



Year 7 2024

Orientation Information



MERIDEN
AN ANGLICAN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Welcome to Year 7

The transition to Senior School marks an important stage of your life and recognises your increasing maturity and your ability to take on more responsibilities.

At Meriden, we encourage our students to become independent learners and critical thinkers. We want you to be actively involved in your academic studies, to participate enthusiastically both inside and outside the classroom and to make the most of every learning opportunity. We will help you to identify your strengths and assist you to become a self-directed learner.

We want you to take advantage of the many opportunities available to you at Meriden. The activities you engage in will help you to grow intellectually, physically and socially. The more diverse your involvement, the more you will grow. We encourage you to join a sporting team, become involved in music, develop your public speaking skills, and look for other opportunities such as Chess and Student Christian Groups. These are all great ways for you to make new friends, learn new skills and discover your strengths.

We are delighted to have you join our community and we look forward to guiding you through this transition. Look forward to Year 7 with excitement, enthusiasm and confidence and make the most of every opportunity.



Mrs Lisa Brown

Principal

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School contact details

Senior School	3 Margaret Street, Strathfield NSW 2135 Administration Office 7:30am – 4:30pm Phone: 9752 9444 Fax: 9752 9400 Email: enquiries@meriden.nsw.edu.au
Postal Address	PO Box 78, Strathfield NSW 2135
Absence Line – Senior School	Meriden App SMS: 0418 193 988 Email: absences@meriden.nsw.edu.au
Uniform Shop	Phone: 9752 9492 uniform@meriden.nsw.edu.au Monday to Friday: 7:45am – 5:15pm
Hudson Library and Research Centre	Phone: 9752 9441 Monday to Friday: 7:30am – 6:00pm Saturday: 9:00am – 2:00pm School Holidays at the end of Terms 1, 2 and 3: Monday to Friday, 9:00am – 2:00pm Term 4 summer holidays and Public Holidays: Closed
Health Centre	Phone: 9752 9418 9752 9520 healthcentre@meriden.nsw.edu.au Monday to Friday: 7:00am – 5:30pm



Term dates 2024

Term 1	Thursday 1 February to Friday 12 April Orientation Day for new students Years 7-12: Wednesday 31 January Easter break: Thursday 28 March – Monday 1 April (inclusive)
Term 2	Monday 29 April to Friday 28 June
Term 3	Tuesday 23 July to Friday 27 September
Term 4	Monday 14 October to Tuesday 10 December (Senior School)

Some key Meriden staff



Mrs Lisa Brown
Principal



Mr Richard Loane
Head of Campus



Mrs Jessica Chilton
Head of Student
Wellbeing



Mr Douglas Broadbent
Head of Teaching
and Learning



Rev Clayton Moss
Chaplain



**Ms Jodie
Spooner-Ryan**
Director of Music



Mr Mark Heathcote
Director of Sport



Mrs Sophie Hollingsworth
Year 7 Coordinator



Miss Katherine Bull
Assistant Year 7
Coordinator



**Ms Jennifer Morgan-
Nicholson**
Nurse



Miss Caitlin Dixon
Nurse

Heads of Department

Academic Support
Mrs Joanne Spanos

Applied Science
Mrs Rikki McMillan

Christian Education
Rev Brie Pattison

Digital and Creative Arts
Ms Gillian Legge

English
Mr Tim Archer

History
Mrs Cheryl O'Loan

Languages
Mrs Teresa Alonso-Lasheras

Mathematics
Tobias Cooper

Performing Arts
Ms Jodie Spooner-Ryan

Science
Mrs Tara Richards

Social Science
Miss Anita Kondichetty

Tertiary Pathways
Mr Ryan Richards

Other key staff

Dean of Academic Care
Ms Sascha Bass

Dean of Assessment
and Reporting
Ms Jessica Farrell

Dean of Community Learning
Mrs Vanessa Kirolos

Dean of Lateral Learning
Ms Priscilla Curran

Dean of Staff
Ms Vicki Sheehan

Dean of Student Involvement
Mr Richard Hughes

Dean of Studies
Mrs Nicole Hearne

Director of Sport
Mr Mark Heathcote

Meriden Music Academy
Mrs Carolyn Mirabito

Teacher Librarian
Ms Kate Bowie (from Term 4)

