



MILDURA SENIOR COLLEGE NEWSLETTER VOL 1- JANUARY 2022

WELCOME TO 2022!

Welcome to Mildura Senior College 2022

A warm welcome to all students and parents of Mildura Senior College who are new and returning to our learning community. We would like to wish everyone all the best with their studies for 2022. We are confident that you will adapt to the new routine/s at our College. Your time here is a great opportunity to prepare yourself for life beyond secondary schooling. To those students who are returning, build on your progress from last year and make the most of the opportunities that Year 12 provides. Time passes very quickly in Year 12 and students must ensure that they are up to date at all times. We hope you all have a great start to the year! Our Newsletter is published online on our Compass Parent Portal. We use Compass to provide information to families, please familiarise yourselves with the site. It is also a great place to easily communicate with teachers. We encourage students to also follow us on Instagram.

Staffing for 2022

The following is a list of staff with key positions of responsibility in the College. Parents may find this list useful when contacting the College:

Assistant Principal

Ben Milson & Andrew Banks

Business Manager

Jade Jackson

Sub-School Leaders

Karen Boyce
Lewis Gunn
Ineke Rogers
Robert Sinclair
Kate Bourchier (leave 2022)
Paul Bamford
John Thomson

Learning Specialists

Kerrie Banks

Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Martha Maiorana

VETIS Coordinator

Linda Snoxall

Careers & Tertiary Advisor

Lavina Hamilton

School to Work Coordinator

Nick Goodieson

Student Representative Council Coordinator

Kevin Maunder

Sport Coordinator

Emma Broadbent

KEY DATES

Office Opens	17 January
Book & Fee Collection	19 January, 11am - 7pm
Book & Fee Collection	20 January, 9am - 1pm
Students Return	31 January
School Photos	3 February
Parent Information Night	9 February
Commencement Ceremony	24 February

Student Leaders for 2022

We would like to congratulate our nominated and elected student leaders for 2022. We place a great emphasis on student leadership within the College, and with what I have witnessed so far we have an outstanding group of young adults this year to provide that leadership.

College Captains 2022

Oscar Ferry & Ella Beard

Deputy Captains 2022

Nell Purcell-Banks & Lachlan Purdue

I look forward to working with you for a successful 2022.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at the College if I can assist in any way.

Belinda Hudak

Principal

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Wemba Wemba People and the Millewa-Mallee People and their Clans; Latje Latje, the Nyeri Nyeri and Ngintait, the Traditional Custodians of the Lands on which we meet and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and emerging.

PO Box 1436, Mildura 3502 (P) 03 5021 2911 (F) 03 5023 2440 Email: mildura.senior.co@education.vic.gov.au

Principal Belinda Hudak

Assistant Principal Ben Milsom Assistant Principal Andrew Banks

Business Manager Jade Jackson

www.milsen.vic.edu.au



Facebook



Instagram

General Information

COVID -19 Safety

We will continue to work together through 2022 to try to keep everyone safe. Restrictions and requirements can change quickly. Please stay connected and stay up to date. Keeping your contact information updated at the College Office is important. Please ensure we have your mobile number and email for swift communications. Do not come to school if you are unwell, this includes, staff, students and visitors.

We encourage everyone to be vaccinated and test if you have symptoms.

Parents as Partners at Mildura Senior College

At Mildura Senior College, we recognise that family support and involvement plays a major part in a young person's ability to achieve success. We recognise that success looks different for each and every one of our young people and would like to be involved as partners with our parents in the journey of all of our young people to their chosen pathway. On Wednesday 9th February, we will be hosting a Parents Information session for all of our 2022 families. This event will be held in the College Gym restrictions permitting from 5:00 – 5:45pm for Year 11 and 6-6:45pm for Year 12. If we can do anything in addition to support your young person throughout 2022 please contact the College at any time.

Student Pathways, Transition and Well-Being

As a quick reference guide, parents and students are reminded that the following points will ensure a smooth start for students in 2022:

- The College has a minimum attendance requirement of 90% for all classes, including Pathways. Rolls are marked each lesson and parents will receive an SMS notifying them of an unexplained absence.
- Students must bring correct materials to all classes – this includes appropriate footwear for practical classes.
- Mobile Phones are to be kept in lockers throughout the day, including recess and lunch
- Students should not access their lockers between classes –this is disruptive and wastes time.
- The College has very high expectations of student behaviour “first impressions count!”
- Access to local shops during the school day is permitted at lunch and recess only. Students are not permitted to stay at the shop after their purchase
- Smoking is not permitted on College grounds or in the vicinity of the College. This rule is strictly enforced.

