

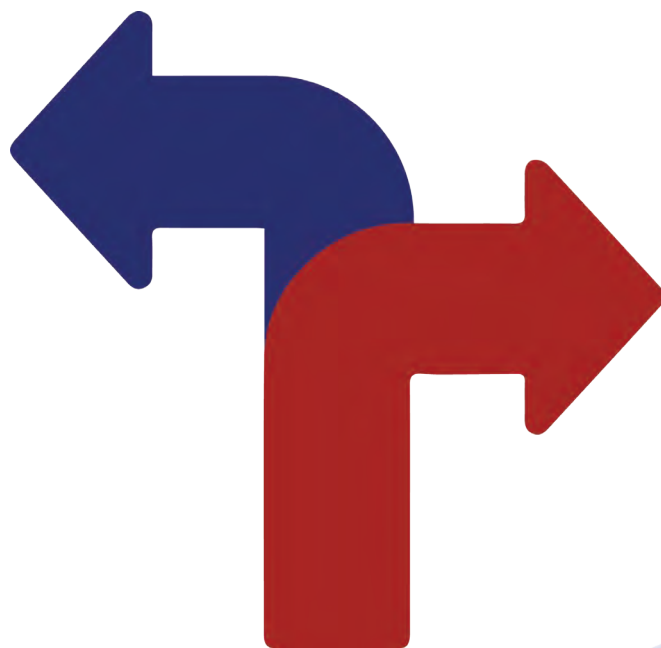


MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

SUBJECT CHOICES

WE LOVE | WE CARE | WE LEARN



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A MESSAGE FROM THE COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Middle School at Mackay Christian College. Subject choice opportunities allow students to begin to take control of what they learn in the school context as they further discover their areas of interest and skill. At MCC we believe the best way to assist students and parents is to provide as much information as possible to allow students (and parents) to make wise, informed decisions.

Our King's Park Expo provides time for parents and students to gather whatever information they might need to help them to make the best decisions about what subjects to study. No matter what subjects students choose, Mackay Christian College is committed to help every student to 'become all God wants them to be'.

In this booklet we have included all of the information you need to make the best decisions for yourself or your children. However, if you are not sure of anything please ask the appropriate staff member. This booklet, the college's career guidance processes, and the King's Park Expo are designed to help students and parents to make the most informed decisions possible about subjects. The choices you make are very important. If you don't complete your selection you have a higher degree of risk of missing out on the combination of subjects you would like to study. Please make sure you complete your online selection form. It is however, possible for students to make changes to their choices after the due date and at the start of the new school year but this can only happen where the timetable and class numbers allow.

May God bless you as you prepare for the future.

Dr Barclie Gallogray
College Principal

Vision Statement

Mackay Christian College exists to foster and develop the God given potential of each member of the college community, both students and staff, to permit them the possibility of fulfilling their personal Christian destiny.

Mission Statement

Mackay Christian College is a college community which consists of students, parents and staff working together to develop each child's potential in a wide range of learning situations. Emphasis is placed on positive, critical thinking skills and caring, respectful attitudes. We believe that the education process is a continuous one from Kindergarten to Year 12 and beyond and we are committed to the education of the whole person - personally, socially, cognitively, and spiritually. We believe that each member of the college community is entitled to a safe, secure, welcoming and loving environment to allow for the development of individual potential.

At Mackay Christian College we aim to provide a quality learning environment within which students will be encouraged to develop an ongoing personal revelation of Christ in their lives. We recognise the significance of the example and witness of staff, of a curriculum framework based on Biblical Christian thinking, and of the standing of our college within our community. High academic standards, good professional relationship, Godly discipline and high levels of home-school communication with families are all part of the college's mission.



WELCOME TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mackay Christian College welcomes you to your Middle School journey of learning. Across these three years, you are invited to discover your personal best, not just in the formal setting of learning but across all areas of a learning community – as a friend, a contributor, a leader, a unique individual who is purposed to 'become all God wants you to be'.

