

# PROSPECTUS

*'Creating Bright Futures'*



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

# WELCOME

It is a privilege to be Principal at Underdale High School, a diverse, thriving, and inclusive community that provides conditions for deep learning for all students in all areas of the Australian Curriculum and the SACE. Our learning environments challenge students to be independent thinkers, question from a range of perspectives, problem solve, and develop self-efficacy. We place a high value on learning partnerships, where young people are supported to develop healthy relationships, are mentored, and develop future goals and connections for a range of career pathways. We have high expectations of all our students and our highly qualified staff, encourage students to think critically and creatively, respond to quality feedback, and achieve academic success.

Our school is on a strong trajectory of learning improvement. Our focus on high impact teaching and learning strategies support our PAT-R and PAT-M results which are consistently above state averages. Equally our SACE completion rate increases annually into the high 90% range and our Year 12 results include a growing list of Merits and A and B grades every year. Supporting our academic programs, we also offer specialist programs with selective entry for students in our Football (Soccer) Academy and have an industry standard, Automotive Trade Training Centre.

Students have many opportunities to be involved in co-curricular activities including sports teams, debating clubs, history competitions and science and technology activities. Student Voice and Leadership opportunities are encouraged and supported from years 7 through to 12.

We are committed to continuous improvement and value your feedback. We extend you a warm welcome to our community.

Mary-Lou Michael  
Principal







The commitment for every student to graduate as a global citizen ready for a changing world is underpinned by the 6C's of Education for the 21st Century; character, citizenship, collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking supported by our school values. Our core school values are underpinned with the verbs:



## Our values...

...speak volumes for the changing world our young people need to be prepared for, and our leaders support staff, to create the conditions for students to achieve this.

# OUR VALUES

# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

At Underdale High School our middle school program consists of students from year 7 to year 9 which has been designed to help with the transition from primary school to high school.

We offer a range of contemporary curriculum choices including specialised subjects and subjects which provide foundations required for senior school. At our school we have high student expectations to ensure academic rigor and achievement.

The middle school curriculum is designed to be challenging and engaging, providing students with a strong foundation in all core academic subjects such as English, Mathematics, Science, HASS, Health and Physical Education, Digital Technologies and Creative Arts including Dance and Drama.

Our teachers are experienced and knowledgeable, and they work closely with students to help them achieve their academic goals. We also offer additional support services for students who may need extra help in specific subjects. Home Group teachers are the first point of contact between families and our school.

These teachers provide support and teach Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC). Home Group teachers establish strong positive working relationships with students and their families.

Middle school is a time of significant social and emotional growth, and we place a strong emphasis on helping students develop positive relationships with their peers and teachers.

Our school has a zero-tolerance policy for bullying and harassment, and we provide students with the skills and resources they need to resolve conflicts in a constructive and peaceful manner.

This provides our young people with the necessary academic and social skills to thrive in their later years of education.



## SENIOR SCHOOL

The senior years of school are an exciting time for students as they prepare for their future goals and aspirations. These years are an important period of growth and development, as students are challenged academically, socially and emotionally, and given the opportunity to explore their interests and passions.

At our school, we offer a rigorous and engaging curriculum that is designed to help students achieve their full potential. Our experienced teachers provide personalised support to help each student reach their academic goals, while also nurturing their personal growth and well-being.

Our senior school curriculum is designed to prepare students for the demands of tertiary education, as well as for their chosen career paths. We offer a broad range of academic subjects, including English, Mathematics, Science, Creative Arts, and Physical Education, Arts including Drama and Dance not to mention Café Culture and Automotive. Our experienced teachers use a range of teaching methods and resources to ensure that students are challenged and engaged, and that they develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes needed for success in the 21st century.

At Underdale High School, we believe that education is about more than just academics. We offer a range of co-curricular activities, including sport, debating, and community service. These activities provide students with the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, teamwork, communication skills, and self-confidence. They also help students to build strong relationships with their peers and teachers, and to develop a sense of community and belonging.

Home Group teachers work with students provide a range of support to help students manage the challenges they may face, including academic support, career advice, course counselling for school and post school, and Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC). Year 10 students commence their SACE journey by undertaking SACE Stage 1 Personal Learning Plan (PLP) which has a strong career planning focus. We also offer a range of wellbeing programs and initiatives, including mindfulness, meditation, and resilience training, to help students develop the skills and strategies they need to thrive in school and beyond.

At our school, we are committed to helping students prepare for their future goals and aspirations. We provide a range of opportunities for students to explore their interests and passions, and to gain practical experience in their chosen fields. We also provide support and guidance for students as they navigate the tertiary education and employment pathways.



# SENIOR SCHOOL

# STUDENT AGENCY

## STUDENT AGENCY

We believe that student voice is an essential component of a successful learning environment. We value the input and ideas of our students and strive to create opportunities for them to share their thoughts and opinions.

One of the ways we promote student voice is through our Student Voice Council. This is a group of students who are selected through a merit process to represent their views and concerns to the school administration.

The Student Voice Council is involved in organising school events, fundraising activities, and community service projects. They also provide feedback to teachers on teaching and learning, the administration on school policies and procedures. Teachers regularly seek feedback from their students on what is and isn't working in the classroom and adjust their teaching accordingly. Students are encouraged to ask questions, share their perspectives, and engage in collaborative learning activities.

Another way we encourage student voice is through student-led clubs and organisations. These groups allow students to explore their interests and passions, develop leadership skills, and make a positive impact in the school and community. Whether it's a club focused on music, drama, science, or social justice, there's something for every student at our school.

We have almost 70 formal student leadership roles across our school including. At our school, we are committed to promoting student voice and creating a learning environment that values the input and ideas of our students. We believe that by doing so, we can help our students develop the skills and confidence they need to succeed in school and beyond.

## INTERNATIONAL

Our international program curriculum at Underdale High School is designed to provide students with a comprehensive education in core subjects such as English, Mathematics, Science, and History and Social Studies. In addition, we offer a wide range of elective subjects that allow students to explore their interests and passions in greater depth.

Our teachers and administration staff are experienced in supporting students who are far from their families and offer additional support for students who may need extra help in specific subjects. Our program also provides additional support for students whose first language is not English. Intensive Secondary English Courses (ISEC): which fast track students' English acquisition thus enabling students to be successful schooling in Australia. We value multicultural diversity which is evident in our school community where our students from different backgrounds can learn from one another, appreciate their cultural differences, and develop important interpersonal skills. We encourage our students to participate in cultural events and activities that showcase the diversity of our community.

Our international program is designed to help students prepare for higher education and their future careers. We provide college counselling services, resume and interview preparation workshops, and opportunities for internships and job shadowing. Our program also provides additional support for international students who wish to pursue higher education in Australia.



## SPECIALISED PROGRAMS

### FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Applications for the program due by middle of term 2. This highly successful and competitive program caters for both male and female students in Years 7 to 12 and has attracted student interest from across South Australia and internationally. Several graduates of our Football Academy have secured senior and international playing positions, and other roles within the Sports Industry.

The Underdale High School Football Academy Program is fully endorsed by Football South Australia and has close links with the NTC and Adelaide United FC. It also has links with the State Development squads and follows the FFA National Curriculum Guidelines.

Football Academy Application Forms can be located on our website.

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### AUTOMOTIVE

The Underdale High School Automotive program was first established in 1980 in response to emerging industry trends. The subject has an Engineering foundation integrating Science and Numeracy using an automotive systems approach.





## Student Voice



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