



ST ALOYSIUS
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Queenscliff



Parent Handbook 2018



St Aloysius Catholic Primary School Vision Statement

The Staff recognizes the right of each child to a complete education and therefore the curriculum of our school need to foster the total development of each child:

- Spiritually
- Academically
- Aesthetically
- Emotionally
- Socially
- Culturally and
- Physically

As members of St Aloysius School Staff we strive to be a faith-filled, dynamic community who proclaim the mission of Jesus. We believe it is essential that we aim to promote the self-esteem of others and that we assist children to feel positive about the future.

Our school works within the Parish of Holy Trinity to develop a mutual awareness of what it means to be a member of a Catholic Community. To make this work we need cooperation between the school staff/students, families and members of our Parish.

School Overview

- *St Aloysius Catholic Primary school is situated in Queenscliff, on the Bellarine Peninsula in Victoria. In 2018 the school population is 113 students. The learning environment of the school can best be described as calm and engaging allowing students to learn both independently and collaboratively in an interactive and focussed manner. Set between Swan Bay and Port Phillip Heads the school is situated in a pristine natural environment that allows for seamless interaction and excursions with a unique environmental focus.*
- *At St Aloysius Catholic Primary School our focus on sustainability recognises the interconnectedness and interdependence of life on our planet, and acknowledges that we are responsible for each other and the earth, our common home. Being a Catholic school, we understand that our universe is a gift from God and that we have an obligation to act in a way that ensures future generations can live sustainably on our planet Earth. Our school is working to reduce our ecological footprint through adopting sustainable practises in our everyday lives*
- *Within the learning and teaching programme, we have developed a strong base in literacy and numeracy. In recent years a significant focus has been placed on science and environmental science with a goal of instilling in our students a deep understanding of how our world works and to build upon their natural dispositions of inquiry. Science and Environmental Sustainability is a key focus within the learning and teaching programme with engagement with community organizations such as Parks Victoria, Coast Care, Deakin University and Community Environment Alliance a key to its success.*

- *In addition to excellent academic programs, St Aloysius offers a wide range of sporting, cultural and community involvement opportunities. The school participates in the Musica Viva program which provides a wide range of orchestral and musical concerts to rural communities. The school has its own choir which entertains at local community events including Seniors Week. The school also provides a showcase in Visual Arts with a bi-annual Art show. The school celebrates the talents of students in an annual school concert which showcases music, dance and drama.*
- *Physical education and sport is important at St Aloysius. Students have access to a wide variety of sporting equipment at morning, recess and lunch breaks. Students are taught basic skills in a number of recreational sports which encourage them to participate in weekend competitions. These sports include athletics, tennis, football, netball, soccer and tee-ball. Good sportsmanship and fairness is at the forefront of all sporting activities.*
- *Service to others is a key focus at St Aloysius. Our school takes great pride in contributing to our community through ANZAC Day, Vietnam Veterans day, Battle for Australia, Remembrance Day and contributing to the annual Queenscliff Music festival.*
- *Curriculum development is an ongoing process and the school is at the forefront of science and environmental education in the region. At St Aloysius Catholic Primary School teachers have created exciting and dynamic learning environments in which stimulating teaching strategies are designed to maximize student interest and learning opportunities. A variety of digital devices are used by the students including desk top computers, I pads, smart TVs, interactive whiteboards and laptops. Each student has their own Seesaw account which serves as an excellent vehicle for reflection and home /school communication.*
- *Seven full-time and seven part-time teachers serve the school in 2018; supported by one Administration Officer and two Education Support Officers. In 2018 the classes are organized in the following six groups – P/1 2/3, 2/3, 4/5, 4/5 and 6.*
- *The St Aloysius community is made up of students not only from Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale but also surrounding areas of the Bellarine Peninsula including St Leonards, Clifton Springs, Indented Heads and Portarlington. While being very proud of its history the St Aloysius community is intent on providing the most contemporary and engaging learning and teaching programme for our students today and into the future. Being part of a Catholic Community the St Aloysius students are guided by Catholic values and Catholic Social Teaching so as to make a difference in our world both locally and globally.*
- *Student Voice is encouraged through our Inquiry focus and student-led assemblies. Student Leadership is in the form of action teams who co-ordinate various activities for student involvement. The buddy program runs right through the school. The school captains are the school representatives and attend local community events regularly. The school strives to build a happy, harmonious learning environment that*

focuses on well-being, student outcomes, personalised learning and building positive relationships.

