

Clayfield College – Junior School

Meet the Leadership Team and Specialist Teachers 2026



Clayfield College

Let your light **shine**



Clayfield College

**BEST
OF**

BOTH
WORLDS

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Damien Marshall

Director of Junior School

Program

- Acknowledgement of Country
- Principal's Welcome
- Welcome to the 2026 School Year
- Junior School Leadership Team introduction
- Purpose: warm welcome, overview of key process, and our strengthened communication pathway

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Dr Andrew Cousins
Principal



OUR VALUES



CARE



INTEGRITY



RESILIENCE



RESPECT



OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS





Senior Leadership Team



Dr Andrew Cousins
Principal



Mrs Lakshmi Mohan
Deputy Principal



Mr Damien Marshall
Director of Junior School



Mrs Natasha Podoliak
Director of Senior School



Rev Paul Yarrow
College Chaplain



Mrs Kathryn Searle
Director of Boarding



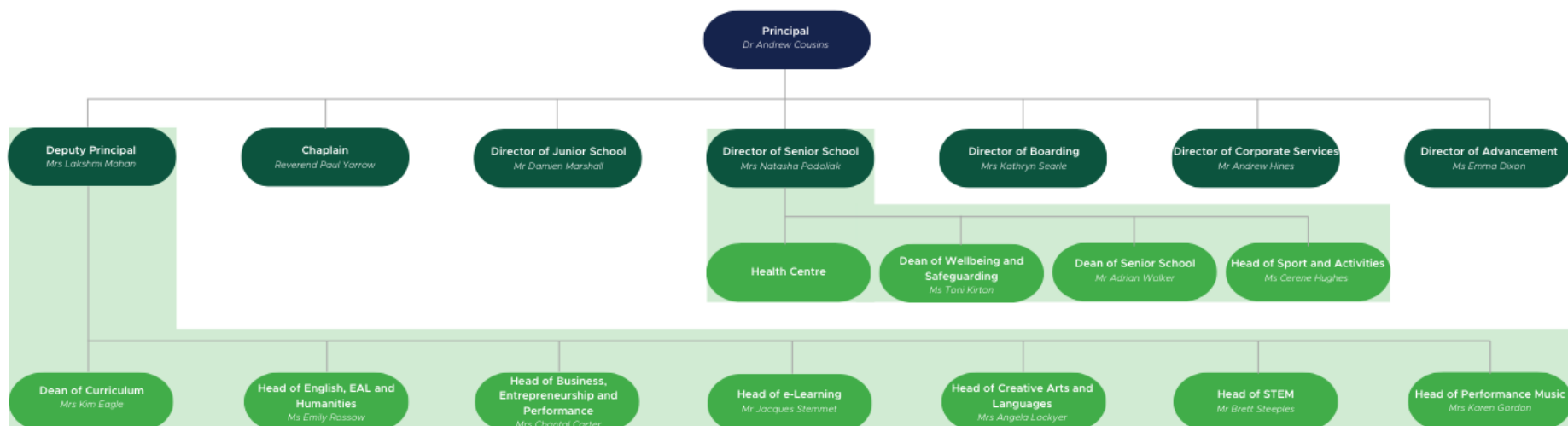
Mr Andrew Hines
Director of Corporate Services



