



TRINITY  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

YEAR 9

**FIELD STUDIES PROGRAMME**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Trinity Grammar School, Woollamia Campus is located on Jerrinja Wandj Wandian Aboriginal Country. We wish to honour the sovereignty and connection to Country of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and pay respect to their Traditional Custodians and Elders past, present and emerging. As educators we acknowledge that learning has been taking place on this land for millennia.

Contents page

Overview of immersive education ..... 4

Learning in residence ..... 5

Timeline to the Field Studies Programme ..... 6

Programme allocation ..... 6

Open Day at the Field Studies Centre, Woollamia ..... 6

Parent information evenings – by residential allocation prior to departure ..... 6

Preparations: packing and equipment ..... 7

The day of departure ..... 7

Parent contact and visits during the FSP ..... 7

The day of return ..... 7

Pastoral care during the FSP ..... 7

A typical week ..... 8

What students say about the Field Studies Programme ..... 10





## KEEP THE SECRET:

*They're actually having a  
Physics lesson*



The pinnacle of Trinity's Outdoor Education is the Field Studies Programme (FSP), where our Year 9 students spend a term living together on our custom-built campus in Woollamia, learning about themselves, their community and the environment.

It's often spoken about as a highlight of their Trinity journey, with students still talking about it years later.

## Residential, immersive education has been proven to:

- ▲ increase student engagement
- ▲ boost academic outcomes
- ▲ positively impact the communities where the immersive education takes place
- ▲ reduce apathy and alienation

Trinity's FSP plays an important role in developing each boy's moral compass, being of service to others, and helping them take responsibility for things within their power.

- ▲ opportunities for self-discovery
- ▲ building relationships
- ▲ growing independence and strengthening resilience
- ▲ exploring new ways of being in community together
- ▲ providing time for self-reflection and spiritual growth in a unique environment

**Trinity's residential FSP is a vital rung on the curriculum ladder that creates in each boy the set of dispositions for all future academic success.**



## Learning in residence

At the Field Studies Centre, students undertake bespoke units of work in Geography, Science, PDHPE, and Christian Studies.





Trinity academic staff have explored what it means to learn in the Shoalhaven environment, in a residential context, and have designed units of work to leverage the unique features of the area.

In Geography, students develop ecological insight as they plan and carry out their own firsthand investigation, collecting and analysing data, synthesising findings, and reporting to a wide audience.

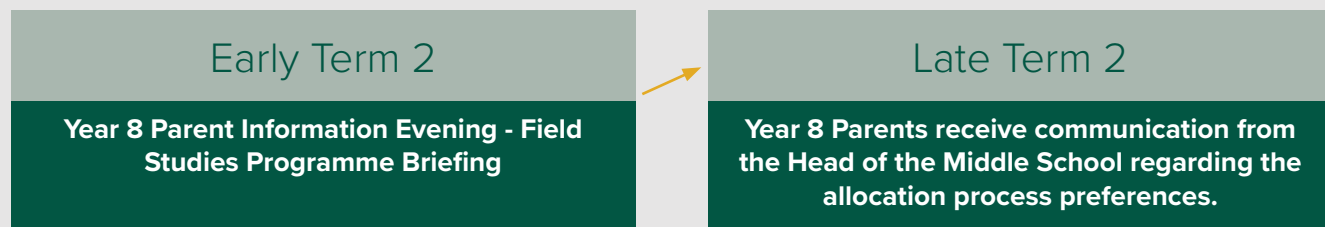
During their time at the Field Studies Centre, students conduct an extended research project in the field by exploring the unique salt marsh ecosystem on the doorstep. By night, the absence of light pollution gives ample opportunity to explore the universe and its working and in doing so, consider some of the bigger questions of Science and existence. The students are living within the environments they are studying, making their work immediate and relevant.

Mathematics at the FSC continues in parallel with the students' peers at Summer Hill. A blended environment that harnesses both the advantages of online resources and face-to-face instruction provides students with yet another way of learning. In the Field Studies environment, there is opportunity for both self-directed learning and collaborative problem solving.

### What does it mean from a student's perspective?

-  **Increase my points of choice and help me deliberately engage with my learning**
-  **Broaden my landscape to let me learn in different ways through different challenges**
-  **Help me grow the learning dispositions that will enable me to succeed in Years 11 and 12**
-  **Reduce the number of courses I have to manage at any one time and let me go deeper with my learning**

## Timeline to the Field Studies Programme for Year 8



### The Allocation Process

The School is responsible for allocating students to each term's FSP, taking into account a range of learning, emotional, and social considerations. This involves feedback from sport and co-curricular MICs, Housemasters – Middle School and members of the Counselling and Psychological Services team. The management of counselling support during each residential is through Counselling and Psychological Services via phone or online Teams' meetings.

