



THE RIVERS

SECONDARY COLLEGE

The heart of secondary education for Lismore

College Prospectus
2025



Acknowledgement of Country

The Rivers Secondary College acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land; the Widjabal Wia-bal people of the Bundjalung Nation. We respect Elders, both past and present whose enduring knowledge and strength inspire our college community to learn and work together. Our college is committed to building relationships, respect and opportunities for all Aboriginal people within our Lismore college community.



THE RIVERS
SECONDARY COLLEGE

The heart of secondary education for Lismore

We welcome you to The Rivers Secondary College, located on Bundjalung country. The Rivers Secondary College is the heart of secondary education for Lismore and consists of Kadina High Campus, Lismore High Campus, and Richmond River High Campus. We cater for the educational needs of students wishing to pursue academic, vocational and alternate pathways. Our students benefit from specialised programs at each of our comprehensive Year 7-12 campuses as well as combined college events, sporting teams, shared curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities. Our friendly learning community is characterised by our values of equity, excellence and engagement, where everyone is supported to achieve personal success and positive wellbeing, through evidence-based practices. The curriculum is engaging, accessible and inclusive. With a strong focus on quality teaching, learning and leading we prepare students for the challenges of an ever-changing world which lies ahead of them. In addition to creative thinking, problem solving and technological skill development, all students are supported to establish strong foundations in literacy and numeracy to ensure they are successful lifelong learners.

The Campus Principals work collaboratively with the Executive Principal.

We look forward to working together to ensure your child is safe, supported and successful with a bright future.

The Rivers Secondary College



If you would like more information about the learning opportunities available at The Rivers Secondary College, please complete this form via the QR code above.

Equity Excellence Engagement



Our extremely dedicated staff work collegially in a diversity of college teams focused on improving our campuses. These include attendance, HSC outcomes and effective classroom practice. We are committed to providing our staff with professional learning to ensure that we provide the best opportunities, and work together, on our goal of providing students with the foundations for bright futures.





Kadina High Campus



The Rivers Secondary College Kadina High Campus, in Goonellabah, is a proud and active member of The Rivers Secondary College. Kadina High provides a comprehensive secondary education in a safe, supportive, and challenging environment, fostering students' self-esteem, responsible behaviour, and civic pride. Strong community engagement bolsters our commitment to student success.



Kadina's world-class educational focus is on recruiting dedicated, qualified teachers and offering innovative programs that celebrate each student's unique talents. We aim to equip students with resilience, wellbeing, and the skills needed for future success. Expectations are high, and students are encouraged to be Respectful, Responsible, and Ready.

The many opportunities and programs available for students reflect the evolving needs of our school community and society. Our students and staff are consistently challenged to consider what 'Kadina creates'. Every activity, event and program are testament to this philosophy.

Kadina offers a broad senior curriculum through collaborative arrangements across college sites, including a state-of-the-art Trade Training Centre with vocational facilities in hospitality, construction, metal & engineering and primary industries. Refurbished music and entertainment classrooms further support excellence in creative and performing arts. We honour diversity and are committed to deepening the knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.

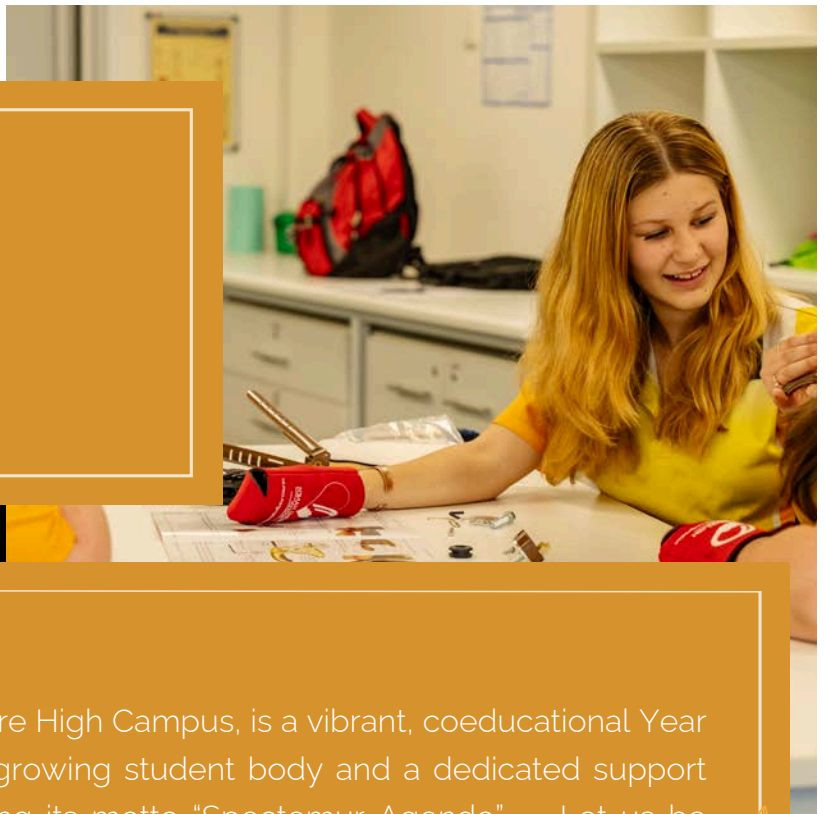
Our campus has a longstanding tradition of academic achievement, with a dedicated team of educators embedding essential literacy and numeracy skills across the curriculum. We publicly celebrate student and staff successes, promoting a culture of achievement where students thrive academically, regularly achieving high ATARs and entry into prestigious university programs. Kadina High Campus is dedicated to a whole-school approach to student wellbeing, ensuring students connect, succeed, and thrive. We implement evidence-based strategies to help students navigate and excel in an increasingly complex world.







