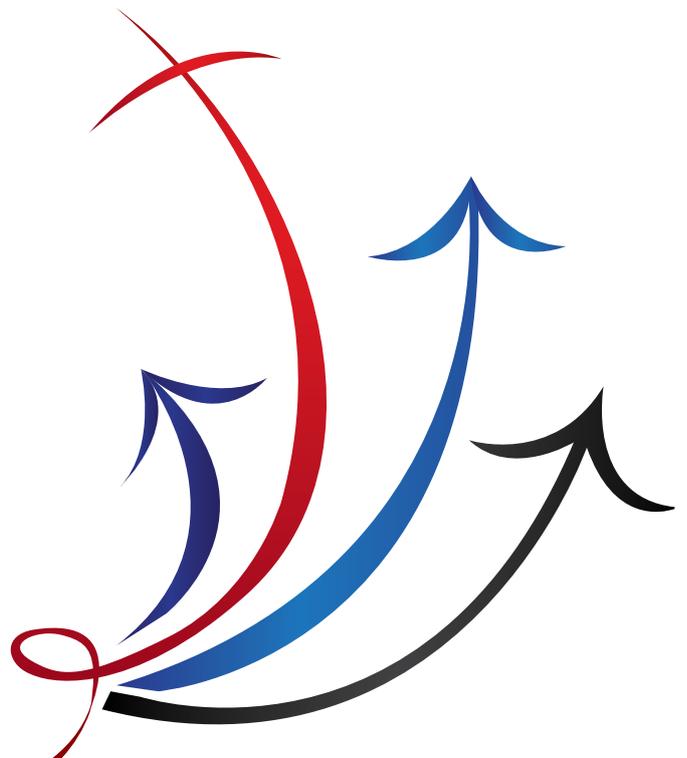




MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

MIDDLE SUBJECT CHOICES

a place where you belong





CONTENTS

A Message from the College Principal	p 4
Our Mission & Values	p 5
Welcome to Middle School	p 6
Purpose of Middle School	p 7
CLEAR Technology	p 8
For Students	p 9
What Are My Talents?	p 10
Subject Options	p 11

The Arts p 12

Visual Arts	p 13
Music	p 13
Drama	p 13

Technologies p 14

Design Technologies	p 15
Industrial Technologies	p 15
Home Economics	p 16
Multimedia	p 16
Agriculture	p 17
Business Studies	p 17

Core Subjects p 18

English	p 19
Mathematics	p 19
Humanities	p 19
Science	p 20
Health & Physical Education	p 20

Reflect p 21

Make Your Decision	p 22
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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'.

The changes to the tertiary entrance process instigated by the Queensland government that come into effect for Year 12 of 2020 has caused significant changes to the last two years of school. These changes will affect the subjects that are available for those two final years of school as well as the process of calculating the ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rating). These systemic changes have caused a ripple effect to subject choices and curriculum offered to students in Year 6-10.

Within the changes imposed by the state government, we at MCC can see some significant opportunities for these changes to create advantages for our students. This includes things such as when Senior Subjects are introduced, perhaps at Year 10; space in the timetable for students to pause and ensure they have grasped a concept; and, for our more gifted students opportunity to excel even further. This has started in the Middle School with the introduction of such initiatives as our EStEaM (Every Student Engaged And Motivated) programme.

We have tried to make sure the information you need to make the best decisions for yourself or your children is in this booklet. 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 about subjects possible. 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 Pre-Prep 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 four 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. There will be times where your teachers will change the space of your learning, relocating you to a learning studio or break-out space where you will explore independent study, peer tutoring, collaborative group work, project-based learning and technology-based learning to enhance choice and experience learning that caters for a range of thinking skills and learning styles. 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.



