

In 1996, substantiated by a large body of research into middle schooling and the middle years learner, Overnewton Anglican Community College established the Middle School.

The Middle School was founded with the mission to guide students through early adolescence and aimed, as it does today, to provide innovative, creative, and positive learning in a Christian environment.

Students enter the Middle School in Year 5 as ten year olds and move to the Year 9 centre, Canowindra, at the end of Year 8 as 13/14 year olds. During their time in the Middle School, students experience the transition from childhood to early adolescence.

Early adolescence is a significant time in a young person's intellectual, social, physical emotional, ethical and moral development. These young people are curious, questioning learners who are moving from concrete to abstract thinking. Their relationships with their peers and the adults in their lives are developing and changing, and they are beginning to seek independence. Their need to belong and be accepted by their peers is a strong motivator. They often turn to their peers to define their language, attitudes, self image and values. They are interested in the moral and ethical issues around them; they are learning to take responsibility for the decisions they make and the consequences that may follow. They live in a fast paced, changing digital world where access to information, communication, connectedness, and collaboration have given them new opportunities and challenges.

Building on the strong academic and social foundations established by the Junior School teachers, Middle School teachers continue to broaden the academic and co-curricular program in order to extend the talents and capacities of those in their care and prepare them for the next stage of their education.

With Middle Schools housed at both Keilor Campus and Taylors Lakes Campus, we strive to align our vision, philosophy and teaching and learning programs, ensuring continuity in the journey through the College and assisting our students in their transition into and from the Middle School. As part of the larger Overnewton community, our Middle Schools share the same College mission, values, expectations, and traditions with our colleagues from other schools within the College.

Underpinning our Middle School program are two broad principles: a culture of learning and a culture of relationships.

A culture of learning, offers students a range of opportunities that build on their prior learning. The curriculum promotes and leads to engagement and learning for the students where the focus is on relevance and meaning

