



UPPER YARRA SECONDARY COLLEGE

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Building Community

Dedicated Staff

Student Voice & Choice

Primary Transition Visits

Interschool Sport



Welcome!



Quality Education

Challenging Curriculum

Inquiry Learning

Focus on Technology

Modern Resources

Innovative

Outstanding VCE Results

Local Education

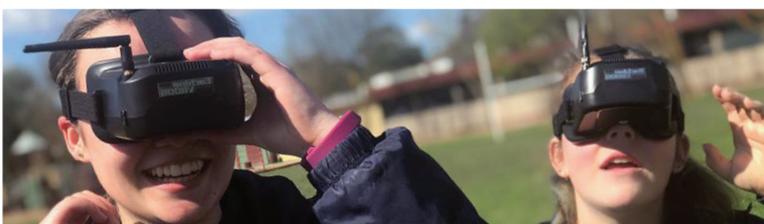
Affordable

Easy Transport Options

Access to Learning 24/7

Pathways through School

and Beyond



2020



Respect

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Responsibility

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Excellence

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Resilience



A Warm Welcome to all families

On behalf of the Upper Yarra Secondary College community, I would like to offer a warm welcome to all families. For more than 50 years, Upper Yarra Secondary College has had a strong commitment to the education of students living in the Yarra Valley. We are proud of our students both current, and former, for achieving outstanding success at school and beyond. We are proud of our strong links to the community and of our students 'giving back' to their community.

Upper Yarra Secondary College has a proven record of outstanding VCE results and innovative teaching practices. FLIP (Future Learners Inquiry Program) is one such program achieving outstanding results and gaining interest nationwide. The recent introduction of S T E (A) M (Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics) has been a welcome addition, extending students in and beyond the classroom.

We offer the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), VETiS (Vocational Education in Schools) and VCAL (Victorian Certificate in Applied Learning). These programs have a proven record of successful outcomes for our students.

The extracurricular opportunities at Upper Yarra Secondary College are numerous. As well as broad offerings in The Arts and Music, Inter-school and Intra-school Sport, we offer interest groups such as the Art and Craft Club, and the Reptile Club just to name a few. Students are offered additional opportunities in ICT, in the Library Media Centre, the Theatre and in the Fitness Studio/Gym both in class time and during breaks.

Upper Yarra Secondary College is providing a first class education with exceptional opportunities in a picturesque environment. We look forward to seeing you around our school.

Scott Tully
Principal

Meredith Nursey
Assistant Principal

Michael Schultz
Assistant Principal

JUNIOR & MIDDLE SCHOOL

At Upper Yarra Secondary College, we operate with three Sub Schools: Junior (7 - 8) Middle (9 -10)and Senior (11 - 12).

Junior and Middle School staff take great care in managing and supervising all aspects of the College at Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. This includes curriculum planning and delivery, welfare support and referrals, student management, events and strategic direction.

It is our aim to ensure your child has a productive, enriching education targeted to extending their abilities within a happy and safe environment.

Day to day management is conducted by Support teachers, who are supported by their Team Leaders, who are in turn supported by their Sub School Leaders.

We offer excellent programs at Upper Yarra using innovative approaches to learning, such as the BYOD Program, FLIP (Future Learners Inquiry Program), Education Perfect, and S.T.E.A.M. electives (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths). (Inquiry learning allows students to progress at the speed and direction best suited to them.)

Upper Yarra Secondary College is a caring school community that caters for a wide range of educational needs to ensure your child is challenged, happy and prepared for their life as an adult.



Jeremy Cliff
Junior School/Year 7 Leader



Amanda Finn
Year 8 Leader



Shaun Ferris
**Year 9 Leader/
Middle School Leader**



Tracey Leicester
Year 10 Leader



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Upper Yarra Secondary Transition Program consists of a visit to the primary schools to begin some learning and then two visits to UYSC to complete that learning experience.

