

Special Announcement

Principal Andrew Neal – Retirement Notice

The Board of Bacchus Marsh Grammar (BMG) wishes to announce to its community that our esteemed Principal of 26 years' service, Mr Andrew Neal, has advised the Board that he will be retiring from his role of BMG Principal at the end of the 2025 school year.

This announcement is being made at this time, in accordance with BMG's constitution, to advise our BMG community of the steps the Board is taking to ensure that an appropriate person and leader is identified and appointed to the Principal role in the future, and to advise that Andrew Neal will play a key part in ensuring the successful transition and support for the new BMG Principal during this period.

There will be opportunity in the future for the entire BMG community to appropriately acknowledge and celebrate Andrew's service and legacy to BMG. The Board wishes to convey its heartfelt thanks to Andrew for his enormous leadership and contribution to BMG over the past 26 years as BMG's Principal, to his service to education generally over the past 38 years, and to highlight some of Andrew's many achievements.

It is anticipated that the new Principal search will commence in early 2024 with the aim of selecting the Principal elect during 2024 and with an operational start in early 2025. The timeline may vary depending upon BMG and the successful candidate's requirements. BMG has appointed external expertise in the form of Diana Taylor from Diana Taylor Legal Consulting and Executive Recruitment Agent ANZUK, to lead and support BMG in the search for our next Principal.

The BMG Board will continue to keep the BMG community up to date at the relevant time with further announcements regarding the Principal recruitment process in 2024.

On behalf of the BMG Board, thank you for your support as BMG enters this next phase of its service and education for our community, and our sincere thanks and gratitude to our Principal, Andrew Neal.

[Click here](#) to view the correspondence to the community in full.



Mrs Cathy Jeffkins: Board Chair – Bacchus Marsh Grammar

Welcome Back!

Welcome to Maddingley and Woodlea Campus

Greetings to both new and returning students to campus at Maddingley and Woodlea for the academic year 2024. We trust that all families enjoyed a rejuvenating summer break and cherishing moments with loved ones. Our learners are already showcasing their passion for knowledge and we eagerly anticipate the remarkable achievements they will accomplish this year.

We would like to formally welcome our new staff:

WOODLEA ELC

Tiffany De Sousa-Luppino

Junior School

Hannah Bailey

Sonia Pereira

Sharmila Pereira

Sze Ling Foo

Geraldine O'Connor

Subject Teachers

Stacey-Lee Viljoen

Hannah Martin

Stilianos Giamoukougou

Douglass Yorganson

Samantha Yorganson

Krystal Pit

Andres Toledo

Suman Rampal

Jasmin Zelaya

Maintenance

Michael Rogan

MADDINGLEY Junior School

Christie Sharp

Administration

Robert Cassar

Andrew Pate

Subject Teachers

Jo Porch

Ramya Kurmala

Yuriko Hendrie

Marissa Ramlu

Claire O'Connor

Caroline Turner-Booth

Diana Szabo

Phillippa Neal

Kayla Rideg

Stuart Moss

Rutwa Modi

Dawn Rodgers

Trudy Binks

Shingo Gibson-Suzuki

Tutor

Helen McLennan

Stay connected for a year brimming with thrilling opportunities by [subscribing to the school newsletter](#), exploring the Family Engagement Pages on Schoolbox, and regularly checking the Parent Portal for updates.

Here's to a year filled with growth, exploration and shared accomplishments.

Mrs Danielle Copeman: Head of Woodlea Campus, Mrs Debra Ogston: Head of Maddingley Campus and

Mrs Sarah Hunter: Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus

The banner features a blue background on the left with the school crest and logo. The crest includes a shield with a cross and a banner, topped with a crown. The text 'Doctrina Vitae' is above the crest, and 'Bacchus Marsh Grammar' is below it. To the right of the crest is a photograph of three students in school uniforms walking outdoors. A yellow banner at the bottom of the photo says 'Follow us on Instagram'. On the far right is a large QR code with the Instagram logo in the center. Below the QR code is the text 'BACCHUSMARSHGRAMMAR'. A small black box in the top left corner of the banner contains the text 'BMG SOCIAL'.

“Look Up” Woodlea 2024

As we embark on an exciting new school year, our theme for 2024 is "Look Up."