Lismore High Campus



The Rivers Secondary College Lismore High Campus, is a vibrant, coeducational Year 7-12 school in East Lismore, with a growing student body and a dedicated support unit. Steeped in tradition, representing its motto "Spectemur Agendo" — Let us be judged by our actions — Lismore High is the oldest public secondary school in Lismore, proudly celebrating its centenary in 2020.

Lismore High Campus

Lismore High Campus features recently renovated facilities, including a gym, dance studio, drama room, aquaponics facility, updated science labs, and industry-standard Trade Training facilities in hospitality, metals & engineering, and construction. High Achiever classes support high potential and gifted students with enriching experiences, and STEM and design-thinking enhance numeracy and problem-solving skills.

Lismore High is proud to offer Bundjalung language lessons, enriching our strong focus on Aboriginal Education through cultural and academic support programs. Annual leadership camps foster skills for societal contribution, and senior students are encouraged to take on leadership roles in areas of interest.

We provide future-focused learning that builds foundation skills in literacy and numeracy, encouraging creative and critical thinking. Targeted programs such as Rock and Water and the Resilience Project, along with a holistic approach to wellbeing, empower students to reach their potential academically, socially, and emotionally. Our collaborative teaching integrates real-world challenges, preparing students for positive futures. An example of this is our flagship Tiny Home construction program.

The Nesbitt Award, a longstanding campus tradition, offers scholarships to support student excellence. Each year, top academic students in Years 7-10 receive \$500-\$1,000, while Year 11 duxes (one male and one female) are awarded \$5,000-\$10,000 each (depending on the annual interest earned by the trust). Each year the Allan Rutherford Balzer Scholarship (approximately \$10,000) is also awarded to someone special.

Our purpose is to develop resilient learners, nurturing strong ethics to equip students for lifelong success and contribution back to their community.



Equity Excellence Engagement





Richmond River High Campus



The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus, is a dynamic, coeducational Year 7-12 school. The campus is dedicated to "Excellent Opportunities, Quality Teaching, Innovative Programs, and Student Success."

Drawing students from Lismore and surrounding areas, Richmond River High offers a wide range of academic, sporting, cultural, and social opportunities. Equipped with advanced technology and supported by passionate educators and staff, the school provides a learning environment where every student can achieve their full potential.

Richmond River High Campus

Currently, Richmond River High Campus operates from a newly resourced Temporary School due to the 2022 floods, sharing some facilities with Lismore High Campus while retaining access to our Agriculture plot in North Lismore. Plans are underway for a new campus build on Dunoon Road.

Our vision, "Learning for Life," drives our commitment to high expectations, collaboration, inclusivity, and respect. We strive for excellence in teaching and learning through consistent routines and strong student engagement initiatives. The campus meets diverse learning needs, including a High Achievers program for students from Years 7-10, and offers enriching experiences like musical events, the Byron Writers Festival, Bell Shakespeare workshops, sports, and other co-curricular opportunities. Richmond River High also has a strong Creative and Performing Arts program that inspires students to explore and express their artistic talents.

We proudly serve a diverse community of rural and urban families, alternative lifestyles, and First Nations cultures, which represent a significant portion of our student body. We are committed to fostering a learning environment where every student feels valued and can achieve success both in school and beyond.

