



# UPDATE

*from Principal Jim Ford*



Issue 6 | 28 May 2021

**Welcome** to the sixth edition of the Catherine McAuley College Update.

### CMC Enrolments for Year 7 – 2022

“Good News” – so far everyone has survived the enrolment interviews with little stress. The bulk of the interviews have now taken place however enrolments will remain open so as not to disadvantage families on the move or those with changes in circumstances.

Enrolment offers will be sent out late in the June-July holidays.

### How we plan to start...

Over the next several newsletters I will explain some of the tried and true programs Catherine McAuley College will adopt from Day 1. To quote Stephen Covey; we plan to “Begin With the End in Mind.”

### Behaviour Standards and Student Support

It is no exaggeration to state that classroom behaviour is the single biggest issue for teachers in Australian schools. The profession loses significant numbers of young professionals and student learning progress can be greatly affected.

Staff at Catherine McAuley College will establish high standards for student conduct and model the same respectful behaviours to students at all times within a well understood code of conduct and procedures. Students will experience affirming relationships and support in meeting high expectations.

**Responsible Thinking Process** - Teachers have the right to teach and students have the right to learn without disruption.

Teachers make clear to students what disruptive or disrespectful conduct is in the classroom context. Students who struggle with classroom expectations are referred out

of the classroom to the Responsible Thinking Classroom. There they receive assistance to renegotiate their entry back to their normal class.

**Benefits:** In all situations, respect is maintained. The classroom environment must be a disruption free experience for students and staff alike.

**Note:** On rare occasions a student will be sent home from the Responsible Thinking Classroom. They return the next day with a written plan / commitment document outlining how they will be successful going forward.

Kind regards

*Jim Ford*  
Jim Ford  
Principal

### A quote from Catherine McAuley

*The simplest and most practical lesson I know is to resolve and to be good today, but better tomorrow.*

### Further information about Catherine McAuley College can be found at

The Catholic Education - Diocese of Rockhampton  
website [www.rok.catholic.edu.au](http://www.rok.catholic.edu.au)

or by emailing

[cmc@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cmc@rok.catholic.edu.au)

## Technology

Commencing secondary schooling it is important students have common pieces of technology. This helps ensure the emphasis is on using the technology to learn as opposed to the anxiety created by different functionality. Both the Chromebook computer and a common calculator will be provided by the College. Hopefully, this also makes things a bit easier on parents concerned about purchasing the right materials for Year 7. Both items will be paid off in the College fees in the first year. An added benefit passed on to parents is the discounted price accessed through Catholic Education's bulk purchasing arrangement.



## Building Update



View from 3<sup>rd</sup> storey teaching block overlooking sports precinct



3<sup>rd</sup> floor – 5 general learning areas

## Q&A

Thank you to those parents who submitted questions as part of the Parent Information Night. Over the coming weeks, Mr Ford will provide answers to all questions. If further information is required, please do not hesitate to make contact on 1800 228 433.

### **Q: How will students on an IEP be helped?**

A: Students with Individual Education Plans will be overseen by the Inclusive Curriculum Head of Department with in-class assistance as required by Teacher Assistants.

### **Q: Can you please give us a list of all the staff and their positions?**

A: We are planning on 12 teaching staff including leadership team members. In addition, the College will employ teacher assistants in the Library, Special Learning and Technology and the Arts. A laboratory technician and a grounds maintenance staff member will start in Term 4 this year.

In 2022 we will have 3 senior leadership members, 5 heads of department, 4 full-time teachers, 5 assistants, 2 grounds maintenance and 2 tuckshop staff.

### **Q: The school is multi-level – will there be a lift for students with mobility considerations?**

A: Yes – one each (2 lifts) in main building and the triple storey block.

### **Q: Please advise what the fees will be for a year?**

A: Approximately \$1000 per term plus computer, calculator, ID card. School fees are set in accord with Catholic Education's guidelines.

### **Q: Does the school expect to have the buildings ready to teach technology subjects in 2022?**

A: Yes – Temporary facilities for Arts, Hospitality and Manual Arts will be well equipped. Specialist facilities are planned for construction.

### **Q: Please describe what the manual arts rooms will look like i.e. will they have work benches, tools and will it be set-up to meet the Australian Curriculum and involve mainly the design aspect?**

A: Manual Arts will be part of Technology Design and use the design process while being mindful of the need for practical skills. A temporary facility will be established prior to the building of a design precinct. This facility will have tools for 'hands on' experience and tables for group design processes.

## CONTACT

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