As your school and teachers, we are committed to creating a quality learning approach to help you with making the changes and transition through all stages of learning and to support you as a young adolescent. Our Middle School learning approach is focused on you, the student, to empower you to be creative and innovative thinkers, risk-takers and leaders, now and for the future.

As you start to think about your elective subjects and make choices, it is good to consider what your future may look like. The subject choices in Middle School provide an opportunity for you to try new subjects, develop your gifts and talents and work out what you might like in a career or your future learning. You will need to be organised, as you grow into a more mature student and take increased responsibility for your learning choices.

Within our Middle School learning environment you will experience academic challenge, opportunity for creativity, curiosity, critical thinking and you will be encouraged to take risks.

As a learner your goal is to acquire knowledge and skills across a broad range of learning areas. Both our academic and co-curricular programs equip you with the skills to learn: to be an active listener, to develop excellent communication skills and to formulate opinions and attitudes based upon balanced discovery or inquiry.

At Mackay Christian College you will see we place a high value on relationships, Christian values, owning your own learning and creating your unique pathway. You will feel like you belong at Mackay Christian College. We wish you well as you do your best to develop your God given gifts and talents to 'become all that God wants you to be'.



OUR VISION FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Purpose of Middle School

To equip students with the knowledge and strategies needed to be successful now and in the future.

Middle School Mission Statement

For Students to value learning, to enjoy learning, and to take personal responsibility for their learning, their choices and their character.

For Teachers to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate our Vision of a learner statements and to 'become all that God wants them to be' by demonstrating the college's CLEAR values, with the LRACE pedagogy, in relevant learning spaces.

Our Vision of a Learner at Mackay Christian College

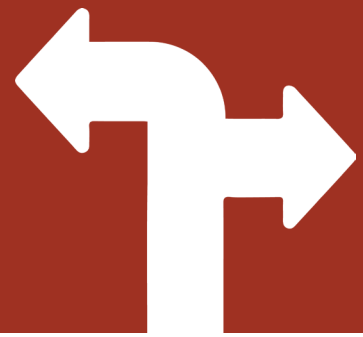
Our students will become:

- Self-directed strategic producers
- Responsive communicators
- Creative, reflective investigators
- Empathetic servant leaders
- Resilient problem solvers

We thank you for the privilege of partnering with you in this important responsibility of educating your children. We look forward to open communication during the good times and the hard times as we support and challenge their academic, emotional and spiritual growth, to 'become all that God wants them to be'.



CLEAR TECHNOLOGY @ MCC



‘We can’t solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.’
- Albert Einstein

At Mackay Christian College we want to prepare students for their future by using the latest technology to assist and enhance their learning experience. Currently, the iPad is standard college equipment. This device has the potential to engage students in learning and provide them with tools to inspire creativity and hands-on learning.

Our CLEAR Technology focuses on values that guide choices regarding the care and use of their device as well as their digital footprint. Within this, our eSmart journey directs their attention to cybersafety and the reliability of sources.

Our vision is that every student at Mackay Christian College would acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills to utilise the latest technologies in all their learning adventures, both now and in the future.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students will use an iPad purchased through MCC that is pre-configured with all required apps. This is currently at cost price with information in the “Current Fees & Charges” on the college website. Any externally purchased iPads will need to be wiped and re-imaged before use on the MCC network.



