Parent Information Booklet 2017

Year One

Joy In Learning
Year One Philosophy

The curriculum at St John Bosco College from Kindergarten to Year 4 will be based on the Western Australian Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework “Belonging, Being and Becoming”. There will be a balance between tasks based on the children’s interests and explicit teaching of the curriculum, with a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy. Students will be provided with opportunities to develop their thinking skills by problem solving with real life situations using innovation, shared collaboration and digital technology.

The Early Childhood years are a significant and important period in a child’s development. They are the foundation from where we build a strong, resilient and positive member of the community. Every experience and every interaction acts as a base for future learning. In Year 1, we will endeavor to make sure learning is rich, enquiry based and developmentally appropriate.

Image of the Child

In Year One we recognise that each child is unique and needs to develop spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, physically and socially.

In Year One we acknowledge the children’s ‘image and likeness’ of God through the Religious Education curriculum and engaging learning experiences that enhance the child’s faith and overall development.

The Learning Process

In Year One we understand that children require many opportunities to practice their skills and knowledge in meaningful, relevant ways.

We believe children have different learning styles and acquire knowledge at different rates.

In Year One you will see differentiation of the curriculum to ensure all children’s needs are catered for, and developmentally appropriate learning experiences to ensure success as a learner.

Environment

In Year One, the environments are set up to enhance inquiry-based learning.

Learning experiences and an atmosphere of success are highlighted through the modern décor and materials used to enhance 21st century learning and teaching.

In Year One the children belong to a secure, nurturing environment where each child’s individual achievements are celebrated.

Partnership

Parents, teachers and students are all partners in the learning process. At St John Bosco College, we promote a philosophy of teamwork with peers, administration, family and community members.

In Year One, we acknowledge that successful home–school partnerships help parents to become engaged with their child’s learning.

Community

In Year One we recognise all members of our community and honour the different roles these members undertake.

Within our classrooms with teachers, out in the playground with peers, around the school with parents and while celebrating Religious festivities within the parish, Year One value and respect all members of the St John Bosco community.

The children at St John Bosco College will be provided with a variety of materials to encourage rich learning experiences and interactions. The provision of such, in conjunction with the EYLF, will enable the child to excel and develop a high personal regard for their learning. In turn, these achievements will foster a sense of independence and individuality as the child’s learning highlights their unique abilities.
Everything you need to know about Year One

College Day

Studio opens: 8:30am
Start of College day: 8:40am
Recess: 10:30 - 10:50 am
Lunch: 12:30 - 1:10 pm
End of College day: 3:00pm

Attendance

If a student is to be absent from the College for any reason, a parent/guardian needs to email the College Administration on absentee@stjohnbosco.wa.edu.au before 9.00am on the day of absence.

If it is not possible to email, a telephone call to the College Administration is required before 9.00am but must be followed with an email. An SMS message to parents/guardians will be generated for all absences unexplained by 9.30am. If your child is ill please keep them at home to recover. This will minimise the risk of infection to other children. If your child becomes ill at the College we will contact you or other emergency contacts that you have nominated for your child. Please ensure that all College records and the admin staff are kept up to date with any changes in contact details. We do require a written note or email either on return or prior to the day of absence.

Birthdays

Parents are advised not to send in any treat or party favours on their child’s birthday. Rest assured we will certainly celebrate them and their special day in the classroom. In this way families are released of the cost of providing items for the whole class which can be an unnecessary cost and not affordable for all families.

Recess and Lunch

St John Bosco College encourages a healthy lunchbox and bottle of water each day and would like to see your children bring in foods that will energise them and keep them alert and ready to learn. Please support us by sending your child to the College with healthy, nutritious snacks and lunches.

At recess we would like to see:
- Fresh fruit and/or vegetables
- Yogurt
- Cheese
- Pikelets
- Crackers
- Plain milk

At lunch we would like to see:
- Sandwich or wrap
- Left overs or homemade meals
- More fruit and/or vegetables
- Dips
- Lean meats

Please refrain from sending any of the following items in lunchboxes:
- Packets of chips or other types such as Twisties etc.
- Chocolate – in any form (bars, cakes, biscuits)
- Juice boxes or cordials
- Flavoured milk
- Nut products (including Nutella, bags of nuts or nut bars)
- Lollies

We would appreciate it if all treats were saved for after the College day or at home so the children can see continuity amongst their lunchboxes as well.

- Please note that if your child has special dietary requirements the necessary staff are aware of this.
Hat

Please ensure that your child has their College hat each day. During the summer months, please apply sunscreen to your child’s arms, legs and face before school. We are a Sun Smart College and have a ‘No hat, play in the shade’ policy.

Children’s Property

Please ensure that your child comes to the College in the correct College uniform each day and that all of their property is clearly labeled with your child’s first and last name, to avoid any lost property. The Year One students need to wear their academic uniform on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and their sports uniform on Tuesday and Thursday each week (unless notified for special College events). Please encourage children to leave toys and treasured items at home to avoid distress of loss or damage at the College.

Independence

Please encourage your child to develop independence and responsibility for themselves in Year One by making sure that they:

• Carry their own school bag.
• Organise their belongings each day on their arrival into the classroom.

Morning Routine

The classroom door will open at 8.30am every day. This is an opportunity for your child to unpack their bag and organise themselves for the day. Once they are organised they can complete a morning activity with a friend. Please ensure that the children remain with you along the verandahs until the studio door has been opened. Our learning day will commence at 8.40am.

