

At Cape Henry Collegiate, transition students benefit from high-quality instruction that fosters academic confidence and provides the social and emotional support needed to become increasingly independent, engaged learners. Our curriculum is thoughtfully designed to support the whole child while fostering creativity, curiosity, collaboration and a love of learning.

WHAT MAKES TRANSITION DISTINCTIVE?

Transition provides students with an additional year to strengthen foundational academic skills, develop confidence and independence, and grow socially and emotionally before entering 1st grade. Students learn through hands-on exploration, meaningful collaboration and guided instruction that encourages them to ask questions, solve problems and share their thinking. A teacher and teaching assistant provide personalized support and meaningful small-group instruction throughout the day.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A TRANSITION CLASSROOM?

- Engaging, inquiry-based learning experiences that encourage curiosity, critical thinking and problem-solving.
- Small-group instruction that provides individualized support while strengthening foundational academic skills.
- A nurturing classroom community that develops independence, confidence and positive learning habits.
- Rich opportunities for reading, writing, discussion and collaboration that strengthen communication skills.
- Integrated experiences in science, technology, the arts and global studies that connect learning in meaningful ways.

A TRANSITION STUDENT WILL...

- Strengthen foundational literacy skills through phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, reading fluency, comprehension and writing.
- Develop mathematical thinking through exploring number bonds, addition and subtraction, place value, time, money and geometry.
- Investigate scientific questions through observation, experimentation and hands-on problem-solving.
- Design experiments and explore engineering solutions through age-appropriate scientific inquiry.
- Deepen understanding of Australia's geography, communities, wildlife and Indigenous cultures.
- Strengthen independence, collaboration and confidence while developing effective learning habits.
- Share ideas and learning with growing confidence through discussions, writing and collaborative experiences.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TRANSITION CURRICULUM

Language Arts

Students deepen foundational phonics skills while building reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and writing across multiple genres. Rich literature, meaningful discussion and evidence-based thinking help students become increasingly confident readers, writers and communicators. Small-group reading instruction provides targeted opportunities for students to apply developing skills.

Mathematics

Students strengthen number sense and mathematical reasoning by working with numbers to 100 and beyond, creating and using number bonds, and developing fluency with addition and subtraction. Hands-on experiences with time, money, measurement and geometry help students apply mathematical thinking to meaningful problem-solving.

Science and Innovation

Students investigate ocean life, the human body, nutrition and hygiene through hands-on scientific inquiry. Through experimentation and engineering challenges, students learn to ask questions, gather information, test ideas and develop solutions while strengthening curiosity and early scientific thinking.

Social and Global Studies

Students explore Australia's geography, landmarks, cities, wildlife and the Great Barrier Reef. Through research, creative projects and experiences inspired by Indigenous traditions, students develop a deeper appreciation for Australia's diverse environments, communities and cultures.

Transition is a year of purposeful growth as students strengthen foundational academic skills while developing greater confidence, independence and readiness for the next stage of their lower school experience. By the end of the year, students have deepened their skills as readers, writers, mathematicians and thinkers while developing the learning habits and social-emotional growth needed for success. They leave transition prepared for the increased responsibility, academic expectations and opportunities that await them in 1st grade.