



*Gilson College*

**Gilson College - Mernda Campus**

*Foundation - Year 12*  
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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Mernda campus of Gilson College, a co-educational school that provides values-based Christian education for students from Foundation to Year 12. Both campuses of Gilson College are part of a wider network of institutions connected to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, including schools, universities and hospitals across Australia and the world. We prioritise our students and their holistic development in becoming young people with the skills to fulfil their God-given potential.

Students are encouraged to see themselves as members of a community where they belong, where they can learn more about God and the world around them. Our students are supported to establish and maintain respectful relationships with each other and are equipped to demonstrate responsibility for themselves, their learning, and their role as active members of the community.

Delivered within a Christian worldview, education programs at Gilson College align with the Australian Curriculum and meet Victorian Curriculum And Assessment Authority (VCAA) requirements for VCE. Our teachers demonstrate an attitude of lifelong learning in their own development and model what this looks like to our students in their learning spaces. Students are encouraged to see themselves as lifelong learners, actively engaging in their academic pursuits and remaining curious when exploring new ideas and perspectives.

Whether engaging with stimulating academic content, navigating new friendships, experiencing personal growth through our Learning 4 Life program or competing honourably in our sports program, Gilson College promotes the development of resilience and a growth mindset. These opportunities allow our students to explore new interests and develop their character, while discovering how they can flourish and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

This prospectus provides some initial information about the program we offer to students. We look forward to speaking with you further about the opportunities Gilson College can offer your child.

Kind regards,

Kristin Hankins  
Principal





## Prospectus Pack Contents

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## Enrolment Process

### Learn About Us

Visit our website to see information about the school, download our prospectus pack and more - [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au)  
You can also email [enrolments.m@gilson.vic.edu.au](mailto:enrolments.m@gilson.vic.edu.au) or call 03 9717 7300 for further information.



### Information Night / Tour

Visit the website for information on our upcoming events and to book your attendance.



### Application Form

Enrolment applications are done online through our website.  
There is a \$200 processing fee payable per application. This fee is non-refundable.  
Supporting documents (eg. birth certificate, reports) are also required. See form for details.



### Readiness Assessment - Foundation

All students applying for Foundation attend a readiness day to assess their social and emotional readiness to start school.



### Parent & Student Interview

Parents and student meet with principal. Make sure you bring any questions you have to this meeting.



### AGAT test - Years 4-10

ACER General Ability Test  
Sat by all students applying for Years 4-10. This helps to gauge a student's strengths and weaknesses and does not affect their chance of acceptance.

### Enrolment Committee

The enrolment committee makes the final decision on all enrolment applications and takes many factors into consideration including available places and individual learning needs.



### Letter

After the committee has met, you will be sent a letter informing you of your enrolment outcome.  
If successful, there will be additional documentation to complete before commencement.

### Offer

### Waitlist

### Non-Acceptance



## Fee Schedule - Mernda Campus 2023

### Per Term - Per Student

Number of children in family attending Gilson	Primary	Years 7-10	Years 11-12
1	\$1,620	\$2,191	\$2,354
2	\$1,399	\$1,907	\$2,046
3	\$1,177	\$1,624	\$1,738
4	\$1,030	\$1,435	\$1,532
5	\$882	\$1,245	\$1,327

### Per Year - Per Student

Number of children in family attending Gilson	Primary	Years 7-10	Years 11-12
1	\$6,480	\$8,764	\$9,416
2	\$5,596	\$7,628	\$8,184
3	\$4,708	\$6,496	\$6,952
4	\$4,120	\$5,740	\$6,128
5	\$3,528	\$4,980	\$5,308

- The family discount applies to all children enrolled, not just the additional child enrolled.
- All camps, trips, excursions and incursions are pre-paid through the tuition fees. They are not additional to the costs shown above.
- An additional annual Primary and Secondary Levy of \$250 per student is payable prior to the commencement of the school year. This covers primary stationery and swimming lesson fees, secondary text book hire and learning subscriptions, etc.
- 4% discount on term fees is applicable if payment is made by the end of the first week of term.
- 6% discount on the full year's fees is applicable if payment is made by the end of the first week of Term 1.



