens, pencils, an eraser, ruler, highlighters and other basic stationery.

- Your recess and lunch, or money/card if you'd like to purchase something from the canteen.
- A water bottle.

Most importantly, wear your school uniform, bring a smile and be ready to have a great first day!

Looking Ahead – Rottnest Camp

One of the highlights of Year 7 is our Rottnest Camp, held in Term 3.

This week-long camp gives students the chance to build friendships, grow in confidence and experience a little more independence. Through a range of outdoor activities and learning experiences linked to Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), students develop teamwork, resilience and a stronger connection with their classmates.

For many students, Rottnest Camp becomes one of their favourite memories of Year 7. We can't wait to share the experience with you!



Making Sense of the Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1			7 Form (7FORM2) Room: A2 epianto		
2 8:50 AM - 9:55 AM	7 Physical Education (7PE2) Room: RECC1 sgaudion	7 Maths (7MAT1) Room: R7 wboston	7 Farm (7FARM2) Room: F1 tcroft	7 HASS (7HASS2) Room: A2 epianto	7 Drama (7DRAMA2) Room: A7 epianto
3 9:55 AM - 11:00 AM	7 Maths (7MAT1) Room: R7 wboston	7 HASS (7HASS2) Room: A2 epianto	7 English (7ENG2) Room: A2 epianto	7 Maths (7MAT1) Room: R7 wboston	7 English (7ENG2) Room: A2 epianto
4					
5 12:00 PM - 12:25 PM	7 English (7ENG2) Room: A2 epianto	7 Farm (7FARM2) Room: F1 tcroft	7 Science (7SCI2) Room: R17 wboston	7 Science (7SCI2) Room: R17 wboston	7 HASS (7HASS2) Room: A2 epianto
6			7 HASS (7HASS2) Room: A2 epianto		
7 1:00 PM - 2:05 PM	7 Science (7SCI2) Room: R17 wboston	7 Physical Education (7PE2) Room: RECC1 sgaudion		7 Health Education (7HEA2) Room: A3 sgaudion	7 HASS (7HASS2) Room: A2 epianto
8 2:05 PM - 3:10 PM	7 Drama (7DRAMA2) Room: A7 epianto	7 Science (7SCI2) Room: STEM1 wboston	7 English (7ENG2) Room: A2 epianto	7 English (7ENG2) Room: A2 epianto	7 Maths (7MAT1) Room: R7 wboston

