



Welcome to Merredin College 2026

Friday 30 January 2026

Welcome to 2026!

Dear families,

I am thrilled to welcome our families and students to the 2026 school year! Whether you are returning to our school community or joining us for the first time, we are delighted to have you as part of the Merredin College family.

If your child is starting school or secondary schooling for the first time you may find the Department of Education's [Support for families starting their schooling journey](#) or [Support for families starting their secondary schooling journey](#) podcasts useful.

We are ready to welcome your child and help them to settle into a productive year of learning.

I encourage you to contact Administration should you have any questions or need additional support for your child. Together, our Deputy Principal team are here to support. Their case management responsibilities are shown below.

- Deputy Principal (K, 2, 4, 6) - Ms Lynne Herbert

- Deputy Principal (P, 1, 3, 5) - Ms Meredith Kinsella
- Deputy Principal (Y7, 9, 11) - Mr Tom James
- Deputy Principal (Y8, 10, 12) - Mr Dave O'Neill
- Deputy Principal (Learning Support) - Ms Rosemary Paterson

We are committed to fostering a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where every student can thrive.

Warmest regards,

Kylie Cattaway

Principal

Students Return - Monday 2 February

Below you will find key information to assist students and families on the first day.

Primary

Current Primary Students

Students can move directly to their classroom. Classlists are posted outside each room.

New students - Primary

Deputy Principals will be available outside Administration to advise students of class allocations.

Secondary

Year 7 Students

New Year 7 students are to assemble in the Year 7 Quad. Ms Sherry and Mrs Postans will welcome students there.

New Year 8-12 Students

New students are to meet on the college front lawn (Woolgar Ave) where they will be met and welcomed by staff. Students will then be directed to the appropriate student quad.

Current Year 8-12 Students

Students should gather in the appropriate quad for their year group. The first bell will sound at 8.45am and a PA announcement will direct students to house meetings.

House Meeting Locations:

- Growden - PAC
- Kelly - Gym
- Law - Dance Studio
- Mitchell - Library

Year 12 Student Councillors and House Captains are to meet at the West Quad stage to welcome new Year 8-12 students and then take them to the appropriate meeting location.

Day 1 Schedule

8:45-9:30am: House Meeting - Welcome and general student information

9:30-10:05am: Homeroom - Student administration tasks and distribution of timetables

10:05am: Scheduled classes begin

BYOD Acceptable Usage Agreements 2026

Don't forget to submit your 'Acceptable Usage Agreement' to enable access the Department of Education online services. This is an annual requirement.

Paper copies of the BYOD Agreements were included with the 2026 Fees & Charges Information package mailed to families at the end of 2025. Forms are also available on the school website (link below). Please return completed forms to Administration as soon as possible.

The agreement includes noting your child's device's name and device address. Instructions to do so are included on the bottom of the agreement and pictured below.

[BYOD Acceptable Usage Agreement Form](#)

[BYOD Plan Overview](#)

All students in Year 4-12 are encouraged to bring their own device (BYOD) to school every day, in particular Year 11 and 12 students. The Department of Education (DOE) provides free Office 365 software to all enrolled students. **Windows Laptops are recommended** or devices that meet the following **minimum specifications**:

- 13-inch display

- Intel Core i5-Processor (or equivalent)
- 8GB RAM (recommended 16GB)
- 256GB SSD
- 720p HD camera
- Wi-Fi capability
- Bluetooth
- 2 x USB ports
- HDMI
- Headphone port
- Windows 10/11 Operating System Pro National Academic Operating
- 8-hour battery life

Third-Party Online Services Consent

Don't forget to complete your 'Third-Party Online Services Consent' to enable access the Department of Education online services in 2026. This is a whole school requirement.

This form requires parent approval for your child to access online third-party services to support their learning in the classroom. Schools use online third-party services to assist with:

- school or student management
- staff and class administration
- student learning content or activities
- communication tools.

[Third-Party Online Services Consent](#)

Third-Party Online Services
Consent 2026



Student Information



Individual Student Update forms were distributed with fees and charges at the end of 2025. We ask that families contact Administration to update student contact and medical details if needed. Keeping this information current helps us provide the best possible care for your child.

Compass



Compass is our primary information management system. The parent portal provides access to your child's profile, news feed, online school calendar, attendance and much more.

Parents of new students will receive an invitation to access Compass next week. Parents of current students who have not yet logged in, please contact administration.

What's in the Compass parent portal?

Your child's profile

- View attendance and behaviour/ wellbeing records
- Email your child's teachers
- Submit absent or late notes

Important reminders

- For attendance notes
- Consent for excursions

Latest school news

- Receive news updates relevant to you, such as newsletters or details of upcoming events

Calendar

- View your child's upcoming excursions and school events

Compass is our online school management system, to manage student attendance and wellbeing and communicate important school information.

Compass for parents/guardians allows schools to invite parents/guardians to connect with them online through their Compass parent portal.

If you still require a login to access Compass please email your request to: Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au

DOWNLOAD THE APP
'Compass School Manager'

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

2026 School Calendar

Our live school calendar is accessible through Compass. There has been strong interest from our parent community for a 'term at a glance' view. Whilst a term view is accessible, when accessing Compass using an internet browser, a brief term-by-term calendar has been uploaded to our [school website](#) for the community's convenience. Please note that the website version will only be accurate at the time of upload and will share selected key events therefore please continue to use the live Compass calendar for confirmation of events.