## Spiritual Culture and Wellbeing

### Spiritual Culture

Gilson College, Mernda Campus is a multicultural school, catering to students of all cultural and religious backgrounds. Prospective families are not expected to share the religious beliefs of the College, but are expected to acknowledge and uphold the values of the school and participate in compulsory activities such as worships, religious studies and the chapel program.

As our crest suggests, spiritual development is the underlying focus of everything that we do at Gilson College. Biblical values influence policy and practise and a holistic view of personal growth, including the spiritual component, directs our educational processes. In addition to this we strive to support the physical and emotional components of an individual's life to ensure their overall wellbeing and development.

### Our Values

We believe that these four values are essential in becoming excellent learners that demonstrate integrity and Christian character:

1. **Being Respectful “We think about others”** - Treating others the way we wish to be treated and caring for others in the community, and our environment.  
Romans 12:10
2. **Being Responsible “We own our actions”** - Being responsible for our actions, learning from all decisions and making great choices.  
Ecclesiastes 9:10
3. **Being Resilient “We bounce back”** - Developing a growth mindset with a never give up attitude.  
Joshua 1:9
4. **Being a Learner “We learn and grow”** - Being a lifelong learner is an important aspect of all educational journeys. Developing an attitude of learning in all subject areas is vital to developing students of excellence.  
Romans 15:4



### Chaplains

Chaplains are employed at the College primarily to provide for the spiritual nurture of staff and students, but are also heavily invested in the emotional well-being of all associated with the College. As such, they are available to discuss issues with members of the College community. Where needed, they are able to refer issues to more appropriate agencies.

While at school the chaplains are involved in organising chapels, visiting classes, conducting Bible studies, counselling staff or students and contacting families. We encourage chaplain involvement in classes and welcome their input into the educational program to further the spiritual goals of the College.

### Wellbeing Department

The Wellbeing team is committed to ensuring that all individual students cognitive, emotional, social, physical and spiritual wellbeing are met. The team work collaboratively with students, teachers and families to address the wellbeing of students, by implementing proactive strategies to achieve positive outcomes and academic success.

The counsellor works with students from Foundation to Year 12, who are experiencing challenges at home and at school. The purpose of the counsellor is to work with students through difficult times to help them develop a strong level of personal and social wellbeing. Please note that the counselling support provided does not replace allied health support from outside school; it is designed for short term intervention and check in support.



## Transport and Care Services

### School Bus

The College runs a small bus service for drop off and pick up in nearby suburbs, catering for before and after school pick up every day. Casual or short term usage of this service is not currently available.

Due to high demand, placement on the bus is not guaranteed with enrolment and is subject to current seating and route. New applicants for the bus may be placed on a waiting list. Please note the costs for this service:

#### **2023 Costing (whole year, per family)**

1 child	\$1,600
2 children	\$2,400
3 children	\$2,600

### Public Transport

A public bus line runs past the school between the Craigieburn and Mernda train stations. The school is a short walk from the nearest bus stop.

**Route:** 390

**Nearest Bus Stop:** Heddle Pde/Sackville St

**Distance from Bus Stop to School:** Approx. 350 metres

### OSHC

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) is the program established to provide care for children of parents whose work commitments prevent them from regular drop off and pick up arrangements. OSHC operates from 7-8:45am and 3:30-6pm during school terms.

The OSHC program is mainly, but not exclusively, for primary-aged students. OSHC staff are trained and qualified and ensure that healthy activities, food and entertainment are provided when appropriate. OSHC payments are not included in College fees and separate arrangements must be made.

### Study Club

The Study Club was established to ensure that secondary students have a place where learning can be supervised after school. The Study Club is housed in the Library, supervised by teaching staff and operates from the end of school to 4:30pm on Monday to Thursday.

Students are supervised in Study Club while they are waiting to be picked up by their parents, or they may be sent to the Study Club by teachers when they have not completed their homework or assignments. Study Club is not a place for afternoon social gatherings and students who are not there to work will be asked to focus or make their way home.



## Food

## The Food Policy

The Food Policy of Gilson College is based upon Biblical principles of health and the specifics of the Seventh-day Adventist health message. This involves not only the use of healthy foods but also the avoidance of unhealthy foods. As such all food provided by, and associated with the College will be wholly vegetarian and is intended to provide a healthy alternative to students.