Richmond River High offers an extensive curriculum, including advanced academic courses such as Extension English and Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Agriculture, along with a range of VET and TAFE options. Our Agriculture plot, featuring a teaching space, cattle handling facilities, pasture, chickens and tractors, is a cornerstone of campus life and learning.

Our students can also apply for the Carr Scholarship, a \$15,000 award provided annually to five Year 12 graduates with the highest ATARs to support their first year of university expenses.

Richmond River High is proud to offer Bundjalung language lessons, enhancing our commitment to Aboriginal Education and cultural awareness.

Our purpose is to equip students with lifelong learning skills, resilience, and the adaptability needed to thrive in a complex world.



Equity

Excellence

Engagement



Shared Curriculum



The Rivers Secondary College Shared Curriculum

The Rivers Secondary College offers a broad and diverse curriculum for Year 11 and 12 students, leveraging the resources of all three campuses. By combining enrolments, more subjects are made available, with students travelling between campuses to participate in these Shared Curriculum classes. The college provides transport to support students, who also benefit from building strong relationships with peers from across the campuses, fostering collaboration and a sense of community. Year 10 students choosing Shared Curriculum subjects enjoy Term 4 orientation days, meeting their teachers and exploring new campuses ahead of their senior studies.

Equity Excellence Engagement

Rivers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education

NAIDOC Celebrations

NAIDOC Week is a vibrant and engaging time at The Rivers Secondary College. Since 2022, students and staff from all three campuses come together for a full-day community event celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through music, dance, arts, crafts, and the highly anticipated Rivers NAIDOC Oztag Cup.



Bunjulung Jugun
Ngali na jugun
Nagali garima mala jugun
Wana janjma mala gunu gala jugun
Ngali wana janja mala jugun
Ngali na mala jugun
Bunjulung Country
We belong to this country
We look after this country
Don't do wrong around here this
country
We don't harm this country here
We belong to it this country
Bunjulung Elders

Rivers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education at The Rivers Secondary College is supported by dedicated teams at each campus, with all staff playing a role in meeting the individual needs of students. This commitment is reflected through diverse initiatives, programs and practices, including the Broncos Girls Academy, established in 2017 to provide culturally-based mentoring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls in Years 7-12. The combined strength of the three campuses fosters collaboration among staff, enabling the sharing of expertise and best practices. Increasingly, staff are trained in Stronger Smarter and the 8 Ways pedagogy, driving meaningful progress in closing the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The Rivers Secondary College is proudly “Walking Together and Working Together” with our local AECG.

Equity Excellence Engagement

Rivers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education

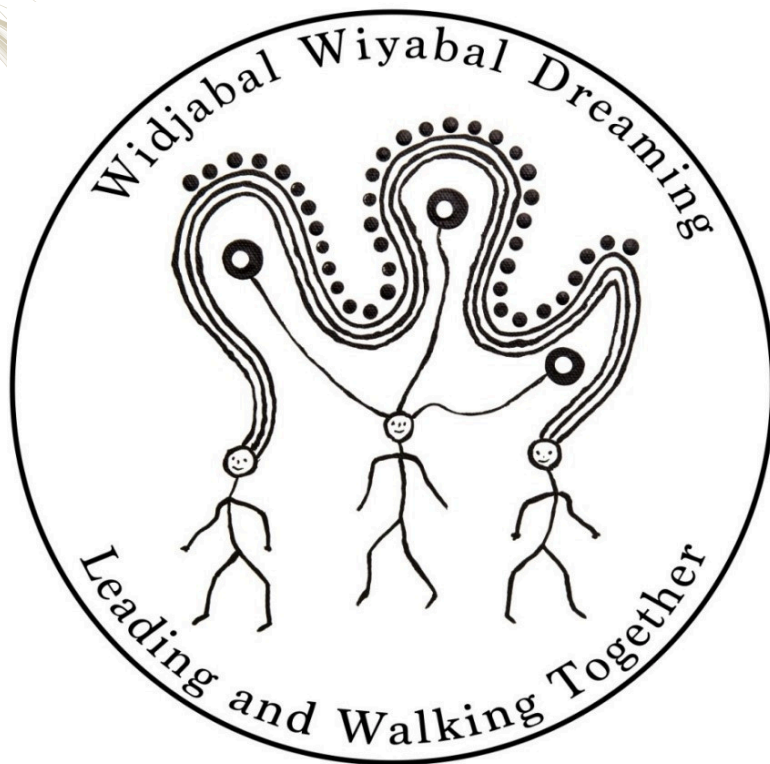


Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Recognition

Each year, The Rivers Secondary College celebrates the achievements and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through the Proud and Deadly Awards. A partnership with the Lismore Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (LLAECG), these awards honor the excellence of students from Year 7 to Year 12. Parents, families, and community members are invited to join in celebrating the success of our students at the annual Proud and Deadly Awards ceremony.

