



WILLIAM CLARKE
COLLEGE
CHRIST OUR WISDOM

CO-CURRICULAR AWARDS



WHERE *EXTRAORDINARY* BEGINS



INTRODUCTION

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Sitting alongside the College's Curriculum program is our rich and vibrant Co-curricular program for students in Preparatory through to Year 12. We strongly believe that through participation in Co-curricular opportunities, students achieve a more balanced approach to their schooling.

We encourage every student to become involved or try something new. As we strive to stretch student success beyond the classroom, our Co-curricular program develops leadership and teamwork skills and importantly, seeks to nurture a sense of community and belonging.

The value the College places on the Co-curricular program is reflected in the fact that one of the four badged awards given to students each year is presented to those who have participated in a wide range of pursuits. All Co-curricular activities are placed into one of seven categories. Students who engage in endeavours in a majority of these categories (five for Primary and six for Secondary) over their time in each sub-school are eligible to receive the Co-curricular Award.

This badge is designed to celebrate students who develop well rounded skills in a range of areas and who push themselves to participate in groups that may be new to them. It is through this engagement in varied activities that we hope to see students develop a love of learning and a comfort in being challenged.

The remainder of this booklet acts as a guide to the categories as well as an indicative, but not exhaustive, list of activities that fit within them. At the end of this publication is an explanation of the process through which students can obtain the Co-curricular Badge.

Sean Storie
Director of Co-curricular

WILLIAM CLARKE COLLEGE'S VIRTUES

**COMPASSION
COURAGE
HOPE
INTEGRITY
HUMILITY**

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

At its heart, art is about telling stories. Whether it be a personal story displayed through a painting, or the telling of somebody else's story in a unique way through theatre or classical music, stories are what bring people together and unite individuals of all persuasions. We believe everybody has a story to tell and therefore take great delight in seeing students engage in creative and performing arts. To this end, the following activities are an indicative list of the endeavours students can find enjoyment in:

Major Productions – Primary and Secondary

Held in alternate years, the Primary and Secondary Major Productions are the showpiece of the Performing Arts offerings at the College. The College has a rich history of putting on a range of shows from Fiddler of the Roof (2011) to Urinetown (2022) and the Wizard of Oz (2025) with Primary and Ensemble casts that can number over 70 students per performance.

Music Ensembles – Primary and Secondary

The College caters for all musical abilities within its extensive Musical ensemble offerings. With over 20 ensembles available, there is something for every musician to be a part of, from training bands to choirs and from contemporary bands to our Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

Studio 1 Dance – Primary and Secondary

Studio 1 is the College's very own Dance Studio. Open to students of all ages, the purpose of the studio is to create in students a love of Dance and to provide an opportunity for students to share their passion with others through performance. There are both competitive and recreational groups which cater for students of all abilities with the competitive groups taking part in a number of competitions and eisteddfods throughout the year.

Theatresports – Primary and Secondary

Catering for students from Years 5 and up, Theatresports is the College's improvised drama program. These groups meet to develop skills and confidence in performing off the cuff. This is a great activity for students looking to develop confidence and find their voice. The groups often compete in Theatre Sports competitions.

Art Academy – Primary and Secondary

Both Primary and Secondary teachers offer Art Clubs for students in their sub school. These clubs are designed to assist students to develop skills in a number of artistic areas and to explore their passion for creating unique pieces of work. The Secondary club have tackled media as varied as portraiture, sculpture, ceramics and print-making.

Drama Productions – Secondary

The Secondary Drama department run two Drama Productions in years in which there is not a Major Secondary Production. These productions are split into years 7-9 and years 10-12 and include smaller casts and production environments than the Major Productions. They are a great opportunity for actors to hone their skills in a performance setting in front of an audience of strangers.





CO-CURRICULAR AWARDS

CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

As citizens of a rapidly developing and shrinking world, our students have the opportunity to make real, positive changes to the planet and its inhabitants. Through the development of an understanding of differing cultures and our natural environment, we are passionate about developing students equipped to make a lasting positive impact on those around them. The following groups are just some of the ways we endeavour to achieve this through the Co-curricular program:

Chess Club – Primary and Secondary

Both Primary and Secondary students have the opportunity to develop their problem solving and critical thinking skills through one of the most popular games in the world. Groups meet regularly to discuss tactics and to engage in games. Select students are also encouraged to take part in competitions throughout the year.