Registrar
Mrs Gina Malley

Counsellor
Ms Sarah Srikanthan

Counsellor
Ms Maria Taylor

Counsellor
Ms Sarah Wackett

Coordinators of Learning Links

Global Outlook
Mr Kuhan Rajalingam

High Potential Learning
Mrs Sharna Kershaw

Innovation
Mrs Alexandra Phillips

Research and Critical Thinking
Dr Jocelyn Laurence

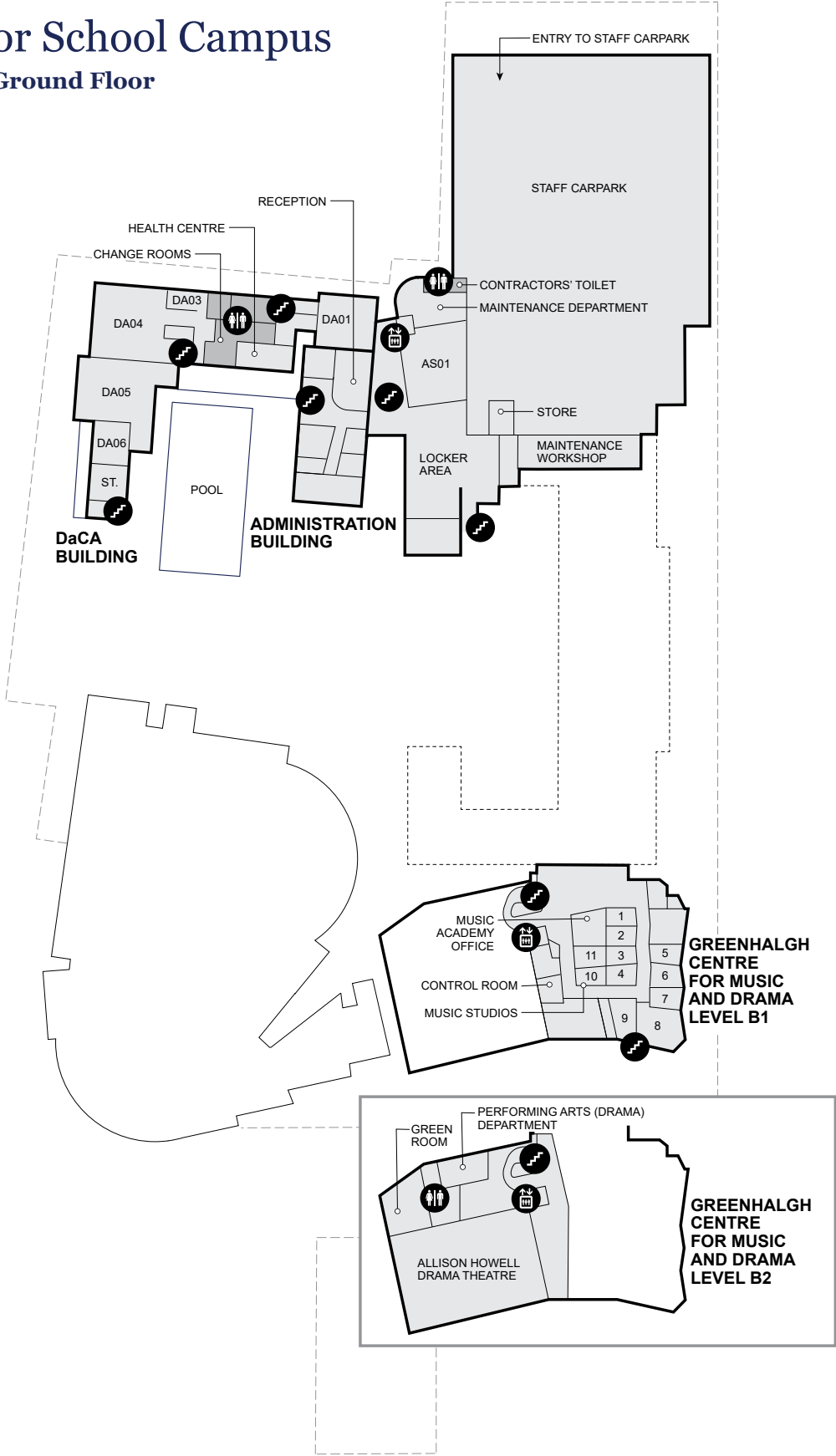
Service Learning
Mrs Julie Shannon

Speech
Miss Tara Graetz (Acting)

