



Doctrina Vitae

Bacchus Marsh
Grammar

2025

MIDDLE SCHOOL
HANDBOOK

YEAR 5 TO YEAR 8

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Welcome to the Middle School

Year 5 to Year 8

On behalf of all the Middle School staff, I would like to welcome each new family to our Middle School Community. We will work together to guide your child through this important stage of their development.

We understand that your child is an important individual who deserves the very best education that we can provide. The staff at Bacchus Marsh Grammar work hard to treat all students as individuals and endeavour to meet their specific needs.

Together we will share in the successes and challenges of your child's educational journey and trust that you will join us in encouraging them to always work to the best of their ability. It is most important to remember that in any class, a diverse range of skills, knowledge and talent will be displayed and that students will progress at different rates. However, students are expected to set high standards for themselves and always aim to achieve their personal best.

Education for life is a structured, purposeful process. Bacchus Marsh Grammar encourages all students to be active participants in their own learning. Our curriculum aims to present challenges, and students are encouraged to take risks as learners, step out of their comfort zones and to work toward enhancing their skills and knowledge. Learning needs to be calm and structured and this is reflected in our thorough curriculum which includes clear procedures for assessing progress.

We endeavour to provide our Middle School students with a learning experience which enables them to become responsible and productive members of the wider community. They will learn to lead through service within the Middle School, as well as the Junior School and Senior Schools.

You will find this handbook a valuable resource; however, we do not expect you to remember everything at once. Please ask questions as we are all here to help make your transition to the Middle School a seamless experience. I would like to encourage each family to take advantage of the good communication that exists between families and our staff. Do not hesitate to contact your child's Tutor Teacher if you have any matters that need discussion or clarification. Good communication is a valuable key to success. We look forward to meeting all new families and getting to know you and your child.

Mr Scott Bayne

Head of Middle School: Maddingley

Mr Michael Abramovic

Head of Middle School: Woodlea

Our Philosophy

The School has a culture of achievement which encourages staff and students to strive towards their personal best.

A School that Values the Individual

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we believe that the key to a successful education is concentration on the individual. We all have different strengths which need to be developed, and weaknesses that can be addressed and improved upon. We strive to develop a clear understanding of each child's needs and the particular ways in which we can foster their growth and development. The School provides a wide range of activities to extend children beyond the normal curriculum and provide additional assistance to individuals working towards mastering new skills, knowledge and values.

A Calm Structured School

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we know what type of environment delivers the best possible education. Learning best occurs when there is a clear structure and clarity of expectations of students. This is applied at a "whole school" level and in our well-defined and consistent approach to individual teaching and classroom management. We know that learning is optimised by a calm, friendly and purposeful environment. This enables students to concentrate on their learning, work towards achieving their personal best and develop their individual talents. Our teachers reinforce this environment with their genuine care and concern for each student's academic and personal development, and their clear and structured teaching methods. Such an environment fosters the development of positive social skills. Behaviour which interferes with the learning or happiness of others is not tolerated.

Communication is Vital

For us, educating a student requires a bond between School, parents and students. To enable us to provide the best possible education, all three parties must be clear and committed to common goals and have a clear understanding of how students are progressing both academically and socially. The key to developing and enhancing the bond between parties is clear and consistent communication. We believe that parents need to be aware of how their children are going in a way that is understandable and helpful for development. We also believe that any issues are best resolved by early discussion between all parties. In turn, we ask that parents keep the school fully informed of issues that may be affecting the well-being of students and support the goals and ethos of the School.

Enjoyment and Enthusiasm

We strongly believe that school should be a place which students can enjoy. We look to provide students with opportunities to develop new skills and experience new ideas and activities which will excite and challenge them. We also want our students to develop an enthusiasm for learning and a curiosity about the world. We achieve this by having a teaching staff which is able to draw upon a wide range of skills and experiences and who are enthusiastic about the chance to help young people develop their potential.

Pastoral Care

One of the many strengths of Bacchus Marsh Grammar is the depth and quality of our pastoral care initiatives.

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, pastoral care is concerned with the cultivation and promotion of the academic, social, emotional, and physical wellbeing and development of all students. It is embedded within the teaching, learning and structural organisation of our School.

All members of our School Community work towards and contribute to the pastoral care of our students. Our School values underpin how we approach pastoral care, as we strive to maintain an environment where students feel connected, valued and a strong sense of self.

An Explicit Teaching Model

The School believes that learning best occurs when students have a clear understanding of what they are required to do and when material or skills they need are taught; this is achieved through clear and transparent methods.

We believe strongly in the role of an expert teacher who has deep subject knowledge.

Our Values

The School is guided by eight core values Respect, Discipline, Confidence, Ambition, Leadership, Kindness, Knowledge and Wisdom.

- The School seeks to teach students to respect others and the world they inhabit;
- We aim to guide our students to develop discipline to pursue long term and meaningful goals, and eschew short term and superficial pursuits;
- Students should have the confidence to express ideas and values, and project their worth to others;
- Students are guided to develop ambition and passion to achieve their best;
- Students are taught to understand that leadership occurs in a variety of forms, and encouraged to find ways they can influence and organise for the good of others and themselves;
- Students are taught to value knowledge for both its own sake put for the power that it has to influence our lives;
- Students are guided to develop the wisdom that comes from knowledge and contemplation and to respect all who pursue true wisdom;
- Above all else, Bacchus Marsh Grammar students are inspired to embrace life with a sense of kindness and compassion to the fore.

Key Staff Contacts

Heads of Middle School

Maddingley Campus

Mr Scott Bayne

Assistant Principal: Head of Middle School – Maddingley

baynes@bmg.vic.edu.au

Woodlea Campus

Mr Michael Abramovic

Assistant Principal: Head of Middle School – Woodlea

abramovicm@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mrs Rebecca Perks

Deputy Head of Middle School – Maddingley

perksr@bmg.vic.edu.au

All relevant Middle School Heads of Year will be communicated to families at the beginning of Term 1, 2025 and published on Schoolbox.

