



Northside
Christian College

THE VINE NEWSLETTER

2023 TERM 1 - ISSUE 1



- \ Congratulations Class of 2022
- \ Our students on top of the world
- \ VCE Retreat
- \ Police visting Northside
- \ Much more...

Principal's Message

Welcome to the new school year at Northside Christian College. We extend a special welcome to students, families and staff who are new to our College community. We pray the year ahead is an opportunity for our community to flourish.

At the most recent Dedication Service, it gave me great pleasure to introduce the College's theme for 2023. At Northside, we have an overarching theme every year that guides us as a College community in developing a deeper understanding of the character of God. I spent time praying about the theme for this year over several weeks. Over time, I continued to hear and see a specific word that I thought would support us in learning more about God's amazing love and care for us.

Our verse for 2023 comes from Psalm 34:8 (NIV).

*The psalmist encourages us:
"Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."*

This verse is an invitation for us to actively experience the Lord is good. The psalmist is calling us to draw closer to God. We can experience God's goodness when we read the Bible, or learn more about Him in our Christian Life Studies and Bible studies classes, and when we worship Him.

We read in Psalm 65:11:
"You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance."

God is constant. He does not change. God crowns the whole year not just the start or end of the year. His promises are timeless. If we stay on God's paths and remain connected to Him, we can dwell in His rich, fulfilling goodness, which can bless us in so many ways. As a Christian school community, it is special to be in an environment where God is at the centre.

It is with excitement that I announce the Northside Christian College theme word for 2023 is: **Goodness**.

I am looking forward to learning more about God's goodness together as a community in the coming year.

Working together,



Mr Michael Bond
Principal

"As a Christian school community, it is special to be in an environment where God is at the centre."

GOODNESS

"Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

Psalm 34:8 (NIV)

2023 Term Dates:

Term 1 end date: Wed 05/04/2023

Term 2: 26/04/2023 - 23/06/2023

Term 3: 12/07/2023 - 14/09/2023

Term 4: 02/10/2023 - 05/12/2023

Diary Dates:

WEEK 5B:

- Monday 27th February:
Christian Leadership Conference for Primary SRC
- Tuesday 28th February:
Swimming Squad 7:00am
Years 5 - 6 Swimming lessons
- Wednesday 1st March:
Preps not at school – Home Visit Day
- Thursday 2nd March:
Swimming Squad 7:00am
- Friday 3rd March:
Years 5 – 12 Swimming Carnival

WEEK 6A:

- Monday 6th March:
Whole School Assembly
- Tuesday 7th March:
Swimming Squad 7:00am
Years 5 - 6 Swimming lessons
- Wednesday 8th March:
Preps not at school – Home Visit Day
- Thursday 9th March:
Swimming Squad 7:00am
Northside Open Evening

WEEK 7B:

- Monday 13th March:
Public Holiday – Labour Day
- Tuesday 14th March:
Swimming Squad 7:00am
Years 5 - 6 Last swimming lesson
- Wednesday 15th March:
Preps first Wednesday at school
NAPLAN commences
- Thursday 16th March:
CSEN Primary Swimming Competition

WEEK 8A:

- Monday 20th March:
Whole School Assembly
- Tuesday 21st March:
Harmony Day

WEEK 9B:

- Tuesday 28th March:
Years 1 – 12 PSTI 2:00pm – 8:00pm
Early lunchtime dismissal due to PSTI
- Wednesday 29th March – Friday 31st March:
Visit from the Dental Van

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Whole School Online Assembly

Parents are welcome to join our Whole School Assembly every fortnight on Monday mornings (Week A) from 8:40am. Please refer to the link provided in the Primary, Middle or Senior School weekly emails.



Enrolments

Prep 2024

Applications for Prep 2024 will close on Friday, 24th February 2022. All Northside families that have a child due to commence Prep in 2024 are asked to submit their enrolment applications by the closing date to secure a place for the child next year. Children born between 1st January 2018 and 30th April 2019 are eligible to commence Prep in 2024.

Please note that the College cannot guarantee places for siblings of existing students where applications are received after the closing date.

Applications are received online only at <https://enrol.ncc.vic.edu.au/enrolment-application/start>.

Are you leaving Northside?

If your child is not returning to Northside, please ensure you complete and return a Withdrawal Notice Form and return it to the College. If you require to withdraw your child please contact the Enrolments team on 9467 2499.

