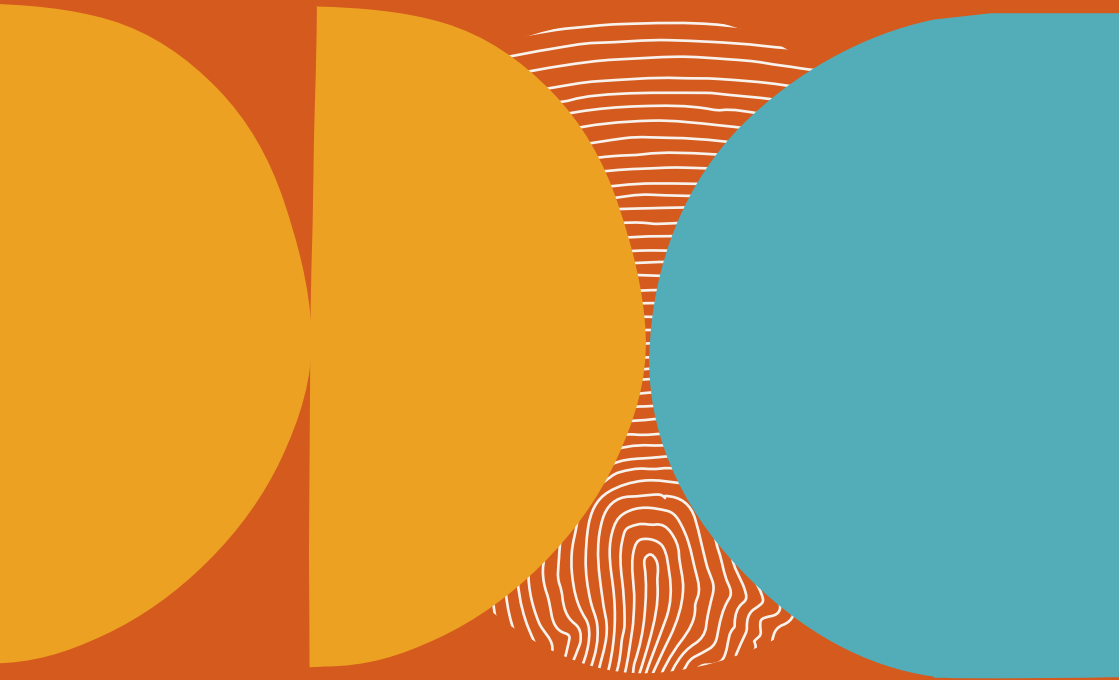




St Philip's Christian College

Dynamic Learning

Prospectus





A Message From The Principal

St Philip's Christian College, Dynamic Learning is an exciting part of the vision and mission for St Philip's Christian College. At Dynamic Learning College we believe that God has a plan and a purpose for every single child and that each of them has a unique destiny to make our world a better place.

At Dynamic Learning College we look for the treasure in every child. We want to develop in them an awareness of their own value and purpose.

Dynamic Learning College is a special school which caters for children with diagnosed mental health disorders, learning difficulties and/or ASD (Level 1 & 2). We teach in a more holistic manner than in a mainstream school. Each class has a core Teacher, who provides an interdisciplinary model of teaching.

All children have an Individual Plan and our classes are taught in stage classes of up to 16 students. Most classes have a Learning and Wellbeing Assistant to support the students with emotional regulation and to help students with additional learning needs.

Dynamic Learning College is the optimal environment to fulfil our mission to provide quality education in a caring, secure and challenging learning environment based on Christian beliefs, values and practices.

We would love you to pay us a visit at any of our campuses, where you can meet our dedicated staff and see our students at work and play in their learning environment.

Mrs Alison Warran
Principal

Our History

St Philip's Christian College commenced as a parish ministry in 1982 at St Philip's Anglican Church in the Newcastle suburb of Waratah. With two teachers and 41 students during the first year; the facilities were comprised of renovated areas of the parish halls.

The College became independent of the church in 1984 when St Philip's Christian Education Foundation Ltd was formed. The College family now encompasses six schools in Newcastle, Port Stephens, Cessnock, Gosford and Wyong, and caters to over 4500 students from Pre-Kindergarten to Tertiary Learning, employing over 800 teaching and support staff.

DYNAMIC LEARNING COLLEGE

St Philip's Christian College DALE (Dynamic Alternative Learning Environment) was established in 1997 through the vision of the Executive Principal of the St Philip's Christian Education Foundation Ltd who own and operate the group of schools. In 2023 the name was changed to Dynamic Learning College.

