

Canberra  
Grammar  
School



READY FOR  
THE WORLD

# INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

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Programme Outline



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

THE COMMUNITY OF CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
ACKNOWLEDGES THE NGUNNAWAL PEOPLE AS THE  
TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE COUNTRY ON WHICH IT  
IS OUR PRIVILEGE TO GATHER, LEARN AND WORK. WE AFFIRM  
OUR OBLIGATION TO HONOUR THE KNOWLEDGE AND  
HERITAGE OF COUNTLESS GENERATIONS, AND WE EXTEND  
RESPECT TO ELDERS PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING, AND TO  
ALL FIRST PEOPLES.

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# INVITATION FROM THE HEAD OF CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# FROM THE INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

Thank you for your interest in the CGS Indigenous Scholars Programme.

As a leading school for Australia's national capital, Canberra Grammar School is proudly committed to educating a generation of Indigenous and non-Indigenous students who will create a future of justice and equality for all Australians together.

Backed by the School community, the CGS Foundation, the Podmore Foundation and many others, our scholarships provide extraordinary opportunities for students of talent and character to realise their potential in an environment that nurtures excellence in learning, sport, the arts, community service and leadership.

Our School is large and diverse. It brings together more than 2,200 girls and boys from Pre-School to Year 12 and from over forty nationalities as boarders and as day students. In that range is the opportunity for students to learn both together and from each other.

That is one of the greatest values of our CGS Indigenous Scholars Programme: the chance for all students to grow together in personal and cultural understanding, in friendship, in recognition of our country's heritage and with shared commitment to the future.

Our CGS Indigenous Scholars are ambassadors for our School, our country and the legacy of millennia. In the heart of Australia's capital, we hope that our access to many of the leading intellectual, cultural and political institutions of our nation will fuel their aspirations and give strength to their capacity as leaders of their generation.

It is our aim, in all that we do, to educate young men and women who are curious, creative, confident and compassionate citizens of the world. We hope that you might join us in that, and we warmly invite you to read the accompanying information about our Indigenous Scholars Programme. Please be in touch if you have questions.

We look forward to it.

Thank you once again, sincerely,

**Justin Garrick**  
Head of School



In 2019 Canberra Grammar School commenced the Indigenous Scholars Programme, inviting families from the South Coast of NSW to apply for boarding scholarships. This brought together students from Kiama, Ulladulla, Nowra and Wreck Bay — Yuin Country — to join Indigenous students from the Canberra — Ngunnawal — region. Our scholars are connected to lands and communities including Wodi Wodi, Bodalla, Buripi, Tharawal, Murramurang, Jerrinja, Raminjeri, Gurindji, Ngayampaa, Wandandian, Butchulla, Gubbi Gubbi, Yorta Yorta, Kamilaroi and Torres Strait.

The programme includes 24 students across all year levels in the Senior School who live in the areas above, and have recently been joined by those from the Riverina — Wiradjuri — region and Adelaide — Kurna. The Indigenous Scholars have made a significant impact on their new school and helped to raise awareness, understanding and appreciation of Indigenous culture.

I firmly believe that our Indigenous students have made us a better community and a better school.

Canberra Grammar School has greatly benefitted from the contributions of inspirational and proud young Indigenous students. After such a positive start, the programme has gone from strength to strength; offering Indigenous students the chance to enjoy attending Canberra Grammar School and helping to shape our community towards a more positive and inclusive culture.

**Stuart McNeill**  
Indigenous Scholars Programme Coordinator



# ABOUT CANBERRA GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Established in 1929, Canberra Grammar School (CGS) is a co-educational Independent Anglican school offering outstanding academic education, co-curricular opportunities and pastoral care to day and boarding students of all backgrounds and faiths within a community guided by Christian values.

The School respects and nurtures all students as individuals; recognising the different needs, interests and strengths of every student to realise their intellectual, spiritual, cultural, social and physical aspirations, and instil virtues of respect, resilience and responsibility. Our community is a diverse one, encompassing students from many different cultures and religions, allowing them to learn and grow in an environment represented by the global world.

## IT IS OUR MISSION TO EDUCATE CREATIVE, CURIOUS, CONFIDENT AND COMPASSIONATE CITIZENS OF THE WORLD.

CGS is the only co-educational boarding school in the ACT. We are an International Baccalaureate World School, offering the Diploma Programme (Year 11 and 12), and we are the only school in the ACT to offer the NSW Higher School Certificate (HSC). No matter their programme, we prioritise our students' opportunities beyond Year 12, push them to nourish their strengths, and explore a world of global tertiary opportunities.