Widjabal Wiyabal Dreaming

Widjabal Wiyabal Dreaming is a leadership initiative for aspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at The Rivers Secondary College. This program brings students together for cultural and civic leadership workshops, empowering them to share ideas and voice concerns about issues affecting their communities. Conducted off-site, the program immerses students in learning about Culture, History, Identity, Awareness, and Language while fostering core leadership values. Many participants go on to excel academically, culturally, and within the wider community.



Rivers Creative and Performing Arts



The Creative and Performing Arts is strongly supported across the college with access to a variety of subjects that focus on skill development, creative collaboration and performance opportunities, nourishing students talents and interests. Students have the opportunity to attend regular excursions to various locations, including an annual excursion for Year 11 students to Sydney. Over the years, students have attended workshops at The National Art School, NIDA and the Sydney Opera House. These excursions open up the creative world to our students and allow them to experience some of the best arts facilities in Australia.



The Rivers Secondary College is a place where creativity is valued and nourished through diverse programs that cater to all students and creative areas, supported by highly passionate and skilled teachers.

Equity Excellence Engagement

Rivers Creative and Performing Arts



Equity Excellence Engagement

THE RIVERS ACADEMY OF STEM EXCELLENCE

The Rivers Academy of STEM Excellence at The Rivers Secondary College fosters an integrated approach to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), equipping students with essential skills like creative and critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving. Through project-based learning, STEM electives, and the Design Thinking Process, students gain real-world skills that prepare them for an evolving workforce. Partnering with the NSW Department of Education and local industry, the Academy supports a K-12 STEM education pathway and hosts annual challenges, such as the bottle rocket and solar car events, bringing students together for hands-on learning experiences.





With a dedicated Sports Coordinator, Rivers Sport allows students from all three campuses to try out for Rivers Secondary College representative teams, training and competing with top athletes across the college. These teams foster greater success at local, regional, and state competitions. Year 7-10 students also enjoy some combined school sports on Wednesdays, offering a diverse range of activities at campuses and community facilities.



Rivers Sport



Students currently have the opportunity to represent the college in the following sports: Australian Rules Football, Baseball, Basketball, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Table Tennis, Volleyball and Water Polo.



RIVERS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Our Rivers Shared Curriculum Vocational Education subjects give students the opportunity to join TAFE courses and gain placements in the workforce; our students can be found in cafes, shops, on farms, in childcare centres and on building sites, to name but a few, across the region.



Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses focus on employability skills essential for gaining and advancing in the workplace. These include communication, teamwork, problem-solving, initiative, creativity, planning, self-management, learning, and technology—empowering students to succeed and contribute effectively to their future enterprises. Students can speak with our campus careers advisers about opportunities for School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships.

RIVERS STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES



At The Rivers Secondary College, students can engage in a wealth of extracurricular activities and leadership opportunities across campuses and the college. From the Rivers Chess Competition and Sports Gala Days to the Rivers CAPA showcases and excursions, there is something for everyone. Annual elections for the Student Representative Council empower students to have a voice, while leadership camps and training programs provide dynamic experiences in teamwork, mentoring, and skill-building. Through conferences, workshops, and team-building activities, students are inspired to unlock their potential and achieve their leadership goals.



Equity Excellence Engagement

Primary Partner Schools



The college has an annual Roadshow where staff and students from the three campuses visit primary schools to expose Year 5 students to engaging secondary learning experiences. Recent feedback from a primary principal - "We LOVE working with your college. So professional, well planned and such strong communication. The Roadshow has become a very important tradition for Stage 3 at our school.

Primary Partner Schools

As a college, we are committed to continually strengthen partnerships with our partner primary schools to enhance transition of students from the primary to secondary setting. Orientation days are held at each campus where Year 6 students undertake team building and hands-on learning activities that provide an insight into school life and prepare them for our college.



Regular opportunities for collaboration through peer mentoring, sports coaching and the creative and performing arts are also supported. Staff from The Rivers Academy of STEM Excellence work closely with primary schools to facilitate authentic learning experiences through technology.





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KADINA HIGH CAMPUS

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