INSPIRING HEARTS AND MINDS SINCE 1984.

A Kindergarten to Year 12 Co-Educational School in the Anglican Tradition
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

Georges River Grammar acknowledges the Caprogal People of the Darug Nation, the traditional owners and custodians of land on which this school is built, and pay our respects to their Elders, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia.

We also acknowledge the Darug and Dhurawal Nations for the role they play in the education of their children in respecting and caring for this land. May we also walk gently upon this land and treasure its memories during our lifetime.
Thank you for your interest in Georges River Grammar. This prospectus will give you a small glimpse of who we are and what we do at Georges River Grammar, which we affectionately call GRG.

GR has grown from its humble beginnings over 30 years ago. Our comparative youth as a school has many benefits, which our parents and students enjoy. We strive to know every child personally and to value them. We are a well-resourced school that offers varied opportunities to our students through our modern facilities. We provide individualised programs to cater for our multi-cultural and academically diverse students.

Georges River Grammar is a caring, learning environment that actively strives to provide opportunities for every child to achieve their potential as well as experience success and enjoyment in their spiritual, academic, social and physical endeavours. The School’s mission is an expression of its Christian ethos. Our relationship with students, staff, parents and the wider community is governed by the values of community, service, compassion and sacrifice.

In reality, this prospectus can only be a summary of all the wonderful and inspiring learning and teaching opportunities a school like ours offers. Through immersion in our classroom and complementary co-curricular programs, children develop a sense of purpose – a sense of something greater than themselves. This environment nurtures and encourages children “to be who they choose to be”.

We would be delighted to invite you and your child to visit our school on our Open Day to discuss how we can best provide suitable learning opportunities for them at GRG.

Raquel Charet
Principal
At Georges River Grammar, our aim is to provide each student with a Christian foundation.

More than 30 years ago, the Rector (Fr. Tony Wood) and the Assistant Rector (Fr. Arthur Rossiter) opened St. Paul’s Choir School in the Rectory of St. Paul’s Anglican Church Bankstown, so that they could have a choir to sing the 1662 Book of Common Prayer Anglican Service each Sunday. It was here in such humble beginnings that the foundations of Georges River Grammar were established. As the small school grew, the need became apparent for a Secondary school, which would see the Anglican and Uniting Churches in Bankstown opening Bankstown Grammar School as a joint venture. In 1988, the Uniting Church withdrew from the partnership and Bankstown Grammar School became an independent coeducational Anglican Secondary School. Bankstown Grammar School moved to the Georges Hall site in 1989 followed by St Paul’s Choir School in 1991. While both schools were entirely separate entities, the Schools had the same Principal. In an effort to extend this continuity, in 2004, the two Schools combined into one entity and later became Georges River Grammar; a School in the Anglican Tradition. Through weekly Christian Studies classes and regular student Chapel services, we encourage all students to develop a personal relationship with God, in accordance with Christian tradition. We learn about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and provide opportunities for spiritual growth through Christian service and acts of charity towards the poor, underprivileged and marginalised. It is our aim to foster a relational community where love, grace and forgiveness are learned and practised, that reflects Anglican Christian values, through life example, to our local community and the world in which we live. All who support the Anglican ethos of the School are welcome in our GRG Community.
The Primary School is a lively, caring community where students enjoy learning and exploring the world around them. It is a welcoming, Christian environment where personalities grow, individual talent is nurtured and lifelong friendships are made.
There is a strong emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy, knowing that the skills and concepts developed in the early years underpin learning across the whole curriculum. Our curriculum is exciting, rigorous and differentiated to student ability. Specialist Teacher’s Aides are assigned to each stage, ensuring that small group and targeted learning occurs throughout the day.

The six Key Learning Areas mandated by NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) provide a balanced and rounded approach to learning: English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, History and Geography, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. In addition to classroom teachers, specialist teachers conduct lessons in Physical Education, Language Study – Indonesian, Library, Christian Studies and Music.

