



# Our Preparatory School



Guildford Grammar School  
FOUNDED 1896

"We aim to capture the joy of kids being kids. Children are bright and able individuals who need to make sense of the world."



## Welcome

**At Guildford Grammar School, we believe in a child's infinite capacity and boundless potential. We aim to capture the joy of kids being kids. Children are bright and able individuals who need to make sense of the world.**

Children are naturally curious and constantly explore the 'why'. We encourage young learners to question, investigate, experiment, learn and fail. Failure builds resilience and promotes a growth mindset. We support our students to uncover the answers to their questions and ignite their imagination and curiosity along their learning journey at Guildford Grammar School.

We focus on truly knowing each student and our educators build and nurture deep relationships and connections with their students. These connections mean that we are able to wrap learning in a fun and engaging context that resonates with our students. By truly knowing our students, we can nudge, extend, pull and push them to achieve personal growth and academic excellence.

Teachers at Guildford Grammar School are driven by a passion to do what is right for your child; we educate rather than simply teach. We focus on the positive attributes and strengths of each student, so they are defined by what they can do and not what they can't. Knowing what they can do is important as this informs the next step in their educational journey.

Our School values shape our authentic sense of community and commitment to forward thinking. To go beyond tomorrow we must evolve, inspire, be free and flexible. At the heart of our culture is the desire to equip students to live a life of purpose and strive for personal excellence in all that they do. We invite you to join us on this exciting journey.

Dr Holly Miller  
Head of Preparatory School



## GETTING STUCK IN, *learning and having fun*

**At Guildford Grammar School, our students have agency in their own learning journey. They are encouraged to delve deeply, show rigour and embrace their innate curiosity and wonder. We want to create the ideal environment where each child is at the centre of their own learning.**

We believe children should take ownership of their learning, have flexibility in their choices and use their voice to create their own adventures at Guildford Grammar School. As educators, we provide students with the tools, knowledge and confidence to achieve this. Our students feel valued for who they are, not solely what they are good at. We teach and reinforce the key fundamentals of learning every day through explicit teaching. These fundamentals are the crucial building blocks of learning and they require time, attention and revision each day.

We aim to go beyond the limitations of the curriculum with rich learning experiences and forward thinking. Rich learning is delivered through the inquiry model and enables our students to learn at their own pace and through meaningful engagement. This model cultivates curiosity, a relentless passion for investigation and a genuine fascination with learning. Together we find and explore tangents, routes, pathways and interests within learning to question the world. Each opportunity is assessed, appraised and analysed to scaffold your child's education.

As educators, we too are on a learning journey and we need to continuously adapt, grow and learn to meet the needs of our students. At Guildford Grammar School, we balance the Australian curriculum with innovative, exciting teaching that requires your child to promote and engage their unique 'voice', point of view and critical thinking skills. We want to know what children think as well as what they have learnt and encourage our students to question the world around them and search

for meaning. We value the attitudes of perspective, tolerance, resilience, vision and empathy to strengthen life-long learning and prepare children for the real world.

We listen to our students and their voices are heard. Learning at all levels is guided by student thought, discussion and direction, shaping learning and emboldening decisions. We are not restricted by curriculum limitations or traditional classroom boundaries. Choosing your own journey often means kicking your shoes off, getting stuck in, learning and having fun.



*"Choosing your own journey often means kicking your shoes off, getting stuck in, learning and having fun."*

# Wellbeing

**Wellbeing is not just a word at Guildford Grammar School. It is central to everything we do and is the foundation of all learning. For us, the social and emotional needs of each student are just as important as academic outcomes.**

Our specialist teachers provide a high level of care and support, getting to know each student and their individual needs. Our class sizes allow us to spend time with your child to provide a supportive learning environment.

We have a strong and supportive wellbeing and care model, that includes:

- Peer support
- Learning support
- Spiritual guidance
- School psychologists
- Medical and health professionals

As an Anglican School, our Chaplains complement our academic programs by providing spiritual guidance, leading our students towards a life of purpose.