Ms Emma Dixon
Director of Advancement

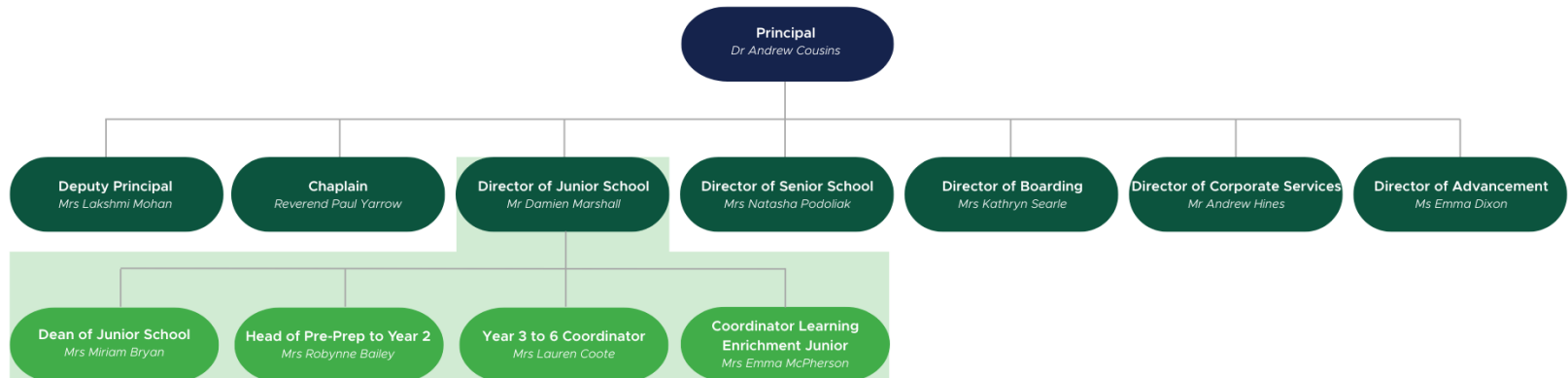


2026 Senior School Structure





2026 Junior School Structure



The background is a dark teal color. It features several diagonal stripes of a lighter teal shade running from the top right towards the bottom left. Additionally, there are several rounded, horizontal bars of the same lighter teal color scattered across the background, some overlapping the stripes. At the very bottom of the image, there is a thin horizontal band with a repeating diagonal hatched pattern in a bright green color.

Damien Marshall

Director of Junior School

Our Vision: Let Your Light Shine

- Nurturing the whole child: academic, social, emotional, spiritual
- Strong partnership between home and school
- Safe, inclusive, values-driven learning community



2026 Junior School Priorities

- High-quality, consistent learning environments
- Literacy and numeracy progress for every student
- Student voice, agency, and belonging
- Strengthening communication pathways with parents
- Enriching co-curricular engagement

Junior School Leadership Team

Damien Marshall
Director of Junior
School



- Leads all Junior School operations, staff and programs
- Sets the vision, culture and strategic direction
- Oversees enrolments and family engagement
- Ensures high-quality learning and wellbeing across all year levels

Miriam Bryan
Dean of Junior School



- Leads curriculum, teaching and learning (Pre-Prep – Year 6)
- Oversees pastoral care programs across the Junior School
- Manages daily staffing and supervision
- Coordinates assemblies, events and enrichment programs

Robynne Bailey
Pre-Prep – Year 2
Leader



- Oversees Early Years teaching teams
- Leads wellbeing and behaviour support (PP – Year 2)
- Supports curriculum, assessment and transitions
- Works closely with families and manages Early Years compliance

Lauren Coote
Years 3 – 6 Leader



- Oversees Years 3–6 teaching teams
- Leads wellbeing and behaviour support (Years 3–6)
- Coordinates key programs, camps and events
- Oversees NAPLAN and other assessments; manages online learning tools

Partnering With Parents and Communication

Our intended approach



Step 1

Classroom (or Specialist) Teacher

Day-to-day questions, learning updates, minor concerns, general questions related to the class.

Step 2

Sectional Leaders

Pre-Prep – Year 2: Robynne Bailey
Years 3–6: Lauren Coote

Ongoing patterns, wellbeing, operational queries, general questions related to the school.

Step 3

Senior Leaders

Damien Marshall (Director of Junior School) or Miriam Bryan (Dean of Junior School)

Significant or unresolved matters

Class WhatsApp Groups

- Currently being established — seeking more class representatives.
- WhatsApp group created for each class (parent-run, independent of the College).
- Positive, friendly communication expected; Parent Code of Conduct applies.
1–2 volunteers per class for year-round coordination.
- Role includes organising low key social events, coordinating teacher gifts, and keeping the WhatApps groups running smoothly.
- Support for Class Parent Coordinators: A handbook with guidelines and helpful tips will be provided to all class coordinators to assist with the role and streamline coordination tasks.
- Questions about the role? Contact Katie Kennedy (P&F Year Level Parent Coordinator) at 0423 271 072.
- Interested? Please complete the registration form by Friday 6th February 2026.



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Miriam Bryan

Dean of Junior School

Learning in the Junior School

- Balanced Literacy and Numeracy approach
- Inquiry-based learning
- Differentiation: Learning Support & Extension
- Specialist subject areas
- Assessment and reporting



Wellbeing and Pastoral Care

- Whole-school wellbeing model (Teachers, Heads of Section, Learning Support, Counsellors, Chaplaincy)
- Positive Behaviour Framework with restorative practice
- Respectful relationships & emotional literacy are explicitly taught
- If your child needs support: contact the classroom teacher first; Wellbeing Team can assist with transitions, separation and social skills