Principals

Principal

Deputy Principal – Head of Maddingley Campus

Deputy Principal – Dep. Head of Maddingley Campus

Deputy Principal – Head of Woodlea Campus

**Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus
& Head of Middle School Education**

Deputy Principal – Senior Programs

Deputy Principal – Culture and Character Education

Mrs Debra Ogston – school@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mr Andrew Pate – patea@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mrs Lisa Foster – fosterl@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mrs Danielle Copeman – copemand@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mrs Sarah Hunter - hunters@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mrs Erin Thornton – thorntone@bmg.vic.edu.au

Mr Andrew Perks – perksa@bmg.vic.edu.au

Key Contact Information

School Email	school@bmg.vic.edu.au	School Website	www.bmg.vic.edu.au
Postal Address	P.O. Box 214, Bacchus Marsh, 3340		
	Maddingley Campus		Woodlea Campus
Phone Number	(03) 5366 4800		(03) 5366 4900
Fax Number	(03) 5366 4850		(03) 5366 4950
Absentee Number	(03) 5366 4888		(03) 5366 4988
Absentee Email	maddingley_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au		woodlea_absentees@bmg.vic.edu.au
	Bacchus Marsh Grammar - Maddingley		Bacchus Marsh Grammar – Woodlea
	South Maddingley Road		111 Frontier Ave
	Bacchus Marsh, 3340		Aintree, 3336

Term Dates 2025

Term 1 2025

Staff Day – <i>ALL Staff Commence</i>	Tuesday 28 January
Staff Day	Wednesday 29 January
Year 12 Development Day [at school]	Thursday 30 January
Year 7 Classes Commence	Thursday 30 January
Prep 2025 Readiness Meetings	Thursday 30 January
Prep 2025 Readiness Meetings	Friday 31 January
Years 1 to 11 Commence	Friday 31 January
Prep Commence	Monday 3 February
Labour Day	Monday 10 March [no school]
End of Term 1	Friday 4 April

Term 2 2025

Staff & Students Commence	Wednesday 23 April
Anzac Day	Friday 25 April [no school]
King's Birthday	Monday 9 June [no school]
End of Term 2	Friday 27 June

Term 3 2025

Staff Commence	Monday 21 July
Students Commence	Tuesday 22 July
Mid-Term Break	Friday 22 August [no school]
End of Term 3	Friday 19 September

Term 4 2025

Staff Commence	Monday 6 October
Year 12 Trial Examinations	Monday 6 October
Students Commence	Tuesday 7 October
Mid-Term Break	Monday 3 November [no school]
Melbourne Cup	Tuesday 4 November [no school]
Year 7 2026 Orientation Day	Friday 21 November
Report Writing Day (No school Years 7 to 11)	Friday 21 November
End of Term – ALL STUDENTS	Friday 12 December
Staff Training Week	Monday 15 December to Thursday 18 December

General Information

School Policies

School policies are available to view on Schoolbox in both the Junior and Middle / Senior School Gateways under the School Policies tile. Any updates to these policies are communicated to parents via a notification in the weekly BMG News.

A Child Safe School

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is committed to the protection of all children from all forms of child abuse and demonstrates this commitment through the implementation of a comprehensive Child Safe Program designed to keep children safe and endorsed by the School's governing body. We are clear about our behavioural expectations of every person in our community.

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we have a zero tolerance of child abuse and are committed to acting in a child's best interest and in keeping them safe from harm. We regard our child safe responsibilities with the utmost importance.

We provide the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintain a child safe culture that:

- is aligned to the new Child Safe Standards that apply from 1 July 2022,
- has zero tolerance of child abuse,
- actively works to listen to and empower children and young people
- has systems to protect children and young people from abuse, and will take all allegations and concerns very seriously and respond to them consistently in line with the School's policies and procedures,
- is committed to promoting physical, emotional and cultural safety for all children and young people,
- is committed to providing a safe environment for all children and young people.

Parent and visitors' toilets

To ensure compliance with child safety requirements, we have designated and clearly marked parent and visitors' restroom facilities. These facilities are equipped to meet the needs of our adult visitors and are available at the following locations on each campus:

- **Maddingley:** Parent/Visitor toilets at the Gatehouse (adjacent to Main Car Park) and on the western side of the canteen building.
- **Woodlea:** Parent/Visitor toilet at Reception (entry from Frontier Ave).

For the protection and welfare of our students, we kindly request that when you are on-site, you refrain from using the students' restroom facilities. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and secure environment for our students. Your adherence to this requirement is essential in upholding our commitment to child safety.

More information and a copy of the Child Safe Program Quick Reference Guide can be found on the [School's website](#).

Uniform Requirements

The school colours are black, gold, white and blue. Wearing of the school uniform is compulsory for all students. Full school uniform must be worn correctly to and from school and on all formal occasions, including school assemblies.

All students who are not in correct uniform need to have a signed note in their school diary from a parent/guardian explaining the reason. A note shall not be regarded as sufficient explanation for continued variation to the uniform. Such students will be issued with a Breach of Uniform notice by their Head of Year.

Students wear their sports uniform to and from school on their designated Physical Education day. Parents/guardians will be made aware of their child's Physical Education day at the beginning of the school year. Please note that it is preferred that the sports runners predominately reflect school colours of black, gold, white and blue.

Full school uniform requirements are listed in the school diary. Please also read in conjunction with the School Uniform and Dress Code Policy accessed via the School Policies tile in Schoolbox or the [School's website](#).