Our Preparatory School students attend regular Chapel Services, both in the Preparatory School and in the Chapel of St Mary & St George, delivered in an age appropriate format. If they choose to, our students can study for and take their confirmation as part of their school day. Whilst we are an Anglican School, we openly accept and welcome families of all religions and faiths.



# The Early Years

## 3 YEAR OLD PROGRAM (Two, three or five days)

**The Little Explorers program welcomes boys and girls from three years of age to our unique homelike environment specifically designed for young children.**

Our Little Explorers experience the joy of learning as they discover, create and imagine through play and instruction. As they develop their discussion, negotiation and sharing skills they start to form part of a wonderful community.

Our stunning natural environment, sense of home and experienced teachers combine to provide a program that will enhance your child's social skills, love of nature, risk-taking, natural curiosity and learning, setting them up for a journey of discovery and wonder.

The Little Explorers program aims to:

- Create an environment where children feel respected and loved
- Nurture each child's self-worth
- Guide each child's experimental play to promote understanding
- Develop effective communication skills
- Allow children to learn through touching, moving, listening, seeing and hearing
- Encourage each child to explore, invent, discover, question and experiment
- Develop confidence through child-centred play.

## EARLY Learning CENTRE

**The early years of learning are a unique and exciting time in a child's life. We know that the right learning environment is essential for the developing brain. The Early Learning Centre at Guildford Grammar School is a vibrant and stimulating space where the focus is on creativity, cognitive action, relationships and movement.**

Our approach is student-centred and focuses on the development of the whole child. Guided by the Early Years Learning Framework, children learn essential literacy and numeracy concepts balanced with a broad range of student and child-initiated opportunities and experiences that develop personal competencies and capabilities. This approach gives each child a voice and allows them to follow a unique personal journey.

We take an approach to assessment that focuses on personal growth and development. We strike a balance of challenge and comfort to nurture our young learners along their education journey. We actively document all stages of learning to assess competencies, relationships, language and new discoveries ... this brings out the best in every child.

Our early learners are ...

**CURIOUS ADVENTURERS**

*active discoverers*

**SKILFUL THINKERS**

**COMPETENT COMMUNICATORS**

*independent reflectors*

**RESPECTFUL RELATORS**

**PERSISTENT CONTRIBUTORS**

*confident risk takers*

*"To foster a sense of exploration and discovery and harness a child's natural curiosity we provide a creative and nature-based learning environment that stimulates a spirit of adventure."*



*Wonder, QUESTION, curiosity, CREATIVITY, think!*

## YEARS 1-2

### WOOLBA WING

Year 1 and 2 students are engaged in inquiry-based learning that allows them to make strong connections with their environment and builds on the strong foundations built in their early years. To continue to foster a sense of exploration and discovery and harness a child's natural curiosity, we provide a creative and nature-based learning environment that stimulates a spirit of adventure. Strong literacy and numeracy skills are developed using the latest research and appropriate teaching.

Our students enjoy an ideal learning environment that features break-out spaces and discovery hubs, as well as boundless outdoor natural play areas that include the Swan River and foreshore and green, spacious grounds.

Children are encouraged to explore, inquire and make connections across all curriculum areas. The Australian Curriculum and Early Years Learning Framework is supported by a dynamic and broad program that perfectly complements and reinforces the curriculum and each area of inquiry.

We aim to inspire a spirit of citizenship in our young learners and help them to develop mindfulness and empathy.

## Years 3 - 4

### MONOP WING

Year 3 and 4 students are inspired in a nurturing and challenging education setting. Students are supported to become independent thinkers and take greater responsibility in their personal learning journey. Computers and other forms of technology become an integral part of learning to equip students with the skills required for their future.