Term	Week	M	T	W	TH	F	Sa	Su
TERM ONE 2026	001	Public Holiday	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
	01	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	02	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	03	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	04	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	05	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	06	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	07	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	08	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	09	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	10	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
	11	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025
12	Public Holiday	Administration opens 8am-4pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8:30-3:30pm	Administration opens 8am-4pm	2025	2025	

A secondary assembly will be held on Tuesday, 3 February at 9:00am in the gymnasium. We will recognise the 2025 Year 11 Highest Achievers and welcome Year 7 students.

Swimming Lessons will take place for Year 3-6 students from Monday 9 February - Friday 20 February (Week 2-3).

Forms will be handed out at the beginning of next week.



Daily bell times

Our school day commences at 8.45am.

The end of the school day will remain the same, 2.30pm on Wednesdays and 3:00pm every other day of the week.

P&C Uniform Shop

Special extended hours for the start of the school year.

Week 1:

Sunday 1 February 2:00-4:00pm

Monday 2 February 8.30-10:00am

Tuesday 3 February 8.30-9.30am

Wednesday 4 February 8.30-9.30am & 1.30-2.45pm

Thursday 5 February 8.30-9.30am

Friday 6 February 8.30-9.30am

The Uniform shop will return to regular opening times from Week 2 (Monday 9 February).

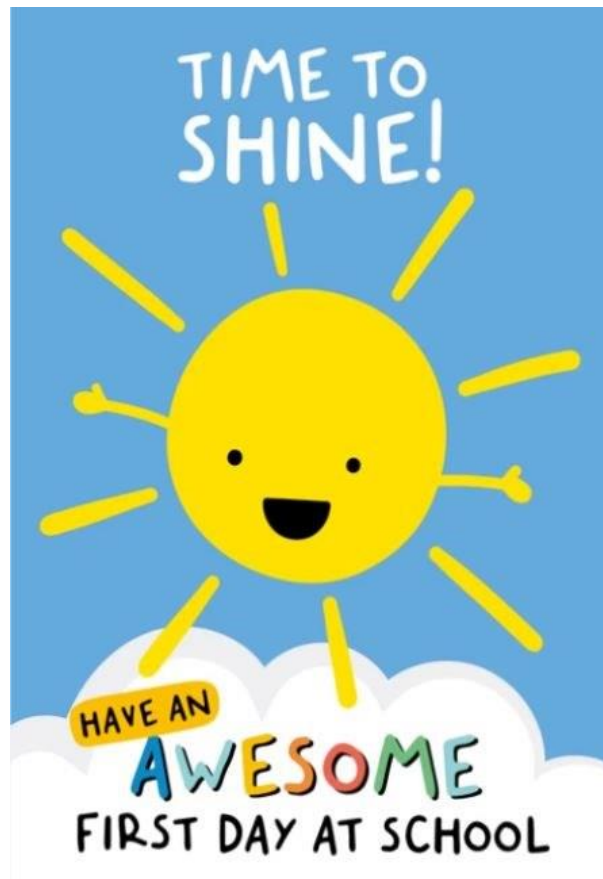
Mondays 8.30-9:15am

Wednesdays 1:30-2:45pm

If you are unable to attend during the above times, uniforms that are ordered and paid for can be collected from Administration during school opening hours.

[Uniform Order Form](#)





It's going to be a hot week!!!

Please make sure your child has sunscreen, a water bottle and hat.

Secondary Assistance Scheme

A yellow poster for the Secondary Assistance Scheme. At the top left is the Department of Education logo and the text 'Department of Education' and 'GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'. At the top right is the slogan 'Shaping the future'. The main title 'Secondary Assistance Scheme' is in large pink letters. Below it, it says 'Years 7 to 12 you may be eligible for up to: \$350 towards school expenses'. A list of eligible concession cards follows: 'If you hold a: • Centrelink Health Care Card • Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card • Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card.' Below that, it states 'Applications close 2 April 2026' and 'Ask School Reception for more information.' The bottom of the poster features abstract shapes in purple, pink, and orange.

Department of Education
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Shaping the future

Secondary Assistance Scheme

Years 7 to 12 you may be eligible for up to:
\$350
towards school expenses

If you hold a:

- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card.

Applications close 2 April 2026

Ask School Reception for more information.

The Secondary Assistance Scheme is available to secondary students whose parents hold a concession card. The scheme includes the Clothing Allowance (\$115 paid to school or parent) and Educational Program Allowance (\$235 paid directly to the school).

If you think you are eligible for the Secondary Assistance Scheme, you are able to apply through the school at the beginning of next year.

The Secondary Assistance Scheme is available to students up to and including the year in which they turn 18, and only if they have a parent who is a holder of one of the prescribed cards listed below:

- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card; or
- Centrelink Health Care Card (Family card only – not for a specific child for medical purposes, viz: “CDA” type [Child Disability Allowance]); or
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card.
- Cards that are not eligible are TPI and Gold Cards.

Students in receipt of ABSTUDY are eligible for the Secondary Assistance Scheme.

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

Contact Information

Phone: (08) 9041 7520

Website: merredincollege.wa.edu.au

Email: Merredin.College@education.wa.edu.au

Compass: merredincollege-wa.compass.education