Alumni

Join the Northside Alumni by completing the **online form** to be notified of upcoming events.

Principal's Tours

Did you know we hold Principal's Tours? The Principal's Tours are a fantastic way to experience the community at Northside Christian College and to also get a better sense as to whether Northside is the right fit for your family.

If you have a friend or family member that is interested in checking out Northside, please let them know to check for tours on the Northside Enrolments page on our website.

<https://ncc.vic.edu.au/book-a-tour>

Open Evening 2023

Open Evening will be held on Thursday, 9th March 2023 from 3.30pm to 7pm. Northside families are invited to come along to the Open Evening, to see samples of their child's work and to connect with the Northside community. There will be food trucks, face-painting and music.

Some students may be asked to assist at the Open Evening. Permission forms will be sent home shortly. Please return the permission forms as soon as possible to the College Reception.

Media Permissions Forms

Media Permissions Forms give permission for students to appear in the Northside Christian College Newsletters and Yearbook. If you would like your child to appear in the College Newsletters and Yearbook, please ensure you complete and return the Media Permissions Forms that will be sent home shortly.

We will no longer be requesting signed permission forms annually. Should you wish to change permissions in the future you will need to contact newsletter@ncc.vic.edu.au.

If you want your child to be given the opportunity to appear on the College social media and/or College publications including the Yearbook, then these forms must be returned. **Students that do not have their forms returned will not be given the opportunity to be photographed.**

Administration

VISA Changes

If your Visa status has changed in the last 12 months, you have been granted a new Visa, or have since become an Australian Citizen, please advise the College by email at enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au. If you have not yet returned your signed VEVO form to the College, please do so as soon as possible. Extra forms are available by contacting the Enrolments team at the College, or by sending an email to enrol@ncc.vic.edu.au.

Update your details

Have you recently....

- Moved house?
- Got a new phone number?
- Need to change you child's emergency contact

Please email the office to update your details by emailing ncc@ncc.vic.edu.au.



Follow Northside on Facebook and/or Instagram

If you're on Instagram or Facebook please follow the Northside Christian College pages.

[Instagram](#)



[Facebook](#)



Absences

Please remember to email any absences to:

attendance@ncc.vic.edu.au

If you're picking up your student early or dropping them off late please remember to email attendance@ncc.vic.edu.au or fill in one of our green Student Absence form at reception.



New Uniforms to Buy

College families can purchase **new** uniforms from Academy Uniforms. Please keep in mind they can get very busy over the holiday period.



**ACADEMY
UNIFORMS**

238 Wolseley Place,
Thomastown VIC 3074

Phone: 03 9460 8011

Opening Hours:

Saturday 9am-12pm

Please allow 2 business days for in-store collection of online orders

Second Hand Uniforms to Buy and Sell

College families have the opportunity to sell their second hand uniforms directly to other families via the Facebook group; **NCC Second Hand Uniforms and Textbooks Buy, Swap Sell.**

Please ensure you read the group rules; only Northside uniforms and textbooks may be sold in this group.

All sales and purchases are directly between families, not with Northside.



NCC Second Hand Uniform & Textbooks - Buy, Sell & Swap >

Private group · 224 members

Student Lab Coats

When students start Year 7 or are a new Secondary student at the College they are required to have their own labcoat for science pracs. To purchase a lab coat please see the following webpage for pricing and sizing.

<https://presidentsafety.com/collections/frontpage/products/lab-coat-white>

Please speak with either Mrs Varghese or Mrs Thomas if you have any questions.



Congratulations Class of 2022

The Class of 2022, Year 12 students at Northside graduated in December 2022 at the Secondary School Celebration event. The Northside Christian College school community congratulates all students in the Year 12 class of 2022. Congratulations to the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) students on your achievements across many subjects. We also congratulate the students who completed their Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) studies. We acknowledge the many students who completed Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses in 2022. The College is grateful to be part of the Northern Melbourne VET Cluster, which provides opportunities for students to complete VET courses during their Senior School years.



