



VILLANOVA COLLEGE



NEW STUDENT HANDBOOK

2025

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Message from the Principal

Welcome to Villanova College, where the journey of nurturing young men of faith, character, intellect, and compassion begins. Founded by the Augustinian order in 1948, our college is committed to fostering in each boy the richness of our values for his future success. Through community, humility, interiority and the restless search for truth each boy becomes an Augustinian graduate for the world.

At Villanova, we believe in the power of education to shape not only minds but also hearts. Our students are encouraged to grow into men of purpose - individuals who use their talents to serve others and contribute positively to the world. Through a balance of academic excellence, spiritual growth, and a wide array of cultural and sporting opportunities, we support our students in discovering their passions and developing their full potential.

As your son begins his journey with us, he will find countless ways to get involved, whether it's through sports, music, or the many clubs and activities that Villanova College offers. He

will also be part of a brotherhood that values camaraderie, where friendships are forged and each student is encouraged to support and uplift his peers.

We also warmly invite you, as parents, to become an active part of our community. There are many opportunities for you to get involved, from volunteering in the tuckshop or library to participating in school events and activities. Your engagement enriches our community and enhances the experience for all our students.

We are excited to welcome your family into the Villanova College community and look forward to the many ways in which you will be part of our shared journey.

Paul Begg
Principal

Welcome to Villanova College

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal:	Mr Paul Begg
Deputy Principal:	Mr Steven Bremner
Head of Junior School:	Mr Stephen Rouhliadeff
Head of Middle School:	Mr Sean O'Neill
Head of Senior School:	Mr Matthew Levander
Dean of Teaching and Learning:	Mr John Christie
Dean of Mission and Identity:	Mrs Kate Garrone
Business Manager:	Ms Agi Waloszek
College Administrator/Dean of International Students:	Ms Sally Byron

SCHOOL HOURS, TERM DATES & BELL TIMES

Junior, Middle and Senior: commence at 8:30am and conclude at 3:00pm (it is recommended that boys arrive 5 – 10 minutes before the commencement time).

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm

TERM DATES

Term 1	Tuesday 28 January – Friday 4 April Students in Years 5, 7 and 12 will commence school on Tuesday 28 January. Years 6, 8, 9, 10 and 11 return to school on Wednesday 29 January 2025.
Term 2	Tuesday 22 April – Friday 20 June
Term 3	Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September
Term 4	Tuesday 7 October – Friday 28 November

BELL TIMES

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	Wednesday	Friday
8:25	8:25	8:25
8:30 - 8:45 House Mentoring	8:30 - 9:30 Lesson 1	8:30 - 9:25 Lesson 1
8:45 - 8:50	9:30 - 10:30 Lesson 2	9:25 - 10:20 Lesson 2
8:50 - 9:50 Lesson 1	10:30 - 11:00 Wellbeing	10:20 - 11:05 House Meeting
9:50 - 10:50 Lesson 2	11:00 - 11:30 Morning Tea	11:05 - 11:35 Morning Tea
10:50 - 11:20 Morning Tea	11:30 - 11:35	11:35 - 11:40
11:20 - 11:25	11:35 - 12:30 Lesson 3	11:40 - 12:35 Lesson 3
11:25 - 12:25 Lesson 3	12:30 - 1:25 Lesson 4	12:35 - 1:30 Lesson 4
12:25 - 1:25 Lesson 4	1:25 - 1:55 Lunch	1:30 - 2:00 Lunch
1:25 - 1:55 Lunch	1:55 - 2:00	2:00 - 2:05
1:55 - 2:00	2:00 - 3:00 Lesson 5	2:05 - 3:00 Lesson 5
2:00 - 3:00 Lesson 5		

CONTACT DETAILS

Junior School Office	3394 5692	junior@vnc.qld.edu.au
Middle School Office	3394 5524	middle@vnc.qld.edu.au
Senior School Office	3394 5525	senior@vnc.qld.edu.au
Teaching and Learning Office	3394 5521	tandl@vnc.qld.edu.au
Music Office	3394 5691	music@vnc.qld.edu.au
College Reception/Finance Office	3394 5690	finance@vnc.qld.edu.au
Tolle Lege Library	3394 5531	library@vnc.qld.edu.au

STUDENT ABSENCES

The College's preferred notification for student absentees is through Parent Lounge or the College App. An alternative number to report an absentee is 3394 5699.

TRAFFIC SAFETY & TRANSPORT

- In the interests of safety to all, when picking up and/or dropping off your son(s), you are requested to use the loading zones located in Fifth Avenue (Middle School) and the bottom of Eighth Avenue (Junior School) and top of Eighth Avenue (Senior School).
- Both sides of Sixth Avenue and the front of the College are reserved as Bus Zones, with No Standing signs at both ends of the zones. Please note traffic restrictions in place on Fifth and Sixth Avenue between 2 - 4pm.
- Please do not drive onto the College grounds, driveways or staff parking areas to drop off or pick up your son. A safe waiting area for boys who finish after-school training/rehearsals late, is inside the security gates at the Sixth Avenue entrance.
- Please do not double park or block driveways - this includes the Sixth and Eighth Avenue entrances.
- Please do not use Seventh Avenue for drop-offs or pick-ups.

Many students travel to and from the College each day by bus. Old Cleveland Road is a major corridor for buses on the Translink network and is only 200 metres from the College. The Coorparoo Train Station lies on the Cleveland line of the Brisbane rail network. The station is a 10 minute walk from the College.

Find out more about transportation options on our website.



vnc.qld.edu.au/location-and-facilities

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

The College Library offers staff supervision for all students from 7:30am and 3:00 – 5:30pm Monday to Friday. Junior School students are required to be signed out and collected by parents/guardians after school. If written consent is provided an elder sibling can sign a Junior School student out. All students are required to sign in at the Library with their student ID cards. No supervision is provided in school holidays – TERM TIME ONLY.

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

Parents play a crucial role in maintaining open lines of communication, and we are committed to keeping them well-informed about all aspects of College life. The school diary serves as a memorandum to convey essential information, including updates on their son's progress. We kindly request parents to sign the diary in the designated section at the end of each week.