Uniform Outlets

The School's Uniforms are available from Rushfords Schoolwear in Werribee and at the School Uniform Shop at the Maddingley campus. Key operating hours are on the [school's website](#). Online shopping for school uniform is also offered via [Noone](#).

- **School Uniform Shop:** Maddingley Campus (Gate 2 Main Carpark) - Telephone 5367 4072
- **Rushfords Schoolwear:** Shop 1/13 Barnes Place Werribee - Telephone 9741 3211.

Reports and Parent / Teacher Interviews

You can expect to receive a school report at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

Year 5 and 8 students have ongoing reporting, based on their subjects, throughout the academic year. These reports can be accessed through the school parent portal.

Formal Parent/Teacher interviews will also be conducted throughout the year in Term 1 and Term 3. However, you are encouraged to contact the School, through the Tutor or Subject teacher, at any stage throughout the year if you have concerns or questions regarding your child's progress.

Student Absences and Lateness

Parents/guardians are asked to telephone the Student Absentee line, if their child is sick, will be late or absent from school prior to the start of school. An absence can also be logged via Schoolbox/QuickLinks. Where an absence of a student has not been explained by 9.20am, the school will send an SMS to the parent/guardian requesting them to contact the school absence line. If parents/guardians do not respond to the first SMS, a reminder SMS is then sent at approximately 10.30am.

If no response is received, the School will contact the parents/guardians by phone. Please supply your child's class teacher with a written note explaining any absence once your child returns to school. Students who arrive late to school must personally report to Reception or Gatehouse (Maddingley) to obtain a late pass before going to class. Students who are collected early during the school day must be signed out at Reception or Gatehouse (Maddingley) before leaving for the day. Parents/guardians should not collect their child directly from the classroom. Please refer to the Student Attendance Policy and Procedure on the School Policies tile in Schoolbox or on the School's website for further information.

Please note that if parents/guardians choose to take their child/ren on holidays during term time for less than 10 days, they must inform the child's Head of Year and Head of School. School work will not be provided where a student is absent on holidays. In addition, a leave of absence application must be made for student absences greater than 10 days. The application must be made in writing to the Principal or their delegate well in advance of the intended leave of absence. Approval for a leave of absence may be given at the Principal's or their delegates discretion. School work will not be provided where a student is on leave of absence. Please refer to the Student Attendance Policy and Procedure on the School Policies tile in Schoolbox or on the School's website for further information.

School Diary

The school diary is used by all students and is each student's main organisational tool and mode of communication between home and school. The class teacher checks diaries on a regular basis. Students need to be encouraged to notify teachers if parents/guardians have used the diary to communicate with the teacher. Parents/guardians are asked to sign student diaries, as a minimum requirement, on a weekly basis.

Please read your child's diary for the following:

- Information about Bacchus Marsh Grammar, including school policies, rules and responsibilities.
- Uniform regulations.
- Your child's class timetable.
- Daily homework tasks.
- Incidental notes from staff.

If the diary is lost, the student must immediately purchase a new school diary from the Main Administration office immediately.

Homework

Year 5 and Year 6

Students are expected to complete a set amount of homework each night. Even from the early school years, it is important to develop good habits in regards to homework.

Year 5 and Year 6 students are expected to spend forty five minutes on set homework or study each night, Monday through Thursday. Additionally, they are required to read for at least twenty minutes per day, including weekends where possible. Class teachers will notify parents of the specific subject areas to be covered each night. Occasionally, work will be set to be completed on the weekend. Students are required to record homework in their diary during morning or afternoon Tutor Group.

- If homework is incomplete without parent notification, the student's school diary will be stamped.
- Students will be asked to complete their homework during recess or lunchtime or on the following day.
- A red stamp will be received in the homework book or diary to indicate that work has not been submitted. Three stamps in the diary result in a detention being issued.

To establish work routines and to enable the student to more effectively meet requirements, a parent meeting will be required if a student consistently has issues with homework.

Year 7 and Year 8

Developing good homework and study techniques at the beginning of secondary school is of paramount importance.

Subject teachers will set homework regularly and it is expected to be completed. Homework is an important part of the curriculum and is set to help students achieve their best.

At Year 7 and 8, students and parents may expect an average of up to 60 to 90 minutes of homework 5 times per week. This time also includes study and wider reading.

To achieve successful study outcomes:

Students must record details of their homework and due dates in their diary. This allows them to plan ahead and allocate time to different subjects where necessary. There should be no surprises as to when homework is due!

Allocate a specific homework time every day when students can sit quietly and give their work their full attention. Students will receive some homework which needs to be completed straight away, and some which needs to be done over longer periods of time. When a daily homework routine is established and tasks planned, nothing will be left to the last minute.

Where possible, a quiet study space which is well lit and ventilated should be dedicated to school work at home. Trying to complete work in front of the television or with the stereo turned up is generally not very effective!

Part of the task of completing homework is ensuring that students have it with them when required in class. It will be considered incomplete if students have left it in their locker or at home.

- If homework is incomplete without parent notification, the student's school diary will be stamped.
- A red stamp will be received in the homework book or diary to indicate that work has not been submitted. Three stamps in the diary result in a detention being issued.

If a student experiences difficulties in completing the set homework, please contact the appropriate subject teacher before the due date so that, where necessary, other arrangements can be made where necessary.

Please refer to the Homework Policy on the School Policies tile on Schoolbox for further information.

Chromebooks

Chromebooks are allocated to each student from Years 5 to 12, who are then responsible for their care and for ensuring that they are brought to school and charged each day.

The Chromebooks are essential to the learning processes that occur at the school. Thus, any student without a Chromebook at school can hire one at a charge (refer to the current Business Notice for cost), however, it will be treated as a discipline issue.

