

Berri Regional

SECONDARY
COLLEGE



Information Book **2023**

Determination • Safety • Respect • Learning

Berri Regional Secondary College recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and the traditional custodians of the land our College is built upon. For over 50,000 years Aboriginal people have lived on this land. The Riverland is the land of the First Peoples of the Murray and Mallee and is made up of seven distinct cultural groups: Ngawait, Nganguruku, Erawirung, Ngaralte, Ngarkat, Ngaiawang and Ngintait. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal people to Country.

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Welcome to Berri Regional Secondary College.

Established in 2022 and founded by Glossop High School's strong history of providing successful Educational pathways for students, we are located on the land of the first peoples of the River Murray and Mallee.

We acknowledge and pay respect to them as Traditional Owners, respect their deep connection to country and the cultural knowledge and wisdom they bring.

At Berri Regional Secondary College we provide a challenging, diverse, and inclusive student-centred curriculum and pedagogies that inspire learning, develop independence, and lead to success as local and global citizens.

Nestled in the township of Berri we proudly educate the Year 7-12 students of the Berri Barmera region.

Expert staff and state-of-the-art facilities support the vast interests of our students, and our flexible indoor, outdoor, and community-based learning environments are designed to suit the needs of all learners. Staff at Berri Regional Secondary College are passionate and committed to working with students and helping them to understand and articulate what they are learning, how they are learning and the connections between their learning and possible futures in College and beyond.

At Berri Regional Secondary College. We value – **Determination, Safety, Respect and Learning** as we live our vision of

Our school's pride, innovation and excellence will lead to learning, independence, and success for all of our students.

Clint Ridgway

Principal
Berri Regional Secondary College

Our College

About Our College

Berri Regional Secondary College accommodates approximately 800 students from Year 7 to Year 12. Our students come from diverse backgrounds and cultures that collectively enrich our college community.

Students entering Year 7 have the opportunity to study a wide range of subjects that meet the learning outcomes of the Australian Curriculum, which enable them to select subjects in future years to meet Department for Education (DfE) requirements and qualify them for the SA Certificate of Education (SACE).

Founded upon the proud foundations of Glossop High School, Berri Regional Secondary College benefits from 80 years of strong tradition in academic and sporting achievement. We are one of the top ten schools in the State in Athletics and Swimming, having enjoyed successes in State Championships for a range of different sports.

We are proud that our Year 12 achievements have regularly been well above the state average with some excellent individual results.

History of Glossop High School

Glossop High School was initiated by likeminded community members, who were concerned with the Berri, Barmera children spending significant time travelling from the Berri, Barmera and surrounding areas to complete their further education at Renmark High School. In 1941 the original Glossop High School building was completed and on May 19 of that year, enrolments at the school began.

