



PARADE COLLEGE

BUNDOORA CAMPUS

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PRESTON CAMPUS

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A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG MEN

Monday 9 May 2022

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Re: Cessation of Preston Campus Year 7 Enrolments from 2023

In 2023 enrolments for Year 7 at the Bundoora Campus continue to exceed the number of places we can offer. However, there are not sufficient enrolments for Year 7 at Preston. It is clear that the vast majority of parents / guardians want their son to commence his Parade journey at Bundoora. Therefore, Parade College has made the decision to cease accepting Year 7 enrolments at the Preston Campus from 2023. All future Year 7 enrolments will be at the Bundoora Campus from 2023. Students currently enrolled to begin Year 7 at our Preston Campus in 2023 will be offered an enrolment at Bundoora. We are committed to working with each family to ensure a smooth transition from primary to secondary school.

All students who are currently at Preston will not have their enrolment affected by this decision. 2022 Year 7 and Year 8 students will continue at the Preston Campus until they complete Year 9. They will then (at the end of Year 9) continue to choose whether to pursue a VCE Pathway (at the Bundoora Campus) or a VCAL Pathway (at the Preston Campus).

The College remains committed to a Parade College education at our Preston Campus. There has been significant capital investment in recent years at the Campus (Food Studies Kitchen, the W. J. Nicholls Pavilion, Dowling Centre and the Trade facilities, just to name a few). Following a government review, the VCAL Certificate will officially change its name to the 'VCE Vocational Major'. In light of this change to the program, we anticipate further demand for the programs offered at Preston. Investigation is underway as to additional programs that we can offer as a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition that will allow us to continue to service the educational needs of young people. Further details regarding specific changes to the VCAL program will be communicated to all families in the near future.

Parade has always looked to the horizon. Looked beyond. Never stood still. The school could not have operated for 150 years if it had remained in East Melbourne. This is why we expanded to Preston 15 years ago. Over Parade College's 150 years we have moved/added locations and continued to improve our sites in response to the needs of our students. Our beginnings were in a hall at the back of St Francis', Melbourne. For almost a hundred years we were located in Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. For many years we had a junior campus in Alphington. We ran camps at a site at Lake Eppalock. The development at each of these sites, and the bold and forward thinking philosophy of our leaders has set Parade College up today for the *World of Opportunities* we offer at our Preston and Bundoora Campuses. We will always respond to the needs of our students.

We have a proud history of 150 years of education. While at times the experience has not always been positive, we have much more to celebrate and be grateful for. However, the best years for Parade College are not behind us. Parade College's best years are ahead of us. There has never been a more exciting time to be a student at Parade College.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andy Kuppe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andy" and last name "Kuppe" clearly distinguishable.

Andy Kuppe
Principal

Frequently Asked Questions

My son is currently enrolled in Year 7 / Year 8 at Preston. What happens to my son's enrolment?

All students currently enrolled at Preston, do not have their enrolment affected by this decision. Current Year 7s will continue into Year 8 (2023) and Year 9 (2024) at the Preston Campus. Current Year 8s will continue into Year 9 (2023) at the Preston Campus. At the end of Year 9, as has been the practice, students decide whether to continue a VCE Pathway (at the Bundoora Campus) or a VCAL (VCE Vocational Major) Pathway (at the Preston Campus).

My son is currently enrolled in Year 10 Pathways / Year 11 VCAL at Preston. What happens to my son's enrolment?

All students currently enrolled at Preston, do not have their enrolment affected by this decision. Current Year 10s will continue into Year 11 (2023) and Year 12 (2024) at the Preston Campus. Current Year 11s will continue into Year 12 (2023) at the Preston Campus. The Victorian Government has announced that the VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM) will replace the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) in 2023.

Does this mean the Preston Campus will close?

No. The College remains committed to a Parade education at our Preston Campus. There has been significant capital investment in recent years at the Campus (Nicholls Pavilion, Dowling Centre, Food Studies Kitchen, Trade facility upgrades, etc). The College will continue to make investment in the facilities at Preston. With the changes to the VCAL Certificate to 'VCE Vocational Major', we anticipate further demand for the programs offered at Preston. Investigation is underway as to additional programs to meet the needs of current and future students. We will continue to make these decisions in accord with our values as a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

My son is currently enrolled to commence Year 7 at the Preston Campus in 2023. What happens?

Those students currently enrolled to begin Year 7 at our Preston Campus in 2023 will be offered an enrolment at the Bundoora Campus. We are committed to working with each family to ensure a smooth transition from primary to secondary education. If an enrolment at Bundoora is not preferable, we will assist families in seeking an enrolment at other schools.

Will this decision have any impact on the implementation of the new senior secondary reforms at Preston Campus?

The new Senior Secondary education reforms provide an opportunity for Parade College to deliver high quality vocational and applied learning programs as part of the new single integrated secondary certificate. This new and revitalised approach to skills and training, which forms part of the Department of Education and Training's 2021-2025 strategic plan, also consolidates the need for increased connection between education and training, industry and employment. The new VCE Vocational Major and Victorian Pathways Certificate, through applied learning, provide students at the Preston Campus with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about education and employment pathways and to develop the skills and capabilities needed to succeed in further education, work and life.

Where can I find out more information?

Please contact the College on (03) 9468 3300 or info@parade.vic.edu.au and a member of the Leadership Team will be happy to speak with you.