



**SCOTCH OAKBURN COLLEGE**  
CREATING THE FUTURE



# Co-curricular Handbook



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## **INTRODUCTION**



At Scotch Oakburn, we believe the most powerful learning often happens beyond the classroom. Our co-curricular program invites students to explore who they are, what they love, and how they connect with others.



From Prep to Year 12, every student has the opportunity to participate in activities that spark curiosity, build courage, and inspire creativity. These aren't just extra options. They are part of a rich learning journey that helps each student grow as a thinker, communicator, collaborator and contributor.



This handbook offers a guide to the opportunities on offer, but the real story is written by the students themselves. Through action, expression, and connection, they become the best versions of themselves and make a lasting impact on the world around them.



## CO-CURRICULAR PHILOSOPHY

Learning is not confined to the classroom. We believe that experiences beyond traditional academics are just as vital in shaping confident, curious, and capable young people.

Our co-curricular program is a key part of our learning journey. It opens doors to new skills, encourages collaboration, and offers meaningful ways to engage with both the school and the wider community. Through these experiences, students grow in independence, resilience, leadership, and empathy.

We see co-curricular activities as essential, not optional. They help students manage their time, follow through on commitments, and explore interests that often lead to lifelong passions. Every activity is a chance to live out the Values of Compassion, Courage, Commitment, Respect, and Responsibility. At the same time, students are developing the core Learner Attributes — managing themselves, relating to others, communicating effectively, contributing to their world, and reflecting on their growth.



Our philosophy is brought to life through five guiding principles that shape the design of the program:

- 1. Inclusive and Developmentally Appropriate**  
Every student, from Prep to Year 12, is encouraged to participate in the co-curricular life of the College.
- 2. Grounded in our Values**  
Each activity is connected to the College Values of Compassion, Courage, Commitment, Respect, and Responsibility.
- 3. Focused on Learner Growth**  
Co-curricular experiences are intentionally designed to strengthen the development of the College's Learner Attributes in every student.
- 4. Connected to Global Citizenship**  
We align our program with the Round Square IDEALS: Internationalism, Democracy, Environment, Adventure, Leadership, and Service.
- 5. Driven by Curiosity and Joy**  
We aim to ignite student interests and passions that can grow into meaningful pursuits both now and in the future.

These principles ensure that our co-curricular program is more than a checklist of activities. It is a vibrant and purposeful part of every student's Scotch Oakburn journey.



## CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Learning at Scotch Oakburn is designed to be active, engaging, and personal. Our co-curricular program brings this to life by offering students the chance to explore interests, develop skills, and contribute to the world around them.

Every student is encouraged to be part of this program. Whether they are stepping into a leadership role, competing on the field, performing on stage, or giving back through service, the experiences are rich with opportunities to grow.

The program is tailored to match each student's stage of development, with a wide range of options.

### Junior School (Prep – Year 5)

In the Junior School students begin to find their passions by experiencing a wide range of activities and sports. There is no co-curricular expectation. Instead students are encouraged to participate in everything that interests them.

Some options available are:

- **Academic Extension:** Competitions and challenges that stretch thinking and inspire a love of learning.
- **Clubs and Committees:** From Art Club, Book Club, Chess Club or Garden Gurus, or joining Walk to School Day, students can join groups that align with their interests or let them try something new.
- **Performing Arts:** Rock Band, Dance Fever, Speech and Drama Competitions and performances in Junior School productions, plus helping with technical production, and backstage support.
- **Public Speaking and Debating:** Programs designed to build communication skills, confidence, and critical thinking.
- **Round Square:** Mini regional conferences offer adventure and cultural experiences.
- **Sport:** A variety of team and individual sports such as basketball, futsal, cross country and more that develop physical skills, teamwork, and school spirit.

## **Middle School (Year 6 – Year 8)**

In the Middle School years, students are encouraged to try new things and discover where their passions lie. The focus is on exploration, teamwork, confidence building, and developing a sense of belonging.