Technology
Ms Nicola Casaceli

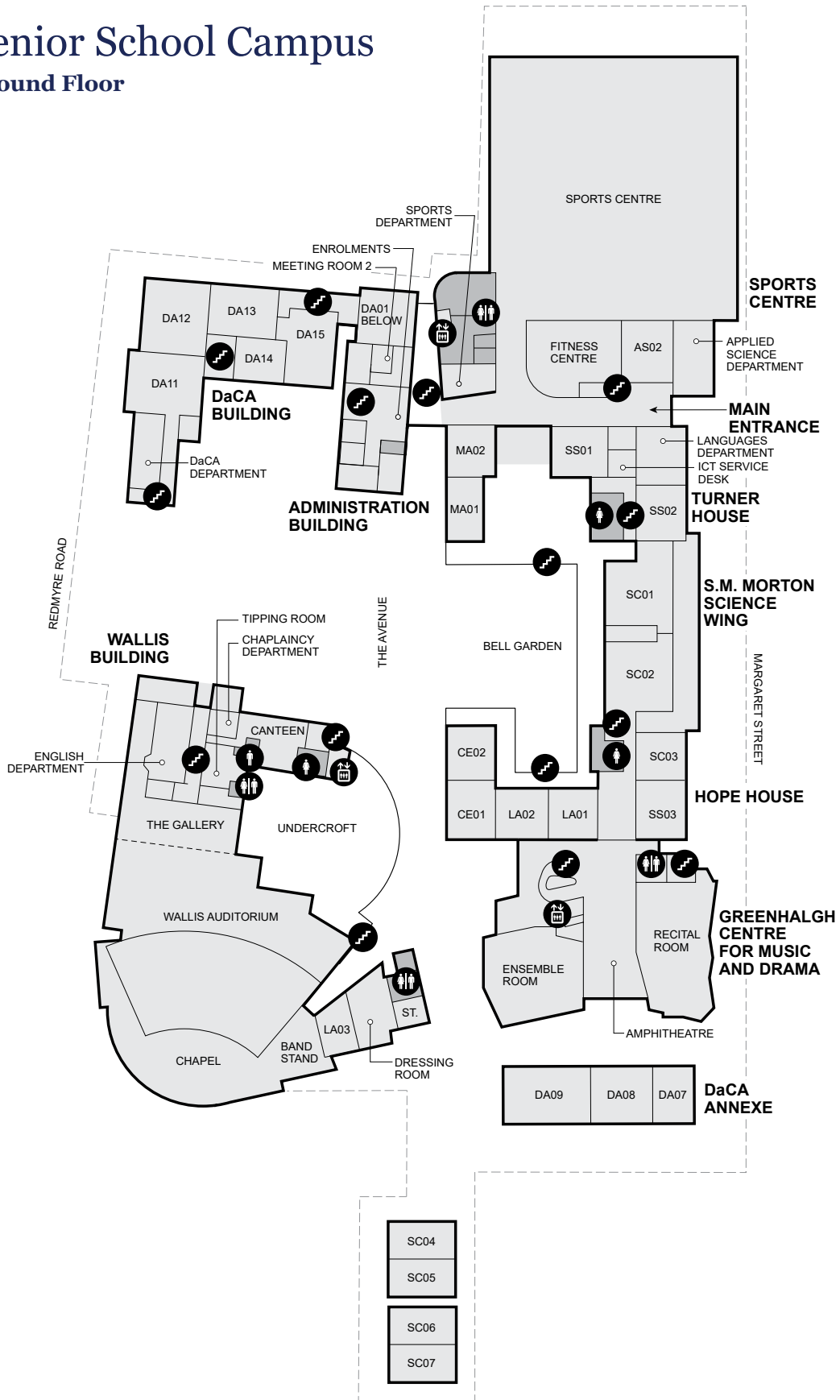
Meriden Senior School map

Senior School Campus Lower Ground Floor



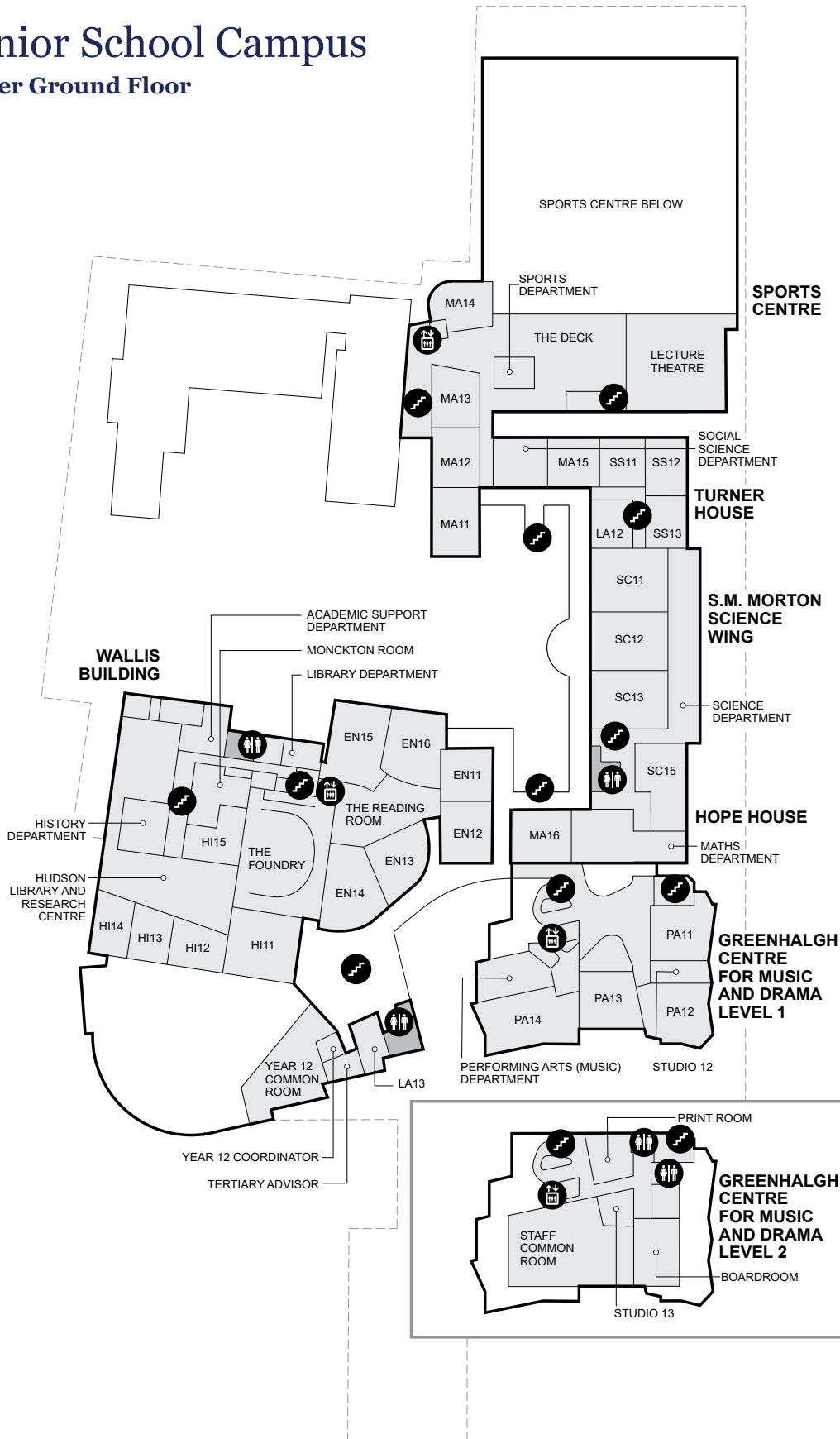
Senior School Campus

Ground Floor



Senior School Campus

Upper Ground Floor



Year 7 Orientation afternoon

Wednesday 31 January 2024. 1:00 – 3:00pm

Year 7 girls should come to Meriden in their sport uniform at 1:00pm. They will be introduced to their Year Coordinator, Mrs Sophie Hollingsworth, and the Head of Student Wellbeing, Mrs Jessica Chilton. They will be given a tour of the school grounds by student leaders and given time to find their lockers, practise using their locks and orient themselves before the first day of school.