Name of Subject

Subject Code

Classroom

Period and Time

Teacher

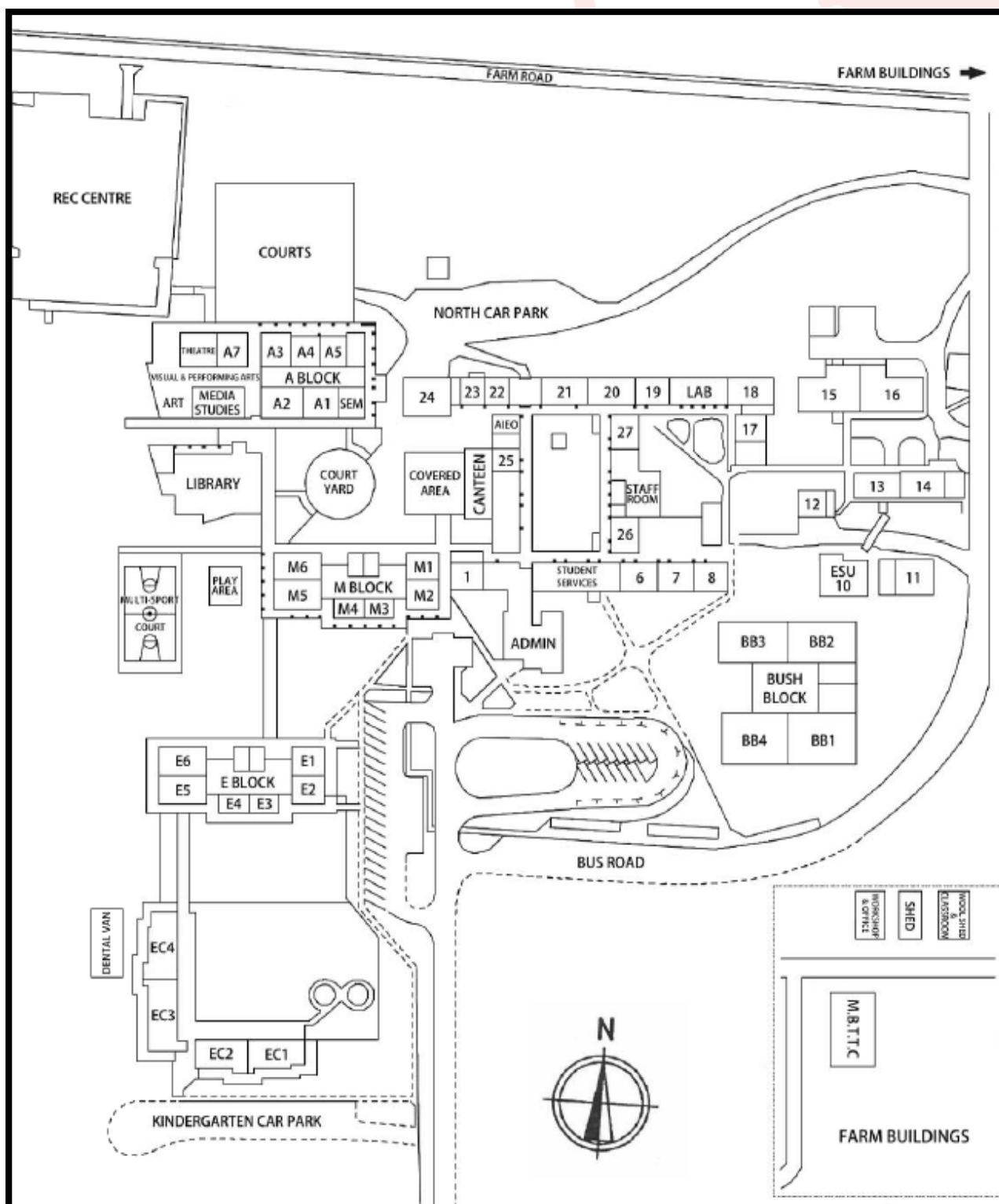
Your timetable shows when each class starts and finishes, so check it each day to make sure you know where to be and when. Most days follow our normal bell times, but Wednesdays are different. We finish earlier, and classes run at different times.

This allows secondary students to take part in Form class and gives teachers time for professional learning and staff meetings in the afternoon. Remember to check the Wednesday timetable carefully so you arrive at the right class at the right time and stay organised throughout the day.



MBCC Treasure Map!

Year 7 students have their main classroom in A Block, specifically in Rooms A1 and A2 (can you locate them on the map?). Additionally, you will travel around the college for various subjects: Math classrooms - Rooms 6, 7 and 8. Science classrooms - Rooms 17, 18 and STEM.





Student Services

Year 7 Coordinator

- Supports students with attendance, behaviour, wellbeing and learning, working with families and staff to help students stay engaged and succeed.

School Psychologist

- Apply skills and knowledge to improve mental health, learning and behavioural outcomes for students in collaboration with staff, families and other agencies.
- Assist with the development and implementation of school-based student support services and programs.
- Provide psychological services to school communities affected by critical issues/incidents.

Student Support Officer

- Monitor and track student attendance.
- First point of contact for student social and emotional well-being.
- Oversee student community service opportunities.

School Chaplain

- Offers a listening ear and support for students, helping them build positive relationships, resilience and a sense of belonging.

School Nurse

- Supports student health and wellbeing through advice, education and health services, helping students stay healthy and ready to learn.

School Routine and Procedures

BARKER BITES CANTEEN

Students can buy their recess and lunch from the school canteen. We use the Spriggy Schools App to order, or you can come to the window in the Upper School Quad to order before school starts at 8:50am.

LATE TO SCHOOL OR LEAVING EARLY

If you arrive late to school, please do directly to Student Services to sign in and collect a late note to give their teacher.

If you need to sign out during the day, again, pop into Student Services to sign out.

YEAR 7 AREA

Year 7 students have a dedicated area for break times outside their classrooms. There is also a playground near the basketball courts next to the recreation centre that is exclusively for Year 7 students for the first few weeks.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES **“Off and Away All Day”**

From 8:30am until the end of Period 5, all devices must be Off and Away (watches in school mode or aeroplane mode). This includes mobile phones, smart watches and headphones.

