MOUNT STROMLO HIGH SCHOOL

Prospectus

Providing a Quality Education for Every Child
Stromaz

Mascot of Stromlo High School
He wears black and white too!

Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

Stromaz mini friends go to camp and on excursions everywhere!
From the Principal Dr Michael Kindler

Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

What do you see when you look through YOUR telescope?
The donation of a Dobsonian telescope from the ANU Mt Stromlo Research Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics allows our students to see more clearly.

Telescopes are powerful enough to look back in time to where stars once were. To observe forces strong enough to form planets. The clearer our vision is, the clearer our understanding can be. By understanding how the past and present came about, we can better forge pathways and shape our future. Be the change you wish to see in the world (Mahatma Gandhi).

Mount Stromlo High School is a coeducational comprehensive public high school providing a quality education for every student from Year 7 to and including Year 10 in the Weston Creek area of Canberra. Learning in the 21st Century is anywhere, anytime, and Mount Stromlo is leading digital learning in the nation’s capital to enable students to create their own futures.

The Student Voice is heard through an active SRC, with student leaders elected to represent the school. Students participate in a range of teacher-led outdoor interstate excursions and to Europe and Asia. Mount Stromlo has a differentiated approach to individual learning needs. Graduates from Mount Stromlo go on to lead rewarding and fulfilling lives.
The Arts & Technology

Visual & Performing Arts, Design & Technology, Food Studies, Textiles and Information Technology

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Overview
The Arts and Technology elective program at Mount Stromlo High School provides students with experience and skills in a range of settings. The Arts help students develop a means of self-expression, encouraging personal growth through the empowerment of using different forms of communication. Through the development of imagination and creativity, students learn to tell their stories to the world. Exposure to the Arts allows students to explore and understand their experience and students become enriched cultural and critical participants in society. Our Technology program aims to provide students with engaging learning opportunities in practical learning environments helping students become life-long learners. To achieve this, students are exposed to a model of learning that embraces the concepts of design, make and appraise – an approach that aims to encourage students to plan, experiment, test and reflect upon the development and manufacturing processes.

Arts Events
There are multiple performance opportunities for students in all areas of the Arts. Each year we hold auditions for our end of year show ‘StromFest’ which is held over two nights at the Canberra College Theatre. Dance students perform in the ACT Dance Festival each year at the Canberra Theatre. Drama students perform in a range of productions and events including the Fast ‘n’ Fresh Festival, StromShow - the traveling drama production open to students in Years 7-10 and the Annual Year 10 Acting Techniques performance. Music Students in the Concert and Jazz Bands perform at local school fetes, school assemblies, Floriade, open nights, graduation and the Music Soiree. Photography and Art students display their work around the school, at school events and there is a major Art exhibition at ‘StromFest’ each year.

Year 7/8 Arts and Technology Rotation
This program gives students the opportunity to experience Visual and Performing Arts and a number of Technology subjects. Over the course of two years students will rotate through a range of electives to develop basic skills and knowledge in 8 different elective areas; Visual Arts, Dance, Music, Drama, Woodwork & Metalwork, Food Studies, Textiles and Information Technology. There is also the opportunity for students to elect the Year 7 Extension Music Program, for a term of study which is an intensive music unit aimed at students with prior music experience.

Performing Arts – Years 9 & 10
Dance, Drama and Music
In Years 9 and 10 students have the option to elect to continue their study from a range of electives in the Performing Arts in both Years 9 & 10. Many leadership and extension opportunities are offered in Performing Arts as Year 10 students with a keen interest in drama are encouraged to audition for the Acting Techniques class to be part of the annual drama production and those seeking a leadership role within dance are encouraged to join the Dance Festival production class to choreograph the school entry to the festival. Students who wish to be part of a music performance in both an organising and performing role can elect the Music Industry Basics class who run our annual Music Soiree.

Visual Arts – Years 8, 9 & 10
Art, Photography and Media
The Art program in Years 7 and 8 gives a taster to the Visual Arts courses at Mount Stromlo and students are able to choose many varied electives in years 9 and 10 such as Painting, Drawing, Ceramics, Printmaking and Sculpture. Students can commence studies in Photography in semester 2 of Year 8 as an elective to replace further study of a language. Units such as Digital Photography and Graphic Design are offered as
elective units in Years 9 and 10. The Graphic Design elective provides opportunities to contribute to the design of the school magazine. Media Production and Film making may be chosen as electives in Years 9 and 10. In these electives students have the opportunity to develop skills in video camera operation and audio recording as well as script writing, editing footage for broadcasting television style programs. Film Making focuses on developing these skills further in order to produce short films.

**Design & Technology**
Woodwork is very popular at Mount Stromlo and is a core unit for Year 7/8 rotation. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of design, wood working techniques and safety. They are exposed to the practical environment and given the opportunity to develop their skills using a variety of hand tools and machinery. In Year 8 students can elect to complete a semester of Design and Technology to replace continuing study of a language. Whilst the majority of the work in this subject makes use of wood as the primary material, students get the opportunity to work with metal as well. In Years 9 and 10, students will expand on what they have learnt in Years 7 and 8. Courses offered cover areas such as 3D printing, and various Metalwork and Woodwork disciplines such as furniture making, carpentry, welding, machining and decorative metalwork.

