

# 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, 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, community service activities held throughout the year, and the exceptional calibre of our graduates. 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.

Newcastle Grammar School staff are chosen for their professionalism and expertise. They are continually supported to grow and upskill to maintain an unrivalled standard of education for our students. 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 extensive range of co-curricular options offered at NGS fall into four categories: Sport, Creative and Performing Arts, Outdoor Adventure and Skills for the Future. Engaging in co-curricular activities promotes the overall development of students by nurturing their physical, emotional, social, and intellectual growth and can improve cognitive skills, concentration, and time management—valuable skills both in and out of the classroom.

# 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 PURPOSE

## Mission

Our mission is to provide an outstanding holistic education which emphasises academic excellence and cultivates curious and creative minds. We are committed to building a caring community that embodies our RISE values, fosters service leadership, and inspires students to become compassionate and responsible global citizens.

## Vision

Newcastle Grammar School aspires to be a distinctive, world-class educational community which challenges every student within a caring and supportive environment. Our commitment to innovation, excellence and sustainability will empower students to shape their bright futures.





# CAMPUS AND FACILITIES

## PARK CAMPUS - KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6

**Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 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.**

Park Campus has recently undergone a transformation with a new building to enhance and augment the outstanding education offered at NGS.

The modern classrooms are designed to provide our students with the perfect blend of innovation and inspiration. Equipped with the latest technology, they support interactive learning experiences while fostering critical digital literacy skills. At the same time, the rooms embrace the beauty of our natural surroundings, with green leafy tree-lined views and abundant natural light creating a calm and inviting environment.

## HILL CAMPUS - YEARS 7 TO 12

**The Hill Campus offers specialist teaching spaces appropriate to the subject and the age of the students. The facilities allow 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.

The Hill Campus seamlessly blends modern facilities with historic buildings, reflecting over a century of educational excellence on this site. In addition, students have access to the Bolton Street Creative and Performing Arts Centre, 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 for curricular and co-curricular activities.



...an environment that is warm, friendly and supportive.

# LEARNING

## KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6

**NGS Primary provides a structure for young children to develop both socially and academically. With an emphasis on the traditional areas of literacy and numeracy, students are also introduced to the wonder and adventure of learning.**

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 program 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 programs that are overseen by Learning Enhancement experts.

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

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. They allow for a mix of social, collaborative and independent learning and support relationship-building as well as providing quiet passive for reflection.





## YEARS 7 TO 12

**The learning framework in Secondary is designed to provide students with an outstanding holistic learning experience. With a focus on academic excellence within a caring and supportive environment, students are guided to develop a range of skills and competencies across a broad range of subject areas.**

In addition to the mandatory curriculum set by the NSW Education Standards Authority, students can also choose to study a range of elective subjects in Years 9 -12. This enables them to pursue areas of passion and strength.

Our approach to teaching and learning is underpinned by our Principles of Excellence, represented by the CHALLENGE acronym – Caring and supportive learning environment, High expectations, Assessment for learning, Learner attributes, Literacy and numeracy, Empowerment, Needs, Growth and Engagement. This evidence-based framework is centred around extensive research on effective educational practices. It guides teachers in the design of high-quality learning experiences to engage students and help them thrive.

As a Deep Learning school, we recognise the importance of engaging students in meaningful and relevant learning that prepares them for a successful life beyond school.

Students engage with a range of learning partners through guest speakers, excursions and activities that explicitly build the core competencies of effective learning – communication, critical thinking, creativity, citizenship and character. They are encouraged to harness the VIA (Values in Action) character strengths to enhance their learning experience.

Students with specific learning needs are supported through a range of programs and initiatives facilitated by our Learning Support and Enhancement Team. Our elite athletes are supported academically through the Supporting Athlete Performance (SAP) program. We also offer accelerated subjects (working a year level above) in Mathematics, Business Studies and Biology for our academically gifted students.

Our teachers and support staff are dedicated to creating a caring learning environment which inspires students to strive for excellence, grow and develop their character, skills and strengths. They foster a sense of belonging to a school where their wellbeing is nurtured, they known and valued.

# CO-CURRICULAR

**At NGS our co-curricular program is underpinned by the educational philosophy of Kurt Hahn, aligning with our membership in the Round Square network. This synergy emphasises experiential learning, personal development, and global citizenship, ensuring our students are well-prepared to meet the challenges of a competitive global environment. We believe in the holistic development of our students through a diverse range of co-curricular activities across four key pillars:**

## **Creative and Performing Arts**

Students engage in music, art, and theatre, fostering expression, confidence and collaboration. Our programs cater to all ability levels and include music tuition, performance groups (bands, ensembles, choirs), expert art instruction, and musical theatre. Engaging in the creative arts offers real-life experience across various artistic genres and promotes collaborative learning, which has been shown to offer academic, physical, emotional, and social benefits.

