

Upper Junior School Learning Hub and Program

Enhancing our Junior School experience for Years 5 and 6

Clayfield College

Welcome

Dr Andrew Cousins
Principal

Upper Junior School Experience Overview

Mr Damien Marshall
Director of Junior School

What remains central

Students will be **known, valued and understood** within a distinctly Junior School experience.



What is coming in 2027?

A distinctive Upper Junior School experience for Years 5 and 6



Known, Valued and Understood

Every student will have a Homeroom teacher, a clear home base and strong pastoral support.



Deeper Subject Expertise

The three Homeroom teachers in each year level will teach English, Mathematics or Science/HASS across the grade.



Purposeful Learning Enviroments

Refurbished classrooms and a dedicated Junior School Science Lab will support practical, collaborative and hands-on learning.



More Responsive Learning

Teachers will work collectively to provide timely consolidation, support, enrichment and extension.



Skills for School and Life

Students will develop independence, organisation, critical and creative thinking, collaboration and practical capability.

Why is Clayfield making this change?

Research Informed

1

A distinctive stage

Students are ready for greater independence, challenge and responsibility.

2

Learning is becoming more complex

Greater subject expertise strengthens teaching, feedback and support.

3

Skills need to be taught, not assumed

Organisation, self-management, collaboration and independence are explicitly developed.

4

A Pre-Prep to Year 12 College creates opportunities

Students benefit from shared resources and curriculum knowledge across the College.

5

Transition should be gradual and age-appropriate

Students build confidence while retaining a home base, strong pastoral care and a clear sense of belonging.

Why is Clayfield making this change?



Clayfield College

Our Upper Junior School Promise

Known
Deeply

One teacher.
One home base.
Strong belonging.

Taught
Expertly

Greater subject expertise.
Richer learning.

Supported
Collectively

A coordinated team around every child.

Known, Valued and Understood



Deeper Subject Expertise

Meet the 2027 Year 5 and 6 Teaching Team

Year 5
John Richardson - Mathematics
Penny Patterson - English
Emily Baigrie - Science/HASS

Year 6
Hannah O'Brien - Mathematics
Maxine Moore - English
Timothy O'Rourke - Science/HASS

Students will also continue learning with specialist teachers across:

- Physical Education
- Arts (Music and Visual Arts)
- Technology (Design, Digital and Food)
- Chinese or Spanish
- Christian Education



Deeper Subject Expertise

Homeroom teachers each lead one learning area across the year level:

English | **Mathematics** | **Science/HASS**

- Builds on the Junior School's established specialist teaching model
- Deeper curriculum and pedagogical expertise
- Stronger planning and consistency across the year level
- More focused assessment, feedback and resource development
- More responsive support, consolidation, enrichment and extension
- Greater opportunities for professional collaboration across the College

Upper Junior Learning Environments

Mrs Lauren Coote
Head of Years 3-6



Purposeful Learning Environments

Refurbished Classrooms
A distinct Upper Junior identity and a strong Homeroom base

Purposed-designed Science Lab
Hands-on investigation, experimentation and STEM learning

Learning through Connection
Furniture, storage and collaboration spaces designed to support the many ways students learn

Purposeful Learning Environments

The Upper Junior School Hub will provide individual, small-group, collaborative and practical learning spaces for teachers and students.

- Dedicated reading and wellbeing nook
- Collaborative seating
- Flexible tables
- Yarning circles space









Purposeful Learning Environments

Purpose-built space for curiosity, investigation and discovery

The Junior School Science Lab will support:

- Practical investigation and experimentation
- Scientific thinking, questioning and evidence-based reasoning
- Hands-on STEM learning, design challenges and problem solving
- Access to specialist equipment, materials and resources
- Collaboration, inquiry and team-teaching opportunities with senior school expertise
- Purposeful links with Senior School expertise and facilities where appropriate


Small questions lead to big discoveries
Another world is possible
Curiosity Creates a Kinder Brighter World
Observe
Question
Investigate
Create
Make a difference
Science connects us to a brighter tomorrow
CLAYFIELD COLLEGE

Bringing the Model to Life

Mrs Miriam Bryan
Dean of Junior School



More Responsive Learning

Flexible pathways that adapt to student growth, progress and need

A stronger year-level model gives teachers clear shared evidence and more ways to respond. This supports personalised learning, timely intervention and stronger extension opportunities, reflecting priorities consistently raised through family feedback:

- Timely intervention and targeted assistance
- Strengthens essential knowledge and core skills
- Broaden learning through purposeful opportunities
- Provide greater depth, challenge and complexity