This year, we encourage students to embrace their curiosity. Whether it's discovering new interests, fostering friendships, or engaging in creative endeavours, we want our students to lift their heads and seize the opportunities around them. "Look Up" signifies the power of imagination and the joy of learning. Let's make 2024 a year of growth, inspiration and endless possibilities. Together, as a school community, we can uplift each other and reach new heights!

The Woodlea campus Middle School Tutor Teachers, Heads of Year and Heads of School are very excited to be working with all returning and new families in 2024. To view the full list, click here: [Woodlea listing](#)

Any queries can be addressed by your child's Tutor Group Teacher. All students are also supported by the Middle School leadership team.

**Mrs Sarah Hunter: Deputy Head of Woodlea Campus, Mrs Nicole Heywood: Head of Senior School
& Mr Michael Abramovic: Deputy Head of Middle School**

Senior School at Maddingley

Welcome back to the 2024 school year! We are looking forward to a positive and productive year. Our focus this year will be on ensuring that all our students striving to achieve their best and to push themselves to go beyond what they imagined possible. We expect that all students will return to school ready to participate in their learning and that they are ready to create strong and respectful relationships with both their peers and teachers to ensure a learning environment that allows all to succeed and thrive. We encourage all students to get involved with the life of the school.

We would like to introduce the Senior School Leadership team for 2024. Please view the team list here on Schoolbox:

[Maddingley listing](#)

The Senior School Leadership team look forward to working with all students in the Senior School this year and are there to support, encourage and work with students to ensure that all students are making the most of their learning opportunities. Finally, we ask that students and their families become familiar with the revised uniform policy which can be found in their school diary.

**Mrs Natalie Desira: Assistant Principal/Head of Senior School and
Mrs Tenielle Brown: Deputy Head of Senior School**

Student Representative Council (SRC)

For any students in Years 5 to 12 interested in becoming a member of the Maddingley SRC, please keep an eye on Schoolbox for an announcement in Week 2. It will be a link to a GoogleForm that you fill in and then, a week or so later, you'll receive an email letting you know if you have been accepted. We only accept around 10 students per year level so make your application stand out!

We will also be running a Maddingley Easter Raffle Working Bee which is open to all students in Years 5 to 12 - whether you have been or want to be an SRC member, the more the merrier! The room will be confirmed via a Schoolbox announcement.



Miss Kim McBain & Miss Caitlin Bowers: Coordinator - SRC 5-12

Pe, Sport & Health

Welcome to 2024

The PE, Sport and Health Faculty is excited to see the return of students to the campus and hope that everyone is refreshed and ready for an exciting new academic year. Term 1 will have a range of events and activities, so we encourage students to keep an eye out on Schoolbox for sporting clubs, trials and training sessions they can be involved in. We hope all students are ready for an exciting and challenging year filled with lots of opportunities to learn and grow, especially in terms of leading a healthy and active lifestyle.



Recent Sporting Success

Congratulations to the following students on their recent sporting success.

Ella Closter (12G) (*pictured left*) has been selected to play for the Western Warriors VNL U23 Netball Squad following her wonderful year at the Darley Devils. We look forward to seeing Ella's development throughout the year.



Mackenzie Estlick (10I) (*pictured right*) participated in the Australian All Schools Athletics Championships in Perth during December and achieved two personal bests on the national stage. Her team came 3rd in the 4x100m relay, she finished 9th in the 200m and in the 100m she placed 8th in Australia with a personal best of 12.45 seconds.



Ruby Gorton (10E) (*pictured left*) represented Victoria in the U15 National Championships in Canberra in January. Ruby finished the tournament with a bronze medal, a "Best on Ground" against Tasmania and scored 4 goals in the tournament.



Mr Bryce Durham – Head of Faculty: PE, Sport & Health

Maddingley Co-Curricular Clubs

Middle and Senior School Co-Curricular Clubs for 2024



Do you want to learn a new skill? Do you want to try something new? Then the new and improved timetable for co-curricular program is for you!

In the coming weeks a number of new and established clubs and activities will be available to all students in the Middle and Senior Schools. Mostly taking place at lunchtimes, after school and (some) weekends, all students will be given the opportunity to experience a number of clubs and activities.

According to recent research, employers rated the students who were at least minimally involved as significantly more hireable than those who were not involved. Employers also rated highly-involved students as significantly more career-ready than uninvolved or minimally-involved students. Further findings and similar research imply that any type of co-curricular involvement at school is beneficial for students' career aspirations and that employers notice more participation.

