THE MIDDLE YEARS
YEARS 7 to 10
BLACKHALL KALIMNA

COURAGE TO QUESTION
WELCOME TO BLACKHALL

Preshil – The Margaret Lyttle Memorial School is a candidate school* for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme. These schools share a common philosophy and a commitment to high quality and challenging education. Year 7 at Preshil is the first year for students at our senior campus: Blackhall Kalimna in Sackville Street. Here, it is spacious and relaxed, friendships develop across the year levels and individual styles and interests, including individual styles of dress, are welcomed and encouraged.

* Visit our website
Preshil is proudly co-ed and alive to the needs of both girls and boys. Our holistic approach supports all students in developing an awareness of self and independence of mind. We embrace the reality that all students are on different journeys of development and learning as they move toward adulthood.

**THE MIDDLE YEARS PART OF THE WHOLE EDUCATION JOURNEY**

Our 7-10 program builds on the primary school curriculum at Arlington, which, like the IB Primary Years Program (PYP), is underpinned by a child-centred inquiry and project based approach. The MYP is the logical extension for children who have attended IB Primary Years Program (PYP) schools. We will continue to support all our students towards the VCE or the International Baccalaureate Diploma and Certificate courses, to be introduced at Preshil in 2018.

“We can be ourselves here and we don’t have to be perfect. We are allowed to have our own opinions.”

Junior student - Strategic planning focus group 2012
The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme provides a framework of academic challenge for the Australian National Curriculum. The MYP encourages students to become critical and reflective thinkers, learners who identify and make connections between traditional subjects and the real world. Students develop a depth of knowledge and balance through the study of eight subjects: the Arts, Individuals and Societies, Language and Literature, Language Acquisition, Mathematics, Physical and Health Education, Sciences and Design.

Our community of learners is challenged to set goals that support them to reach their own academic potential. The learner profile emphasises the development of the whole person, actively cultivating the attributes of our students as inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, courageous, balanced and reflective, to become global citizens with an awareness of their common humanity.

Assessment is criterion-based, continuous, varied and is integral to teaching and learning.

“We love it here - we never feel patronised, we respect each other, we have passionate teachers who engage us and who are great at accommodating individual needs.”

Senior student - Strategic planning focus group 2012
The abiding principle of our wellbeing program is the deep respect and co-operation between students and their teachers: each student has an individual ‘Tracker’. Preshil’s emphasis is to promote physical health, balanced wellbeing and a life long enjoyment of physical and outdoor activity. Camps are offered for each year level.

HOME GROUPS

Our students gather each morning in small year level groups to begin the day together. These informal times provide an opportunity to welcome the students and to frame the day’s learning.
MUSIC | ENSEMBLES AND

Everyone is encouraged to experience the joy of creating, sharing and performing music. We have a flourishing instrumental and ensemble program. Students have opportunities to play alongside their tutors and peers regardless of their level of musical attainment.

“Creativity is possible in every discipline and should be promoted throughout the whole of education.”

Sir Ken Robinson 2011
YEARS 7 TO 10 ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

The Activities Program is designed to broaden the students’ experience, to extend their knowledge in a particular area or ignite a passion in activities which includes the arts, technology, construction and sport, as well as more specialised units in maths & science and humanities. The options vary from term to term.

CREATIVITY

There has traditionally been a focus on the creative arts at Preshil – making, choosing, building and performing. Increasingly there is a strong focus on creativity in all areas of the curriculum, including science, maths and technology as we truly believe creativity is part of all learning.

“Creativity is not an indulgence that we need to have a bit of as well as all the hard work. Creativity is the centre of it - it is the development of mind.”

Margaret E Lyttle
“To me Preshil represents freedom. The freedom to learn the way I want to learn, the freedom to talk to teachers without them being scary, the freedom to get a straight answer, the freedom to work in a friendly environment.”

**Reflections from a Year 8 student**

**PRESHIL VISION STATEMENT**

At our core remains an unshakeable commitment to encouraging all children to progress at their own pace towards their own goals and to be respected as individuals in their own right. This means a commitment to our children to be nurtured and challenged in an atmosphere that inspires creativity and independent thinking in all areas of life and does not, overtly or subtly, use competition or punishment to motivate through the fear of failure. As global citizens we encourage an awareness of world issues and encourage effort to make a positive difference. We believe that education should prepare students to be thoughtful, peace-loving and active citizens of the world. Preshil will remain a school that puts kindness, compassion and social relationships at the centre of its operations.

**INFORMATION NIGHTS AND TOURS**

If you would like to learn more about the Middle Years Program at Preshil, please join us for an evening information session or a school tour. These are held at Blackhall Kalimna, the Senior Campus, at 12-26 Sackville Street Kew.

Please register your intention to attend by contacting the school Registrar Cressida Batterham-Wilson.

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