Girls who have not yet attended Learning Appraisal Day will be assessed on Wednesday 31 January 2024, from 8:30am – 12:30pm.

First day arrangements

Thursday 1 February 2024

Arrival	8:00 – 8:10am Students come to school in their summer uniform. Year 7 girls will be greeted by senior students at the school gates and directed to their lockers and then to Wallis Auditorium. Students need to bring some pens/pencils, their laptop, a book to write in and food for recess and lunch.
8:20am	Assembly in Wallis Auditorium Girls will join the whole Senior School for Assembly. Year 7 will be seated in Wallis Auditorium by the Year 7 Coordinator, Mrs Sophie Hollingsworth, and the tutors.
Lesson 1	Year 7 will remain in Wallis Auditorium at the end of Assembly. They will be allocated to their classes and introduced to their tutors and other key staff. Year 7 will be briefed on various aspects of the life of the School.
Lesson 2	Girls will be given their timetables, Meriden Planners and log-in details. Students will be given IT training with members of the ICT Department.
Recess	Year 7 will sit together as a group for recess.
Pastoral Time	Year 7 will have their first tutor group meeting as per their timetable.
Lesson 3	As per student timetable.
Lunch	Year 7 will sit together as a group for lunch.
Lesson 4	As per student timetable.
Lesson 5	As per student timetable.
Dismissal	Girls will be dismissed at 3:10pm.

Stationery list

The following stationery is required for the start of Term 1.

General stationery

- 7 x 96-page A4 exercise books
- Blue, black and red pens
- HB pencils
- Textas and/or coloured pencils
- Eraser
- Highlighter pens
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Clear perspex ruler
- Small stapler
- USB memory stick (minimum 16GB)
- Clipboard

Display folders and Manila folders may be required, as requested by individual teachers.

Mathematics

- Protractor
- Pair of compasses
- Scientific calculator: Casio fx-8200AU

Music

- 1 x 96-page A4 Music Book

Technology Mandatory

- Sewing needles, fabric pins and fabric scissors

Fabric, coloured thread and other materials may be required, as dictated by the student's design project.

Visual Arts

Students will be provided with an "Art Kit" in a calico bag consisting of drawing pencils, paintbrushes, Visual Arts process diary and apron.

Student laptop computer

All Year 7 students are required to have the School's mandated laptop computer, the ASUS ExpertBook B5 Flip Touch Screen Laptop. Students will use this device in Years 7, 8 and 9 and no other devices will be accepted in these school years.

The ASUS ExpertBook B5 Flip Touch Screen Laptop has a higher specification over the model offered in retail stores and therefore must be bought through the School. Meriden has organised a cost-effective package deal for this device which includes the laptop and a three-year warranty, including breakages.

Once purchased, the laptop belongs to the student and is the student's responsibility. All faults, breakages and software problems remain the student's responsibility, but please note that the School will assist with all problems associated with the device and if any claims or warranty issues arise, the ICT Department will coordinate the repairs on behalf of the student.

How to purchase your laptop

The ASUS ExpertBook B5 Flip Touch Screen Laptop is purchased online using the Meriden/ASI portal. The cost is \$1,519.10 including a three-year warranty and carry case.

The School also requires an Accidental Damage Cover and this is now included in the purchase price.

Please purchase your laptop by Friday 1 December 2023.

1. Go to <https://meriden.asi.com.au>, or use the QR code on the right.
2. Click "Shop Now".
3. Click "New User" just below the Login button.
4. Enter your name, email address and create a password.
5. Enter the Registration Key Code **714-528-389**
6. Click "Create an Account".
7. Click "Notebooks" (at the top of the screen).
8. Purchase the ASUS ExpertBook B5 Flip Student Bundle.
9. When entering delivery details, ensure the laptop is delivered to Meriden.



*Purchase the
School mandated
laptop.*

How to pick up your laptop

Your laptop will be available for collection from the Meriden ICT Department by appointment. Collection appointments are available between Thursday 18 and Wednesday 24 January 2024.

To make a laptop collection appointment with the Meriden ICT Department:

1. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au, or use the QR code on the right.
2. Enter the event code **hf4mf** and click "Go".
3. Select your preferred appointment date and time.



*Book a laptop
collection
appointment*

Year 7 textbooks

In Year 7 the majority of textbooks are in the form of eTexts and you will need to order them online from the supplier, Campion Education.

Please order your Year 7 textbooks by Friday 15 December 2023.

How to purchase Year 7 textbooks

1. Go to www.campion.com.au or use the QR code on the right.
2. Locate "Online ordering for parents and students" and click "Order here".
3. Create a new parent account.
4. Enter the Resource List code **9H3B** and click "Next".
5. Make your selections and follow the prompts to complete your order. Note: Choose the Language text as per the Language selection you have already made.

Please ensure delivery is to your residential address.

Once you have placed your Campion order online, instructions on how to download and access the eTexts will be sent via email from Campion. This will be in mid-January. This delayed delivery date for eTexts provides time for Meriden ICT staff to liaise with Campion to facilitate a successful upload. If the email does not arrive, please check your Junk mailbox.

The Meriden ICT Department will be open between Thursday 18 January and Wednesday 24 January 2024 for student laptop collection appointments and assistance with installation of eTexts. Please see the previous page for information regarding how to make an appointment with the Meriden ICT Department.



Hudson Library and Research Centre

The Hudson Library and Research Centre is the information hub of the Senior School and is located upstairs in the Wallis Building. Senior School students are encouraged to work in the library creatively and critically, from independent study to group work, to research and leisurely reading.

