



*Inspiring and empowering members of our school community to achieve their full potential in an inclusive and supportive environment*



**FAIRHILLS**  
HIGH SCHOOL  
KNOX

**ACT RESPONSIBLY | BUILD RELATIONSHIPS | SHOW RESPECT**



# WELCOME TO FAIRHILLS HIGH SCHOOL Where Education Thrives!

At Fairhills High School, our excellent student educational outcomes are cultivated through our innovative instructional model, a dedicated team of engaging teachers, and a foundation built on strong school values. With unwavering high expectations graduates are equipped with robust core academic skills, expansive analytical thinking abilities, and the adaptability to thrive in our ever-evolving world.

Students immerse themselves in International opportunities, such as visit to our overseas sister school and STEM initiatives that broaden horizons and foster global awareness.

In our Middle School, a dynamic blend of explicit instruction and student-centred learning expands critical thinking and problem-solving skills. The Year 9 program propels students toward independence and resilience, setting the stage for their Senior School journey.

Our Senior School program, complemented by a diverse array of subject choices, ensures a personalised educational journey for students of all interests and abilities. Academic excellence is intricately woven into a commitment to social and personal wellbeing. Our robust education program focuses on fulfilling each student's potential, fostering individual grit, and nurturing the development of personal character values.

We believe in the transformative power of respect – for oneself and others. Our steadfast commitment to a strong Respectful Relationships program reflects our dedication to shaping well-rounded individuals who thrive in collaborative and inclusive environments.

Fairhills students are not just educated; they are immersed in a curiosity-focused learning environment that sparks a love for exploration and knowledge. We invite you to experience our school, a community of which we are profoundly proud.

Join us on a journey of academic excellence, personal growth, and global awareness at Fairhills High School.

*Jan Van Schie*

Principal

*"We've been extremely happy with Fairhills - especially with the quality of the teaching. There are some really amazing teachers here and I have been really impressed with how they cater for children at the level they're at - supporting where necessary and offering plenty of opportunities for extension and following interests. Additionally, the teachers and support staff are very caring and teacher/parent/student communication is excellent."*

Current Year 9 parent.

## OUR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

### OUR VISION & PHILOSOPHY

**"Inspiring and empowering members of our school community to achieve their full potential in an inclusive and supportive environment"**

Fairhills High School is a learning community for all. It is the school's duty to provide every student with the learning environment to thrive in.

Our values ensure we build and maintain respectful and positive relationships. The School Wide Positive Behaviour Framework, high expectations of community members and consistency of teaching practices via the Fairhills High School instructional model enables a supportive and orderly learning environment for our students.

We focus on innovative and engaging learning strategies that capture each student's interests at their point of need. Through our personal growth programs our students are given the necessary learning and life skills to overcome any obstacles they will face at school and beyond.

### OUR VALUES

Expectations for our students are high at Fairhills High School. We firmly believe that every student can experience success and go on to graduate as a responsible, resilient and confident young adult, well prepared to take charge of their future and to become a productive member of the community.

Everything we do is underpinned by our three core values Act Responsibly, Build Relationships and Show Respect.



# OUR APPROACH TO LEARNING

Challenging students at their point of need is crucial because it ensures that they remain engaged and motivated, as tasks are appropriately matched to their current abilities. Our approach fosters growth by pushing students to expand their skills and knowledge incrementally, leading to deeper understanding and mastery of the subject matter. We address individual needs by personalising learning experiences that ultimately result in higher learning growth and success for all students.

Our instructional model (LEARN) has a profound impact on student growth, as it shifts from teacher-led instruction to student-centred learning, fostering independence and deeper understanding. Through explicit instruction, guided practice, collaborative learning, and independent application, students develop critical thinking skills and confidence in their abilities. This approach promotes active engagement, metacognition, and mastery of concepts, leading to sustained academic growth and improved learning outcomes over time.

