

# PROSPECTUS



NEWCASTLE  
GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL



# Outstanding opportunities ... outstanding futures



# WHY NEWCASTLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL?

**Newcastle Grammar School is one of the region's leading co-educational independent schools, catering for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. The School proudly links back to the earliest days of Anglican education in the city and today stands tall as the pre-eminent school in the Hunter region, where outstanding learning opportunities prepare young people to live a life of purpose and success.**

Students who walk through the gates of our two campuses discover a place that respects them as individuals and delivers opportunities for growth. As our motto *Spectemur Agendo* proposes: "let us be judged by our acts". Our strong tradition of excellence is evidenced by consistently high academic results, among the highest in the State, as well as the exceptional calibre of our graduating students. With over 100 years providing unrivalled educational outcomes, we know that excellence extends far beyond outstanding school results. The Newcastle Grammar School difference is in our delivery of a truly holistic education that helps prepare young people to craft their own extraordinary futures in this modern global world.

Newcastle Grammar School staff are chosen for their professionalism and expertise and then continually grown and upskilled to foster an enriched community that makes an impact. Woven through every student's journey are our values of Respect, Integrity, Service and Excellence (RISE). It is how Newcastle Grammar School students RISE to graduate as individuals who are adaptable and confidently prepared to take on a constantly evolving landscape.

Central to our pursuit of excellence is an understanding of the importance of wellbeing. Our positive education philosophy is embedded in all that we do – it is visible, incorporated into the curriculum and nurtured by our dedicated team. The School's extensive range of co-curricular options are part of a world-first programme, myNGS Passport, unparalleled in the region.

Newcastle Grammar School is a place where outstanding academics, opportunities, staff, relationships and leaders meet to forge exceptional graduates prepared for a life of global citizenship.

# OUR VALUES

## RESPECT

We acknowledge that a shared humanity underpins respect. We believe respect forms the basis of our interactions.

## INTEGRITY

Being honest to yourself and others is central to a worthwhile life. We aim to demonstrate trustworthiness and responsibility.

## SERVICE

We appreciate diversity and understand appropriate and authentic responses. We desire to enrich the lives of others and understand this, in turn, enriches our own lives.

## EXCELLENCE

We work together in an environment where the pursuit of excellence is encouraged, fostered and valued. We understand that wellbeing promotes excellence and is dependent on both feeling good about ourselves and doing good for others. We aim to bring the best version of ourselves to school each day.



... students RISE to graduate as individuals who are adaptable and confidently prepared ...

# OUR STUDENTS

**Newcastle Grammar School students are encouraged to be knowledgeable, communicators, critical thinkers, ethical, entrepreneurial, reflective, curious, collaborative, creative, compassionate, independent and happy.**

A graduate of Newcastle Grammar School is cognisant of a shared humanity through the complementary elements of the Heart, Head and Hand.

**The Heart** – The graduate has an understanding of self and others. This encompasses the expression of empathy, kindness, forgiveness, positivity, gratitude and resilience. The graduate operates from a position of integrity, self-efficacy, resilience, respect and compassion in their interactions with others.

**The Head** – The graduate embraces the experience of life-long learning: enjoying the challenges of problem solving; valuing and demonstrating critical and creative thinking. The graduate is willing to challenge themselves in their learning, reflect on their thinking, build understanding through collaboration, demonstrate commitment, strive for excellence and take pride in their achievements.

**The Hand** – The graduate recognises the needs of the community and the wider world and responds with meaningful service and compassion. The graduate is committed to ethical humanitarian values, promotes intercultural understandings and respects diversity.





# CAMPUS AND FACILITIES

## PARK CAMPUS - KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 4

**Students from Kindergarten to Year 4 are taught in an environment that is warm, friendly and supportive. It allows the students to feel secure in their early years of primary education. Park Campus at Cooks Hill has facilities and play areas appropriate for our youngest students. The Park Campus is home to the Sandi Warren Performance Centre used by the whole School for musical and dramatic productions, Kindergarten to Year 6 assemblies and physical education lessons.**

In 2023, Park Campus will undergo a transformation creating a world-class educational environment that encourages Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) and inquiry-based learning for Kindergarten to Year 6 students. The new facilities will also increase play space through a smart redesign of the site.