- *The partnership of parents and teachers is essential to the life and learning at St Aloysius Catholic Primary School. Parents play valuable roles assisting in the classrooms, participating in literacy programs, guest speaker role, inter-school sport, excursions, library etc. Parents have representatives on the School Education Board, which acts as a forum for discussing matters concerning the school. The School Education Board meets ten times a year and its members include the Parish Priest, Principal, Staff Representative and elected Parent Representatives. St Aloysius is fortunate in having a highly committed and supportive Parents and Friends Association.*



Staff 2018

Parish Priest: Father Michael Richardson

Principal: Ms Fiona Dawson

Deputy Principal: Miss Karyn Phillips

Year 6 teachers: Ms Fiona Dawson Mrs Chris Badrock

Year 4 and 5 teachers: Mrs Nicole Sadler Miss Fiona Greene Mrs Jacqui Beasley

Year 2 and 3 teachers: Mr Paul Garner Ms Maddie Doherty

Prep/1 Teacher: Miss Karyn Phillips Mrs Jo Britt

Administration Officers: Mrs Rhonda Cameron Mrs Deborah Krizmanic

Education Support Officers Mrs Monica Nitz Mrs Lisa Mourant

Music and Drama Mrs Miriam Leahy Mrs Jo Britt

Language Other Than English: Mrs Liz Corda

Physical Education: Mrs Chris Badrock

Reading Recovery: Ms Susan Donnelly

Leadership Roles:

Religious Education: Mr Paul Garner

Learning and Teaching: Ms Fiona Dawson

Mathematics: Miss Fiona Greene

Literacy: Mrs Nicole Sadler Ms Maddie Doherty

Science and Environmental Education: Mrs Nicole Sadler Ms Maddie Doherty

Student Well Being and ICT: Miss Karyn Phillips

Individual Differences: Ms Fiona Dawson

Sport and Physical Education Mrs Chris Badrock

Term Dates and Daily Timetable

School Terms

Term 1 January 29th to March 29th

Term 2 April 16th to June 29th

Term 3 July 16th to September 21st

Term 4 October 8th December 21st

Daily Timetable:

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<i>8.50 to 11.00</i>	<i>8.50 to 10.30</i>	<i>8.50 to 11.00</i>	<i>8.50 to 11.00</i>	<i>8.50 to 11.00</i>
<i>Recess</i>	<i>Recess</i>	<i>Recess</i>	<i>Recess</i>	<i>Recess</i>
<i>11.30 to 1.00</i>	<i>10.30 to 1.00</i>	<i>11.30 to 1.00</i>	<i>11.30 to 1.00</i>	<i>11.30 to 1.00</i>
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
<i>1.50 to 3.20</i>	<i>1.50 to 3.20</i>	<i>1.50 to 3.20</i>	<i>1.50 to 3.20</i>	<i>1.50 to 3.20</i>
<i>Dismissal</i>	<i>Dismissal</i>	<i>Dismissal</i>	<i>Dismissal</i>	<i>Dismissal</i>

Please note that the Preps will start on Thursday the 1st of February from 8.50 until 1.00 p.m. They will need to be dressed in their summer uniform, have a hat, water bottle and morning snack including a piece of fruit. The same timetable will be for Friday the 2nd of February.

Preps will begin their first full day on the Monday of the second week of term 1.