In our Year 7 and 8 English and Maths classes, students undergo assessment at the start of each topic and are then assigned to ability-based Flexible Learning Groups (FLG). For instance, if a student demonstrates proficiency in measurement, they may join an acceleration group tailored to their needs. In cases where a small number of students excel or require additional support in a particular area, we offer them individualised instruction facilitated by our intentionally small teacher-to-student ratio, ensuring personalised attention and increased learning growth.

For those students who need further support, we offer a range of intensive programs including literacy programs, integration support, and QuickSmart. Students are identified for the QuickSmart program early and are provided targeted intervention in numeracy, helping students improve their foundational skills efficiently and effectively. By offering individualised instruction and structured practice, QuickSmart enables students to gain confidence and numeracy proficiency.

Our Year 9 and 10 Specialisms are distinctive from other schools as students exclusively shape their academic path through personal choice. Empowering students nurtures a sense of ownership over their education, paving the way for success as they delve into their interests and pursue their passions. With captivating subjects such as Algebra, Throwing Clay, and Lean into Literature, our program ignites intrinsic motivation and fosters deeper engagement, leading to improved academic performance and personal fulfillment.

We offer a multitude of acceleration programs, including the STEM Academy, high-ability programs, and VCE advanced placement. Students in Year 10 have the option to enrol in Advanced Placement Subjects, wherein they undertake one to two VCE subjects throughout the academic year, completing Unit 1 and 2 in Year 10 and Unit 3 and 4 in Year 11. Accelerating Year 10 top achievers offers benefits, challenging and engaging them, fostering intellectual growth, resilience, and confidence as they explore advanced concepts beyond the standard curriculum.



## ACADEMY PROGRAMS

### STEM ACADEMY

Students embark on an exhilarating journey of discovery and innovation.

In Years 7 and 8, students undertake acceleration and enrichment Mathematics and STEM. Students immerse themselves in the captivating realm of Vex Robotics and explore stimulating external competitions, laying the groundwork for future achievements. An opportunity awaits students to engage in top-tier STEM programs at Swinburne University.

By Year 9, students continue on with accelerated learning and delve into intensive STEM subjects such as Robotics, Coding, and Cars of the Future, culminating in the prestigious Hydrogen Grand Prix.

Advancing into Year 10, students commence their three-year VCE journey by completing two advanced placements. In Year 10 and Year 11 they seize opportunities for placements with leading STEM industry partners and gain access to esteemed university high ability groups. Additionally, students are provided with the opportunity to participate in the NASA Space Camp, situated in the USA.

In Year 11, students undertake two Year 12 VCE STEM subjects, laying the groundwork for the pinnacle of Year 12.

Upon reaching Year 12, students complete three to four VCE subjects, with the option to undertake advanced placements at university within the STEM field.

Students from all year levels in the STEM Academy have the chance to partake in Vex Robotics competitions at the state, national, and global levels.

Inspired by our commitment to fostering innovation and excellence, our STEM Learning Centre stands as a beacon, empowering students to embark on an extraordinary journey of discovery, creativity, and achievement in the boundless realms of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

### BASKETBALL ACADEMY

Discover the pinnacle of sports and academics at Fairhills High School's esteemed Basketball Academy, where athletic excellence seamlessly merges with leadership development. Under the guidance of our dedicated team of experienced teachers and coaches, students have the unique opportunity to refine their basketball skills while pursuing their academic goals.

From Year 7, students are welcomed to join our Basketball Academy, embarking on a journey of comprehensive development with a focus on fundamental skills, teamwork, and enjoyment. As students progress into Year 9 and 10, the Academy becomes an integral part of their core curriculum, with dedicated sessions each week devoted to rigorous basketball training and skills enhancement. Exceptional athletes demonstrating our school values may even earn the chance to try out for senior teams.