Primary School learning is more than becoming literate and numerate. We aim to nurture and develop the whole child allowing every student the opportunity to develop their personal strengths and to discover new ones. In the Primary School our students are encouraged to ‘Never Give Up’ and our skilled teachers monitor progress, and regularly give feedback and set goals with their students. We develop individual programs of learning for the academic, social, physical, spiritual and creative child and see each aspect of the whole person as important.

To help us know each child, we nurture and encourage strong relationships between the school and home. There are many opportunities for parents to develop partnerships with the school, for the benefit of their child.
Georges River Grammar’s academic and vocational subjects meet the varying needs of students in a comprehensive school.

We offer courses that prepare students for university, TAFE, private colleges or direct employment. Elective subjects in Years 9 and 10 and a range of co-curricular programs supplement the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) mandatory curriculum.

YEARS 7 AND 8
Students have a varied program of learning in Years 7 and 8, where the following subjects are offered: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Personal Development Health and Physical Education, Music, Technology and Applied Science, Visual Arts, Digital Art, Christian Studies, Japanese and Sport.

YEARS 9 AND 10
Mandatory subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Personal Development Health and Physical Education, Christian Studies, Positive Education and Sport. Students in Year 10 will also have time allocated to Careers.


Subjects are offered on a supply and demand basis.
We offer courses that prepare students for university, TAFE, private colleges or direct employment.
Georges River Grammar offers a range of subjects that prepare students for tertiary study as well as direct employment.

Students are required to select a minimum of 12 units for study in Year 11, and a minimum of 10 units in Year 12.

**Mandatory subject:** Students must study two units of English. English Advanced, English Standard, English as an Additional Language or Dialect or English Studies (Optional ATAR)


Subjects are offered on a supply and demand basis.

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses are offered as part of the Higher School Certificate, enabling students to study courses that are relevant to industry needs and have clear links to post-school industry and training.

GRG offers Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses in Business Services, Construction Pathways, Hospitality (Kitchen Operations), Information, Digital Media and Technology, Retail Services and Tourism, Travel and Events.
OUR PROGRAMS.

STUDENT WELLBEING

...a caring learning community.

Our Student Wellbeing Program is designed to foster the wellbeing of each student by knowing them, building academic ability and character and addressing their individual needs.

The VIA Institute Character Traits and stage appropriate programming, based on the Principles of Positive Psychology through the discipline of Positive Education, are used to deliver a continuum of learning throughout the school.

Positive Education provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the strong links between learning, wellbeing and resilience. At GRG we believe that all students can succeed in their learning.

The Wellbeing Program allows students to graduate with the skills and abilities to make a fulfilling and positive contribution to society.
The school aims to provide a variety of sporting activities for all students (K–12) who wish to participate in sport and physical activity, regardless of ability. The sporting program at GRG aims to develop character and a lifelong interest in health and fitness.

The Sports Program at GRG has 3 key objectives, to:
1. Cultivate School Spirit
2. Promote movement skill development, health and fitness
3. Foster and support sporting excellence.

1. TO CULTIVATE SCHOOL SPIRIT

At GRG, the annual House Competition is held across a variety of athletic and academic events. The competition takes place between the 4 houses – Chamberlain, Jackson, Rossiter and Wood. The 3 key sporting events that contribute to the overall point score of the victorious house are:

- **Swimming Carnival** – held early in Term 1 and is the first opportunity students have to actively contribute to the success of their house. Our stronger swimmers have the opportunity to represent the school at in the next levels – NASSA, AICES, CIS (regional, state, nationals).

- **Athletics Carnival** – a fabulous whole school event, which is held in Term 2. A day full of colour and athletic prowess, the houses go head to head in a range of track and field events. Our top athletes once again progress to represent the school at NASSA and beyond.
2. TO PROMOTE MOVEMENT SKILL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND FITNESS

Sport and physical activity is essential to the healthy development of all young people. It not only contributes to a young person’s level of fitness but also to the cultivation of dynamic and creative minds.

