

Open Day FAQ 2021

1. Does the College only enrol Catholic students?

Mercy Regional College is a Catholic, learning faith community which invites enrolments from any potential student who is comfortable with, and prepared to support, the ethos and values of the College.

While we welcome all enquiries regarding enrolment for your child, the following criteria reflect the order of priority for enrolments at the College:

- Students who are baptised Catholics
- Students with siblings attending the College
- Students attending Catholic Primary schools
- All other students

2. What are the Catholic expectations at Mercy Regional College?

Both students and parents/guardians are expected to respect and fully support the Catholic nature and practices of the College. These include formal Religious Education programs (Years 7-12), celebration through liturgy including Masses, retreats and reflection days and prayer.

3. What are the College fees?

Current College fees are available on our website www.mercy.vic.edu.au/join-our-college/fees/. Fees for the 2022 academic year will be set by the school board in November 2021.

As a Catholic College we have the long-established policy that no family is denied a Catholic Education due to financial hardship. Families are requested to contact Business Manager Judith Murfitt to share their situation and depending on circumstances submit a Fee Concession Application.

4. When is the best time to lodge an application Year 7 enrolment?

Applications are accepted each year for students in Year 6 prior to the advertised closing date (as per the College website).

5. When will applications for 2022 close?

Enrolment applications for 2022 close on Friday, June 25, 2021.

6. How many students are enrolled at Mercy Regional College?

There are currently 408 students enrolled at the College in 2021.

7. What are the class sizes?

- 25 in Years 7 and Year 8. In 2020 to support students whose learning was affected by the quarantine and remote learning, we are running 4 homerooms in Year 7. This allowed us to have 18-20 students in every class.
- 27 is the maximum number in Years 9 to 12, depending on the subject

8. How does the College operate with two campuses?

Mercy Regional College has two campuses, the O'Keeffe Junior Campus in Noorat and the McAuley Senior Campus in Camperdown. Year 7 and 8 students start their learning journey at the O'Keeffe Campus and move to the McAuley Campus for Years 9-12. Whole school events and celebrations are combined for the two campuses.

9. Does the College organise country bus travel?

Bus services are available from most surrounding areas as arranged by the Department of Education and Public Transport Victoria, along with our own private charter bus services. For further details please contact the College office.

10. What are the College start and finish times?

Start: 9.05am

Finish: 3.05pm

Student supervision commences at 8.30am and concludes at 4.30pm.

11. Where do I purchase the College uniform?

Uniform can be purchased at the Noone uniform shop located at the McAuley Campus, Camperdown. For the shop contacts and trading hours as well as uniform requirements please refer to our website www.mercy.vic.edu.au/join-our-college/uniform/.

12. Where do I buy second-hand uniforms and books?

Second-hand uniforms and books can be purchased in the Facebook group *Mercy Regional College Buy/Sell/Swap 2nd Hand Books and Uniform*.

13. How many canteens are at the College?

McAuley Senior Campus has one canteen and lunches can be pre-ordered each morning. To see the canteen menu and pricelist please refer to our website www.mercy.vic.edu.au/student-life/canteen/

O'Keeffe Junior Campus doesn't have a canteen on site, but lunches can be pre-ordered and delivered from the local cafe.

14. Do students need a laptop/MacBook for school?

Yes, Year 7-9 students are provided with a school owned MacBook.

Students are required to provide their own MacBook in Years 10 to 12. The College negotiates a price through a bulk order system. For more information on MacBooks and warranty, please refer to our website www.mercy.vic.edu.au/learning/macbooks/.

15. Do students need their own computer at home?

No. Students can use their school MacBook that will connect to your Internet at home.

16. Do Year 7 students receive home learning?

Year 7 students receive a limited amount of home learning during Term 1.

A Home Learning Policy applies to students in Years 7 and Year 8 to ensure their workload is not overwhelming.

17. Can students study at school at the end of the day?

Yes, the Resource Centres at the McAuley Senior Campus O'Keeffe Junior Campus are open until 4.30pm Monday to Thursday.

18. What languages are available to study?

All students learn French in Years 7 and 8 and can elect to continue studying this language from Year 9 onwards.

19. What hands-on subjects are available at the College?

From Year 7 onwards students participate in a wide range of applied learning opportunities. The College offers a number of curriculum areas such as STEAM, Food Technology, Hospitality, Wood Technology, Arts, Drama, Outdoor Education, Physical Education as well as many VET subjects and VCAL in the senior years.

20. Does the College support VCAL Pathways?

The College has a successful VCAL program to support and guide our students towards their preferred vocation. Part of this program is the study of a VET subject. Many of our students gain apprenticeships and traineeships through their VCAL program and VET studies.

21. Does the College offer any additional activities?

Yes. Private music tuition, debating, public speaking, sport, iCAN program and immersion and outreach opportunities are all available for student participation.

22. Will there be information sessions and guided tours on Open Day?

Yes, information sessions and guided tours will be available every 30 min. Students will have an opportunity to participate in interactive displays in various subject areas.