Students can choose from a broad range of activities, including:

- **Academic Extension:** Competitions and challenges that stretch thinking and inspire a love of learning.
- **Clubs and Committees:** From robotics to the arts, students can join groups that align with their interests or introduce them to something new.
- **Performing Arts:** Music, dance, and drama opportunities, including roles in performance, technical production, and backstage support.
- **Public Speaking and Debating:** Programs designed to build communication skills, confidence, and critical thinking.
- **Round Square:** Mini conferences and regional exchanges offering adventure and international-minded experiences.
- **Sport:** A variety of team and individual sports that develop physical skills, teamwork, and school spirit.

## **Senior School (Year 9 – Year 12)**

As students move into the Senior School, the co-curricular program continues to grow in depth and variety. With greater independence, students are encouraged to balance their academic commitments with activities that support personal growth, leadership, and wellbeing.

Senior School students have access to all Middle School offerings, plus:

- **Community Service and Duke of Edinburgh:** Meaningful opportunities to give back and build a sense of social responsibility through service and personal challenge.
- **Competitive Sports:** High-level opportunities for students to train and compete while representing the College.
- **Leadership Roles:** Opportunities to lead within the College and contribute to community life.
- **Overseas Trips:** Language and cultural exchanges that broaden students' global awareness and deepen learning.
- **Participation Sports:** Options for students who want to stay active in a non-competitive setting.
- **Peer Support and Mentoring:** Building community through leadership, guidance, and connection between students.
- **Extended Round Square Programs:** Opportunities to participate in international exchanges and service programs that build character and cultural understanding.

Across all year levels, the co-curricular program is about discovering who you are, finding your place, and making the most of every opportunity along the way.

## CO-CURRICULAR POINTS

Getting involved matters — and we recognise it.

The co-curricular points system begins in Year 7 and is designed to reflect students' effort, consistency, and contribution across the year. It's a simple and supportive way to encourage balanced involvement in the rich experiences available at the College.

### Here's how it works:

- Students in Years 7 to 11 are required to earn a minimum of 30 points each calendar year.
  - At least 10 of these points must come from sport.
- Students in Year 12 are required to earn a minimum of 20 points.
  - Again, at least 10 points must come from sport.

Points are earned by participating in co-curricular activities across the five core categories of Academic Extension, Clubs and Activities, Performing Arts, Service and Leadership, and Sport. The number of points reflects the level of time and commitment required. Some activities offer more points because they require ongoing involvement or occur over multiple Terms.

To be awarded points, students must complete the full season or cycle of the activity. This includes attending rehearsals, training sessions, meetings, performances or events, and following through on commitments.

If a sport or activity takes place across Terms 4 and 1, the points are divided evenly across the two calendar years. This system isn't about comparison or competition. It's about recognising the diverse ways students grow, contribute, and challenge themselves during their time at the College.

## CO-CURRICULAR LEVIES & CHARGES

We are proud to offer a wide range of co-curricular activities that extend learning and enrich student life.

Some of these experiences involve extra costs, such as specialist coaching, transport, equipment, performance entry fees, or venue hire. Where levies apply, they are carefully considered and help ensure the activity is delivered at a high standard for all participants.

Families will always be informed of any costs in advance. If you have questions about a specific activity, or would like to talk through options, our staff are here to help.

Our goal is to make co-curricular opportunities accessible, engaging, and sustainable for every student.

## **RECORDING & ACCOUNTABILITY**

Every student's co-curricular journey is tracked with care, not only to recognise their involvement but to ensure they are supported in making the most of the opportunities available.

The College uses Clipboard, a dedicated co-curricular management system that brings everything together in one place. It helps students, families, and staff keep track of commitments, attendance, and points.

