



Covenant
Christian School
All knowledge through Christ

2026

Welcome

WELCOME

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Covenant this year. I have been delighted to accept the Board's invitation to step in as Interim Principal for 2026.

This will be my 36th year as principal across six different schools - two immersive Christian schools, of which Covenant is one, two top-tier Anglican Schools, an all-Indigenous school and a government high school. My role is simply to be helpful throughout the year as the Board goes about the process of selecting the next long-term principal. I look forward to carrying on the fine work of Melissa Brown over her six very committed years as principal.

Already I have seen the passion and professionalism of our staff. I have joined them in celebrating the excellent HSC results from 2025, and been impressed by what our staff bring to the Covenant community. I am immensely looking forward to meeting our students, and, throughout the year, many of their parents and carers, as we seek to partner with parents in developing people of faith and character, who as the Apostle Paul writes in Ephesians 2:10, will undertake the good works in the future that the Lord has prepared for them to do.

Although this is the first Christian Education National (CEN) school I have led, I am very familiar with CEN. My children attended a CEN school, and my wife and I were members of the Association as she taught there for some time. I have also attended and spoken at many CEN conferences. Christian education is my passion. I have undertaken doctoral studies in the field and contributed across years to conference presentations, books and journals. Kate and I have been married for 45 years, we have three children in their 40's and late 30's and they are all married to Christians. We are blessed with eight grandchildren, three grand-dogs and two grand-rabbits.

Having only been at Covenant for less than a week, I can't yet offer any in-depth remarks about the school, but I do look forward to meeting and chatting with you at various events throughout the year.

“
Christian
education
is my
passion.”



**JOHN
COLLIER**

INTERIM PRINCIPAL

2025 HSC RESULTS *at a glance*

TOP ATARS

99.35

97.90

97.55

95.00

93.95

90+ ATAR

20%

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENTS

76

HSC TOP ACHIEVER IN BIOLOGY

Lily Amos

9TH

in the state

8 HSC SHOWCASE NOMINATIONS

SHAPE

TEXTILES AND DESIGN
Kaitlyn Stafford

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
TIMBER

Thomas Kiyork
Albert Tomassian

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
MULTIMEDIA
Lucille Fulcher

ENCORE

Jeremy Lim, Bassoon

ART EXPRESS

Lucinda Traina

OUT FRONT

Zoe Siviour
Felicity Traina

NSW SCHOOL RANKING IMPROVEMENT

We are thrilled to share our NSW school ranking has improved from 133 to 98, placing us in the top 100 schools in the state!

Congrats!
98TH

in the state



HEADS OF SCHOOL

Welcome one and all to 2026! What a wonderful year awaits! We pray that the summer break has been truly refreshing and a great time of reflection on the goodness of God.

It is a true privilege to travel with you on your child's school journey in 2026. We love the fact that this journey allows for a partnership between parents and the school, all for God's glory.

Our school is so blessed to be led by Dr John Collier as our Interim Principal for 2026. He has a wealth of educational and biblical wisdom and is thrilled to be serving here at Covenant.

We are so excited to see our students and families return next week, and extend a very warm welcome to our new families. May you feel at home really soon. It is our prayer that each and every student might grow in skills and knowledge and further develop their understanding and love of God and his world.

Junior School classroom teachers

Over the next few days, Junior School families will receive an emailed notification of their child's 2026 Home Class. Teachers have been diligently and excitedly working to prepare their classrooms for the incoming classes.

Secondary School Timetables

Secondary students will be able to access their Semester 1 timetable via Edumate by the end of this week.

Stay informed

At the outset, we would like to emphasise the great benefit of reading the weekly newsletter and school emails. Thanks to our class parents who have already been a fantastic voice of organisation and welcome. Contact Wendy Boase (admin@covenant.nsw.edu.au) for an introduction to your Class Parent.

First Day Procedures – Tuesday 27 January

On Tuesday 27 January, we welcome our Prep and Kindergarten students in Junior School, and Year 7, 11 and 12 students in Secondary School. Junior School families will receive detailed first day information in an email to follow. Year 7 students should meet on the grass outside the Performing Arts Space (PAS). Students in Years 11 and 12 should go the Hall for an assembly in period 1.

