

doxaschoolbendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people



Family Handbook

Doxa School acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of the land upon which our school is situated.

We pay our respects to elders, past, present and future, for they hold the story, hope and dreaming for all.

We affirm the wisdom of this ancient culture. It reminds us that God's word is part of the whole of creation.

May we continue to walk the message of love, joy, peace and reconciliation.



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School Information

Principal:	Vanessa Brown
Deputy Principal:	Len Watson
Senior Wellbeing Leader:	Nick Grainger
Higher Learning Leader:	Kyleigh Rivett/Ruth King
Family and Community Engagement Leader:	Aminda Polonowita
Student Experiences Leader:	Claire Taylor
Teaching Team:	Len Watson (Leader) Kyleigh Rivett Scott Jackson Aminda Polonowita Ruth King Emily Jeffery Amy Templeton (Ed Support)
Wellbeing Team:	Nick Grainger (Leader) Tony White Carla Dullard Claire Taylor Jacinta May
Administration Team:	Colleen Marchant – Business Manager Colleen Lingard Emma Boxshall

Postal Address: 118 Hargreaves Street Bendigo, Vic, 3550

Phone: (03) 5442 8140

Mobile: 0417 108 870

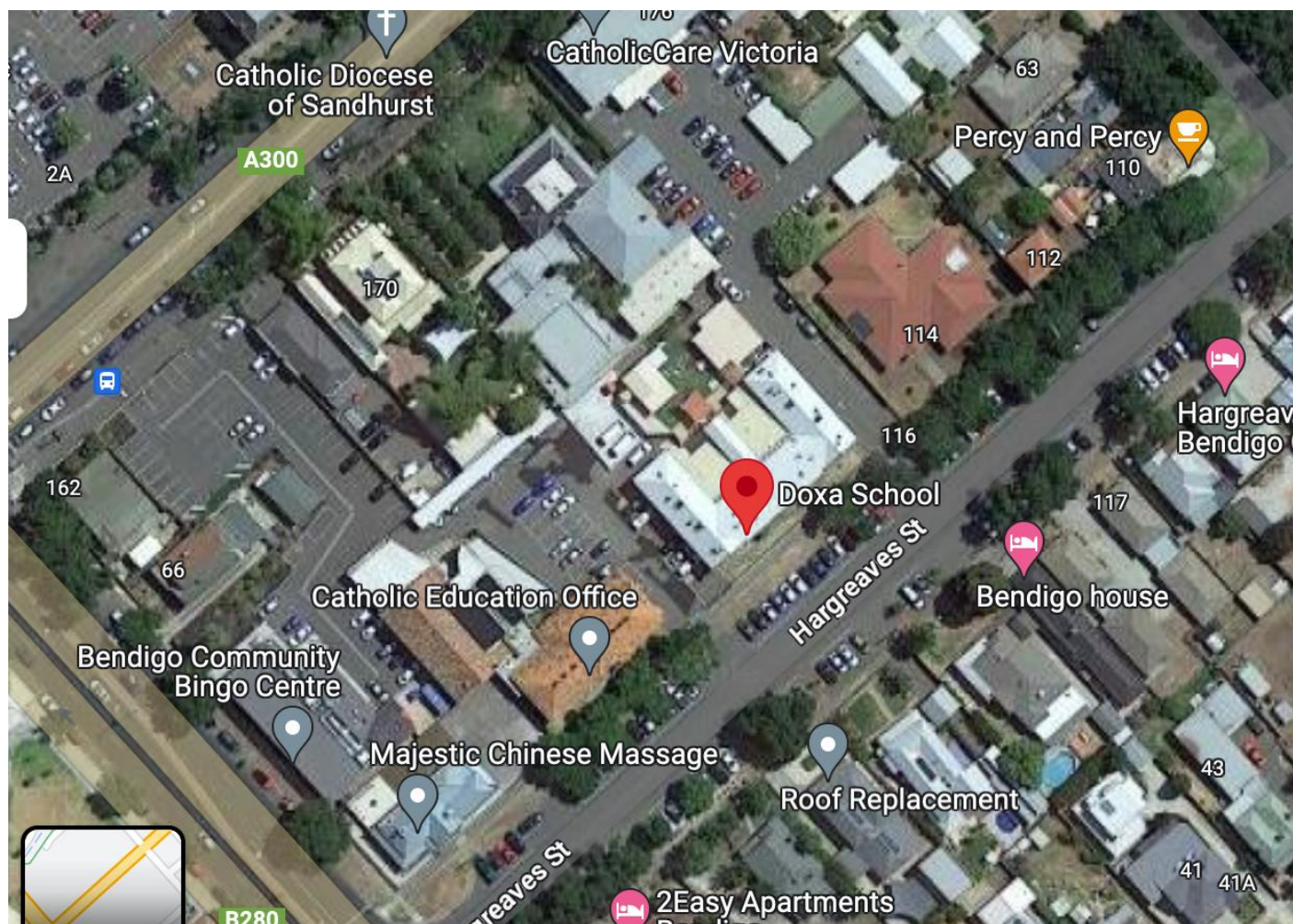
Email: principal@doxabendigo.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.doxabendigo.catholic.edu.au