**Food Studies**
In the Year 7/8 rotation, students will complete a unit in Food Studies, where they will prepare, cook and serve a variety of simple and delicious dishes. This will form a sound basis for further studies in Years 9 and 10. Students will also gain an understanding of hygiene, safety, recipe terminology, serving and presentation techniques. Year 8 will provide another opportunity for students to prepare and cook with a semester course also being offered in lieu of continuing study of a language. In Years 9 and 10 students can elect to complete a diverse range of Food Studies courses that will develop and consolidate their skills. There is an emphasis placed on nutrition, the importance of food in society, and developing independence. There is also a hospitality course for students interested in career opportunities in this sector. Courses offered in food studies cover areas such international cuisine, healthy cooking, baking, entertaining and hospitality.

**Textiles**
In the Year 7/8 rotation students study textiles as an introductory course. Students will learn how to sew using sewing machines and overlockers and will prepare simple textile items. In Years 9 and 10 a variety of elective choices will be available to further develop students’ creativity in textiles. This will provide students an opportunity to develop an understanding of fabric use and appreciate functional and aesthetic aspects of design. These units focus on fashion and design, creative textiles, and working with fabric

**Information Technology**
In the Year 7/8 rotation, students complete an introductory IT unit that aims at familiarising students with the fundamental IT principles required for further study. It also introduces some programming and design fundamentals. When students commence Years 9 and 10 they are presented with the opportunity to participate in a variety of courses that are bound to cater for all students’ interests and capabilities. These include web design, programming and games development. They also develop an understanding of how IT affects our society, and the future implications these changes have on the way we live and interact with our world.

We always aim to offer a broad range of elective subjects in the Arts and Technology but the range of subjects on offer at any time is highly dependent on teacher expertise and enrolment numbers at the school in each year group.

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Jo Power  
Arts & Technology Executive Teacher  
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English

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Overview
The study of English is central to the learning and development of all young Australians. It helps create confident communicators, imaginative thinkers and informed citizens. It is through the study of English that individuals learn to analyse, understand, communicate with and build relationships with others and with the world around them.

Year 7 - 10
The English curriculum is built around the three interrelated strands of Language, Literature and Literacy. Teaching and learning programs should balance and integrate all three strands. Together the strands focus on developing students’ knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking, writing and creating. Learning in English builds on concepts, skills and processes developed in earlier years, and teachers will revisit and strengthen these as needed.

Students interact with peers, teachers, individuals, groups and community members in a range of face-to-face and online/virtual environments. They experience learning in both familiar and unfamiliar contexts that relate to the school curriculum, local community, regional and global contexts.

Students engage with a variety of texts for enjoyment. They listen to, read, view, interpret, evaluate and perform a range of spoken, written and multimodal texts in which the primary purpose is aesthetic, as well as texts designed to inform and persuade.

Students are placed in mixed ability groupings based on extensive consultation with their primary school literacy teachers. Opportunities are provided for students who are achieving in English above their cohort with extension classes that cover the same range of topics at a greater depth.

EAL/D (English as an Additional Language/Dialect)
The EAL/D program assists students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to become competent users of English as it is spoken and written in Australia. The EAL/D program at Mount Stromlo High School is a flexible one, focusing on language across the curriculum. Students are supported individually and in small groups to develop the skills and confidence for successful participation in their classes and in Australian society.

Rebecca Cusick
Executive Teacher English and Humanities
Email: rebecca.cusick@ed.act.edu.au
History
All students in 7-10 undertake a semester of History. Further History is also offered as an elective in Year 9 and 10.

History is a disciplined process of inquiry into the past that develops students' curiosity and imagination. Awareness of history is an essential characteristic of any society, and historical knowledge is fundamental to understanding ourselves and others. It promotes the understanding of societies, events, movements and developments that have shaped humanity from earliest times. It helps students appreciate how the world and its people have changed, as well as the significant continuities that exist to the present day.

Geography
All students in Years 7 & 8 undertake one semester of Geography. Geography is offered as an elective subject in Years 9 & 10.

Geography is a structured way of exploring, analysing and understanding the characteristics of the places that make up our world, using the concepts of place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale and change. It addresses scales from the personal to the global and time periods from a few years to thousands of years.

Geography integrates knowledge from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities to build a holistic understanding of the world. Students learn to question why the world is the way it is, reflect on their relationships with and responsibilities for that world, and propose actions designed to shape a socially just and sustainable future.

(The Australian Curriculum: Geography)

Other Elective Units (one semester) – A selection of these will be offered in second semester to Years 9 and 10.
Business & Economics Courses:
Year 9 Business and Economics
Year 10 Business and Economics

Civics & Citizenship Courses:
Year 10 People, Power & Politics ‘Legal Studies & Democracy in Action’

History Electives:
Ancient History – for students with an interest in Ancient History.
Depth studies currently include Ancient India, Greece and the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World.
The World at War – for students with an interest in modern history. This course is designed for students who are operating at extension level and looking for an academic challenge.