First Day Procedures – Wednesday 28 January

On Wednesday 28 January, we will welcome Years 1 to 6 and Years 8 to 10. Junior School families will receive detailed first day information in an email to follow. Students in Years 8 to 10 should go directly to the Hall for an assembly in period 1.

New Student Orientation – Tuesday 27 January, 1.45-2.45pm

Years 1 to 6 - meet at the Performing Arts Space
Years 7 to 10 – meet outside the Office

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones must not be used during school hours. If a student phone is seen being used, it must be handed in to the Office for the remainder of the day; or in the case of Years 5 and 6 students, to their classroom teacher. A lunch detention will be issued.

Only Year 11 and 12 students may listen to music in the Learning Hub during private study periods via their laptop.

The New Covie App

Please ensure you have downloaded the new 'CarerOrbit' app. Details can be found here: <https://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/parent-resources/the-covie-app>

After School Care

In 2026 After School Care for students in Prep to Year 4 will be run by the school. Bookings can be made via the Co-Curricular tile on the Covie app.

Whether you are new or have been around for a while, we thank you for the privilege we have to educate your children. We look forward to seeing their eyes opened more to Christ as they explore his perspective on the world, develop their skills and strengthen their relationships with one another.



**HEIDI
STEAD**

HEAD OF
JUNIOR SCHOOL



**SAM
GLASSOCK**

HEAD OF
SECONDARY SCHOOL

2026 BIG PICTURE DATES

TERM 1 Tuesday 27 January to Thursday 2 April

TERM 2 Tuesday 21 April to Friday 3 July

TERM 3 Monday 27 July to Friday 25 September

TERM 4 Monday 12 October to Thursday 3 December

TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Thursday 29 January -

The Opening of the Learning Hub

Friday 30 January -

AAS testing (for Year 5 & 7 students yet to complete)

Thursday 5 February -

Primary Swimming Carnival 8.30am-12.00pm

Friday 6 February -

Class Parent morning tea/training

Tuesday 10 February -

Junior School Parent Information Night (Prep to Year 6)

