Prescott College Southern
R - 12

because your child matters.........

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A message from the Principal

Welcome to Prescott College Southern. This prospectus is designed to give you a brief summary of the program offered at the school. Of necessity not all aspects of school life are covered here, but we have tried to include those areas most often asked about.

This prospectus provides an overview of the proposed future development of the school and the programs to be offered in the Middle School (Years 7-9). Year 8 will begin in 2012.

After reading the material, may I encourage you to phone us should you have any further questions. Furthermore you are welcome to view the school. An appointment would be necessary but we would like the opportunity to show you around our facilities.

As a school we are here to be of service to you. If you are interested in a personal Christian education for your child in a small school environment we would like you to consider Prescott College Southern.

Christine Clark
Principal
What does Prescott College Southern offer your child?

Prescott College Southern provides a warm, caring environment where all children can learn to relate positively to students, staff and other adults. It recognises the uniqueness of each individual and priority is given to helping every student develop academically, socially, spiritually, emotionally and physically to the fullest extent possible.

Prescott College Southern School will give students opportunities to:
- Participate in a differentiated curriculum
- Develop academic ability to their maximum potential
- Mature in physical skills
- Make positive social adjustments
- Build lasting peer relationships
- Cultivate critical thinking and problem solving
- Grow in Christian values
- Create a sense of pride in themselves and their learning environment
- Learn in a balanced environment where their natural abilities will be challenged

How big is Prescott College Southern?

Prescott College Southern has approximately 280 students. The small school focus enables students to enjoy close personal contact with the teachers and fellow students. We have the advantage of a family atmosphere with small class sizes - 24 students in Junior College and 26 in Middle College and Upper College classes. This enables staff to give to each child the attention required in the implementation of a differentiated curriculum.

The decision to extend into Middle School beginning with Year 8 in 2012 means that the school will eventually grow to an Reception – Year 12 school with a total of 650 students. This will be a gradual development over the next few years.
What are Prescott College Southern’s Priorities?

**Differentiated Curriculum**

Prescott College Southern staff recognise the individuality of a child’s learning needs and offer a program designed to maximise their potential in all areas of learning. Children are placed on levels of work based on achievement outcomes rather than chronological age resulting in satisfaction and challenge being an integral part of the child’s learning program. Children at an early age see themselves as individuals in their learning and are usually willing to be placed at appropriate levels for themselves rather than being concerned about their peers. The overall result is children feeling positive about their achievements in the academic areas.

**Christian Education**

Prescott College Southern is a Christian school. The teachers are dedicated to encouraging students to develop a love for God, acceptance of other people, and a healthy self-esteem.

**Gifted and Talented Focus**

Prescott College Southern caters for children in the Gifted and Talented Range. The school acknowledges the unique needs of this group of learners and endeavours to provide an environment that maximises their learning through their school experience. A differentiated Curriculum, accelerative options and contract learning enable these children to work at levels appropriate to their advanced development.

Support is also provided for them at the socio-emotional level. One on one counselling and group work assists the students in understanding themselves and relating to the wider community. The children also enjoy the association with others of like ability enabling them to feel fulfilled in their social relationships as well.

A wide range of electives is a part of the comprehensive curriculum, as this group of students requires the additional activities to maximise their learning potential.

Parent Education in meeting the needs of this group of children is also provided as a service of the school.
What other areas are important to Prescott College Southern?

Teaching of Values & Appropriate Social Behaviours

Prescott College Southern staff integrate the teaching of values into all subject areas, and encourage each student to adopt a positive lifestyle that shows care for the overall community and people they interact with on a daily basis. A strong emphasis is placed on cooperative behaviour and self-discipline on the part of students.

The School asks its students to follow four basic codes of conduct.

- Everyone has the right to work and learn without being disrupted by others
- Everyone has the right to be treated courteously and respectfully
- Everyone has the right to work in a clean and safe environment
- Everyone has the right to feel proud of his or her school

A well-structured behaviour learning program operates with full staff support. Where possible natural consequences are followed through for student’s misbehaviour. Inappropriate behaviour is seen as a symptom and every effort is made to determine the cause and the best action for assisting the child in changing their approach to life.

At Prescott College Southern, students are taught the value of self-worth within a Christian context. The qualities of self-control, self-discipline, tolerance towards others and the acceptance of responsibilities for one’s own actions is promoted. Habits of courtesy, decorum, and graciousness are also strongly emphasised as being part of everyday life.

A Peer Support Program across the whole school encourages children to work together in the supporting of one another in the social context.

Parental Involvement

The school encourages the participation of parents in its education program. Parent volunteers help with reading, individual support, library and administration tasks. The school encourages parents to volunteer their services to be members of Reference Committees. These committees exist to assist in the overall school operations and provide recommendations to the School Council.