The benefits of being active for young children include:
- promoting healthy growth and development
- improving cardiovascular fitness, balance, coordination and strength
- providing the opportunity to develop fundamental movement skills
- helping to establish connections between different parts of the brain
- improving confidence and self-esteem
- relieving stress, promoting relaxation and improving sleep
- providing opportunities to develop social skills and make friends

Students at GRG have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of competitive and non-competitive activities. These activities vary from term to term and aim to develop a variety of fundamental movement skills.

- Swimming
- Tennis
- Fitness activities
- Oztag
- Rock Climbing
- AFL
- Cross Country
- Soccer
- Athletics
- Martial Arts

3. TO FOSTER AND SUPPORT SPORTING EXCELLENCE

GRG takes part in a range of Inter-school and Gala Day competitions throughout the school year. GRG is an active member of various school sporting organisations including NASSA (Primary and Secondary), SWISSA (Secondary) and IPSSO (Primary).

- Swimming
- Cross Country
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Netball
- Soccer
- Touch Football
- Oztag
- AFL
- Volleyball

GRG also utilises the sporting knowledge and expertise of senior students and alumni during the year to provide coaching to enhance skill development in students selected to represent the school in the various sporting teams.

The representative pathway at GRG provides students, who excel in a particular sport, the opportunity to challenge themselves and showcase their talents at a higher level.

NASSA | AICES | CIS | NSW All-Schools

GRG expects all students who represent the school to do so to the best of their ability and display the values of the school during competition which include:
- Playing within the rules
- Playing and representing the school with pride at all times
- Respecting the decisions of the match officials
- Supporting their teammates at all times
- Wearing the correct GRG sports uniform with pride at all times

The sporting year at GRG culminates in the annual Sports Awards evening, which is held in Term 4. The evening recognises the achievements of the students and teams who have represented the School during the year.
GRG offers an extensive Co-curricular program that provides students with many opportunities to reach their personal best outside the classroom.

Students are encouraged to be self-directed, build self-confidence and test their personal limits in team and individual activities.

Students are encouraged to participate in the programs on offer as we emphasise the importance of educating and growing the whole person.

**CHESS CLUB**

During Chess Club, students are given opportunities to develop the thinking skills of clarity and mental dexterity. They practise analysing consequences, mapping out tactics and memory skills. Students play games against each other, consolidating strategies taught during the program.

**CODE AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CLUB**

Students are given opportunities to interact with the creation of technology. As part of the digital world we live in, students learn how to develop computer programs and strengthen their problem solving skills and creative and logical thinking. They use digital paradigms by engaging in project based learning activities with platforms such as Lego Robotics, Tinkercad, Scratch, and Grok Learning.

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award is offered to all students in Years 9 - 12. It enables them to experience new activities, meet people and challenge themselves at three levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Award involves participants completing and satisfying the requirements for community service, skill, physical recreation and adventurous journey.

**GATEWAY 8**

GATEdw8 is a competition to challenge gifted students in creative academic pursuits from Years 5 to 10. The competition is held between teams of eight students from a range of schools who complete a series of tasks designed to stimulate the multiple intelligences.

**HICES MUSIC CAMP**

HICES Music Camp continues to be a major highlight on our music calendar where students from various schools audition to attend a camp held at Stanwell Tops, for a 4 day intensive workshop. The camp culminates in a combined schools’ musical extravaganza at the Sydney Town Hall.
INTER HOUSE PUBLIC SPEAKING
Students chosen from each House have the opportunity to enter the Inter House Public Speaking Competition to compete for the Johnson Cup – a perpetual trophy awarded to the Champion House. There are 4 divisions of speakers: Year 7, Year 8, Intermediate and Senior students.