Careful consideration and strategic selection are given for high-end sportsmen and elite Co-curricular performers to avoid clashes with major events. Boys do not choose a preferential buddy or pick with whom they share a cabin as one of the aims of the residential is fostering independence and developing the skills in students to make meaningful connections with those outside of their usual social group.

The School reserves the right to make the final adjudication regarding allocations.

### Field Studies Open Day at Woollamia

In Term 3 of each academic year, parent and students of upcoming Field Studies cohorts can visit the campus for an Open Day, meet the staff and experience where the students will be living and learning for their term-long residential.

Middle School parents and families from Years 7-9 can avail themselves of the opportunity to tour the Woollamia campus, spend time in the lovely Jervis Bay community and help familiarise themselves and their sons with the Field Studies Programme and location.

### Parent information evenings – by residential allocation prior to departure

Parents and students from each residential cohort gather in a small group for an information session in the term prior to their departure. Staff from the Field Studies Centre attend. This is a more informal opportunity for parents of the residential cohort to ask questions of the staff and become even more familiar with the experience their son is preparing for in the following term.

### Preparations: packing and equipment

As well as general packing advice, recommended gear lists are supplied to each cohort during the term preceding that cohort's departure.

Gear lists are drawn up in consultation with Trinity's Head of Outdoor Education and are planned for multi-use across Trinity's Outdoor Education, Duke of Edinburgh and Cadet programmes.

It is strongly recommended that parents purchase their son's gear via a reputable outdoor equipment supplier.

Trinity families have the option of purchasing equipment direct from Equipped Outdoors\*, a direct supplier of outdoor equipment, who ensure sizing, name label the ordered items, and deliver direct to the Woollamia Field Studies Centre, ready for each student's arrival.



Each residential cohort attends an information session\* in the latter part of the term prior to their departure:

- ▲ Term 4, Year 8 - student and parent information session for Term 1 Residential cohort
- ▲ Term 1, Year 9 - student and parent information session for Term 2 Residential cohort
- ▲ Term 2, Year 9 - student and parent information session for Term 3 Residential cohort
- ▲ Term 3, Year 9 - student and parent information session for Term 4 Residential cohort

*\* How to attend each session will be emailed by the School.*

## Mid-Term 3

**Parents and students receive notice of their Year 9 residential allocation.**

## Late Term 3

**Saturday Open Day at the Field Studies Centre for all upcoming Year 9 cohort (students and parents).**

### The day of departure

Students arrive at Summer Hill for the first day of term and attend Quad assembly. Each Field Studies Residential Cohort is farewelled from Quad, board the coach and depart for Woollamia.

### Parent contact and visits during the FSP

One of the benefits of the FSP is allowing boys to disconnect from our hyper-connected world. Letters to home are written, stamped, and mailed – something for the parent memento box in years to come that will invoke more memories than an SMS or printed email on their 21st birthday! However, a certain amount of video conferencing and an in-person visit is built into the programme:

- ▲ face-to-face contact (one weekend visit in week 6 or 7)
- ▲ video conference contact (Saturday afternoon/evening on weeks 2, 4, and 6)

### The day of return

Students return to Summer Hill on the final day of term and are welcomed back with a special Quad assembly. Parents of the returning cohort are invited to attend the ceremony before collecting their sons from Summer Hill.

### Pastoral care during the FSP

Pastoral Care is structured following the tutor group model already familiar to Middle School students and parents, supported by Trinity's Counselling and Psychological Services team. The model also includes 'student voice' in order to support feedback and open lines of communication.

#### i) Field Studies Tutors

One academic and one outdoor staff member is allocated to each of the four groups during a residential. They serve as a key, pastoral point of contact.

#### ii) Counselling support

Counsellors are accessed via video conference meetings as required and student Case managers continue to support their existing students while at the FSP. Case managers may also be assigned to students, in discussion with parents, if emerging mental health concerns are identified during the FSP.

#### iii) Student Voice

During the residential, there will be two elected representatives from each of the four pastoral groups. The student representatives will attend weekly meetings with the Head of the Field Studies Centre.