The Year 12 VCE Class of 2022 achieved some excellent academic results. We are pleased to advise that our Dux for this year is Khrishmi Jeyenthnan (pictured). Khrishmi achieved an ATAR score of 93.1. At the recent Year 12 Graduation Ceremony, Khrishmi received Subject Awards for Chemistry, English, Further Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, and Psychology. Khrishmi also received the Year 12 Australian Defence Force (ADF) Future Innovators - STEM Motivation Award, which recognises a student at Northside who demonstrates a level of high-level motivation in the learning area of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).



We acknowledge and thank our parents and dedicated teaching and support staff for their work supporting our students throughout their learning journey. At Northside Christian College, our staff, parents, and students are committed to assisting each student to achieve their personal best. Furthermore, we acknowledge that we are preparing our students for a diverse range of pathways reflective of the passions, gifts, and talents God has blessed them with to serve others. Careers and pathway planning are an ongoing part of our Secondary School program at the College.

Please continue to pray for the class of 2022 as they prepare for a broad range of post-school pathways.

We congratulate all students from our Year 12 class of 2022 and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Mr Michael Bond
Principal



DUX for 2022, Khrishmi Jeyenthnan

Primary School



Teddy Bear Picnic

The Prep and Year 6 students had a Teddy Bear Picnic to celebrate their first Buddies session. The afternoon activities included an obstacle course, photo booth, teddy hunt, games and a Tiny Teddy snack pack.

This event created a great time of bonding and fun ahead of the selection of Buddy groups, giving our newest members at Northside big 'brother' and 'sister'.

Ms Olivia Natoli
Primary Teacher



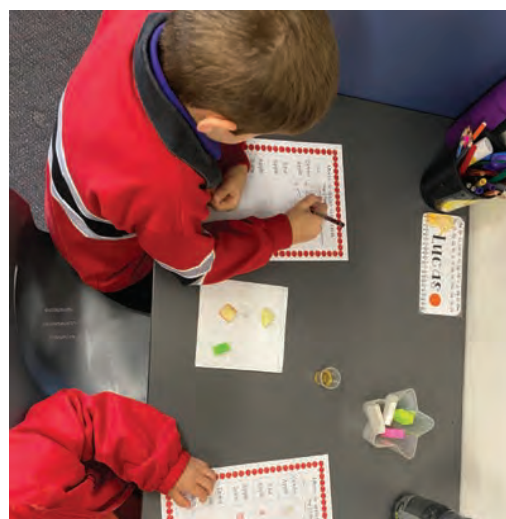
Our Prep students enjoyed sharing their favourite teddies with the Year 6 classes.



Where does food come from? Year 1 become food scientists!

This term in Science, our Year 1s are learning all about where food comes from before it appears in the shops. We learnt about fish fingers, and the fisherman that collects all of the fish before it goes to the fish markets, and this week we became apple taste testers as we learnt about how apples are grown and farmed. We tasted green and red apples, apple juice, dried apples, and apple lollies! The class's favourite was the apple lollies and apple juice, while very few of us liked the dried apples. Coming up this term we will be learning about milk, honey, bread, and rice; and how they are produced safely for us to eat.

Mrs Matilda Holden
Primary Teacher



Year 1 Students documenting their findings about apples.

Year 3 & 4 Police Visit



We had a visit from Brenden, a police officer from Greensborough who works in Highway Patrol. He was such a lovely man who taught us about the difference between rules and a law. My students were engaged in his lesson but the highlight was when he let us sit in his car and try on his police vest. As an adult I went away thinking about how I drive, and I think I was a better driver that evening.

Mrs Sharon Simic
Primary Teacher



Students wore Police Jackets and took turns sitting in the Police Car.

On the 7th of February we had a visit from a police officer named Brenden. Brenden had a slideshow about rules and laws and at the end of the slideshow there was a funny photograph of him on a dirt bike. I even got to ask a question and my question was "Can you go to prison at any age?" The police officer said yes. We went to the officer's car and my classmate Zane went to turn on the sirens. After Zane got out of the car, I went inside it and it was so cool. There were so many buttons that I was so tempted to press but Sargent Brenden told me to come out of the police car before I tried to press all of the buttons. We then had to say goodbye.

Year 4 Student

Year 6 Band



Year 6 parents rejoice as their children bring home their instruments to flood the house with their 'wonderful music'!

Band is a great experience where students get to expand their knowledge of their instrument and Music Theory. With a wide range of instruments including bass guitar, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, saxophone and percussion, Year 6 students have the opportunity to learn to play in sync, identify notes and follow the conductor.