Rebecca Cusick
Executive Teacher English and Humanities
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The Health and Physical Education curriculum at Mount Stromlo High School places an emphasis on the importance of living an active, healthy life and the need to make informed, responsible decisions. Health and Physical Education gives students the knowledge and practical skills to meet these needs and helps to develop a quality life for all.

**Years 7 and 8** students study Health and Physical Education for the whole year. Within the course, students participate in fitness, skill development and health lessons. Throughout the course the focus is on the development of both gross and fine motor skills in a broad range of games and activities that include: badminton, soccer, netball, softball, hockey, AFL, dance, athletics and a variety of modified games. In Year 7, the health component has a focus on growth and development, relationships, safety, first aid, and puberty and in Year 8, students cover alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, sex education and nutrition and fitness.

**Years 9 and 10** students study Health and Physical Education for the whole year. Students have the opportunity to build on their prior knowledge by developing more complex and advanced skills in the sports that were covered in Year 7. Each unit focuses on improving the skills of fitness, catching and throwing, striking, kicking and strategic game play. Students will be required to reflect on their performance and on the performance of their peers to improve their understanding of skill acquisition. Within the health component of this unit, Year 9 students study Mental Health, social issues in sport, sex education and fitness and year 10 covers, lifestyle diseases, sexuality and relationships and party safe

**Years 9 and 10 Elective Options**
Besides the above core Health and PE courses, Years 9 and 10 students have the opportunity to study the following elective options, which run for a semester. Students can choose one extra semester of PE each year.

- **Outdoor Education - Land or Water Based.** The focus of this course is to develop the students basic knowledge and skills in the area of outdoor education and to provide them with experiential learning opportunities. This elective has a focus on activities which may include the following – rock climbing, mountain biking, caving, bushwalking, surfing, surf awareness, snorkelling, canoeing, kayaking, environmental issues and camping.

- **Sport Science** looks at the systems of the human body and the requirements for peak athletic performance ranging from training methods to diet. Two theory lessons per week will look at; the anatomy and physiology of the major systems of the human body and how these relate to sporting performance, exercise physiology, detailed training methods and techniques including development of skills, fitness, strength and flexibility and sports nutrition. Practical lessons will have a focus on fitness testing, strength and flexibility training, cross training, interval training, and circuit training.

- **Sports Coaching** takes a broad look at sports leadership, with a focus on coaching and the elements necessary to make someone a good coach. Students will apply the skills and methods learnt from theory lessons by developing and presenting lesson plans. Students will develop their coaching skills by planning and facilitating practical sessions with local Primary School students.

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**Facilities**

- Large gymnasium comprising volleyball, basketball, netball and badminton courts, and a climbing wall
- Two outside basketball courts
- Two outside netball courts
- Two tennis courts
- Large outdoor multi-purpose playflex area
- One beach volleyball court
- Large grass ovals

**SchoolSport**
Mount Stromlo High provides fantastic opportunities for all students to participate in sporting competitions at school, Zone and ACT level. All sports endorsed by the ACT Schools Sport Management Committee are offered at the school. Community sport opportunities are also provided to all students giving every student the best possibility of participating in their chosen sport.
Both school sport and community sport information are advertised widely through the daily student notices and on the Sports Notice Board in the Gymnasium Foyer.

**Carnivals**
Three major sporting carnivals are held each year – Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. From these carnivals the school team is selected to represent Mount Stromlo at the Southside Zone Carnivals and ACT Championships.

**Lunchtime Activities**
Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of sporting activities at lunchtime. The gymnasium is supervised during lunchtimes for students to play.

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**Languages**

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All students at MSHS will learn French, Japanese or Indonesian in Years 7 & 8. Students are encouraged to continue their language study as an elective subject in Years 9 and 10.

**Indonesian** - Students develop their understandings of Indonesian language and culture and the importance of Indonesia as one of our closest neighbours. Through the Bridge Program and our sister school in Indonesia students have the opportunity to interact with students from our sister school. Students can take advantage of the many opportunities offered by the Indonesian Embassy and ANU to learn about Indonesia.

**Japanese** - Students are given many opportunities to experience Japanese culture, including Japanese art and cuisine, in classes, on-line and out on excursions. A student trip to Japan is offered every second year. Mount Stromlo hosts a Japanese Language Teachers Assistant each year to support the program and hosts students from Nara in Japan each September. Students are encouraged to enter competitions such as the Japan Foundation’s *Art Speaks Japanese* and *Video Matsuri*.

**French** - Students learning French have the opportunity to participate the French Food Safari Excursion to NSW, visit a French restaurant, participate in the French Film Festival and enter the Francophonie Art Competition. Mount Stromlo offers a student trip to a French speaking country every second year. In 2013 students visited New Caledonia and in September 2015 students will travel to France.