Library Resources

Meriden students can look forward to borrowing from a genre-fied fiction collection, which allows for easier identification of books.

The fiction section is located in the Reading Room and non-fiction is in the Research Centre.

Self-service kiosks enable students to become independent patrons, with students being able to borrow and return books at any time of the day. Borrowing permissions are as follows:

	Fiction – 3-week borrowing period	Non-Fiction – 1-week borrowing period
Years 7-8	5 books	2 books
Years 9-10	8 books	2 books
Years 11-12	10 books	2 books

In addition to the library's physical resources, students have access to quality information online through eVe.

An extended fiction collection containing eBooks and audiobooks can be read through the library's ePlatform.

The Digital Library is the students' portal to databases and subscriptions, news resources and other online resources. Library staff have also developed and curated research guides to assist with assessment tasks. For further assistance, students can book research appointments with the library's resident Research Fellow, Dr Ann Goeth.

Use of the Library

- No food or drinks are to be taken into the library.
- Any overdue books must be returned before students can borrow again.
- Students must have their student ID to borrow resources.
- After-hours use of the library is only available to Meriden students in Years 7-12. Younger siblings from the Junior School are to use the after-school care facility which is available each day until 6:00pm.
- Students working in the library after school are required to check in and out using the SINE pads, located near the librarian's desk.
- For supervision purposes, if students are intending to use the library after school, they must stay within the library. Students are expected to start vacating the library at 5:45pm to allow for closure at 6:00pm.
- Students are expected to respect the needs of all present and work in a calm and quiet manner.

Library Opening Hours

	Term Time	Holidays (excluding Term 4 Holidays)
Monday to Friday	7:30am – 6:00pm	9:00am – 2:00pm
Saturday	9:00am – 2:00pm	Closed

After School Phone Number: 02 9744 9441

Library Activities

The Creativity Corner provides a circuit-breaker to the weekly schedule. Students of all year groups are welcome to participate in various art and craft activities and recharge for the remainder of the school week. The Creativity Corner meets each Wednesday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm in the Reading Room.

For more information, please contact Ms Jessie Niumataiwalu, Library Manager
jniumataiwalu@meriden.nsw.edu.au

Homework Help

Students at Meriden can get assistance with their homework in several ways:

- Girls are readily able to speak to or email their teacher to arrange a time for additional help.
- Many students work on their homework in the library after school each day.
- After-school Homework Help is available for English, Mathematics and Science, between 3:30pm – 4:30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. No bookings are required and teachers are available to assist with homework and/or student questions.
- Every second Saturday during term time, the Hudson Library and Research Centre is open for Day 11 where subject-specific help is available for students. The timetable for Day 11 is available on the Lateral Learning eVe page.

Meriden's online systems for parents

Meriden has a number of online systems for parents, which are accessed by a unique username and password. The Meriden ICT Department is available to assist parents with the following systems:

The Meriden App

The Meriden App is the primary way the School communicates with parents.

Please make sure you download the Meriden App to your phone from the App Store (iPhones) or Google Play (for Android phones).

The Meriden App is used to:

- receive important School notices and updates;
- view the School calendar;
- read the School newsletter;
- report absences: in advance or before 7:30am on the day; or for access to Leave or Exemption Forms for longer absences;
- access information about sport and cocurricular activities;
- access information about many other areas of Meriden; and
- access the mobile version of eVe or Parent Lounge.



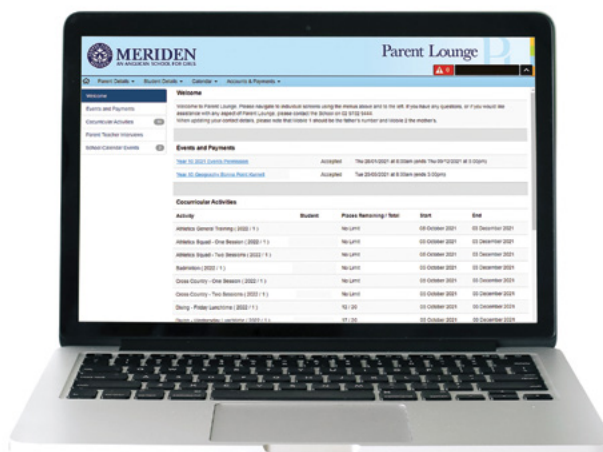
Parent Lounge

Parent Lounge is where parents maintain contact and medical details and provide online payments, registrations and permissions.

The desktop version of Parent Lounge can be accessed from the Meriden website, and the mobile version can be accessed from the Meriden App.

Parent Lounge is used to:

- update address and contact details, and your daughter's medical details;
- provide permission for incursions and excursions, including payment where relevant;
- register for sport, music and cocurricular activities;
- make bookings for Parent/Teacher Conferences;
- access termly invoices and recent payments;
- pay termly invoices using a credit card, or set up a payment schedule to pay your termly invoice: and
- provide access to school reports (Years 10-12).



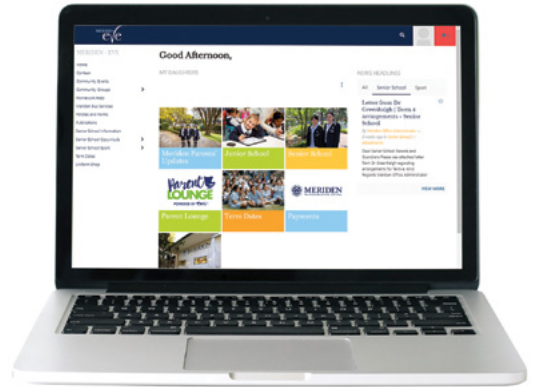
eVe

eVe is a desktop version of most of the information available in the Meriden App and provides detailed information about the School, including notices. It is also where parents can view their daughter's timetable and eReport.