The Year 6's are exhilarated to gain more knowledge regarding their instrument and improve their skills. In summary, band is a great program with astounding teachers and the support required for your child to excel musically.

Aylaa, Year 6

Spotlight on

Everest

Over the Summer holidays some of our students did not spend their days relaxing at the beach and enjoying the beautiful Summer weather here in Melbourne. Instead, Year 4 student Terrance and Year 5 student Jethro along with their fathers took on a rather different challenging task.

They successfully completed the Everest Base Camp trek. It was 12 gruelling days. They took 9 days to reach base camp (5,464m) and 3 days to return. Despite the dangerous conditions, including negative 23 degrees whilst trekking, the same food every day, steep hills, walking with low oxygen, and snowing weather, they ultimately conquered the challenge!

What an AMAZING achievement! Well done Terrance and Jethro!



The boys trekked on foot to Base Camp and flew in a helicopter back down Everest.



Jethro and Terrance received certificates upon the completion of the trek.

Secondary School



Year 7 Science

In Term 1, in Science, the Year 7 students started off with an introduction to laboratory equipment and safety measures they need to follow while performing practicals. They learned how to use a Bunsen Burner. They did an excellent job. As a result, all Year 7's will be receiving a Bunsen Burner License. Later in the week, they performed an experiment following instructions on "Analysing the temperature of different liquids" on their own. Isn't that awesome?

Mrs Reena Thomas
Secondary Teacher



Students analysing the temperature of different liquids



Year 9 tent practice

On Monday the 6th of February, we followed Mr Devine to the shipping container storage room, fearful that he would trap us inside but he instead pulled out a tent! We went to the oval and he gave us a simple instruction: unpack and build the tent.

The rabble and shamble of spreading the tent out, pushing the pegs in, and simply making the structure of the tent. It was the biggest competition of our lives. Every team for themselves. With pressure building, I believe every team broke at least something from their pack.

The fun experience came to an end as we packed up the tents and looked forward to building them at camp next week.

Sienna, Year 9

Students had to set up tents as practice for their Coastal Challenge



Year 9 Coastal Challenge

In week 3 our Year 9 students went to the Coast for their first Year of Challenge Camp. Students had a stand up paddle lesson and played in the water. They also had a surf lesson and most students were able to stand up. We ended our last night celebrating Majesty's birthday with cake and went for a lovely night walk on the beach.

The students have been fantastic!

Mrs Suné Burger
Secondary Teacher



Students paddleboarding
and taking part in surfing
lessons

VCE Retreat



Lots of fun and fellowship was experienced by our VCE students during our overnight stay at Philip Island on the 30th - 31st January. We were blessed with a presentation by our evening speakers who play football for Essendon, Billy Cootee (VFL) and Massimo Di Ambrosio. They challenged our VCE students to think about balance in their lives between school, social lives, time with family, etc and not to neglect the importance of their spiritual lives in the process of completing VCE. Thank you to all who presented and the lasting memories of the Retreat.


Mrs Lenna Waters
Director of Senior School Learning



VCE Students worked
together to complete
obstacle course.



INSPIRE



There has been a lot of optimism with students these last few weeks as they look towards the many opportunities that lay before them in their new classes. Within INSPIRE, I am looking forward to seeing students grow through the various programs, competitions and conferences. The Year 9 Debating Team has started researching and fine tuning their debating skills with Year 12 student, Andee as a mentor. The debating team have our first competition at Loyola College on the 27th February.

Students from Year 7-12 also have the opportunity to compete in the Australian Geography Competition. The closing date is fast approaching, so don't miss out on this experience by contacting Mrs Field by the 27th February.

The Science Talent Search is a rigorous annual school-based science competition for Prep - Year 12 students. The theme for 2023 is Innovations: Powering Future Industries. If students are interested in entering the competition or you require more information please contact Anthea Field afield@ncc.vic.edu.au.

Mrs Anthea Field
INSPIRE Co-ordinator

Wellbeing

Hello to our Northside Community for 2023.

I would like to introduce you to the Wellbeing team:
Heather Cootee - Psychotherapist / Head of Student Wellbeing
Jared Stocks - Chaplain
Chelsea Weeks - Wellbeing support.