A strong emphasis continues to be placed on literacy and numeracy in these years. Our upstairs book hive boasts an enormous collection of books and novels and provides many opportunities for children to escape in their imagination or engage with the wider world. We believe reading is critical to instilling a passion for learning and spirit of inquiry.

Our proximity to the Swan River and wetlands provide endless conservation opportunities and facilitates a creative and flexible learning approach.

Our students are valued for their unique strengths and passions. Positive relationships among students, their families and our dedicated and energetic team of teachers, education assistants and specialist staff lead to meaningful learning experiences that bring out the best in every student.

## Years 5-6

### JOOBAITCH WING

**In the upper primary years, students continue to experience authentic, real-life learning experiences with a focus on critical and creative thinking skills. Engagement is key. Students work collaboratively to construct new knowledge, develop skills and make connections between their learning and global and local issues.**

Our curriculum and methods of teaching are responsive to the individual needs and learning requirements of every student. Students are encouraged to question their surroundings and employ inquiry-based learning methods such as research, reflection and communication. Year 5 and 6 students are encouraged to focus on deep learning as they strive for personal excellence.

In response to how students like to learn, technology is central to our education program. Students can draw on a range of online learning resources that facilitate rich learning experiences and allow for close connections between the classroom and home.

As students begin to prepare for the demands of high school and adolescence, a holistic approach to education and wellbeing is further developed in the upper primary years. Children are encouraged to adopt a service mindset and enjoy the vast range of curricular and co-curricular opportunities available to them. Camps, service learning, student leadership opportunities, public speaking, music, sport and passion projects all enrich the lives of our upper primary students and provide boundless opportunities for them to thrive.



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## GIFTED AND Talented

At Guildford Grammar School, we understand that each child is different. Each child needs to learn at a different level and pace. It is not a one size fits all approach. We aim to know and understand our students in many ways so that we can provide the support or extension they require.

Our classroom programs celebrate the gifts and talents and passions of our students. We recognise individuals who require extension, enrichment or acceleration in different areas and have developed our program to meet these unique needs.

Our educators differentiate content, processes, tasks and opportunities. Students can work with like-minded peers, take part in competitions and experience a range of co-curricular programs. Our specialist staff work in collaboration with teachers, parents and students to develop their individual profiles so we can challenge, extend and inspire exceptional and personalised learning.

## Learning ENRICHMENT

Our team of specialist teachers and education assistants provide support for students who experience difficulty in their learning, using many different strategies and programs, each one specific to the needs of the child.



## Beyond THE CLASSROOM

There are many ways that students can add colour and excitement to their educational journey at Guildford Grammar School. Our extensive sports program, co-curricular clubs and art programs allow children to make new discoveries outside of the classroom.



### Art

Children in Years 1 to 6 experience a structured art program that complements the overall curriculum and helps make connections to classroom learning.

Art provides a wonderful platform to showcase both independent and collaborative skills. Through thoughtful response to artworks, students learn valuable critical thinking and communication skills that can be applied to all areas of their learning.

### Music

All Preparatory School students receive outstanding classroom music education and have the option to extend their music learning through instrumental tuition and participation in choirs and ensembles. Classroom music focuses on music-making, listening and responding to music, vocabulary and performance.

Young children love to engage in music. Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students explore concepts such as pitch, dynamics, beat and rhythm. They learn to respond to music through imitation, creative performance and movement in a play-based environment.

From Year 2 every student is provided with the opportunity to learn a string instrument, selecting from violin, viola or cello. The students' musical journey culminates with their participation in the Year 6 Band during their final year in the Preparatory School.

### Physical Education and Sport

Regular physical activity is critical to health and wellbeing and is known to have a positive impact on academic performance. All students in Years 1 to 6 participate in Physical Education in addition to co-curricular sport.

**Kindergarten – Pre-Primary:** Focus on fundamental movement skills.

**Years 1 – 3:** EduDance, Ed-Gym, soccer, tennis and athletics.

**Year 4:** Volleyball, cricket, soccer, netball, Australian Rules Football, hockey, rugby/touch football and basketball.

