



Wirreanda Secondary School

Student Information Brochure 2017



Learning for Life

Our Shared Vision

Our vision for Wirreanda Secondary School is one of a caring and inclusive environment that values and embraces family and community partnerships.

A school that prides itself in developing creative, vibrant and resilient learners, guided by knowledgeable, innovative and passionate staff.

Our Shared Values

- Respect
- Honesty
- Responsibility
- Achievement

Wirreanda Secondary School fosters:

- high expectations and the pursuit of excellence and growth for all learners
- a caring and supportive learning environment
- a focus on literacy and numeracy development
- local, national and international connections and perspectives
- the continual development of challenging and engaging curriculum
- a range of teaching methodologies and technologies to support learning
- a focus on digital pedagogies and opportunities for students to be responsible digital citizens
- genuine student voice within the classroom and in the broader community
- innovative and collaborative approaches to learning
- cross curricular priorities, critical and creative thinking and teamwork skills
- facilitating student roles in decision making and provision of meaningful feedback about teaching and learning, the school environment, and other aspects of running the school

Middle School

Our Middle School program is designed to provide opportunities and structures for young people to develop "**Future Proof**" skills such as creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, empathy, self-awareness, and the ability to give and receive feedback for improvement.

This involves:

- a flexible interdisciplinary curriculum that encourages active and personalised learning to meet the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards
- acknowledging the developmental needs of young adolescents, and in particular their neurological, social, emotional, and metacognitive growth
- providing a safe school environment, where friendships and relationships are nurtured and developed
- offering and embedding student-initiated opportunities through students co-designing learning and assessment

- establishing "learning communities" where each student has one teacher who serves as an advisor, mentor, counselor, to help them feel a sense of safety, confidence, and purpose in their learning and time at school
- connections with older peers who can model, inspire and mentor

Senior School

Our Senior School provides students with

- greater choice and more individual responsibility
- career pathway planning with access to academic and vocational pathways
- work experience programs at Years 10 and 11
- experiences that empower informed decisions about future training, education and employment
- opportunities to pursue advanced science and maths through SMAF (Science and Maths and Flinders)
- opportunities to pursue VET training and school based apprenticeships

Facilities:



Learning Hub

Dynamic, flexible and creative. The Learning Hub is a space that provides alternative ways for our school community to teach and learn. Lead teachers work with individual students, small groups and classes of learners to promote communication and collaboration by innovating the learning process. This learning environment enables openness and encourages learners to share their understanding and skills by connecting with community members and experts in the field using a range of technologies.



Learning Wellbeing Centre

The Learner Wellbeing Centre (LWC) is based on a holistic and integrated view of learning and wellbeing. We are strongly committed to creating a school environment in which students further develop their identity and confidence, as well as their capacity to relate and connect with other people. The LWC provides a range of services and support to enhance this development, and incorporates two Student Counsellors, a Youth Worker, access to a GP and a Psychologist.

Senior Space



The Senior Space has been specifically established as a senior school study space. The ultimate intention is to create an environment where learning is maximised for all senior students. The Senior Space offers flexible furniture arrangements that allow students to work individually or in a cooperative manner in a range of ways. Every endeavour is made to promote a positive, caring and cooperative atmosphere, in which the rights and responsibilities of all members of the senior school community are acknowledged and upheld.

Respect Responsibility Honesty Achievement

Specialised Programs:

ATSI Education

The ATSI Education Team provides holistic education and support for a growing number of ATSI students. Strategies and support is provided to assist students in a dynamic and culturally appropriate manner. Support includes monitoring student progress, facilitating tutoring, cultural and community activities, excursions and specialised programs, supporting career pathways and helping students apply for scholarships.

Inclusive Learning

Our aim is to provide opportunities for all students to succeed in their learning. Wirreanda Secondary School has a number of programs that support students with Negotiated Education Plans or Individual Learning Plans, both inside and outside the classroom including:

- In-school tutoring in literacy, numeracy and senior study support.
- In-class SSO support
- Literacy and Numeracy Intervention
- The Smith Family Homework Club
- Supporting classroom teachers to modify in-class learning programs
- Adaptive technologies to support students
- Connections with external support networks

Vocational Pathways

Wirreanda Secondary School has a long tradition of providing vocational pathways for students and has expanded the number of offerings in recent years both on and off campus. The school offers the following courses on campus:

- Cert 1 Construction
- Cert 2 Hospitality - Kitchen Operations
- Cert 2 Creative Industries - 3D Animation
- Cert 2 Sport and Recreation
- Cert 3 (partial) Carpentry
- Cert 3 Music Industry

International Student Programs

Wirreanda Secondary School has a long-standing International Student Program. International students can attend for short-term or long-term studies.

The school also hosts students from Japan for a two-week study tour program in August each year. Local families are encouraged to become homestay families for visiting international students and Japanese students.

Specialist Sport Course (SSC)

The SSC program has been established to assist talented athletes to achieve at the highest level of performance in their chosen sport and support them with their personal, educational and career development. This includes the creation of Individual Athlete Plans - including goal setting and accountability, training in strength and conditioning, specific and transferable skill development, and a sport psychology program specific to each student athlete.

Students that wish to be involved in the Specialist Sport Course will need to make a separate application and meet a set of criteria based around interest, talent and commitment to sport.

The 2017 Specialist Sport Course application form is available to download via the school website or from the Specialist Sports Course office.



Additional Information:

Parental Involvement

Wirreanda Secondary School encourages and values parent, caregiver and family involvement. The school employs a Community Connections Officer to support family participation.

Community views are represented by Governing Council which comprises parents, staff and local community representatives. Other committees involving parents include Canteen, Finance, Fundraising and Events and School Uniform.

Parent Information Nights

Parent Information Nights provide families with opportunities to meet face to face with Home Group Teachers and other key staff. Interview nights for parents and families are held mid-semester and reports are distributed at the end of each term. The school places importance on communication via phone, email and social media whenever the need arises. Regular communication between families and teachers supports student learning and achievement.

BYOD

Wirreanda Secondary School has a whole school Bring Your Own Device policy which means that all students are expected to have a device (either laptop or tablet) to learn with in every lesson. Any queries contact nick.jackson721@schools.sa.edu.au

Principal: Caroline Fishpool

Parents are invited to contact the school for additional information or to arrange an appointment with the Principal or Deputy Principal to discuss any concerns and to answer any queries.

Student Voice and Student Leadership

Student voice is a critical driving aspect of our school vision and purpose at Wirreanda Secondary School. We make student voice a priority and work to empower students to actively and proudly participate in school life and decision making. Student voice acknowledges that students have unique perspectives on learning, teaching, and schooling, and should have the opportunity to actively shape their own education. Student voice and student leadership at Wirreanda Secondary School provides opportunity for students to lead and influence outcomes by putting forward their views, concerns and ideas and engage in opportunities to drive change and design and implement actions.

Extra-Curricular and Student Participation

Students are encouraged to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities including:

- Leadership opportunities
- Digital Leaders
- Boys Vocal Group
- Smith Family Homework Club
- Pedal Prix
- FX Makeup
- Community Garden
- The S.H.E.D (Strength, Health, Education and Development)



Specialist Sport Course

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