Oversight of participation is led by the Head of Co-curricular Operations, with support from the Head of Experiential Learning and other key staff including the Head of Sport, the Head of Performing Arts, and supervising staff for each activity. Together, they monitor attendance and engagement, follow up where needed, and help students stay on track.



## CO-CURRICULAR CATEGORIES

### ACADEMIC EXTENSION

Curiosity is one of the most powerful drivers of learning, and our Academic Extension activities are designed to inspire, stretch, and celebrate it.

Students who love a challenge can step into a range of competitions and programs that go beyond the classroom. These experiences are about more than winning or results. They build critical thinking, creative problem-solving, collaboration, and confidence all while nurturing a genuine love of learning.

Debating and Public Speaking are a core part of this category. Students develop their ability to speak with clarity, listen actively, form persuasive arguments, and communicate with purpose. These skills have benefits far beyond school, preparing students to lead, to advocate, and to make change.

There are also opportunities for students to participate in inter-school academic events that allow them to explore new topics, test their thinking, and work as part of a team.

These activities support the development of Learner Attributes such as contributing to the world, managing self, and communicating effectively, helping students grow as both learners and leaders.



| ACTIVITY                                   | POINTS |
|--|--------|
| Da Vinci Decathlon                         | 5      |
| Debating                                   | 5/10*  |
| Ethics Olympiad                            | 5      |
| Language Challenges                        | 5      |
| Public Speaking                            | 10     |
| Readers Cup                                | 5      |
| Subject-specific Competitions (x2 minimum) | 5      |
| Tournament of the Minds                    | 5      |

\* Points differ based on Year or Division.

## CO-CURRICULAR CATEGORIES

### CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Our Clubs and Activities program is built for curiosity, creativity, and connection. It gives students the chance to explore their interests, try something new, or simply do more of what they love.

Whether it is building a robot, sketching in the art room, learning about identity and inclusion, playing strategy games, or immersing in language and culture, there are many ways to get involved and grow beyond the classroom.

Each activity offers something different, a new perspective, a new skill, a new community and every student is encouraged to find their fit. These clubs support the development of Learner Attributes such as Collaboration and Self-Regulation.

Chess is one of several well-supported programs, offering students opportunities to learn, compete, and think strategically. Like all our clubs, it welcomes beginners and experienced players alike.

Other offerings include a growing list of vibrant, student-centred options such as:

- Art Club
- Robotics Club
- Diversity Club
- Cultural and Language Trips
- Round Square exchanges and conferences



| ACTIVITY                        | POINTS |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Chess                           | 10     |
| Cultural Trip                   | 5      |
| Diversity Club                  | 5      |
| Earth Club                      | 5      |
| Language Trip                   | 5      |
| Round Square Conference or Trip | 5      |



## CO-CURRICULAR CATEGORIES

### PERFORMING ARTS

The Performing Arts program is where imagination finds expression, confidence takes centre stage, and students learn the power of voice, movement, and music. Students can explore music, dance, and drama through a wide range of performance opportunities, from formal concerts and competitions to large-scale theatrical productions. They can also take on vital roles in lighting, sound, stage management, and set design.

Performing Arts adds energy and colour to College life, while helping students build confidence, discipline and teamwork, and have fun doing it. Activities include:

- **Bands:** Including concert bands, stage bands, and rock bands.
- **Choirs:** Various choirs for different age groups and skill levels.
- **Dance Ensembles:** Various dance groups and performances.
- **Orchestras:** Opportunities for students to join string orchestras and symphony orchestras.
- **Music Ensembles:** The specific music ensembles offered at Scotch Oakburn College are listed below. Ensembles run throughout the year, with the exception of the College Symphony Orchestra, which convenes for specific College events.
- **Theatrical Productions:** Participation in school plays and musicals.

