



ST PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL
ADAMSTOWN

KEEPING CONNECTED



Term 2, 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we reach the middle of the year, there is much activity in our transition to Trinity Catholic College. The pages of this edition of Keeping Connected cover many exciting milestones; our new uniform, information about our property and facilities masterplan and our Year 11 course selection.

The learning environment at St Pius has for many years focused on literacy and numeracy. Content is essential and must be taught well. But if students cannot read and write well, knowing the content alone is not enough to achieve well in the HSC.

We believe that students must be well prepared in reading, comprehension, writing and numeracy to be able to understand, assess and synthesise the various content they are taught. This thinking has been strongly supported by teachers in high-achieving HSC schools with whom our teachers have liaised during our transition preparation. Those teachers tell us that if we want to help our students achieve excellent results in the HSC, we must ensure our students have strong literacy skills. This, they say, is the secret to helping our students give excellent answers in HSC examinations.

The physical environment is also an important part of our transition to Years 7 to 12. As we become Trinity Catholic College we are working with the Diocesan Property Services team to complete a capital works and physical building upgrade program. This will provide specific areas for our Year 11 and 12 students, as well as enhancements for our whole school facilities that will benefit all students and support the best possible learning environments. Read more in this bulletin.

Our new uniform has been finalised and can be seen on the following pages. Our vendor, Alinta are producing

samples which will be on display as soon as possible.

Our new vision and mission statement was developed by our staff during our Formation Professional Learning Day and at other meetings. The statement is now ready to go to Bishop Michael Kennedy for final approval.

The **course selection process** and faculty preparation has been a core part of preparing for our Senior students. Following our course information night earlier in the year, course preferences were completed by those students who have enrolled and this has informed the construction of the course lines which were released to students and parents recently. This work has also allowed the daily structure for Trinity Catholic College to be finalised, a task that really brings our 2025 College to life.

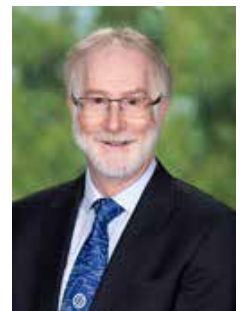
Staff professional learning, as well as Stage 6 course and assessment design continue.

The **Wellbeing** sub-committee has been investigating student leadership structures and senior students needs. They have been developing the PERMAH model to inform wellbeing policy and procedure.

I look forward to providing another update next term. Thank you for your continued support.

Bob Emery

Principal – St Pius X High School Adamstown



OUR UNIFORM

We are excited to share our new uniform. The Uniform Committee has been consulting over the past year with staff, students and parents to create both a junior and senior uniform.