Years 5 and 6 students enter the event in their year cohort rather than Houses to encourage a greater level of participation and to build on their self-confidence to speak in front of a large audience. This process starts in Kindergarten where students lead the weekly Assembly on a rotation basis.

J-WALK
J-WALK is a Christian lunchtime group which meets every Thursday. We are a fun-filled community of students and teachers who are eager to learn how to walk in a relationship with Jesus Christ. J-WALK runs similarly to youth groups. There is yummy food provided, games and an interactive and relevant youth message.

Bible studies also run once per week for boys and girls during lunchtime. These studies are led by teachers and students and are for those who have questions and are wanting to delve a little deeper into the Christian faith.

MAKER SPACE
Primary Students are given time, space, tools, and a little guidance to tackle open ended projects. These range from designing and constructing catapults from scrap materials and tools, to creating simple circuits in light-up origami.

MASH
Maths After School Help (MASH) is held each Wednesday after school for one hour. Students across Year 7 to Year 12 may register each week for Maths staff and some senior students to help answer any Maths questions. This includes help with homework and explaining concepts not fully understood in class.

Mock Trial
GRG enters the Mock Trial Competition each year with a team usually comprised of Years 11 and 12 students, competing against other schools. The competition provides the team with many opportunities to delve into and apply legal concepts, and display their understanding of the law. Along with these skills, the students are given the opportunity to collaborate as a team and exercise some new skills.

Music Mentoring
GRG runs a highly successful mentoring program whereby some Secondary School band members mentor the Primary Band students. Primary musicians are able to develop positive peer relationships with Secondary students which can assist them in their transition to Year 7.

Peripatetic Program
GRG has a substantial peripatetic program with 11 tutors involving up to 200 students K to 12. The program provides lessons in Voice, Oboe, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Tenor Horn, Euphonium, Violin, Cello, Drums, Percussion, Piano and Guitar. This program supports our performance ensembles providing as many musical options as possible for our students.
PRIMARY ART CLUB
This is an afternoon club for Primary students who love to express their creativity through artmarking, appreciation, and collaboration. Students’ love of the Visual Arts is encouraged through skill-based lessons, art projects, and experimentation with a variety of mediums.

PRIMARY BRICKS FOR KIDS®
Students are given opportunities to learn through Lego® activities that engage both curiosity and creativity. Students involved in Bricks for Kids® are provided with opportunities for problem-solving and activities to assist in the development of appreciation for how things work. Bricks for Kids® is fun, social and non-competitive.

PRIMARY DANCE
Students from Years 3-6 develop technique and study a variety of dance styles which are performed twice per year. Classes are taught by a specialist dance teacher.

PRIMARY DEBATING
The HICES Debating Competition provides students with opportunities to develop public speaking skills, prepare and present persuasive arguments, develop impromptu rebuttal skills and work as a team, all in strict timeframes, as they progress through the competition.

PRIMARY MATHS OLYMPIAD
Teams from Australia and New Zealand compete in a series of mathematical problem solving challenges. Students attend weekly sessions in Terms 2 and 3 to learn the skills and strategies needed to successfully compete in this annual competition.

PRIMARY MATHS CUP
In Term 3, Year 6 students are selected to represent the school in this annual competition involving almost 100 teams. Students engage in various challenging mathematical problem solving tasks in three main events: MatRace; MatChoice and MatOperaor.
Students are encouraged to be self-directed, build self-confidence and test their personal limits in team and individual activities.
The GRG School Board will be commencing a new Master Plan in 2018 which includes plans for the construction of a new School Auditorium.

RECENT BUILDING WORKS
The planned construction work will continue the rapid redevelopment of our facilities. Over the last few years GRG has constructed several multi-story classroom blocks for the benefit of the students. In the Primary School a Sensory Garden and climbing structure has been constructed to encourage students to learn through play.