Heather Cootee

Head of Student Wellbeing

hcootee@ncc.vic.edu.au



Jared Stocks

Chaplain

jstocks@ncc.vic.edu.au



Chelsea Weeks

Student Wellbeing

cweeks@ncc.vic.edu.au

I have the privilege of working alongside a committed team and College when it comes to your child's mental health and wellbeing. The College takes a holistic approach to learning and recognises that wellbeing is an integral piece of the puzzle.

The College aims to add layers of wellbeing support for our students and one of those layers is through EI Pulse. EI Pulse was introduced in Term 4 of 2022 and it is a student wellbeing and school engagement tool which the students access each week. This allows them to intentionally consider their mental health, reflect on their college community and beyond. A key element is the gratitude tool. Students are encouraged to share gratitude and kindness with staff and each other as it is well researched that giving and receiving gratitude has a positive impact on one's mental health.

Please read the attached information outlining EI Pulse which will be rolled out again for 2023 in Week 4 of Term 1.

Please reach out to your Wellbeing Team via Reception or hcootee@ncc.vic.edu.au if you have any questions relating to EI Pulse or any other initiatives.

Student Wellbeing & Engagement



FAQS FOR PARENTS

What is it?

ei Pulse is a tool for measuring the week-to-week wellbeing and engagement of students. It tracks the wellbeing of individual students so that the school can respond to those who express a need. It also tracks anonymised student sentiment about their school experience so the school can make changes based on student voice.

Why are we doing it?

Research strongly indicates that measuring student wellbeing in a way that is both comprehensive and timely will enable schools to provide better support at both the individual and cohort level. We are using Pulse to get more useful and actionable insight than traditional long-form wellbeing surveys.

How does it work?

Once a week, students will be prompted by email to complete a 'Check-In' via a web app. The check-in consists of 5-6 questions.

How long does it take & how easy is it to use?

The entire process is very simple and we expect students will spend less than 5 minutes a week on the app. Students are asked to check-in on a weekly basis and are asked a small number of questions each week.

What is the impact on my child?

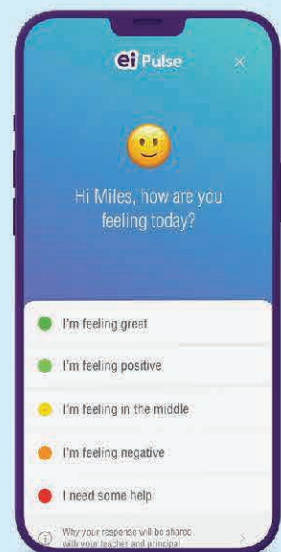
The goal is to have a positive experience and give our students a safe way to make their voice heard and give us their opinion on their experience at school.

What information are you collecting & who is going to see it?

We collect two kinds of information: Identified and Anonymous.

Identified: With each check-in, students will be asked 'How they are feeling?'. This question is asked every week by every student and is 'identified' ie. the student's identity will be attached to their response. This is particularly important if a student asks for help.

Anonymous: The remaining questions are all anonymous. The school will not be able to see the student's identity.



What happens if my child asks for help?

When we set up your child on the platform, they will be assigned an escalation point within the school if they need assistance and be given the option to be contacted by the relevant staff member. They will also be given the option to speak to someone else if they are uncomfortable with the first suggestion.

Who is Educator Impact?

Educator Impact is an Australian business that helps schools to improve their culture and student outcomes by connecting wellbeing, performance, and engagement. They have worked with hundreds of trusted educational institutions. If you would like more information about Educator Impact, please visit their website; www.educatorimpact.com.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Information for Parents and Concession Card Holders

The Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund (CSEF) funding is made available by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of camps, sports, and excursions, which are included in fees that are billed to your school account.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card, (e.g. Centrelink Health Care Card), or you are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF funding.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

1. \$125 for Primary School students
2. \$225 for Secondary School students

For more information about the CSEF, and to download the CSEF application form, visit Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund at: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/guidance/submitting-application>. An application form may also be obtained from the College Finance Office. Application forms must be lodged with the College by the 23rd June 2023.

Please note that the College is required to sight any relevant concession cards that you may hold to support eligibility for the CSEF. Therefore, please either bring your concession card with you, if you are dropping off your application at the College Finance Office or email a copy of your concession card to Kerri Khoo with your application to accounts@ncc.vic.edu.au.