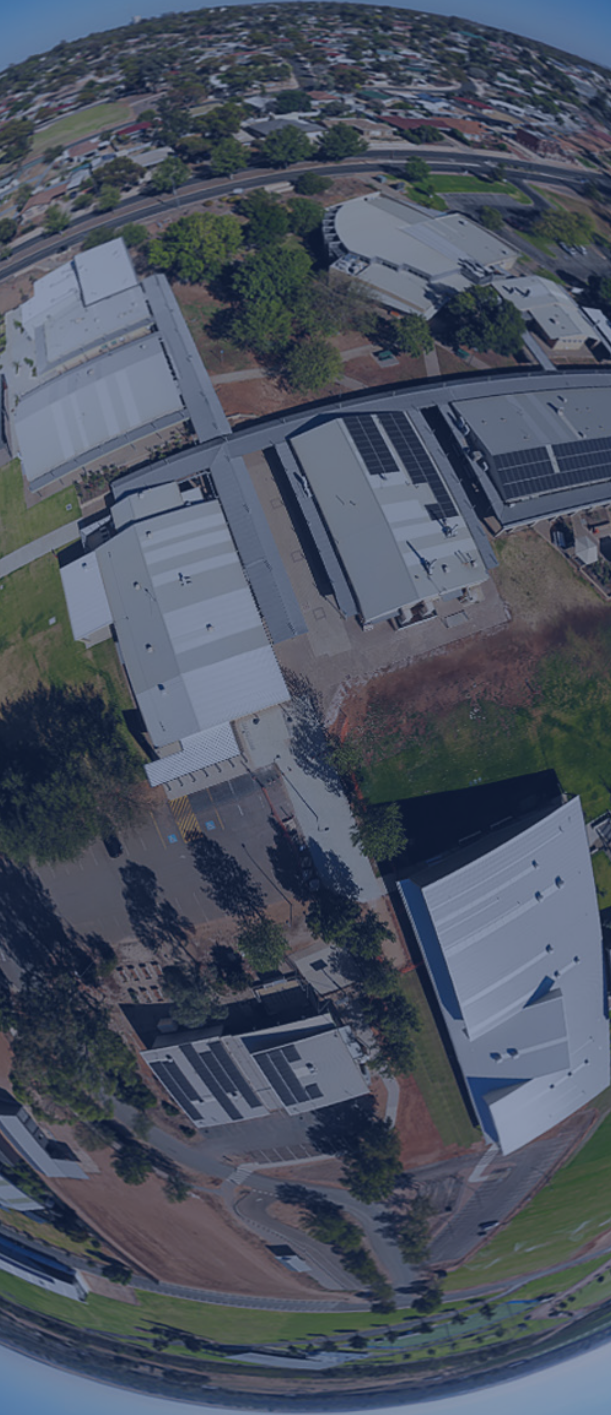
Sport has always been a big part of Glossop High School, with the first annual Sports Day being held in 1943. The long-standing exchange between Mount Gambier and Glossop High Schools was initiated in 1947 and has continues to be a friendly rivalry to this day.

In 1974 the school received new commercial classrooms, a new oval and two new tennis courts to support the growth in student numbers and the following year brickwork commenced on the Junior section of the School.

In 1997, development of the Senior Campus began in Berri to accommodate the large number of students enrolled. In Term 4, 1998, the Senior Campus opened its doors to Year 11 and 12 students.



Leading Our Success



Our Vision

Our college's pride, innovation and excellence will lead to learning, independence and success for all.

Our college is founded on a strong history of providing successful educational pathways for students. We provide a challenging, diverse and inclusive student-centred curriculum and pedagogies that inspire learning, develop independence and lead to success as local and global citizens. Expert staff and state-of-the-art facilities support the vast interests of our students, while our flexible indoor, outdoor and community-based learning environments are designed to suit the needs of all learners.

Ethos

At Berri Regional Secondary College, we provide a range of learning opportunities for students that support their continuing development as independent and resilient young adults, prepared for further learning and life beyond secondary schooling. We believe it is important to carefully consider each young person's learning needs in order to provide a comprehensive suite of curriculum and services that will motivate and stimulate students. It is the strongly held view of our college community that expert teaching and learning is intrinsically linked to the strength of relationships between students, staff and families. Staff at Berri Regional Secondary College are passionate and committed to working with students and helping them to understand and articulate what they are learning, how they are learning, and connections between their learning and possible futures in school and beyond. We value and respect one other, ourselves and our environment, as we work together for everyone's success.

College Values

Students enrolled at Berri Regional Secondary College belong to our college community and are expected to

- Know our values and expectations.
- Comply and respect our shared values and expectations.
- Show determination in their endeavours.
- Abide by the BRSC Student Code of Conduct

Our vision for all students, is underpinned by our high expectations and values of:

Determination | Safety | Respect | Learning

to ensure we have a safe, respectful, learning environment where all students can be successful.