The College Newsletter, Villa View, and Sports Bulletins are published on College website on alternate Thursdays during term time and a link is emailed directly to parents. These can also be read via College App.

PARENT LOUNGE

Parent Lounge is the College's main communication tool and allows parents to change/update their personal details, update their son's medical information, and access student reports. It is also used to access College correspondence. An email will be sent in early January to new parents with login information and password access once our 2025 rollover has occurred.

FLEXISCHOOLS

Parents are able to set up an account using Flexischools which allow students to use their student ID cards as debit cards to pay for purchases at the Tuckshop and Tolle Lege Library for printing. Full details on how to set up a Flexischools account will be given once your son is provided with this student ID card early in 2025 and can be found on the College website.

COLLEGE APP

Villanova College offers a dedicated custom app designed for seamless communication with parents and students. This app serves as an indispensable tool for staying informed. It's available for free on both Android and Apple devices, accessible through the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store. To install the Villanova College app, simply search for 'Villanova College' in your app store of choice. The app provides convenient features, including the ability to report absences, receive critical notifications (such as training cancellations), access Parent Lounge, and navigate to essential College web links, such as the Weekly Sports Draw.

SOCIAL MEDIA – FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

At Villanova College, we encourage you to join our vibrant online community through our official Facebook and Instagram pages. By following these channels, you can stay updated on the latest College news and events.

For new parents and caregivers, our private year level Facebook groups offer a valuable source of information, especially during the initial months. While these groups often discuss topics like lost uniform items, they serve as a supportive network. To join your son's year level Facebook group, visit our New Families Information webpage, where an Admin will verify your status as a parent or caregiver and approve your membership. Join us today and become an active part of our online Villanova community.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Stationery lists will be uploaded in Term 4, 2024 for all year levels on our website. You have the option to purchase pre-packaged stationery kits tailored to each year level from our College supplier or acquire alternative stationery supplies independently. Detailed information regarding these options is accessible on our College website.



Find the required materials list on the New Families Checklist page.

vnc.qld.edu.au/information-for-new-existing-families

For Junior School parents, please note that any required textbooks will need to be purchased separately. However, we'd like to inform Middle and Senior School parents that the College participates in the State Government Textbook and Resource Allowance Scheme, streamlining payments and offering a convenient hire fee arrangement for textbooks.

SCHOOL DIARY

The Villanova Diary is issued to each student during the first week of school. Homework should be recorded daily in the diary. School policy, rules and regulations and items of school information are included. This diary is NOT to be defaced in ANY manner, eg. pictures/graffiti, otherwise parents will have to purchase a replacement diary.

ID CARDS

Photos for ID cards are taken as early as possible in Term 1 for all students. Replacement cost of ID cards is \$5.00. Replacement cards are available through the Tolle Lege Library.

WELLBEING & PASTORAL CARE

At Villanova College, we believe that student wellbeing is essential for academic success and personal development. We prioritise the holistic wellbeing of our students. We believe that by fostering physical, social, emotional, and spiritual health, we can help our students reach their full potential both in and out of the classroom.

Physical Wellbeing

Our Health and Physical Education curriculum emphasises the importance of a healthy lifestyle and the development of good habits that will benefit our students throughout their lives. We provide excellent facilities and programs to support their fitness goals.

Social Wellbeing

We believe that social connections are vital to student wellbeing. Our pastoral care program provides a supportive and inclusive environment that fosters the development of empathy, compassion, and respect.

Emotional Wellbeing

We provide a range of support services and resources to help our students manage stress, anxiety, and other emotional challenges. Our pastoral care team, counsellors, and chaplaincy program are always available to provide guidance and support.

Spiritual Wellbeing

We encourage our students to explore their spirituality and develop their understanding of their values and beliefs. Our chaplaincy program provides opportunities for reflection, prayer, and spiritual growth.

Villanova's Augustinian approach to Pastoral Care aims to foster personal development and self-discipline in every student. We achieve this through supportive relationships between students and their parents, teachers and fellow classmates. The College offers an experienced Pastoral Care team, character-building camps, student leadership programs, and a Restorative Practices philosophy for discipline and behaviour management.

From years 5 to 12, we promote strong and supportive relationships between students and their teachers, parents and classmates. The focus is firmly on the Augustinian ideal of a tight-knit community where every member contributes in a positive manner.

THE HOUSE SYSTEM

With a total of eight houses, each named after distinguished figures embodying our core values, our system creates a strong sense of belonging and foster lifelong friendships.

The House System provides students with numerous opportunities for personal growth, leadership development, and character-building experiences. Through a range of inter-house competitions, service projects, and collaborative activities, students discover their unique talents and strengths while working together to achieve common goals.

Adeodatus House

Motto: "Live with purpose. Ignite the Change."
House Mascot: the Phoenix

Alypius House

Motto: "Embrace the Light Within"
House Mascot: the Brumby

Ambrose House

Motto: "Faith in Action"
House Mascot: the Owl

Augustine House

Motto: "Love Measure Deeds"
House Mascot: the Hippo

Monica House

Motto: "Hope and Perseverance"
House Mascot: the Lion

Nicholas House

Motto: "Love and Serve"
House Mascot: the Wolf

Rita House

Motto: "Love Conquers All"
House Mascot: the Bee

Thomas House

Motto: "Set no Limit"
House Mascot: the Pelican

OUR VALUES

Villanova College is committed to ensuring a vital and contemporary Catholic Augustinian identity is encountered, reimaged and explored in every aspect of College life. We have four key Augustinian values that, taken together, provide a particular lens through which to view the human person, their relationship with others, and their relationship with God. These five values develop a love of learning and living well:



Humility

Is the root of true charity; knowing and accepting oneself, and appreciating the needs we have for each other, and for God.



Interiority

The inner process by which the truth of what is taught is tested by the 'teacher within': the presence of God within each person.



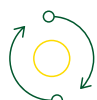
Community

Both the context within which teaching and learning take place and the beneficiary of the teaching and learning that occurs.



Restless Search for Truth

The quest not merely to discover the truth of what is taught, but rather a commitment to live out the truth of what is learned.