In the Senior Years, our program intensifies, aiming to solidify technical skills, enhance fitness, and instil essential values such as resilience and humility that extend beyond the court. Embracing a holistic approach, the Basketball Academy prioritises not only athletic achievement but also academic excellence. With personalised support and guidance, students thrive both academically and athletically, preparing them for leadership roles and national tournaments like the Australian Schools' Basketball Championships.

Our Basketball Academy, we nurture individual growth, turning aspirations into accomplishments and moulding champions of tomorrow.

*"My coaches were my mentors and advocates on and off the court. They were able to support me with academic learning as well as on court skills, pushing me to be the best version of myself in all aspects of my life. My experience at Fairhills High School Basketball Academy gave me the support, skills, confidence, and drive to pursue my dreams to play college basketball in the US.*

**Jamie Blanchard**  
Impact Basketball Academy Nevada, Las Vegas





## A SEAMLESS AND ENJOYABLE TRANSITION

### **BUILDING BELONGING**

We cherish the significance of every educational phase, guiding students seamlessly from the Transition period to Year 7, all the way through the enriching journey of VCE.

Our commitment is to meet individual needs at every stage, fostering a student-centric approach that tailors learning experiences based on each student's unique characteristics, be it gender, age, interests, or potential.

Helping our transitioning students to feel happy and secure is our primary focus. The school supports this transition through our extensive primary school discovery program. From the middle of primary school, students visit the school for cultural, sporting and STEM experiences.

In Year 7, one of our main goals is to assist students in establishing friendships and connections, which are essential for cultivating a strong sense of belonging within the Fairhills High School community. The majority of Year 7 students' subjects are in the one class leading to greater ownership and agency of their learning environment. Moreover, our Year 7 and 8 staffroom serves as a hub of connection, where the students' teachers are situated, creating opportunities for students to build important relationships with their educators. Our dedicated Year 7 and 8 social spaces provide students with areas to connect outside of the traditional classroom environment, fostering friendships and a sense of community. Additionally, our Year 7 and 8 extracurricular activities and camps offer unforgettable experiences that further strengthen bonds among peers, promoting a culture of inclusiveness and connectedness.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS 7-9

### **EMBARK ON AN INSPIRING MIDDLE SCHOOL JOURNEY**

The Middle School years are a pivotal phase where students not only refine their skills and knowledge in core subjects like English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, THRIVE (social & emotional real-world skills), and Physical Education but also explore their unique interest through a range of taster classes. Our inclusive Academic program offers a well-rounded educational experience.

### **UNLEASHING FULL POTENTIAL THROUGH WELLBEING**

Guided by our commitment to ensuring every student reaches their full potential, Fairhills High School employs a proactive Wellbeing curriculum and pastoral care delivered by dedicated staff. The Middle School Wellbeing curriculum creates a safe and supportive learning environment where students actively engage in discussions about relevant adolescent development topics, with a central emphasis on fostering respectful relationships.

### **NURTURING INTERESTS AND PASSIONS**

Middle School goes beyond academics to nurture students' interests and passions. An array of clubs, including STEM, Philosophy and Art provides opportunities for exploration and challenge. Our extensive Music program features string, brass, and woodwind ensembles, complemented by private tuition options in various instruments. Participating in an array of sporting competitions such as volleyball, tennis, and soccer, students apply their leadership, teamwork, and communication skills, fostering their path towards reaching their ultimate potential.

Fairhills Middle School is not just an educational journey; it's an adventure of self-discovery, exploration, and growth. Join us and unlock the boundless possibilities that await each student on their path to success.

# SENIOR SCHOOL YEARS 10-12

## A JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION

The Senior School experience is not just an academic pursuit; it's a life changing experience that equips students with the skills and mindset to excel in life beyond our walls.

Fairhills High School sets the stage for the pivotal final three years of students' learning and development, driven by the dynamic VCE program. Tailored to individual needs and passions, our academic study becomes more rigorous, allowing students to delve deeper into subjects aligning with their aspirations. The Senior School experience goes beyond academics, integrating sporting and co-curricular activities, along with opportunities to participate in clubs, performances, competitions, and community initiatives.