College Information

College Contact Details

✉ dl.0776.info@schools.sa.edu.au

☎ (08) 8580 8200

☎ 12 Stadium Drive, Berri, SA

☎ www.brsc.sa.edu.au

Term Dates 2023

	Start Date	Finish Date
Term 1	30 January	14 April
Term 2	1 May	7 July
Term 3	24 July	29 September
Term 4	16 October	15 December

Daily Lesson Structure

	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	Thursday
8:45 - 9:45am	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
9:45 - 10:45am	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
10:45 - 11:15am	Recess	Recess
11:15 - 12:15pm	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
12:15 - 1:15pm	Lesson 4	Lesson 4
1:15 - 1:45pm	Lunch	Lunch (1:15 - 1:35)
1:45 - 2:15pm	Home Group	Home Group (1:35-2:15)
2:15 - 3:15pm	Lesson 5	Early dismissal - 2:15pm

Aboriginal Education

Aboriginal Education has a strong history at Berri Regional Secondary College and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are well supported to achieve their best. Australia's first Aboriginal Rhodes Scholar Rebecca Richards studied and completed her secondary education at Glossop. Over recent years we have had many Dame Roma Mitchell Scholarship Award winners, which demonstrates that our students are on pathways to success in education and employment when they complete school.

The Berri Regional Secondary College Aboriginal Education Team is made up of the following persons:

- Aboriginal Educator
- SAASTA Teacher
- Aboriginal Secondary Education Transition Officers
- Aboriginal Tutor

SAASTA

The South Australian Aboriginal Secondary Training Academy (SAASTA) offers young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander South Australians a range of highly engaging learning and personal development opportunities. SAASTA builds on the education offered at school, giving students opportunities for ongoing personal growth and cultural experience.



Attendance



Attendance Expectations

Any child between the ages of 6 – 16 is required by law to attend school. The Compulsory Education Age Legislation, which was implemented from the beginning of 2009, requires all young people between 16 and 17 participate full time in an approved learning program, which is education or training delivered through a school, university or registered training organisation, an apprenticeship or traineeship, employment or a combination of these. The Compulsory Education Age Legislation does not change the school leaving age, which remains at 16.

All students need to maximise attendance at school to gain optimum benefit from education opportunities. Research shows that success in learning is directly proportional to regular attendance and participation in learning programs. Irregular and non-attendance can be viewed as early indicators of the potential for disengagement from the education program. Absence from school can limit a student's achievement of essential knowledge and skills required for effective participation in work, relationships and active citizenship.

Berri Regional Secondary College students are expected to attend every day unless they are ill or have a significant family reason. Year 12 students may have some increased flexibility within their timetable and can be eligible to apply for Home Study within allocated Study lessons in their schedule. Home Study is only granted to students who have demonstrated effective time management and self-discipline within all of their subjects and must be approved by the Assistant Principal Senior Secondary.

The Department for Education (DfE) is accountable to the community, through the Minister for Education and Child Development, for ensuring appropriate attendance in government educational programs.

For more information on the attendance policy please visit www.brsc.sa.edu.au.

Daily Procedures

Daily Procedures

Students should be on site no later than 8:40am so they can be prepared for Lesson 1 to begin at 8:45am.

Parents are encouraged to drop their children off at the 'Kiss and Drop' zone on Stadium Drive, opposite Glassey Park and refrain from entering the college grounds unless needing to see a teacher or ancillary staff member.

We ask that parents do not use the Berrri Library car park as a drop off or pick up point.

Please note that there is no supervision in the yard before 8:15am or after the last bus leaves.

At the end of the school day, students need to leave the grounds promptly. If students are waiting to catch a bus, they need to wait at the Bus Bay where there will be staff supervision.

Arriving Late or Leaving Early

If students are arriving late to school, students need to;

- Report to Student Services office to sign in using the Absence Monitor
- Present a note from parent / carer explaining reason for lateness

To ensure that students who leave the college during the day are collected by the appropriate person, a student is asked to:

- Provide a written note from a parent/carer explaining why student is being collected
- Sign out using the Absence Monitor
- Wait in Student Services until collected by the appropriate person
- Parent/carer to be sighted by administration staff

A student will not be allowed to leave school grounds with a person(s) not on the student's emergency contacts unless verbal approval is provided by the parent/carer to a member of staff.

