



Dimboola Memorial Secondary College

Dimboola Memorial Secondary College was established in 1923 and is unique in the sense that it is the only Memorial School in Victoria. DMSC is a small rural secondary college situated in the Wimmera Region drawing students (160) from three primary schools and servicing an area which extends in a 35 kilometre radius. It is a traditional secondary college in its curriculum design but prides itself on its broad senior offerings including VET/VCAL and VCE pathways. It has an elective system at Years 8, 9 and 10 and allows Year 10 students to accelerate into some senior programs. Our instrumental music program also adds an important dimension to the overall program.

We currently have 21 teaching staff, who are highly professional, caring, continuous learners, supportive and loyal. Their work is greatly enhanced by the non-teaching staff who fill a range of important positions within the school.

Everything we do at DMSC is designed to deliver ever improving learning experiences and outcomes that will enable all students to leave DMSC with the skills, knowledge, behaviours and values that drive quality life experiences. Having an environment of respectful and co-operative behaviours underpinning our educational programs is central to achieving our goal. To support this aim, we have a Mentor program which involves all staff and students. Twice weekly, small vertically structured groups of students meet with their mentor teacher and engage in discussions about a range of important subject areas. These include: inclusion, bullying, respectful relationships, strategies to improve mental health and in the alternate session, activities are planned to develop and support the students' physical wellbeing.

DMSC is a Professional Learning Community (PLC) LINK School – providing information and offering support to other schools who are at varying stages regarding the implementation of PLCs into their respective schools. DMSC is also a Lead School for the Respectful Relationships program, working with other schools, providing resources and modelling best-practice.

Our school grounds are magnificent, with the school occupying a site of approximately 16 hectares. A long sweeping driveway welcomes people to the school and we have a mix of well-maintained old buildings – including our memorial building constructed in 1923 – and some new, modern learning spaces. The college also boasts a full-size synthetic hockey/soccer pitch that accommodates 12 tennis courts during the summer months. There is a fully equipped gym onsite – accessible by the public outside school hours, a full-size indoor sports stadium and a large assembly hall with a stage for formal occasions and school productions. A commercial grade kitchen is utilised in Food Studies classes and VETIS Hospitality when offered, and there are also two large technology spaces, offering a range of studies including VETIS Building and Construction.

We have a very strong relationship with our parents and general community, particularly the RSL given our school's memorial status. The school has strong ties to the local Indigenous community, with on average, 10-12% of our student population identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. We also have a very committed School Council which supports, encourages and directs our school in a positive manner.