ASSISTED TRANSITION



Transition Team



Jeremy Cliff
Junior School/Year 7 Leader



Lisa Vanderkolk
Assistant Year 7 Leader



Rodney Fay
Education Support Leader



Tracey Smedley
Student Wellbeing

The UYSC Assisted Transition Programs are designed to help students overcome anxieties, familiarise themselves and answer any questions they may have about secondary school.

Primary students are given the opportunity to meet some of their future classmates and develop early friendships that they can carry over to the following year. Furthermore, it provides UYSC Staff with the opportunity to meet and get to know students and identify any educational, social or emotional needs individuals may have. We have been operating these programs alongside each other for several years and have seen a significant improvement in the outcomes of our Year 7 students since their introduction.

TRANSFORMATIONS PROGRAM

This program allows for students to make the best start to Year 7 as possible. Students attend UYSC for two half days prior to Orientation Day, giving them the opportunity to experience life as a secondary school student.

Primary schools are invited to select those students to attend whom they feel will benefit most from the program.

TRANSITION VISITS

We also operate a Transition Program amongst our local Primary Schools in which all students in years 5 and 6 visit the College and undertake a curriculum area which is also supported in their classrooms.

An important part of the experience is dealing with real life scenarios for secondary students, such as reading timetables and using lockers.

"We researched anything we liked – as long as it could change our lives for the better or the lives of others."

FUTURE LEARNERS INQUIRY PROGRAM



WHAT IS FLIP?

The goal of FLIP is to engage our Year 7 and Year 8 students in a personalised, challenging curriculum. Participation in FLIP allows students to acquire and practise skills that assist them across the curriculum, throughout their secondary schooling and beyond.

It is based on research that shows students learn better when they are interested and keen to participate in programs that are spread across learning areas, rather than single subjects. FLIP is our Inquiry Based Learning program, which was introduced in 2012 as a result of this research.

This highly structured program is team-taught by a small group of teachers and allows students to collaborate across the year level.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN?

FLIP combines skills and content from English, The Arts and Humanities (Geography and History). There is a strong focus on literacy (reading, writing and research skills) and on the fostering of student choice and creativity.

FLIP provides students with a range of creative ways to showcase their learning.

MAKER DAYS

Each term, students spend a whole day working intensively on a creative project linked to their Inquiry project.



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SENIOR SCHOOL

The Senior School at UYSC is responsible for all programs relating to Years 11 and 12. Our aim is to prepare and support students throughout their VCE, VET or VCAL program, to ensure they have a positive transition into further education or employment.

Each year level has a specific team of staff to manage and supervise all aspects of students at their year level as well as a Senior School Leader (managing VET and Pathways/Careers) and a VCAL Coordinator. Students are strongly encouraged to be involved in all aspects of school life and to keep a healthy balance of school, study, part-time work, sport and leisure activities.



Katie Feagan
Senior School Leader



Dana Jindra
VCE Leader



Bronwen Foley
VCAL Leader

CAREERS

Year 10, 11 and 12 are important decision-making times when students are required to select a course and choose their future directions. One-on-one career counselling begins in Year 10 to coincide with their Work Experience Program and Civics and Citizenship classes. These one-on-one sessions continue in Year 11 and 12 ensuring that students are selecting subjects that are relevant to their future goals.

PATHWAYS

There are three pathways that students can take through their senior years at Upper Yarra Secondary College; VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) and VET/VCE (Vocational Education and Training).

We have many partnerships with Universities and TAFE Institutions to assist our students with transitions into further education or training once they have completed their secondary schooling.



ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES



At UYSC we recognise the need to care for all aspects of your child's learning. We provide:

- Student Leadership, SRC, Primary School Athletics, Primary School Transition
- Sport competitions
- Various interest groups including gaming, chess, reptiles, photography and crafts
- Cybersmart, Mental Health Awareness Day, Cultural Awareness Day, LEAP
- Maker Days
- Arts Centre performances, Community Art Projects
- Phillip Island Adventure Camp (Year 7)
- Sport: Interschool, Regional and State
- Swimming and Athletics Carnivals



THERE'S MORE!