Dynamic Learning College offers a small school environment with a higher staff to student ratio and smaller class sizes giving many young people, a greater sense of security and belonging.

Initially, Dynamic Learning College was located solely in Newcastle. The Gosford and Cessnock Campuses opened in 2012 and the Port Stephens Campus in 2022.

Dynamic Learning College stems from the mission of St Philip's to provide quality education in a caring, secure and challenging learning environment based on Christian beliefs, values and practice.

By cultivating an environment where all students feel valued, Dynamic Learning College creates a setting where students love coming to school and have the opportunity to fulfill their God given potential.





Our Mission

St Philip's Christian College will continue to provide quality education in a caring, secure and challenging learning environment based on Christian beliefs, values and practice.

Our Core Values

Christ First

We want to honour Christ in all things.

Serve One Another

We want to appreciate the unique God-given potential of each person.

Strive For Excellence

We want to aim to do our very best all the time.

Do What Is Right

We want to always behave in a Christian manner.

Build Community

We want everyone to feel they belong.

Discover the Dynamic Learning Difference

At Dynamic Learning College, we've created a tailored learning program designed to enhance student engagement and educational outcomes for children and young people with a diagnosis of Anxiety, Depression, PTSD, and/or Autism (Level 1 & 2).

Our mission is to nurture our students' growth, empowering them for a lifetime of success. As pioneers in special education, we use evidence-informed methodologies that ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive – celebrating their unique strengths in a safe, supportive, and Christ-centred environment.

OUR EMPOWERING APPROACH

Our experienced staff implement evidence-based strategies customised to the needs of each learner.

The Dynamic Learning difference is reflected in our purposeful structure of the school day - known as the Dynamic Day.

Designed to support students impacted by chronic stress, trauma, or learning difficulties, the Dynamic Day includes elements like Morning Movement, Devotions, structured check-ins, brain breaks, and reset strategies - all working together to help students feel safe, focused, and ready to learn.

We also incorporate a unique wellbeing initiative called MxThx. Rooted in Christian values, MxThx encourages students to develop daily habits of gratitude - expressing thankfulness to God and to others through small, meaningful moments in class, Chapel, or with peers. It's one of the many ways we build a positive school culture grounded in hope, honour, and purpose.

OUR CLASSES

We offer stage-based classes with a maximum of 16 students per class, aligned with the NSW Curriculum:

Stage 2: Years 3 and 4

Stage 3: Years 5 and 6

Stage 4: Years 7 and 8

Stage 5: Years 9 and 10

Stage 6: Years 11 and 12

OUR LEARNING

Each class has a core teacher who delivers the NSW curriculum in an engaging, accessible way. We use the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework to meet diverse needs, supported by individual learning plans, Learning and Wellbeing Assistants, and Learning Support Teachers.

Lessons follow the "I do, we do, you do" model - helping students move from instruction to guided practice, and then to independent application. We do not set homework, as we recognise that many families have after-school responsibilities and commitments. Assessment tasks are completed during class time.

OUR WELLBEING

With a high staff-to-student ratio, we create a positive, structured environment where students feel valued and supported. Daily check-ins, led by our Chaplain and Wellbeing team, help students reflect on who they are, how they relate to others, and how they find purpose - ultimately pointing them to God.

FOR THE WHOLE OF LIFE

We expand learning beyond the classroom through community partnerships, service learning, industry collaboration, and work placements for senior students. Students from across each DLC campuses combine for camps, sporting carnivals and social events to foster community. Graduates receive a non-ATAR HSC and valuable VET qualifications - many of which support university pathways. Our strengths-based approach aims to support and guide students to make informed decisions as they prepare to transition to post-school training and employment on graduation.

What Makes Us Different?

Staff-Student Ratio:
Ensuring ample individualised care.



Flexible Seating:
Adaptable spaces to optimise learning environments.



Smaller Classes:
Fostering personalised attention and engagement.



Reset Time (Brain Breaks):
Strategic pauses for mental rejuvenation.



No Homework:
Emphasising a balanced life beyond school hours.



Dual Qualifications:
Offering dual qualifications for all HSC students.



Learning & Wellbeing Assistants:
Dedicated support for educational and emotional needs.



Wellbeing Dogs:
Canine Wellbeing Assistant for emotional support at some campuses.



No Examinations:
Fostering stress-free learning and assessment.





