

Prospectus



As a northern inner city senior high school, we offer a caring environment where our teachers know their students and can offer a more personalised education. They are committed to creating a positive and engaging learning environment in which students can achieve to their full potential.

We offer a balanced and stimulating curriculum that fosters the initiative, creativity and the achievement of every student. We offer a selective, elite Gifted and Talented Program in the Visual Arts, an Approved Specialist Program in Dance, a selective Academic Extension Program, and a Saturday morning Young Masters' Program in the Visual Arts for primary students in Year 5 and Year 6.

We work closely with our parents to ensure that all students are cared for, respected and provided with the support and guidance they need at school and for the future.

Our school values of 'Respect-Unite-Excel' mean that we are committed to working closely with our local primary schools and community organisations to ensure that our students can access a rich and diverse educational experience including debating, a wide range of sports, and interstate and international tours.

The school has a range of excellent facilities including specialist art studios, a gymnasium, swimming pool, Beauty Studio, Design and Technology workshops and library. These facilities are designed to support the learning and achievement of students.

Please browse our website for further information about what we offer at www.balcattashs.wa.edu.au.



CURRICULUM

Our School offers a balanced curriculum in a positive, stimulating environment in which each student can reach his or her full potential.

- > **A vibrant and nurturing learning environment** that allows all students to excel in academic, sporting, cultural, community and leadership roles.
- > **A full range of engaging, creative and challenging programs** to equip students for University, TAFEWA and other vocational programs and employment.
- > **Core academic courses** in English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, The Arts, Health and Physical Education and Digital Technologies.
- > A comprehensive range of **practical vocational programs** to enable students to pursue traineeships and certificates, workplace learning and other on-the-job training.
- > An inclusive **Education Support Program** catering for special needs in a caring student-centred environment.
- > **A comprehensive health education program**, the Keys for Life driver education program and other programs to develop a healthy lifestyle.
- > **A Music and Instrumental Music Program** that engages students in a Class Music program enriched with an Instrumental Music program conducted by the Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS).



Specialist Programs including:

- > **Gifted and Talented Visual Art Program** where students are selected through an external testing process run by the Department of Education, which is partly an academic test but is mostly based on student work produced in a practical day long test and an interview.
- > **The Approved Specialist Dance Program** offers students in-depth learning opportunities with specialist teachers and includes excursions or incursions with people from the industry, as well as pathways into and beyond senior school courses.
- > **A selective Academic Extension Program** commencing in Year 7 that develops critical and creative thinking, problem-solving, enrichment and accelerated learning.



A School Celebrating Diversity and Providing Care and Challenge



OUR TEACHERS

We have a professional, well-qualified team of both experienced and graduate teachers dedicated to ensuring that each student achieves his or her personal best.

We will:

- > ensure **high quality teaching** and learning through our professional learning community;
- > gather and **analyse performance data** and act to ensure learning is productive and evidence based;
- > continue **professional learning** through teacher observation, mentoring and reflective practice;
- > foster **positive relationships**, engage students and improve academic performance;
- > provide **personalised attention** to help students improve and achieve;
- > **use technology** in the classroom;
- > create a **happy, safe and supportive learning environment**, praise students' efforts and encourage their personal growth and development; and
- > help students **navigate their way successfully** through school, focus on future goals, plan their future and, with support from their family and staff, encourage all students to reach their full potential.

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RESPECT • UNITE • EXCEL

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OUR COMMUNITY

- > Our community consists of parents, community members, staff and students.
- > Parents and community representatives are encouraged to involve themselves in the school by participating in school decision-making through the School Board and the Parents and Citizens' Association.
- > Our School Board consists of parents, community, staff and student members who are committed to supporting the school to achieve the best outcomes for its students. They assist in setting and enhancing school goals, endorsing the Annual School Report, Business Plan and reviewing school performance.
- > Our Parents and Citizens' Committee works actively to support our students on their journey through school. Fundraising through various activities provides an important forum for parents to discuss important matters relating to the school and its community.
- > Parents are encouraged to further engage in their child's learning by joining the collaborative on-line learning environment.



OUR FACILITIES

- > The school is situated on an 11-hectare site with a swimming pool and playing fields, and offers numerous sporting facilities that include athletics, soccer, tennis, netball, softball, basketball, cricket and gymnastics. From 2019 the school will undergo a major building program to provide state of the art 21st century facilities as part of the government's \$50 million upgrade.
- > Our learning areas are situated in functional teaching blocks with the technological resources for students to learn, work and study comfortably, and with sufficient space, safety and support for their learning needs.
- > Our Student Services centre has a team that includes the Student Services Manager, Year Coordinators, School Psychologist, Community Nurse and Learning Support Coordinator.
- > Our Information and Technology area is resourced with the latest technology and computing facilities to equip students for 21st century learning.
- > The Home Economics area includes two classrooms fully equipped with state of the art cooking appliances, utensils and stainless steel benchtops at Certificate II in Hospitality standard. In addition, a new multi-purpose room for sewing and fabrics is available.
- > Our dedicated Beauty Training Clinic operates in partnership with North Metropolitan TAFE.
- > We have a simulated, well-equipped business office used in the Certificate III in Business Course.
- > The Building and Construction area has a design technologies workshop including woodwork, metalwork, plastics, jewellery and mechanical.
- > A gymnasium is available for a range of physical recreational activities.
- > A modern, contemporary, spacious and well-equipped library supports teaching, learning information, literacy and a love of reading. It showcases an art collection from well-renowned artists and former art students.

Students have a flexible and interesting learning program through excursions, competitions, performances and outside activities.