This includes all food provided by the canteen, food arranged for camps or excursions, food prepared during educational activities, and any food that is associated with College events or fundraising. The Primary school also has a “fruit and veg only” rule for recess time. This is to encourage students to develop better health habits.

Although encouraging healthy eating at home and at school, the Food Policy does not prevent students from bringing foods of their choice to school for their own consumption.



## The Canteen

Developing healthy eating habits is an important part of a child's education. The purpose of the College canteen is to provide healthy meals and snacks to staff and students. In keeping with scientific research and the Adventist church's own health focus our canteen is wholly vegetarian, avoids excessive sugar and salt and offers wholesome food at a reasonable cost.

Ordering of lunches is done via the Spriggy Schools app before school commences each day. Students may purchase snack and drink items from the canteen during recess and lunch times. The canteen operates on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday during school terms.



## Uniform Requirements - PRIMARY

	GIRLS	BOYS
<b>Summer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform dress that covers the knees</li><li>- Zip-up uniform jacket</li><li>- Plain white socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li><li>- Uniform hat when outside</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Plain blue short-sleeved uniform shirt</li><li>- Grey dress trousers or shorts</li><li>- Zip-up uniform jacket</li><li>- Plain grey socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li><li>- Uniform hat when outside</li></ul>
<b>Winter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform pinafore</li><li>- Plain white blouse or shirt</li><li>- Uniform tie</li><li>- Zip-up uniform jacket</li><li>- Plain navy socks or tights that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Plain blue long-sleeved uniform shirt</li><li>- Grey dress trousers</li><li>- Uniform tie</li><li>- Zip-up uniform jacket</li><li>- Plain grey socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li></ul>
<b>Sport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform tracksuit jacket</li><li>- Uniform tracksuit pants, shorts or skirt</li><li>- Uniform long or short-sleeved polo shirt</li><li>- Plain white socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Runners with cushioned soles</li><li>- For swimming - a one-piece bathing suit</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform tracksuit jacket</li><li>- Uniform tracksuit pants or shorts</li><li>- Uniform long or short-sleeved polo shirt</li><li>- Plain white socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Runners with cushioned soles</li><li>- For swimming - board shorts</li></ul>
<b>*Optional</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform parka</li><li>- Woollen uniform jumper (to be worn only under jacket or parka)</li><li>- Uniform scarf, gloves and/or beanie</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform parka</li><li>- Woollen uniform jumper (to be worn only under jacket or parka)</li><li>- Uniform scarf, gloves and/or beanie</li></ul>

### General Notes:

- Velcro or buckle black leather shoes are permitted for Foundation students only
- It is recommended that girls wear black or navy bike shorts under dresses and skirts
- All shirts and blouses must be tucked into skirts or trousers, not folded or rolled
- Only plain white singlets or t-shirts are to be worn beneath shirts/blouses and should not show
- Students should maintain good personal hygiene
- Uniforms should be clean and well maintained (not torn, stained or missing buttons/zips)

### Hair:

- Hair must be neat with natural colours. Hair below the collar must be tied or pinned away from the face
- All hair accessories must be plain navy, black or white

### Jewellery and Adornment:

- Make-up should appear natural with no extremes of colour or shade
- Nails must be clean and short without nail polish
- One plain gold or silver stud in each earlobe is permitted
- No other jewellery or adornment is permitted unless an exemption applies (see student handbook)

### Bags:

- All students are expected to carry their academic items in the College backpack and their sports items in the College sports bag