Preps do not attend school on a Wednesday until Week 7.



St Aloysius School Uniform

At St Aloysius we are proud of our uniform

At St Aloysius School we offer a range of uniform, we ensure that our uniform is practical, comfortable and above all durable. We are proud of the uniform our students wear and feel that it provides them with a sense of identity and belonging to the St Aloysius family.

Uniform rules

Students are expected to take pride in their uniform by keeping them clean, neat and tidy. Parents' assistance in ensuring that their children adhere to the School's uniform rules is appreciated.

1. Jewelry must not be worn. Only watches and earrings, such as sleepers and studs, are permitted.
2. Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back into a ponytail, plait or bun, with blue ribbon, scrunchies or hair bands.
3. Coloured nail polish must not be worn to school.
4. Uniforms should be kept clean, in good repair, with frayed, torn or ill-fitting items replaced.
5. All articles of clothing should be clearly marked with the owner's name.

A sun smart school

All efforts are made to ensure that the children are protected from the sun during School activities. This includes the compulsory wearing of a hat, in terms 1 and 4, while outdoors and during Physical Education lessons. During warmer months parents are advised to apply sunscreen for their children before school. Sunscreen is then re-applied at school and at break times.

Prices and purchasing

- A price list is available at the school office.
- The Second – Hand Uniform Shop is currently located in the Contemporary Learning Centre.
- New Uniforms can be purchased from:

Bellarine Uniforms
162 Moorabool Street Geelong
Phone: (03) 5221 9199 email: bellarine@noone.com.au
Trading hours: Mon-Fri 9am to 5.30pm. Saturday 9am – 1pm

Girls Summer



- Blue and white check dress (Peter Pan or A-line)
- Plain white socks (up & downers)
- Black school shoes (leather/look no runners or suede)
- Crew neck navy windcheater with logo or navy bomber jacket with logo (optional)
- Navy blue skirt

Boys Summer



- Light blue short sleeve polo shirt with logo
- Grey shorts (elastic waist)
- Grey socks (up and downer)
- Black school shoes (leather/look no runners or suede)
- Crew neck navy windcheater with logo or navy bomber jacket with logo (optional)

Girls Winter



- Light blue long/short sleeve polo shirt
- St Aloysius school knee length kilt/pinafore or navy blue pants
- Grey tights/grey knee high socks
- Black school shoes (leather/look no runners or suede)
- Crew neck navy windcheater with logo or navy bomber jacket with logo (optional)

Boys Winter



- Light blue long/short sleeve polo shirt with school logo
- Grey trousers (full elastic or college) – no cargo or cord
- Grey Socks (up and downers)
- Black school shoes (leather/look no runners or suede)
- Crew neck navy windcheater with logo or navy bomber jacket with logo (optional)

Sports (girls & boys designated days only)



- Navy sports top with logo
- Navy blue sports shorts with logo (summer)
- Navy blue track pants (winter)
- White sport socks
- Sport shoes
- Crew neck navy windcheater with logo or navy bomber jacket with logo (optional)

Boys and Girls



- Crew neck navy windcheater with logo or navy bomber jacket with logo (optional)



- School approved wide brim/ bucket hat (terms 1 & 4)

School approved bag with logo

Religious Education at St Aloysius

Religious Education is a life-long process. It is the process of fostering our faith relationship with God. An essential part of nurturing children in faith is the exploration of the teachings, traditions, and beliefs of the Catholic Church.

The love of God, as expressed through the life of Jesus, is cause for celebration by the whole school and the community of Holy Trinity Parish. The Eucharist is the centre of our faith, and we are called to be Jesus, alive today, to others. We believe that the individual should have the opportunity to experience a relationship with a loving God, whose presence can fill their life with faith, hope and peace.

As parents are the primary educators of their children, our Religious Education Program is designed to support and complement what is taught and modeled at home. Therefore we encourage active participation by the whole family in Religious Education at St. Aloysius.