Ongoing Conversion

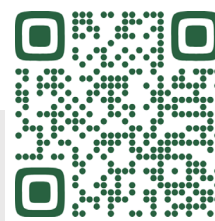
The growth that occurs in the continuing process within the context of community of humbly searching for truth, and reflecting on our experiences.

At Villanova these five values are known as 'gateway values'.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

- Shirt:** Years 5 to 11 - Short sleeved grey cotton with regulation green/gold trim on pocket
Year 12 – long-sleeved white cotton
- Shorts:** Dark grey shorts
- Belt:** Black leather with plain silver buckle
- Tie:** Years 5 to 11 - the College tie must be worn in Terms 2 and 3 and for official College functions and other special occasions.
Year 12 - Students wear the special Senior tie for the whole school year
- Socks:** Villanova grey with green/gold trim (knee high when worn with shorts)
- Shoes:** Plain black lace-up leather
- Jumper:** Villanova green jumper with College crest in gold
- Blazer:** Senior School only (Years 10-12)
- Trousers:** Years 5 to 9 – students have the option of wearing long College grey trousers instead of shorts.
Only grey or black socks are permitted with long trousers.
Senior School - Long College grey trousers are worn in Terms 2 and 3.
- Hat - Green:** Years 5 to 9 - students are required to wear a wide-brimmed College green hat.
Years 5 & 6 - student name is to be embroidered in green on the back of the hat.
For embroidery, please contact Joanne Hasson - JK Embroidery on 0490251194 or hi@jkembroidery.com.au.
Address: 398 Logan Road, Stones Corner.
- Hat - Formal Grey:** Senior School - Students are required to wear the College formal grey hat.
- School Bags:** Villanova green bag. A range of Villanova school bags are available from the College Uniform Shop.
- Physical Education:** House sport shirt, Villanova green sport shorts and Villanova sport socks. Shoes should be predominantly white and must have non-marking soles.

Visit the Uniform page for more information. Orders open in Term 4.



vnc.qld.edu.au/uniform-shop



UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is located on Fifth Avenue in Room OD4 and is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 7.30am – 9.30am and Thursday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm during term time. Online orders are available 24/7 through the website.

Phone: 0432 707 972 Email: villanovacollege@alinta.com.au Web: www.alintaapparel.com.au

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second Hand Uniform Shop is run by P&F and is open every Wednesday during term time from 8.00-9.00am.

Contact Rachael (rsgillespie85@gmail.com) or Vicki (vickilivett@optusnet.com.au) with questions.

HAIR AND GROOMING

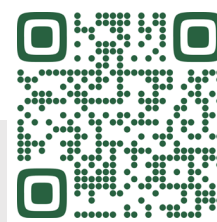
Villanova College is committed to fostering a respectful and disciplined learning environment that reflects our core Augustinian value of humility. The Hair Policy sets clear expectations for students' appearance, focusing on neat, tidy, and appropriate hairstyles.

For Villanova students, the following are examples of unacceptable hairstyles:

- Neat and Natural: Hair must be clean, neat, and tidy. Faces should be clean-shaven
- Acceptable Hairstyles: Gradual, blended cuts with natural hair colour.
- Unacceptable Styles:
 - Undercuts, mullets, burst fades, or skin fades.
 - Lines, patterns, or abrupt changes in length.
 - Hair below the eyebrows or collar.
 - Coloured or bleached hair.
- Buzz Cuts: Minimum length is blade 3.

Non-compliance may lead to class withdrawal, restorative meetings, and a Monday afternoon CRS session. Repeat violations may involve further action, including suspension.

Scan the QR code for our full Hair Policy and detailed visual examples of acceptable and unacceptable hairstyles to share with barbers.



vnc.school/hairpolicy



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

In 2025, all students are expected to bring a Windows 11 laptop with touch screen to Villanova College each school day. A digital stylus is recommended but not essential. This section will explain how BYOD laptops will be used in the context of teaching and learning and the type of Windows 11 laptop parents should purchase.

MINIMUM RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATIONS

To ensure your son has equitable and effective access to learning experiences involving technology, the College has devised Minimum Recommended Specifications for BYOD laptops.

Minimum Recommended Specifications refer to the lowest technical attributes for a laptop to be suitable for sustained regular use at the College. Our Minimum Recommended Specifications are based on several factors, including:

- Planned use of technology in core and elective subjects;
- Battery consumption and longevity of laptop life;
- Effective integration of technology in teaching and learning; and
- Industry advice.

Since 2015, Villanova College has implemented a BYOD laptop program across the Junior, Middle and Senior Schools. Over this time, the College has gained considerable experience and insights regarding the suitability and application of different types of laptops across the three sub-schools.

Microsoft 365 is used extensively at the College. From Year 5 to Year 12, all students communicate, collaborate and engage in a range of learning activities using Microsoft 365 software. Whilst this certainly has not replaced pen and paper, there has been a significant evolution towards elearning due to increased efficiency, online learning, the need for secure online meeting spaces and enhanced integration with educational software.

PARENT PURCHASING PORTAL

Villanova College is seeking to assist parents in device selection with an optional Parent Purchasing Portal. The portal aims to make purchasing simpler by offering a range of devices that meet the College Minimum Recommended Specifications. Parents may use this portal to select a device, accessories, onsite warranty extensions and ADP (Accidental Damage Protection) plans and payment options.

INSTALLATION OF SOFTWARE

All students' BYOD laptops are required to have some basic software packages installed prior to the commencement of Term 1.

For these installations to occur, your son will require his College email address and password. Current students already have this information. **New students will receive an email containing these credentials very early in January 2025. It is imperative the College has the correct email addresses for parents of new students to avoid delays with the receipt of this important message.**

Instructions to install the basic software packages will be provided in early January. However, the College strongly recommends that your son and a parent/guardian attend the hosted BYOD Set-up Workshops during mid-January 2025. These 1-hour hosted sessions give you and your son the opportunity to set up your laptop with direct support and guidance from our IT team and elearning support teachers. Attendance will ensure your son's new laptop is fully operational and ready for school use. Please check your email correspondence during early January for more information – it is recommended you book early your preferred session early to secure the most suitable time.