The desktop version of eVe can be accessed from the Meriden website, and the mobile version can be accessed from the Meriden App.

eVe is used to:

- access your daughter's eReport (Years 7-9);
- view your daughter's timetable (Years 7-12);
- view important School notices and updates;
- access information about sport, music and cocurricular activities; and
- access information about many other areas of Meriden.



SMS Alerts

In the event of a major incident at the School, such as an evacuation or lockdown, parents will be advised and kept updated by SMS.


The SMS system is also used to alert a parent of an unexplained student absence in the Senior School.

Parents' unique username and password

If you would like assistance with your username, password or any aspect of Meriden's online systems for parents, please call Meriden ICT on +61 2 9752 9444.

You need your Meriden username and password to access Meriden's online systems for parents. You can find your username on your Meriden termly invoice.

Assuming you have never changed it, your password can be found on the termly invoice also. Your username is your account number with an extra 0 at the beginning. For example, if your account number is 001234, your username is 0001234. Your password is your BPay reference number. You are welcome to leave your password as your BPay reference number, but if you would like to change it, you can do so by logging onto eCentral, which you can access through the Meriden website's portals section. Set up your personalised Parent Login details which can then be used to access any of the Meriden systems available to parents.



Meriden School

PO Box 78
STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

Phone: (61 2) 9752 9414 Fax: (61 2) 9752 9440
Email: business.services@meriden.nsw.edu.au
ABN: 99 000 020 762

Your password is your
BPay Reference, found here

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT NUMBER

00XXXX

Your username is your
Account Number with an
extra 0 at the beginning.

For example, if your
Account Number is 001234,
your username is 0001234

BPAY Biller Code: 76703
Ref: XXXXX

Telephone & Internet Banking – BPAY®
Contact your bank or financial institution to make this payment
from your cheque, savings, debit, credit card or transaction
account. More info: www.bpay.com.au

Senior School Canteen

The Senior School Canteen, known as the Blue Bell Café, offers a wide range of healthy, seasonal foods and beverages. Opening hours are 7:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday. It is also open on Saturdays from 7:30am to 12noon during term time.

Students are encouraged to pre-order their lunches. However, meals can also be purchased from the Canteen at lunchtime. The options for purchasing from the Canteen are:

- Pre-order lunch online by 8:00am through Flexischools (see below);
- Pre-order lunch at the Canteen before school commences, paying by cash or Meriden ID Card linked to your Flexischools account; or
- Purchase morning tea or lunch directly, using cash or Meriden ID Card linked to your Flexischools account.

How to register and order through Flexischools

1. Go to flexischools.com.au/parents or use the QR code on the right.
2. Click “Sign up”.
3. Follow the prompts to create an account, including adding your daughter.
4. Top-up your account using VISA, Mastercard, PayPal or by direct deposit.
Flexischools will email you a reminder when your account is running low.
5. To order, locate “Senior Lunch Meriden School” in the “Food” section.



How to link your daughter’s student card to your Flexischools account

Once you have set up your Flexischools account, navigate to “Students” and click on your daughter’s name and enter her Meriden ID Card Number. If you wish, you can set a daily FlexiSchools spending limit. For your daughter to use her Meriden ID Card to make purchases from the Canteen, money needs to be loaded on your FlexiSchools account.

Uniform Shop

The Meriden Uniform Shop supplies the entire uniform for all students (except shoes), and the Uniform Shop staff are looking forward to helping you with the purchase of your Meriden Senior School uniform.

Uniform items required

A list of items required by your daughter is available on the Meriden website, or by using the QR code on the right.

Alternatively, go to

www.meriden.nsw.edu.au/resources/uniform-shop/



View the uniform requirements on the Meriden website.

Uniform appointments

Our recommendation is that you purchase your new summer uniform prior to the school closing this year to ease your daughter's transition to Meriden.

To facilitate this, you must book an appointment with the Uniform Shop. Appointments take about 45 minutes.

Appointments for fittings of the winter uniform will be available from March 2024.

How to book a uniform appointment

1. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au or use the QR code on the right.
2. Enter the event code **5usv4** and click "Go".
3. Follow the steps shown.

Should you wish to make an appointment outside the times offered above, please call the Meriden Uniform Shop on 9752 9492.



Make a Meriden Uniform Shop appointment.

Clothing Pool

The Uniform Shop carries good quality second-hand items that can be purchased in-store. Please note, there is no exchange or refund on clothing pool items.

Payment

Uniform Shop payments can be made by cash, EFTPOS, MasterCard, Visa and American Express cards. We are happy to process future orders either in person, by phone, email or via our online ordering using Flexischools. We are unable to place uniform sales on your school account.

Exchange and Refund

If it is necessary to return or exchange goods purchased, please have your receipt of purchase and ensure that the items have not been worn or marked and all manufacturer's labels are attached. Due to health regulations, there are a number of items that cannot be exchanged or returned including swimsuits, socks, tights, hats and second-hand items.

Transport

School Opal Card

The School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) provides eligible school students with free or subsidised travel from home to school on public transport. Applications are made through the Transport NSW SSTS website, not through the School.

Applications should be made as soon as possible so that the card is ready for Term 1. Cards are sent to the student's nominated address one or two weeks before the commencement of classes.

- Students currently without a School Opal Card will need to create a new application.
- Students currently holding a School Opal Card may need to update their details.

For more information go to:

<https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions/school-student-travel>

or use the QR code on the right.