Trinity Catholic College

7-10 Uniform Concepts



Unisex Fit



Ladies Fit



Soft Shell Jacket



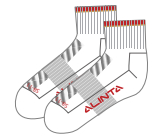
Years 7-12
Red Trim



Unisex Short

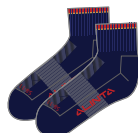


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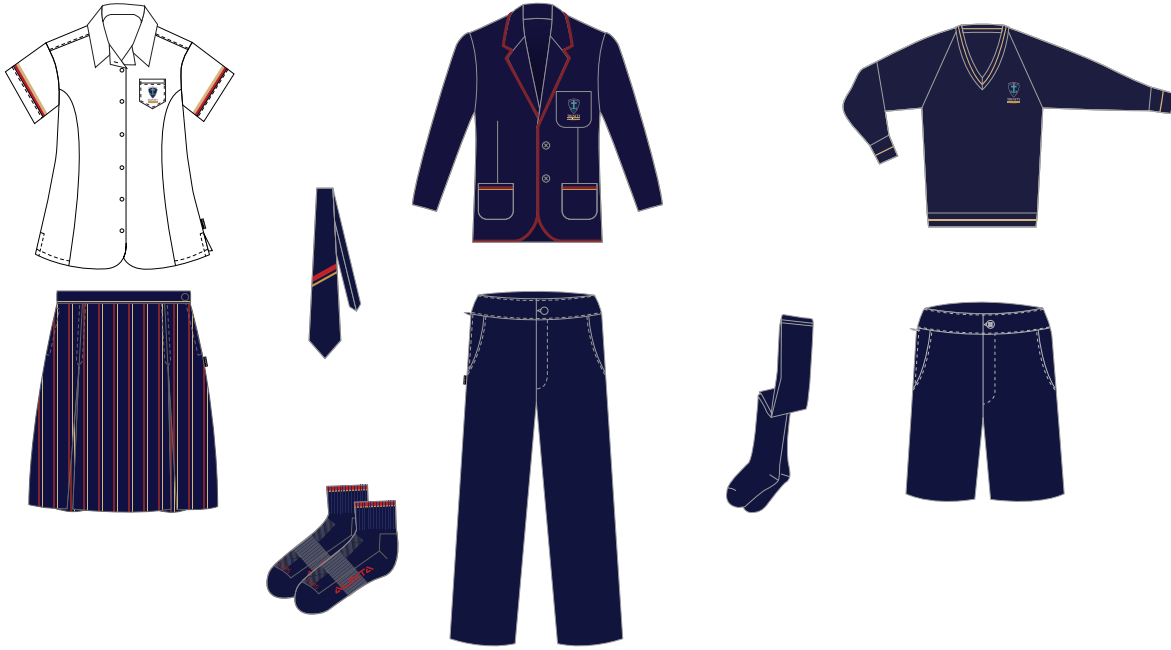
Trinity Catholic College

Boys 11-12 Uniform Concepts



In line with the CSO School Uniform Policy, the new Trinity Catholic College uniform will be phased in over three years. All 2025 Year 7 and 11 students, and any new students to the College, are expected to purchase the new uniform. Students cannot mix and match the old and new uniform pieces. Our uniform provider, Alinta, will only be selling the Trinity Catholic College uniform from 2025. However, the Secondhand Uniform Shop will continue to operate if students need St Pius uniform items. Alinta has advised fittings for new uniforms are usually scheduled in the October holidays. We will keep you updated with price lists and timelines, as we are advised.

Trinity Catholic College
Girls 11-12 Uniform Concepts



Optional
Alinta Warehouse Stock
- Midnight PVS

Trinity Catholic College
Yr 11-12 Sports Uniform Optional



Unisex Fit



Soft Shell Jacket



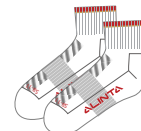
Years 7-12
Red Trim



Unisex Short



Performance Fleece
Unisex Trackpant



PROPERTY UPDATE

As we transition to Trinity Catholic College we are working with the Diocesan Property Services team to provide specific areas for our Year 11 and 12 students, as well as enhancements for our whole school facilities.



Above: Senior Lounge and Study Space

Left: Artist impression of the Administration Building and Forecourt (Learning Hub in the background) in the conceptual masterplan.

Please note this is subject to change as the project progresses through design development.

The broader Trinity Catholic College Masterplan

Over the coming years construction works and enhancements will take place at our school.

These works will be conducted in stages to ensure continuity of learning and that spaces are suitable for our needs. The upgrades will include the demolition of some of our existing buildings to allow for new ones, and the master planning guarantees connection and landscaping zones to enhance the flow of our school site.

A NEW FLEXIBLE LEARNING VILLAGE

For the use of our Senior Students, a Flexible Learning Village will be established onsite, to the immediate north of the existing St Anne's Courtyard and the Sister Marie Centre.

This will provide a specialised VET Construction workshop and a senior science laboratory, as well as five new general learning spaces with operable walls to allow for a large exam centre space.

The new area will also consist of a covered walkway and

outdoor work area, as well as storage and service areas. The work will also include the relocation of existing demountables onsite to ensure clear vision and connection of the new area to the existing St Anne's Courtyard space.

A SENIOR LOUNGE AND STUDY SPACE

Work will be undertaken to refurbish Block E and its existing general learning areas that are surplus to the school needs. This will create a new Senior Lounge and Study Space with kitchen facilities for student use.

The refurbishment will also include covered awning protection to the west, window replacement and new service supply with air-conditioning and lighting.

Further improvements to the general learning areas within Block E will provide new technological requirements, natural ventilation, and daylight. A Senior Art Project Store within the existing art faculty in Block E will also be included.