## HILL CAMPUS - YEARS 5 TO 12

**The Hill Campus offers specialist teaching spaces appropriate to the subject and the age of the students. Years 5 and 6 classes operate in flexible, technology-rich learning spaces and enjoy their own outdoor area. The facility allows staff and students to engage with learning pedagogies that encourage individual academic growth.**

Years 7 to 12 enjoy technology-enabled general-purpose classrooms and subject specific spaces for Science, iSTEM, Music, Design and Technology, Languages and Food Technology.

In addition, students have access to the Bolton Street Creative and Performing Arts Centre, especially for Drama and Visual Arts, located a short walk from the Hill Campus. The heritage listed Horbury Hunt Hall, is used for assemblies, and the historic Christ Church Cathedral is used for Chapel services. Students also utilise the wide range of excellent local sporting facilities.



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# LEARNING

## KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 4

**The School provides a structure for young children to develop both socially and academically, with an emphasis on the traditional areas of literacy and numeracy as well as an introduction to the adventure of education.**

Students work in ability groups in several areas of the curriculum. Our inquiry-based approach promotes independent and rich learning in Science, History and Geography. Specialist teachers work in the areas of Music, Art, STEM, PDHPE and Mandarin.

A varied programme of excursions and camps provides opportunities for the children to gain practical experience of the subjects studied. Students have access to specialist learning support including occupational therapy and counselling services. Our gifted students have individual programmes that are overseen by professionals in this area.

Further opportunities exist for Kindergarten to Year 6 students to learn Singing, Music and Speech and Drama.



## YEARS 5 AND 6

**Years 5 and 6 work with our Primary teaching staff in a specialised area of the School. The dedicated area allows for a learning environment suited to upper primary with a focus on the development of literacy and numeracy skills as well as inquiry-based learning in Science, History and Geography.**

Our flexible learning spaces, achieved with modular furniture and varied workspace options, give students the autonomy to choose their own seating arrangements according to their preferences. It allows a mix of social, collaborative and independent learning, as well as supporting relationship building and the transition to secondary school structures.

## YEARS 7 TO 12

**For secondary school students, the curriculum for each year level is designed to develop the academic potential of each student, with the pursuit of excellence being the underlying objective.**

The School follows the Australian and NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Curriculum and the Australian Curriculum (ACARA). In addition, elective subjects include iSTEM (Years 9 and 10), Languages (French,

Japanese and Mandarin), Design, Creative and Performing Arts, Food Technology/Hospitality and Mathematics. We offer an Accelerated Programme in Mathematics and Business Studies to support students with skill and passion to excel in these areas.

The School offers a broad range of electives and speciality subjects for Years 11 and 12, including extension subjects.

## PRESCHOOL

**Newcastle Grammar School has a preschool partnership with East End Early Education and Preschool in Bolton Street Newcastle.**

Entry from East End Early Education and Preschool to Newcastle Grammar School in Kindergarten is prioritised after a successful enrolment interview at NGS.



# myNGS PASSPORT

**myNGS Passport is a co-curricular programme like no other. Every student from Kindergarten to Year 12 is invited to create their own itinerary of adventure and undertake a journey of self-discovery through a range of experiences.**

Participants embark on experiences designed to ignite their passions and challenge them beyond their comfort zones, all the while supported by Newcastle Grammar School. Students reflect on their experiences through the innovative digital portfolio, providing them with a snapshot record of the skills, knowledge and memories that have helped shaped them.

Regardless of their interest and talents, there is something for everyone within the six experience pillars of the myNGS Passport. Recognising that everyone has a different idea of adventure, students can pick and choose activities from one or all of the pillars, which are: Movement for Life, Environment and Community Engagement, Creative Pursuits and Performing Arts, Skills for the Future, Outdoor Adventure, and Service and Leadership.

Students keen on taking the path less travelled to pursue an endeavour not offered or who are already engaging with an out-of-school activity can utilise the Choose Your Own Experience option. This allows for additional experiences to be included in the programme so students can gain School recognition for all co-curricular and extra-curricular accomplishments.

The myNGS Passport is the conduit to connection – connections between likeminded students encouraging and supporting each other, connections with local Hunter businesses, organisations and our partners at the University of Newcastle, and connections around the world. Through our network of relationships, students have access to international schools, experts and programmes with endless opportunities.