## Uniform Requirements - SECONDARY

	GIRLS	BOYS
<b>Summer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform dress that covers the knees</li><li>- Uniform blazer</li><li>- Plain white socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li><li>- Uniform hat when outside</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Plain white short-sleeved uniform shirt</li><li>- Grey dress trousers or shorts</li><li>- Uniform Tie</li><li>- Uniform blazer</li><li>- Plain grey socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li><li>- Uniform hat when outside</li></ul>
<b>Winter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- White uniform blouse or shirt</li><li>- Uniform skirt that covers the knees</li><li>- Uniform tie</li><li>- Uniform blazer</li><li>- Plain navy socks or tights that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Plain blue long-sleeved uniform shirt</li><li>- Grey dress trousers</li><li>- Uniform tie</li><li>- Uniform blazer</li><li>- Plain grey socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Black polishable leather lace-up shoes</li></ul>
<b>Sport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform tracksuit jacket</li><li>- Uniform tracksuit pants, shorts or skort</li><li>- Uniform long or short-sleeved polo shirt</li><li>- Plain white socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Runners with cushioned soles</li><li>- For swimming - a one-piece bathing suit</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform tracksuit jacket</li><li>- Uniform tracksuit pants or shorts</li><li>- Uniform long or short-sleeved polo shirt</li><li>- Plain white socks that cover the ankle</li><li>- Runners with cushioned soles</li><li>- For swimming - board shorts</li></ul>
<b>*Optional</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform parka</li><li>- Woollen uniform jumper (to be worn only under jacket or parka)</li><li>- Uniform scarf</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Uniform parka</li><li>- Woollen uniform jumper (to be worn only under jacket or parka)</li><li>- Uniform scarf</li></ul>

### General Notes:

- It is recommended that girls wear black or navy bike shorts under dresses and skirts
- All shirts and blouses must be tucked into skirts or trousers, not folded or rolled
- Only plain white singlets or t-shirts are to be worn beneath shirts/blouses and should not show
- Students should maintain good personal hygiene, including deodorant if needed
- Uniforms should be clean and well maintained (not torn, stained or missing buttons/zips)
- Students in years 11 and 12 should wear the VCE uniform tie rather than the general one

### Hair:

- Hair must be neat with natural colours. Hair below the collar must be tied or pinned away from the face
- All hair accessories must be plain navy, black or white
- Facial hair is not permitted

### Jewellery and Adornment:

- Make-up should appear natural with no extremes of colour or shade
- Nails must be clean and short without nail polish
- One plain gold or silver stud in each earlobe is permitted
- No other jewellery or adornment is permitted unless an exemption applies (see student handbook)

### Bags:

- All students are expected to carry their academic items in the College backpack and their sports items in the College sports bag

## Fact Sheet: School Readiness

### Ready or Not?

Readiness for school is in itself an important factor for consideration before starting school, despite the responsive and adaptable programs that schools provide for children and the emphasis upon individualising learning for each child.

Readiness is not about schools just adapting and attempting to meet the needs of children. International research emphasises that certain areas of development and maturity are essential for children so that once at school, they are able to maximise the opportunities provided.

Social and emotional areas are the key areas of development that are most important for a child in regard to school readiness. This is in contrast to what many people believe - reading, writing and knowing colours or numbers are NOT readiness indicators. Some schools may suggest this is necessary, however this is only a reflection of a particular school's position and not reflective of a child's readiness for school.

The key areas of social and emotional maturity related to school readiness can be summarised by reviewing these questions. At preschool does your child .....

1. Separate easily from parent / carer at preschool drop off
2. Independently make a decision of where they are going to work / play
3. Self initiate, engage and sustain engagement (6 – 8 minutes), have the skills to solve basic problems and ask for help from the educator if needed
4. Work and play besides other children
5. Have basic independence skills (able to put shoes and socks on, art smock on, toileting independently)
6. Sit with the group (eg mat time) and remain focused, ask questions and answer questions from the educator
7. Self regulate their emotional response when they need to do something they don't want to (eg don't tantrum when it is time to pack up)

The importance of these skills related to school readiness is highlighted when one imagines a class of twenty school children who do not have these skills. The good news is that most children when they start school have these skills; unfortunately however there will be some children who start school and do not have these skills. This is why making informed decisions about children and school readiness is paramount to giving children the opportunity to thrive and flourish ....not just cope.

The following information may help guide parents when making their decision related to when to start their child at school.