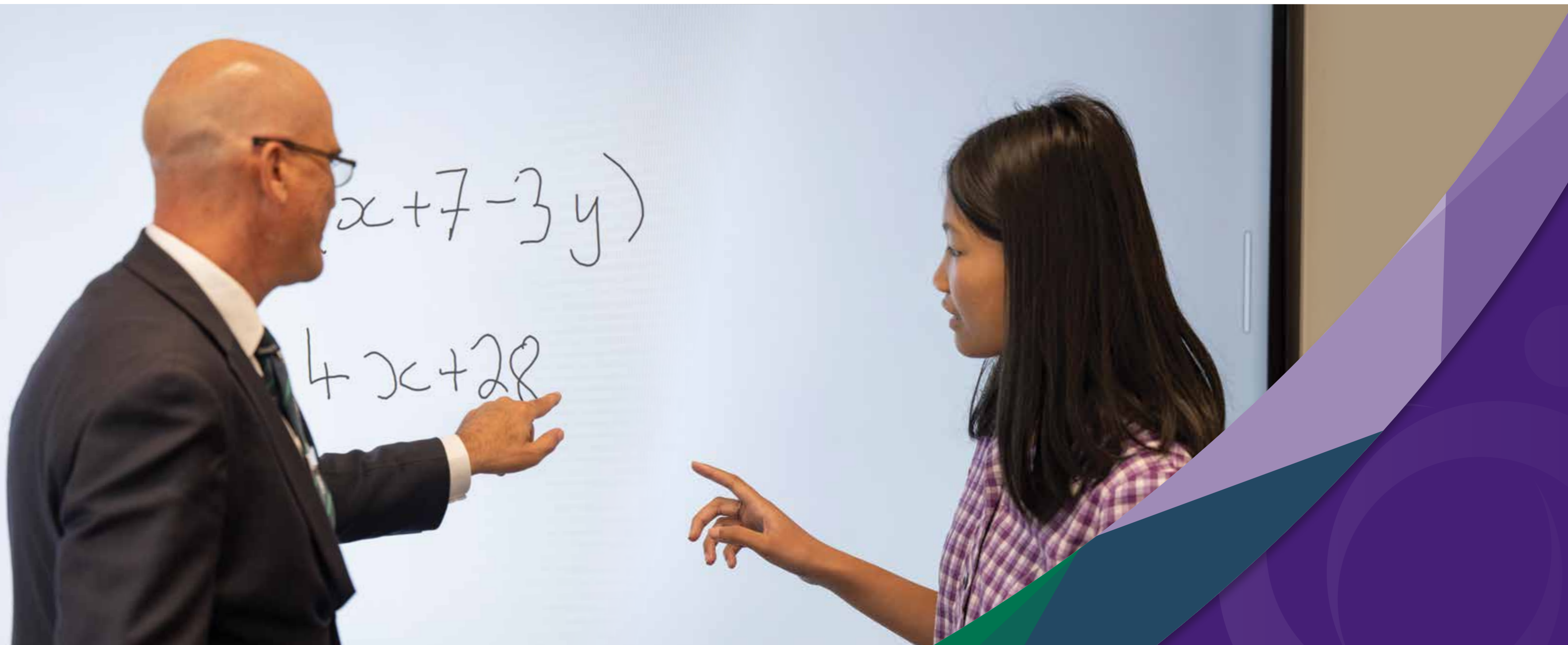
## A DIVERSE AND ENRICHING CURRICULUM

Our Senior School curriculum is a tapestry of enriching experiences, offering a broad spectrum of VCE studies and Vocational Education and Training (VET) subjects. With a steadfast industry focus, we provide studies in various subjects, ensuring a well-rounded education. Recognising effective learning habits cultivated in the Middle School, students can complete VCE over three years. The curriculum is complemented by a variety of co-curricular activities, spanning sports, the Arts, and cultural engagements, allowing students to expand their horizons and develop talents that complement their studies. Tailoring their program to individual needs, talents, and interests, students receive guidance from dedicated teachers and staff to align their academic readiness with future goals.