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- ANZAC Memorial Service
- Instrumental Music/Music Performance Evenings/Music Tours
- Drama Performances
- Youth Summit and Model UN
- Rotary Cambodia World of Difference
- Camps - Alpine, Tasmania, Malmsbury, Bogong
- VCE Master Classes
- Presentation Ball (Years 11 and 12)
- Annual Evening of Excellence
- Year 12 Valedictory Dinner/Celebration Day
- Year 10 Formal
- Driver Education Keys Please (Year 10)
- Deakin Day (Year 10)
- Year 9 City Experience
- Brekkie@theBuses
- National Competitions: (Science/Mathematics/English/Languages/Media/Art)
- Indigenous@UYSC



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STUDENT LEADERSHIP

At Upper Yarra Secondary College we provide a range of leadership activities both within and outside the College. Opportunities exist at all year levels.

- Captaincy
- Student Representative Council
- Whole School Student-Led Assemblies
- Fundraising
- Student Leadership Program and Elective
- Primary Athletics/Tabloid Sports Leaders
- Sports Coaching
- Student Technology Assistants
- Advance - Student Leadership Program
- ANZAC Day Service

CAPTAINCY

- Year Level Captains
- Class Captains
- Bus Captains
- House Captains

Year 12 students are encouraged to aspire to the positions of College Captains, SRC Captains, The Arts Captain, Sports Captain or to the positions of House Captains.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

The SRC is elected by their peers to represent all students in school decision-making. The SRC works with the Upper Yarra College Council, the Principal Team, outside agencies and teachers to improve school life, contribute students' ideas, as well as organising ways for students to participate in the school community.



SPORT

SWIMMING AND ATHLETICS CARNIVALS

All students participate in our whole school Swimming and Athletics Carnivals held in Term One. Transport to the Carnivals is by bus and students are accompanied by teachers. Families are welcome to attend the Carnivals.

Successful students represent the school at district swimming and district athletics. Further success may lead to representation at regional and state level.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

UYSC is a member of the Yarra Valley District for interschool sport. We compete in different sports throughout Terms One, Two and Three. Students have the opportunity to choose between 3 - 4 sport teams. Successful teams go on to compete for the district at Eastern Zone competitions in Term Four.

SPORT HOUSES

Upon enrolment, students are placed into one of four sport houses. Families are allocated into the same house. The house allocation will last for the duration of your child's time at the school.





YEAR 7 CAMP



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

"Camp was a great way to get to know each other and see people in a new way."



In Term Two each year, Year 7s have the opportunity to attend Phillip Island Adventure Camp:

- make new friends
- get to know teachers
- canoeing
- raft-making
- giant swing
- surfing
- archery
- team-building games



At UYSC we believe technology has an important place in education.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE PROGRAM

Students need to bring a Chromebook/Laptop/iPad/Tablet of their choice each day. Student devices are connected to the school network and the internet for free. (Devices must meet the minimum required specifications.)

COMPASS SCHOOL MANAGER

We value communication with parents, guardians and families at Upper Yarra Secondary College.

The UYSC Compass Learning Management system provides families with access to information about their child's learning, attendance, reports and with email communication and online payment of camps, excursions and school fees.



LIBRARY MEDIA CENTRE



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



The UYSC Library is open everyday 8am - 4.00pm
Staff and students have access to the Library Catalogue 24/7.

- recess/lunchtime games and chat
- Thursday Chess Club
- quiet reading
- independent study
- booked classes
- computing
- printing
- 3D printing
- photocopying
- help with devices
- borrow books
- chromebooks
- iPads
- turtles and fish

EASTERN REGIONAL LIBRARIES

The UYSC Library supports students to gain local Library membership to utilise the significant Online Resources available to them through Eastern Regional Libraries.

Students have the opportunity to be part of our Instrumental Music Program. They may learn a contemporary or concert instrument and perform as part of a Junior or Intermediate Band, Rock Band or Vocal Group.