If you have not already done so throughout the enrolment period, please supply the College with a current email address and mobile phone number so that we are able to contact you in regards to your Son/Daughters progress at the College.

Student Support

The Student Services Centre is a great place for students to gain help and assistance. Sub School Leaders (formerly Student Coordinators), Student Administration and the Attendance Officer can all be found there.

Teacher Assistance

Many staff have been scheduled into classrooms to give students individual help on Wednesday mornings.

Please encourage your student to attend school from 9am until 10.30am every Wednesday to gain this extra support.

Homework Club

Homework Club is held in the Library after school until 5.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week.

Students will benefit by attending and forming small study groups or completing individual homework and study.

2022 Daily Start and Finish Times

Day	Classes Start	Classes Finish
Monday	9:00am	2:20pm/3:05pm
Tuesday	9:00am	2:20pm/3:05pm
Wednesday	11:00am	3:10pm
Thursday	9:00am	3:10pm
Friday	9:00am	3:10pm

On Monday and Tuesdays, students will be required to be available until 3:25pm when a SAC (School Assessed Coursework) is scheduled. All students must attend their scheduled SAC's during this time.

Tips for Success

Students can ensure a smooth start to the year by following these tips:

- Enter all due dates/important dates on a calendar
- Familiarise yourself with the rules as quickly as possible
- Arrive punctually to class with the correct materials
- Settle into a routine of homework, revision and study as soon as possible
- Keep up to date with all classwork
- Hand work in on time
- Ask for help
- Use Homework Club and Wednesday mornings to seek teacher help.
- Attend Parent Student Teacher Conferences (PST)

(This is an opportunity for parents to meet teachers and gain assistance to improve your student's learning)

Students Driving Cars to School

As a number of our student body are at the stage of life that enables them to be licenced drivers, it is important to point out the Mildura Senior College Student Code of Conduct stipulates the following in accordance with DET guidelines:

- Students are not permitted to transport other students while in daily attendance at the college, or to and from any College function or event
- This means that students cannot transport other students to and from school or during the school day. Parent permission does NOT exclude students from this rule. This rule is DET policy which the College is mandated to follow. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- Students can park in the gymnasium carpark or on 14th Street. There are designated areas where students can and cannot park their car.
- Students are not permitted to park in Havilah Crescent or on the private land between Havilah Crescent and Deakin Avenue.
- Students wishing to drive a vehicle to school must register their details with the Front Office to assist us to identify student cars in the event of an accident or concern
- Failure to observe rules and to drive with adequate care in the vicinity of the College may lead to suspension and Police involvement

The area in and around the College is particularly busy between 8.30am -9.00am, 1:00pm – 2:00pm, and 3.00pm - 4.15pm and all drivers should proceed with care. At all times, please observe the speed restriction zones (40km/h) in Deakin Avenue and 14th Street help keep everyone safe.



General Information

Reports

Parents will receive regular updates (every 4 weeks) on student progress either by mail or through our Parent Portal, as well as contact details for class teachers, Pathways Teachers and Sub- School Leaders.

School Canteen

We are currently seeking parental involvement in our school canteen. If you are available on a school day between the hours of 8:30am – 2:00pm to volunteer any amount of time to assist in our College Canteen, please contact Jade Jackson on jacksonj@milsen.vic.edu.au

Parent Portal

Parents have received information regarding access to and use of our Parent Portal during the enrolment process. This portal will provide parents with access to a range of information, including student attendance information, timetables and reports. If there are any issues accessing the portal, please contact the College on 5021 2911 or ictsupport@milsen.vic.edu.au

We look forward to working with you all to support student success in 2022

College Council Elections

Please find attached in this Newsletter, details of the election of Parent Representatives for the next 2 school years.

Student Injury Personal Accident Protection

Parents should be aware that the College does not provide comprehensive insurance cover for students. Parents requiring information about student insurance regarding accidents or personal items brought to school are advised to contact an insurance retailer.

2022 School Fees

Fee Payment can be made by one of the following options: sessions will be held at the College on 19th & 20th January 2022.

