



Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Enrolment Applications for year 7 2022
Frequently asked Questions

General Enrolment Questions

Is it possible to enrol now for 2023?	No. The school cannot take Year 7 Enrolments for 2023. Enrolments can only take place in the year prior to the students starting.
When does my primary school provide an enrolment form?	Government Primary Schools should be handing out the paperwork at the start of term 2.
When do you select if you wish to join the music program?	When you are accepted into the school you will have the opportunity to express your interest in joining the music program.
We are out of the zone but MGSC is our preferred Secondary College. If we put MGSC as our first preference and not complete the other two, how sure are we that we will get a place and are we compromising other options that would be preferred over our neighbourhood school? Should we also add two others so as not to be allocated our neighbourhood school.	We certainly accept students from outside of the school zone. In 2021, more than 50% of students we accepted in Year 7 were outside of the school zone. It is always best to put down a second and third choice, in case you don't get your first preference.
What are the Average annual fees for the school and what additional items are anticipated?	Fees – Materials and Services \$635 and activities \$225, Camp \$335. (If eligible for CSEF \$225.00)
When do students need to select the second language option? At the enrolment or after Year 7? Is there any option to change the choice of languages after they try one of them? For example, my daughter choose French at the year 7 but switch to Japanese later on or are there any option to choose both?	Once students have been accepted into the college they have opportunity to put in a language preference. It is only a preference and we can't guarantee that all students will be placed into their first option. Once a student starts in a language, they continue that language for 2 years.

Enhancement Questions

My daughter wants to apply for the enhancement program 2022 but doesn't not want to do the music program. Is that going to be an option?	Enhancement Program students are required to be involved with the Band Program for Years 7 and 8. However, experience with music is not required, and students may stop learning music after Year 8 if they choose.
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Curriculum Questions

Do you offer extra support for students that have learning challenges, such as dyslexia and dysgraphia?	The school has many students who have dyslexia. Each student has their own mandated classroom support, based on their specific needs. This is then distributed to their class teachers for them to use within their subject. We have one support staff who attends an English and Maths class each fortnight to provide extra support for students who need this. On top of this, all staff have participated in Professional Development on how to best support students with this and the teachers follow the support material.
What is your approach for girls that may be behind. Are there extra support sessions?	Teachers cater for all students in the classroom. They encourage the students to want to find out more about the topic and scaffold tasks so the students feel confident enough to explore topics at their level. If students have any learning challenges teachers are made aware of specific strategies that best support that student. All students are invited to attend Maths support afterschool on a Thursday and we also run English support.

Instrumental Music Program Questions

Do you have the cello class ?	Yes. Cello lessons are available for non enhancement students. This is because enhancement students all learn a band instrument
Can the students rent a cello ?	Yes. Instruments can be hired for \$200 per year.
What are the costs ?	Music Tuition is \$550 for the year, which includes weekly lessons, ensemble rehearsals and participation in music events.
My daughter is interested in the music program band form. I'm just wondering are her chances of getting a place limited if she is not selected for the enhancement program?	There will be at least one band form made up of students who are not in the enhancement program. Chances of being accepted into this class are just as good as any other year.
Does my daughter need prior instrumental experience to join.	No experience is required. The majority of the students in our program had no prior experience before they joined.
Is singing an option in the music program or do you have to do an instrument? Hi there, my daughter is very interested in singing. I loved the idea of the Band Classes but was curious whether singing is included or is it just instruments? You had two beautiful singers performing at the Open Night. Also, presumably there is a choir (in non-Covid envt)?	We have a vocal program which includes voice lessons and two choirs. Voice lessons in year 7 are available if you are not in the enhancement program, as enhancement students all learn a band instrument. From year 8 upwards, students can learn more than one instrument. Often instrumental students take up singing as a second instrument in year 8. Many students in year 7 learn a different instrument and still sing in the choir.



<p>Can you please confirm if all Year 7/8 students all learn a musical instrument or is it just those in the enhancement program?</p>	<p>Anyone can take part in the instrumental music program. In addition to this, all students learn classroom music as a core subject in year 7 and 8, which includes learning basic skills on a number of instruments.</p>
<p>Is it possible to do vocals plus an instrument? (ie is there a limit?)</p>	<p>Students can only learn one instrument in year 7 to limit the amount of time they spend out of class. From year 8 onwards students can learn a second instrument. As above, it is common for year 7 students to learn an instrument and still sing in the choir.</p>