FOR STUDENTS

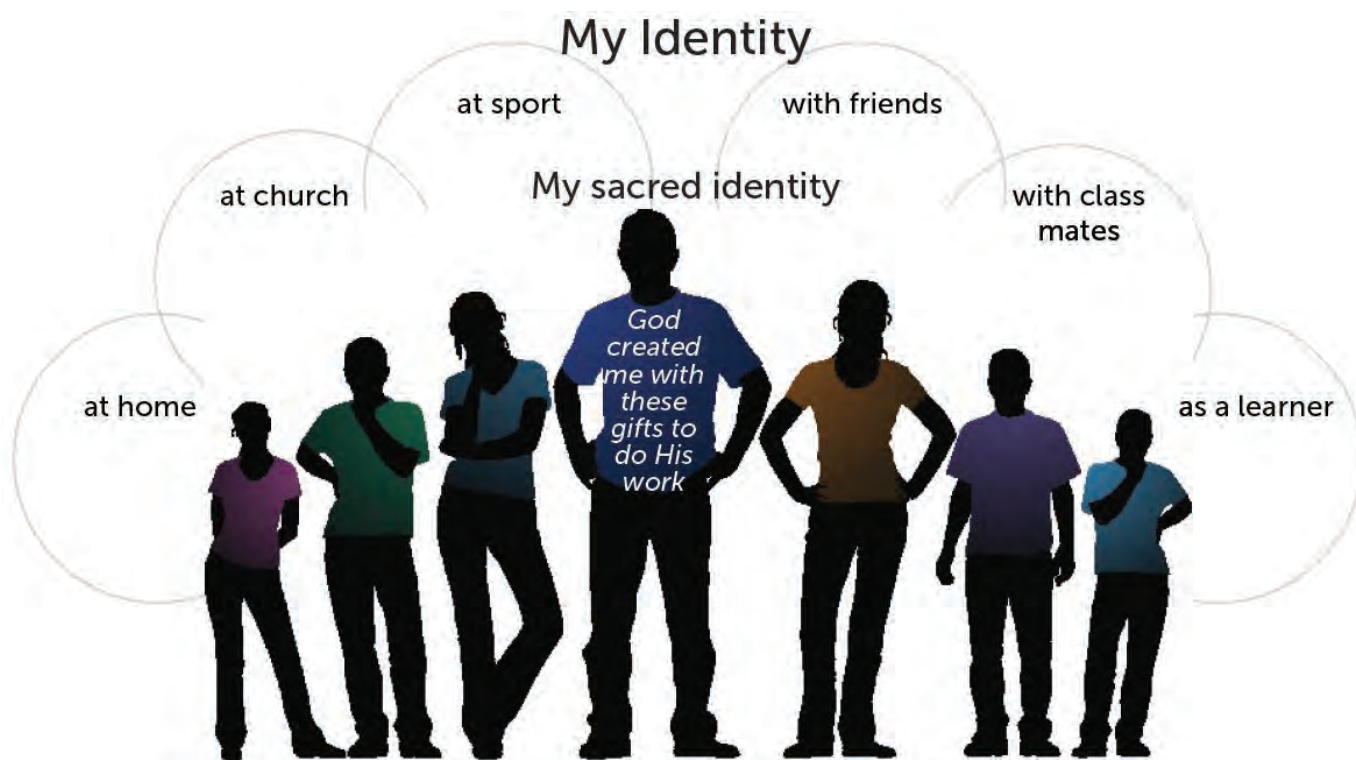


Time to work on your learner identity...

Identity is a way of talking about how learning changes who we are and how we behave in different communities. We don't just have one identity. Sometimes you hear in Hollywood movies people say "I don't know who I am" or "I am searching for the real me."

In Year 7, 8 & 9 you really get to work on your identity. We will challenge you to develop in your understanding of your sacred identity, and also help you to develop your learning identity.

They are doing some soul searching or looking for their sacred identity. Try this picture on for size. Fill in some words that describe you.

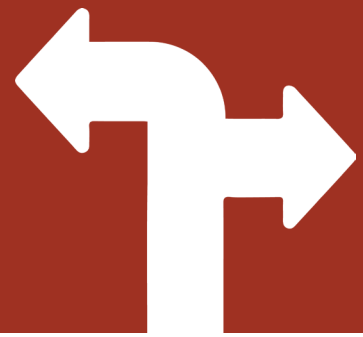


We want you to be able to say

- I am a learner who keeps trying
- I believe mistakes are great learning opportunities
- I ask questions, but look for ways to help others
- I try new things and am creative in solving problems

The following two pages contain some information about learning so you can do a check up on your learner identity. You get to keep improving the way you learn, and choosing to take on roles that will help you really make the most out of your learning. Go for it!