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Kristina Collins
Executive Teacher Languages
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Leadership Programs

Mount Stromlo High is committed to providing all students with the opportunity to develop leadership skills. The following programs and opportunities demonstrate this commitment and recognise that a wide variety of programs need to be offered to provide for all students.

**Peer Support Training**
During Events Week in Term 1, all Year 9 students attend a two day training program to develop skills and learning in group dynamics, communication, quality relationships and working together. After this program all students are given the opportunity to put in an application to become a Peer Support Leader for the following year.

**Peer Mentor Program (Year 9 Semester 2)**
This program is run with a Values Education focus. Students are invited to join this class in Semester 2. In Term 3, students learn how to facilitate a small group and gain essential knowledge and understandings about Values Education. During Term 4, the Year 9 students visit the South Weston Network Primary Schools to deliver sessions on the program to Year 5 and 6 students.

**Year 10 Peer Support Leaders**
Students, after being trained, put in an application and are selected to be Peer Support Leaders when they are in Year 10. This program runs in Semester 1 and leaders support Year 7 students in their transition into high school.

**Community Projects**
Year 9 and 10 students can elect to do this course. Students are involved in a variety of school and community projects. Students learn about the importance of volunteering and being a valued member of a community. The program also incorporates opportunities to tutor and work with younger students.

**School Captains**
Mount Stromlo High School has four school captains, Male School Captain, Female School Captain, Male Vice-Captain and Female Vice-Captain. Once elected the captains fulfil an important role; they attend SRC meetings and assist in decision making and fundraising initiatives. They present Captain’s Awards – to recognise students who are demonstrating the school values and contributing to the Mount Stromlo community. They present a ‘Captain’s Report’ at assemblies and attend many events and functions as ambassadors for the school.

**Student Governance**
Students on the Student Representative Council (SRC) are a voice for their peers, student leaders in their year groups and representatives of Mount Stromlo High School. Students in Years 7-10 are given the opportunity to nominate themselves as a candidate for the Student Representative Council. Each year group then votes to elect its student representatives. The SRC meet regularly during each term to discuss issues that are going on around the school and in the community and to plan fundraising activities for various charities. The SRC also works with other local high schools (Melrose, Telopea and Alfred Deakin) to design and implement student initiatives on a range of topics impacting teenagers in today’s society.
Carnivals and School Sport
There are many opportunities to be part of the House system, not only participating in carnivals and school sport but also in coaching and being House Captains. House Captains organize House Challenge activities at lunchtimes throughout the year, present ‘The Sports Report’ at assemblies and promote House pride.

Other School Opportunities
Students can volunteer to be involved in a wide range of school activities as tour guides and in supporting the following:
- Parent/Teacher Interview Nights
- Information Nights
- Year 10 formal committee
- School magazine

Students can also be involved in back of house operations and work as leaders in ensuring audio and visual presentations operate well at assemblies and other functions.

Rotary Clubs involved with the school invite student nominations for their leadership program, RYPEN.

RYPEN aims to provide young people aged 14 to 16 years with the opportunity to develop their leadership potential, alongside their peers in a supportive environment.

Awards
On the completion of high school Year 10 students are selected for a number of awards involving leadership. These awards include:

- The Stromlo Prize
- The ADF Long Tan Award for Leadership and Teamwork;
- The Capital Chemist Awards for Academic Achievement and Community Involvement
- The Caltex All-Rounder Award
- The Stromlo Bandmaster Award
- The Rotary Endeavour Award
- Indigenous Scholarships

Kate Bolton
Pastoral Care Coordinator
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Learning Support

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Overview
Students with Learning Support needs are well catered for at Mount Stromlo High School with a large range of resources and programs available to suit the individual needs of students. The school has an Executive Teacher solely in charge of Learning Support who coordinates teachers, Learning Support Assistants (LSAs), educational programs and resources to ensure that all students are achieving at their full potential.

Individual Learning Plans
Every student with special needs will have an Individual Learning Plan (ILP). This document establishes a range of social and academic goals for the student as well as a Learner Profile that teachers can use to inform their planning of curriculum and assessment. The ILP is developed in conjunction with the parents, teachers, relevant professionals and the student. It is reviewed annually at an in-school meeting.

In transition years (Years 7 & 10) students who meet the disability criteria, may also require an appraisal meeting to be conducted by the Department of Education. This ascertains the level of need of the student which is then reflected in the level of support and resources provided to the school.

The Tutoring Program
The Tutoring Program is run by community members who volunteer their time to work with each of the nominated students for an hour every week. The volunteers assist students in their academic work as well as providing them with valuable mentoring. The program is open to students from Years 7-10 and students are invited to participate in the program based on teacher recommendations.

Study Line
A study line is a place to work on homework or assignments for other classes and as a place to get additional support in literacy or numeracy for Learning Support students. A study line can be applied for by mainstream students needing extra time and support due to sporting or cultural commitments where they may be competing at a very high level. A study line can be applied for through either the Principal or the Executive Teacher of Learning Support.