Music students participate in school concerts, public performances and tours. Older, more expert music students mentor the younger students. The College offers tuition in:

- Trombone
- French Horn
- Trumpet
- Flute
- Tuba
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Euphonium
- Drums/Percussion
- Piano
- Guitar
- Bass Guitar
- Cello
- Singing





STEAM

WHAT IS STEAM?

STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics – covers a wide range of disciplines and skills, which are increasingly in demand in our rapidly changing world. STEAM skills and knowledge are important for all stages of our learning, jobs and everyday lives. STEAM education develops critical and creative thinking, collaboration and ethical decision making.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN?

STEAM is a hands-on approach that combines concepts from Science, Arts, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. It focusses on the development of our students into innovators with the technological skills to solve problems and is linked closely with Inquiry Learning. Using a range of tools, equipment, 3D printers, robots, circuits, gears, motors, electronics, plastics and timber, students use design, computational and innovative thinking and technology to solve real world problems.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

UYSC is currently offering DRONES – Certificate III in Aviation (RePL – Remote Pilot Licence). It develops the knowledge and skills required by individuals seeking to operate remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) within visual line of sight (VLOS). Successful completion of this qualification may provide Career opportunities for students as a UAV operator within a range of roles in various sectors, for example, in agriculture, surveying, infrastructure, emergency services or aerial imagery.



"Learning a language broadens students' horizons."