If you need to contact home, head to Student Services and they will help you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Wearing your school uniform correctly helps you feel part of the MBCC community and shows pride in your school.

Please make sure all uniform items are clearly labelled with your name.

Consistently wearing the correct uniform helps create a safe, respectful and positive learning environment.



Year 7 to Year 10 Curriculum

A Learning Journey at MBCC

Year 7 at Mount Barker Community College is about building the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed throughout secondary school and beyond. We provide the structure and support students need while gradually encouraging greater independence as they grow.

Our curriculum follows the Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline and ensures every student develops strong foundations across the following learning areas;

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Science (HaSS)
- Health and Physical Education
- Languages
- Visual Art
- Digital Technologies
- Performing Arts - Drama
- Design and Technology
- Agriculture - Farm
- Food and Fibre Production
- Languages - French
- Materials and Technologies - Woodwork
- Media Arts
- Engineering Principles and Systems - STEM



Year 7 – Building Foundations

Year 7 is all about settling into secondary school. Students learn from specialist teachers while being supported by a dedicated Year 7 team who understand that this is an important transition year. Students develop:

- Organisation and study skills
- Literacy and numeracy
- Confidence and independence
- Positive learning habits
- Strong relationships with teachers and peers

Learning is engaging, practical and designed to help students feel connected to the College from their very first day.

Years 8 and 9 – Discovering Strengths

As students become more confident learners, they are encouraged to challenge themselves and explore their interests.

Students continue to strengthen their skills across all learning areas while accessing a wide range of opportunities including:

- Music and performing arts
- Agriculture and our school farm
- Technologies
- Sporting teams and competitions
- Camps and excursions
- Leadership opportunities
- Community projects

Students begin thinking about future pathways and the subjects they enjoy most.



Year 10 – Planning for the Future

Year 10 is an exciting year where students begin preparing for senior school. Working alongside teachers, families and our Student Services team, students explore the pathway that best suits their goals and aspirations.

Whether students are aiming for university, TAFE, an apprenticeship, traineeship or employment, Year 10 provides opportunities to build the skills, knowledge and confidence needed for Years 11 and 12.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Learning at MBCC doesn't stop when the bell rings. Students are encouraged to become involved in College life through sporting teams, productions, music programs, leadership, camps, competitions, agricultural programs and community events. These experiences help students develop teamwork, resilience, confidence and lifelong friendships.

A K-12 Advantage

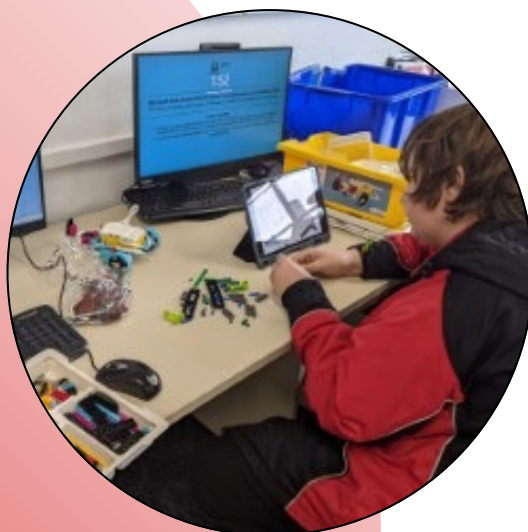
One of the greatest strengths of Mount Barker Community College is our Kindergarten to Year 12 model. Students are part of one connected College community throughout their schooling. Staff know their students well, transitions between year levels are familiar, and pathways into senior school begin well before subject selection.

This continuity allows students to build lasting relationships, grow in confidence and prepare for a successful future in a supportive learning environment.

Every Student, Every Pathway

Every student is different. Some dream of university. Others are excited by hands-on learning, trades, agriculture or entering the workforce.

At MBCC, we believe every pathway is valuable. Our role is to help each student discover their strengths, develop their talents and leave school ready for whatever comes next.



What will I learn?

English helps students become confident communicators, thoughtful readers and capable writers. Throughout Year 7, students explore a range of novels, films, poetry and media while learning how language can inform, entertain and persuade different audiences. They strengthen their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills while developing confidence in expressing their own ideas.

Skills you'll develop

- Reading and comprehension
- Creative and persuasive writing
- Speaking and presenting
- Critical thinking
- Collaboration and communication

At MBCC you'll...

