



# LEARNING

It is no secret that a good education has the power to change a life. In an ever changing digital & technologically rich world in which we live, it is essential that we develop key learning skills for our students that enable them to be responsible global citizens that can contribute to our wider community.

These key skills include:

- Critical Thinking
- Citizenship
- Communication
- Character
- Creativity



- Collaboration

These areas are incorporated into our whole school learning program within all subjects that are taught.

This is underpinned by our values of *Respect, Trust and Pride*.

Our school caters for a diverse range of student needs and provides a safe, modern learning environment that allows all students to reach their potential. We believe that all students can learn, teachers provide a challenging and engaging curriculum and the school offers a range of extra-curricular activities. Our students are exceptional young people that are able to achieve their goals in an environment that supports their development in all areas: Physical, Social, Emotional, and Academic. Students are encouraged to have a voice in their education. Teachers are all qualified and value learning and are skilled in supporting all students.

Early in 2019 our new Strategic Plan will be developed and this will have a focus on Literacy - Writing.

Along with providing quality teaching and learning in every classroom Mirboo North Secondary College have some key focuses across the college.

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## LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Mirboo North Secondary College have a focus on literacy and numeracy across the school. It is well known that students with strong literacy and numeracy skills will be able to achieve to their highest potential. Literacy leaders continue to focus on the work of [Nancie Atwell](#) who is one of the most respected educators in the world. All staff regularly include literacy as part of their teaching in all subject areas. Students undertake a weekly word study to help improve their skills.

The school is committed to resourcing Literacy as a priority area for all students.

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## S.T.E.A.M

S.T.E.A.M. is the acronym for *science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics*, and is



a major current educational drive in all schools. Our students have had many opportunities to take part in S.T.E.A.M. activities organised by the [South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN](#) - including a S.T.E.A.M. sisters and misters' day, opportunities to take part in workshops run by the new [Gippsland Tech School](#) in Morwell and year 9 students have facilitated a STEAM day for grade 5 & 6 students in Mirboo North PS. Focus in this area will continue with a Learning Specialist appointed to lead this area.





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## LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

### German Language Exchange

This program has been operating for the past 15 years. Our students visit our sister school in September for 4 weeks, allowing our students to develop their German Language skills in a rich diverse opportunity to live with native German speakers. The German students visit Australia in March for the same period of time. Lifelong friendships are formed and student learning of the wider world in which we live is enhanced. More details are available on [the German page](#).

### China Cultural Exchange

In 2014 a sister school arrangement was made with [Changshu senior high school](#) in the Jiangshu province of China. Students are invited to apply through a rigorous selection process in order to participate in the program that runs every two years. This is an opportunity for students to live with a Chinese family, attend school in China and visit culturally significant areas of China. In 2019 this is scheduled to run in October.

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## SOUTH GIPPSLAND TRADE TRAINING ALLIANCE

The [South Gippsland Trade Skills Alliance](#) is a partnership of schools and Registered Training Organisations which offers students access to [VETiS](#) programs in; Agriculture, Horticulture, Automotive, Carpentry, Electrical and Plumbing at Certificate III level.

Students undertaking any of these programs at the South Gippsland Trade Skills Centre will follow a 'blended learning model' which will include access to training via a combination of on-line learning materials, video conferencing learning sessions and direct tuition with 'hands on' activities.

This combination of experiences offers a significant shift in approach and the capacity to target students learning needs whilst reducing time students are out of their base school.

*Schools in the Alliance:*



Foster Secondary College, Mirboo North Secondary College, Korumburra Secondary College, Leongatha Secondary College, Wonthaggi Secondary College, South Gippsland Specialist School, Chairo Christian School and Mary Mackillop Catholic Regional College.

*Registered Training Organisations in the Alliance:*

Federation Training, Apprenticeships Group Australia (AGA), Community College Gippsland (CCG).

Given that each of the targeted industry areas has been identified as offering strong employment opportunities in the South Gippsland economy, this is a significant program opportunity for students in this area.

For more information on individual subjects please refer to the course handbooks, linked to below.