USEFUL LINKS

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner is committed to empowering all Australians to have safer, more positive experiences online. This website provides extensive information and free games to teach students and parents how to be safe online.

www.esafety.gov.au/

Kids Helpline

Kids Helpline is a great resource for both parents and children. The website has self-help sections dedicated Kids (5-12), Teens (13-17), and a Parent section as well. A number of eSafety articles cover cyberbullying, online gaming, gaming addiction and social media. Children and teens can also use the live 24/7 Webchat feature to discuss issues with trained staff in a supportive, confidential space.

www.kidshelpline.com.au/parents

How to setup parental controls on a Windows 11 PC

There is a built-in suite of parental controls that you can use for free in Windows 11.

www.tomsguide.com/computing/how-to-set-up-parental-controls-on-a-windows-11-pc

TIPS FROM YOUR SON'S CLASSROOM TEACHERS

- Establish a routine. Ensure your son charges his laptop every night, especially Sunday evening.
- Please think of creative solutions for remembering passwords or passphrases! Your son will have several passwords to remember such as (a) laptop access, i.e. getting past the Windows welcome screen; (b) Administrator account access (should he need to install apps); and (c) Villanova College email account password. To protect privacy, Junior School teachers may ask you to email passwords to them for safe keeping in the early stages of the school year.
- Limit the amount of games on the laptop. Whilst the laptop is a personal item, its primary purpose is a “digital workbook” and device to support learning.
- Don't panic if things go wrong. There's always a solution we can work around!
- Label everything (including styluses) but be careful not to engrave (may void warranty conditions).

TRAVELING OVERSEAS?

Parents must seek approval from the relevant Head of School and Director of Studies to access College on-line resources due to overseas travel arrangements.

If approval is given, 2 Factor Authentication will need to be setup at school with the assistance of IT staff prior to heading overseas.

CONTACT US

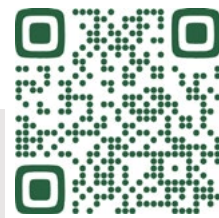
Please contact the IT/BYOD Support Team via email: byod@vnc.qld.edu.au

Villanova College has a staffed IT Helpdesk in the IT Office under the Cascia building. Students/parents can bring BYOD laptops for assistance with passwords, account access, installation issues, diagnosis of hardware faults and other advice and support.

IT Helpdesk hours (term time): before school: 7.45-8.25am; during both recess breaks; after school: 3.00-3.30pm.

IT Helpdesk (during holidays): please contact the College to arrange a mutual time.

Visit the Villanova College BYOD page as the central point for all information regarding purchasing, use, and management of BYOD laptops.



vnc.qld.edu.au/byod

Ministry

Villanova College's Ministry groups are at the core of our mission to develop students who are deeply committed to living out the values of compassion, service, and faith. These groups provide a platform for students to actively engage with the world around them, whether by offering a helping hand to those in need, advocating for social justice, or nurturing their spiritual growth through service to others.

Through the Green Team, students take a hands-on approach to environmental stewardship, promoting sustainability within our campus and beyond. The Young Augustinian Youth Ministries (YAYM) and Australian-Filipino Augustinian Solidarity (AFAS) foster cross-cultural understanding and support our global community, while St. Vincent De Paul and Rosies provide direct assistance to those experiencing homelessness and poverty in our local areas.

The Young Christian Students (YCS) group encourages reflective discussion and action on social issues, empowering students to be voices for change, and Emmanuel City Mission offers a powerful way for students to connect with and serve some of the most vulnerable members of our society. The Eucharistic Ministry and Liturgical Music Group in the Senior School further deepen students' spiritual lives, offering them a chance to lead their peers in worship and reflection.

These ministry groups are not just extracurricular activities—they are integral to our educational approach, shaping our students into empathetic, socially aware individuals who are equipped to lead with integrity and purpose. Through their involvement, students learn the true meaning of service and the profound impact they can have on the lives of others, creating a ripple effect of kindness and generosity that extends far beyond the walls of Villanova College.



Visit the Villanova College Ministry page for more information on the current ministry groups.



vnc.qld.edu.au/co-curricular/ministry

Sport

SPORTS TRIAL INFORMATION – NEW STUDENTS 2025

Villanova College is very much looking forward to welcoming you and your son into our College community. Our aim is to conduct sports trials in Term 4 this year so that your son may have the opportunity to meet new friends and become more comfortable with his new school before he commences next year.

Villanova College is a member of the AIC (Associated Independent Colleges) Sports Association which is a sports competition involving students from Year 5 - 12. Villanova College offers many opportunities for all its students to play a wide variety of sports throughout the year and to represent the College. This letter will summarize the sporting arrangements on offer in Term 1 only for all new Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 students entering Villanova College in 2025.

As the sports offered in Term 1 begin the very first week of the 2025 school year, we believe it is best to conduct all trials this year. Our goal is to have all teams and squads selected before the end of 2024. This will allow the College's sports program to run smoothly at the commencement of the 2025 school year. Though more importantly, our experience suggests that conducting and completing sports trials in the previous year will lessen the burden and worry placed on students and their families as they enter their very first week at Villanova College in 2025.

Students entering Villanova College in 2025 have the option of participating in the following sports in Term 1 as outlined in the table below:

Student's Year Level in 2025	Sports Available in Term 1
Year 5 and Year 6	Cricket or AFL and Swimming (no Volleyball) Students choose between Cricket or AFL, not both as they are both played on Saturday mornings. All students can participate in Swimming.
Year 7	Cricket or AFL or Volleyball and Swimming Students choose between Cricket or Volleyball or AFL only as they are all played on Saturday. All students can participate in Swimming.
Level of Commitment required in Term 1	Cricket, AFL and Volleyball One to two training sessions held weekly in Term 1 before or after school. Matches to be played during Saturday morning each week in Term 1. Swimming Up to three training sessions offered before school. Swim meets will be held Friday afternoons after school until approx. 6.00pm. <i>Bus transportation is provided</i>

CHECK LIST

- Complete the 'Term 1 2025 – On-line Sport Sign On' form to indicate which sport/s your son wishes to participate in during Term 1, 2025 (sport sign-on forms for other sports offered in Terms 2, 3 and 4 will be distributed next year).
- All Cricket, AFL and Volleyball trials will be held in Term 4, 2024. Students are to arrive at the venue 15 minutes prior to the advertised start time.
- Swimming trial information will be released via the Villanova Sport Webpage (QR code below). Initial trials will commence early in Term 4. The Swimming program incurs an additional cost.