Supervised break times for Learning Support students
For the first break every day, the Flexible Learning Space is supervised as a safe space where students with special needs are able to eat their recess, interact with other students and play games. The Library is open every second break.

The Learning Support Centre
The Learning Support Centre (LSC) is a program for students with mild learning difficulties. The LSC program can cater for up to 16 students from Years 7-10.

Students in the junior years complete core LSC subjects in the areas of Maths, English, Humanities and Science, students are then integrated into mainstream classes for PE/Health and their Arts/Tech electives. Students also have the option to study a language for the first 18 month of secondary school or complete the intervention literacy course depending on their literacy ability.

Students in the senior years complete core LSC subjects in the areas of Numeracy, Literacy, Science, Humanities and are then in mainstream classes for PE, Arts/Technology or Pastoral Care electives. Learning Support also offers a senior elective called Life skills café. The curriculum of the core classes is designed and implemented around the individual needs and learning styles of the students, whilst following the National Curriculum content and skills requirements as far as practical.
Eligibility in the program is based on IQ and determined by the school counsellor. Placement in the Mount Stromlo LSC is completed centrally through the Department of Education and those wishing to enter the program would need to talk to their school counsellor at their current school to complete the appropriate transfer documentation.

The Autism Unit (LSUA) and Integration Support (ISP)
The Autism Unit has a set number of placements available each year and caters for students who are diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum. The students are all integrated into appropriate mainstream classes or attend Learning Support classes for English, Maths, Humanities and Science, with LSA support as required. These students are monitored closely by the executive teacher of Learning Support who ensures that they are engaging in their subjects. Furthermore, Mount Stromlo also has a number of students who receive Inclusion Support. Many of these students are on the Autism Spectrum, and they also receive support similar to those students in the LSUA, depending on their level of need.

All programs are flexible and tailored to the individual.

Kendal Achurch-Ihle
Executive Teacher Learning Support
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“Be the change you want to see in the world.”
- Mahatma Gandhi
Mathematics and the capacity to be numerate is vital to the quality of participation in society. To be numerate is to use mathematics effectively to meet the general demands of life at home, in paid work, and for participation in community and civic life. In school education, numeracy is a fundamental component of learning, discourse and critique across all areas of the curriculum.

Mathematics at Mount Stromlo High School is a core subject for all students in all years. Students will study different topics during each term; approximately ten to twelve topics will be covered in a year to provide students with essential mathematical skills and knowledge in:

In the earlier years the focus is not only on skills, but on comprehension of mathematical language and the processes involved in reaching solutions. For students in Year 7 the focus is on numeracy and mental computation.

Year 7
Before students start in Year 7, they complete a short test on Mathematics so they can be placed in a class which best suits their ability and work levels. All classes follow the Australian Curriculum with modifications dependent on the ability of each class.

Classes are semi streamed to allow those students who are more able to be extended and those who may struggle with some of the more basic concepts to be supported in smaller classes. The work can then be focussed and modified to suit the students’ needs and abilities.

Years 8 - 10
Students are placed into Year 8 classes depending on their Year 7 results and teacher recommendation. Like Year 7, the classes are semi streamed, allowing for Extension and supported work. In Year 9 and 10, students study at Level 1, 2 or 3 depending on their ability and needs.

The basic concepts of each mathematical strand are used in the units as a starting point for all concepts so they are constantly being reinforced. Students are encouraged to understand, rather than just do the work they are being taught.

Textbooks
The current textbook required for all years is Pearson Mathematics. Texts will be available through the library at the commencement of the school year as part of the Maths Textbook Program. Parents pay a once only hire fee of $50 in Year 7. The student then borrows a book via the library and it is then swapped each year to provide the appropriate book for each year of study for no additional cost.

Mathletics and ICT
All students will have access to Mathletics and login details will be provided to students at the beginning of each year. We recommend the Casio FX82-AU II as a calculator.

Rod Grieve
Executive Teacher Mathematics
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The Pastoral Care program (TEAM program) at Mount Stromlo High School is designed to give each student and their family a teacher who is there to support them in their time at the school. This teacher is a contact for families and students to discuss attendance, academic and social issues and any other issue that may arise.

Overview of Morning TEAM
Every morning, students meet in small groups with other students from their year group with their TEAM teacher. This is effectively a roll group. The aims of the morning TEAM program are: to establish and develop positive relationships between TEAM teachers and the students in their TEAM group, to provide closer monitoring of students with regard to school uniform, attendance and behaviour, and for students to receive information about extra-curricular activities via the daily notices.

Overview of Long TEAM
Long TEAM is our school’s pastoral care curriculum. Each Long TEAM unit consists of 5 one hour sessions per term. These are scheduled for period 3, Wednesday of Week A (11:30am-12:30pm).

Pastoral Care themes
**Pathways** – Students look at their transition into and out of high school. This includes setting personal goals, exploring subject choices and study options, Work Experience, looking at plans for the future (including career aspirations) and completing a Student Pathways Plan.