Wednesday 11 February -

Future Problem Solvers training day

Monday 23 - Wednesday 25 February -

Year 5 camp at Youthworks

Tuesday 24 February -

Primary Zone Swimming carnival

TERM 1 IMPORTANT DATES

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Thursday 29 January -

The Opening of the Learning Hub

Monday 9 Feb -

Secondary School Swimming Carnival

Monday 16 Feb -

Secondary Parent Information Night

Friday 6 - Saturday 7 March -

Mustard Camp

Tuesday 10 March -

Secondary Athletics Carnival

Monday 16 March -

Secondary Open Evening

Tuesday 24 March - Thursday 2 April -

Year 11 and Year 12 exams

Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April -

Year 7 to 10 Camps

2026 LEADERSHIP TEAM

EXECUTIVE TEAM



**JOHN
COLLIER**
INTERIM PRINCIPAL



**TIM
SMITHIES**
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



**ANDREW
LOWRY**
BUSINESS MANAGER



**HEIDI
STEAD**
HEAD OF
JUNIOR SCHOOL



**SAM
GLASSOCK**
HEAD OF
SECONDARY SCHOOL



**WENDY
BOASE**
REGISTRAR



**DAN
APIN**
DIRECTOR OF
TEACHING AND
LEARNING



**ALISON VANDER
STRAATEN**
DIRECTOR OF
CO-CURRICULAR

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



**KAREN
AUCKETT**
EA TO PRINCIPAL

JUNIOR SCHOOL

STAGE COORDINATORS



**VANESSA
STUCKINGS**
INFANTS



**CATE
HOLMAN**
STAGE 2



**MARK
EATOUGH**
STAGE 3

SECONDARY SCHOOL

STUDENT WELLBEING



**MARK
CHILDS**
HEAD OF WELLBEING



**CATH
ROSE**
ASSISTANT HEAD OF
WELLBEING

YEAR COORDINATORS



**LARISSA
BONGCO**
YEAR 7



**TIM
STANWELL**
YEAR 8



**KARINNE
BEDINGFIELD**
YEAR 9



**JASON
MARRIOTT**
YEAR 10



**GERALDINE
LIAN**
YEAR 11



**JENNIFER
PIENAAR**
YEAR 12

HEADS OF
FACULTY



**LOUISE
GARDNER**
ENGLISH



**TYSON
CHURCHER**
MATHS



**KATH
BERRY**
SCIENCE



**NICK
HALES**
HSIE



**JASON
MARRIOTT**
KNOWING GOD



**GEORGIA
CARNELL**
PDHPE



**NICOLE
CONWAY**
CREATIVE ARTS



**NICK
WILLIAMS**
TAS

STUDENT
LEARNING (K-12)



**SALLY
ROFE**
LEARNING SUPPORT



**AMANDA
DRAIN**
EXTENSION &
ENRICHMENT

CAREERS



**SHARON
JEWELL**
CAREERS ADVISOR

SCHOOL COUNSELLORS



**AMY
THOMPSON**
HEAD
COUNSELLOR



**TRACY
MACMILLAN**
COUNSELLOR



**DEBORAH
REDWOOD**
COUNSELLOR

STAFF MOVEMENTS

2026 ARRIVING STAFF

Ruth Bateman - Front Office Assistant

Izzy Buys - Teachers' Aide

Ben Davies - Junior School Teacher, Year 4

Molly Gilsenan - Teachers' Aide

Jadon Horsley - Teachers' Aide

Anna Hough - Teachers' Aide

Lee Murray - School Administration Assistant

Zac Stanning - Secondary School Teacher, TAS

Anika Tesseyman - Junior School Teacher, Music & Art

Hollie Thambyrajah - Secondary School Teacher, English

CURRENT STAFF IN NEW POSITIONS

Dan Apin - Director of Teaching and Learning

Mark Childs - Head of Wellbeing

Tyson Churcher - Head of Mathematics

Cassie Climpson - Junior Teacher, PE and Sports Administration

Louise Gardner - Head of English

Sharon Jewell - Careers Advisor

Jason Marriott - Year 10 Coordinator

Cath Rose - Assistant Head of Wellbeing

RETURNING STAFF

Karinne Bedingfield - Secondary School Teacher, HSIE & English / Year 9 Coordinator

Debbie McKenna - Secondary School Teacher, Science

2026 STUDENT LEADERSHIP

JUNIOR SCHOOL

HOUSE
CAPTAINS



LUCIA A
AYLWARD



JONAH H
AYLWARD



MEGAN O
LEWIS



JOSHUA F
LEWIS



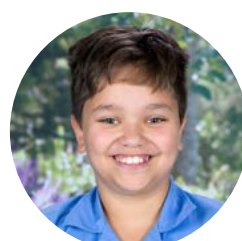
EVE-MARIE T
TEN BOOM



HEROCK K
TEN BOOM



MIKAYLA B
WHITE



AURELIO B
WHITE



2026 STUDENT LEADERSHIP

SECONDARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL CAPTAINS



ANNABEL K
CAPTAIN



JOELS S
CAPTAIN



MICHELLE L
VICE CAPTAIN



MARCO G
VICE CAPTAIN

HOUSE CAPTAINS



LILY M
AYLWARD



DAVID M
AYLWARD



CHARLOTTE F
LEWIS



DANIEL C
LEWIS



GRACE H
TEN BOOM



JORDAN M
TEN BOOM



VIOLET S
WHITE



NOAH L
WHITE

MUSTARD CAPTAINS



ELIANNA M



CHAD K



Covenant
Christian School
All knowledge through Christ

Vision

To faithfully serve in God's plan to restore all things under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Mission

To assist parents in the nurture of their children, by providing a Christ-centred, biblically grounded, culturally engaging and academically rigorous education to equip the children to live for God's glory.

www.covenant.nsw.edu.au