Facilities



Berri Library

The Berri Regional Secondary College in partnership with the Berri Barmera Council currently provides a library service at the Berri Library, although this will cease at the end of 2024. In preparation for the dissolution of the Council public library service from the school, the library collection and services are being reorganised. BRSC students are welcome to borrow from the school library collection as required but only from the public library collection if they have joined the public library and present a Berri Barmera Public Library membership card. Free membership to the public library is available and requires a parent or legal guardian to register their student as a public library member if they are under 18 years old. Most students from year 8 to year 12 should already have a valid public library membership card and if they have misplaced it, a replacement card can be provided for a small fee. The library staff will continue to support students in choosing books, researching topics as well as helping with general queries.

Books, Stationery, Materials & Services

In all schools, the Education Department of South Australia provides a per capita allowance for each student and this combined with extra fees paid by parents provides the funds to operate the school.

The Materials and Services charges for 2023 are \$380. These fees provide funds for consumable items in all learning areas. Berri Regional Secondary College Diary, Student ID Card and Stationery pack are provided.

School Card Assistance is available to parent's dependent upon the level of family income. All parents/students applying for School Card Assistance will be required to fill in an application form. A new application form must be lodged each year at both primary and secondary school if you have students in both schools. Information regarding the School Card application process will be published when available. Please ensure that the enrolling parent/carer is completing the application. This form can be completed online.

All students will be provided with a basic back-to-school stationery pack, which consists of items that will cover most core subjects. Students may be expected to purchase additional subject-specific stationery, from a retailer of their choice.

Facilities



Buses – Getting to School

The majority of Berri Regional Secondary College students travel to school via a Private Contractor's Bus or a Departmental School Bus. Only those students, who live further than 5 kilometres from the college, are eligible for school bus travel.

Students are allocated to buses using the following two priorities:

- Where possible students will be placed on the bus route and stop that is closest to their residential address
- All members of the same family will be allocated to the same bus wherever possible

A new bus application is required each year. Any change in details including residential address need to be submitted via the bus form. All requests for bus changes must be completed on the form provided by the college and signed by a parent or guardian.

Students are expected to behave safely and respectfully at all times and need to adhere to the College's Wellbeing and Engagement Policy which both can be found at www.brsc.sa.edu.au. We ask that all families remember that free travel on our buses is a privilege and should be valued. Students are not allowed to catch another bus without permission.

First Aid: Bus drivers are not required to hold a First Aid Certificate. Should there be a medical emergency – the bus driver will contact an ambulance, the school and a parent/carer to advise of the situation. Should you have any concerns about buses, please contact our Administration Office.

Canteen

The canteen is open daily and operates during recess and lunchtime. The menu reflects the Healthy Eating Policy as set by the Department for Education. The emphasis is on good nutrition, hence wholemeal breads, low salt and low-fat foods are available. The canteen has daily 'Specials'.

Lunch orders are preferred and can be taken before school and recess time at the canteen, and can be collected from the canteen at the start of lunch. Parents and students can pre-order lunches via the Qkr App which can be downloaded from any online App Store, search for Berri Regional Secondary College, log in as a staff student or guest and place your order. Voluntary help is required and is much appreciated, as food preparation is labour intensive.

Important Information

Care of Property

College Property – We enjoy our facilities and it is important to make every effort to keep them in good condition. We expect all students to take pride in our school.

Students who wilfully or carelessly damage property will be required to meet the cost of repair. Under no circumstances are students to deface buildings or furniture by Government regulations.

Personal Property – Please ensure that all items of personal property are clearly marked with names and are kept with students at all times. If clothes are clearly labelled, then it is easy to return them to the owner when they are found.