Sports Program Questions

<p>During the information evening it was mentioned that the junior aerobics teams are coached by older or past students. What happens with the coaching of other sports?</p>	<p>The Aerobics teams are coached by a combination of past students whom are trained coaches and senior students. We have had much success with this and student coaches have had teams that have medalled at Nationals as have Senior coaches. We have students in years 9 and above who are selected to coach sports based on an application process. Currently we have over 50 students who coach a range of sports throughout the year.</p>
<p>Some neighbouring government schools offer sports programs like sports academy or elite sports program either out of school hours or as part of the curriculum. What opportunities does Mentone Girls Secondary College offer for girls that are very keen to develop their sporting skills? (Besides aerobics)</p>	<p>Although we don't offer a sports academy or elite sports program like our neighbouring schools we do encourage and offer other sporting events or competitions for our students to compete in either in or out of school hours. Such events include the All Schools Athletics competition which we have been highly successful in over the years.</p>
<p>What do you need to do for the aerobics auditions? How do you apply to be in the team? How many students do you accept into the aerobics teams? What does it involve?</p>	<p>All students in year 7 can be involved in the program with some competing in the initial competitions and others going in the New Stars to work on their technique until a mid year competition.</p> <p>In the first week of year 7, aerobics information will be shared and an introduction session held one lunchtime. Some students may be placed in a team if they demonstrate prior experience in the sport. Other students will then begin learning a routine and then are placed into either the competitive or New Stars stream. A handbook will be shared outlining all elements of the program. The program involves two morning training's per week and 2-3 competitions throughout the year. There is a one off payment for the extra curricular program.</p>



Other questions

<p>What tech equipment are year 7 students expected to have? Do we purchase these through the school or separately?</p>	<p>MGSC has a bring your own device program (BYOD) in Years 7-12. In recent years and in 2021, the Year 7-8 BYOD program has been an iPad Program. This is currently under review for 2022. Device options will be announced later this year. All BYOD devices are purchased by parents and not via the school.</p>
<p>What does MGSC do to support student wellbeing?</p>	<p>Every student has a student manager who is directly responsible for her wellbeing. Together with other key wellbeing staff, this teacher acts as a focal point across a larger network of support staff for students. He or she regularly monitors the learning and the wellbeing of students through direct contact, regular feedback from class teachers and communications with parents and guardians. The Wellbeing team provide an early and active response to signs of personal difficulty and assist students to develop problem-solving skills. They address concerns in a confidential and respectful way, so that students can take maximum advantage of learning opportunities at MGSC.</p>
<p>What programs are run, what supports are in place for students, and what is the process if parents have any concerns around bullying etc?</p>	<p>MGSC has a bullying policy which students are made aware of. All Junior School students view a theatre company performance linked to bullying. The classes then explore the key themes from the play over a series of lessons. All health classes cover respectful relationships, including cyber communications.</p> <p>If parents have concerns that their daughter is being bullied, they should contact their daughters Student Manager. Incidents of bullying will be taken seriously. A number of strategies will be used to resolve the situation, including the use of graded sanctions if necessary.</p>
<p>What other events do you hold annually or biannually or during term? Eg, art shows, info nights, formals, dinners for parents?</p>	<p>All-school and special events are held in school time and in the evening. Annually events include sport carnivals, art show, information/open night, music performances, end of year Presentation Night, Science Week, and more. The all-school musical production is a bi-annual event. COVID-19 has and will continue to impact some events. Overseas study tours (France and Japan) were every two years. On the alternative year our Japanese sister school would visit MGSC.</p>



<p>Does Mentone Girls Secondary College develop partnerships with boys schools for example or rather how do you prepare girls for when they leave school so that they have the skills to deal with the 'real world'?</p>	<p>No, Mentone Girls' Secondary College does not have a partnership with a boys' school.</p> <p>With a rich history of educating young women to take their place in a globalised world, our dedicated teachers are always seeking to innovate the curriculum and remain at the forefront of educational theory and practice.</p> <p>We value respect, compassion, independence and tolerance. We support students to contribute to local and global communities through our curriculum and co-curricular programs. We promote resilience and value perseverance and hard work. This allows students to build the key skills to support them in their future.</p>
<p>How do you support children with disabilities and additional needs such as hearing losses and learning difficulties eg dyslexia?</p>	<p>The school has many students who have learning difficulties. Each student has their own mandated classroom support, based on their specific needs from testing. This is then distributed to their class teachers for them to use within their subject. We have one support staff who attends an English and Maths class each fortnight to provide extra support for students who need this.</p> <p>On top of this, all staff have participated in Professional Development on how to best support students with this and the teachers follow the support material.</p> <p>Many of the Junior classrooms have a sound system which can be used for students who have hearing loss.</p>