The School is blessed with a magnificent 20 hectare campus in the inner south of Canberra, along with a small early childhood campus in north Canberra and a Rowing Centre on the shore of Lake Burley Griffin. The campus is advantaged with outstanding heritage and state-of-the-art facilities for learning, sport, creative and performing arts, and boarding.

We provide a holistic, dynamic, future-focused international education with access to world-class opportunities. Building on the professional expertise of its staff, the commitment of its community and the resources of the nation's capital, Canberra Grammar School aspires to be the most dynamic and distinctive centre of learning in Australia. As we look to the century ahead, we aspire for our students to be leaders of their generation and ready for the world.



## WHY DOES CGS OFFER AN INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS PROGRAMME?

Canberra Grammar School envisions a possible future in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children have the same chances and opportunities as non-Indigenous children. The School recognises our position in being able to affect equity and equal opportunity by welcoming Indigenous Scholars to the School community each year through the Indigenous Scholars Programme.

Our Indigenous Scholars have the opportunity to be ambassadors for their cultural heritage, to take pride in their Aboriginal identity, to build on their knowledge and and share it with other students in the hope of reconciling the past with an optimistic future. We recognise the transformative power of a world-class education and the impact this can have on the community and societal outcomes across Indigenous and non-Indigenous settings.

We acknowledge that it is not possible to alter the past, and we pay respect to the trauma inflicted upon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We seek to reconcile ourselves with the past so that history is not repeated. Education is the key to enacting change, and CGS is in a position to enable change through its role as an educational facility and pillar of the community.



# HOW THE SCHOOL SUPPORTS THE SCHOLARS

CGS Indigenous Scholars are supported to achieve in school, and to create pathways to further education and employment through:

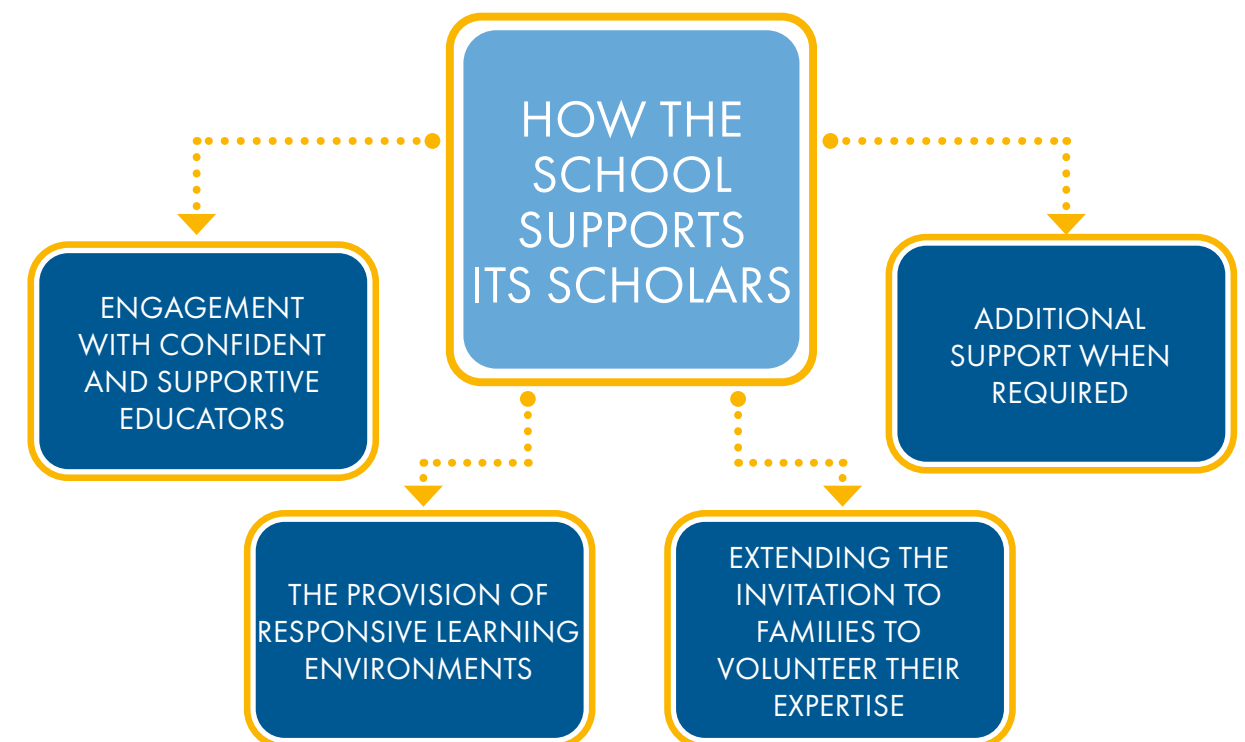
- **Engagement with confident and supportive educators:** staff provide a high level of support to students and their families, ensuring they feel safe and included in school life. Staff consider the holistic needs of the child, prioritising wellbeing and cultural needs, and maintaining a high expectation of commitment and individual success. Students develop leadership skills and are supported to be passionate advocates for and educators of their Indigenous culture and identity.
- **The provision of responsive learning environments:** Mindful that individual needs are diverse and change over time, continuous monitoring is an integral component of the CGS Student Development Programme, ensuring that learning requirements are recognised and responded to.
- **Additional support when required:** Students are provided increased access to learning and development programmes through the implementation of individualised learning plans, when necessary, that identify personalised support needed to participate fully in the learning programme. Families are consulted in the development of individualised learning plans; and
- **Extending the invitation to families to volunteer their expertise:** Utilising the expertise of our community in the teaching and delivery of Aboriginal cultural knowledge and languages enhances a depth of education for all involved and promotes positive community relationships.