We cannot accept responsibility for valuable items of personal property that are lost or stolen. Large sums of money and non-essential items of value should not be brought to school.

Valuable items and money may be left at the Student Services Office for collection at the end of day. Mobile phones can be signed into the library as per the ICT and Electronic Devices Policy, which can be found at www.brsc.sa.edu.au.

Lost Property – Lost property is kept in the Student Services area until the end of each term and may be inspected at any time. If the property is not claimed it is recycled or distributed to St Vincent de Paul /second hand shop.

Communication

Berri Regional Secondary College strongly believe in regular communication with all parties involved of the education and wellbeing of its young people. Regular communication is maintained through our online Learner Management System – Daymap, fortnightly newsletters, SMS, regular updated to our official Berri Regional Secondary College Facebook page or our website www.brsc.sa.edu.au.

Additionally, further correspondence is sent home as required. Please read letters carefully and if there is a 'tear off sheet', we ask this is please returned promptly.

Important Information

First Aid and Illness

If a student feels unwell during the day or has an injury, they should report to Student Services and speak to the School Services Officer responsible for First Aid. The student may be allowed to rest in the sick room for one lesson before returning to the classroom if they feel better, or parents will be contacted and the student sent home. In the case of an emergency, an Ambulance will be called.

The DfE First Aid Infection & Control Standard recommends minimum periods of exclusion from Colleges. Exclusion periods are based on the time that a person with a specific disease or condition might be infectious to others. The guidelines have been drawn up on the premise that students who have been ill with infectious diseases will not return to an education setting until they have fully recovered. The only exception to this rule is that students with certain skin diseases may return once the appropriate treatment has commenced.

Exclusion days refer to calendar days. Exclusion periods are minimum periods based on National Health and Medical Research Council recommendations, although a medical certificate may be produced to show earlier recovery. Students should be kept home for the recommended period in order to protect others from infection.

More information can be obtained from the SA Health Website at www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Governing Council

The Governing Council is comprised of parents, community members, staff and students who are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting. These Councillors meet twice a term to discuss and make decisions regarding college finances, facilities and long-term strategic direction.

The Annual General Meeting is held each year in March and this provides an important opportunity for all parents to attend and contribute to our decision making processes.

Governing Council sub Committees including Finance, Fundraising and Canteen offer opportunities for parents to be involved in making decisions about college policies and operation. People who are interested in any of these areas are encouraged to offer their services when nominations are called.

Important Information

Home Groups

Each student is assigned to a Home Group with a Home Group Teacher who is primarily responsible for the care of the student at school. Each day, students will participate in Home Group for 30 minutes after lunch. The Home Group Teachers are the first point of contact for parents in all matters of your child's schooling.

Homework

The objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare them for success within their senior schooling and life. Homework requirements will vary from year to year. However, all students are encouraged to participate in at least 30 minutes at a Junior Secondary level and 45 minutes at a Senior Secondary level, each day.

Information Communication Technology

Technology is a very powerful and positive tool when used responsibly. Just like in real life, it is important to exercise good decision-making when online and to treat others with respect.

All students when using ICT at Berri Regional Secondary College need to adhere to our ICT policy.

BYOD

Students at Berri Regional Secondary College are required to have their own laptops for use in the classroom. We offer an online portal where laptops can be purchased, however, laptops can be purchased from any outlet that a parent chooses.

Online portal – www.berriregionalsc.technologyportal.com.au
Please enter the code – BRSC2023

At Berri Regional Secondary College mobile phones are not permitted. Along with The Department for Education, we recognise that there are legitimate reasons for students to bring a mobile phone or personal device to school. This may include:

- To ensure their safety while travelling
- So that parents can contact them outside of school hours

During the school day, students are not permitted to access or use their mobile phones or other personal devices. Students must switch off or mute their devices before storing them at the beginning of the day. They will not be able to access their devices until the end of the day. For more information about the ICT policy, please visit www.brsc.sa.edu.au

Important Information

Newsletter

The Berri Regional Secondary College Newsletter is available electronically via email, Facebook and published to our website, and is our main means of communication. If you wish to have articles included, please contact Student Services.