FOR STUDENTS

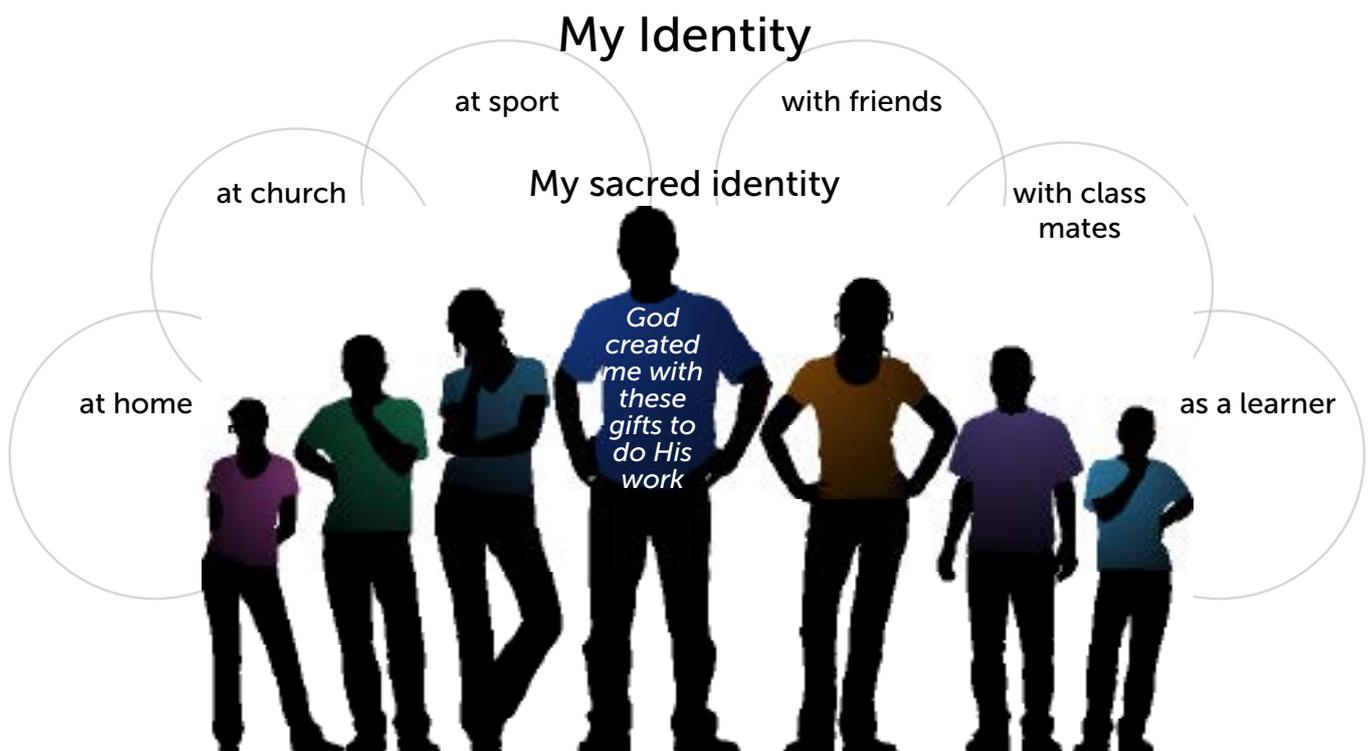


Time to work on your learner identity...

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 & 10, 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 don't worry about what others are thinking when
- 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

Health & Physical Education

Mathematics

Science

Humanities

and 4 x 1 Semester Electives from:

Agriculture

Art

Design Technologies

Drama

Home Economics

Industrial Technologies

Multimedia

Music

YEAR 8 & YEAR 9

Core Subjects of:

English

Health & Physical Education

Mathematics

Science

Humanities

Students choose 3 Electives from:

Agriculture

Art

Business Studies

Design Technologies

Drama

Home Economics

Industrial Technologies

Multimedia

Music

THE ARTS



VISUAL ARTS

'Creativity takes courage.' Henri Matisse

The Junior Visual 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 8 & 9.

During their Visual 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.



MUSIC

Are you interested in creativity, problem solving, song writing and playing instruments? Then Music is the elective subject for you!

Throughout your studies you will discover and develop your basic guitar and keyboard playing skills, song writing skills, performance skills and analysis skills. All of this is achieved through exploring a variety of music styles including 20th Century Art Music; Australian Nationalism; Jazz; Praise & Worship and Contemporary Rock.



DRAMA

Drama is all about the adventure of discovery! Learning experiences create confidence in both public speaking and theatrical performance.

You will explore a range of skills including improvisation, speech & communication, character development, dramatic skills, theatre sports & techniques, and scriptwriting. Drama focuses on you potential to express and discover your God given creativity and talents through a number of drama areas including theatre sports, role play, improvisation, sets and costume design.

Many styles of theatre are also explored including Realism, Clowning and Storytelling. Drama develops your communication skills in both the written and the practical field for use in a wide range of subjects and life situations. If you yearn to express yourself then this is the subject for you!



TECHNOLOGIES



DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES

This subject will encourage the design and systems thinking that will be required in the 21st Century world.

Students will design, fabricate and test ideas that use new technology. Use the knowledge and skills to create models vehicles for the F1 in Schools Technology challenge or the 4x4 in Schools challenge and see what it takes to make it in these industries. You will create and design robots that are scaled versions of robots capable of complex tasks. You will learn about coding a pocket sized computer to control some motor and lights, then add electronic circuits for bling.



INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES

These subjects allow you to take a project from design through to production while developing your thinking 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. Industrial Technology will cover skills learnt in Woodwork, Metalwork and Graphics. In Year 7 students will use all these mediums and then in Year 8 & 9 students will be able to specialise into either Industrial Technologies – Wood, and Industrial Technologies – Metal.





HOME ECONOMICS

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

The Home Economics course aims to provide students with valuable life skills in nutritional wellbeing and food preparation. They develop an awareness of the environmental impact of food choices and factors influencing eating habits. 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.



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, Gaming and Programming, 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 Web Design.