# CULTIVATING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Canberra Grammar School aims to cultivate an inclusive community where students and staff of all backgrounds, cultures and faiths can learn together. As educators, we continue to seek guidance from our local Indigenous Elders to develop mutually respectful relationships with the local community. We work with young people, and our commitment is to ignite a sense of hope and imagination in all our students to imagine a future in which they have agency to affect positive change.

The Indigenous Scholars Support Team encourages the students to fully participate in the life of the School by immersing themselves in the comprehensive range of academic and active learning opportunities. Students are supported by an Indigenous Student Co-ordinator and a team of staff to target both boarding and day school needs. They are also encouraged to identify a secondary personal mentor to enhance their pastoral care. Through focussed tutoring and the mentorship process, we aim for the Scholars to build confidence and find their voice. By sharing their culture, we hope they develop their confidence and in so doing play an essential part in helping to cultivate broader cultural understandings.

CGS is dedicated to creating a welcoming environment for our Indigenous Scholars, promoting anti-racism campaigns in the student body, taking part in cultural awareness training for staff, and implementing knowledge of traditional practices and histories into the curriculum. We work alongside parents of our Indigenous Scholars as partners, building positive connections with families by fostering mutually respectful relationships.



# INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS SUPPORT TEAM

| POSITION                                      | RESPONSIBILITY                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Indigenous Scholars Programme Coordinator     | Oversight of the Indigenous Scholars Programme including Finance and Community Outreach                             |
| Indigenous Student Coordinator                | Pastoral, academic, administrative and cultural support of Indigenous students                                      |
| Careers Advisor and Indigenous Student Mentor | Assistance with choosing post-school pathways and access to additional support and mentoring of Indigenous students |
| Head of Boys' Boarding                        | Residential issues including pastoral support, leave, behavioural management and health                             |
| Head of Girls' Boarding                       | Residential issues including pastoral support, leave, behavioural management and health                             |
| Admissions to Head of Enrolments              | Initial point of contact and support during application and orientation                                             |
| Head of Student House (HoSH)                  | Pastoral support and day to day academic and behavioural monitoring and management                                  |
| House Tutor                                   | In conjunction with the HoSH – Pastoral support and day to day academic and behavioural monitoring and management   |
| Health Clinic                                 | Coordination of health management. Delivery of minor treatments and medications                                     |

“ I want to remind them that they are the youngest generation of the oldest surviving culture in the world, our ancestors walk with us always, and we are all achieving things our old people could’ve only dreamt of! **#AlwaysWasAlwaysWillBe.** ”

– **Emily Coleman**, Indigenous Student Coordinator

# SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

The Canberra Grammar School Foundation — the philanthropic branch of the School — facilitates the endowment of partial educational scholarships for Indigenous students by subsidising tuition, and boarding fees, where applicable, for the full period of enrolment.