Student, Parent, Teacher Connections

We firmly believe that students gain most from their education when parents and teachers work closely together to support the whole child.

To facilitate this partnership, BRSC provide opportunities at various times during the year for student-parent-teacher interviews and teachers look forward to meeting with both parents/carers and their young persons at these times. These will enable you to meet and get to know your child's teachers to discuss their progress and support their growth and development.

Additionally, Student Progress Updates are provided at the mid-point of each term to provide a learning snapshot for each child, in every subject. These updates are used to track and monitor the progress for each child and support responsive interventions between parents/carers, teachers and students to ensure each child is achieving their potential. Parents/carers are invited to contact staff at any time throughout the year to meet and discuss issues relating to their child.

Student, Parent, Teacher Interview

Parents/Carers are invited to be involved in a range of information giving, and decision-making activities as we believe it is absolutely essential that you learn about the college's operation - and that we collaborate with you to achieve the best possible outcomes for your child's education. Only by forming such a partnership can we do the best for our students.

Teachers are available to discuss any queries you may have regarding the learning the students are doing or any problems you may have regarding your child's progress. We value strong connections between students and staff, and your child's Home Group Teacher will be able to support you with any questions you might have or direct you to the relevant people. We invite all parents and carers to become involved with our college community through any of the opportunities available; including:

- The Governing Council
- Governing Council sub-committees
- Volunteering canteen, during camps and excursions

Important Information

Pastoral Care Worker

A Christian Pastoral Support worker is available for appointments and organises regular weekly and term events that are available to all students. For more information please contact the Student Services Office.

Peer Support Program

At Berri Regional Secondary College we believe that students learn best when they are feeling secure and happy. Coming to a new environment can be overwhelming and to support all students in their transition, we facilitate our Peer Support Program.

Peer Support Leaders are part of the Year 7 and Year 8 Home Group classes in the first semester. The leaders are there to help support the transition from primary to secondary education, to help the Year 7 and Year 8 students feel a strong sense of belonging and to give them someone to talk to if they have any problems.

Peer Support Leaders accompany their Year 7 and Year 8 home class on their orientation activities at the start of the year, and conduct regular activities during first semester.

Policies

If you would like more information on any of the Berri Regional Secondary College policies, please visit <https://brsc.sa.edu.au/parent-information/>. If there is a policy or procedure that you cannot find on our website, please contact our Administration Office.

College Magazine

A Magazine, which consists of the year's events and achievements, is produced at the end of the school year. Students have the option to purchase the magazine and all students will be invoiced at the start of the year if choosing to place an order.

College Houses

DEAKIN: Red | **HUGHES: Blue** | **McINTOSH: Green** | **PARKES: Yellow**

Various house-based competitions are held throughout the year, with shields being awarded in each event. These houses allow us to run competitions such as, but not limited to; sports day and swimming carnival.

Competition between houses is always strong and provides valuable opportunities for students to acquire and develop leadership and group skills.

Important Information

Student Leadership

Berri Regional Secondary College strives to provide as many opportunities as possible for students to develop their potential as global citizens and leaders within the community.

We believe that students should have the opportunity to positively influence and shape their learning experience and to build a culture of excellence and pride. Through involvement in Student Leadership initiatives students share their own ideas, opinions, knowledge and experiences to inform college directions and contribute to ongoing improvements.

We have a number of leadership and representative opportunities for students to lead through student voice including; Student Leadership Council (SLC), Student Representative Council (SRC), House Leaders, Peer Support Leaders, Aboriginal Leadership Team.

Our student elected leaders are our student role models and as such, are expected to uphold our college values at all time, willingly participate in activities and support all Berri Regional Secondary College events.