When students participate in co-curricular activities, they build confidence, form relationships, increase collaboration, improve their problem-solving, gain new skills, improve resilience, nurture individual well-being and develop crucial skills for life after school. Students engaged in experiences outside of the classroom develop different skills from those who are only involved in the classroom, thereby bringing balance to the student experience and helping nurture the student holistically.

The bottom line is, the more involved a student is, the more they will be satisfied with their school experience.

So look out for the Maddingley Middle and Senior School co-curricular timetable, coming soon.

Mr David Gorton - Director of Student Engagement / Head of Staughton Vale Campus

Bus Update

Temporary Update for KOALA ROUTE

Stop 3 on the Koala Route, Cobblebank Stadium, Bridge Road is inaccessible due to road works on Ferris Road. This stop will not be available for students in the AM or PM for boarding or disembarking. Students are advised to use another stop on the koala route that is suitable or convenient. We are of the understanding this will be for all of February 2024.

Roll Call

On 29 January 2024, parents were sent a 'Welcome' email from Roll Call inviting them to activate the Roll Call app. Roll Call is for parents whose children travel on private buses, so they can track the bus in real time and receive notifications of when their child/ren tap on/off the bus. Roll Call is also for parents whose children do not travel on private buses but when they board a bus for a camp, excursion etc. It is advised ALL parents activate their Roll Call account.

AM/PM changes: If parents require their child to change their AM or PM stop permanently, please contact the School Bus Services Administrator so this can be updated on Roll Call. For the safety of students and drivers, it is very important

that stops are up to date on Roll Call. If students are to disembark as a “one off” at a different stop on their designated route, parents are to update this in Roll Call prior to 1.30pm on the day of travel.

Note: If students are not travelling via their private bus in the morning, parents DO NOT need to advise the school or update Roll Call. If your student is absent from school, parents are to call the absentee line at their child’s campus and leave a message. If students in Prep – Year 6 are not travelling home via bus, a note in the child’s diary is required in advance for the class teacher.

ID Cards

Students will be issued their Student ID cards. Students MUST use their Student ID card to tap on/off the bus. Student ID cards are compulsory when boarding a private bus or attending all school excursions/camps etc and they must be carried at all times. Students who board the bus repeatedly without their ID cards will receive a detention or further consequences.

Student Permission Cards

Students in Prep – Year 6 require a green permission tag on their bag if they are to disembark the bus to be picked up by someone other than their parent/guardian. Students in Grade 5 & 6 can disembark the bus on their own if they have a green permission tag on their bag for the driver to check. Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notices are available on Schoolbox under School Letters. Please return Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notices to bus@bmg.vic.edu.au. All 2023 Student Permission tags will be removed from the students’ bags on Friday 16 February 2024. Any student requiring an updated tag for 2024 must have an updated Student Afternoon Bus Arrangement & Permission Notice completed by this date so a 2024 replacement tag can be attached to their bag.

Late Buses

The late bus timetables can be accessed via the school’s website. Students must attend Reception to sign up for the late bus before the end of lunchtime on the day which the service is required.

Maddingley Campus

This service is available Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoons departing at 4.40pm and servicing Melton, Caroline Springs, Tarneit, Werribee and Manor Lakes. The late bus has been split into two routes for 2024. Late Bus 1 covers Melton, Caroline Springs and Tarneit. Late Bus 2 covers Manor Lakes, Werribee and Hoppers Crossing. This service is available for students in Year 5 to Year 12 who are involved in school productions or after-school classes / activities. Services will commence from 6 February 2024.

Woodlea Campus

This service is available only on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons departing at 4.40pm and servicing Caroline Springs, Williams Landing and Werribee. This service is available for students in Year 5 to Year 10 who are involved in school productions or after-school classes / activities. The late bus for Woodlea campus will commence 12th February 2024.