- If you already have a child in childcare or 3- or 4-year-old kindergarten, the qualified kindergarten teacher, alongside the parent, is usually the most able to appropriately assess a child for readiness. Preschool field officers, most often attached to local governments can provide additional information and assessment to children at no charge in the funded 4-year-old program and private consultants can also conduct assessments for a cost.
- Given the difficulty in having two years of funded Kindergarten in Victoria, families are being encouraged to plan ahead in determining when they would like their child to commence school. Obviously, we cannot know at the age of 1 or 2 years if a child will be ready, but there is some useful information that may help some families in the planning process.

- Young boys, according to some research, may benefit from having an additional year to mature before commencement.
- Multiple births or children significantly premature may also benefit.
- Remember that Victoria has one of the youngest age entries into school of anywhere in the world.
- Ask yourself, “am I in a rush to send my child to school?”.
- There is no detrimental impact of giving a child an additional year, in fact it is often viewed as a bonus year.
- Don’t assume children will magically ‘catch up’ once they start school. In the majority of cases, they don’t, and in fact the problems in maturity usually become more pronounced.
- Don’t send a child to school already thinking they can repeat prep if they have to. We want the first year of school to be exciting, successful and not just one where the child attempts to ‘cope’ and then has to do it all again.
- Readiness for school or kindergarten is about having the maturity to make the most of these early years.
- Being legally ready to start school does not mean the child will be ready and does not mean that the child must start school at that time
- For further information see the book, Ready Set Go by Kathy Walker which has a number of chapters related to readiness, preparation and choice of school or speak to your local kindergarten teacher.

# Bush School

"Let the little ones play in the open air;  
let them listen to the songs of the birds  
and learn the love of God as expressed in  
His beautiful works!" EGW CG. pg 301



There are many benefits of learning in an outdoor environment. Weekly exposure to Bush School allows students the opportunity to engage in open-ended, diverse and meaningful learning that are connected to God's creation and aspects of the curriculum.

*\*Adapted from the Nature Play SA (NPSA) Learning Outdoors handbook.*

## **Authentic learning and independent thinking**

Hands-on experiences and open ended communication fosters rich and meaningful learning. As a result this allows for more complex and self-directed lines of inquiry and observation from the students.

## **Social skills and relationships**

Children gravitate towards common interests and as a result interact with peers who they might not normally in the classroom. It allows for a greater sense of cooperation, encouragement of each other, ability to compromise and negotiate, problem solve and take risks more readily. They develop a stronger sense of belonging to their Gilson College community in this environment.

## **Confidence**

Being at Bush School isn't just for the physically capable students. In this environment, every child can find a sense of mastery at a level they are confident with.

## **Literacy and Numeracy Skills**

The rich interactions students have at Bush School encourage development of oral language and vocabulary. This environment also allows students to experience and explore concepts of numbers, patterns measurement, spatial awareness, data, reasoning, counting and mathematical thinking.

## **Physical Development and Wellbeing**

Fine and gross motor skills, core-strength, coordination, balance and physical endurance are all enhanced when the students engage in the diversity of experiences in an outdoor learning environment such as Bush School.

## **Decreased Anxiety and Negative Behaviours**

The more time children spend outdoors, the more relaxed and less anxious they become.

## **Appreciation for God's Creation**

"For the first eight or ten years of a child's life, the field or garden is the best schoolroom...Nature the best lesson book" Ellen G. White - Education. Ch 23.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Biblical Studies	Biblical Studies	Biblical Studies	Biblical Studies
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
Science	Science	Science	Science
Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Economics &amp; Business</li> <li>• Civics &amp; Citizenship</li> </ul>	Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Economics &amp; Business</li> <li>• Civics &amp; Citizenship</li> </ul>	Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Economics &amp; Business</li> <li>• Civics &amp; Citizenship</li> </ul>	Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Economics &amp; Business</li> <li>• Civics &amp; Citizenship</li> </ul>
Languages - French	Languages - French	Careers	Careers
Technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food *</li> <li>• Textiles *</li> <li>• Wood &amp; Plastic *</li> <li>• Digital *</li> </ul>	Technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food *</li> <li>• Textiles *</li> <li>• Wood &amp; Plastic *</li> <li>• Digital *</li> </ul>	Electives (Choose 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Art</li> <li>• Design Tech - Food</li> <li>• Design Tech - Wood &amp; Plastic</li> <li>• Music</li> <li>• Languages - French</li> </ul>	Electives (Choose 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Art</li> <li>• Design Tech - Food</li> <li>• Design Tech - Wood &amp; Plastic</li> <li>• Music</li> <li>• Languages - French</li> </ul>
The Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Art *</li> <li>• Music *</li> <li>• Drama *</li> </ul>	The Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Art *</li> <li>• Music *</li> <li>• Drama *</li> </ul>		
Invictus	Invictus		
Health & Physical Education	Health & Physical Education	Health & Physical Education	Health & Physical Education
Sport	Sport	Sport	Sport