Our student leaders meet regularly with staff mentors to discuss matters pertaining to college operations, students, their learning and wellbeing. Initiatives and goals of the group revolve around education and learning, wellbeing, environment and sustainability, fundraising and activities.

Uniform

Berri Regional Secondary College has a compulsory uniform, as required by the Department for Education and which is stated in our Student Dress Code.

Students are expected to be neat and tidy at all times including when in attendance, at Berri Regional Secondary College functions, when representing the school within the local community and when travelling to and from school.

If for any reason, students are unable to purchase the correct uniform, please contact our Administration Office to discuss options for financial support if required.

A specific uniform is required for Physical Education. Students are required to change into sports clothes for all practical Physical Education lessons and change back to their everyday uniform following the lesson.

Wellbeing

At Berri Regional Secondary College, we have a strong focus on Trauma-Informed Education and positive relationships and recognise that positive wellbeing is the foundation for student's engagement, positive learning outcomes and attendance.

We encourage students to access our Wellbeing Room as a safe space where they feel supported in their learning. Students may also access this space in collaboration with their teacher as one of their personalised de-escalation strategies as identified on their Ready to Learn Plan.

Berri Regional Secondary College invites a range of external providers on site to meet with and support young people. Headspace Berri, Berri Medical Centre and other providers can offer confidential appointments with students. Students can access support through collaboration with the Wellbeing and Engagement Assistant Principal or identified Youth Workers.

A consistent whole-school approach to wellbeing and engagement is implemented to support all young people at Berri Regional Secondary College.

It is an expectation that Berri Regional Secondary College staff will build positive relationships with the students that they teach and will provide them with strategies to independently manage their wellbeing and behaviour.

Individuals choose and must accept responsibility for their own behaviour which will impact on wellbeing, engagement and learning.

Further information on the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, can be found at www.brsc.sa.edu.au.



Important Information

Student Engagement

Berri Regional Secondary College is committed to a supportive, positive learning environment which cultivates a culture of determination, safety, respect and learning. This is reflected in the vision that “our college’s pride, innovation and excellence will lead to learning independence and success for all of our students”.

As a college community we strive to be a safe, caring learning environment in which the rights of students to learn and all teachers to teach are supported; where staff and students take responsibility for social justice, free from barriers caused by inappropriate behaviours of others.

The focus of our Student Behaviour Management policies and processes is not punitive in its intent. Positive behaviours that reflect the college’s culture, values and beliefs are supported through our Positive Behaviour Framework, whilst our consistent approach to behaviour management is aligned with DfE policy.

Bullying and Harassment

Bullying is a deliberate effort to hurt, threaten or embarrass another person by an individual or group. It can be:

- **Verbal:** including name-calling, put downs, making hurtful, sexist or racist remarks, making threats, laughing unkindly
- **Physical:** including hitting, tripping, bumping, kicking, punching, throwing objects, stealing possessions, pulling faces, invading personal space
- **Social:** including ignoring, hiding from, excluding others, sending offensive or threatening text or internet messages or images, prank phone calls
- **Psychological:** including stalking, dirty looks, spreading rumours, hiding or damaging possessions, ganging up, offensive or threatening gestures, intimidation

Bullying and harassment is not tolerated at Berri Regional Secondary College. We encourage all students that experience any form of bullying or harassment to complete a grievance form immediately. To view our full Bullying and Harassment Policy, please visit www.brsc.sa.edu.au

Important Information

Grievance Procedure for Students

There are a number of reasons that students may feel uncomfortable at school. Reasons may include but are not limited to; feeling excluded from others and bullying and harassment.

Students can complete a grievance procedure at any stage during the school year. This form can be found online via our Daymap platform.

All staff at Berri Regional Secondary College treat grievance reports seriously and uphold confidentiality at all times.

Staff will never act on a report without first speaking to the persons involved and discussing possible strategies to support the young person and their family.