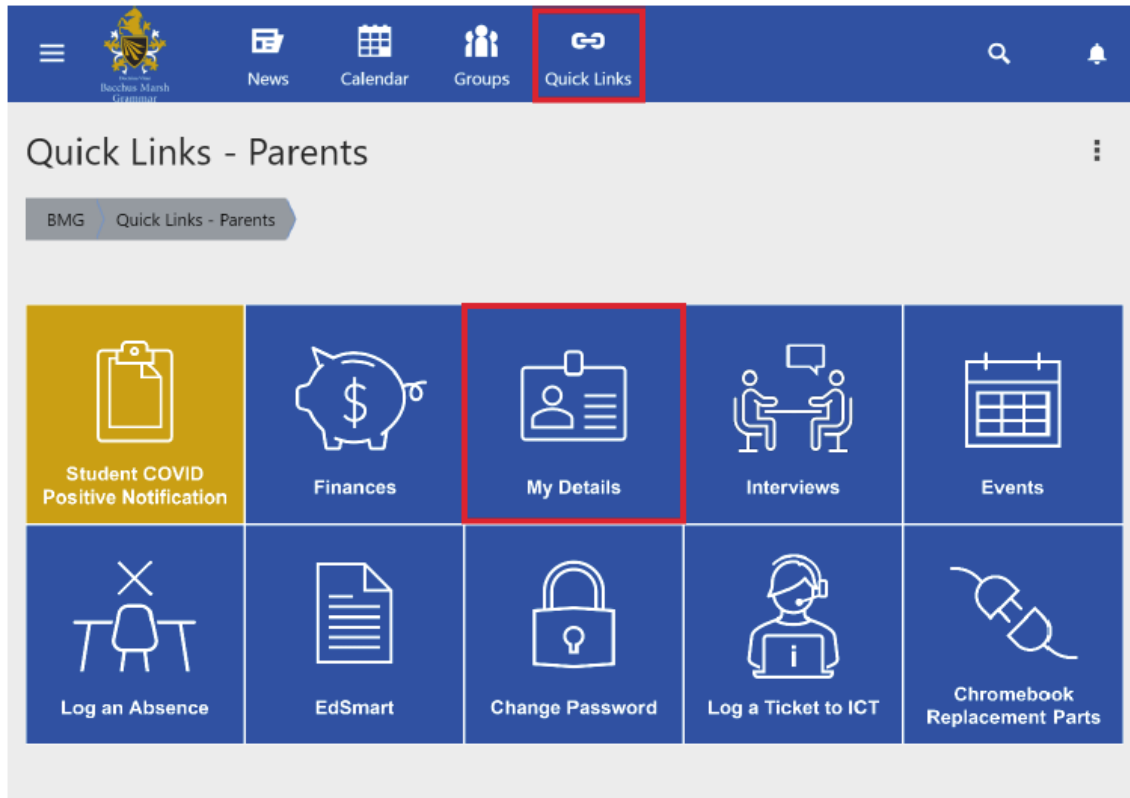
Mrs Leanne Robertson - School Bus Services Administrator



Health Centre Reminder

Please update your child's medical information via the parent portal as per instructions below. If your child has medical information you feel we need to know, please contact the Health Centre at your child's campus.