TIMINGS

Both the Flexible Learning Village and Senior Lounge and Study Space are anticipated to be completed by the commencement of the school year in 2025. Of course, building work timeframes are subject to change due to weather and construction impacts.

Read more
on our website



BUILDING STUDENT SUCCESS

Senior Students in 2025 will benefit from our continued academic supports for students

Along with Maths Enrichment Class before school on Wednesdays, and Writers' Group on Mondays, additional academic sessions are thriving, supporting students in their learning skills on Mondays and Wednesdays at lunchtime.

Our successful "What Works For Me" study time program has offered students the opportunity to learn different study strategies they can apply in Year 10 and beyond.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



Our school collaborates with tertiary education providers through initiatives such as the "**High Performing Students Program**" with the University of Newcastle. One of our Year 9 students successfully undertook a

first-year university Bioscience course called 'Foundations in Health and Disease'.

Other students have been enjoying taster courses via Vocational Education Providers in Electrotech, Beauty, Child Care and Construction, amongst other fields, arranged by our Careers Teacher.

Our **Accelerated Maths** students continue to excel at their studies. In a recent assessment task, one student achieved 100%, and five others above 93%. Congratulations to the whole cohort and the Accelerated Maths teachers on this outstanding achievement.

Staffing Spotlight

All teaching staff have been implementing additional pedagogy to achieve continued growth in student literacy. Our students will now be familiar with a successful strategy for thinking deeply and constructing sophisticated sentences. This theory has greatly benefited students from spotlighted schools in NSW, reflected in their excellent results at NAPLAN and HSC level. This work complements the professional development provided by the Catholic Schools Office, focusing on literacy prowess and developing expert learners.

HSIE teacher, Mr Casey Kirkup, has recently been awarded his Master of Economics. Mr Kirkup will teach Stage 6 Economics at Trinity Catholic College from 2025.

CO-CURRICULAR

St Pius X values opportunities for students to extend their learning through participation in cocurricular, real-world activities. Generous and talented staff invest their time and energy to source and organise these events for our young learners.

St Pius X strongly encourages students to discover and express their **creative talents**, providing many opportunities for drama, singing, music and dance, together with training and practical experience in sound and lighting. This term has seen highly acclaimed productions of DioDrama and DioSounds performed and celebrated by many talented students, through the expert leadership of music teachers

St Pius X students continue to shine in the legal domain, winning their recent "**Mock Trial**" against Hunter School of the Performing Arts, showcasing their ability to both cross-examine and withstand intense cross-examination before a judge.



Above: Dio Sounds 2024 performers

FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS

Religious Education

Meet the team – read more about studying Religion in Stage 6 at our school

How are students inspired and motivated?

Learning in the classroom supports contemporary social justice issues and we engage with agencies such as Catholic Mission and Catholic EarthCare to look at relevant issues.

Professional Learning Teams for each year devise refreshing and innovative tasks.

Just this month, our students have demonstrated outstanding skill by winning the prestigious 2024 Australian Catholics Magazine, Australian Catholic University 'Young Voices Awards'. This national competition encourages young people to use the power of the media to make a positive difference in the world. The Editor noted the high quality of entries from St Pius X.



What ongoing opportunities help your faculty to enhance teaching skills, resources and practices?

Each module in the new syllabus is preceded by academic readings and a whole day of Professional Learning. We have access to the latest resources and strategies and as a school team, focus on best teaching practice and participate in ongoing Stage 6 preparation. Our faculty presents at Diocesan Professional Learning opportunities showcasing flipped learning. Members of our team were delegates at the Parliament of World Religions in Utah.

Our highly qualified staff have a range of post-graduate degrees and certifications that ensure they stay up to date with best practice methods and teachings.



Library

The St Pius X Library is an award-winning, contemporary learning facility, staffed by a qualified Teacher Librarian and support staff. From Year 7 to the more rigorous academic demands of Stage 6; the library is an important resource for both students and staff at St Pius. The library has an extensive collection of contemporary fiction and non-fiction resources, eBooks and audiobooks. It also provides access to a variety of subscription services to assist staff and students in their teaching and learning.

Our Teacher Librarian regularly collaborates with staff in creating programs that develop students' critical thinking and information literacy skills. We also have a strong focus on the ethical use of information and digital technologies, preparing students for the demands of the HSC and beyond