Meet Our Specialist Teachers

Subject	Teachers	Year Level/s
Chinese	Cassie Li	Years 1 – 6
Christian Education	Emma McPherson Robynne Bailey Tanya Mathias	Prep Years 1 – 4 Years 5 - 6
Design Technology	Lauren Coote	Years 5 - 6
Digital Technology	Hannah O'Brien Justin Reedy	Year 5 Year 6
Drama	Lauren Coote	Year 6
Entrepreneurship	Chantal Carter	Year 5
Food Technology	Rebecca McGuinness	Years 5 - 6
Health and Physical Education	Peta Richardson Esther San Miguel & Emily Baigrie Tim O'Rourke Jon Woods Noah Castellaro	Prep – Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Years 5 - 6 Year 6
Library	Avalon Banfield	Pre-Prep - Year 6
Learning Enrichment and Extension	Emma McPherson	Pre-Prep – Year 6
Music	Alessandra Kiehne Kim Crawford Karen Gordon	Pre-Prep – Prep; Years 2-6 Year 1 Year 3 (strings)
Spanish	Cecilia Mansilla Estefania Carrasco	Pre-Prep - Year 6 Years 3 - 6
Visual Art	Perrie Bourke	Year 1 - 6
Junior School Sports Coordinator	Amy Lewin	NA

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Robynne Bailey

Head of Pre-Prep – Year 2

Attendance – Short-Term Absences

- Log absences before 8:20am via the College App
- If the App is unavailable, email studentservices@clayfield.qld.edu.au with full name and class (e.g. Year 1A)
- If neither option is possible, phone Reception (App/email preferred in mornings)
- For short planned absences (appointments), log these ahead of time via the App
- Do not rely solely on teacher emails/diaries for official recording
- Arriving after 8:30am: sign in at College Reception
- Leaving early: collect and sign out at College Reception

Attendance – Long-term / Planned Leave

- Exceptional personal circumstances may require leave; family holidays in term are strongly discouraged
- For absences of 3+ days: email absences@clayfield.qld.edu.au with the completed *Absence Request Form*
- Requests reviewed by Director of Junior School and recorded as authorised/unauthorised
- For unauthorised absences, teachers will not provide alternative/catch-up work
- All absences are documented in your child's report card

Uniform and Sun Safety

- Formal uniform (Prep–Year 6) on designated days
- Sports uniform on specialist lesson days
- Hat always worn outdoors (No Hat, No Play)
- Hair tied back and off the face
- Apply sunscreen at home; sunscreen available in classrooms; hats required for all outdoor activities
- Full guidelines provided in Welcome Back communications

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Lauren Coote

Years 3 – 6 Coordinator

School Day Timings (Prep–Year 6)

- **Supervision begins:** 7:30am (LRC)
- **Playground supervision:** 8:00am
- **First bell:** 8:25am
- **Roll marked:** 8:30am
- **Morning tea:** 10:20–10:40am
- **Lunch:** 12:50–1:30pm
- **End of Day**
 - **Prep–Year 2:** 3:00pm
 - **Years 3–6:** 3:10pm
- **Junior School After-School Club (LRC)**
 - **Year 1-3:** 4:30pm
 - **Years 4–6:** 5:00pm

Arrival & Pick-up Procedures

- **Morning drop-off**

- Pre-Prep: parents sign in/out; no parking beside the centre gate
- Prep–Year 6: Circular Drive or park and walk; gates open 8:00am

- **Afternoon pick-up**

- Pre-Prep: 2:30–3:00pm from classroom (not Circular Drive/Bayview Terrace)
- Prep–Year 2: 3:05–3:20pm Circular Drive (younger families prioritised – family name plate for new families coming shortly)
- Years 3–6: 3:15–3:30pm Bayview Terrace (Years 3–6 only) or Circular Drive (if with younger siblings/family preference)

NOTE: Prep Centre car park is for the exclusive use of OSHC and is not to be used for student drop-off and pick-up.

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Amy Lewin

Junior School Sports Coordinator

Andrews Cup and Britton Shield

- The College App is the primary method of communication about sporting activities
- Contact: Amy Lewin Alewin@clayfield.qld.edu.au
- Britton Shield: Swimming, Touch Football, Tennis, Cross Country, Football, AFL, Basketball, Aquathlon, Cricket
- Andrews Cup: Swimming, Touch Football, Tennis, Cross Country, Netball, Athletics, Football, AFL, Artistic Gymnastics, Basketball

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Miriam Bryan

Dean of Junior School

Co-Curricular Opportunities

- Lunchtime clubs and interest groups
- Music ensembles and performances
- After School Activities

Looking forward

- Fortnightly assemblies – Tuesday B weeks
- Parent-teacher conferences (17 – 19 March)
- Access to resources & contacts (Parent Lounge / College App)
- Excellent Start Workshop for parents of students in Prep – Year 1 (Tuesday 3 March)



Clayfield College

The Clayfield College P&F Association invites all parents and caregivers to their Welcome Evening to celebrate the start of the 2026 school year.

P&F

Welcome Evening

Friday 6 February 2026

5:30pm to 7:30pm

Clayfield College Chapel Courtyard

Refreshments will be provided by our P&F Association to all new and continuing families.

Please RSVP by Sunday 1 February 2026

<https://bit.ly/4oSdPiy>



Questions



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