Cessnock Campus

Located in the heart of the beautiful Hunter Valley, Dynamic Learning College Cessnock Campus provides purpose built learning spaces and outside sensory gardens.

The Cessnock site was established in 2012 and has developed into a vibrant and spacious campus. It is a close, friendly, community where staff love empowering our students to learn in a way that complements their individual learning style.

Sitting on the grounds of the St Philip's Christian College Cessnock main campus, students have access to the extensive facilities available including the Activate Sports Centre, and state of the art Trade Training Centre.



Gosford Campus

In 2012, Dynamic Learning College Gosford commenced its journey from modest origins. By 2020, it proudly unveiled a modern and cutting-edge building, designed to empower students in their educational pursuits.

Crafted with an unwavering focus on our students' sensory requirements, the structure stands as a tailored haven for learning. Purpose-built, it boasts specialised acoustics, customisable lighting, direct outdoor

access from every classroom, and a large, tiered learning centre providing space for group gatherings and organised activities during breaks.

The Gosford campus shares a strong rapport with the main campus, providing our students with access to facilities like the library, state-of-the-art kitchens for Hospitality and the gym which is utilised during Sport & PE lessons.



Port Stephens Campus

Opened in January 2022, the Port Stephens Campus of Dynamic Learning College moved into a newly fitted, purpose-designed building in early 2025, featuring a dedicated Innovation Hub for Creative and Technology subjects.

Nestled along the beautiful coastline of Port Stephens, the Dynamic Learning College is located within the stunning grounds of Port Stephens main campus.

This location allows our students access to all of Port Stephens main campus facilities, including specialist classrooms, the Chris Walkling Theatre, Library, gym and sporting facilities.

The Port Stephens campus is very much a part of the larger College community. Our students enjoy involvement in College events and interaction with students from the main campus.



Newcastle Campus

The Newcastle Campus opened its doors in 1997, moving into the site of the original Waratah Public School built in 1864. Dynamic Learning College opened as a Dynamic Alternative Learning Environment (DALE) originally catering for students from Year 7 to 10. Over time, its student body has expanded to include Years 3 to 12. Our Newcastle site is situated within beautifully restored historic buildings, conveniently close to the heart of Newcastle.

The Newcastle Campus is undergoing a period of revitalisation with building and grounds upgrades. Our outdoor spaces are thoughtfully designed to provide students with opportunities for enriched learning experiences.

Our Newcastle location also offers our students easy access to a wide range of local area amenities. They have the opportunity to venture off-campus to explore various outdoor venues such as local beaches, Glenrock Recreation Area, and Blackbutt Reserve.

Our proximity to the Young Parents College allows for collaborative campus events and provides our students with opportunities for valuable work experience at the Narnia Early Learning Centre.

The Newcastle Campus prides itself on being a warm and welcoming community. When you visit, you're likely to receive a friendly welcome from Gracie, our beloved wellbeing dog.

Enrolment

Students who attend Dynamic Learning College must provide current documentary evidence of a diagnosis of Anxiety, Depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or Autism (Level 1 & 2).

Documentation must be provided to assess the suitability of each student.

INITIAL ENQUIRY

Enrolment enquiries can be made by contacting our Registrar on 02 4949 2929 who will assist parents/carers to complete the enrolment enquiry form.

SUBMITTING THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The Registrar will work with parents/carers to obtain the supporting documentation required to confirm enrolment criteria is met.

APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT

Once enrolment criteria is confirmed parents/carers complete an Enrolment Application. A tour of the school can also be arranged. A non-refundable Application Fee is payable when submitting an Enrolment Application.

INTERVIEW

Prospective students and their parents/carers then attend an interview with the Head of Campus.

OBSERVATION

After the meeting with the Head of Campus, an observation at the child's current school, Dynamic Learning campus or both completes the enrolment application process.

OFFER OF ENROLMENT

The enrolment application and observations will be reviewed, and the family advised if a position will be offered.





Explore

CESSNOCK CAMPUS

10 Lomas Lane, Nulkaba, NSW 2325

GOSFORD CAMPUS

20 Narara Creek Road, Narara, NSW 2250

PORT STEPHENS CAMPUS

182 Salamander Way, Salamander Bay NSW 2317

NEWCASTLE CAMPUS

98 Georgetown Road, Waratah NSW 2298



Dynamic Learning College

FOR THE WHOLE OF LIFE

Cessnock | Gosford | Newcastle | Port Stephens

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