**Mind, Body and Soul** – Students explore topics to do with personal wellbeing and taking care of themselves and others. This includes looking at lifestyle choices, positive psychology, resilience and relationships.

**Protective Behaviours** – Students explore ways to minimize harm towards themselves and others. This includes education about advocacy for safe practices around substances, social gatherings and use of technology.

**Communities** – Students are encouraged to think beyond themselves and engage in ways to make a difference within the school and local communities. This includes connecting with the school community and looking at being an active community member and ‘giving back’.

Kate Bolton
Pastoral Care Coordinator
Email: kate.botlon@ed.act.edu.au
Science

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Overview
A strong foundation in Science is a critical 21st century skill that not only opens many career possibilities, but also enriches and informs student’s lives. At Mount Stromlo students are given a fantastic array of opportunities to help them understand the natural world, with an emphasis placed on how to think and communicate scientifically. Excellence and rigor are features of the entire curriculum in both the way it is taught and the manner in which students are expected to learn.

Students have access to an extensive range of modern and high quality equipment that they use to engage with and inform their understanding of the world. In 2014 a cutting edge Aquaponics system was installed and used to raise trout and produce. Students also use ICT extensively, often alongside scientific instrumentation such as data loggers.

Lex@s
Following the success of the Year 10 Lex@s course in 2014 in which students undertook and successfully completed an online course designed by the noble laureate Professor Brian Schmidt, we have extended Lex@s courses to Years 8 and 9 in 2015.

The Curriculum
The curriculum is presented in a relevant and engaging manner across Years 7-10. A significant part of the teaching program is based on practical work. Performing experiments in class to test ideas and enhance understanding. For many students the Year 7 course is their first introduction to working in a science laboratory and this is a very exciting time. In Term 3 they present a major piece of work at an expo night in which students showcase their work to the entire school community. As students progress they continue to develop and build their foundational skills in subjects such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Astronomy and Geology. They explore all these subjects in depth at the senior high school level preparing them for the demands of college and university.

Science Highlights
- Opportunities for all students to extend themselves in a particular topic that interests them.
- A teaching approach which encourages commitment to learning.
- Activities such as Crystal Growing, Astronomy and Science Week.
- Opportunities to participate in National competitions such as:
  - Australasian Science Schools Competition
  - Big Science Competition
  - Australian Chemistry Competition
  - RACI Titration Stakes
  - Science Olympiads

Assessment
Students are assessed against the Australian Curriculum standards on a combination of tests, assignments and practical work. Assessment tasks are completed both in and outside of the classroom, encouraging students to be both organised and independent.

If you have any questions about the Science courses offered at Mount Stromlo High School please feel free to contact the Executive teacher for Science using the contact details below.

Stefan Latham
Executive Teacher Science and ICT
Email: stefan.latham@ed.act.ed.au
Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

At the core of a supportive school environment are the relationships between students, parents and teachers. The role of Student Services is to provide support for students, their parents and teachers by promoting a safe learning environment for all students that is flexible and responsive to the needs of the individual and the wider school community.

Our dedicated Student Services staff are a unique and dynamic team who, together with TEAM teachers, work hard to support students and their families at Mount Stromlo High School.

**Student Welfare Executive Teacher:** Rebecca Turner  
**Pastoral Care Executive Teacher:** Kate Bolton

**Year 10 Coordinator:** Matthew Webbie  
**Year 9 Coordinator:** Susan Peachey  
**Year 8 Coordinator:** Robin Ricketts  
**Year 7 Coordinator:** Alex Morton

**School Psychologist:** Frances Jomantas  
**Youth Support Workers:** Kate Redgrave  
**School Chaplain:** Lydia Ashford

**Records Officer:** Katie Hart

Policies related to school culture, pastoral care, social and emotional learning, student behaviour, uniform and attendance are developed and monitored by the Student Services team. The policies and practices at Mount Stromlo High School are firmly grounded in the principles of Restorative Practices.

Restorative Practices is an approach to discipline and relationship management that builds a positive school climate that strengthens relationships between students, and between teachers and students, which underpins improved academic and personal outcomes in education and in life.

“A restorative classroom setting is one that values dialogue through an inclusive approach where everyone expects to be heard, and through this participatory process students develop the capacity to learning in a practical way that emotions are an important and legitimate expression of health dialogue. This helps students to deal with conflict, tensions and difference in respectful ways that engenders trust, empathy, responsibility, and fosters healthy relationships.” Terry O’Connell, Lesley Oliver, Lyn Doppler 2007

Rebecca Turner  
Executive Teacher Student Services  
RebeccaM.Turner@ed.act.edu.au
Mount Stromlo’s uniform provider is Lowes at Woden Plaza.

### Mount Stromlo High School Dress Standards and Uniform

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>School Shirt – Black or white, with logo</td>
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| Pants      | Black, Navy or Denim – Shorts, Skirts or Pants  
All pants or skirts must be of a decent length – mid-thigh/longer than the fingertips of the student with arms straight by their side. |
| Shoes      | For safety reasons - all shoes must be fully enclosed, joggers or leather school type shoes. |
| Jumpers    | School Jumper logo                                                           |
| PE Clothing| Yellow PE shirt  
Black or Navy shorts or tracksuit pants – must be a change from the general day wear. Fully enclosed joggers |

All students are expected to wear uniform to and from school and during all school activities unless information is provided otherwise.