Future Problem Solving – Primary and Secondary

Future Problem Solving is an International research based program. The program offers a number of program options and includes competitions in which teams of students can compete. The College has experienced success in this competition with a previous team travelling to the US for the International final.

Book Club – Primary and Secondary

Books are a window into the world of others and can provide an escape for readers. Our College Book Clubs give students the opportunity to discuss books they are reading and to develop friendships with others over their love of literature.

Reef Crew – Secondary

Reef Crew are involved the upkeep of the College's 1400 litre Saltwater Reef Aquarium which is a resource for the Oceanography Explore course. Students in Reef Crew are involved in learning the husbandry techniques for the different marine animals that live in our aquarium, including reef fish, invertebrates, anemones, corals and more. This is a weekly commitment with Reef Crew meeting (on a day to be determined) to complete husbandry tasks including feeding the animals, introducing new creatures, tank maintenance and more. This co-curricular opportunity is recommended for any students who have an interest in marine science and zoo keeping/animal care.

French Club

The French Club goes far beyond language practice – it turns French from a school subject into a real-life experience, helping students become more curious, confident, and culturally aware.

Textiles Club

In this group, students bring their ideas to life through exciting textile projects. From stylish clothing to unique bags and beyond, they design and craft products that reflect their personality and serve the needs of the wider community.

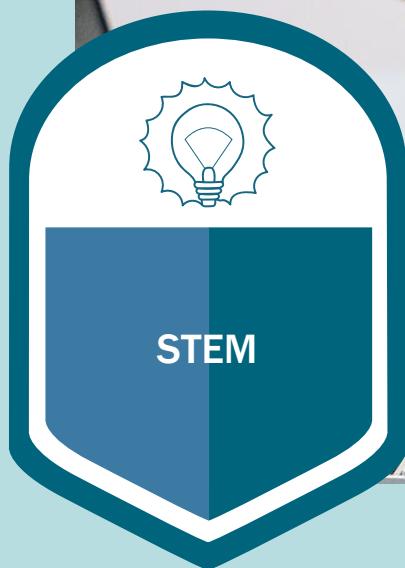
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The great outdoors, mother nature, the wilderness are just some terms to describe the natural environments which make up an ever decreasing part of our modern world. The wonder that can be experienced when exploring these spaces helps the adventurer to reflect on their place in the world and the incredible design that permeates all natural things. Whether exploring creeks and rivers, caves and canyons, or mountains and hilltops, the outdoors offers enough variety for everybody to find their happy place.

Duke of Edinburgh's International Scheme Award – Secondary

Often referred to as 'Duke of Ed', this awards scheme is internationally recognised and highly regarded by employees and tertiary education institutions. Students undertaking the award participate in a number of activities that develop their passions and interests and connect them with other people in their community. It is a voluntary and student driven initiative aimed at empowering young people to learn new skills, get physically active, be rewarded through volunteering, and discover a sense of adventure outside the classroom.





CO-CURRICULAR AWARDS

The prevailing sentiment in education is that schools are preparing students for jobs that currently don't exist. A large number of these roles will be in industries concerned with new technologies and their associated applications. Even those not involved in these industries will be required to interact more readily with programs and devices that will involve higher levels of technological understanding and familiarity.

STEM Club – Secondary

Dropping objects from heights, firing projectiles and testing the robustness of objects with heavy items is all par for the course in this group. Students are tasked with tackling challenges through the use of a range of disciplines. Students also have the opportunity to enter competitions through their involvement in this group.

Robotics Club – Primary

The Robotics Club meets in our Secondary Technology Maker Space to explore how LEGO Robotics systems can meet all manner of challenges. The system used requires students to develop skills in programming and problem solving. There is also an opportunity for some students to take part in First Lego League competitions.

Young Engineers - Primary

The activity is run by external contractors and acts as a fantastic introduction into the world of technology, engineering, programming and technology for younger primary students.