WHAT ARE MY TALENTS?



What am I good at? It can be a hard question to answer. It is important to be honest and think it through.

You will succeed best doing things you are good at.

hardworking

patient

creative

bossy

intelligent

caring

good talker

energetic

obedient

sensible

kind

funny

self controlled

helpful

problem solver

loving

good listener

inquisitive

confident

brave

thoughtful

respectful

Choose five of these words that best describes you:

1

2

3

4

5

Choose another two of these words that describe qualities you want to learn to improve:

1

2

SUBJECT OPTIONS



As you grow through the Year levels, your goals become clearer and you refine your subject choices and your focus.

YEAR 7

Core Subjects of:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- Digital Technology
- Chinese

and 1 elective for each Semester

from the Arts Subjects:

- Art
- Drama
- Multimedia
- Music

from the Technologies Subjects:

- Agriculture
- Design Technologies
- Home Economics
- Industrial Technologies

YEAR 8 & YEAR 9

Core Subjects of:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education

Students choose 3 Electives from:

- Agriculture
- Art
- Business
- Design Technologies
- Drama
- Home Economics
- Industrial Technologies (Metalwork)
- Industrial Technologies (Woodwork)
- Multimedia
- Music

CORE SUBJECTS



ENGLISH

The subject English is a vehicle for creating confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens who analyse, understand, communicate and build relationships with others and the world in which we live.

English develops usage, appreciation and enjoyment of language, form, structure and expressions. It fosters an enjoyment of English to create meaning, evoke feelings, convey information, explore ideas, facilitate interaction with others, entertain, persuade and argue.

In Middle School we build on previous learning and aim to prepare you for the increasing rigors of high school English. You will analyse and interpret a variety of texts, using evidence to support your understanding, as well as responding in a range of formats.

In addition to this, you will develop new ways to think about your own writing as you deliver speeches, dramatic monologues and stories to express both your imagination and opinions to suit various audiences.



MATHEMATICS

We use Mathematics every day. Whether you are making a cake, ordering concrete, building a bridge, reading a map, cutting a piece of timber to size or scheduling a holiday, you need to understand and apply Mathematics.

The Year 7-9 Mathematics course focuses on helping students to gain confidence in Mathematics and to develop skills for use in the world around them.

Using the Australian Curriculum as the foundation for learning, and with the support and encouragement of enthusiastic teachers, students cover a variety of topics in a diverse range of contexts.

It should be noted that student performance in Year 9 Mathematics will determine the Mathematics course which students will study in Year 10, which is preparation for their Senior Studies.