The morning is a very important part of your child’s day, and we ask that you make every effort for them to be at the College on time. If your child arrives to the College later than 8:45am, an adult must sign them in at the College Administration and escort them to their class. A note will be given to your child to pass to the teacher to show that they have been signed in.

Classroom Management

Positive reinforcement is a strategy that will be implemented in our classroom to encourage desired behaviours. All children will be treated with fairness and equality. Our classroom rules will be clear and consistent. The rules are to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in the class.

We have established a behaviour management system that supports all children and helps them to develop and refine social skills, resilience and relationships. Students are encouraged to be thoughtful, respectful and responsible for their own actions. On the first day of school the children and teachers will establish their own list of classroom rules and describe what they believe a ‘Happy and Productive Classroom’ should look like, sound like and feel like.

As a whole College, we teach positive behaviours and redirect incorrect behaviours. We ask children to reflect upon them. In doing so, we implement and integrate the Fruits of the Holy Spirit within the classroom and the playground. Ongoing behavioural problems or issues of concern will be discussed privately and confidentially with parents.

Religion

Religious Education is the first learning area in the Catholic school curriculum. There are eight Religious Education Units of Work that will be covered throughout the year. At St John Bosco College we are building upon the example of how Jesus lived using ‘The Fruits of the Holy Spirit’.

Literacy

Daily Literacy sessions will be from 9:00 – 10:30am each day. The students participate in a range of reading, writing and word work activities based on the Australian Curriculum. They have the opportunity to work individually and in small groups.
Handwriting

The NSW Foundation font will be used throughout the College. A copy of this font will be in a handout for you. Please reinforce these letter and number formations when writing with your child at home.

Numeracy

Daily Numeracy sessions will be 60 minutes each day at various times. The students will take part in a variety of activities that will focus on certain skills and key aspects of the Australian Curriculum. A strong emphasis will be placed on developing understandings of mathematical concepts through concrete materials and hands on learning.

Technology

In Year One to Year Four the students are required to bring their own iPad or iPad air to class each day. Information regarding the apps required for learning will be provided to you early in Term One.

iPad minimum requirements:

- iOS7
- 32GB
- Powerful apps included at no additional cost (iMovie, Pages, Keynote, Garage Band)

If students already have an iPad or iPad Air, there is no need to purchase a new one. However, it is highly recommended that iPad’s brought to the College are set up with an individual student Apple ID (separate from any other devices that you may currently own). We kindly ask that your child’s iPad is fully charged each day ready for learning.

Purposeful Practice

We believe in children being involved in purposeful practice at home where they revise literacy & numeracy skills that have been focused on in class in a ‘hands on’ and interactive manner. Each child is expected to complete no more than 15 minutes a night.

Reading

The children will bring home a reader each Monday in their homework folder. Please fill in the book title and sign the reading journal each night. Please remember that each child is different and reading skills develop at different stages. The emphasis should always be on the enjoyment of reading and comprehension of the text.

Spelling

A list of spelling words will be sent home each week. On a Friday children will be tested on their spelling words and be given new words accordingly.

Numeracy

A simple numeracy activity will be sent home on Mondays. This activity is to be completed and brought to school on Fridays to share with the class. If your child is experiencing any stress or difficulty at any time, please feel free to contact us.

Note Folder

Each child will be given a note folder that will need to come to and from the College every day. These note folders will include their reading books and any other activities that need to be completed each week. Please check these every night for any notes that may come home as well. To help build independence, remind your child to place their note folder in their bag each day.

Assessment

Students will be assessed with a variety of formal and informal assessment tools. Self and peer assessment tools will also be employed. Not all work that the children complete is for assessment purposes and because of this some work may look as though it has not been corrected. This is not the case. All work is seen and usually anecdotal notes are taken.

Formal assessments for Literacy and Numeracy will be completed in Term 1 and Term 4. The results of these tests will be discussed with you during our Parent meetings.
Communication

Communication is a vital part of your child’s education. It is important that parents and teachers maintain regular and open dialogue about the educational and social needs of your child. We encourage you to make an appointment to discuss progress or any concerns regarding your child throughout the year. Any issues or confidential information should not be discussed in front of the child or other families. A respectful demeanour is encouraged at all times. Parent interviews will be held throughout the year as needed. We will make time to meet with each parent on more than one occasion throughout the year. Email is usually the most effective way of contacting your child’s classroom teacher.

We can be contacted via our College email addresses:

**Year 1 Purple:**

bennett.justine@cathednet.wa.edu.au

**Year 1 Teal:**

Lovell.kate@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Please understand that teachers have time constraints during the College day and that issues are best dealt with when uninterrupted time and attention can be given to them. Therefore, parents and guardians should allow time for a reply to any communication.

See Saw

This year we will be integrating the Seesaw app into our Year One classes. This program empowers students to independently document their learning by uploading photos, videos, drawings, text, PDFs, and links. It also gives families an immediate and personalised window into their child’s learning each day. Parents are notified when content is uploaded to their child’s profile making it easy to observe their progress and growth throughout the College year. More information will be provided to you on this program closer to the commencement of term one.

Parent Help

Parent help is very much appreciated, by teachers and students alike. An integral part of inquiry learning is seeking information and collaborating, so please share your skills and areas of expertise or employment with us. Assistance will also be welcomed for weekly reading. Further details will be sent out once all formal assessments have been completed. Confidentiality is of utmost importance while on parent help.