- Study engaging novels and texts
- Develop your writing across different styles
- Participate in class discussions and presentations
- Build the literacy skills needed for every subject

Where could this lead?

Year 7 → Years 8–10 English → Year 11 & 12 English ATAR or General → University, TAFE and almost every career pathway



What will I learn?

Mathematics develops problem-solving skills and logical thinking that students use every day. Students investigate number, algebra, measurement, geometry, statistics and probability while learning how mathematics helps explain and solve real-world problems.

Skills you'll develop

- Problem solving
- Logical reasoning
- Financial literacy
- Data analysis
- Mathematical communication

At MBCC you'll...

- Work through practical investigations
- Apply maths to real-life situations
- Build confidence through hands-on learning
- Prepare for senior Mathematics pathways
- Study - Numbers and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability
- Take part in extension programs and free after-school tutoring

Where could this lead?

Year 7 → Years 8–10 Mathematics → ATAR or General Mathematics → Engineering, trades, health, business, science and many other careers



What will I learn?

Science encourages students to question, investigate and understand the world around them. Throughout Year 7, students explore biology, chemistry, physics and Earth and space science while developing scientific investigation skills through practical experiments.

Skills you'll develop

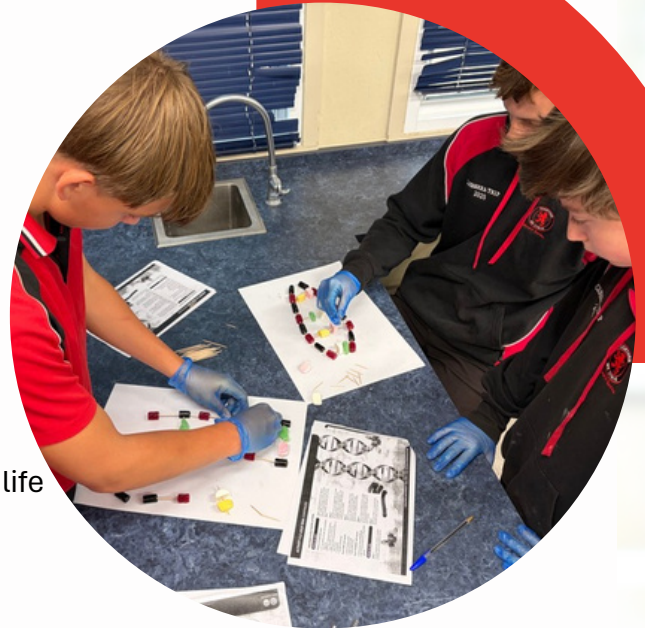
- Scientific investigations
- Practical laboratory skills
- Critical thinking
- Data collection and analysis
- Problem solving

At MBCC you'll...

- Complete practical experiments
- Participate in Science Week activities
- Develop STEM skills
- Connect science to agriculture and everyday life

Where could this lead?

Year 7 → Years 8–10 Science → Human Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Psychology → Health, agriculture, engineering, environmental science and many other careers



Humanities and Social Sciences

What will I learn?

HaSS helps students understand Australia's history, geography, democracy, economy and place in the world. Students investigate historical events, explore different environments, learn how governments work and discover how businesses and communities operate.

Skills you'll develop

- Research
- Critical thinking
- Source analysis
- Mapping and data interpretation
- Communication
- Ethical understanding
- Intercultural understanding
- Digital literacy



At MBCC you'll...

- Explore local and global issues
- Investigate Australia's past
- Develop research skills
- Study History, Geography, Economics and Business, and Civics and Citizenship

Where could this lead?

Year 7 → Years 8–10 HaSS → History, Geography, Politics, Business and many future pathways.



Health & Physical Education

What will I learn?

Health and Physical Education helps students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to lead healthy, active lives. Students participate in a wide range of physical activities while learning about wellbeing, respectful relationships, nutrition, personal safety and making positive decisions.

Skills you'll develop

- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Fitness
- Resilience
- Healthy decision making

At MBCC you'll...

- Participate in a variety of sports
- Learn through practical activities
- Represent the College in sporting events
- Develop lifelong healthy habits

Where could this lead?

Healthy lifestyles, community sport and senior Physical Education studies.



Languages - French

What will I learn?

Learning French helps students communicate in another language while developing an understanding of different cultures and ways of thinking. Students build skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing through practical, everyday situations.