LANGUAGES

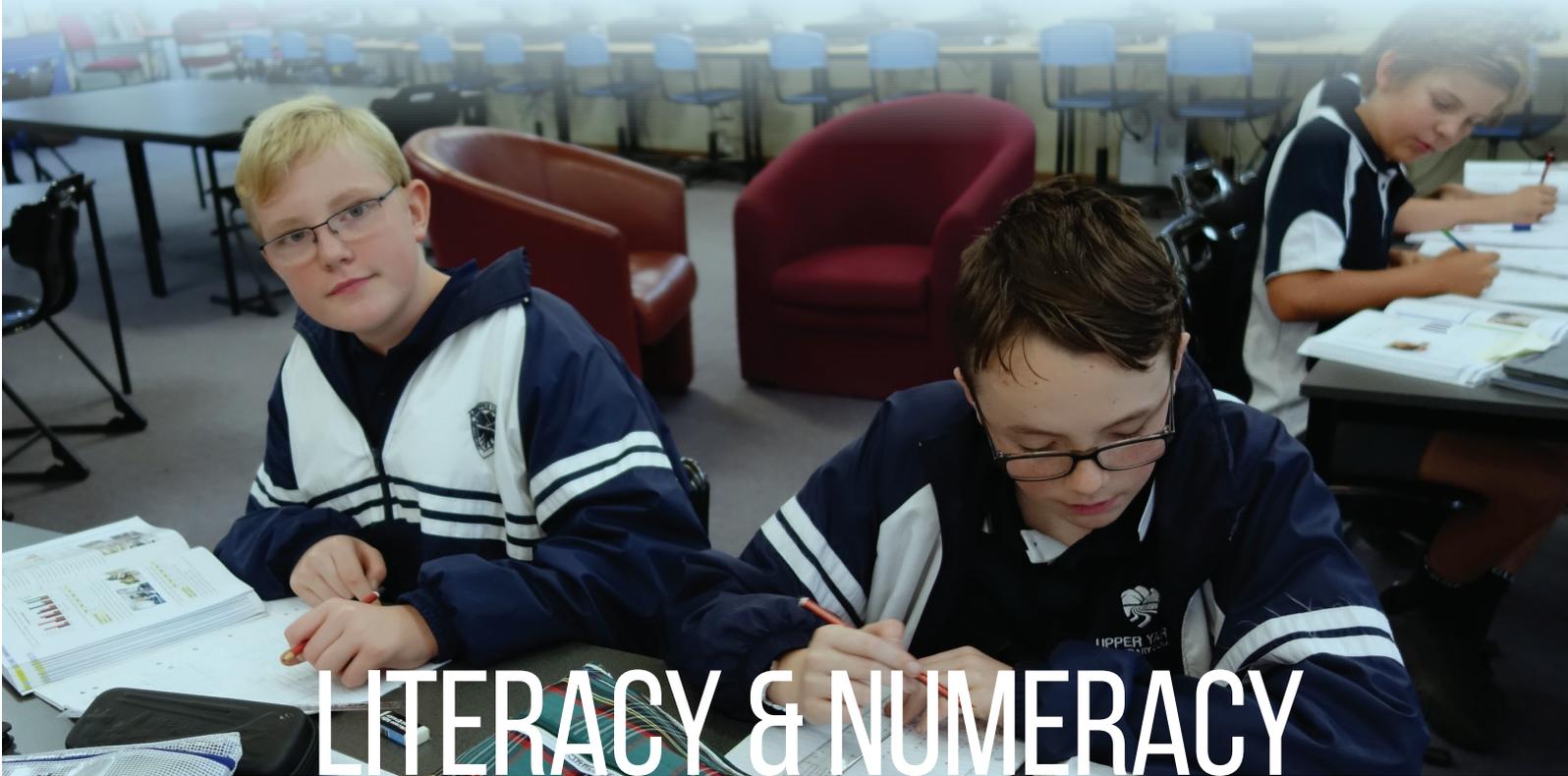
JAPANESE

Students at Upper Yarra Secondary College study Japanese. The study of a second language contributes to the overall education of students in the areas of communication and cross-cultural understanding.

Beginning in Year 7, students study Japanese language and culture. They explore the differences and similarities between life in Japan and Australia and learn to communicate in Japanese.

Students study the three types of Japanese scripts: Kanji, Hiragana and Katakana; and learn how to read and write the 46 Hiragana characters as well as some Kanji. Counting to 100 and using numbers in a range of situations is also studied.





LITERACY & NUMERACY

AT UPPER YARRA Student literacy is prioritised at UYSC. The school has a documented, whole school, literacy plan developed by the Literacy Team at UYSC.

INDEPENDENT READING WORKSHOP

Years 7, 8 and 9 English Classes (CAFÉ model). During Independent Reading Workshop, all Year 7 to 9 English students are explicitly taught a range of reading strategies. They read books of their own choice and set individual and class reading goals with their teacher.

WRITING TO LEARN (WTL)

All UYSC teachers use a range of WTL strategies to deepen student thinking about their learning. There are many types of WTL strategies and they are used at different stages of the learning process. Some examples of strategies teachers currently use are: Double Entry Journals, Writing Break, Nonstop Write, Coding when Reading, and many more.

GRADUAL RELEASE OF RESPONSIBILITY

GRR is a teaching and learning process used across the school.

The key elements include:

- Learning intentions and success criteria
- Mini lesson – explicit teaching and modelling
- Work time, including conferring
- Catch – opportunity for clarification
- Debrief/Reflection

NUMERACY

The UYSC Numeracy Program hopes to provide students with an understanding of the importance of numeracy in everyday life, success in the hope that their interest in mathematics increases and scaffolding for their regular mathematics classes. Students discover new ways and “tricks” for dealing with basic numeracy. They learn to explain concepts to their peers and in turn reinforce their own knowledge.

The program “Studyladder” is used to assess each student’s numeracy skills, to provide individual learning programs and to give students personalised feedback on their progress.

“Manga High” is used to reinforce their knowledge and provide individualised programs and game-based learning.





EXTENSION

At UYSC, all students are given the opportunity to challenge themselves and achieve success. A range of extension and intervention programs are available to students across all years at the College.