Music Program

Music has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich the school experience for all students. Students are supported to develop their creative capacities in an open environment where they can explore and refine their skills. Music education can have a significant impact on the cognitive, affective, motor, social and personal competencies of students.

The Middle and Senior Music program at Bacchus Marsh Grammar supports a culture of discovery and skill refinement. Classroom Music from Year 5 to Year 8 offers students the chance to connect with instruments such as keyboard, brass and woodwind, and percussion through integrated band programs, film scoring and songwriting projects. As students' progress to the Year 9 and 10 electives, they begin to prepare for VCE/VET pathways, building solo and group repertoire. In the VCE/VET Unit 3 and 4, students further refine and consolidate their musicianship in anticipation for their performance examinations.

Instrumental Music Lessons

Students are encouraged to learn a musical instrument. These lessons are available during the school day on a rotating timetable, and tuition fees are in addition to the school fees. Before and after school lessons are available; however, these are subject to availability and in negotiation with the instrumental teacher. The Music Handbook/Enrolment process is available on the [School's website](#).

Through our lively and diverse program, students are encouraged to perform at soirees, major concerts, assemblies, ceremonies and community events. Students are also encouraged to volunteer for emcee duties at events to further bolster their presentation skills.

Health Centre

The Health Centre is staffed by Registered Nurses, Monday to Friday.

If your child attends the Health Centre, you will receive an SMS informing you of their attendance and the reason for their attendance. If your child needs to be collected due to illness or injury, the Health Centre staff will contact you by phone.

Any updates to your child's medical information/dietary requirements must be updated via Schoolbox/myBMG Parent Portal. If your child has significant medical issues, please contact the Health Centre to discuss further.

Please note that the Health Centre is equipped to provide first aid assistance to students in case of minor injuries or illnesses. However, it is important to note that Health Centre staff do not diagnose medical conditions and are not a substitute for General Practitioner assessment.

Bus Travel

The Bus Travel Code of Conduct ensures safe and comfortable travel for all students at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. This Code applies to all students and their parents/guardians and can be accessed in full on the School Policies tile in Schoolbox.

Rules and Expectations of Behaviour

Students must abide by the following rules and conduct requirements at all times when travelling on a School Bus. All students must:

- 1) Behave in a safe, responsible, and respectful manner – ensuring that behaviours and noise levels are not uncomfortable to other passengers.
- 2) Behave in a way that does not breach the Student Code of Conduct, School Community Code of Conduct and or the Child Safe Code of Conduct.
- 3) Remain properly seated while the bus is in motion, at all times.
- 4) Treat bus captains with respect and follow instructions given.
- 5) Sit according to the seating plan if one is in place.
- 6) Not take photos or videos of other students, drivers, or aspects of the bus during operation.
- 7) Not eat food (including chewing gum) or consume drinks (other than water) on the bus.
- 8) Not sit on armrests, kneel, or place feet on the seats.
- 9) Not draw on, damage, or deface any article in or on the bus.
- 10) Not use offensive or inappropriate language.
- 11) Not throw any article in or from the bus.
- 12) Not wrestle or fight.
- 13) Not spit or fight.
- 14) Not distract the driver while the bus is in motion unless there is a serious reason to do so such as requesting a stop or an emergency.
- 15) Not make inappropriate and/or rude gestures to others including pedestrians and/or the general public.
- 16) Not yell at or out to others or pedestrians and/or the general public.
- 17) Not behave whilst waiting for a bus in a way that brings discredit to the School.
- 18) Ensure if they are travelling on a Bacchus Marsh Grammar private bus, that they travel on the bus service to which they have been allocated.
- 19) Behave in a way that respects the rights of residents who are in the vicinity of school bus stops.
- 20) Wear seat belts where fitted at all times.
- 21) Carry their Student ID card at all times.
- 22) Disembark at their designated stop as advised on Roll Call for students travelling on a Bacchus Marsh Grammar private bus.

- 23) Abide by Bacchus Marsh Grammar's Rules and Regulations, particularly those related to behaviour and appearance.
- 24) Not enter the driver area of the bus or touch any driver instruments. THIS AREA IS STRICTLY OUT OF BOUNDS.

All enquiries, concerns or issues are to be reported to the School Bus Service Administrator - Mrs Leanne Robertson by calling 5366 4800 or via email at bus@bmg.vic.edu.au. if their child has complained about the behaviour of other students or if they have a query about their child's behaviour.

The Canteen

The Canteen operates every school day to provide lunches as well as being open for counter sales at both recess and lunchtime.

Lunch Orders

All lunch orders will be placed through the Flexischools App, allowing for convenient online ordering and cash-free transactions. Instructions for accessing and setting up the Flexischools App will be provided to families before the start of the school year. Each Junior School class has a designated lunch basket where canteen staff place filled lunch orders. Junior canteen monitors collect the baskets and return them to classrooms in time for lunch.

Emergency Lunches

If a student requires an emergency lunch, arrangements can be made, with payment processed through the Flexischools App.

The House System

Each student is a member of one of eight Houses. These are:

- **Dale** – Orange
- **Djerriwarrh** – Purple
- **Kororoit** – Yellow
- **Lerderberg** – Navy Blue
- **Parwan** – Bottle Green
- **Pykes** – Light Blue
- **Pyrites** – Maroon
- **Toolern** – Red



Family members all belong to the same House. Houses are involved in various school activities and competitions under the leadership of Senior students within the House.

Physical Education / Sport Awards

Age Group Champions

Students in Year 5 to 8 may compete in four individual races and one relay in House Swimming, and in five individual races and one relay for House Athletics.

All athletes in Year 5 and 6 will compete in their age groups. The age group in which students compete is determined by the age they reach during that year (i.e. if a student turns 12 during the school year, they compete in the 12/13 year old age group). All athletes in Year 7 and 8 will compete in their Year level for interschool and ICCES competitions (unless otherwise advised).