Upon approval by the Victorian Government, the allowance will be paid to the College, which will then be applied to your school account.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kerri Khoo by email accounts@ncc.vic.edu.au, or by telephone at 9467 2499.

Northside Accounts

Northside Prayer Warriors

It has been a fantastic beginning to our new year. Teachers are praising God for being able to work at this school and having incredible colleagues to work with. We have been blessed with new staff, a visually beautiful school, enough space for everyone and lots of new babies. We have had a wonderful start with our students and new classes and have been blessed with lots of new families beginning here at Northside.

Please pray for us always. Pray for our families, staff, leaders, and God's blessings.

If you would like to join the Prayer Warriors we meet every Thursday morning on the school grounds at 8:45am.

Please email prayerwarriors@ncc.vic.edu.au and we will get back to you.

God Bless You All,

Northside Prayer Warriors



Some of the members of the Northside Prayer Warriors



"Pray for our families, staff, leaders, and God's blessings."



“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5:9

As we begin a new year together, one of our key learning intentions in PeaceWise is that ‘conflict is a part of our everyday lives, but we can choose peace’.

Conflict may be described as many things, but have you ever viewed it as an opportunity?

When we are involved in conflict, relationships can be damaged however a Peacemaker is someone who works to protect relationships and where possible, restore those that have been broken.

We have a choice how we respond to conflict. We can choose to;

a) **Be a Peacefaker**

We can pretend everything is okay, possibly choosing instead to remove ourselves physically or emotionally from the situation or relationship where the conflict began.

b) **Be a Peacebreaker**

We can attack the other person with our words, our actions or gossip about them.

c) **Be a Peacemaker**

There is a lot to unpack here but for today, we will focus on one aspect of peacemaking. At times this might look like ‘overlooking’ someone else’s thoughtless or hurtful action towards us. This can be a form of forgiveness, where we decide it’s possible for us as an act of grace to forgive what was done.

John 10:10 tells us that the enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy. His schemes are nothing new under the sun, he is so predictable at times in the way he works to damage and destroy relationships. With this in mind, sometimes we need to recognise that in relationships, we have the opportunity to become offended or to overlook. Sometimes it’s not worth creating a rift in a relationship because you’ve become upset and let your emotions take over. Pick your fight. The enemy has a heyday with believers who fight with one another. There are situations where love overlooks.

The next time you find yourself in a conflict, first think, is this something I need to respond to or something I need to let go? If we start to view conflict as a God-given opportunity, we’re already on the road to becoming peacemakers.

Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends. A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool. Proverbs 17:9-10

Ms Christie Vaughn
Peacewise Representative



"Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends"

Book now for 2023

Your
OSHC.

Get
Term 1
ready!
2023



Click to
book

Child Care
Subsidy
available
for eligible
families.

by  Camp
Australia

Register free with
Camp Australia

[Click here to register](#)



Kickstart your
school year with
heaps of great info

[Read more](#)

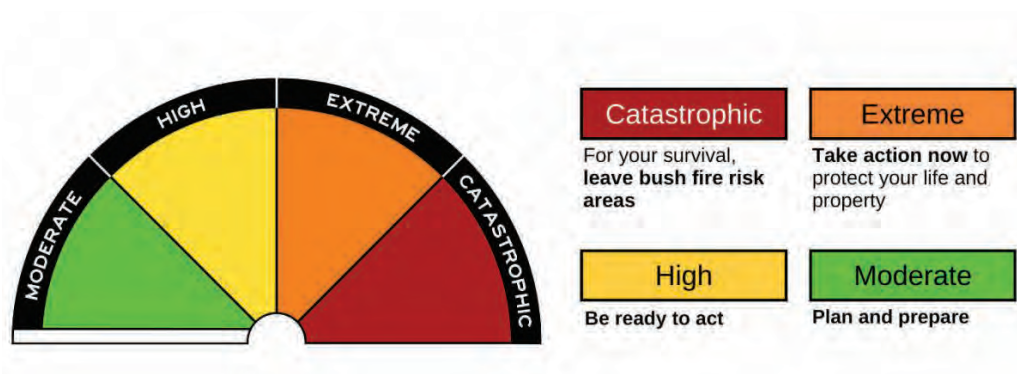


Procedures for the Bushfire Season

Northside Christian College has developed and regularly reviews the College's Bushfire Preparedness Policy (Policy No. 18). Bushfire preparedness is not just a concern for schools listed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register. Student transport to and from school, participation in offsite activities (including camps, excursions and sporting activities) and the risk of localised fire events demonstrate the importance of bushfire preparedness for all schools.