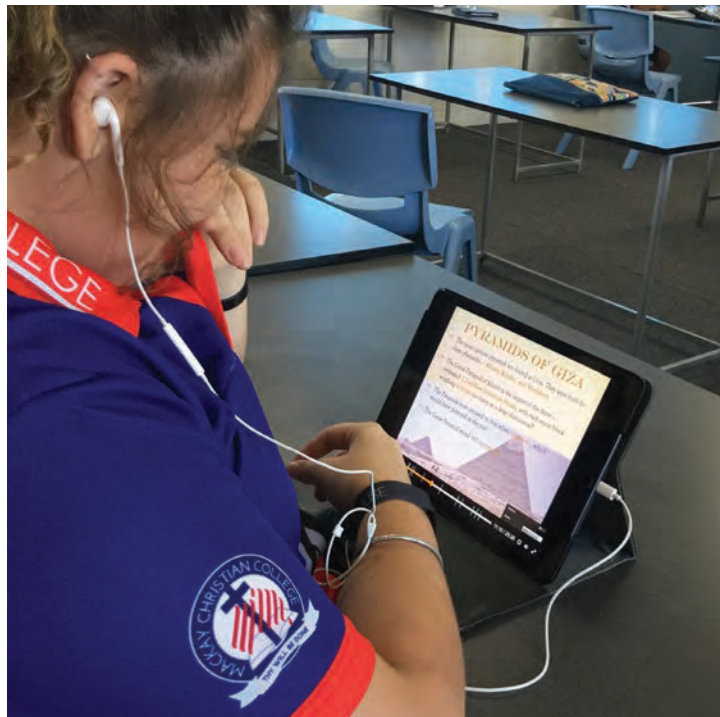
SCIENCE

Science is a means of improving our knowledge and understanding of the universe that God has made. This is based on the collection of observation-based evidence.

Through the study of Science, students are given the opportunity to learn through the adventure of discovery. There is a focus on “hands on” activities which are designed to consolidate and/or develop understanding of important science concepts and processes.

Students ask questions, design and conduct experiments, then draw more inquiries and conclusions about the outcomes. Students will develop an understanding of science’s contribution to our culture and society, and its applications in our lives. Science will help to develop 21st Century skills including critical thinking, problem solving skills, effective communication and ICT capability.

Student performance in Year 9 Science will determine the General Science, Extension or Core Biology, Chemistry and Physics course which is studied in Year 10.



HUMANITIES

“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well”
Psalm 139:14

Humanities takes students on an adventure to discover, evaluate and examine our success as a society (in the way we have been stewards of God’s creation and related with each other through community)

The Humanities are academic disciplines that study aspects of human society and culture. The adventure of discovery of historical and contemporary societies, people groups and current issues begins with a new perspective through the study fields of History, Geography, Civics and Social & Community Studies (CLEAR). Students will experience a wide range of innovative learning experiences which are designed to foster a love for learning and broaden knowledge of God’s created world.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Middle School Health & Physical Education involves students exploring a variety of concepts relating to health, personal development and physical activities.

During this stage of learning, students focus on developing the knowledge and ability to make productive choices in relation to their personal health and physical lifestyle. It involves learning prerequisite physical skills and participating in skilful physical activities such as sports, athletics, outdoor pursuits and personal fitness assessments. The journey that students take while completing this subject is based on holistic personal growth and discovery.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

The study of Digital Technologies provides students with practical opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of information systems and use design thinking when developing digital solutions to problems.

Learning experiences will involve authentic learning challenges fostering curiosity, persistence, innovation, creative thinking and collaboration.

CHINESE

Year 7 students will be undertaking the study of Chinese for one lesson per week. Chinese lessons are delivered by an external provider, MegLanguages, via an online platform in conjunction with a College teacher.

This is a continuation of the learning program that has been delivered to students in Year 5 and Year 6 at Providence Campus.



ELECTIVE SUBJECTS



AGRICULTURE

This course investigates the features of an Australian working property through simulation.

The on-campus farm provides students the opportunity to learn how to grow their own food, handle cattle and other animals. Students study and implement topics such as; farm safety, horticulture, poultry, cattle & dairy production. Students learn a range of transferable skills such as small machine operation, tractor driving, plant propagating, crop management and animal handling. Assessment is a mixture of practical demonstrations, tests, field reports and trials. Agriculture is a practical subject, allowing students to learn through a hands on environment.



ART

'Creativity takes courage.' - Henri Matisse

Our Art program encourages students to create, reflect, challenge, analyse and celebrate the character of God through art. Through this journey of discovery, students will learn new skills in both two dimensional and three dimensional processes and techniques.

Students will engage in new experiences that teach them how to become creative thinkers through problem solving and taking calculated risks. These experiences extend to a broader range of visual and tactile, creative experiences throughout Year 7, 8 & 9.

During their Art years, students will have the opportunity to build on skills that encourage worldview thinking, problem solving and critical inquiry. Students achieve this during the art making process, using a variety of material and techniques.