The Melbourne Archdiocesan Religious Education Framework and Texts are used as the primary source for education in faith at St Aloysius.



Learning and Teaching at St Aloysius

The curriculum at St. Aloysius School is implemented as outlined in the school's Curriculum Framework Policy.

The context for teaching and learning at St. Aloysius is within a Contemporary Learning Framework which is characterised by:

- *An Inquiry approach to learning that is used throughout the school. This approach links learning to life experiences and opens students a perspective of learning that is relational rather than isolated subject content.*
- *The use of technology with a variety of tools and applications in order to enhance and enrich the learning experience by offering scope for research, communication and creativity.*
- *A physical school environment that supports Contemporary Learning Models. St Aloysius' School has been completely refurbished and designed to meet the standards of contemporary learning facilities. With creative design, open spaces, flowing and interconnecting facilities, spaces for quiet work and others for group collaboration, indoor and outdoor learning spaces and integral technology connectivity capacity the school is well placed to support the type of learning that it offers students.*

Literacy at St Aloysius

Literacy is the key to communicating, thinking strategically and being an effective member of society. There is a shared belief among staff in the capacity of focused teaching to make a difference to ensure all students are successful. At St Aloysius we are committed to:

- *having high expectations of student achievement*
- *collecting, analysing and using data from a range of assessments*
- *ensuring engaged learning time*
- *providing structured teaching, focused on the learning needs of students*
- *clearly articulating learning intentions and success criteria for students*
- *setting, articulating and achieving personal learning goals*
- *teaching students how to apply their literacy knowledge in different contexts, for different purposes and with a range of texts*

At St Aloysius focused literacy teaching is taught from well-developed understandings of how children learn and in depth knowledge of the reading and writing processes. Students will have numerous opportunities to improve their knowledge and capacity to effectively communicate through reading, writing, oral language, handwriting and spelling. Literacy is embedded across the curriculum with particular instructional strategies taught within a daily two-hour literacy block guided by the Victorian curriculum

Mathematics at St Aloysius

At St Aloysius Catholic Parish Primary School, we believe that Mathematics is an intrinsic part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum. Mathematics pervades all aspects of life, therefore active and effective participation in Australian society is dependent upon learners being numerate and able to apply mathematical thinking and skills in everyday life, with confidence, understanding, purpose and enjoyment. Mathematics provides a means of accessing and processing information and develops logic and reasoning. It involves knowing

mathematical facts, developing a sense of number, being able to carry out mathematical procedures and being able to use mathematics in solving problems, and describing and understanding the world.

At St Aloysius we focus on actively engaging the students in the development of mathematical understanding by using manipulatives and a variety of representations; working in flexible small groups co-operatively and independently to solve problems; estimate efficiently; investigate and record findings. Emphasis is placed on problem solving, finding patterns and making connections. Students are encouraged to be independent thinkers.

The Use of Information, Communication Technology at St Aloysius

At St Aloysius, Queenscliff we believe that students are to be equipped to seize opportunities to broaden their knowledge, skills, attitudes and understandings to live in a changing, complex and interdependent digital world. For that reason, St Aloysius' encourages the learning to be enriched by strong connections with the broader community, effective communicating online and offline, collaborating locally and globally; being well equipped to be safe and responsible cyber citizens.

We are aware that 21st Century students engage and will continue to engage in the digital world. At St Aloysius Primary School we believe cyber safe, digital literate and responsible online behaviour is an essential part of students' learning. We believe that this is best learnt in partnership with home, school and the wider community in order for students to become effective cyber citizens. Safe and responsible behaviour is explicitly taught at our school and parents/carers are requested to reinforce this behaviour at home.

At St Aloysius we use the Intranet, internet and digital technologies as teaching and learning tools. We see the internet and digital technologies as valuable resources, but acknowledge they must be used responsibly.