Students who are not wearing uniform need to:

- Provide a note from their parent explaining the situation
- Collect an out of uniform note from their TEAM teacher. Students need to keep this note with them should another staff member question their attire
- Visit Student Services to borrow an appropriate shirt or jumper for the day
- Students who are out of uniform may not be able to attend excursions or use the Waramanga ovals at break times.

Rebecca Turner  
Executive Teacher Student Services  
RebeccaM.Turner@ed.act.edu.au
Values

Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

Learning
Learning provides all students with a positive and productive future full of challenges and satisfaction. Success in learning provides students with the basis for life long learning and the ability to contribute positively and productively to the community and society.

- Participate positively in class activities
- Complete your classwork
- Complete your homework
- Complete assessment tasks on time
- Work with others in your class and groups

Respect
Respect for others; respect for the right of others to learn and feel safe; respect for property of others and the school and community and self-respect allow all members of the school community to work successfully together at all times.

- Follow the school rules
- Be fair to others
- Look after friends and fellow students
- Look after school property

Endeavour
Endeavouring to do your best in everything you do and participating and taking up opportunities allows students to develop a high level of self-respect and pride in their achievements. Everyone learns differently. Everyone has strengths. Students are assisted and encouraged to realise their strengths and reach their potential; and to further enhance their learning and development.

- Do your best
- Be involved in class and school activities
- Try new things
- Work hard

Pride
Personal pride and pride in the school community. Endeavouring to do your best; to be involved; and to show initiative develops a great sense of pride in personal achievements and also in being a Stromlo student.

- Speak positively of Mount Stromlo
- Enjoy school
- Be involved in school activities
- Represent Mount Stromlo in different ways
- Wear uniform
- Follow the school
Maximising Learning Opportunities

Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

Overview
Stromlo’s Learning Extension program ... Lex@S ... is open to students in all year groups who are identified as gifted and talented and to those who are high achievers in specific areas. The program has several components, catering for a diverse range of student abilities all with an extension or enrichment focus.

The Lex@s Program
The School recognises the benefits of providing a differentiated curriculum to meet the diverse learning needs of individual students. Lex@s classes provide enrichment and extension opportunities open to any who demonstrated an aptitude and interest in a particular learning area. In some learning areas students are more likely to be part of a Lex@s class group, e.g. Maths or English.

In other learning areas (particularly elective classes) students may be identified as an individual student or one of a group of students for whom a compacted curriculum or enrichment opportunities may be appropriate. Lex@s students undertake the same curriculum as other students however students will generally undertake this at an extended and/or accelerated pace. Students have the opportunity to develop higher order skills and understandings by undertaking further in depth study. It is expected that students undertaking the Australian Curriculum at Lex@s level will achieve and maintain A or B grades in their Lex@s subjects.

Across School Involvement - Participation in competitions ...
- Sportsperson in numerous sports
- Leader through Peer Support, Peer Mentor, House Captains, SRC and Year Councils
- Australian Mathematics Competition as well as Mathematics Challenge and Enrichment
- English and Writing competitions
- Science – the Rio Tinto Big Science competition
- The National History Challenge
- Simpson’s Prize and more
- Maths Olympiad for students in Years 7 – 8
- Australian Business Week – for Years 9 and 10
- Writers’ Workshop – for all age groups
- From Page to Stage – a theatrical production Stromfest
- Junior Jazz – Years 7 - 8
- Mathematical Problem Junior Tropfest – for all interested film makers

Additional Performance Opportunities
As well as class based extension opportunities identified students can be involved in the school concert band, the jazz group and the string group. Bands perform art school assemblies and concerts, at outside functions and at Band Fest. Visual Arts students showcase their work in Art, Sculpture, and Digital Photography.

Debating is another extension English program with students representing the school in a number of competitions.
**Recognition of External Programs** Students who have significant sporting or artistic pursuits external to the school may apply for recognition and a study line to support their ability to complete school work.

**What is expected of a Lex@s student** All students in Lex@s classes are expected to maintain an appropriate rate of achievement. Lex@s students are expected to undertake additional hours of study per week outside school hours. Students participation in a tailored program can be determined at any time.

**How is a Lex@s student graded?** No differently than other students in terms of the twice-yearly semester reports. In practice, Lex@s students usually achieve above average grades in one or more areas. Where a unique aptitude is identified, demonstrated and recognised, an individual reference or attestation.

**Costs** Some programs incur running costs and to enter competitions and challenges associated with the program. These will be kept to a minimum and financial support may be available for families on application to the Principal.

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Kristina Collins  
Gifted & Talented Liaison Officer  
Email: kristina.collins@ed.act.edu.au
Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

Overview
There are a range of programs and activities available to all students over the duration of Years 9 and 10.