What to wear and bring to trials – Students are to wear suitable sports clothing including a hat, sports shorts, shirt and shoes. We ask boys not to bring any equipment. All equipment will be supplied for the trials.

It is not necessary for a player to have any prior experience playing cricket, AFL or volleyball. We encourage as many new players as possible to try out. Please note that although we encourage boys to play club sport, the College policy clearly states that all students should give priority to school sport commitments over club commitments.

If your son/s are interested in participating in the sports offered, we ask you to complete all the necessary forms by the due dates listed. Please feel free to contact the Villanova College Sports Office via the main College number – 07 3394 5690 if you have any concerns or questions. We are more than happy to help. I wish all the boys every success in their trials and during their time at Villanova College. I look forward to meeting you all soon.

Yours sincerely

Mr Shaun McLean
Director of Sport



AIC SPORTS ON OFFER – TERM 1, 2025

AIC Cricket – Open to all Year 5 - 12 students. All Cricket is played on Saturday. All players who nominate will make a team.

AIC Volleyball – Open to all Year 7 - 12 students. All Volleyball is played on Saturday. There are 3-4 teams in each year level and approximately 30-40 players will be selected.

AIC AFL – Open to all Year 5 -12 students. All Years 5-10 teams will play on Saturday. The Year 11-12 (Open) teams will play on Friday afternoon. There are restrictions on numbers, with approximately 45 players selected in Year 5, 6, 7 and 8, and 50 players selected in Year 9 and Open.

AIC Swimming - Open to all, this does not conflict with the other sports.

Note – All Cricket, Volleyball and Year 5 - 9 AFL is played on Saturday. Therefore, students may trial for only one of these sports.

Year 10 - 12 AFL is played on Friday afternoon. Only Year 10 - 12 AFL players can trial for AFL and Cricket or Volleyball as they are played on different days.

Any boy may register for Swimming on top of the other sports played in Term 1.



vnc.qld.edu.au/the-locker-room/aic-afl



vnc.qld.edu.au/the-locker-room/aic-cricket



vnc.qld.edu.au/the-locker-room/aic-volleyball



vnc.qld.edu.au/the-locker-room/aic-swimming

THE LOCKER ROOM WEBPAGE

At Villanova College, the primary method of communication to families is our Locker Room webpage. Through this, families can access fixture, trial and training information for our AIC program, general information about Sport at Villa, and relevant Sport contact information. We encourage families to engage with the website via the QR code.

The Locker Room overview page holds week to week information including draws and training schedules. Families may need to scroll down to the “Latest Sports Information” section.

The Sport specific pages (AFL, Cricket etc.) hold generic information including by-laws, coaches listing and program history.



vnc.qld.edu.au/the-locker-room

FURTHER SPORT INFORMATION (YEAR 5 ONLY)

AFL

- Orientation Day Selections trials
- Selected students will participate in training and pre-season games in Term 4
- Term 1 training will commence from Week 1 of Term 1 (2025)

Cricket

- Orientation Day Selections trials
- Selected students can purchase the Cricket Uniform
 - White Cricket Pants
 - Villanova Cricket Shirt
 - Sports shoes
 - Villanova green sports cap or broad brimmed hat
- Term 1 training will commence from Week 1 of Term 1 (2025)

Swimming

- All families will receive the Swimming Information Booklet in preparation for trials commencing in Term 4. Please note the Swimming Program will incur an additional fee.

FURTHER SPORT INFORMATION (YEAR 6 AND ABOVE)

We ask families to access the Locker Room website page/s for all further information.

AIC SPORT

Associated Independent Colleges (AIC) Members

Iona College (IONA)

Padua College (PAD)

St Edmund's College (SEC)

Marist College Ashgrove (ASH)

St Laurence's College (SLC)

St Patrick's College (SPC)

St Peters Lutheran College (SPE)

Villanova College (VILLA)

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
AFL	Chess	Basketball	Track and Field
Cricket	Cross Country	Rugby League	Swimming <i>pre-season</i>
Swimming	Football	Tennis	Water Polo (Year 7 – 11 only)
Volleyball (Year 7 – 12 only)	Rugby Union	Track and Field <i>pre-season</i> Golf*	AFL, Cricket and Volleyball <i>pre-season</i>

*one-day tournament



Visit the Sports Overview page for more information on Strength & Conditioning, District Sports and our playing fields.

