



Admissions FAQs

Q. What is your enrolment process?

Step 1

We would encourage all families interested in enrolling at Cornish College, to attend one of our school tours.

Step 2

Complete and submit an *Application for Enrolment* form, which is on the Cornish College website under the Enrolments tab. A copy of your child's birth certificate, last school report and NAPLAN test results is also required. A non-refundable *Application Fee* of \$100 is payable upon submission of the *Application for Enrolment* form.

Step 3

Upon receipt of your completed *Application for Enrolment* form, your child's name will be added to the waitlist of those seeking entry in the preferred year(s) and the year level(s).

Step 4

Taking into consideration that admission is subject to availability of places, gender balance and waitlist position, parents and prospective students may be invited to attend an enrolment interview with a senior member of our teaching team.

Step 5

Following the enrolment interview, a formal *Letter of Offer* may be given. Payment of a non-refundable \$1,000 *Admission Fee* and signed acceptance of the College's *Terms of Business* will be required by the date nominated on the *Letter of Offer*, to secure your child's place.

Q. If I submit an *Application for Enrolment*, does that mean my child has a place at Cornish College?

A. Submitting an *Application for Enrolment* for your child formally registers your interest in Cornish College, but does not guarantee a place. Several factors impact on whether a place can be offered including (1) the availability of places at the required year level (2) the gender balance in that year level and (3) the fit between the student and the learning environment at Cornish College.

Q. How early do I need to enrol my child to get a place?

A. We recommend submitting the *Application for Enrolment* as early as possible and many parents enrol their children soon after birth. Progression through the enrolment process is in the order in which applications are received.

Q. What is a waitlist and how does it work?

A. If no places are available for your preferred entry year and year level, your child's application can be placed on a waitlist, which means that they will be offered a place if/when a place becomes available. Our waitlists are impacted by the changing situations of current and new families, so they are not static lists. As soon as a place becomes available, we will contact you to discuss a starting date for your child at the College.

Q. Can my child be waitlisted for more than one year level?

A. If your *Application for Enrolment* indicates some flexibility regarding the year level at which you would like your child to commence at the College, the enrolment process will be conducted with a view to these multiple options. This approach maximises the chances of being offered a place.

Q. What classes are the main intake years?

A. New students are welcome to commence at Cornish College at any year level, depending on the availability of places. However, the largest intake of students occurs in our Early Learning Centre (3 year olds), Prep and Year 7, although there is also a significant intake in Year 4.

Q. Are you a selective school?

A. Our enrolment and interview process ensures that there is a good fit between a student and their learning environment at the College. Therefore, a range of factors is considered when offering places at the school, including academic results.

Q. Are you a school that pursues academic excellence?

A. We are a school that sets high expectations for all our students. We value academic excellence in partnership with the holistic development of the learner and encourage all students to achieve their personal best.

Q. What extension/support programs do you offer?

A. Our school has a comprehensive student services team, providing programs for extension and enrichment along with programs for additional support.

Q. How many students per class and how many classes per year level?

A. In the Early Learning Centre we have a maximum of 22 places for three and four year-olds. From Prep to Year 3, there are a maximum of 22 students per class. From Year 4 to Year 6 we have two classes per year level with a maximum number of 26 students in each class. From Year 7 onwards we have three classes per year level with 20-26 students per class. An increase in enrolment numbers for Year 7 in 2020 have necessitated an increase to four classes for that year.

Q. Does Cornish College teach Religious Education and, if so, is it a compulsory subject?

A. Religious Education is included in the curriculum with a focus on values and spirituality. Through our Religious Education classes, we encourage understanding and acceptance of all religions, cultures and beliefs. Religious Education is a compulsory subject up to and including Year 7.

Q. You are associated with the Uniting Church, but do you accept other religious denominations?

A. We accept students of all faiths and also those who have no particular faith.

Q. Are there other costs besides the school fees?

A. School fees include the cost of all camps and incursions/excursions offered as part of the curriculum, except for the Year 6 camp to Canberra, which incurs a cost.

Additional costs include uniform, books and stationery required for each year level (except Prep – Year 4), an iPad for primary students and a MacBook for students from Year 7 onwards.

Our international programs also incur an additional cost. These include the Make A Difference Experience to Thailand, Cambodia or Laos (part of the Year 9 curriculum), Timor Leste IMPACCT program (offered to Years 11 & 12 students) and cultural exchanges to Japan and France.

Q. Do you offer scholarships other than Academic Scholarships?

A. We offer Academic Scholarships to students entering Years 7 and 10. Scholarship testing is undertaken by an independent organisation, the Australian Council for Educational Research, and the results submitted to the school.

Q. What sports can my child participate in at Cornish College?

A. Cornish College offers a range of sports to students including AFL, soccer, basketball, swimming, athletics and netball. Short-term programs offered through the Physical Education and Sport curriculum have included fencing, sailing and yoga. Programs offered outside school hours include golf, sport climbing, tennis, cheerleading and running.

We are part of the Southern Independent Schools network (secondary) and the Kingston District Sports Association (primary) and participate in regular sporting competitions with other schools. These interschool competitions take place during the week.

Q. Do you have Saturday sport?

A. We are not a Saturday sport school, as we believe that weekends are important times for families.

Q. What disciplinary action does the school take, if required?

A. Our school adopts a restorative practices approach to student behaviour and wellbeing. This involves the parties involved working through and addressing issues together, guided and supported by a member of our Academic Care team. We consider a triangulated approach to disciplinary action that may involve punitive outcomes, the opportunity to educate and the responsibility to repair harm.

Q. What does Academic Care mean?

A. At Cornish College, we understand that academic progress and pastoral care are inextricably linked. Students need to be well supported and cared for, within the context of their academic preferences and abilities.

Academic Care is the term we use to describe our support program and we have nominated Academic Care leaders at each year level. We know that academic potential is achieved through personal and emotional growth.