**Years 5 – 6:** Students compete in JPSSA home and away fixtures against other independent schools and must select a winter and summer sport option. Equestrian and outdoor adventure programs are also offered.

Students also compete in whole-school carnivals for swimming, cross country and athletics, and can gain selection for inter-school competitions in these sports to compete against participating schools in the JPSSA and local area.

### Camps

All students in Years 2-6 attend an annual camp. Camps are held at various locations around Perth, including at our Stronghills camp site in the Avon Valley, Point Walter and Forrest Edge.



*"We can provide busy families with the peace of mind that your child is safe and cared for on those days when you need an extra pair of hands."*

## Out-of-School CARE HOUSE



**We understand that sometimes the morning routine can be challenging and a little rushed, and often the day doesn't go quite to plan. At Guildford Grammar School, we offer out-of-school care for our students to help relieve busy mornings and allow our families some flexibility in their day.**

If you have an early start you can drop your son or daughter into our welcoming 'home from home' environment for a tasty and healthy home-made breakfast and a relaxing beginning to their day, leaving you free to focus on the day ahead.

We walk the children to class and wave them off, just as you would, at the start of the school day. We can look after your child in our Out-of-School Care House from 7.00am in the morning and until 6.00pm in the evening.

Additionally, our after school program provides a safe and happy place for your children to play, enjoy a healthy afternoon snack, do homework or projects and relax with their friends, right up until 6.00pm, every weeknight.

We can provide busy families with the peace of mind that your child is safe and cared for on those days when you need an extra pair of hands.

If you would like to discuss our Out of School Care program please contact our Registrar on [registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au) or join us for a School Tour.





## SENIOR SCHOOL *Transition*

**We work hard to ensure our Preparatory School students enjoy a smooth transition to the Senior School. This is an exciting time in a child's education journey and we work with our families to provide a seamless transition into the Senior School.**

- Year 6 students can attend one of four whole school tours held throughout the year to familiarise themselves with the Senior School campus.
- To accommodate an optimum balance of students across all House groups, House allocations are finalised following a thorough pastoral care review and in consultation with Year 6 teachers, Head of Preparatory School and support staff.
- Year 5 and 6 students and their families can attend a Twilight Tour of the Senior School to learn more about the House system, pastoral care network and vast sport and co-curricular opportunities.
- Step-up Day is held in November each year, providing students with the chance to experience a day at the next year level, participating in fun activities and meeting their cohort.
- Students can participate in summer holiday sport programs to meet Senior School staff and other students.
- Students receive personalised uniform fittings at our Clothing Shop.
- Students and their parents meet with their Head of House in January in the year of commencement into the Senior School. The meeting acts as an introduction to the House and provides the chance to learn about the Senior School's daily routines.
- Orientation Day occurs on the first day of school, providing students with important information about their transition to the Senior School.





## TAKE *Three steps* FORWARD



### ENQUIRE

Submit an enquiry so that we can stay in touch with you

website: [www.ggs.wa.edu.au](http://www.ggs.wa.edu.au)  
email: [registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au)  
phone: (08) 9377 9247



### TOUR

Join us for a tour of the School

Book your tour via:  
website: [www.ggs.wa.edu.au](http://www.ggs.wa.edu.au)  
email: [registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ggs.wa.edu.au)

We hold four tours each year, one in each term. Or you can request a private tour, depending on available times.

Due to current social distancing guidelines we are also offering online tours of the School. Please contact our Registrar for further information.



### APPLY

Lodge an application for enrolment

Download an application for enrolment from:  
website: [www.ggs.wa.edu.au/enrolment](http://www.ggs.wa.edu.au/enrolment)

Your family will be invited to attend an interview once your application has been processed: interviews are scheduled two years prior to entry. We look forward to seeing you there!



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