vnc.qld.edu.au/co-curricular/sport

SELECTION GUIDELINES & CODE OF CONDUCT

- When signing on for a sport at Villanova College, it will be the understanding of the College that players and parents do so knowing, agreeing and accepting the terms and conditions listed below.
- Villanova College endeavours to provide opportunities for as many students as possible to participate and enjoy the experience of playing sport. All parents, players and coaching staff have the responsibility to ensure that they contribute towards this experience being a positive one for all involved.
- All A&B teams from Year 7 – 11 and most Year 12 teams contest the AIC aggregate for that sport. In doing so, boys are trained specifically to fulfil a certain role which is determined by the coach within that team which may result in a player not playing in every position. For example, not all players in cricket will share equally the bowling, batting and keeping duties from week to week in these teams.
- A&B teams and most Open teams are classified as competitive teams which contest premierships and aggregates. C teams and lower are participatory based teams whereby the main focus would be to allow all participants to 'have a go' and enjoy the experience. C teams and lower may still contest premierships or aim for an undefeated season. A&B teams train twice weekly, C teams and lower train at least once per week or maybe twice depending on the sport, coach and availability of facilities.
- Premierships are not awarded to any Year 5 or 6 teams. Teams will be acknowledged if they remain undefeated throughout the regular season.
- Coaches will select the most appropriate players to suit the overall balance of the team. For example, a basketball coach would not select more than two-point guards. In rugby, not everybody can play the fly half position.
- The selection of all coaches is determined by the College. Villanova College aims to include as many teams as possible into the AIC competition based on the resources available. Due to the large number of teams which Villanova generate for each sport, it is impossible to have all teams taken by staff members or independent/outside coaches. Parents and Old Boys are required to fulfil coaching roles.
- Coaches are appointed specifically by the Sports Office based on coaching experience, willingness to support the College's program and ethos as well as a proven ability to foster, develop and maintain good relationships with members of the Villanova community. The specific positioning of a coach will be based on the overall strategic needs of the College for that sport.
- All coaches must hold a Blue Card.
- Parents are asked not to undermine or contribute towards any negativity directed at the coach. Matters of concern should be made directly by the person concerned (not others acting on their behalf) to a member of the Sports Office or to the coach directly if done so in a respectful and discrete manner. In no way is it acceptable for a parent (who is not the appointed coach) to intervene with any team selections or get involved in coaching sessions unless invited by the coach or the Sports Office. Most coaches are volunteers and without them your son would not be participating.
- Matters of team selection will always be an issue. As there is a finite number in each team, it is inevitable that players will miss out and be relegated to lower teams. Selections are based on player performance, attitude and attendance. It is in the best interest of players and parents to be resilient and accepting of decisions made. Matters of concern should be dealt with as listed above. Although initial selections may be made by independent selectors (not in all cases), the appointed coach of that team will have an input into the selection and make up of their team. The College does reserve the right to intervene and adjust selections if required.
- Villanova College strives to build and foster harmony within all teams. Any club or other external sporting association matters, including selections and/or rankings, will not have any influence or bearing on Villanova team selections. Matters of grievance within clubs and across clubs should never be carried over to school sport.

Music

From Year 5 to Year 12, students eagerly participate in the successful Music Program of Villanova College.

Whether it be performing in bands and orchestras, singing in the various vocal ensembles or learning to compose and record music in our digital recording studio, boys find music to be an integral part of their daily activities at Villanova College.

JUNIOR SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

In Year 5, all Villanova boys learn an instrument as part of our immersion program. This begins with a careful process of introduction and learning about the instruments, followed by surveys of the boys and parents and some tests designed to get boys on the instrument that is most suited to their physical attributes. Students will be provided with an instrument by the College for the duration of the year. All Year 5 students at Villanova are required to rehearse in their appropriate band or orchestra one morning a week from Term 2 onward.

Small group instruction occurs during school time, as it is part of the curriculum, so boys do not miss any academic class time when they come to Music. Individual instruction is available for your son whilst he is in Year 5 as part of our Performance Music Program. This runs concurrently with the Junior School Instrumental Music Immersion Program and is recommended for those students who currently play an instrument.

In Year 6, our students have the opportunity to participate in our vibrant Music Performance Program. Students enrolled in our Year 6 program have access to private or group tuition and will participate in our wonderful ensemble program. These lessons do incur an extra charge and are scheduled on a 30- minute rotational timetable during class time, as per Instrumental Music Programs in most schools across Queensland. Continuing this strand will allow your son to progress through the Queensland Instrumental Music Curriculum, affording him the opportunity to accrue credit points toward his Queensland Certificate of Education.

All Junior School boys are also invited to be involved in Secret Men's Business, our Junior School Choir. This group often performs with our Senior Ensembles as part of our comprehensive performance program.

MUSIC PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

This comprehensive program provides tuition with many of the state's finest musicians and educators and offers participation in the many ensembles described on the following pages. Many students find enrolling in classroom music electives as part of their academic program strengthens their understanding of music and greatly complements their abilities developed through the performance program.



At Villanova College we have Music Stage Crew and Technical Crew, offering students training and experience in backstage and technical, lighting and sound recording and production. There is a place for every boy in the Music Department to be part of something very successful and rewarding in a supportive environment.

Most of our Senior boys are also actively involved in sport, debating, ministry and other co-curricular activities with little or no conflict. At Villanova College, we pride ourselves on having a great system of support and conflict management between teaching, coaching, conducting and other staff should clashes of co-curricular activities occur.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

The College now has approximately 30 performing ensembles including Symphony Orchestras, String Orchestras, Concert Bands, Vocal Ensembles, Guitar Ensembles, Percussion Ensembles, Jazz Ensembles, Contemporary and Rock Bands, Irish Ensembles and a variety of smaller chamber String, Woodwind and Brass Ensembles.

MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

Our students are also involved in all aspects of stage performance in the biennial musical theatre production by Villanova College and Loreto College. We have a great working relationship with the students and staff of Loreto, and we organise many combined music events. Our senior musicians go on a music camp every year with the Loreto students; another opportunity where bonds are built that last through the school year and beyond.

MUSIC TOURS

All of our musicians at Villanova College have the opportunity to participate in our fantastic tour rotation. When we were able to travel, tour destinations included Cairns, Sydney, Perth, Melbourne, Tasmania and the USA. We look forward to recommencing our tour rotation with a trip to the Australian International Music Festival in Sydney next July.

The tours are a great experience that the boys work hard for and look forward to, and they create memories they'll never forget.

WORKSHOPS AND WORLD-CLASS PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

We believe that our students learn best when given opportunities to work with world-class performers and clinicians. Over our recent history, our students have had the wonderful opportunity to work with artists including James Morrison, Slava Grigoryan, Aldo Rodriguez Delgado, Professor Donald Peterson and the Brigham Young Wind Symphony, and Professor Annette-Barbara Vogel. On each occasion, these fantastic musicians came to Villanova and performed with our students in our professionally appointed Hanrahan Theatre. These occasions provide an in-house exemplar for our students; an opportunity to experience fine performance at close quarters and interaction with fine musicians on a personal level.

MUSIC PARENTS

We are very proud of our amazing Music Support Group (MSG) comprising wonderful parents from Year 5 – 12 who take an active interest in their son's music by helping at concerts, assisting with fundraising and volunteering to help with the annual Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival (QCMF). This is a great way for parents to be involved, meet others and support the boys.

QCMF is an enormous event we host each year in August. It is an amazing community effort as we welcome over 100 schools, bringing with them 530 bands, choirs and orchestras totalling over 15,000 student performances in one long weekend. We must warn you though, it's very addictive.