Your child will be asked to agree to use the Intranet, internet and mobile technologies responsibly at school. Parents/carers should be aware that while every measure is taken to protect your child, the nature of the internet is such that full protection from inappropriate content can never be guaranteed.

Science and Environmental Sustainability at St Aloysius

Throughout their primary school years our students are immersed in a learning and teaching programme that works towards deepening their understanding of the world around them. Science is taught explicitly once a week from years Prep to 6 as well as within the context of investigative inquiries. Our students are encouraged to explore and make meaning of the world around them through experimentation, the collection of data and developing skills of observation. This understanding is deepened through investigations into the world of technology and how human intervention has affected our natural world. Programmes such as Robotics and Formula 1 Fast Cars are integrated so that genuine community links to outside organisations such as Deakin University and Science Works are sustained.

This year St Aloysius Primary School celebrates its fourth year partnering the Two Bays project by once again sailing to Mud Islands to observe the diverse life of Port Phillip including shorebirds, seabirds, marine flora and fauna.

Students from year 5 will identify and explore human impact on the Bay and its marine life with a view to positive action for future marine sustainability.

This experience is made possible through the generous support of Catholic Education, Melbourne and St Aloysius educational partner, the Marine and Freshwater Discovery Centre, who will provide an expert staff member to work with the children. It is the foundation for ongoing direct experience of waterways as places to care about and take action for. The Two Bays project utilises Pelican 1, a 62 foot catamaran, to conduct marine research, community engagement activities, and provide opportunities for dialogue and information sharing on key bay environmental themes.



Throughout their primary school years our students are immersed in programmes where they can appreciate their own natural environment. Sand dune restoration programmes, sustainability sessions at King Street Reserve aligning Swan Bay and local school based sustainability programmes highlight the importance of sustaining our own local environment for future generations. St Aloysius is also involved in programmes such as Kids Teaching Kids which promotes individual and small group scientific investigations into our environment as well as making strong connections with local schools and community groups.



Health and Physical Education at St Aloysius

It is so important that our students have a balanced learning and teaching environment that caters for the development of the whole child. Throughout their primary school years our students are immersed in learning that deepens their understanding of how the body functions and how they can look after themselves through what they eat, how they sleep and the amount of quality exercise they receive. Through units of inquiry and targeted programmes such as the Life Education programme our students begin to develop an understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle and the choices they make that can affect their quality of life.

Our students are immersed in a Physical Education programme that targets fundamental skill development such as throwing, catching, running and jumping. The students are exposed to minor games that lead to skill development for major games such as tennis, soccer, cricket and hockey. A follow up sports session is held later in the week where these skills can be used in a game situation. An athletics programme followed by a whole school carnival is held annually. An intense swimming programme is held annually.

The students from years 3 to 6 are given the opportunity to compete in interschool competitions such as basketball, netball, cricket, rugby and soccer. Other outdoor education programmes such as the Marine Ranger's snorkelling programme gives our senior students even further skills for long term lifestyle activity.

Music and Drama

Music and Drama is incorporated within our learning and teaching programme. Our students are exposed to fundamental concepts such as beat, pitch and rhythm and are given the opportunity to develop their skills through a variety of activities using un tuned instruments. Each year our students work towards an end of year concert that showcases their sense of beat and rhythm. Students are given the opportunity to learn tuned instruments through Oxygen Music which facilitates private tuition of guitar, keyboard and violin throughout the week. Students are also given the opportunity to develop skills in drumming either individually or in groups. Private music sessions come at an extra cost to families.

Visual Arts

The Visual Arts is seen as a vital part of the curriculum in that allows students the opportunity for students to express themselves as well as demonstrate their learning in a unique and creative manner. Skills using a variety of media are taught from P to 6 with examples of individual art being displayed on a weekly basis in classrooms, common areas and at assemblies. The St Aloysius Art Show is held every two years and showcases the skill development and creativity of students from years 3 to 6.