These activities bring energy and colour to school life and give students a platform to express themselves, build lasting connections, and develop skills that go well beyond the stage.



| ACTIVITY                          | POINTS |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Clarinet Choir                    | 5      |
| College Big Band                  | 15     |
| College Choir                     | 10     |
| College Production                | 20     |
| Concert Band                      | 15     |
| Middle School Band                | 10     |
| Middle School Dance Ensemble      | 10     |
| Middle School Production          | 15     |
| Pipes and Drums                   | 15     |
| Private Tuition                   | 5      |
| Senior School Dance Ensemble      | 10     |
| Senior School Production          | 15     |
| Stage Crew & Technical Production | 10     |
| Stay Sharp                        | 15     |
| String Orchestra                  | 10     |
| Wandering Notes                   | 10     |

## CO-CURRICULAR CATEGORIES

### SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Opportunities to serve and lead are an important part of student life. These roles help students grow their confidence, contribute meaningfully to the school community, and develop the skills needed to lead with purpose.

#### Community Service

Students are encouraged to take part in volunteer work and service projects that support others and strengthen their connection to the wider community. These experiences allow students to act with empathy, build initiative, and reflect on their impact.

#### Leadership Roles

Leadership opportunities are open to students across year levels and take many forms — from representing a House to leading a committee. These roles are about more than titles. They involve stepping up, listening, including others, and helping shape the culture and spirit of the College

Students in these roles make a visible and valued contribution to College life. They help build a culture of respect, responsibility, and shared pride in our community.



| ACTIVITY                 | POINTS |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Camp Leader              | 5      |
| Captains                 | 5      |
| Chapel Connector         | 5      |
| College Event            | 5      |
| Community Service Event  | 5      |
| Library Monitor Program  | 5      |
| Round Square Committee   | 5      |
| Seniors' Committee       | 5      |
| Student Executive        | 10     |
| Year 9/10 Leader         | 5      |
| Year 10 Dinner Committee | 5      |

## Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a globally recognised program that invites young people to challenge themselves, give back, and grow through real-world experiences.

At Scotch Oakburn College, students can take part in the Award at three levels, Bronze, Silver, and Gold each with its own set of meaningful challenges. The program is open to students aged 14 and above and is a valuable way to develop independence, resilience, and a sense of purpose.

To complete each level, students take part in four key areas:

- **Service:** Giving back to the community through volunteering and acts of service.
- **Skill:** Learning or developing a skill over time, through regular, focused effort.
- **Physical Recreation:** Improving fitness and wellbeing through physical activity.
- **Adventurous Journey:** Planning and completing a journey in a group, usually in an outdoor setting, requiring preparation, teamwork, and perseverance..

Students can choose activities that interest them within each category, allowing the Award to be a personalised journey of growth.

Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award aligns closely with the College's focus on challenge, character, and contribution. It also connects with the Round Square IDEALS of Internationalism, Democracy, Environment, Adventure, Leadership, and Service.



For more information or help getting started, students can contact the Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator or visit the College [Dash page](#).

| ACTIVITY | POINTS |
|----------|--------|
| Gold     | 15     |
| Silver   | 10     |
| Bronze   | 5      |

### Important Note

If a student is using a co-curricular activity as evidence toward their Duke of Edinburgh Award, that same activity cannot be counted toward their annual co-curricular points total. For example, if a student plays in a musical ensemble and lists this under the Award's "Skill" section, they may not also claim co-curricular points for that ensemble.

## CO-CURRICULAR CATEGORIES

### SPORT

Sport plays a central role in College life. It brings students together, builds physical and mental strength, and teaches the value of teamwork, commitment, and personal growth.

Students can choose to take part in a wide range of sports across both summer and winter seasons. Whether competing at a high level or playing for enjoyment and fitness, all students are encouraged to get involved.