- Bpay - using your unique biller code & reference number on your statement
- Direct Debit - Using reference number supplied on your statement e.g. ABC123
- Credit Card by calling the College on 5021 2911 (from 22nd January 2022) and providing your students name.
- In person - at our fee payment sessions

Uniforms

Mildura Senior College uniform is available to order from Laser Signs and Print.

You can visit their online store www.lasersp.com.au or their store front at 3a Andriske Court Mildura.

Parents and employers are asked that if they need to contact students during the school day they will need to leave a message at the College office or leave a voice/text message for students to respond to when school is finished. We ask that students speak to employers about this.

Attached to this Newsletter is the DET Media release provided to all families at Enrolment about the Mobile Phone Ban.

Students with medical conditions can apply for an exemption. This form can be collected from the front office. Students must display their exemption card on their phone at all time, Students with exemptions must still have phones on silent and out of sight unless otherwise permitted.

Mildura Senior College is committed to students' success. To help achieve this, we try to create environments where you are best able to engage with, absorb and retain vital knowledge.

Did you know that by simply having your phone nearby, your concentration and retention drops?

Research released by the London School of Economics in 2015 found that student performance increased by 6.4% in schools that banned mobile phones.¹

A US study found that, 'even when people are successful at maintaining sustained attention—as when avoiding the temptation to check their phones—the mere presence of these devices reduces available cognitive capacity.'³

An education expert recently said he believed mobile phone-related distraction was a main reason for Australia sliding down an important international education ranking.²

1. <http://cep.lse.ac.uk/pubs/download/dp1350.pdf>

2. www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/jun/28/what-do-five-experts-think-about-mobile-phones-in-schools

3. www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/abs/10.1086/691462



MILDURA SENIOR COLLEGE
a pathway to the future

All absences must be verified by one of the following:

- **Compass: Parent Portal** (www.milsen.vic.edu.au)
- **Compass: Parent App** (*Compass School Manager*)
 - **Email:** attendance@milsen.vic.edu.au
 - **Phone:** 5021 2911 (*option 1*)
 - **Medical Certificate**
 - **Appointment notification**
- **A signed and dated note with student full name**



Mobile Phone Not Permitted at School in 2022

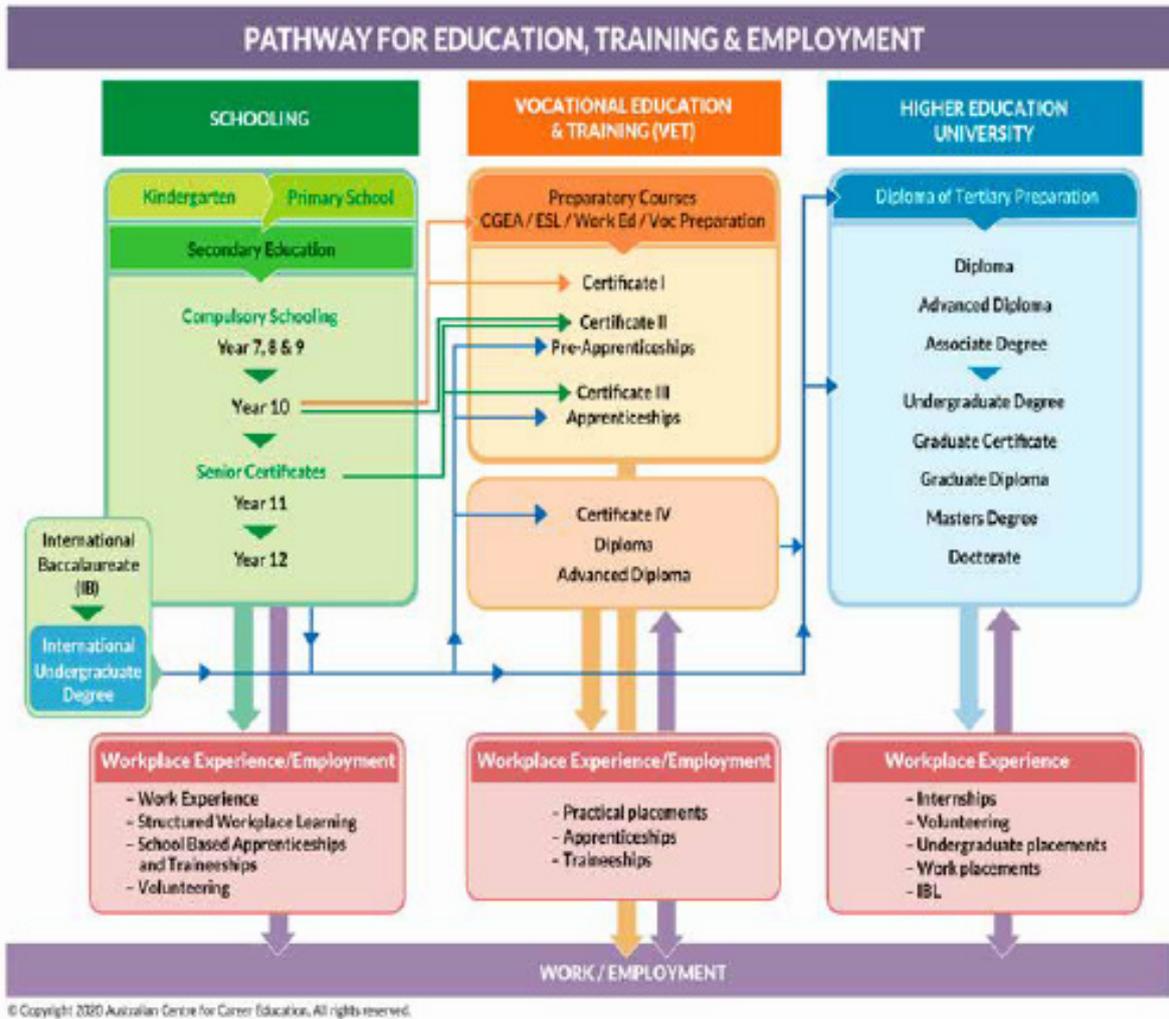
Mobile Phones are not permitted at school. If students bring their phones to school they must be locked in their lockers for the day. They are not permitted to be used during the school day on school grounds, this includes recess and lunch time.