In 2016 Canberra Grammar School partnered with the Podmore Foundation to support the placement of our first Indigenous Scholar. In late 2018, the Podmore Foundation was formally transitioned into the Podmore Trust that is administered by the CGS Foundation to continue its work. The CGS Foundation will continue the spirit of Podmore by returning opportunity to Indigenous children in the Canberra region by providing educational scholarships and access to leadership and sporting opportunities. What CGS provides is outlined in the table below and detailed in Appendix A.

All selected scholarship recipients must be eligible for a full or part ABSTUDY allowance. Payment of the allowance is directed to the School to further cover tuition and boarding fees.

CGS provides:

|                           |                                                                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BOARDING FEES             | As per the Fee Schedule (less that which is covered by ABSTUDY)              |
| TUITION FEES              | As per the Fee Schedule (less that which is covered by ABSTUDY)              |
| TEXTBOOKS & SUBSCRIPTIONS | Purchase or hire of required textbooks and subscriptions                     |
| BASIC STATIONERY          | As identified in the relevant textbook list released by the School each year |
| SCHOOL CAMP FEES          | All camp participation fees (not including clothing and toiletry costs)      |
| TECHNOLOGY                | One laptop device (not including insurance)                                  |
| CO-CURRICULAR FEES        | Two co-curricular (sport and/or activity) per year                           |
| UNIFORM                   | As per Appendix A                                                            |



## Parent Contribution

Costs incurred for incidentals as part of the Scholar's education and boarding will be covered by the parents/guardians at a minimum cost of \$1,300 per year. Parents/guardians will contribute \$25 per week via direct debit to cover this \$1,300 minimum. This financial obligation is a requirement of the programme and demonstrates a commitment to and support of the student's education and authentic experience at CGS. Examples of these incidental costs may include non-compulsory excursions and events, optional co-curricular trips, boarding activities and extras, and school photos. Any increase to this would be a result of the student's further take-up of opportunities at CGS and would be covered by parents/guardians (e.g. if the student took up a third co-curricular activity/sport). In that instance, the direct debit can be increased and/or the payments can be made after the Student has left the School until the account is paid. A statement of account is sent each month via email detailing the fees and charges owing.

Other costs paid for by the parents/guardians that are not covered by the School include all medical expenses, personal care, phone bills, uniform items and co-curricular expenses in addition to the items provided as per Appendix A, and spending money. To assist your financial planning, based on past years, we understand that \$25 per week for personal spending money is sufficient, however, the discussion and decision is of course at the discretion of each family.

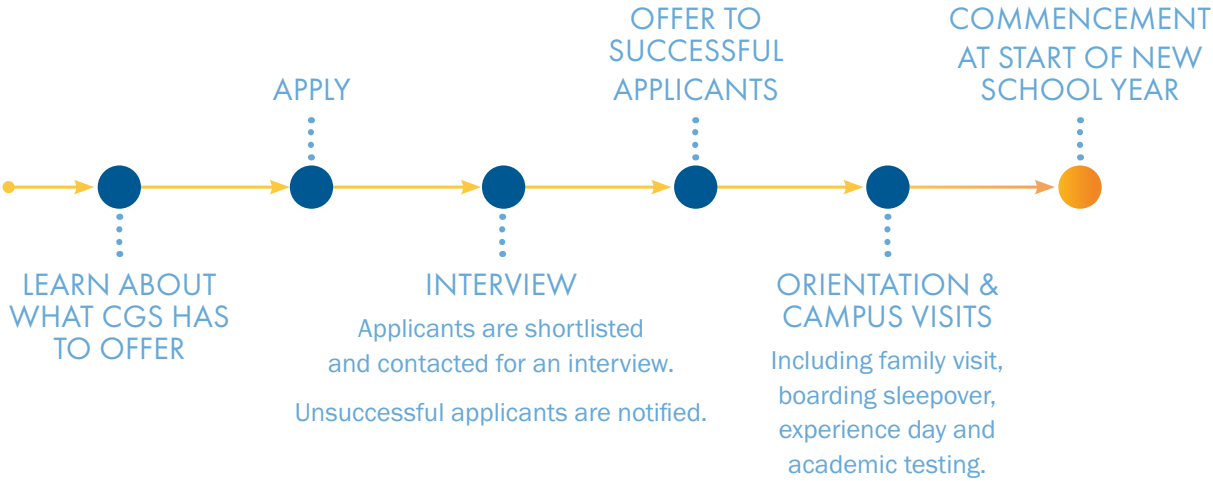
Travel to and from the School should be covered by ABSTUDY. Please contact the Business Office if you have a concern about this.