Visit the Villanova College Music page to find out more about our Music Programs and how you can get involved.



vnc.qld.edu.au/co-curricular/music

Self Directed Reading

In your son's Library Reading Lesson, he will be introduced to the theory behind why he should engage in the self-directed reading program.

Each lesson, he will learn a specific strategy or skill that will cover orientation to the library and the use of the online library resources [Infiniti (our Library Management System), Sora (our Overdrive ebook and audiobook collection) and the iCentre (our library website)].

He will use strategies to select a book and make recommendations to other students.

Below is important information about the Self-Directed Reading Program at Villanova College. Also, there are some suggestions on how you can support your son to engage with and benefit from the program.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT YOUR SON ENGAGES IN SELF-DIRECTED READING?

At Villanova College, reading is recognised as an important part of learning. Research reveals extensive benefits for students when they regularly engage in self-directed reading. These benefits include:

- academic achievement; and
- social, emotional and health benefits.

Even more importantly, reading is entertaining, engaging and it makes us happy.

HOW DOES VILLANOVA COLLEGE SUPPORT YOUR SON IN HIS SELF-DIRECTED READING?

Villanova College has made considerable investments in further developing our reading culture and supporting your son to become a life-long reader.

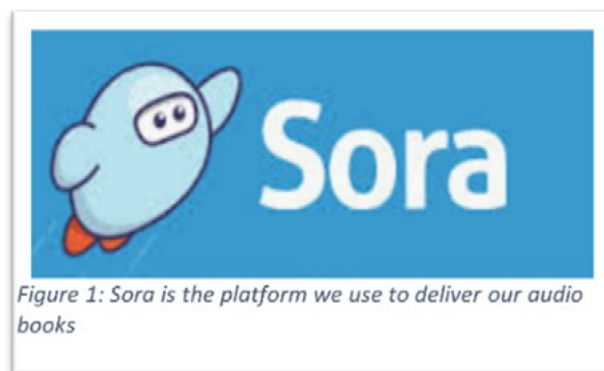
- Villanova has two full-time Teacher Librarians who have qualifications in Teacher Librarianship and who are dedicated to supporting your son in reading and research.
- The Library has a Library Manager and two full-time Library Assistants who are an integral part of providing quality service for your sons. They too are dedicated to working closely with your son on all matters reading and research.
- Years 5-7 have a lesson each fortnight in the Library, dedicated to the self-directed reading program.
- The library has an extensive collection of fiction and non-fiction books as well as online audiobooks and online comics.



HOW CAN YOU ENCOURAGE YOUR SON TO READ MORE OFTEN AND ENJOY IT?

For your son to gain the most from the reading program, your support is crucial. It is important that you encourage your son to read, even if he says that he does not like it.

- At home, encourage your son to commit to reading daily. At night, before sleep, we suggest no screens for at least 30 minutes before bed and instead, read for at least 15 minutes.
- Take the opportunity to discuss your son's reading choice and engage in conversations with him about the story. This is a great topic for the dinner table.
- Engage in conversations about the books he has chosen. Ask him why he chose the book. What is it about the book that he likes? Encourage him to read the book to the end. If he does not want to continue reading it, ask him why. Remind him to try something different next time and to use the strategies that he has been taught in class to choose his next book.
- Consider giving your son, as part of his birthday or Christmas, the gift of a book. We are lucky to have several excellent independent bookstores in Brisbane that can provide excellent advice and recommendations, even for the reluctant reader.
- Reluctant readers can love reading too. They just need the right book to start them on the "Reading Spiral". We can help him find a book that interests him. Contact his Teacher Librarian and share your observations. Together, we can help turn your son into a reader.
- If your son wants to read a book that we do not have in the library, he can request it and we will purchase the book for the collection. After all, if he wants to read it, it is very likely other boys will too.
- If your son has a reading difficulty (such as dyslexia) seek professional help but still, encourage him to read. We can help find the right book for your son and we have books specifically for those who have reading difficulties as well as a wide range of audiobooks.
- At night, your son could listen to an audio book. The timer can be set to turn off after 30 minutes. What a great way to fall asleep!
- On road trips, you could Bluetooth an audiobook to the car and the whole family can listen; a great way to stop the bickering in the back seat.
- Let him see you reading too. If you take the time to read and show him that you enjoy reading, he is more likely to do the same. Family reading time is a great way for you all to engage in silent reading. You could even read the same book as your son and discuss the story as you both progress through the book.
- Your son is welcome to borrow books for you too. We often have boys tell us that they finished a book and now their dad is reading it! We also have boys borrowing books to read to their younger brothers and sisters; we have a wide picture book collection.
- Continue to encourage him to read every night. Even if he argues, insist that he must read before bed. Do not let him use a screen at bedtime. He has the option- read or stare at a wall. Your son will eventually get bored with the wall.
- Limit screen time during the week. Set the rules and insist he follow them. After all, between co-curricular, homework, assignments and reading, there is no time for screen.



Ensure that as he grows older, the books he is reading are also written for an older audience. Many adolescent boys get stuck reading the “little boy” books they loved when they were younger and that they feel comfortable with, but quickly get bored with them. Your son needs to be challenged (see Figure 2). Generally, the longer books are more interesting and have more mature themes. Just think about the kinds of movies he likes.

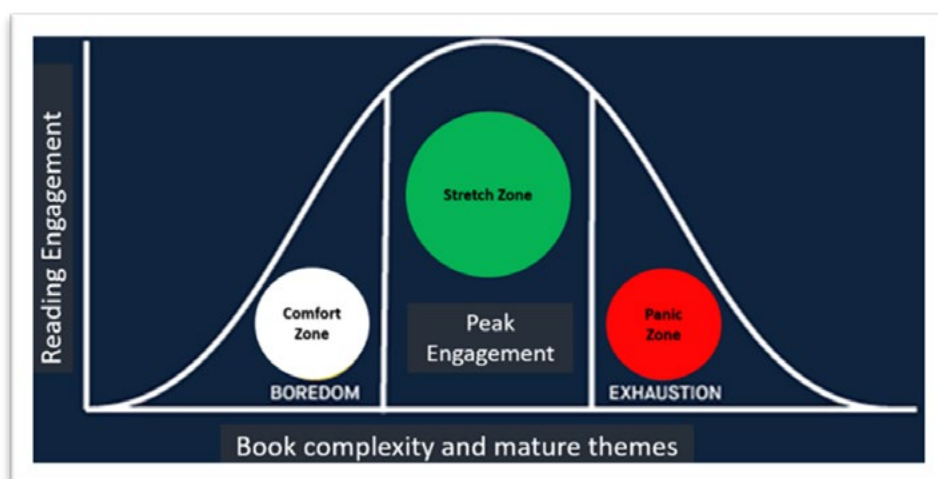


Figure 2: Encourage your son to read books that are in his "Stretch Zone"

- Encourage your son to read widely by exploring different genres and non-fiction books for interest.
- Access the Read resources on the icentre: icentre.vnc.qld.edu.au/read
- Contact the Library, we are here to help and work with you.