Skills you'll develop

- Communication
- Cultural understanding
- Listening and speaking
- Reading and writing
- Confidence

At MBCC you'll...

- Learn everyday French
- Explore French-speaking cultures
- Develop communication skills
- Build global awareness
- Where could this lead?

Senior Languages, travel, international study and careers where communication across cultures is valued.



Specialist Learning Areas

Visual Art

Visual Art at MBCC encourages students to explore their creativity while developing practical artistic skills and confidence. Students experiment with a range of materials, techniques and processes to create both two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks, while learning how artists use visual elements to communicate ideas and tell stories. They explore artworks from different cultures, places and time periods, reflect on their own creative work and develop an appreciation for the many ways art connects with the world around us.



Performing Arts – Drama

Drama at MBCC gives students the opportunity to build confidence, creativity and communication skills through performance. Students explore improvisation, scripted drama and a variety of theatre styles while developing their voice, movement and characterisation skills. Working collaboratively, they create and perform for different audiences, learning how to express ideas, solve problems and reflect on their work in a supportive and engaging environment. Drama encourages students to think creatively, work as part of a team and grow in confidence both on and off the stage.



Media Arts

Media Arts at MBCC encourages students to become creative storytellers and thoughtful users of digital media. Students explore design, film, advertising and online media while learning how media shapes the way we communicate and understand the world. Through hands-on projects, they plan, create and edit their own media productions, working collaboratively to develop skills in creativity, communication, digital technologies and responsible media use.



Agriculture – Farm

Agriculture gives students the opportunity to experience hands-on learning in a unique farm environment. Students investigate livestock, crops, sustainable farming practices and agricultural technologies while developing an understanding of the important role agriculture plays in our local community and beyond. Practical experiences encourage responsibility, teamwork and an appreciation of food production and environmental sustainability.



Digital Technologies

Digital Technologies at MBCC encourages students to think creatively, solve problems and develop practical skills for an increasingly digital world. Through hands-on projects, students learn how to investigate challenges, design and create digital solutions, and evaluate how technology can improve everyday life. They explore coding, digital systems and emerging technologies while developing the confidence to use technology safely, responsibly and ethically. These skills help students become innovative thinkers who are prepared for the opportunities and challenges of the future.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology at MBCC encourages students to think creatively, solve problems and bring their ideas to life. Through practical, hands-on projects, students investigate real-world challenges, develop design ideas and create innovative solutions using a range of materials, tools and technologies. Along the way, they build skills in creativity, collaboration, planning and critical thinking while learning to consider how good design can improve people's lives and positively impact their community.

Materials and Technologies – Woodwork

Woodwork introduces students to the safe use of tools, equipment and workshop machinery while developing practical construction skills. Students learn how to measure, mark out, shape and assemble timber to create quality projects while developing an understanding of design, planning and craftsmanship. The course encourages precision, creativity and pride in producing finished work.

Engineering Principles and Systems (STEM)

Engineering Principles and Systems (STEM) at MBCC encourages students to think like engineers by designing, building and testing solutions to real-world challenges. Through hands-on projects, students explore the engineering design process, develop systems thinking and apply science and mathematics to solve practical problems. Along the way, they build valuable skills in creativity, critical thinking, teamwork, communication, initiative and digital literacy, preparing them for future learning in STEM and beyond.

Food and Fibre Production

Food and Fibre Production at MBCC introduces students to practical life skills through cooking and sewing. In Food, students prepare a variety of simple recipes while learning safe food handling, kitchen hygiene and the basics of nutrition. In Fibre, students develop confidence using a sewing machine as they learn fundamental sewing techniques to design and create their own fabric drink coaster.



Department of
Education

OFF AND AWAY *All day*

Turn off your mobile phone and put it away
during the school day.



Switch your smart watch
to flight mode.



Put away headphones
and earbuds.