## NAVIGATING CHALLENGES AND FOSTERING BALANCE

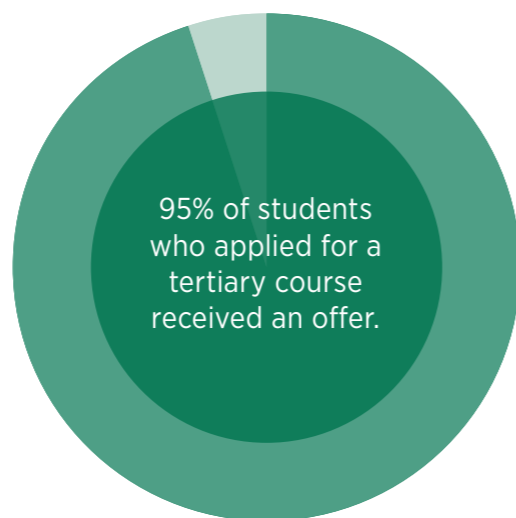
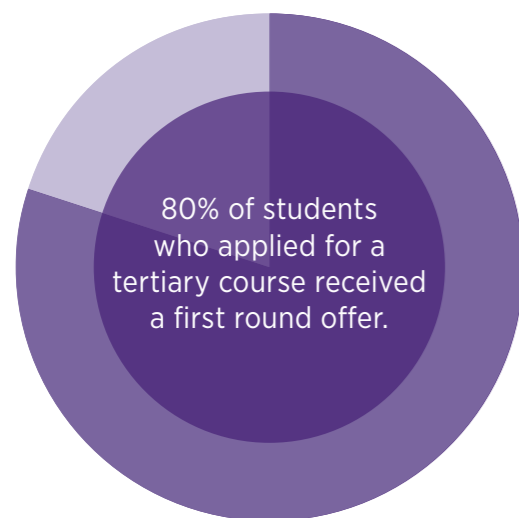
The Senior School journey is a challenge that demands dedication and the application of deeper learning and critical thinking skills to complete VCE and prepare for life beyond. Our commitment is to see every student rise to their potential while maintaining a sense of balance. The Wellbeing program plays a crucial role, addressing topics such as healthy and respectful relationships, consent in intimate relationships, values, emotional intelligence, positive mental health, diversity, and navigating the online world.

Join us as we shape future leaders and empower every student to surpass their potential.