1. After logging into schoolbox, if you click the quick links option on the menu, you'll find the 'My Details' button

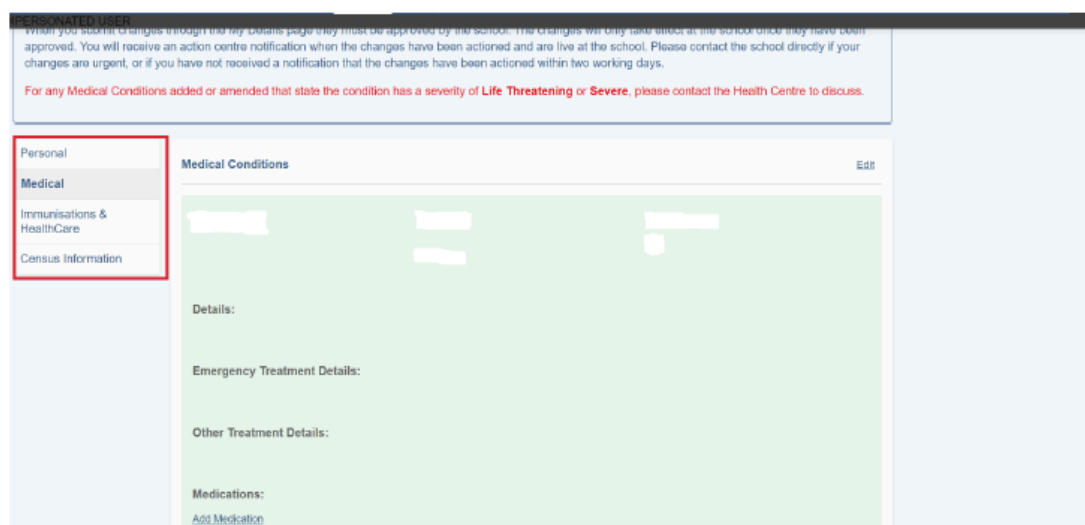


2. Clicking the 'My Details' button will take you to 'my BMG Parent Portal'. There is a menu bar over here which will let you to switch between your children (if more than 1) and yourself



This is where parents can switch between their children

3. On the left-hand side in 'My Details' there is Personal/Medical/Immunisations & HealthCare/Census..... you need to click through these and update any information on these 'tabs' or 'screens'



Year Level Coordinators

All Year Level Coordinators are listed on Schoolbox with email addresses should you need to make contact.

[Maddingley listing](#)

[Woodlea listing](#)

School Administration News

School Communication

Urgent notifications – SMS/Email from Principal

Please note that any urgent reminders or notifications are sent via SMS. Emails can also be sent via the Director of Administration – Michelle Graham (grahamm@bmg.vic.edu.au).

EdSmart – notifications for excursions/key school communication

All families are sent notifications and permission forms for completion via the EdSmart email notification system. Look for 'Bacchus Marsh Grammar' in your inbox. Always check your 'junk mail' just in case a notification is missing.

Multimedia Consent via EdSmart

Annually the School seeks parental consent for use of multimedia containing BMG students.

Multimedia is defined as photography, video, audio or any other form of electronic recording. It can be used in school publications such as the Yearbook, [Grammarian](#), weekly [BMG eNews](#), on the school website, Schoolbox and can extend to advertising and social media.

Photography and videography can occur across all campuses or off-site at school events, activities, camps and excursions. Multimedia will be collected, used and stored in accordance with the School's [Privacy Policy](#).

Parents will be sent an EdSmart notification next week to complete the Multimedia Consent process for 2024. We request that parents review the categories listed within the email and complete the consent process by **Friday 9**

February. If not completed by this date, students will be marked as DO NOT CONSENT for all categories in 2024 and excluded from all photography/videography. This consent will be active for a full school year. If you have more than one child attending the school, you will be sent an EdSmart notification for each child.

If you have any questions, please make contact with Ms Jess Thorpe at the Maddingley Administration Office on 03 5366 4800.

Lost Property

A reminder to our School Community, and particularly our new families - please ensure all your child/ren's items are named. This includes all uniform, lunchboxes, drink bottles and stationery.

Lost items are brought to the office and we will make every effort to return them to students via the class pigeon holes.



SCHOOL DOCUMENT UPDATE

The following School documents have been reviewed and updated:

- Child Safe Program Quick Reference Guide
- Child Safe Standards Toolkit

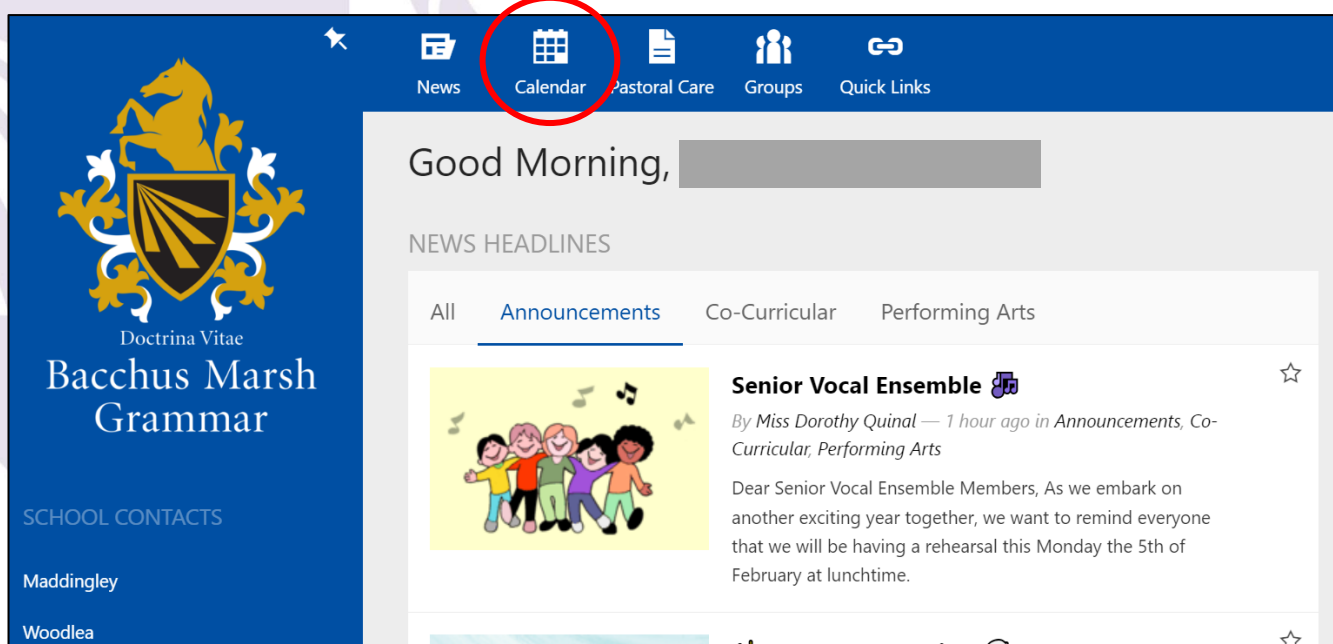
These documents are available to view on the **Child Safe** page in Schoolbox.

2024 Term Dates

The 2024 Term Dates have been published on the [school's website](#).

Events Calendar

We wish to inform our School Community that previous listing of upcoming events on the **Events Calendar via the school's website will gradually** cease, with all upcoming events featuring on the Schoolbox Calendar for both students and parents/guardians to view.



The screenshot shows the school website's navigation bar with icons for News, Calendar (circled in red), Pastoral Care, Groups, and Quick Links. The main content area displays a 'Good Morning' greeting and a 'NEWS HEADLINES' section. The 'Announcements' tab is selected, showing an article titled 'Senior Vocal Ensemble' by Miss Dorothy Quinal, dated 1 hour ago. The article text reads: 'Dear Senior Vocal Ensemble Members, As we embark on another exciting year together, we want to remind everyone that we will be having a rehearsal this Monday the 5th of February at lunchtime.'

Uniform Shop

Uniform information and shop business hours for both the Maddingley Campus Onsite Shop and Rushfords in Werribee are listed on the [school's website](#). Please note that uniforms can also be purchased online via <https://www.noone.com.au/>.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) – The Y Ballarat



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The Y Ballarat operates the Out of School Hours Care at Bacchus Marsh Grammar. Upcoming Term Break and Vacation Care information can be found on the YBallarat website listed below.

Enrolments are completed online. For full information please visit the [school's website](#).

Email: chrissie.ashmore@yballarat.org.au Phone: 0490 178 638 W: <https://yballarat.org.au/>

Maddingley:

maddingley.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0438 154 842

Woodlea:

woodlea.oshc@yballarat.org.au

0490 490 362

Regular Contacts

Maddingley Campus

South Maddingley Road
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

P +61 3 5366 4800

F +61 3 5366 4850

Woodlea Campus

111 Frontier Avenue
Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4900

F +61 3 5366 4950

Woodlea Early Learning Centre

111 Frontier Avenue
Aintree VIC 3336

P +61 3 5366 4999

F +61 3 5366 4850

General School Email: school@bmg.vic.edu.au

School Website: www.bmg.vic.edu.au

Community News

Melton Valley MYGOLF JUNIOR Program



Day: Saturday 3rd February – 23rd March 2024

Times: 9.30 – 10.15 am (6-9 years)

10.15 – 11am (10-15 years)

Duration: 8 Weeks

Term Cost: \$160

Day: Wednesday 7th February – 27th March 2024

Times: 4.15 – 5.00 pm (6-15 years)

Duration: 8 Weeks

Term Cost: \$160

Program Outline: Melton Valley My Golf Junior Program is a structured program, learning different skill sets each week, ranging from Full swing irons/woods, pitching, chipping, putting and On Course Play.

Click here to register:

<https://golf.org.au/mygolf/facility/Melton+Valley+Golf+Club>