*More information
about a School
Opal Card*

Meriden Bus Services

Meriden provides its own bus services to and from the following areas:

- Route 1: Taren Point, Miranda, Sylvania, Blakehurst, Hurstville, Beverly Hills, Strathfield
- Route 2: Woolwich, Hunters Hill, Gladesville, Tennyson Point, Putney, Rhodes, Concord West
- Route 3: Illawong, Alfords Point, Padstow Heights, Oatley, Strathfield
- Route 4: Balmain, Rozelle, Leichhardt, Dulwich Hill, Summer Hill, Enfield
- Route 5: Drummoyne, Russell Lea, Five Dock, Canada Bay, Concord
- Route 6: Concord, Breakfast Point, Cabarita, North Strathfield
- Route 7: Carlingford, Dundas, Ermington, Dundas Valley, Newington, Wentworth Point, Sydney Olympic Park
- Route 8: Clemton Park, Earlwood, Canterbury, Ashbury, Croydon Park, Campsie, Belmore, Belfield

Students must use their Meriden ID cards to tap on and off Meriden buses once cards are issued early in Term 1.

Details of each route, timetables and an application form are available on the School website.

Applications can also be submitted via <https://orientation.meriden.nsw.edu.au/bus/> or by using the QR code on the right.



*Apply to use
the Meriden
Bus Service*

Music

There are many exciting music opportunities available to girls in the Senior School. All Year 7 students are encouraged to be involved in the Music program through participation in music ensembles or through music tuition through the Meriden Music Academy.

Music ensembles

Meriden has a broad offering of cocurricular music ensembles. Large groups include choirs, orchestras, bands and string ensembles. Music ensembles are offered at all levels. An audition is required for advanced ensembles and chamber groups.

Performances occur regularly throughout the year at Meriden. There are concerts and eisteddfods for large ensembles, recitals for soloists and smaller groups, twilight concerts for those taking individual instrumental or vocal tuition, assemblies and open days. Meriden musicians also take part in combined schools and community performances. There is an annual music camp at which all Meriden musicians polish their skills, and advanced ensembles may undertake interstate and international tours.

Private music lessons through Meriden Music Academy

The Meriden Music Academy provides private tuition for students on all instruments including voice, as well as musicianship and Speech and Drama. Lessons are taught by qualified specialist teachers during the school day and after school, with some lessons also available on Saturdays.

For further information about the Meriden Music Academy, please refer to the Meriden Music Academy handbook found on the Year 7 Orientation website, which can be accessed using the QR code on the right.

Alternatively, the Year 7 Orientation website and Meriden Music Academy brochure can be accessed via: <https://orientation.meriden.nsw.edu.au/year-7/>

Music Academy information is also available through the School website.



*View the Meriden
Music Academy
Brochure*

Term 1 2024 Music Registration

Registration for Term 1 2024 Music opened in October, and a registration link was sent via email.

If your daughter wishes to participate in Term 1 but has not already registered, please email performingarts@meriden.nsw.edu.au for ensembles or the Music Academy at musicacademy@meriden.nsw.edu.au

Our Music Department staff are always happy to provide further details and answer any questions you may have about music at Meriden. Parents are invited to contact the Department via email at performingarts@meriden.nsw.edu.au or 9752 9478.

Senior School Major Ensembles Rehearsal Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7:15 - 8:15am	Wind Symphony Sectionals	Intermediate Singers	Intermediate Chamber Strings	Clarinet Ensemble	Concert Band
	Chamber Music	Chamber Music	Senior Chamber Strings		
	Chapel Band A and B	Chamber Music	Symphony Orchestra Sectionals	Percussion Ensemble	Madrigals
Lunchtime 12:30 - 1:05pm	Senior Singers	Choir	Chamber Music	Intermediate Singers	Concert Band Sectionals
	Rock Band A			Rock Band B	Club 88
	Flute Ensemble	Brass Ensemble	Big Band	Chamber Music	Chamber Music
After School 3:30 - 5:00pm	Wind Symphony		Symphony Orchestra	Senior Singers	Chapel Band C and D
			Sinfonia		

Senior School Major Ensembles

Auditions are required unless otherwise stated.

Choir	Years 7-12	All those who enjoy singing. No audition required.
Intermediate Singers	Years 7-9	Advanced or more experienced choral singers.
Senior Singers and Madrigals	Years 9-12	Advanced or more experienced choral singers.
Instrument Ensembles	Years 7-12	Brass Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Flute Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble, all levels welcome.
Concert Band	Years 7-12	All woodwind, brass and percussion players. Grade 1 AMEB and above.
Wind Symphony	Years 7-12	Advanced woodwind, brass and percussion players. Grade 5 AMEB and above

Big Band	By invitation only	Advanced brass, saxophone, bass and percussion players.
Sinfonia	Years 5-12	All string, woodwind, brass and percussion players. Grade 3 AMEB and above.
Symphony Orchestra	Years 7-12	Advanced string, woodwind, brass and percussion players. Grades 5-6 AMEB and above.
String Orchestra	Years 7-12	All string players. Prelim/Grade 1 and above. No audition required.
Intermediate Chamber Strings	Years 7-12	Intermediate string players. Grade 3 AMEB and above.
Senior Chamber Strings	Years 7-12	Advanced string players. All members must be in the Symphony Orchestra. Grade 6 AMEB and above.
Chamber Music	By invitation only	Advanced players in trios, quartets and quintets. Grades 5–6 AMEB and above.
Trios, Quartets and Quintets	Years 7-12	Instrumental combinations vary according to the musicians who are at the required level each year. Combinations may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • string trio, quartet, quintet • woodwind trio, quartet, quintet • brass quartet, quintet • piano trio
Chapel Band	Years 7-12	Contemporary Christian music including vocals, piano, guitar, bass, drums and lead instruments.
Rock Band	Years 7-12	Rock music including vocals, piano, guitar, bass, drums and lead instruments.
Club 88	Years 7-12	Open to all Pianists. No audition required.