Camps

All students from Year 5 to 8 will attend a minimum of one camp each year. The Camps program is sequential, with age appropriate challenges and experiences providing transitional pathways into the Senior School Camps and Outdoor Education program.

Co-Curricular Activities

Participation in a range of extra-curricular activities and clubs is offered to students both at lunchtimes and after school. It is the expectation of the school that all Year 5 to 8 students **will** be involved in an extra-curricular activity. Some of these activities may include:

- Musical Groups
- Drama Productions or Dance Ensembles
- Games Club
- Chess Club
- Sports
- Academic competitions
- Public Speaking and Debating
- STEM Club

Middle School Colours

Middle School Colours are awarded to students in Years 5 to 8 in recognition of their participation in and contribution to the School Community, and their on-going effort and achievement across a variety of areas within the School.

To be eligible to receive School Colours, students must demonstrate a high level of cooperation, responsibility and care towards other members of the School community.

Students eligible to be awarded School Colours must have accumulated in excess of 50 points in areas determined by the Middle School Colours program. No student will be awarded Middle School Colours if they do not meet the general conduct standard expected by the School.

Students awarded Middle School Colours will be presented with a badge at a Middle School assembly. Students may achieve Double Middle School Colours once they have accumulated 100 points and will be presented with braid to be sewn to the top of the blazer pocket.

Tutor Group teachers are responsible for confirming the allocation of points towards Middle School Colours and liaise with the appropriate Head of Year when a student is ready to apply for Middle School Colours presentation.

Students may be awarded points towards their school colours in a range of areas that can be found on Schoolbox.

Middle School Leadership Opportunities

Bacchus Marsh Grammar has a firm commitment to service leadership. Service leadership is based on service to others, the School and wider community. All students in the Middle School are encouraged to participate in service leadership opportunities and be positive role models for others across both the Middle School and Junior School. To facilitate the promotion of service leadership across the School, there are a number of recognised positions of leadership opportunities for which students moving into Year 6 and Year 8 may apply. Applications and interviews occur during Term 4. A list of service leadership positions can be found in the table below:

Year 6	Year 8
	Middle School Captains
	Middle School Vice Captains
SRC Leaders	SRC Leaders
Language and Literacy Leaders	Language and Literacy Leaders
Performing and Visual Arts Leaders	Performing and Visual Arts Leaders
Music Leaders	Music Leaders
Co Curricular Leaders	Co Curricular Leaders
Environment Leaders	Environment Leaders
STEM Leaders	STEM Leaders
Dale House Leader	Dale House Leader
Djerriwarrh House Leader	Djerriwarrh House Leader
Kororoit House Leader	Kororoit House Leader
Lerderderg House Leader	Lerderderg House Leader
Parwan House Leader	Parwan House Leader
Pykes House Leader	Pykes House Leader
Pyrites House Leader	Pyrites House Leader
Toolern House Leader	Toolern House Leader
Middle School Bus Leaders	Middle School Bus Leaders

Staughton Vale Campus

Bacchus Marsh Grammar has established a unique rural facility at [Staughton Vale](#), in Anakie.

Located on 200 acres, the stunning campus backs onto the Brisbane Ranges National Park. The site enjoys extensive views of the City of Melbourne, the You Yangs Regional Park and Port Phillip Bay. As well as providing an area in which significant native wildlife congregate, the site has extensive orchards and a significant area of good, well-watered soil suitable for a range of activities.

The campus commenced in 2017 and, as it develops, it will play a central role in the life and experiences of Bacchus Marsh Grammar. It has already given our students unmatched opportunities to experience all the advantages of a rural campus in close proximity to where they live.

Many of our students are from urbanised areas so Staughton Vale helps provide an even more rounded education. It enables them to be close to nature, get their hands dirty and experience the pleasure of physical work and activity.

While Staughton Vale's curriculum has a Middle School emphasis, the campus helps fulfil the following key objectives across all year levels:

- Observational skills are developed over time and are the key to a deeper understanding and authentic learning. The Staughton Vale programs enrich basic observational skills and the associated structuring of knowledge.
- The practical activities and applications at Staughton Vale extend learning beyond the classroom environment.
- Staughton Vale provides a unique and engaging setting for the development of lifelong skills such as collaboration, initiative, calculating risk and developing resilience.

The campus gives students the opportunity to reflect on the power and magic of a storm brewing in Port Phillip Bay and the impressive expanse of the City of Melbourne. Whilst offering a challenging program, it also enables students to reflect and explore their learning at a different level.

We are confident that all students will embrace the challenges offered by Staughton Vale and grow to love the facility and what it offers.

Inter-School Competitions

Year 5 and 6

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is involved in an inter-school competition with a group of local primary schools within the local area. Students are selected to represent the school at various sporting competitions and events such as debating and chess.

Year 7 and 8

Bacchus Marsh Grammar is involved in an inter-school competition with a group of independent schools within the wider area. Students are selected to represent the school at various sporting competitions and events such as debating and chess. A round robin competition in a number of summer and winter sports (including netball, tennis, softball and cricket) may also be offered. Students are expected to attend weekly training for these sports and other academic pursuits.

Nuts and Nut Products

At Bacchus Marsh Grammar, we have a growing number of students who have been identified with anaphylaxis, a severe allergic reaction particularly to nuts and nut products. In the interests of the safety of all students in our school, it is important to note that we are a nut aware school. Please refrain from bringing food containing nuts and nut products as we have a Risk Management Plan in place to provide a safe environment for the students and staff with allergic and Anaphylaxis conditions.

Birthdays and Class Parties

Due to the increasing concern about the number of children who experience allergic and anaphylactic reactions to certain foods, additives etc. we ask that parents/guardians **do not send in any** food or gifts for their child to share with the class for their birthdays, Easter, Christmas or other special occasions.