It is important to support your son in self-directed reading during the upper primary and middle years of schooling. You, along with his teachers, are crucial in enabling him to develop and continue a love of reading. Together, we can support your son in his development into a life-long reader.

You don't have to burn books to
destroy a culture.

Just get people to stop reading
them.

– Ray Bradbury



Visit the Villanova College Library website for more information.

icentre.vnc.qld.edu.au/home

Family Participation

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The P & F offers parents an avenue to participate in the spiritual, intellectual, emotional and social development of all students within the College. The P & F meets in Tolle Lege (Library at the front of the College) monthly. All are welcome.

P & F Events require volunteers for:

- Executive Committee Positions
- Class/Year Level Representatives
- Villanova Community Carnival (event time roles)
- Fathers Night (event time roles)
- Mothers Night (event time roles).

Class/Year Level Representatives assist the College to become a unified and cohesive school with strong community involvement and support. The purpose of Class/Year Level Representatives is to assist and work in partnership with College Staff to enhance the community spirit for all parents.

The Class/Year Level Representatives achieve this through:

- Sharing key college information through Year Group Facebook Groups (established by the College for each Year Group, please see Social Media Policy)
- Regular attendance at P & F meetings
- Involvement in College Events
- To provide support to College Staff
- And lastly represent the College's four values of Interiority, Humility, Restless Search for Truth and Community.



TOLLE LEGE LIBRARY

Tolle Lege Library requires volunteers for:

- Processing disposed books, tidying and cleaning shelves
- Repairing of books (covering and labelling), labelling and organising resource boxes
- Assisting with Book Fairs

TUCKSHOP

The Tuckshop provides an affordable and nourishing breakfast, morning tea and lunch service for the boys. Preparation begins from 7am with the day concluding at 2.00pm. We run a self-service system, with a diverse menu consisting of both freshly prepared and pre-packaged items.

It is managed by a paid convenor but could not exist without its dedicated volunteer helpers. We welcome help from mums, dads, grandparents, other caregivers, friends, etc. You would be rostered on one day every four weeks with the majority of volunteers starting around 8.30am, however if you can only give just a day a term or an hour or two anytime, this is still very welcome – we can make use of any spare time you are able to give us.

Our helpers are provided with a cuppa and cake for morning tea, a delicious lunch, lots of laughs and an opportunity to see their sons in their school environment.

If you're a little nervous about volunteering alone, why not join with a friend?

Current volunteers have mentioned the following reasons as to why they enjoy working at the Tuckshop:

- it helps our boys and the school community
- it is a great opportunity to meet other parents and chat to others with similar interests
- the boys enjoy seeing their parents at school (even though they won't always admit it)
- it's a chance to get to meet your son's friends and their teachers
- it's a lot of fun
- it's a great way to seek advice from parents who have "been there, done that"

Please consider volunteering carefully. We do need you!

Thank you.

Ms Dot Blair

Villanova College Tuckshop Convenor



For further information or to register to volunteer, visit our Volunteer webpage.



vnc.qld.edu.au/volunteering

MUSIC SUPPORT GROUP

The Music Support Group works with the College and in particular the Director of Music, to help raise much needed funds to purchase equipment and resources for the music program and assist with College concerts throughout the year. Affiliated with the Music Support Group is the QCMF Committee, which helps to organise the immensely successful Queensland Catholic Schools' and Colleges' Music Festival (QCMF).

Music Support Group require volunteers for:

- Executive Committee Positions
- Camp Supervisors (first weekend of school year)
- Helpers for music concerts - ticket sellers at door, canteen assistants (event time roles).

QCMF require volunteers for:

- Executive Committee Position
- QCMF (held week of EKKA public holiday in August - event time roles)

VILLANOVA SPORTS CLUB

Villanova Sports Club works with the College and in particular the Director of Sport, to help raise much needed funds to purchase equipment and resources for the sports program and assist with College sporting fixtures throughout the year. The Sports Club typically meets quarterly on a Wednesday evening above Goold Hall, off Eighth Avenue. All are welcome.

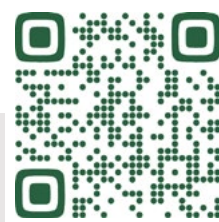
- Executive Committee positions
- Coaching (appropriate qualification may be required) or
- Managing teams in the AIC Competition (Years 5 – 12)
- Volunteering at the Villa Park Canteen on game days. All parents are encouraged to do so while their children warm up. Help with the BBQs early in the day is always welcome.

See all upcoming Community events on our website.



vnc.qld.edu.au/events

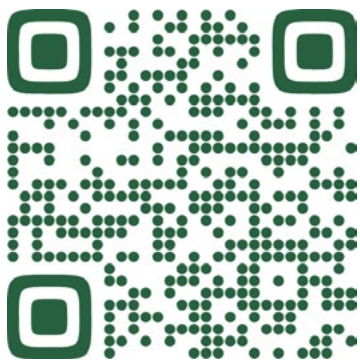
Get your supporters gear!



merchandise.vnc.qld.edu.au

New Families Webpage

All information relating to starting at Villanova College in 2025 can be found on our New Families Commencement Information webpage:



vnc.qld.edu.au/information-for-new-existing-families/



Photo: First day of our new 2024 students – it won't be long until your son walks through the Villanova gates!



Villanova College

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CRICOS Code 03693G



Explore Villanova College.
Take a virtual tour or
visit our website.