<https://www.facebook.com/DoxaSchoolBendigo>

Doxa School Bendigo Is located next to the Catholic Education office in Hargreaves street. Parking is available in Hargreaves St.



Important Dates 2023

Term 1: January 30th – April 6th

Term 2: April 24th – June 23rd

Term 3: July 10th – September 15th

Term 4: October 2nd – December 20th

Term 4: Camps

Term 1 ILP – March 6th

Term 2 ILP – June 9th

Term 3 ILP – August 14th

Term 4 ILP – November 6th

Awards Evening: December 6th from 6pm at St Kilians Hall

Our Vision

To inspire a greater number of young people and families in our community to reach their full potential through quality leadership and practice.

Our Mission

Doxa School Bendigo is a transition school in the Catholic tradition, which engages young people, their families and the wider community in an experience of whole person growth.

Graduate Outcomes

That young people leave the Doxa School community with greater confidence as independent learners and being more emotionally self-aware and better able to manage themselves as they undertake their future pathways.

Principal's Welcome

Welcome to the Doxa School Bendigo community. As we embark on a new academic year, I want to express my appreciation to our returning families for their continued trust and support. To our new families, I extend a special welcome, and I am excited to have you join our school community.

As a Catholic specialist setting, we understand that each young person is unique and may require different approaches to support their leaning and emotional needs. Our dedicated staff team are passionate about creating a Safe, Kind and Curious environment for all students. They are committed to fostering critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills, empowering our students to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.



We believe that education is a collaborative effort and value the importance of positive relationships and open lines of communication between the school students and their families. We value your insights, concerns, and aspirations for your child's education. We encourage you to actively engage in our school community by attending Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meetings and participating in family events, such as the end of year awards celebration and the family morning teas. Your involvement plays a crucial role in shaping the educational experience we provide.

The work that we do at Doxa School Bendigo is built upon the pillars of Catholic Identity, Choice Theory, Trauma Sensitive Practices and Social and Emotional Learning. These four pillars support a whole person, student centered approach to our program.

We encourage positive partnerships with our young people and their families and support working alongside professionals and agencies to achieve the best outcomes for our students.

As we embark on the sacred journey ahead, I look forward to working collaboratively with all of you to create an enriching and supportive educational experience for your child.

Vanessa Brown - Principal

General Information

Student Absences:

If your child is ill or unable to attend school it is important that you contact the school office. This can be done through the office phone (5442 8140) or the school mobile (0417 108 870). Please ensure your message is clear as to who is absent. If the school has not been contacted by 10am our Administration Officer will contact parents/carers to clarify the student's absence.

Sign in/ Out:

All visitors to the school as well as students who enter or leave the school outside of normal times are required to sign in or out as appropriate. This is done through the iPad in the entry foyer or by the Administration Officer through the SIMON Kiosk. Please notify the office if your child will be arriving late or leaving early.

Food Provisions:

Doxa School doesn't have a canteen however we provide a daily light breakfast and morning tea. We encourage students to bring their own lunch and snacks to school. Doxa school ensures there are snacks and fresh fruit available every day. Doxa staff and students lunch together throughout the term, when we are off site on excursion, celebrating special days and other occasions when the students are notified prior.