We recognise that birthdays are an extremely special day for your child, so the class teacher will celebrate your child's special day.

Outside School Hours Care Program – Year 5 and 6 Only

The Y Ballarat offers before school and after school care for Primary aged students on school grounds. Details and associated costs for this program are available on the [school's website](#). Note: Currently there is no Before School Care available. This may be subject to change.

School Communication

Schoolbox

Accessible from the School website, Schoolbox is the School's learning management system (LMS), community portal and engagement platform. Schoolbox provides an efficient, secure and environmentally friendly way for the School to communicate and share information with Bacchus Marsh Grammar parents. Parents/guardians may use this system to access the curriculum, assessment due dates, interim results, school forms and letters and also keep connected and apprised with what's happening within the School Community. The Family Engagement Page can also be utilised by parents to keep up to date with their child's learning and special events.

myBMG Parent Portal

Accessible via Schoolbox Quick Links, the myBMG Parent Portal provides financial information, including fee statements and options to make payments towards your school fees, various user pays activities and any ad hoc charges. The portal also provides a booking system for parent/teacher interviews and a space for families to securely update medical and contact information.

EdSmart

The School uses the service of EdSmart, which is a software providing a more effective and efficient platform for managing school communications between the school and parent/guardians. A significant benefit of the software is that it assists the School in achieving its objective of being a more sustainable organisation by significantly reducing the carbon footprint through the elimination of paper communications. Through EdSmart, communications e.g. letters for camps and excursions, are sent to parents/guardians electronically via email.

The School does need to share parent and student personal information including names, addresses, date of birth and some medical data with EdSmart. EdSmart is a cloud-based platform and is committed to protecting the security of your personal information. It uses a variety of security technologies and procedures to help protect your personal

information from unauthorised access, use or disclosure and they are required by law to abide by the Australian Privacy Principles. For more information on EdSmart privacy, please view their Privacy Policy.

For the system to operate effectively it requires all parents/guardians to update email and mobile telephone details on the My Details Tab via Schoolbox as soon as possible.

School Website

The school's website is an informative platform for current families and includes items such as policies, key contacts and dates. The website can be found at www.bmg.vic.edu.au.

School eNews

Our eNews (newsletter) publication will be changing in 2025.

The newsletter provides upcoming administrative information and provides information on the daily operations of the School. Importantly, the newsletter will often contain reminders related to information contained within the Business Notice. It is vital, therefore, that parents/guardians read the newsletter and are fully aware of its contents.

To subscribe to the eNews visit the School's website [here](#).

School Social Media Platforms

Bacchus Marsh Grammar operates official Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn pages and can be found by searching "Bacchus Marsh Grammar".

Social media is an alternative platform of communication within our School Community. It has been set up in order to share special interest articles and strengthen the School's brand.

Social media is an integral part of society and how we form, create and share information within our community. However, if social media is inappropriately used, serious issues can arise. As such, the School requests all parents/guardians exercise their best judgment and carefully consider the content and appropriateness of any communications made via this format.

Multimedia Consent

In 2025, the School will implement a new process around consent for Multimedia – the recording of a student by photo or video. New families will be sent an EdSmart slip to indicate consent for their child/ren and continuing students consent choices will roll-over year to year, as accepted in the Annual Acknowledgement.

Annually, parents will be reminded that they have the opportunity to "opt-out" of consent, however, they may choose to do so in writing at any time throughout the year.

To understand more about Multimedia consent and where Multimedia will be used and stored, please view our Multimedia Policy and Guidelines, available on the School policy tile on Schoolbox.

Welcome to Year 5 and Year 6

Staff at Bacchus Marsh Grammar would like to welcome each new family to our Middle School Community. Together we will work in partnership to guide your child through an important stage of their development.

In Years 5 and 6 we foster a caring, safe and happy environment where the child's continuing desire to learn and grow is fostered and developed. Care and respect are mutual concerns for all members of the School Community and these values are continuously developed.

In today's society, there can be a tendency to overprotect and insulate our children for as long as they will allow us to do so. It is, however, of no benefit to you or your child for you to inhibit their personal growth and not allow them to develop into independent learners who are able to make mistakes and learn from the consequences.

Whilst parents are encouraged to participate in their child's education through involvement in a variety of activities and events, we also expect that parents allow their child to develop as an individual. With parental support and direction, children can learn to cope in a variety of environments and develop resilience, enabling them to cope in the world in which we live.

Socially, the school provides new and wide ranging experiences for each child. By working together, sharing materials and fair play, each child is encouraged to develop essential social skills. In Years 5 and 6, we aim to develop independence and establish healthy routines and acceptable codes of discipline which will carry each child through their secondary years.

Curriculum Overview

Students in Year 5 and 6 learn skills and strategies in a variety of engaging curriculum areas which include:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Music
- Art
- Languages
- Health, Physical Education and Sport
- Design and Technology
- History and Geography
- Science

Highlights

To support the academic program, students in Years 5 and 6 have the possibility of being involved in:

- Camps
- Excursions
- Leadership Opportunities
- Music Opportunities
- House Sporting Carnivals
- Interschool Sporting Competition
- Academic Extension Programs and Competitions
- Co-curricular activities
- Performing Arts / School Plays
- Year 6 Graduation

Welcome to Year 7 and Year 8

In Year 7 and 8, all staff members look forward to a productive and successful year with students taking part in many of the School's co-curricular activities as well as making the most of their academic abilities in the classroom.