# WELLBEING

**Newcastle Grammar School's approach to pastoral care is delivered through a Positive Education approach and Visible Wellbeing™ programme.**

Positive Education is the application of the science of wellbeing (positive psychology), through programmes and practices, to give students and staff the skills required for wellbeing and improve engagement. Principles of the philosophy include growth mindset, gratitude, resilience, grit, deliberate practice, flow and mindfulness.

The Visible Wellbeing programme is evidence-based, and includes activities and resources that give members of our community – students, staff and parents – a language and framework to understand and recognise wellbeing in themselves and others. Commencing at Kindergarten, students are

introduced to the foundation of wellbeing literacy which continues to be built upon through to Year 12.

From Year 7 onwards, wellbeing is actioned within the vertical House system. Upon enrolment, each student is allocated to one of the four Houses: Tyrrell, Macquarie, Shortland and Hunter. Each House has Mentor teachers and a Head of House, who meet with students each morning and in scheduled wellbeing periods throughout the week.

Our approach places wellbeing firmly at the heart of everything we do and brings together best practice teaching and learning to develop in students the skills and mindsets to flourish as adaptable, resilient and confident global citizens.

“ Our approach places wellbeing firmly at the heart of everything we do ...

# SERVICE LEARNING AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

**Our students recognise that developing empathy and perspective, and being a positive influence on the world around them, is essential in being well-rounded people of influence and purpose. The School has strong connections with an orphanage and school in Vietnam which allows students to share in culture, embrace diversity and support others.**

“ ... developing empathy and perspective ... is essential in being well-rounded people of influence and purpose.

Students also work on projects with other local, national and international organisations and charitable causes. NGS is part of the international network, Round Square, connecting over 250 schools from over 50 countries.

Students in Years 5 to 12 participate and lead Chapel Services in Christ Church Cathedral. The Dean of the Cathedral officiates during these services, works with the School on special occasions and attends school events. The Cathedral has an important place in the life of our students, offering a space of quiet reflection and an opportunity to engage with the Christian message.

Students from Kindergarten to Year 10 study a variety of religions as part of the Religious Education academic programme.





# HOW TO ENROL

**For all families interested in learning more about Newcastle Grammar School for their child entering Kindergarten to Year 12, we invite you to explore the School at an Open Day or Tour.**

We accept enrolments across all year groups subject to positions being available – please contact the School directly for up-to-date information on availability. The main entry years are Kindergarten, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 11. All other years are subject to availability. Please refer to our Enrolments Policy on our website.

## ENROLMENT PROCESS

1. Complete and submit the online Application for Enrolment form via the NGS website, together with the non-refundable Application Fee. Submission of this form places a student on the database. Please read the NGS enrolments policy on the website for further details.
2. You and your child may be invited to attend an interview with either the Head of School, Deputy Head or Head of Primary or their delegate in the 12-24 months preceding your child's entry. Should space not be available for the entry year required, your child will be added to a wait list in order of application.
3. Successful applicants will be sent an Offer of Placement. To accept this offer, payment of the Entry Fee must be made within the time specified.

Newcastle Grammar School welcomes Secondary International Students. Please request more information regarding the requirements and process for International Student entry and attendance.

# SCHOLARSHIPS

**Newcastle Grammar School offers the opportunity for outstanding young students to apply for Scholarships in such areas as Academics, Music, Visual Arts, Sporting and All Rounders. Secondary scholarships take the form of partial remission of tuition fees and are available to Australian citizens and permanent residents and are reviewed each year. Scholarships are not available for Primary students.**

The Scholarship Committee reviews the disciplines and availability annually. For up-to-date information on NGS Scholarships, application dates and eligibility, visit the Newcastle Grammar School website at [ngs.nsw.edu.au/entry-to-ngs/scholarships](https://ngs.nsw.edu.au/entry-to-ngs/scholarships)



# CONTACT US

If you're interested in learning more or are ready to start your child's learning journey with Newcastle Grammar School, please contact the Head of Enrolments.

By phone: +61 2 4929 5811

Or email: [enrolments@ngs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@ngs.nsw.edu.au)







# NEWCASTLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## **Hill Campus**

Cnr Church & Newcomen Street  
Newcastle  
NSW 2300  
T (02) 4929 5811  
Email: [office@ngs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:office@ngs.nsw.edu.au)

## **Park Campus**

Cnr Union Street & Parkway Avenue  
Cooks Hill  
NSW 2300  
T (02) 4925 2121

[www.ngs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.ngs.nsw.edu.au)

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