IN THE CLASSROOM

Individual learning programs and goal setting:

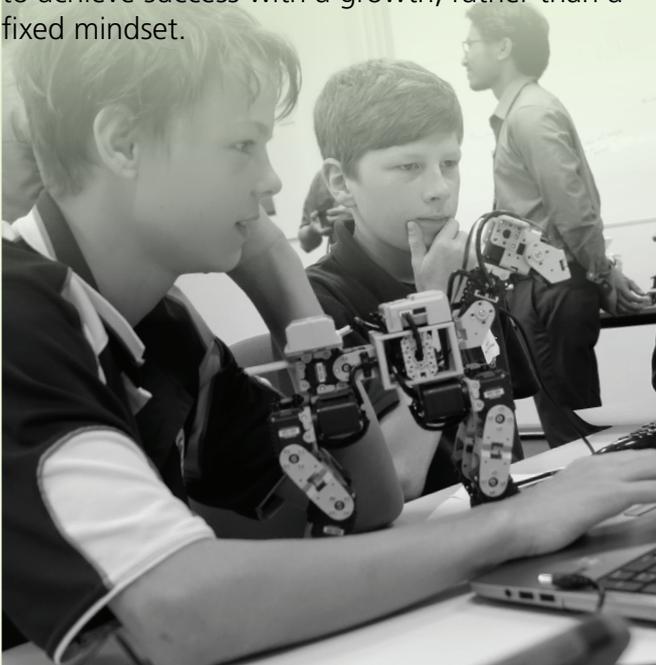
Students work one on one with a teacher to set individual goals for a subject or across learning areas.

Inquiry Learning:

Students focus on their own areas of interest within a topic, where they are supported to take their learning to a deeper level.

Growth Mindset Education:

Teaching students to understand how their brains work and how it is possible for everyone to achieve success with a growth, rather than a fixed mindset.



WIDER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Yarra Ranges Tech Schools Partnerships:

Students are given the opportunity to access programs and opportunities in a range of areas including STEM education as well as make local industry connections.

Student Voice:

Membership on UYSC School Council and an active SRC program allows students to access leadership opportunities and develop their leadership capabilities.

VCE Fast Tracking:

Available for year 10 students who are ready to begin their VCE program.

University Enhancement Programs:

For students who are ready to experience university education while still completing their VCE.

EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

Deakin University and the LEAP program include a range of programs both at University and at school to expose students to a range of career pathways and familiarise them with University life.

New Pedagogies for Deep Learning and the Adobe Youth Voices which allows students to share their ideas on issues they care about.



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EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION

LITERACY

Literacy is aimed at students requiring extra support with the development of their literacy skills. In smaller classes, students focus on improving their skills in reading, writing and comprehension.

Students learn to use and apply reading strategies, enabling them to access and understand different text types.

Students complete a variety of writing and vocabulary activities, designed to improve their ability to write for all subject areas.

Literacy aims to incorporate students' personal interests, as a way of engaging students while improving their skills in literacy.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLASSES

After-School classes provide students with the opportunity to get free additional help in Mathematics and English. They currently run each week in the afternoon (excluding the first and last week of term) from 3.15pm to 4.30pm.

A different teacher is available each week to assist your child with their school work.



WELLBEING

All students are better prepared for learning when they are healthy, happy and feel safe. Student wellbeing is therefore the responsibility of all staff. Support Teachers and Year Level Leaders all provide support, encouragement and monitor the daily wellbeing of students. Together we aim to provide a positive, supportive environment for each student to maximise their educational potential.

THE WELLBEING TEAM

At UYSC, an early intervention approach includes implementing appropriate support programs and the provision of school-based counselling. Our approach aims to be sensitive to students' feelings and needs, improving resilience, utilising specialist services where appropriate and restoring wellbeing and preparedness to learn. We have School Counsellors, a School Nurse, a range of Allied Health Professionals such as Social Workers, Educational Psychologists and a School Chaplain, who all assist students as needed.

DOCTORS IN SCHOOLS

Each Monday, in partnership with "Get Well Clinic" in Healesville, UYSC delivers a comprehensive health and wellbeing service to students via the Doctors in Schools Program. Teenagers are the least likely of all age groups to seek health care, and many health problems that can have consequences into adulthood, start at this time of life. This program seeks to address this issue, and provide a convenient alternative to primary care during schools hours. All GPs have undergone adolescent health training and provide students with the same services normally provided by GPs in the community.



FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND UPPER YARRA SECONDARY COLLEGE

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

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UPPER YARRA
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