This year, Bacchus Marsh Grammar offers a wide range and a large number of events that we encourage all students in Year 7 and 8 to enjoy. Intra-school events include House Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country and Music. Inter-school activities include football, hockey, cricket, swimming, cross country, debating and chess. There are also many co-curricular activities that, apart from being great fun, help to build team spirit and organisational and disciplinary skills. Students are offered positions in music ensembles including Middle School Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Middle School and Senior Bands and String Ensemble. The School stages musical and drama productions, and, apart from on-stage positions, students are offered the chance to work backstage in areas such as lighting, backstage, stage-work and set-design.

Students in Year 7 and 8 attend an Orientation Day (Year 7) and a Camp each year, and these are always a highlight of the school year. The exhilarating and rewarding experiences to be had are always fondly remembered.

As a result of Bacchus Marsh Grammar's relationships with many overseas schools, opportunities have also arisen for students to be involved in School trips to France, New Caledonia and Japan. Students and families are also encouraged to billet students from overseas schools that are visiting Bacchus Marsh Grammar. This is a wonderful chance to foster relationships with people from other cultures, with some overseas students reciprocating by hosting their former hosts in their own country.

In Year 7 and 8, students are expected to complete approximately 60 to 90 minutes of homework a night, for 5 nights a week. We encourage students to develop good study habits and self-discipline skills and we set a realistic and achievable study and revision timetable. We would encourage parents/guardians to take a keen interest in their child's work and help them to develop and maintain good study habits. This includes taking some time to read the pages at the front of the school diary to familiarise yourself with school regulations regarding school/sports uniform, jewellery and makeup, and absences. Parents/Guardians are also expected to check and sign their child's diary each week.

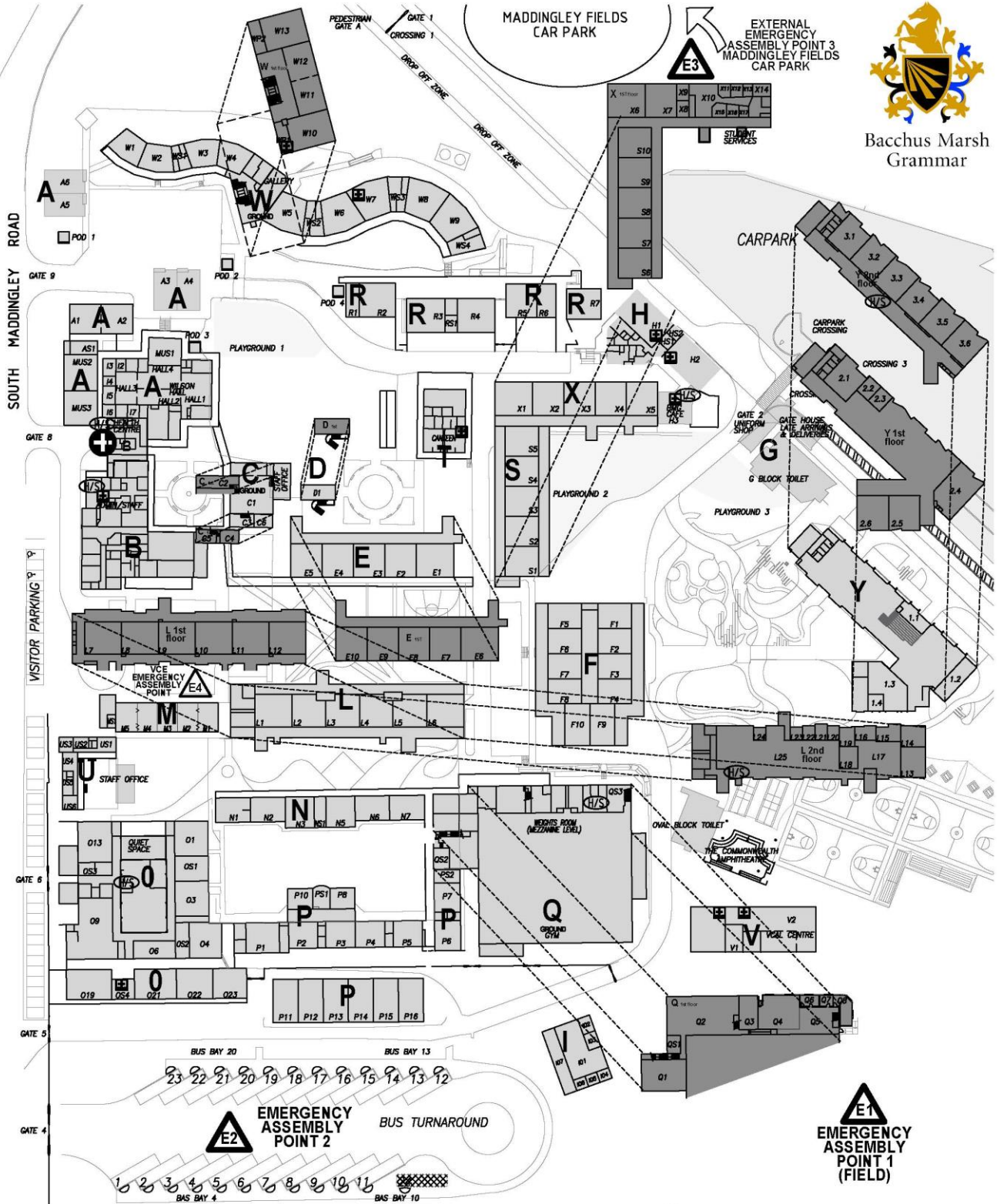
Part of our pastoral program at Bacchus Marsh Grammar includes students having daily contact with their Tutor Group teachers. These teachers are the first point of contact if you have any concerns about your child's welfare and education.

Staff would like to take this opportunity to offer their support to every student in Year 7 and 8, as well as their parents/guardians. We are available should you need any assistance throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to contact staff at the school if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's education and welfare or require information or clarification about any aspect of the School's policy or curriculum.