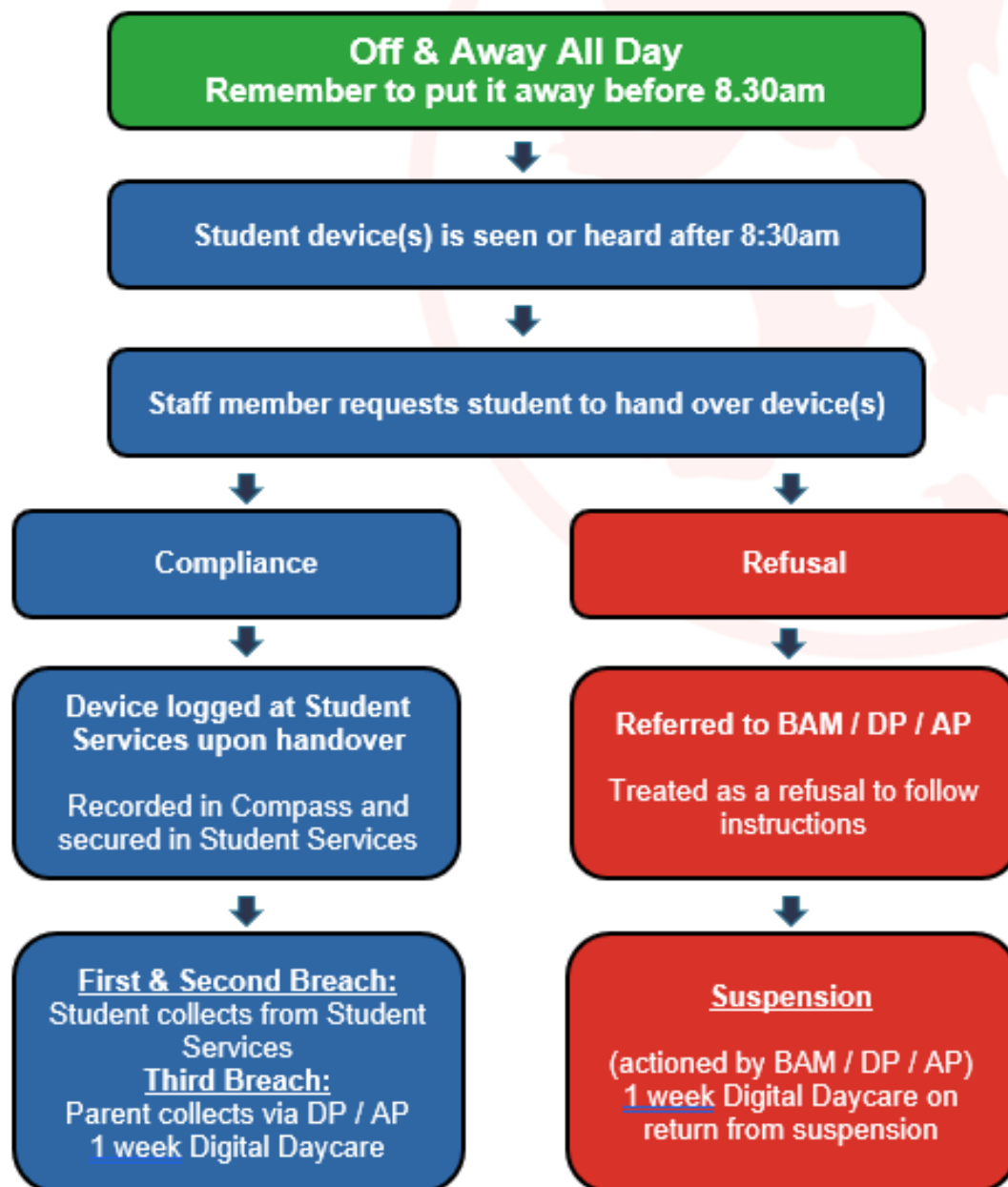


If you need to speak with
your family please come to
the school administration.



Only use it when a teacher
says you can.

Electronic Device Policy





Established in 2008, MBCC was built on a community vision to bring primary and secondary education together on one campus. Today, we proudly offer a wide range of learning opportunities, from early childhood through to ATAR, VET, School-Based Traineeships, and hands-on learning on our College farm and Trade Training Centre.

As a rural College, our strong partnerships with families, local businesses and community organisations help create real opportunities for students, while our rich cultural diversity and connection to Noongar heritage make MBCC a welcoming place for everyone.

OUR VALUES

Together We Strive

We work together as students, staff, families and community to help every learner succeed.

Excellence

We encourage everyone to do their best, celebrate success and keep learning every day.

Belonging

We build strong relationships so every student feels safe, respected, valued and connected.

Community

We know learning is stronger when school and community work together, creating opportunities that benefit everyone.



Mount Barker
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Mount Barker
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