Committees include:
Fundraising, Property Development, Gifted & Talented, Out of School Hours Care, Library and Occupational Health Safety.
Keeping Parent/Guardian Informed of their Children’s Progress

Staff members at Prescott recognise that the education of a child involves not just the school but also the other significant adults who are a part of the child’s life. It is important for all to be regularly informed and work together as a team to maximise a child’s learning potential.

Student assessment is on a continuous basis taking into account class work, assignments, tests, participation and attitude. Parent interviews are a part of the reporting process, with all parents being encouraged to attend at least one interview per year. Written reports are issued in June and December and Profile Booklets sent home in September.

Our comprehensive assessment and reporting program enables us to keep parents informed on all aspects of their child’s performance in the school environment.

Homework

In the Junior School, Homework is seen as a training activity in preparation for later years in schooling as well as providing drill for those children who need additional practice. Weeknight homework is structured from 10min to 45min per night depending on age and grade. A number of different areas of the curriculum may be covered although reading is seen as a high priority in the junior years with parents being encouraged to be involved in their child’s learning through listening to their child read on a regular basis.

In the Middle and Senior School, Homework is an integral part of the student’s learning program and related to work being completed in the various Key Learning Areas.

Personal Development & Sun Safety

Prescott College Southern has established a uniform code and expects children to wear the correct uniform at all times. Junior School children wear their sport’s uniform on Sport Day each week. Middle and Senior School students change into their Sport Uniform for their allocated Physical Education and Sport classes. Students are required to maintain high standards of neatness and tidiness in dress and grooming.

Our school has adopted a sun safe policy regarding the wearing of school hats.
**What will my children learn in the Junior School?**

Prescott College Southern has maintained a balance between educational innovation and effective traditional methods of teaching. Classes focus on Themes each term and all Key Learning Areas are integrated into the Theme.

The school is currently transitioning to the Australian National Curriculum.

Our Junior School curriculum includes:

*The Arts*:-
- Art, Craft, Drama, Movement to Music, Music

*Christian Faith Development*

*Health and Personal Development*:-
- Physical Fitness, Sport

*Language*:-
- Writing (including Spelling),
- Reading & Viewing (including Library)
- Speaking and Listening

*Languages Other Than English*
- Japanese

*Mathematics*

*Science*

*Society and Environment*

*Technology*
- Includes Information Technology
What will my children learn in the Middle School?

As outlined in the South Australian Curriculum Standards and Accountability (SACSA) Middle Years learners are:

- experiencing adolescence and the accompanying emotional, physical and sexual changes
- learning to form, articulate and manage relationships
- keen to develop greater interdependence with their peers and independence in their lives
- questioning schooling and their engagement with schooling, reflecting on who they are, where they belong, what they value and where they’re going
- developing their own voice, often challenging the voices of their parents/caregivers, teachers and society
- aiming for a stronger sense of belonging through participation in wider adolescent cultures
- becoming aware that they can make changes for themselves and others

We know that adolescents learn best when there are certain conditions within their learning environment and as we plan for the future we will be implementing a number of strategies common to middle schooling. These include:

- Curriculum focused on widely shared concerns of early adolescents and the larger world rather than increasing specialization and differentiation among separate subjects
- Students taking charge of their own learning and constructing their own meanings
- Students learning at different rates and being provided with multiple challenges as they develop responsibility for their own learning, and enthusiasm for their continuous learning
- Integrated curricula that provide opportunities for higher order thinking, wholistic learning, critical thinking, problem-solving and life-long learning
- Programs fostering the health and fitness of students
- Heterogeneous and flexible student groupings
- Small learning communities that provide students with sustained individual attention
- Programs fostering the connection of the school with the local community

An enclosed booklet provides further details on proposed subjects for the Middle and Senior Schools.
Further learning areas include:

**Adaptive Education**
An adaptive education program is offered to meet the requirements of students with specific needs. This includes children in the gifted and talented range, those with English as a second language and those who have a specific learning disability.
Gifted and talented students are accelerated in their areas of strength, being placed at the appropriate level of ability in all subject areas. Children are encouraged to be self-disciplined and opportunity is provided for them to work independently and take responsibility for personal achievement.
English as Second Language students receive individual and group tuition to develop their language skills to the level of their overall ability.
Students with Specific Learning Difficulties are integrated within the regular class, given work at their own level of attainment. Tutoring on an individual group basis is also available for a limited time each week for students who meet the criteria.

**Instrumental and Voice Music Tuition**
Private tuition (user pay basis) is currently offered in the following disciplines:
- Voice
- Guitar
- Piano
- Flute
- Clarinet
- Drums
- Violin
- Saxophone

**Choir and Concert Band**
Prescott College Southern has both a junior and senior choir. Participation in the choir is optional. Children are not required to audition for either choir.