AGRICULTURE

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

Topics such as Farm Safety, Cattle Production, Budgeting, Land Care and Water Management are included. Students will conduct practical activities linked to their classroom studies. Practical activities may include Small Machine Operation, Concreting, Fencing, Calf Rearing, Tractor Driving, Plant Propagating, Crop Management, Animal Handling and Pesticide Application. Assessment is a variety of tests, assignments, field reports, practical demonstrations, oral reports and field trials.

BUSINESS STUDIES (YEAR 8&9 ONLY)

*Do you want to learn how to make money?
Do you want to know how to develop ideas
and work to make a business grow?*

In Business Studies you will look at how businesses are run and what is needed to be successful in growing your own enterprise. You will have the opportunity to try your 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 Business Management in Senior School and any business course, degree or venture beyond school.



CORE SUBJECTS



ENGLISH

Words, words, words!

English is a language made up of words, and throughout this course you'll have an opportunity to read and view words (novels, plays, films) as well as using words to create (essays, speeches, dramatic monologues, stories). You'll discover how to write words, how to read and interpret words, and, perhaps most importantly, how to think about words, and how to ask yourself why authors choose particular words, and what they might mean. Choose English; choose words!

*But words are things, and a small drop of ink,
Falling like dew, upon a thought, produces
That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think.*
- Lord George Byron

MATHEMATICS

*"Mathematics is the language with which
God has written the universe." Galileo*

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.

HUMANITIES

*WOW! We live in a truly unique and awesome
planet with equally complex and intricately
designed humans.*

Humanities takes you on the adventure to discover, evaluate and examine our success to live as God intended, as stewards of God's creation and in relationship of community. Your adventure of discovery about historical and contemporary societies, people groups and current issues begins with a new perspective through the study fields of History, Geography, Civics and CLEAR. Through our open-space learning environments, students develop a love for learning through the use of flexible and adaptable learning spaces whilst fostering collaborative and innovative practices that enable them to thrive in a 21st century Australia.



SCIENCE

Science is often a favourite subject for students because it allows them to be up and about and work with their hands and their minds.

Every lesson in Science has the potential to be another episode of Mythbusters; where students ask questions, design and do experiments and make conclusions about the outcomes. Science is really an adventure into learning more about the everyday things in our life that we often take for granted.

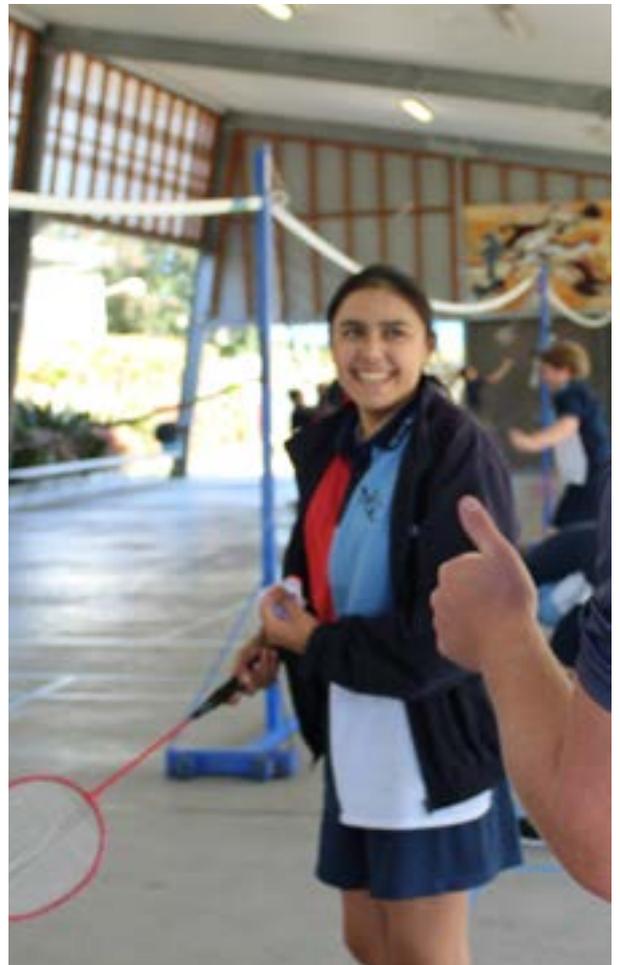
At Mackay Christian College we endeavour to make Science as hands-on as possible, with lots of fun, and we reward the students' attitude which will ultimately determine their degree of success. Enjoy the adventure, become the passionate, creative genius you were created to be.



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.



REFLECT





MAKE YOUR DECISION

When selecting your subjects, ask yourself:

Do these reflect my strengths and goals?

Once you have finalised your subject choices, complete the online Subject Choice Form and return the print receipt to the College.



Mackay Christian Colleges Ltd t/a Mackay Christian College
ABN 22 010 555 389 | CRICOS 01085D
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9 Quarry Street, North Mackay

Phone 4963 1100 | Visit www.mccmky.qld.edu.au