\* Semester subject

	Year 11	Year 12
<b>Block 1</b>	Religion & Society *	Religion & Society *
<b>Block 2</b>	English *	English *
<b>Block 3</b>	Mathematical Methods Health & Human Development	Mathematical Methods Applied Computing **
<b>Block 4</b>	Applied Computing ** Australian and Global Politics ** General Mathematics Outdoor Environmental Studies **	Chemistry Further Mathematics
<b>Block 5</b>	Chemistry Foundation Maths Biology	Foundation Maths
<b>Block 6</b>	Accounting Psychology	Accounting Biology Health & Human Development
<b>Block 7</b>	Art Making and Exhibiting Physics Physical Education	Art Creative Practice ** Psychology Physics Visual Communication & Design **

\* Compulsory \*\*Distance subject

This is not an exhaustive list of VCE and elective subjects offered by Gilson College. The subjects listed are selected to cater for the needs of each cohort and are subject to change.



## **Year 5-9 iPad Program**

Gilson College has the expectation that all students will pursue excellence whilst acquiring a lifelong love of learning and the skills and attitudes necessary to contribute successfully in our global society.

Our pedagogical focus is to create an environment where students are encouraged to stimulate their curiosity, to ask questions, seek answers to their enquiries in a variety of ways. Students are supported to develop the strategies and confidence to engage in all tasks, demonstrating a sense of purpose and a zest for life.

The College has a 1:1 parent-owned iPad program **for students in Years 5-9**. We are very excited about how these devices have been a support to teaching and learning.

### **iPad Delivery**

All College supplied iPads will be distributed to students when classes commence in Term 1.

\*Subject to availability (Please note: new students commencing during the year may need to source their own iPads - please discuss options with the school.)

**If providing your own device:** "Wifi only" iPad - full size model (no iPad mini), minimum 64Gb capacity, if purchasing used device make sure it will run the latest iOS.

Total cost for College supplied Apps - \$50 (one time only fee)

**If purchased from the College:** Apple iPad (9th Gen) 10.2 inch, Wi-Fi 64GB - Space Grey - including STM Dux Plus Duo iPad cover. Supports Apple Pencil (not included).

Total cost \$545.00 (iPad, iPad cover and iOS Apps fee)

**Current students & Upgrades:** Current students wishing to purchase a replacement iPads from the College - \$495.00 including cover (you do not need to repurchase College supplied iOS Apps).

To be charged in instalments, or parents may pay in full.





## **Year 10-12 Laptop Program**

The Year 10-12 laptop program is a compulsory part of the senior secondary program. Students lease a laptop from the school for 3 years for an upfront cost of a \$300 bond.

The laptops are new Macbook Airs supplied by the College. Students are not able to provide their own devices. Students and parents are required to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement before the laptop will be provided. The laptop is provided to support learning and can be used both on and off campus.

At the end of the lease students can choose to:

- Purchase the laptop for an additional \$100. Note: Cost will be greater if the period of the lease is less than 3 years - eg. if a student leaves school in Year 11.
- Return the laptop and receive their bond back. Note: The full bond will only be returned if the laptop is in a fair condition with its box, charger and any other accessories.

If the laptop is damaged or broken during the lease time please inform the IT department as soon as possible and they will assess the damages and organise repairs. It is covered under warranty for 3 years which covers many of the common issues.

If replacement is required and the student is deemed to be at fault, then another \$300 will be required before a replacement laptop will be provided.

During the lease the laptop remains the property of the College and is provided to support your child's learning. The College reserves the right to confiscate the laptop and remove any documents or applications if they are found to break the Acceptable Use Agreement.