The College's Bushfire Preparedness Policy documents procedures designed to ensure that preventative strategies are implemented and to ensure that students and staff are prepared to respond in the event of a bushfire. This response may include pre-emptive planned closures of the College, evacuation or what to do in the event that evacuation is unsafe. The preparation of this plan has been developed in accordance with the Northside Christian College Emergency Management and Critical Incident Plan.

We wish to advise that the College may cancel camps or excursions, or may even be required to close the school when Emergency Services declare a Code Red (Catastrophic) fire danger day, or when the risk of bush fire is heightened. Parents will be advised (by SMS and other means) if the College is to close, or if camps or excursions are to be cancelled, with as much forward notice as may be possible.



It is important that all families, particularly those in bush fire prone or high risk areas, have a family fire safety plan. The plan should include information about alternative care arrangements for children in the event that the College is required to close. Families are encouraged to practise the plan and be familiar with procedures to be followed in the case of a bush fire or house fire.

Northside Christian College is not listed on the Department of Education's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season please refer to:

- VicEmergency: <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- VicEmergency Hotline: 1800 226 226
- Fire Rescue Victoria: <https://www.frv.vic.gov.au>
- CFA (Country Fire Authority): <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/>
- CFA Facebook: facebook.com/cfavic
- CFA Twitter: twitter.com/CFA_Updates
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters



Anaphylaxis Management Policy

The Committee of Management and the Executive Team at Northside Christian College endorsed the College's Anaphylaxis Management Policy.

Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life threatening. Food allergies and anaphylaxis have increased over the last decade and it is not uncommon for schools to have many children who may be anaphylactic. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.

Most food allergic reactions do not involve anaphylaxis, and the likelihood of a severe allergic reaction from casual exposure when food is not ingested (e.g. from touch or exposure to odours) is very low. However, severe reactions may occur unpredictably, thus any allergic reaction to foods should be taken seriously and treated as a potential medical emergency requiring immediate treatment.

The purpose of the College's Anaphylaxis Management Policy is to achieve the following:

- To provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling. This extends to all College learning environments (onsite and off-site).
- To raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the College's Anaphylaxis Management Policy in the College community.
- To engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.
- To ensure that each staff member has adequate knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the College's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.
- To remain compliant with Ministerial Order 706: Anaphylaxis Management in Victorian Schools and the guidelines on anaphylaxis management.

As we commence a new school year, it is timely that we all remind ourselves to be mindful not to inadvertently expose our students to potential triggers. Your continued support in ensuring that our children stay safe is appreciated. Several simple steps for families who have students with food allergies include:

- Remind students to always eat food that has been packed from home.
- Encourage students to not accept food from peers.
- Provide food that does not contain allergens.
- Make sure children know if they have an allergy as well as the adults who are caring for them. This includes completing an Action Plan. Copies are available from the College Office.

More strategies and information is available from www.allergy.org.au or www.allergyfacts.org.au.

A copy of the College's Anaphylaxis Management Policy is available in the policy section on the College website at www.ncc.vic.edu.au.



Child Safety

Northside Christian College is committed to implementing the new Child Safe Standards, which came into effect on the 1st July 2022 after an amendment to the Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 (Vic) was passed by the Victorian Parliament in June 2021. During 2022, the College developed an awareness of Ministerial Order No. 1359. This Order came into operation on the 1st July 2022. The College reviewed a wide range of policies and procedures in order to ensure compliance with the new Ministerial Order.

Below are some details about resources to assist the College in maintaining a child safe culture.

Child Safety Policy

The Northside Christian College Committee of Management has approved the Child Safety Policy, Code of Conduct and Procedures (Policy No. 1). The Child Safety Policy is a comprehensive and overarching document that provides an overview of the key elements of Northside Christian College's approach to creating a child safe organisation. The College has updated this document to align with the new Child Safe Standards and Ministerial Order No. 1359. This document is available at the College Reception Office and on the College website.