PLEASE NOTE: Advanced ensembles require attendance at both rehearsals listed on the timetable.

Sport

Sport is an important part of school life at Meriden. Through sport, girls are provided with the opportunity to stay healthy, develop their skills and fitness and make friends quickly, not only in their immediate class or year group, but also across the student body. This assists with their integration into the culture of the School.

Meriden requires every student in Years 7-9 to accumulate at least two sporting points in 2024. Students can participate in sport in any or all school terms and, as long as students achieve a minimum of two points over the year, sport is not compulsory in Term 1.

For all information about sport at Meriden, including sports offered in each term and how to accumulate sporting points, please refer to the Meriden Sport Handbook found on the Year 7 Orientation website, which can be accessed using the QR code on the right.

Alternatively, the Year 7 Orientation website and Meriden Sport Handbook may be accessed via this link: <https://orientation.meriden.nsw.edu.au/year-7/>



View the Meriden
Sport Handbook

Term 1 2024 Sport Registration

Registration for Term 1 2024 sport opened in October, and a registration link was sent via email.

Please email the Sports Department at sport@meriden.nsw.edu.au if your daughter wishes to participate in sport in Term 1 but has not already registered.

Swimming Ability

In Year 7 PDHPE lessons, students participate in a range of swimming activities, water safety and rescue skills. If students are unable to swim unassisted for 50 metres in varying levels of depth, they are encouraged to sign up for external swimming lessons prior to their commencement at Meriden.

The Royal Life Saving (Australia) website has excellent information for young people who are swimming and participating in water-based activities: royallifesaving.com.au/educate-participate

Student Christian Groups

At Meriden, the Student Christian Group (SCG) meets weekly in year groups. Many students from Years 7-12 choose to attend these lunchtime groups. The Year 7 SCG group, Bee, meets on Wednesday at lunch time and all girls are welcome to come along. At Bee, girls read from the Bible, discuss topics that relate to everyday life, pray together, enjoy games and have a lot of fun.

The girls form new friendships with those outside their regular classes and also with their Year 11 leaders, creating an added network of Christian support and care. At the end of Year 12, many Meriden girls reflect on the role that the Student Christian Group has played in their individual lives, journeys of faith and the formation of strong and long-lasting friendships.

The Chaplaincy team would love to answer any questions you might have about the ministries operating within Meriden and look forward to meeting you and your daughter.

You can contact the Chaplain, Rev Clayton Moss, at cmoss@meriden.nsw.edu.au or phone 9752 9439.

Cocurricular activities

In addition to Sport and Music, Meriden's extensive range of cocurricular activities, clubs and groups provides opportunities for every student to discover new interests, make new friends and develop important life skills such as teamwork, cooperation and leadership.

All clubs and groups contain a mix of students from multiple school years. Clubs and groups usually meet weekly; either before school, at lunchtime or after school.

Information about cocurricular activities, including a timetable and registration details, will be given to the girls by Mr Richard Hughes, Dean of Student Involvement, at the commencement of Term 1.

In Year 7 students will have the opportunity to participate in:

- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Composition Club
- Da Vinci Decathlon (application required)
- Debating
- Drama Club
- Fab Lab
- Green Team
- Library Committee
- Manga Anime Club
- Media Team
- Philosophy Club
- Public Speaking Club: Speak Up! Club (Terms 1-3) and Competitions
- Radio Club
- Science Clubs
- Student Christian Groups
- Student Representative Council
- Tech Club
- Tournament of Minds (application required)
- Writing Group

In addition to the activities listed above, as students move into older school years they will also have the opportunity to participate in the following:

- Ambassadors (Year 10)
- Cadets – Trinity Grammar School Army Cadet Unit (Year 7 students can join from Term 4; Years 8-12;)
- Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Years 9-12)
- Festival of Speech (Years 8-11)
- Interact (Years 10-11)
- Tech Angels (Years 8-11)
- Theatresports (Years 9-12)

The Meriden Community

Meriden encourages parental involvement in a wide range of activities. Support for the students through attendance at sporting matches, music concerts, plays and special events is greatly appreciated by all participants.

There are also a number of associations in which parents may be involved. These groups make an invaluable contribution to the School's resources and play a pivotal role in the community life of the School.

Some opportunities for involvement are outlined below.

Parents and Friends' Association (P and F)

The Parents and Friends' Association usually meets the first Monday evening of each month during term time. The Association organises social events and fundraising activities. During the year, the main activities organised by the P and F are the Welcome to Meriden evening for new parents and the Mother's Day and Father's Day events.

The Meriden Foundation

The Foundation was established in 1992 in conjunction with the School's 95th birthday. Its aim is to provide resources to maintain a high standard of educational excellence and guarantee the future independence of the School. This is done through special events and the encouragement of contributions to the Building Fund (tax deductible), together with bequests. The Foundation holds fundraising events each year, to which all parents are welcome to attend. Membership is open to all members of the School community.

Friends of Meriden Sport (FOMS)

Friends of Meriden Sport was formed in 2012, with the aim of supporting the wide-ranging Sports program available to students at Meriden. Activities undertaken by the Friends of Meriden Sport help to increase interest in the Sports program and raise funds for resources and other requirements. The aim is to help students achieve their goals and encourage the love of sport in those around them. Membership is open to all parents who wish to support their daughters in their chosen sport.

Information about joining these groups will be provided at the 'Welcome to Meriden' evening, which will be held on Friday 2 February 2024.





MERIDEN
AN ANGLICAN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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