Each sport offers opportunities to develop skills, stay active, and represent the College with pride. Many students find that sport becomes a highlight of their week and a place where friendships and resilience grow.



| ACTIVITY              | TERM     | POINTS |
|-----------------------|----------|--------|
| Athletics             | 1        | 10     |
| Badminton             | 2        | 10     |
| .....                 |          |        |
| Basketball            | Summer   | 15     |
| Cricket               | Summer   | 10     |
| Cycling               | Summer   | 10     |
| Equestrian            | Summer   | 15     |
| Rowing                | Summer   | 15/20* |
| Sailing               | Summer   | 15     |
| Swimming              | Summer   | 10     |
| Table Tennis          | Summer   | 10     |
| Tennis                | Summer   | 10/15* |
| .....                 |          |        |
| Cross Country/Running | Winter   | 10     |
| Football              | Winter   | 15     |
| Hockey                | Winter   | 15     |
| Netball               | Winter   | 15     |
| Soccer                | Winter   | 10/15* |
| Volleyball            | Winter   | 10/15* |
| .....                 |          |        |
| Carnival/Gala Days    | All Year | 5      |
| Fitness               | All Year | 10     |

\* Points differ based on Year or Division.



## CONCLUSION

The co-curricular program is an essential part of what makes learning at Scotch Oakburn College vibrant and memorable. Through sport, performance, leadership, service, and exploration, students discover who they are and what they care about. They learn how to work with others, take initiative, and follow through. They develop skills that stay with them long after the activity ends.

Every student is encouraged to take part, to challenge themselves, and to find the experiences that make them feel connected, capable, and inspired.

For more information or help choosing the right path, students and families are invited to contact the key staff listed in this handbook or visit the College website.

## KEY STAFF

### **Community Service and Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator – Jamie Breden**

Jamie Breden is the Community Service Coordinator and Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator at Scotch Oakburn College. Jamie is also a teacher in the Health and Physical Education (HPE) department. Jamie is responsible for coordinating community service activities and guiding students through the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program, helping them develop essential life skills and a sense of social responsibility.

### **Director of Round Square – Stuart Walls**

Stuart Walls is the Director of Round Square at Scotch Oakburn College. Stuart oversees the Round Square program, which incorporates the IDEALS of Internationalism, Democracy, Environment, Adventure, Leadership, and Service. Stuart is dedicated to providing students with opportunities to engage in meaningful experiences that promote personal growth and global understanding.

### **Head of Co-curricular Operations – Rachel Buck**

Rachel Buck is the Head of Co-curricular Operations. Rachel oversees the design and delivery of all co-curricular programs at Scotch Oakburn College, ensuring students have access to a wide range of activities. Rachel works with both students and staff to help them connect with and pursue their co-curricular interests and passions.

### **Head of Experiential Learning – Mark Hassell**

Mark Hassell oversees all co-curricular programs at Scotch Oakburn College. These programs include sports, performing arts, and other hands-on learning experiences that help students develop practical skills and a deeper understanding of the world around them.

### **Head of Extension and Enrichment (Penquite) – Anna Reimer Waites**

Anna Reimer Waites is the Head of Extension and Enrichment at Penquite. Anna is also the Head of Mathematics and the College's Data Analysis Officer. Anna oversees programs designed to extend and challenge students' learning, providing enriching opportunities across a wide range of subjects and interests.

### **Head of Performing Arts – Andy Prideaux**

Andy Prideaux is the Head of Performing Arts at Scotch Oakburn College. Andy is responsible for overseeing the music, drama, and dance programs, ensuring that students have opportunities to develop their creative talents and participate in various performances and competitions.

### **Head of Sport – Ali Foot**

Ali Foot is the Head of Sport at the Penquite campus. Ali is responsible for coordinating the sports programs, managing sports teams, and ensuring that students have access to a wide range of physical activities that promote fitness, teamwork, and school spirit.





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Locked Bag 103, Kings Meadows, Tasmania 7249  
85 Penquite Road, Launceston 7250  
T (03) 6336 3300 E [scotch.oakburn@soc.tas.edu.au](mailto:scotch.oakburn@soc.tas.edu.au)

[www.soc.tas.edu.au](http://www.soc.tas.edu.au)

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