In the Secondary School, a state of the art Trades Skills Centre has been built to deliver the VET Construction course to students in Stage 5 and 6. The large workshop and ICT classroom in the Centre are also used extensively by other Technology classes.

“The construction of the new facilities will see students equipped with excellent facilities for many years to come.”

TRANSPORT
The bus company, Transdev, runs Government funded Special Bus Services to the School from East Hills, Revesby, Sandy Point, Moorebank, Liverpool, Wattle Grove, Chester Hill, Bankstown and Picnic Point.

SCHOOL BUS SERVICES
The School has four bus runs each morning and afternoon. There is an additional charge for these services.

- Cabramatta, Canley Heights, Canley Vale, Fairfield, Lansvale, Guildford and Villawood
- Menai, Alfrds Point
- Lugarno
- Voyager Point, Pleasure Point, Wattle Grove and Georges Fair.

OUT OF SCHOOL AND VACATION CARE
Georges River Grammar operates an Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) program from 7.30am to 8.30am and 3.00pm to 6.00pm for students in Kindergarten to Year 6. Vacation Care is available for 7 weeks of non-term time. All students are provided with breakfast and afternoon tea during school term and with lunch when in Vacation Care. Students enjoy a variety of outdoor and indoor activities. Students are also given the opportunity to complete homework, with assistance if required. There is a charge for this service.
OTHER FACILITIES

• GRG has a School Canteen which caters for all students in K-12 providing lunches, snacks and refreshments
• An onsite Uniform Shop with the full range of uniforms for both boys and girls
• A Parents and Friends’ Association.

HOW TO ENROL YOUR CHILD AT GRG

Georges River Grammar is a caring, learning community in the Anglican Tradition. There is great demand for positions at the School.

Families applying to enrol their child at the School will be interviewed prior to an offer of enrolment. The interview will consist of a discussion with the parents and the student around the following areas:

• Student interests
• Specific activities in areas such as music and sport
• Social skills
• Emotional Maturity
• Parental expectations of the School
• Conditions of Enrolment as outlined on the application form.

The main entry points to the School are Kindergarten and Year 7. Applications will also be accepted for other years, if vacancies exist, based on the enrolment criteria above. For Kindergarten enrolments, priority will also be given, subject to the enrolment criteria above, to children who are five year of age before the end of February in the year of commencement.

The School is currently at or near capacity in each year cohort. Applicants will be held on a wait list if there are no vacancies at the time. Applicants on the wait list will be contacted periodically to ascertain whether they wish to remain on the wait list. Families with more than one child on a wait list may not be offered enrolment for all children at the same time.

For more information regarding enrolling your child at Georges River Grammar please visit the school website: www.grg.nsw.edu.au or contact the School Administration Office.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Scholarships

Academic scholarships may be offered to students entering Years 7, 9 and 11.

The scholarships cover full or part tuition fees for up to six years and are awarded on the result of the scholarship examination.

Applications must be made online through the School’s website. The closing date is in early February each year for commencement in the following year. Scholarships may be offered also at the discretion of the Principal and Board of Directors to outstanding students at any time.

Ability Scholarships

Ability Scholarships may be offered in the following areas:

• Performing Arts (Music, Drama)
• Visual Arts
• Sport.

Applications may be made by printing documents from the School’s website (available in late March) or by contacting the School for a paper registration. The closing date is in April.

Details of all scholarships, including closing dates, are displayed on the School’s website www.grg.nsw.edu.au
Georges Hall is located 24 kilometres south-west of the Sydney central business district.

It is a 10 minute drive to the nearest railway station (Bankstown) and bus services operate between the station and the School.

The School is located in tranquil surroundings with access to sporting facilities, cultural events and riverside parks.

Open Days are held in March of each school year.

Georges River Grammar
53 Georges Crescent
Georges Hall 2198
Sydney NSW
T. 02 9725 7566
F. 02 9727 3707
E. enquiries@grg.nsw.edu.au