

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

YEAR 7 & 8 TRANSITION 2021 to 2022

Do students have lockers?

All Year 7 and 8 students will be allocated a locker and lock near their core classroom. Students are required to leave their bag and phone in their locker during all lesson times.

If my child is away do I need to contact the school?

It is extremely important you contact the school to advise if your child is away. You can call the Attendance Hotline on 85319555 or email dl.0785.attend@schools.sa.edu.au. It is best to let us know as early as possible in the day to save you receiving a text message from the school telling you that your child is absent. The Attendance Office is open between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm on school days. There is also a 24 hour answering service available.

Will my child be given a laptop next year or do we need to buy one?

To ensure we can provide quality digital learning opportunities for all students, we are firmly committed to achieving 100% individual access to digital devices.

All students will be given the opportunity to have a loan of a school owned and managed laptop, which they will be able to use at school and home. This program will operate in a similar way to how we currently loan library books - students borrow a device and are responsible for its care and return at the end of the loan period. The device will remain the property of the school, managed by our IT team.

If your child already has their own laptop they can still use this. We also offer a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) service. IT staff will help you child get set up on Day 1.

For your student to participate in the loan program all that is required is for the parent/caregiver to carefully read the 'Laptop Loan Agreement' and 'ICT and Cyber Safety Use Agreement', sign and return it to school as part of the Enrolment Pack. The student will then receive their device on the first day of the new school year.

What are the lesson times?

8.50 - 9.45 am – Lesson 1

9.45 – 10.40 am – Lesson 2

10.40 – 11.00 – Recess

11.00 – 11.55 – Lesson 3

11.55 – 12.50 pm – Lesson 4

12.50 – 1.30 pm – Lunch

1.30 – 2.25 pm – Lesson 5 (except Wednesday when classes finish at 2.25pm)

2.25 – 3.15 pm – Lesson 6



What time does my child need to be at school in the mornings?

Before the first bell at 8:50am.

What happens to students who have to stay at school on Wednesday until the end of the day?

Students are supervised by 2-3 staff members in the Library until 3:15pm. They are dismissed and supervision continues at the Bus Stops.

How do I organise for my child to travel to school by bus?

An approval form to travel on a school bus is available on our website (mbhs.sa.edu.au/enrolments/buses) for students who live more than 5km from the school. Information regarding bus routes and times can also be found on the website or by contacting Bryce Gillett at the school. Students living within 5km of the school can access the town buses which are a public bus service that runs at school times (there is a fee for travel on the public bus).

How are student Neighbourhoods and core classes worked out?

From 2021 middle years students are grouped across year 7-8-9 in Neighbourhoods, with a dedicated Neighbourhood leader. We work closely with the primary schools to find out about the learning, wellbeing and social needs of each child. We use this information to allocate Neighbourhoods and core classes.

What subjects are offered?

We offer a range of core and rotation subjects, including English, Maths, HASS, Science, Health and Physical Education, Visual Art, Drama, Digital Technology, Home Economics, Tech Studies, Agriculture, Music and Languages (Chinese, German). Students who play a musical instrument can also apply to be part of our Special Interest Music program

The 2022 Curriculum Guide details all of our subject offerings and pathways from Year 7 to 12: mbhs.sa.edu.au/curriculum-guide

How does my child enter the specialist Music program?

To be accepted into the Special Interest Music program students need to complete an Expression of Interest online at bit.do/Music2022. Students will then have a parent/student/teacher interview where we will discuss previous experience and requirements of music students and a student's passion for the subject. In term 4 students will then be notified if they were successful in their application for the Special Interest Music program.

What is the accepted school uniform?

Details of our accepted school uniform can be found at:

mbhs.sa.edu.au/our-school/policies-procedures/uniform-policy

Please note from 2022 students have Neighbourhood specific polo shirts. Families will be notified Term 4 of their child's Neighbourhood so they can buy the correct shirt.

2022 uniform with the updated school logo will be available for order following the uniform fit nights (see below).

Current uniform with the previous school logo can still be worn for the life of the garment.



When is the uniform shop open? How do we pay for the uniform?

Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:15 am until 9:30 am. The uniform shop is outsourced to Devon Clothing and payments for uniform are made directly to them. Full payment must be made before collection. The Uniform Shop accepts payment by cash or EFTPOS. All uniform items are available for purchase through the on-site Uniform Shop located just outside the Student Services Office or online through the [Devon Purchasing Portal](#).

What happens at the uniform 'fit nights'?

The 'fit nights' (held in term 4) are to make sure that the uniform you require is ordered, made and available for collection before school starts the following year. The information about 'fit nights' is sent out to parents as we get closer to the date.

What about if we can't make a 'fit night'?

Please call at the uniform shop during their opening hours. New students can try on the uniform and you can place an order. Minimum stock is held in the uniform shop, and it is most important that you order/purchase before the end of November to ensure that the uniform is available at the start of the new school year. If your child has had a growth spurt, when you come to collect the ordered uniform they can try it on while in the uniform shop, so it can be exchanged for a larger size before you leave.

When do we start paying school fees? How much are they?

School Fees are invoiced at the commencement of the school year and are due by the end of Term 1. Payment by installments can be arranged by consultation with the Finance Officer at the Student Services Office. School Card application forms for approved applicants need to be completed annually, either online or in person with the Finance Officer at Student Services. 2022 School Fees (Materials and Services Charge) is set at \$334. This is indexed against CPI annually.

Who do I talk to if my student is having problems in a subject class?

In the first instance, the best person to speak to is the subject teacher. They can be contacted via phone at school, email, or through the [staff directory](#) on our website. It is best to speak with the teacher so you are able to have a clear understanding of their classroom expectations and learning environment, plus specific learning and assessment tasks.

Who do I talk to if my child is having problems in general at school?

The student's Personal Development teacher is the best person to speak to in relation to general concerns. From here they are able to guide and support you and the student or refer you on to the relevant Leadership person. This may include the Student Pathways Leader, Student Wellbeing Leaders or a Learning Area Leader.

How do I communicate with my child's teachers?

Email is one of the best forms of communication or phone conversation. Staff emails can be found in our [staff directory](#). Please allow 24 hours for staff to respond. If they have not responded, please contact the Front Office for a message to be passed on.



If my child is experiencing bullying or harassment, who do I speak with?

It is vital that you speak with the teacher of the class that it happened in or was reported to. The next contact is the Personal Development teacher, then the Student Pathways Leader or one of our Student Wellbeing Leaders.

Do students use their mobile phones in class?

Students are to have their phones on silent and in their bags in their lockers at all times in class, unless permission is given by their teacher to use their phone for a learning activity. If you need to contact your child during class time, please call the Student Services Office (SSO) and we will get a message to your child.

Are there any other expenses that may occur during the year that we need to budget for?

- School photos are early in the year (optional to purchase)
- \$100 contribution towards the repair if the school loan laptop is broken
- Uniform costs eg. lost jumpers, torn t-shirts, sports tops
- Possible excursions
- Instrument hire if required for Music

When is Sports Day and are parents/caregivers welcome?

Sports Day is normally held in Term 1. Parents/caregivers are highly encouraged to attend the day but must first sign in at the Front Office.

When is the Canteen open, what type of food is offered and how do students pay for food?

We have an onsite Canteen that offers a range of hot and cold food selections and drinks. It is open before school, at recess and lunch times. Students can view and order from the menu via the online ordering platform, [Qkr!](#) Payment is either cash or EFTPOS (no minimum).

How do I know when particular events are coming up at the school?

The school calendar is published on the website and shows the major events as they become known. This includes information about parent/teacher evenings, performing arts events, sports day, school holidays and so on. The school newsletters can also be accessed on the website each fortnight. The school website also highlights upcoming events.

Where is lost property located?

If your child has lost anything at school the first point of call should be SSO.

How do I go about collecting a child during school hours?

If you require your child to be collected from class please contact the Student Services Office (SSO) and we will endeavor to have your student at the agreed meeting point (generally the SSO) at the appropriate time. *Please note: for the safety of all students, we are unable to accept text messages or phone calls on student phones as permission to leave.*

Should I join the Governing Council?

Parent/Caregiver voice is extremely important in the running of the school. Parent/Caregiver views (and student views) are essential, especially when we look at making changes to such things as the curriculum, changing school hours or school fees. Two meetings a term are held so it is not a huge commitment but your input is highly valued by the school community.