



30 January 2025

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### **2025 Term 1 Week 1 College Update**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first College Update for the 2025 academic year. This fortnightly correspondence aims to provide parents and caregivers with an overview of all College events, along with key information associated with College operations. We aim to minimise email traffic by consolidating key information into this one communication per fortnight.

In alternate weeks, a newsletter will be sent with "Good News" stories from around the College.

### **Aquinas Precinct Project Update**

Over the course of the year, we will share updates on the Aquinas Precinct Project (APP) construction progress. To that end, it is exciting to share the latest with you:

- The construction fence is now in place at the front of the college, and Kennett's signage is up, signifying the enclosed area is now a construction site. The first phase of demolition will start soon.
- We are fortunate to enjoy a large campus with lots of learning spaces, enabling students to engage with "learning as usual" throughout APP construction. To further support learning, the new "Aquinas Avenue" classrooms on the small oval, and the upgrades of the Notre Dame lab and temporary laboratories in O'Mara are complete.

### **Cabra Handbook**

Please familiarise yourself with the 2025 Cabra Handbook, located in the SEQTA Engage Parent and Caregiver portal, as well as on the College Website at this link: [Handbook | Cabra Dominican College](#)

This handbook is a valuable reference guide for students, parents and caregivers and includes information about our College values and policies, learning and assessment, communication and systems, uniform and presentation and more.

## **Student Progress**

The first few days of the academic year can be exciting and challenging for students, given there are new classmates and teachers to meet. The start of the year is a significant transition period for all students, and they will each cope differently with the challenges this period brings. In fact, many students may be more frightened of the possibility of failure than they are thrilled by the possibility of success!

If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact the Mentor teachers and/or House Leaders to discuss how your child is settling in over the first few weeks.

## **Access to SEQTA Engage and Consent2Go**

All parents and caregivers should now have full access to SEQTA Engage and Consent2Go. If you have not received provisioning information for SEQTA, please check your junk/spam folder. If at any stage you would like to update your contact details or your child's medical details, you have the ability to request a secure link to be sent to your email account directly from Consent2Go by clicking the Consent2Go icon in SEQTA Engage.

If you require any assistance in accessing these digital platforms, please contact me directly by email.

## **Semester 1 Subject Changes**

Final subject changes for Semester 1 2025 must be finalised by **Monday 3 February 9:00am**. Please email [subjectselection@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:subjectselection@cabra.catholic.edu.au) in order that any amendments to a student's timetable can be considered. This deadline also ensures that significant subject coursework is not missed.

Please note that not all subject changes concerning a student's academic programme can be acted upon, due to class size or availability on a particular line that clashes with another subject, but we will make every endeavour to pursue a student's request.

Furthermore, we cannot make adjustments to a student's timetable based on requests for particular teachers, or friendship requests. If you have concerns regarding your child's learning, we encourage you to make contact with the relevant Subject Teacher and outline these concerns to best support your child's engagement and success. There are a number of factors which influence timetabling, and balancing class dynamics, teacher workload, and industrial requirements are all factors in this.

## **Student ID Photos**

ID photos are held in the Monica Farrelly Atrium on Monday 3 February (Week 2) for all Year 7 students, new Year 8 – 12 students, and any other student who did not have their ID photo taken last year. Students are to meet the College's [Uniform and Personal Presentation](#) expectations. The photo schedule is available via Mentor Teachers and also on SEQTA Notices.

## 2025 Winter Sport Nominations

Sport is an important component of College life at Cabra and our students enjoy success and recognition with sport in the wider community. Our co-curricular programmes strive to nurture and develop the unique gifts of individual students and are supported by the group activities offered at Cabra. We encourage families to nominate for Sport activities, where Cabra will work closely with each child and their parents/caregivers on an individual basis to manage any potential clashes with training times.

Further information is available in the [2025 Sport Information Guide](#). Exact times for training will be advised late in Term 1, 2025.

- **Fees:** Annual fees per student are charged to cover costs of registration, umpires and other associated costs. Fees will be charged at the time of nomination.
- **Uniform:** Sport uniforms are to be purchased through the [Uniform Shop](#) (3/378 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park). The staff there will be able to advise you of what is required for a specific activity.
- **Nominations:** Winter Sport nominations are due **Friday 14 February 2025**. To nominate via your mobile phone or laptop, download the Qkr! app and enter Cabra Dominican College in the Search field. Select the Sports tab, 2025 Nominations and then select the Sport and Year Level. To finalise, click Add to Order – View Cart – Pay.

If you have any further questions regarding Sport Nominations, please contact Joel Morizzi (Sport Co-Curricular Coordinator) and/or Tracey McGrath (Sport Administrator) on 8179 2415 or via [sport@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sport@cabra.catholic.edu.au)

## Tag and Testing | Laptop Cords

Please note tagging and testing of student laptop cords will commence Tuesday 25 February. While testing and tagging is not compulsory, only those cords tested and tagged will be able to be used on site at Cabra Dominican College.

Boxes for collection of laptop cords will be placed in the Monica Farrelly Atrium for students to place their marked cords into by 8:50am on the day of their testing, as per the schedule below.

Labels with the student's name and Mentor Class will be provided in Mentor Class, so that students can use to mark cord ownership. Students can collect their cords at the end of the day from the ICT Help Desk.

Date	Year Level(s)
Tuesday 25 February	All Year 8 and 10 classes
Wednesday 26 February	All Year 7 and 9 classes
Thursday 27 February	All Year 11 and 12 classes
Friday 28 February	Any students who have missed testing and tagging

## Uniform and Personal Presentation

We expect that all students will respect the College's [uniform requirements](#) and present themselves in a way which reflects the values and standards of the College. As a condition of their enrolment, all students are required to wear the College uniform as it has been designed to be worn. The Cabra uniform is a clear visual recognition that students are part of our community and assists them in developing a sense of belonging and pride in representing Cabra.

