

Lateral Learning in the Senior School

The Lateral Learning Department is responsible for embedding the skills and competencies necessary for twenty-first-century learning across all aspects of the School, traversing the curricular, cocurricular and pastoral programs. The Dean and Coordinators of Learning Links (COLLs) work collaboratively with staff and students to offer a range of workshops, programs, guest speakers and cocurricular clubs and competitions that seek to develop the skills and capabilities of creativity, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, digital literacy, innovation, global citizenship and futures literacy.

This year sees an expanded Lateral Learning team of COLLs and we look forward to continuing to provide a wide range of exciting programs and initiatives across the Senior School.

Global Outlook – Mr Kuhan Rajalingam oversees the Year 9 Global Citizenship program, Green Team and Interact cocurricular groups, with a focus on global citizenship, service and sustainability.

High Potential Learning – Mrs Sharna Kershaw oversees cocurricular programs that extend our gifted and high potential learners and works with teachers to embed strategies to support differentiation in the classroom.

Innovation – Mrs Alex Phillips promotes opportunities for students to participate in STEM initiatives and innovative programs that help develop a future-focused and adaptable mindset, enabling them to become the innovators and creators of the future.

Research and Critical Thinking – Dr Jocelyn Laurence works closely with Meriden's Research Fellow, Dr Ann Goeth, to explicitly teach information and media literacy across all year levels, supporting students to become proficient and ethical users of information.

Speech – Mrs Charlotte Yates runs a variety of workshops and cocurricular clubs that teach students how to deliver clear and engaging presentations, using a variety of delivery modes, whether it be in their subject areas or speaking on a topic they are passionate about as part of a public speaking competition.

Student Futures – Mr Ryan Richards is responsible for international tertiary pathways and the Olympus program, creating links to the curricular and cocurricular programs in a way that prioritises the holistic development of the student and self-awareness of their unique talents, strengths and interests.

Technology – Miss Nicola Casaceli supports teachers and students in their use of technology in the curricular and cocurricular programs, ensuring its use in an innovative, organised and responsible manner.

We also welcome back Ms Katie Bowie from Long Service Leave, who returns in the capacity of Teacher Librarian. Ms Bowie and the entire Library team, led by Miss Niumataiwalu, the Library Manager, will continue to work with the Lateral Learning Department to promote a variety of reading initiatives and literary engagement across all areas of the School.

The Day 11 program

The Day 11 program, which runs under the banner of Lateral Learning, also plays an important role in supporting students with their learning needs. Day 11 takes place once a fortnight on a Saturday (Week B on the timetable) during term time. Academic tutors are present in the Hudson Library and Research Centre to assist students with a range of subjects in a variety of academic departments. All students from Years 7 to 12 are welcome to attend and seek assistance as required, whether it be for homework, general revision, assistance with research and essay writing or preparation for an assessment task. Students have the option of joining the program in person in the Library or online, via Teams.

The first Day 11 of this year will be held on Saturday, February 18. Students will be emailed further information closer to the date.

Ms Priscilla Curran
Dean of Lateral Learning