BUSINESS

(YEAR 8 & 9 ONLY)

Business activity affects the daily lives of all Australians as they work, spend, save, invest, travel, and play. It influences jobs, incomes and opportunities for personal enterprise.

Owning and running a successful business is not only a blessing to the owners, but also to staff and their families through job creation and providing necessary goods and services to the community.

In Business students will look at how businesses are run and what is needed to be successful. Students will have the opportunity to develop their own ideas and learn how to market these plans along with the skills to balance the books and even employ other people. This subject provides a foundational understanding for any business course, degree or venture beyond school.



DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES

This subject will help to develop student's design and systems thinking.

Students participate in the F1 in Schools program for the majority of the year. During this time students design and manufacture cars to compete in the regional finals.

They learn about collaboration, project management, marketing, graphic design, and verbal presentations. Students will also do a series of design projects using the various technologies such as CNC routers, laser cutters and 3D printer to produce innovative and creative designs.





DRAMA

Drama is all about the adventure of self-discovery, giving students an opportunity to express themselves.

Learning experiences in Drama will help students develop personal confidence in both public speaking and theatrical performance. Students will explore a range of skills including improvisation, speech and communication, character development, dramatic skills, story telling techniques, and scriptwriting.

Drama focuses on developing student's ability to express and discover their God given creativity and talents through a number of drama areas including script writing, role play, improvisation and technical theatre design.

Many styles of theatre are also explored including Realism, Melodrama, Cinematic Theatre, Collage Drama and Storytelling. Drama develops communication skills in both the written and practical fields for use in a wide range of subjects and life situations.



HOME ECONOMICS

The Home Economics course aims to equip students with valuable life skills in food preparation and fabric studies.

Students learn valuable skills in nutritional wellbeing and food preparation. They develop an awareness of the environmental impact of food choices and factors influencing eating habits through this course.

Students are equipped with the knowledge and understanding to make better food choices. The Fabric Technology course provides opportunity to demonstrate appropriate personal development skills and reflect on learning and application of sewing skills and time management.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES

These subjects allow students to take a project from design through to production while developing their problem solving and practical skills.

Students will use and test their imagination in Industrial Technology. This subject provides the opportunity to create solutions through design using Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM) and then utilise a range of materials, tools, machines and processes to produce quality outcomes. Students will cover skills learnt in Woodwork and Metalwork. In Year 7 students will trial these mediums and then in Year 8 & 9 students will be able to specialise into either Industrial Technologies – Wood, or Industrial Technologies – Metal.

In Industrial Technologies (Wood) and Industrial Technologies (Metal), students use traditional hand tools, and are able to enhance their basic mathematics and motor skills, working towards designing and creating their own product.



MULTIMEDIA

This subject aims to bring together many of the modern digital technologies available to us, to investigate real world applications of digital and print media.

Students participating in this subject will focus on desktop publishing and design principles, game development, different forms of digital storytelling, photography, web design, image manipulation, video & audio production skills and animation.

Major projects in the past have included:

- A Digital Photography Portfolio
- Stop Motion Animation
- Video Production and
- Graphic Design



MUSIC

Creativity and problem solving are skills are developed through the study of Music.

Music is an opportunity for students to develop their own musicianship and music understanding. Practical music skills are developed through performing, where students will learn to play the keyboard and guitar, and also through composing new music.

Musical knowledge is developed by the study and analysis of music works, in order to understand the many ways that music can be used to communicate meaning to an audience.

This enables students to develop their own musicianship through the confident expression of their music understanding. A few of the topics studied throughout Middle School music include: Folk Music, Rock Music, Jazz Music and Film Music.



REFLECT





MAKE YOUR DECISION

When selecting your subjects, ask yourself:

Do these reflect my strengths and goals?

For existing college students, subject selection for elective subjects is done through online web preferencing as part of the King's Park Expo. For new students, subject selection is completed as part of the enrolment process.



MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Kindergarten to Year 12

Junior School - Providence Campus

17 Ambrose Way, North Mackay Qld 4740

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