



Year 8

2026 Parent Information

WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Welcome



Lachlan Bail
Year 8 Coordinator
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Shani Gill
Year 8 Learning Community Leader
sgill@tcc.vic.edu.au

Dear Year 8 Parents and Carers,
Welcome to Year 8! My name is Lachy, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the YLC for 2026. It is a privilege to work with your children during what is such an important and exciting stage of their secondary school journey.
Year 8 is a year of growth — academically, socially and emotionally. Students begin to develop greater independence, strengthen friendships, and take on new challenges both inside and outside the classroom. My goal is to support each student as they build confidence, resilience and a strong sense of belonging within our school community.
I believe that a strong partnership between school and home is key to student success. Open communication is very important to us, and I encourage you to reach out to myself or Shani, our LCL, if you have any questions, concerns or information that will help us better support your child.
I look forward to meeting many of you in person throughout the year and working together to ensure your child has a positive and rewarding Year 8 experience.



Homeroom Mentors



8A Mrs Shani Gill
sgill@tcc.vic.edu.au



8B Mr Todd Klein
tklein@tcc.vic.edu.au



8C Mr Noel McKay
nmckay@tcc.vic.edu.au



8D Mrs Kate Geary
kgeary@tcc.vic.edu.au



8E Ms Lynne Wheal
lwheal@tcc.vic.edu.au



8F Miss Amanda Mitchell
amitchell@tcc.vic.edu.au

Homeroom plays a vital role in pastoral care at Trinity College. The time spent in homeroom is designed to provide students with a sense of security and belonging, helping to foster strong, supportive relationships between students and their homeroom mentors.

We encourage parents and carers to contact their child's homeroom mentor if they have any questions or concerns.

Our homeroom mentors are often the first point of connection in ensuring each student feels known, supported, and welcomed each day.

Important Dates

Term 1



- Tuesday 24 February- School Photos
- Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 March- Student Free Days
- Thursday 26 March – Student Free Day
- Monday 16 March to Wednesday 18 March- Year 8 Creswick Camp
- Wednesday 1 April - House Athletics Carnival
- Thursday 2 April- Term 1 Last Day

Attendance Expectations

Every minute counts

- Regular attendance is essential for every student's learning, wellbeing, and connection to school life. Each day away from school means missed learning, reduced routine, and fewer opportunities to build strong relationships with peers and teachers.
- We remind families that students are expected to attend all **school-calendared days and events**, as consistent attendance gives students the best chance to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.
- If your child is experiencing any barriers to attending, please contact us so we can work together to support them.



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS
WHEN IT COMES TO LEARNING!

**SCHOOL STARTS EVERY DAY AT
8.45 AM**

PUNCTUALITY IS A KEY FACTOR IN DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE LEARNING
AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS.

0.5 YEARS LOST	1 YEAR LOST
Being 10 minutes late to school every day equals half a year less learning throughout schooling	Missing 20 minutes per day equals 2.5 weeks per year and one year less learning throughout schooling

Being consistently late to school or class has a massive impact on learning across a student's school life

— FROM KINDER TO YEAR 12

BE ON TIME - CHARGE YOUR DEVICE - BE READY TO LEARN

Absentee Notification



- If a student is to be absent, parents/carers are asked to notify the College by 10:00am on the morning of the absence. Please contact the College through one of the following options:
 - College Absentee Hotline 03 5233 9299
 - Email absences@tcc.vic.edu.au
 - Parent Notified Absences on PAM
- If a student does not attend their Homeroom or Lesson 1 and contact has not been made to advise their absence by 10:00am, an SMS will be sent to their parent/carer.

Attendance Expectation

Leaving for Appointments

- If a student needs to leave the College during school hours, a parent/carer must provide a written request, phone call, or notification via PAM to College Reception prior to the student's departure.
- Students may leave only when their parent/carer has been sighted at Reception.
- It is the student's responsibility to inform their teacher, leave class appropriately, and sign out at **College Reception** before departing. If returning to school after the appointment, students must sign back in at **Student College Reception** upon arrival.
- ***Please note that staff are unable to use the PA system to call students out of class during lesson time.***





Family Holidays

- If the occasion arises that necessitates family holidays being taken during school time, parents/carers are expected to notify the College Principal in writing via email at principal@tcc.vic.edu.au as early as possible. The College discourages holidays during term time. Families with students at the VCE level should avoid taking students out of school during term time. Students are expected to contact their teachers regarding assessment tasks when absent from school.
- Students must arrange to complete missed Assessment Tasks within 2 weeks of the original set date.

We **cannot** reschedule:

- NAPLAN (Years 7 and 9),
- ACER Pat Testing (Years 7 – 10)

Change of Contact or Family Arrangements



- The College must be notified of any changes to address, family arrangements, phone numbers, work details, emergency contacts, or emergency phone numbers, and provided with any relevant court orders as soon as possible.
- This is critical for correspondence and in an emergency. Updates should be reported to enrolments@tcc.vic.edu.au or by phoning our Enrolment Officers on 03 5233 9255.