## **Outdoor Adventure**

Nature-based activities challenge students and build resilience, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of the world. Students are immersed in the rugged beauty of nature, whether it's navigating forests, conquering peaks, or paddling rivers. These experiences help students conquer fears, encounter obstacles, embrace the elements, and return with a deeper understanding of the world and their place in it.

## **Skills for the Future**

Activities such as debating, chess and coding sharpen critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. We believe in nurturing our students' potential through a diverse array of opportunities designed to challenge, inspire, and ignite curiosity. By collaborating with peers, students unlock their potential as the leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

## **Sport**

With a variety of sporting options and the Supporting Athlete Performance (SAP) program, students receive tailored support to excel both athletically and academically. Our array of sport offerings ensures there is something for every passion. Guided by seasoned coaches, students participate in a positive, well-equipped environment including access to high-quality local facilities. Working, playing and competing together for NGS fortifies friendships and teamwork, both on and off the field.

## **Duke of Edinburgh International Award**

The Duke of Edinburgh International Award, created by Kurt Hahn, is the cornerstone of our co-curricular program from Year 8, focusing on character development, resilience, community, and leadership. The Award's philosophy emphasises personal growth through individual, non-competitive, and voluntary participation in Physical Recreation, Skills, Voluntary Service, and Adventurous Journey across Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. This structured approach motivates and engages students, encouraging them to set and achieve their own personal goals.



### **Early Years Exploration**

Students from Kindergarten to Year 7 are encouraged to explore a variety of activities across all four co-curricular pillars. This early engagement helps them discover their interests and talents, laying a strong foundation for future participation in more specialised programs.

Co-curricular offerings for our youngest students may include Taekwondo, Little Kickers, Drumming, Drama, Coding, In The Kitchen through to Snow Sports, Mountain Biking, Netball, Swimming, Futsal, Chess, Public Speaking, Art, Music, Choirs and more!

### **Continued Development**

From Years 8 to 12 students can continue to hone their skills. From such activities as Rowing and Triathlon, Volleyball, Surfing, Rock Band, Orchestra, to Artist in Residence, Debating, Chess or Model UN, there is something for everyone at NGS.

### **Supporting Athlete Performance (SAP) program**

Our SAP program supports high-achieving athletes by providing tailored timetables, workshops and performance guidance, ensuring they excel in both sports and academics.

Designed to synergise athletic aspirations with academic achievements, SAP offers a select group of secondary students a unique opportunity—to experience holistic support and access resources and experts in psychology, nutrition, wellbeing and time management.. With individualised mentoring and an innovative tracking system, SAP paves the way for elite athletes to achieve their personal best, fostering resilience, leadership, and unwavering determination.



# WELLBEING

**At Newcastle Grammar School, pastoral care is delivered through a Positive Education program and Visible Wellbeing™ approach.**

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

The Visible Wellbeing program 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.

Starting in Kindergarten, students begin learning the foundations of wellbeing literacy, which is progressively developed and reinforced all the way 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 or 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 brings together best practice teaching and learning to develop in students the skills and mindsets to flourish as adaptable, resilient and confident global citizens.



# SERVICE LEARNING

**Our students recognise that developing empathy and perspective, and positively contributing to their world is essential to becoming well-rounded people of influence and purpose. The School has strong connections with an orphanage and school in Vietnam - fundraising throughout the year and an annual visit encourages students to share in culture, embrace diversity, develop compassion 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 7 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 NGS 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.





# HOW TO ENROL

**For families interested in learning more about Newcastle Grammar School for your child we invite you to attend a School Tour, held each term. To explore our Primary campus in Cooks Hill, or Secondary campus in Newcastle, please register via the NGS website.**

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.
3. Successful applicants will be sent a Letter of Offer. 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 by contacting the Head of Enrolments by  
phone: +61 2 4929 5811 or  
email: [enrolments@ngs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@ngs.nsw.edu.au).



# SCHOLARSHIPS

**Newcastle Grammar School offers the opportunity for outstanding students to apply for Scholarships in areas such as Academics, Creative Arts and Sport. Secondary scholarships take the form of partial remission of tuition fees and are reviewed each year. Scholarships are available to Australian citizens and permanent residents. They 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)

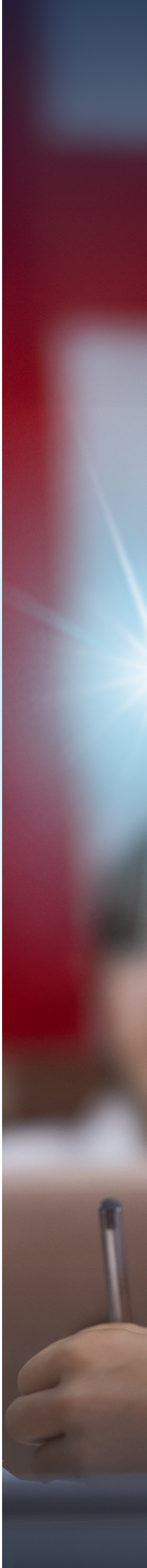


# CONTACT US

If you are 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

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## **Park Campus**

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