# RESULTS AND PATHWAYS

## YEAR 12 RESULTS AND OFFERS

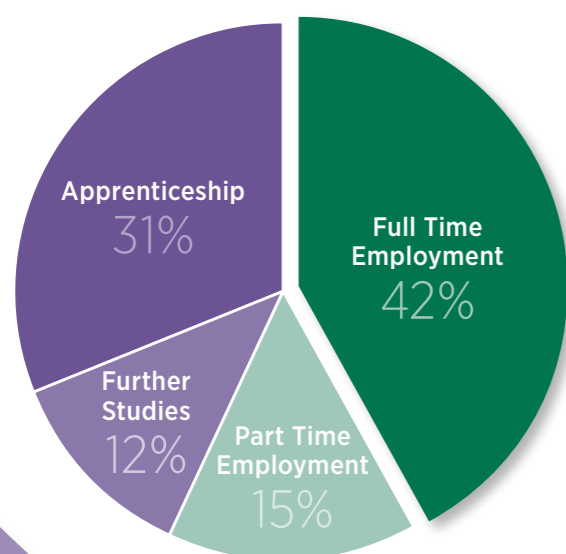


## UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

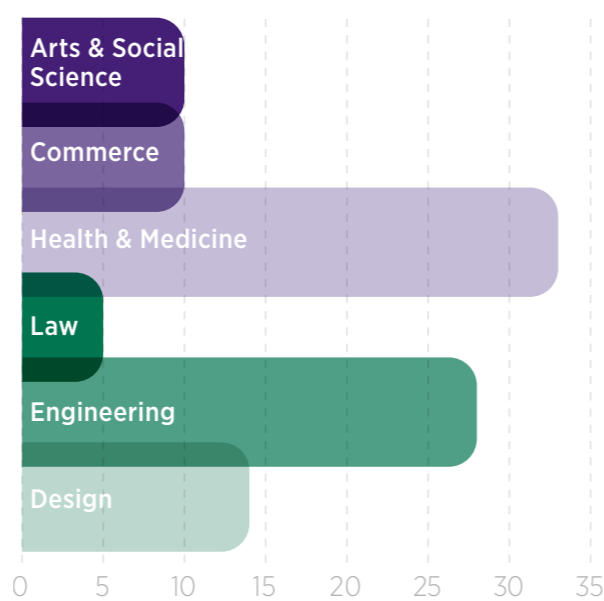
### TOP 3 DESTINATIONS

Monash University | Deakin University | La Trobe University

## NON TERTIARY OFFERS



## COURSE DESTINATIONS



## EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

### A SPORTING CULTURE FOR ALL

Students are immersed in a vibrant sporting culture, where we recognise the diverse benefits of physical and psychological wellbeing. Our comprehensive program ensures that there is something for everyone, fostering a sense of inclusion and participation. For those with a passion for basketball, our Academy stands as a beacon for nurturing exceptional talents, guiding students towards success at the pinnacle of the sport.

Every student is an active participant in both intraschool House sports and interschool competitions. Our commitment extends beyond participation – we provide dedicated training and coaching to refine skills and elevate performance levels. Whether it's friendly House competitions or intense interschool clashes, students have the opportunity to engage, compete, and flourish within a supportive sporting environment.

Join us at Fairhills High School, where the pursuit of physical fitness and sportsmanship is not just a part of our culture; it's a way of life. Uncover the endless possibilities our sports program offers as we empower students to lead active, healthy lives and reach their full potential on and off the field.

### EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Extracurricular activities provide a channel for reinforcing the lessons learned in the classroom, offering students the opportunity to apply academic skills in a real-world context, and are thus considered part of a well-rounded education.

Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. These activities offer students opportunities for leadership and teamwork that can increase self-confidence, individual responsibility, sense of belonging, and pride within the school community.

The rich variety of extracurricular activities that Fairhills High School offers, include a comprehensive instrumental music program, drama and music productions, yearly camps, Student Representative Council (SRC), and student lunch and after school clubs.



## STUDENT WELLBEING



### OUR APPROACH TO WELLBEING

Our role at Fairhills High School is to ensure that our young people are equipped for a happy and successful life. We do this by providing the relevant learning programs and recognising the individual needs of each young person.

The wellbeing of the individual and the learning community is at the centre of everything we do. We believe that the success of our students as learners is built on a foundation of connectedness to school, community and the wider world.

We are committed to ensuring that students at all year levels have the opportunity to actively participate in meaningful leadership roles, give feedback through student voice and give students responsibility and ownership of their learning. Our dedicated Pastoral Care program is finely tuned to each schooling stage. Each student is mentored by a teacher advocate, a House group mentor, a Year Level Leader, and a Sub-School Assistant Principal. Our comprehensive Wellbeing team, comprising a Wellbeing Leader, Chaplain, Mental Health Practitioner, and expert staff, stands ready to offer holistic support. From Year 7 to Year 12, extensive social and emotional skill programs guide students towards personal excellence.

### VIBRANT SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

We offer a myriad of House activities providing students with opportunities to develop vital skills and build relationships across the school. From whole school wellbeing days, productions and formals, our students remain actively engaged in positive social settings throughout the school year.



## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

### OUR APPROACH TO ENGAGEMENT

*Our Attitudes to School Survey results are above State average in all areas.*

The Attitudes to School Survey is a valuable tool provided by the Department of Education to help schools gain insight into students' perceptions and experiences. This annual survey allows Fairhills, along with other schools, to compare their results with similar schools, network schools, and the state average.

The positive responses reveal that our students feel inspired, empowered, included, and supported in all aspects of their school life.

The values we uphold in our school are crucial in fostering respectful and positive relationships. Through the implementation of the School Wide Positive Behaviour Framework, we ensure that all community members adhere to high expectations. This, coupled with the consistency of teaching practices via the Fairhills High School Instructional LEARN Model, creates a supportive and orderly learning environment for our students. By instilling these values, we promote respect and positivity among students, teachers, and staff. It is through these efforts that we can build strong relationships within our school community, ultimately leading to a successful educational experience for all involved.

We focus on innovative and engaging learning strategies that capture each student's interests at their point of need. Through our personal growth programs, our students are given the necessary learning and life skills to overcome any obstacles they will face at school and beyond.

### OUR STUDENT RESPONSES COMPARED TO OTHER SCHOOLS

Framework Factor	Similar Schools	Network Schools	State Average
Stimulated learning			
Effective teaching time			
Differentiated learning challenge			
Effective classroom behaviour			
High expectations for success			
Effort			
Teacher concern			
Sense of confidence			
Perseverance			
Motivation & interest			
Self-regulation & goal-setting			
Attitudes to attendance			
School connectedness			
Student voice & agency			
School stage transition (10-12 only)			
School stage transition Year 7 and new students			
Advocate at school			
Managing bullying			
Respect for diversity			

KEY	1-4%	5-9%	10%
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# SCHOOL LOCATION

Fairhills High School is situated in the vibrant suburb of Knoxfield, nestled within the picturesque eastern outskirts of Melbourne, Australia. Its location offers students a serene and conducive environment for learning, with lush greenery and scenic views surrounding the campus.

Accessible via major transportation routes, including nearby highways and public transport options, Fairhills High School provides convenient connectivity for students from various neighbourhoods across Melbourne.

# HOW TO ENROL

Students in Year 6 at government primary schools receive a comprehensive transition information package at the onset of Term 2 from their current school.

Application for Year 7 Placement form must be filled out and returned to the Year 6 Coordinator at your primary school by the set date. To gain selection into our school parents/carers should select Fairhills High School as their first preference.

For students transitioning from Independent Primary Schools, please refer to the following webpage for further information - <https://www.vic.gov.au/moving-primary-secondary-school-information-parents-and-carers>

## YEAR 8 - 12

Entry into Fairhills High School is available at the start of Semester 1 (February) and Semester 2 (July) and is subject to availability. Entry between semesters may be considered due to exceptional circumstances.

<https://fairhillshs.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-enquiry/>

**Placement is guaranteed if you are in our zone.**

To gain an in-depth understanding of Fairhills, we extend a warm invitation to visit our website or register for one of our School Tours conducted throughout the year. Explore the global education experience we offer and discover the supportive and inclusive community at Fairhills.



# STEM ACADEMY ENROLMENT

## STEM ACADEMY SELECTION PROCESS

To apply for the STEM Academy, please go to the Fairhills High School enrolment web page - <https://fairhillshs.vic.edu.au/enrolment/year-7-transition-program/>.

**An expression of interest needs to be completed by Friday 5 April 2024.**

**Step 1** An expression of interest – **Friday 5 April 2024**

- Student's most recent school report
- Student's Personal Statement
- Recommendation by a teacher

**Step 2** Academic testing at Fairhills High School – **Wednesday 17 April 2024**

**Step 3** An interview may be required

**Step 4** Acceptance letters will be sent when Year 7 enrolments are finalised.





FAIRHILLS  
HIGH SCHOOL  
KNOX

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