BIOTech Challenge – Secondary

The BIOTech group is centred around the BIOTech Futures Challenge which is an Australia wide submission competition sponsored by the University of Sydney. It involves teams of students designing solutions to biotechnological problems in the areas of either Medicine and Health, Sustainable Environment, Emerging Technologies or Regulations and Ethics. The College has experienced success in previous years with students being selected to present their solution to the Symposium held in the University of Sydney Science Department.

ORATORY AND WRITTEN WORD

Communication is one of the enterprise skills identified as vitally important for the jobs of the future. Whether verbal or written, strong communication skills are at the heart of most human endeavours. Whether participating in employment, sport or relationships, strong communication skills are a vital precursor to successful outcomes and the bedrock of other enterprise skills such as collaboration.

Public Speaking – Secondary

Whilst Public Speaking is a part of our Primary School's curriculum offerings, it is in Secondary School that this endeavour grows into a Co-curricular activity. Students have the opportunity to take part in a number of competitions including the Lions Youth of the Year Award and Soroptimist International events. Students receive mentoring and guidance from staff in the lead up to these competitions.

Debating – Primary and Secondary

The College takes part in the IPSHA Debating competitions in Primary and HICES competitions in both Primary and Secondary school. These competitions allow students to compete against similar schools from all over the state. Debates are often a combination of virtual and in-person events and teams receive training and advice from dedicated staff.

Kids Lit Quiz – Primary

Kids Lit Quiz is an international competition that aims to promote reading. Students compete in a trivia style competition centred around literature. Students are selected based on trials and spend time with staff in preparation for the competition.

Writing Competitions - Secondary

The College supports students in entering a number of writing competitions for both poetry and fictional story writing. Students are assisted by staff who read and edit drafts and support students in preparing their submissions.

Creative Writers

Creative writers have the opportunity to meet weekly with English staff who assist them to develop ideas in creative writing. The students involved in this group will also have the opportunity to have their stories submitted in writing competitions should they wish.





EXTRAORDINARY



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CO-CURRICULAR AWARDS

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Contemporary leadership literature espouses the notion of servant leadership as a novel idea. The College understands the greatest example of such leadership to be that of Jesus and as such understands that good leaders are those who use their positions to serve and not to be served. As the students of today engage in a myriad of diverse relationships in a variety of contexts, the skills learnt through service and leadership will be imperative to assist them to fulfil their potential.

Christmas Box Club – Primary and Secondary

Supporting the Samaritan's Purse initiative, Operation Christmas Child, students in this group create a variety of items to be placed in shoeboxes. These boxes are gifted to children around the world who otherwise would not receive a Christmas gift. These students not only learn skills in toy creation, they also engage with, and develop an understanding of the organisation they are supporting.

CRU and GLO Leaders – Primary and Secondary

Our two Christian student programs meet on a weekly basis to learn about God and to share with and support other students of faith. In the Primary School, CRU is split into a K-2 group and a year 3-6 group. GLO is for Secondary students. All of these groups have a team of student leaders who assist staff in preparing and running group meetings.

We Are - Secondary

We Are is the first ever William Clarke College student-run media site, aimed at being an authentic conduit for student voice and to encourage student agency at the College. All aspects of the site are managed by a student Editorial Team. All students in Years 7 to 12 are welcome to contribute to the site, through writing articles about any topic they are passionate about, creating visual designs to accompany articles, or assisting with the creation of multimedia content.

Student Leaders and Prefects – Primary and Secondary

While student leaders are a selected group in both our Primary and Secondary schools, it is important to recognise the time and effort these students put in to develop their skills in leadership and service to the wider student body. Students in Year 6 have the opportunity to be badged as Primary Leaders and 12 students are honoured with this privilege each year. In the Secondary School, 46 badged leaders oversee a number of portfolios. Both of these teams are led by Primary Captains and College Captains respectively.

Library Monitors - Primary

Students in Year 6 can apply for the position of Library Monitor and, if selected, complete a training period before being awarded a badge. Monitors serve in the library on a weekly basis and assist the library staff with such tasks as shelving returned books, assisting younger students in locating books on the shelf, helping with lunchtime craft and other activities.

Nifty Knitters for Beginners – Primary

Students in Years 4-6 can be involved in serving people in need through the skill of knitting. Those involved in Nifty Knitters first learn to knit, and then create squares which are sewn together and donated through the organisation 'Wrap with Love.'

SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Physical activity and fitness are vital components of a healthy life and carry many and varied benefits. Not only can physical activity guard against a myriad of chronic health conditions, it can also improve mental and cognitive health. These benefits are further enhanced in team sports where they are combined with the development of skills such as collaboration and critical thinking.

Gymnastics – Primary

Students in lower Primary years can enjoy Gymnastics training delivered by professional instructors in lessons that help students develop flexibility, strength and confidence while enjoying the use of apparatus and equipment unique to this context.

Running Clubs – Primary and Secondary

All students have the opportunity to develop confidence, fitness and endurance through our Primary and Secondary running clubs. In the Primary School, students take part in small challenges and games, as well as longer runs that seek to assist in the development of technique and running tactics. Our Secondary running club (PB Running Club) challenges students to run against their own personal best on a 3km course around the College.

College Representative Sport – Primary and Secondary

Both Primary and Secondary students have the opportunity to represent the College in a wide range of sporting teams. In Primary School, students may play Netball, Basketball, Football and Touch Football in Hills Zone Sports Association competitions, and Rugby in bespoke fixtures. Secondary students can play Netball, Football, Futsal, Basketball, Cricket, Volleyball and Touch Football through the HZSA as well as Rugby as part of the North West Schools Rugby Championships. Both Primary and Secondary students also take part in a number of Gala Days in various sports throughout the year.

Sports Academies – Primary and Secondary

The College currently offers two sporting academies for students who wish to develop their skills beyond the coaching provided through their College teams. Our Football Academy is run by former Socceroo, Mile Sterjovski, and our Basketball Academy is facilitated by former College students and representative players.

Golf Squad – Secondary

College students have the privilege of taking part in our Golf Squad which travels to the beautiful Castle Hill Country Club each week. While there, they are provided expert training and advice by the resident Club Professional. All equipment can be provided by the club, or students can supply their own clubs.

Physio Play – Primary

This program has been developed and is delivered by professional Physiotherapists. It has been specifically designed to assist lower Primary aged students to form appropriate movement habits to limit deficiencies in development. This is done through engaging games and activities that ensure fun is still at the centre of the students' experience.

Strength and Conditioning - Secondary

The College is blessed to have a fantastic weight room facility as part of the Sports Centre. Students involved in the Strength and Conditioning program are able to utilise the equipment in both the Cardio and the Weights rooms twice a week under the guidance and supervision of experienced College staff.





OBTAINING THE AWARD

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The Co-curricular Award will be presented to any student who actively engages in activities that cover five (Primary) or six (Secondary) separate categories during their time in each sub school. It is designed to encourage students to develop skills in a wide range of contexts, rewarding students who actively seek development as an all-rounder.

The ways in which students qualify for these awards differs slightly between sub schools and the details can be found below:

Primary School

To be eligible for the Primary Co-curricular Award students need to engage in activities covering five of the six categories (Outdoor Education does not count towards the Primary Award) during their time in the Primary school.

To be recognised as having participated in an activity students must attend at least 80% of the sessions held over the course of the activities registration period. This registration period differs according to activity and can be found on the information sheets available on the Co-curricular Activities page on Connect.

Once it is confirmed students attendance meets the requirements, they will be awarded a digital Connect badge reflecting their involvement in a particular category. When records indicate a student has received Connect badges in five different categories their name will be forwarded to the award committee for recognition.

Secondary School

To be eligible for the Secondary Co-curricular Award students need to engage in activities covering six of the seven categories during their time in the Secondary school.

To be recognised as having participated in an activity students must fulfil the following criteria:

1. Attend at least 80% of the sessions held over the course of the activity's registration period. This registration period differs according to the activity and can be found on the information sheets available on the Co-curricular Activities page on Connect.
2. Complete a reflection at the conclusion of their activity time, detailing the skills and dispositions they developed as part of their involvement. This will be submitted to their Mentor via Due Work on their Mentor Connect page. Once students submit their due work it will be reviewed by their mentor who, upon approval, will award the student a digital Connect badge reflecting their involvement in a particular category.

When records indicate a student has received Connect badges in six different categories their name will be forwarded to the award committee for recognition.



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