Students who cannot self-manage their

phones can sign them in to the office at the start of the school day and sign them out when they leave.



From the Careers Centre



Future Options for Students

There are many ways for our students to find a future pathway. Above is a chart of the many pathways possible.

Students Seeking Non-Tertiary Options

For all Employment, Apprenticeships, Traineeships, Cadetships, or Work opportunities come in and see Nick Goodieson (Workplace Transition Coordinator) in the Careers Centre for assistance with resumes, applications for employment (including apprenticeships and Traineeships) or Course information for TAFE and other training programs.

Please keep an eye out on Compass and MSC Facebook & Instagram pages for work and apprenticeship opportunities.

Tertiary Options

Look for Tertiary courses by following link <https://www.courseseeker.edu.au/> It lists all possible courses in Australia in your student's area of interest and also lists the lowest ATAR required.

Scholarships

Scholarships on offer can be found in the Tertiary application booklet for both Victoria and South Australia that were handed out in Pathways classes. Check individual university websites and COMPASS portal regularly for scholarship opportunities as well as MSC Facebook and Instagram.

2022 VET Information

2022 School-based Apprenticeship & Traineeship (SBAT) Information Students are to confirm their SBAT program and days out of school with the team in the VET office (located at Deakin TTC) on their first day of school. This will ensure the student's timetable and attendance are correct.

If you have not provided the VET team with your Training Plan and details from your Training Contract please do so as soon as possible.

If you have further questions please email vet@milsen.vic.edu.au or contact Linda (VET Coordinator) on 5002 0212 or Melissa (VET Administration Officer) on 5021 2911.

Linda Snoxall

VET Coordinator

Wellbeing Links

School can be very overwhelming for families and individuals. It is important to check in with your student to support them on their learning journey.

Here are some websites and resources that could be helpful for you and your student in their senior years:

- <https://au.reachout.com/>
- <https://headspace.org.au/>
- <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/>
- <https://www.ruok.org.au/>
- <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

If you should require additional support, please contact Mildura Senior College on (03) 5021 2911



Lavina Hamilton

Careers & Tertiary Advice Coordinator



Nick Goodieson

Workplace Transition Coordinator



School Council Elections - Information for Parents

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences.

Department employees are not eligible to be Community members.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected Student member category, with two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people

nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the

Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections

SCHEDULE: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Mildura Senior College. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Monday, 14th February 2022. The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Monday, 28th February 2022.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each **membership category open for election are as the table below.**

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Belinda Hudak

Principal

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2022 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024	2
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2022 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024	0
Community member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2022 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024	0