Children in Grades 4-7 have the opportunity to participate in the Independent College School Heads Association Music Festival held bi-annually.

A concert band meets once per week and children who are involved in learning an instrument are encouraged to join.
Sport

In the Junior School, sporting professionals are regularly scheduled to provide instruction to the students in their area of expertise. A comprehensive program is offered across the whole of the school. The instruction at school provides student with exposure to a variety of sports. Children may then choose to further develop their skills in a specific area outside of school hours.

After School Sports Clinics operate on two afternoons as part of the Active After Schools Program. This is no cost to the students. Two different activities are offered each term.

In the Middle School a specialist teacher provides instruction as well as students being involved in a range of outside clinics.

Worship

Prescott Southern is an Adventist Christian school. All children participate in a 10-minute worship period at the beginning of each day as well as a 15-20 minute Christian Faith Development lesson sometime throughout the day. The principles of Christianity are taught through the stories of the Bible.

Children attending the school come from a variety of Christian and non-Christian backgrounds. Personal beliefs of students are respected and the staff encourages an environment of acceptance of individuals as exposed by Christ when on this earth.
What other services does Prescott Southern provide?

**School Bus Service**

Prescott Southern operates a school bus system that enables children to travel to the school from the northern, southern and eastern areas.

The school’s buses serve the areas from Willunga, Aldinga, Hallett Cove, Christies Beach, Sheidow Park, Aberfoyle Park and Eden Hills. Pick up and Set down points are negotiated according to the needs of the students currently using the service. Every attempt is made to accommodate the needs of students.

Currently a bus charge of $175.00 per child per term or $125.00 one way per term is charged. If you would like specific information regarding the schools’ bus routes contact the school office.

**Out of School Hours Care**

An Out of School Hours Care service operates each day between the hours of 6.30am - 8.30am and in the afternoon from school finishing to 6.30pm. Outside these hours care is available provided the coordinator is given advanced notification.

Vacation Care is offered for the school holiday periods except for two weeks over the Christmas period.

Cost of Out of School Hours Care varies depending on your Child Care Rebate eligibility and is only available for children up to the age of 13.

**School Uniform Shop**

Prescott Southern has its own School Uniform Shop where parents are able to purchase all the required items. This enables parents to shop at the one location. The shop is located adjacent OSHC.
How to enrol at Prescott College Southern?

A Registration of Interest form is included with this prospectus. Please complete and forward the form to the school. On the receipt of this form, school personnel will contact you to arrange an appointment for you to meet with the Principal. Alternatively you may contact the school for an appointment by phoning 83814290. You are welcome to view the school while in operation.

A Waiting List currently applies in some grades. It is recommended for children beginning school in Reception at Prescott that you complete your application forms at least two years prior to starting date to guarantee your position being available.

Admission is subject to School Council approval following a personal interview with the Principal.

How old does my child have to be before attending Prescott College Southern?

There are two intakes for children starting school for the first time. If children turn five between January and March (Term 1) they may be enrolled at the beginning of the school year. Children turning five between April (Term 2&3) and October may be enrolled in the July at the beginning of Term 3. However if they have not turned five by day 1 of Term 3 and they are not candidates for early entry, they will need to spend 12 months in the Reception Grade and 18 months in Grade 1. Children in this category would naturally move into higher-level work as required. This is the advantage of the differentiated curriculum offered at Prescott Southern.

Due to the unique needs of students in the Gifted and Talented range, Prescott Southern is happy to accept the enrolment of children under five. If you have a child who you feel would benefit from early entrance, please feel free to contact the school.
How much are the School Fees?

Annual Fees 2012

Tuition Fee
- Reception to Year 7: $2820.00 per annum
- Year 8-10: $4520.00 per annum

Building Fund Levy: $60.00 per annum

Working Bee Levy: $50.00 per annum per family

I.T. Levy: $85.00 per annum

Excursions: $40.00 per annum
(R – 7)
- Swimming 1 term only
- R-5 $25.00 – 6-7 $30.00

Camps: Vary for each grade.

Discounts

The fees are structured to assist families, by offering discounts as listed. Please contact the school if you are unsure of your eligibility in any area.

Early Payment
A 5% Discount will be given if School Fees are paid in full for the year by week 2 of term 1, & a 4% discount given if School Fees are paid in full by week 2 of each term.

Sibling Discount
Discounts on tuition fees for children attending any Prescott School:
- 1 child full fee
- 2 children 15% discount for each child
- 3 children 30% discount for each child
- 4 children 40% discount for each child

School Card Discount
Families who qualify for “School Card” are eligible for a fee remission of 50%.

Prescott Fee Assistance
The school will also receive applications from families who do not qualify for government assistance but who otherwise cannot afford to enrol their children in the school. Limited places are available each year.