Some key Summer Uniform reminders, as we commence Term 1, are outlined below:

- PE socks (black or white) are to be worn with the PE uniform.
- Formal socks are to be worn with the formal uniform. Girls are to wear white Cabra socks with the formal uniform. Boys are to wear grey Cabra socks with the formal uniform.
- Blazers for Year 7 students typically arrive as part of the March/April winter collection. Jumpers can be worn in lieu of blazers during Term 1 when the weather is cold.

## Physical Education and Performing Arts Uniform Requirements

Students should only be wearing PE Uniform on days when they have the following timetabled lessons:

- Year 7 – 12 Physical Education
- Year 7 – 8 Performing Arts – Dance/Drama
- Year 9 – 12 Dance

In Physical Education lessons, College caps (or bucket hats) are compulsory during Terms 1 and 4 (and recommended in Terms 2 and 3). Drink bottles are required, as drink fountains around the College have changed to only facilitate drink bottle use.

In Year 7 and 8 Performing Arts – Dance/Drama and Year 9 – 12 Dance lessons, we recognise that students need to be able to move freely and hope that the PE Uniform will help students participate with confidence and facilitate successful experiences in the subject.

If you have any further questions about uniform requirements in these two subjects, please contact:

Name	Subject Area	Email
Maddison Wheatley-Harris	Leader of Learning – Health and Physical Education	<a href="mailto:mwheatleyharris@cabra.catholic.edu.au">mwheatleyharris@cabra.catholic.edu.au</a>
Gemma Heath	Leader of Learning – Performing Arts	<a href="mailto:gheath@cabra.catholic.edu.au">gheath@cabra.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Hats and Sun Protection

Students are strongly encouraged to wear the approved College hat outside at recess and lunch times. It is compulsory for students to wear the approved College hat outside when participating in Physical Education lessons, recreational activities and sports practices during Terms 1 and 4.

## Pick Up and Drop Off Zones

As the morning and afternoon times are busy, please ensure you have arranged with your child where they will be dropped off and collected from. Parents and caregivers are able to enter the College gates via Little Street and drop off students at the commencement of each school day and then exit the property via Morris Street (the roadway through the College property is one way for all traffic). Please note that accessing the College property by car via the front gates on Cross Road and using this area as a pick up and drop off zone is not permitted.

Please also note that the City of Mitcham regularly monitors the streets surrounding the College and in particular, the "No Standing" zone on Eaton Street. Furthermore, students should not be congregating in the nearby Woolworths or Big W shopping centre prior to school but instead should be making their way to school directly and promptly.

## Canteen Menu

The [2025 Canteen Menu](#) is available and includes instructions for making purchases. All Canteen information is located on the [College Website](#).

## South Australian School Immunisation Program | Year 7 and 10

Mitcham Council's immunisation team will visit Cabra on the following dates:

- Year 7: Wednesday 10 September
- Year 10: Wednesday 26 March and Tuesday 27 May

All Year 7 and 10 students were issued with a School Immunisation Consent Form this week. Parents/caregivers are required to complete both sides, sign and return to the College (via Mentor Teachers) for collection by Mitcham Council, even if consent is refused. Consent Forms are due **Friday 7 February 2025**. This collection of forms ensures the Council meets its reporting responsibilities to SA Health and that correct statistical data is compiled. Please note that consent forms will not be accepted on the days of the school clinics.

## Local Sporting Champions

Applications are now open for Boothby's [Local Sporting Champions](#) grants! The Local Sporting Champions program provides financial assistance for coaches, officials and competitors aged 12 – 18 participating in state, national or international championships. Students are invited to apply to receive a grant of up to \$750. Applicants must be 12 – 18 years of age and if successful can receive \$500 - \$750 towards the cost of attending their championships:

- Base Grant: \$500
- Applicants travelling 800km – 1999km to their nominated championships: + \$100
- Applicants travelling internationally or greater than 2000km to their nominated championships: + \$200
- Applicants residing in a rural electorate: + \$50

To view more information and apply, click here: [Local Sporting Champions | Australian Sports Commission](#)

## Old School Uniforms

Through our partnership with [Vinnies](#), we have multiple bins at Student Services where families can place old student uniforms. Rather than dispose of old uniforms (where they would become landfill), we ask families to utilize these bins at Student Services. Vinnies will either send the clothing overseas to communities in need or remove logos and repurpose the materials. Thank you for supporting this initiative and disposing of old uniforms in a sustainable way.

## On the Horizon

Please see some general dates below for upcoming events:

Date	Event
Friday 31 January	Year 7 Camp Student Briefing (St Dominic's Hall, Lesson 3)
Monday 3 February	New Staff and New Student ID Photos (Monica Farrelly Atrium)
Monday 3 February – Tuesday 4 February	Year 11 and 12 Student Leaders Camp
Friday 7 February	Year 8 Camp Student Briefing (St Dominic's Hall, Lesson 3)
Friday 7 February	Year 12 Formal (Adelaide Oval, 5:30 – 10:00pm)
Monday 10 February – Wednesday 12 February	Year 7 Camp 1 (Boylan and Moore Houses)
Wednesday 12 February – Friday 14 February	Year 7 Camp 2 (Kavanagh and Murphy Houses)

The College Calendar is located on SEQTA Engage and the [College Website](#).

Please feel most welcome to contact us if you have any questions about this information or if you have any concerns about your child making a successful start to the year.

Yours sincerely,

**Jarrad McCabe**

Deputy Principal: People, Culture and Operations