Skills for School and Life

Students will explicitly develop the skills they need for learning, school and life

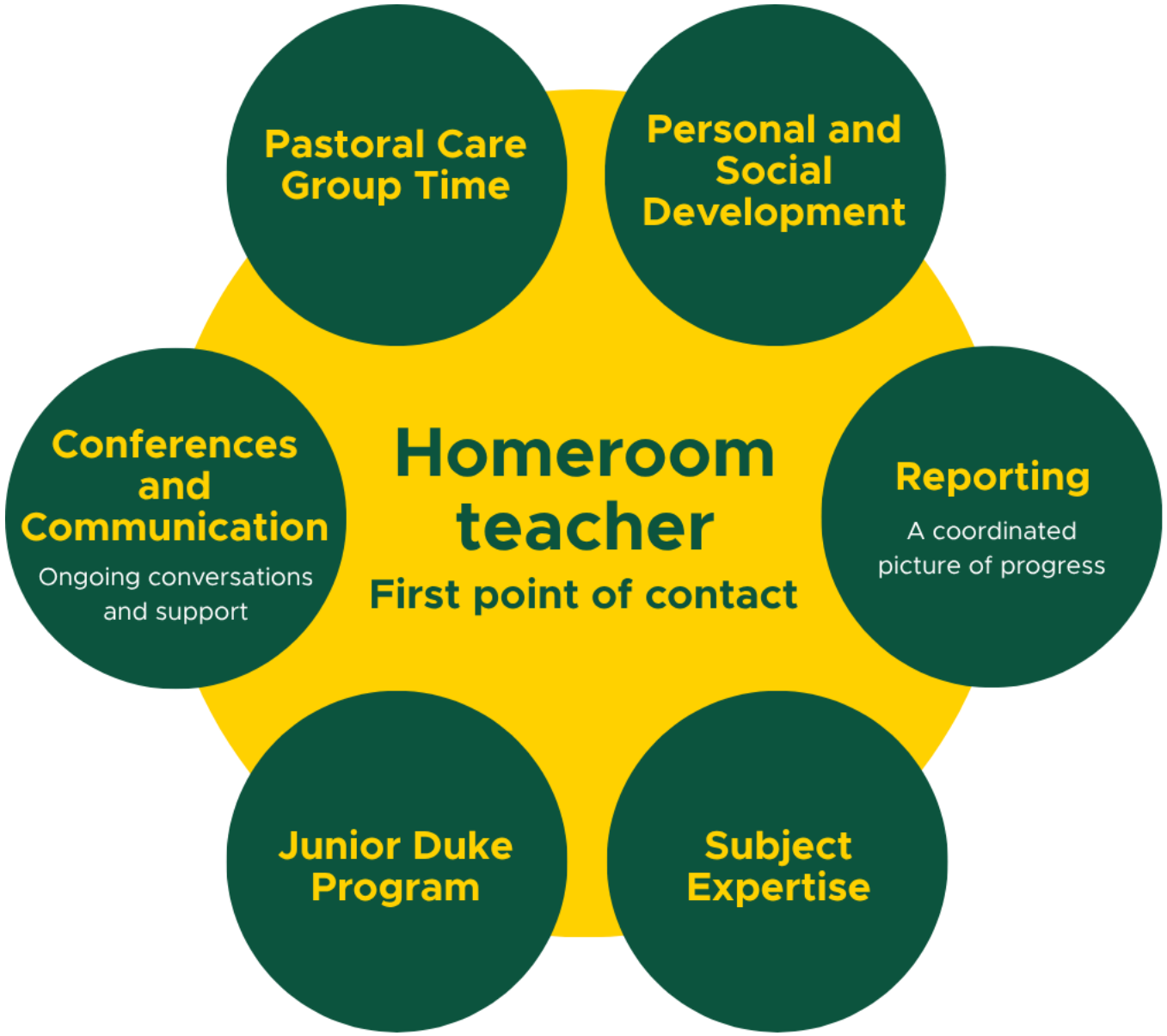
Thinking deeply
- Inquiry, critical thinking, problem-solving and reflection

Learning with others
- Communication, collaboration and constructive feedback

Working independently
- Organisation, preparation, self-management and responsibility

Communicating confidently
- Expressing ideas, listening actively, asking for help and responding to feedback

Role of Homeroom teacher



Bringing the Model to Life

Mr Damien Marshall
Director of Junior School

Skills for School and Life



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Questions?

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