Vocational Learning at Stromlo
Programs are offered in hospitality through The Café and Introduction to Hospitality classes as pre-vocational courses. Students in Years 9 and 10 have the opportunity to select each course for a semester of study. The Café is run as a business and students gain experience in occupational health and safety; catering; coffee making; waiting at tables and serving customers; as well as cash register usage. Introduction to Hospitality exposes students to the skills and knowledge typically required for a career in the hospitality industry, and gives them opportunities to prepare and present food for café and restaurant style meals.

School Based Apprenticeships (ASBAs)
Australian School Based Apprenticeships offer students, 15 years and over, the opportunity to achieve a nationally recognised vocational qualification by combining paid work and training as part of their educational program in business, hairdressing, hospitality and retail.

Students can work part-time while completing their studies and training.

Work Experience (WEX)
All students in Year 10 experience the world of work through a five day work experience placement. Other Year 8 –10 students may apply to participate in work experience during school terms.

Students who wish to work in construction will need to obtain their White Card which is a health and safety construction induction certificate. Students also complete an Asbestos Awareness Training Course. These courses are provided by outside training centres.

Careers Information
All students in Year 9 participate in a Careers Conversation during the year.

In Semester 2, Year 10 students visit the annual Careers Expo held during the first week of August.

C4 Building and Construction Program
The C4 program is conducted by the Master Builders Association Group Training Company, with ACT Department of Education and Training. The C4 program is part of the ‘Kids at Risk Initiative’ for those who struggle to meet requirements for the Year 10 certificate.

Successful students receive a Certificate II in Construction Pathways.

CIT Central Courses
Year 10 students have the opportunity to apply for CIT central courses, including Environment studies, Resources & Infrastructure and Spatial Information.

Jo Power       Adam Salter
SLC Student Pathways and Transitions    WEX & Careers Advisor
Email: jo.power@ed.act.edu.au     Email adam.salter@ed.act.edu.au
Facilities

Providing a Quality Education for Every Child

**Information Technology**
The Mount Stromlo High School Library links in with a range of digital resources (including free World Book on-line encyclopaedia) and has a large book stock as well as a substantial audio-visual and periodical collection. The library is open throughout the day except for break 1. It is also open before and after school. A homework club has been introduced for Wednesdays, and is well attended.

**Technology Areas**
This area includes two modern kitchens, a textiles room, computer rooms including a flexible learning space, wood and metalwork rooms, and a design drawing room. **Digital photography** facilities include state of the art hardware and software which produce excellent winning media.

**Sport**
Mount Stromlo High School is very well supplied with outdoor playing fields and courts as well as having access to a large and modern gymnasium for indoor sports.

**Drama** students use the SPACE – Stromlo Performing Arts Centre, with specialized lighting and audio systems, a stage and a large rehearsal area. The **Dance** area boasts a modern mirrored dance room comprising a state of the art floor to perform on, and moveable doors to provide various rehearsal spaces.

**Music** teaching rooms at the school enable for individual and group practice sessions. Students have access to keyboards, drums and guitars for general music classes as well as a wide range of instruments for hire by students in the School’s bands. All students have short term access to woodwind, brass, string and percussion instruments.

The **Science** wing includes eight laboratories, an IT room. A horticulture room and outside plot area compliment the Science Faculty, as are several telescopes, including the Stromlo Dobsonian telescope.

**Open Space for play areas**
Students access ovals to play sports at recess and lunch as well as tennis, netball and basketball courts which have recently been resurfaced. A security fence surrounds the school to ensure student safety. A deco-plex surface for soccer provides a state of art surface. Students have plenty of access to shaded and grassed areas, complete with tables and chairs. Additional shaded areas provide areas for seating and performance areas for groups.

**The SPACE - Stromlo Performing Arts Centre**
The SPACE is used for Drama classes and is also available for school assemblies and for community hire.

Several new **Flexible Learning Environments** have been created to accommodate 21st century learning and teaching styles. The indoor rooms are furnished with colourful, modular soft and hard furnishings, allowing students to arrange themselves to suit specific learning styles. A **Prayer Room** has been dedicated to students of Muslim persuasion who wish to pray. The **Café** simulates business studies and trains students in hospitality practices.

A substantially upgraded canteen offers a range of healthy foods and drink.
Mount Stromlo High School
Contact Details

School Phone Number:  61 423 444
Absence Reporting Number: 61 423 448

**Executive Teachers:**

Arts & Technology Faculty: Jo Power  
(Visual & Performing Arts, Design & Technology, Food Studies, Textiles)

English Faculty: Rebecca Cusick

Humanities Faculty: Rebecca Cusick  
(History, Geography, Commerce, Civics and Citizenship)

Health & Physical Education Faculty: Ben Davies

Languages Faculty: Kristina Collins

Learning Support: Kendal Achurch-Ihle

Mathematics Faculty: Rod Grieve

Pastoral Care: Kate Bolton

Science Faculty: Stefan Latham  
(Information Technology, Science)

Student Services: Rebecca Turner