SCHOOL MAP – Maddingley Campus



Bacchus Marsh
Grammar



- A Wilson Hall
- B O'Day Administration Centre - Main Entrance
- C Silvija Lucas Junior School Library
- D Senior School Classrooms
- E Junior School Classrooms
- F Junior School Classrooms
- G Gatehouse (uniform shop, late arrival pass, deliveries)
- H Food Technology Centre
- I Staff Offices
- L Senior School Classrooms
- M Senior School Classrooms
- N Senior School Classrooms
- O Senior School Science & Technology
- P Baxter Holly Senior School Classroom Wing
- Q John Leaver Gymnasium Centre
- R General Purpose Classrooms
- S Junior Classrooms / Student Services
- T Canteen/ Junior School Toilets
- U Staff Resource Centre
- V Wood Shed and Maintenance Shed
- W Terraces Building including - Lou Callow Art School / Observatory / Greenhouse
- X Classrooms
- Y 'The Hive' / Library

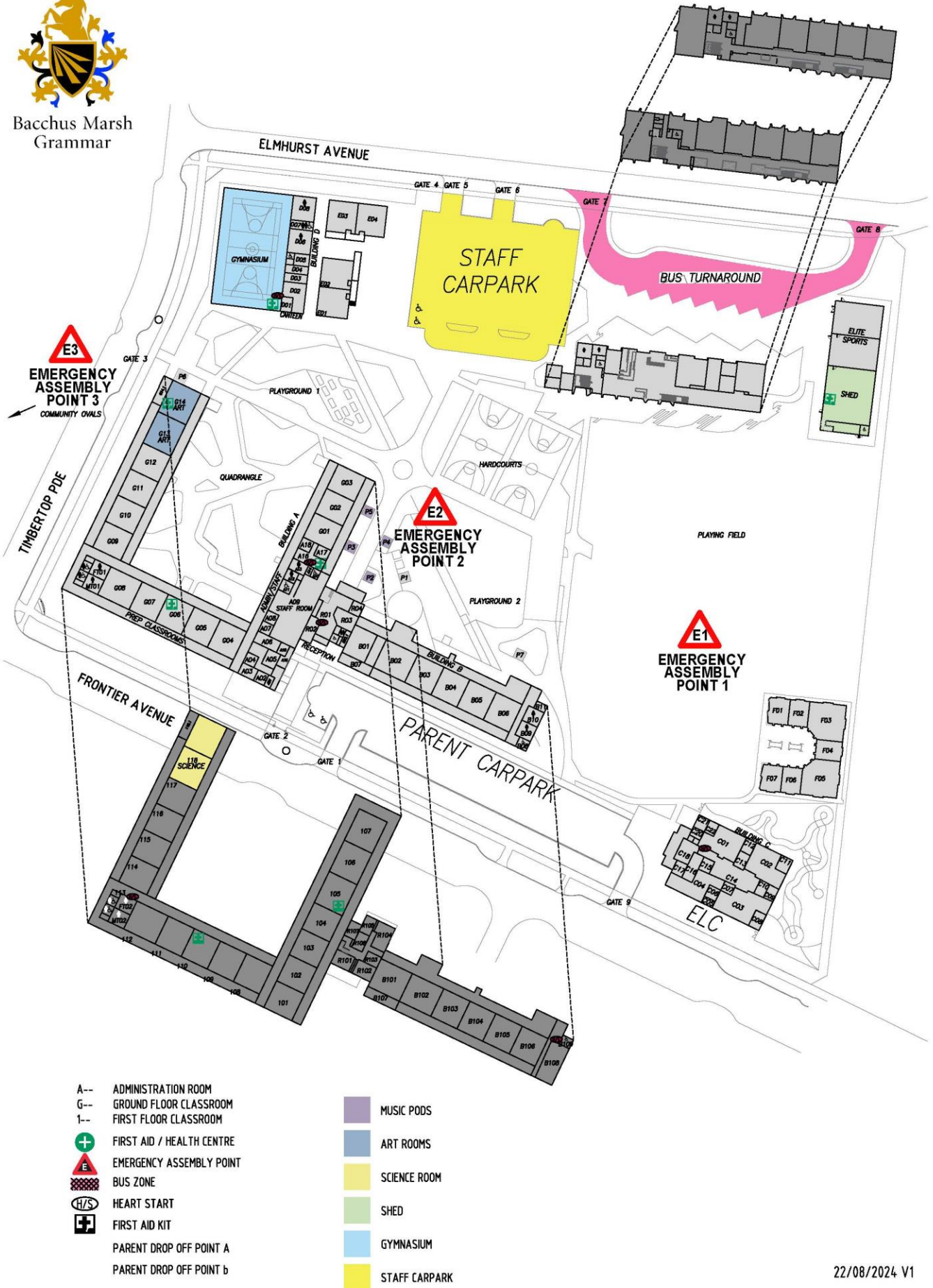
- FIRST AID / HEALTH CENTRE
- EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY POINT
- BUS ZONE
- STUDENT DROP OFF & PICK UP POINT
- HEART START
- FIRST AID

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SCHOOL MAP – Woodlea Campus



Bacchus Marsh
Grammar



- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--|---------------|
| A-- | ADMINISTRATION ROOM | | MUSIC PODS |
| G-- | GROUND FLOOR CLASSROOM | | ART ROOMS |
| 1-- | FIRST FLOOR CLASSROOM | | SCIENCE ROOM |
| | FIRST AID / HEALTH CENTRE | | SHED |
| | EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY POINT | | GYMNASIUM |
| | BUS ZONE | | STAFF CARPARK |
| | HEART START | | |
| | FIRST AID KIT | | |
| | PARENT DROP OFF POINT A | | |
| | PARENT DROP OFF POINT B | | |

22/08/2024 V1



Doctrina Vitae

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