**If you require financial assistance to cover the parent/guardian costs as outlined above, please email [cgs.fees@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:cgs.fees@cgs.act.edu.au) to discuss the bursary application process.**

Applications for ABSTUDY are made through Services Australia and forms can be accessed at: [SERVICESAUSTRALIA.GOV.AU/ABSTUDY](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy). Administration of payment management is required to be authorised to the School when the Scholar starts at CGS.

If you require more information, please contact the Business Office at [cgs.fees@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:cgs.fees@cgs.act.edu.au) or on +61 (2) 6260 9755.

## APPLICATION PROCESS



# ELIGIBILITY & CRITERIA

Canberra Grammar School invites scholarship applications from Indigenous students who believe they would thrive in the CGS environment. We envision these scholarships to be mutually beneficial, learning with and from one another.

Scholarships are awarded to students who show the potential and determination to pursue their individual success, who demonstrate care and concern for the broader community, have a range of talents and interests, and are eager and ready to participate in and contribute to the CGS community. Those who have shown leadership ability and commitment to their education are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must be proud of their culture and have a desire to give back to the communities that they are involved in.

## Criteria

### To be eligible for the Indigenous Scholars Programme, students must be:

- Of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage and eligible to receive ABSTUDY (families should call the ABSTUDY line with Services Australia to determine their eligibility before applying)
- Receiving encouragement and support for their scholarship application
- Supported by those committed to making the necessary financial contribution towards expenses
- Connected to community through sports, leadership or cultural programmes
- Respectful of the Christian ethos of the School Community; and
- Willing to accept and agree to the School's rules and policies.

### Additionally, applicants who demonstrate the following will be strongly considered:

- Good homework habits
- Sufficient literacy and numeracy skills to mitigate pressure of an increased academic expectations
- Outstanding achievement in at least one area, including sport, drama, music, leadership and/or academic studies
- A commitment to staying at CGS until the end of Year 12
- A positive attitude to learning
- An ability to adjust to both new learning and living environments; and
- An ability to relate well with people from many different backgrounds.

### Successful students will be expected to:

- Maintain a high effort rating (above 80% each term based on CGS effort scoring)
- Maintain an excellent attendance record (above 90% each term based on CGS records)
- Maintain high behavioural standards
- Participate fully in a summer and winter co-curricular programme
- Attend all School carnivals and relevant in-School events; and
- If boarding, live full-time in the boarding house, including weekends.

# HOW TO APPLY

### All applications must include the following information:

1. A completed Scholarship Application Form
2. Copies of the student's two most recent school reports and latest NAPLAN results
3. Copies of current learning plans, specialist or allied health reports and assessments that detail additional learning needs, disabilities, medical conditions or mental health challenges that may require additional support to access their education and CGS life
4. One personal reference which includes the referee's contact details
5. One reference from a member of the student's Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island community which includes the referee's contact details
6. If applicable, any Court/Protection Orders or Parenting Plans that relate to the student
7. A copy of the student's birth certificate; and
8. Evidence of application for ABSTUDY.

### Application and supporting documents can be sent to:

[enrolments@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@cgs.act.edu.au), with the subject line 'Indigenous Scholars Programme Application'.

### Or sent via mail to:

Head of Enrolments  
Canberra Grammar School  
40 Monaro Crescent,  
Red Hill ACT 2603

If submitting hard copies please provide **photo copies** only and not original documents.

# UNIFORMS PROVIDED BY CGS

## Female Years 7 – 9

| ITEM                               | QUANTITY |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Summer Dress                       | 2        |
| Hat                                | 1        |
| Shoes                              | 1        |
| Socks x 2 pack                     | 3        |
| Jumper                             | 1        |
| Sport shorts                       | 1        |
| Bathers                            | 1        |
| Polo shirt                         | 1        |
| House shirt                        | 1        |
| Soft Shell Jacket or Canberra Coat | 1        |
| Tracksuit Pants                    | 1        |
| Sports socks x 2 Pack              | 1        |
| Sports bag                         | 1        |
| School Bag                         | 1        |
| Blazer                             | 1        |
| Winter Skirt                       | 1        |
| Winter Shirt                       | 2        |
| Tights                             | 3        |
| Tie                                | 1        |