Complaint Procedure:

Doxa School Bendigo is a child safe community committed to providing an environment that is true to the values of our schoolwide expectations: being Safe, Kind and Curious. We promote care for all individuals in the school community and this is reflected in our support of students to learn to understand and regulate their own behaviour.

All of Doxa School's policy and procedural documentation is underpinned by our 5 key Pillars of the Doxa School Model: Student-Centred Approach, Trauma Sensitive Practice, Social and Emotional Literacy, Choice Theory and our Catholic Identity and complies with the requirements of Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd. This Policy can be found on our school website www.doxabendigo.catholic.edu.au and applies to all community members of Doxa School Bendigo.

Immunisations:

Each year Doxa school organises immunisations through Bendigo Community Health as a support for families in keeping our young people up to date with all immunisation requirements. Information regarding immunisations will be posted on our website, in newsletters and on our Facebook page when they are coming up.

Newsletters:

School newsletters are produced twice a term and are sent to families via email, the school website and through Facebook. They are a great way of keeping up to date with what is happening in the Doxa School community.

Reporting Student Progress:

Every term families are invited to attend Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meetings. These meetings are an important opportunity for carers to participate in discussions about their young person's goals and learning progress.

Each semester a formal written report is presented to families. It is the habit of our teaching and wellbeing staff to contact the families of our students often during the term, providing informal opportunities for information regarding student progress to be reported on regularly.

Public Transport/ Conveyance Allowance:

Doxa School is a specialist setting enabling students to travel by public or school bus transport. Conveyance allowance is claimable if the school is more than 4.8 kms from the students' residential address. The school will support families who are eligible for supported transport to and from school and this information will be provided to families on enrolment.

Afternoon Program:

Doxa School provides an afternoon program that offers opportunities for students to participate in a variety of activities that may include; art and craft activities, sport/gym, computer games, board games, outdoor activities, shed, music and cooking. The activities are conducted in small groups and may be undertaken on or offsite depending on the activity. Afternoon program provides an opportunity for students to interact with a range of students, engage with the community and provide learning environments that encourage engagement and different experiences.

Camps, Incursions and Excursions:

Doxa School provides opportunities for all students to participate in learning experiences via incursions, excursions and camps. We offer a range of activities to cater for the various needs of our students. Incursions and excursions are experiential learning activities that are provided onsite, locally or within a manageable travel distance. Incursions may include visiting speakers, wildlife exhibits, artists and others. Excursions may include theatre trips, football or other sport experiences and various activities in Melbourne and other centres.

The school offers an overnight camp program that endeavours to cater for a range of student abilities to participate. Camps can range from 1 to 3 overnight stays and may be interstate, regional or local with a focus on providing opportunities that allow as many students as possible to join to the best of their ability.

All camps and excursions are free of any costs to families.

Family Engagement:

Doxa School values our all our relationships, particularly with our families, parents and carers. This partnership is crucial in the support we provide together for our students. Our community prides itself on being a welcoming one that is safe for all those connected to us. We provide a range of opportunities for families to join us in supporting their students learning, social and emotional growth, and in celebrating their successes.

As well as formal meetings we conduct family morning teas, when open parents and carers are welcome to visit our café and we love to see families support their students at our annual awards evening in December.

Community Expectations

Doxa School is a child safe community committed to providing an environment that is true to the values of our school wide expectations: being Safe, Kind and Curious.

We promote care for all individuals in the school community and this is reflected in our support of students to learn to understand and regulate their own behaviour.



At Doxa School we expect that all members of the community do their very best to keep themselves and their fellow community members SAFE. We do this by being mindful of our behaviours and our words.



Being Kind is an important part of belonging to the Doxa School Community. The way we respond to and treat others is important and goes a long way to making others in the community feel welcome and valued. Kindness is a gift to give and wonderful to receive.



Being Curious is the best way to learn. By being Curious we learn more about ourselves and others as well as the world around us. Sometimes we need to take a risk because having the courage to be Curious is sometimes hard, but if we take that risk safely we can also learn so much.