The process for laptop collection is as follows:

1. Read and sign the Acceptable Use Agreement. This must be signed by both the student and the parent.
2. Pay the \$300 bond and collect a receipt.
3. The student takes the receipt and signed Acceptable Use Agreement to the IT office.
4. The IT department will setup a laptop for you so that it is ready to use.



## FAQ

### **1. Are you a private school?**

Yes, we are a private Christian school run by Adventist Schools Victoria.

### **2. What are the school fees and are there discounts?**

Please refer to the fees page of our website [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment/school-fees](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment/school-fees).

### **3. How do I go about enrolling my child?**

Visit the enrolments page of our website [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment) to find out more about the enrolment process and apply online. Once we have received your online application and all supporting documentation, we will contact you for an interview.

### **4. Is the enrolment fee refundable?**

No. There is a \$200 processing fee per application. There are no discounts or refunds available on this fee.

### **5. Do you have any places available for my child's year level?**

That depends on the year level - some have waiting lists. Please contact the college for information on a specific year level.

### **6. How many students are in a class?**

Class sizes are variable according to the individual needs of the students in that class.

### **7. Is the College zoned?**

No. Students from any suburb may enrol.

### **8. Is there a uniform?**

Yes. All students are expected to conform to the uniform standards of the school. Exemptions or modifications may apply on religious or medical grounds in consultation with the principal.

### **9. When should I apply?**

Generally you should apply in the year before you wish your child to commence at the College. Applications made two or more years in advance are accepted and will be recorded, but are not assessed by the committee until the year before commencement.

Additional information may be required before assessment if a long period of time has elapsed since application.

### **10. Is there a cut off date for applications?**

There is no cut off date for applications. However, in order to maximise your chances of success, we suggest you apply early. Waiting lists may apply if year levels are already full.

### **11. Can I apply to start mid-year?**

Yes, but you will still need to go through the normal enrolment process. Even if accepted, your child may not be able to start immediately.



**12. How soon will I hear the outcome of my application?**

The enrolment committee makes the final decision on all applications. Applications go to committee after all documentation has been received, the child and parent have had an interview with the principal or delegate, and the child has completed any necessary testing and assessment. The enrolment committee meets at scheduled times throughout the year to consider applications and positions available. Once the committee has assessed your application, you will be sent a letter notifying you of the outcome.

**13. Do you have a bus for my area?**

Buses currently service the Mernda, Doreen and Wollert areas. Please note that demand is high for this service and placement cannot be guaranteed to all applicants.

**14. Does my child have to do Religion as a subject?**

Yes, Religion (or Biblical Studies) is a compulsory subject from Foundation to Year 12.

**15. What is the school's approach to bullying?**

Bullying (including cyberbullying) is considered severe misconduct and is not tolerated. The school staff work together with students and parents to address any issues that arise and build positive relationships in accordance with our Behaviour Policy and disciplinary framework. For further information please refer to the Student Behaviour Policy on our website.

**16. Do you run school tours?**

Yes. Please refer to the tours page of our website [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment/tour-our-campus](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment/tour-our-campus).

**17. Do you offer any scholarships?**

Yes. Please refer to the scholarships page of our website [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment/scholarships](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/enrolment/scholarships).

**18. Do you take international students?**

The Mernda Campus of Gilson College is not registered with CRICOS and cannot enrol students that are covered by a Student Visa or Tourist/Visitors Visa.

Most other visa types are eligible for enrolment. If you are unsure of the conditions of your visa, please contact us with your visa subclass number and we will check for you.

**19. Do you offer before/after school care?**

Yes. Please refer to the services page of our website [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/our-strategic-direction/our-services](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au/our-strategic-direction/our-services). Separate registration and fees apply for this service.

**20. How can I find out more?**

Please refer to our website [mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au](http://mernda.gilson.vic.edu.au) for further information.

For specific enquiries regarding enrolment, please email [enrolments.m@gilson.vic.edu.au](mailto:enrolments.m@gilson.vic.edu.au) or call 9717 7300 and ask for the Enrolments Officer.

For all other enquiries, please call 9717 7300 or email [admin.m@gilson.vic.edu.au](mailto:admin.m@gilson.vic.edu.au).