## Female Years 10 – 12

| ITEM                               | QUANTITY |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Summer Shirt                       | 2        |
| Hat                                | 1        |
| Shoes                              | 1        |
| Socks x 2 pack                     | 3        |
| Jumper                             | 1        |
| Sport shorts                       | 1        |
| Bathers                            | 1        |
| Polo shirt                         | 1        |
| House shirt                        | 1        |
| Soft Shell Jacket or Canberra Coat | 1        |
| Tracksuit Pants                    | 1        |
| Sports socks x 2 Pack              | 1        |
| Sports bag                         | 1        |
| School Bag                         | 1        |
| Blazer                             | 1        |
| Winter Skirt                       | 1        |
| Winter Shirt                       | 2        |
| Tights                             | 3        |
| Tie                                | 1        |
| First (striped) Blazer             | 1        |

## Male Years 7 – 9

| ITEM                               | QUANTITY |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Summer Shorts                      | 2        |
| Summer Shirt                       | 2        |
| Hat                                | 1        |
| Shoes                              | 1        |
| Socks x 2 pack                     | 3        |
| Jumper                             | 1        |
| Sport shorts                       | 1        |
| Jammers                            | 1        |
| Polo shirt                         | 1        |
| House shirt                        | 1        |
| Sports Socks x 2 Pack              | 1        |
| Soft Shell Jacket or Canberra Coat | 1        |
| Tracksuit Pants                    | 1        |
| Sports socks x 2 Pack              | 1        |
| Sports bag                         | 1        |
| School Bag                         | 1        |
| Blazer                             | 1        |
| Winter Pants                       | 1        |
| Winter Shirt                       | 2        |
| Tie                                | 1        |

## Male Years 10 – 12

| ITEM                               | QUANTITY |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Summer Shorts                      | 1        |
| Summer Shirt                       | 2        |
| Hat                                | 1        |
| Shoes                              | 1        |
| Socks x 2 pack                     | 3        |
| Jumper                             | 1        |
| Sport shorts                       | 1        |
| Jammers                            | 1        |
| Polo shirt                         | 1        |
| House shirt                        | 1        |
| Sports Socks x 2 Pack              | 1        |
| Soft Shell Jacket or Canberra Coat | 1        |
| Tracksuit Pants                    | 1        |
| Sports socks x 2 Pack              | 1        |
| Sports bag                         | 1        |
| School Bag                         | 1        |
| Blazer                             | 1        |
| Winter Pants                       | 2        |
| Winter Shirt                       | 3        |
| Tie                                | 1        |
| First (striped) Blazer             | 1        |

## Co-Curricular Options

Below are some of the co-curricular options available to students at Canberra Grammar School. The fees listed are indicative only and subject to change. Additional costs may apply for each activity, such as uniforms, excursions or travel. All fees and associated costs will be confirmed prior to registration. If you have any questions regarding co-curricular costs, please contact [cgs.fees@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:cgs.fees@cgs.act.edu.au).

|                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tennis                                | \$450                |
| Netball                               | \$440                |
| Basketball                            | \$500                |
| Rugby                                 | \$460                |
| Football                              | \$440                |
| Badminton                             | \$275                |
| Hockey                                | \$440                |
| Athletics                             | \$220                |
| Swimming                              | \$375                |
| Waterpolo                             | \$440                |
| Dragon Boats (Summer only)            | \$625                |
| Rowing (Summer only)                  | \$1,400              |
| Sailing (Summer only)                 | \$1,400              |
| Cricket (Summer only)                 | \$480                |
| Code Cadets (Years 7 & 8)             | \$475                |
| Code Cadets Extension (Years 10 – 12) | \$550                |
| Debating                              | \$200                |
| Music Lessons (individual)            | \$55 – \$65 per week |
| Co-curricular Music                   | \$100                |
| Instrument Hire                       | \$120                |
| Instrument Hire Bond (refundable)     | \$300                |

## CONTACTS

### Head of Enrolments

Ms Lisa Baum | **T** +61 2 6260 9617 | **E** [enrolments@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@cgs.act.edu.au)

### Indigenous Scholarship Programme Coordinator

Mr Stuart McNeill | **T** +61 2 6260 9717 | **E** [stuart.mcneill@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:stuart.mcneill@cgs.act.edu.au)



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40 Monaro Crescent,  
Red Hill ACT 2603

**T** +61 (2) 6260 9700

**E** [enrolments@cgs.act.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@cgs.act.edu.au)

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