Contacting Your Child During School Hours

- If you need to contact your child during the school day, please contact College Reception.
- Urgent messages **will be** communicated to students on your behalf. Alternatively, you are welcome to come to Reception and personally request to communicate with your child. If a student needs to contact their parents/carers throughout the day, they too must do so through College Reception.

End of Day Pickup



For the safety of students, staff, and families, we ask that when picking students up from school, families please follow these procedures:

- Collect students from the pick-up point in the Gleeson car park (access via Hart Street).
- Follow traffic direction signage when entering and exiting the College car parks.
- Refrain from blocking the Hart Street footpaths or parking in 'no parking' zones.
- Ensure students use designated road crossings, should they need to cross the road.

Camp Preparation

Creswick Log Cabin Camp: Monday 16 March – Wednesday 18 March



- Information for Year 8 Creswick Camp will be sent home in the camp booklet in the coming weeks.
- Note: **NO** mobile phones are permitted on the camp.
- Please see below for a basic packing list in preparation for camp:
 - Fitted Sheet
 - Pillow
 - Sleeping bag/doona
 - Towel x 2
 - Toiletries
 - Clothing and Appropriate footwear
 - Waterproof Coat
 - Hat
 - Beanie
 - Bag for Wet / Dirty Clothes
 - Torch
 - Drink Bottle
 - Sunscreen
 - Spare closed-toe shoes for canoeing/water activities

Wellbeing Support



Students can access wellbeing support in several ways, including speaking directly with their Homeroom Mentor, their Year Level Coordinator, or a member of the Wellbeing Team.

Trinity College has a highly qualified Wellbeing Team (see opposite) that can provide counselling to students requiring further wellbeing support. The wellbeing team will also be running several small group programs throughout the year, including Tuning into Teens and Peaceful Teens, so please keep an eye out in the newsletter.

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or would like to refer them for counselling, please do not hesitate to contact wellbeing by either contacting the school on 5233 9200 or emailing wellbeing@tcc.vic.edu.au

Wellbeing

			
Matt Millen	Sarah Weiss	Emma Mezzatesta	Deb McIntyre
Counsellor	Coordinator	Counsellor	Wellbeing Support
Mon - Tue	Mon - Fri	Tue - Thur	Mon - Fri

SchoolTV

Support for parents/carers



Because parenting doesn't
come with instructions



SchoolTV Empower confidence.

SchoolTV is an important wellbeing resource used at our College to support families in navigating the challenges of modern-day parenting, particularly in relation to youth mental health and wellbeing.

Parenting is an ongoing learning journey, and SchoolTV offers credible, evidence-based information from trusted experts, along with practical strategies to help address some of the issues young people face today.

The SchoolTV link can be accessed via the Trinity College website, and parents and carers are encouraged to keep an eye on their emails for special reports and other parenting resources shared periodically throughout the year.

www.tcc.vic.edu.au/wellbeing/schooltv/



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Learning Expectations

Behaviours for Learning

Students in Years 7–10 have been introduced to our Behaviours for Learning framework, which promotes calm, predictable routines that support effective learning across the school day.

To provide consistency, all classes follow the same simple structure at the beginning and end of each lesson.

- **Before entering the classroom**, students line up with the materials they need for learning. Teachers check in with each student to ensure they are prepared for the lesson.
- **Seating plans** are used to support learning, provide structure, and ensure students can access assistance when required.
- **Exit lanyards** are used when students need to leave the room, helping maintain a smooth and supervised process.
- **At the end of each lesson**, students reset the room by collecting materials, tidying their space, and preparing it for the next class.

These routines help create a positive, organised and supportive learning environment for all students.



Behaviours for Learning CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Arrival expectations

- Line up (Year 7-9)
- Quietly wait outside (Year 10-12)



Have equipment and be prepared for learning

Seating plan (Year 7-9)

Seating conditions (Year 10-12)



Exit lanyards

Departure expectations

- Tidy up after every lesson
- All students to exit quietly between lessons
- Chairs up after last lesson (per room timetable)



Homework Expectations

Year 8 2026



At Trinity, we believe homework should be purposeful and meaningful. Its primary aim is to reinforce and consolidate the knowledge and skills taught throughout the week. Completing homework regularly also helps students develop strong study habits, preparing them for success in VCE and beyond. We encourage students to approach homework with independence, organisation, and a commitment to doing their best.

Our homework guidelines per subject, per week for Year 8 are:

- 45 mins – Mathematics
- 45 mins – English
- 45 mins – Humanities
- 45 mins – Science

Further Questions?



Information can be found on the College Website, Parent Access Module (PAM) or by contacting the College.

Trinity

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