Child Safety Code of Conduct

Staff, directors, volunteers, and contractors at the College are required to abide by the College's Child Safety Code of Conduct. The purpose of this Code is to promote child safety within all College environments. This document is available at the College Reception Office and on the College website.

Procedures For Responding To And Reporting Allegations Of Suspected Child Abuse

Northside Christian College has a clear procedure for responding to allegations of suspected child abuse in accordance with Ministerial Order No. 1359 and other legal obligations. Please use the template document of the Child Safety page on the College website to document any incident, disclosure or suspicion that a child has been, or is at risk of being abused.

Child Safe Strategy Document

Northside Christian College has strengthened the safety of our operations as a result of the implementation of the Child Safe Standards at the College. A key objective for Northside Christian College is to embed child safety practices into our culture. The work that is involved in building a child safe organisation is never completed. It is a dynamic, multifaceted and ongoing developmental process of learning, monitoring and reviewing. Maintaining a child safe organisation is not a one-off task. It must become part of our College's ongoing processes and be embedded into our culture. Your feedback and support with developing a child safe culture is greatly valued.

A copy of the College's updated Child Safe Strategy Document is available on the College website on the Child Safety page <https://ncc.vic.edu.au/child-safety>.



Child Safety Roles and Responsibilities

Child Safety Officer

Northside Christian College has appointed Ms Heather Cootee (Head of Student Wellbeing) as the College's Child Safety Officer. The primary purpose of the position is to manage the implementation of the Child Safety Policy (Policy No. 1), especially in relation to training and educating staff and students and to manage any incidents of reporting to ensure Northside Christian College is compliant with all legislation around such reporting.

The Child Safety Officer is a contact person for children, young people, parents, employees and volunteers to seek advice and support regarding the safety and wellbeing of children and young people within our College. The role requires the officer to take action when child protection concerns are reported, including the provision of support to those within the community who have been affected, with an understanding and respect for cultural diversity.

Child Protection Workers

The College's Child Protection Workers are Mrs Heather Cootee, Head of Student Wellbeing and Mr Jared Stocks, College Chaplain.



Mrs Heather Cootee



Mr Jared Stocks

The Child Protection Workers have the specific responsibility for responding to any complaints made by staff, volunteers, parents or students in relation to Child Safety. The Child Protection Workers at Northside Christian College will always work concurrently with the Principal and other College leaders.

Committee of Management

The Committee of Management of Northside Christian College has ultimate responsibility for the detection and prevention of child abuse and is responsible for ensuring that appropriate and effective internal control systems are in place. The Committee of Management is also responsible for ensuring that appropriate policies and procedures and a Child Safety Code of Conduct are in place.

Principal

The Principal is responsible for:

- Dealing with and investigating reports of child abuse;
- Ensuring that all staff, contractors, and volunteers are aware of relevant laws, College policies and procedures, and the College's Child Safety Code of Conduct;
- Ensuring that all adults within the Northside Christian College community are aware of their obligation to report suspected sexual abuse of a child in accordance with these policies and procedures;
- Ensuring that all staff, contractors and volunteers are aware of their obligation to observe the Code of Conduct (particularly as it relates to child safety);
- Providing support for staff, contractors and volunteers in undertaking their child protection responsibilities. the suspicion, to a responsible person at the College); and
- Provide an environment that is supportive of all childrens' emotional and physical safety.

Child Safety Roles and Responsibilities Continued

Directors of Learning

All Directors of Learning must ensure that they:

- Promote child safety at all times;
- Assess the risk of child abuse within their area of control and eradicate / minimise any risk to the extent possible;
- Educate employees about the prevention and detection of child abuse; and
- Facilitate the reporting of any inappropriate behaviour or suspected abusive activity.

Staff / Volunteers / Contractors

All staff / volunteers / contractors share in the responsibility for the prevention and detection of child abuse, and must:

- Familiarise themselves with the relevant laws, the Code of Conduct, Northside Christian College's policy and procedures in relation to child protection, and comply with all requirements;
- Report any reasonable belief that a child's safety is at risk to the relevant authorities (such as the Police and / or the State- based child protection service) and fulfill their obligations as mandatory reporters;
- Report any suspicion that a child's safety may be at risk to their supervisor (or, if their supervisor is involved in the suspicion, to a responsible person at the College); and
- Provide an environment that is supportive of all childrens' emotional and physical safety.





Northside Christian College

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