# A Typical Field Studies Programme

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
6:30– 6:45 am	Wake Up	Wake Up	Wake Up
6:45 – 7:15am	Sleep in	Outdoor Programme	Outdoor Programme
7:30 – 8:15am	Breakfast		
8:15 – 8:45am	Jobs/Clinic/Laundry		
8:45 - 9:00am	Pastoral Check In		
9:00 – 9:55am Session 1	Grp1: Mt Bike L1: FSC Grp2: Water L1: Ck Paddle Grp3: Roping L1 Grp4: Outdoor Skills: Navigation Orienteering	Grp1: Outdoor Skills: Navigation Orienteering Grp2: Mt Bike L1: FSC Grp3: Water L1: Ck Paddle Grp4: Roping L1	Grp1: Roping L1 Grp2: Outdoor Skills: Navigation Orienteering Grp3: Mt Bike L1: FSC Grp4: Water L1: Ck Paddle
9:55 – 10:50am Session 2			
10:50 – 11:10am Recess			
11:10 – 12:05pm Session 3			
12:05 – 1:00pm Session 4			
1:00 – 1:40pm Lunch	Grp1: Mt Bike L1: FSC Grp2: Water: Ck Paddle Grp3: Roping L1 Grp4: Outdoor Skills: 1st Aid	Grp1: Outdoor Skills: 1st Aid Grp2: Mt Bike L1: FSC Grp3: Water L1: Ck Paddle Grp4: Roping L1	Grp1: Roping L1 Grp2: Outdoor Skills: 1st Aid Grp3: Mt Bike L1: FSC Grp4: Water L1: Ck Paddle
1:40 – 2:35pm Session 5			
2:35 – 3:30pm Session 6			
3:30 – 3:45pm Afternoon Tea			
3:45 – 5:30pm Activities			OE/Free Time
5:30 – 6:00pm	Camp Out	Camp Out	Showers
6:00 – 7:00pm Dinner			Dinner
7:00 – 9:00pm Evening Activity			Chapel/Prep
9:00 – 9:30pm			Journals
9:30pm	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Wake Up	Wake Up	Wake Up	Wake Up
Pilates/Recovery	Cross Country Challenge	PT/Fitness	Cross Country Challenge
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Jobs/Clinic/Laundry	Jobs/Clinic/Laundry	Jobs/Clinic/Laundry	Jobs/Clinic/Laundry
Pastoral Check In	Pastoral Check In	Pastoral Check In	Pastoral Check In
Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Pastoral lesson	Academic	Academic	Academic
Academic	Academic	Academic	Academic
Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea	Afternoon Tea
Free Time	Co-curricular Activities	Free Time	Parent Video Chat (wk2/4/6)
Showers	Showers	Showers	Showers
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
Prep	Prep	Prep	Movie / OE gear packing
Journals	Journals	Journals	Journals
Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out



There is a detailed webpage about the Field Studies Programme that offers extra insights, photos and captures commonly-asked parent questions and answers. Scan this QR code to view the page.

InSite

For current parents, the School's InSite portal also has an internal information page where general information and FSP news is posted.

Additionally, each FSP cohort of students and parents is placed into a private InSite group where specific news, photos, videos and updates specific to that FSP cohort is shared. It's almost like you're there with them!





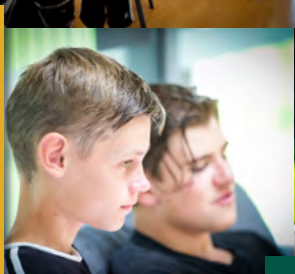
**"I loved the camp,  
it was the best  
experience."**



**"Now I feel like I can  
do anything that I  
put my mind to since  
I came back."**



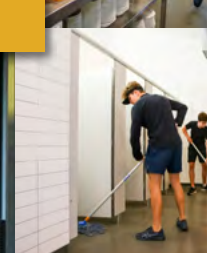
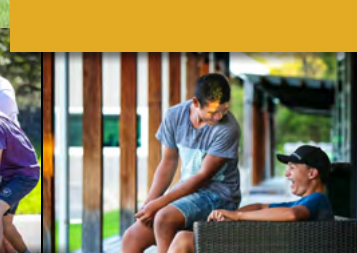
**"I didn't know  
most of the people,  
actually only a few,  
but I became friends  
with many, now I  
notice people I never  
did before."**



**"At home they  
say I've gotten  
less reliant on my  
parents and I can do  
more things myself,  
the point was to  
teach us to be young  
men and it really  
helped with that."**



**"I really enjoyed the  
whole experience,  
I spoke to the older  
boys before I went  
who told me it was  
a fun camp and it  
was as good as  
I expected."**







**"I think FSC needs to be a few weeks longer!"**

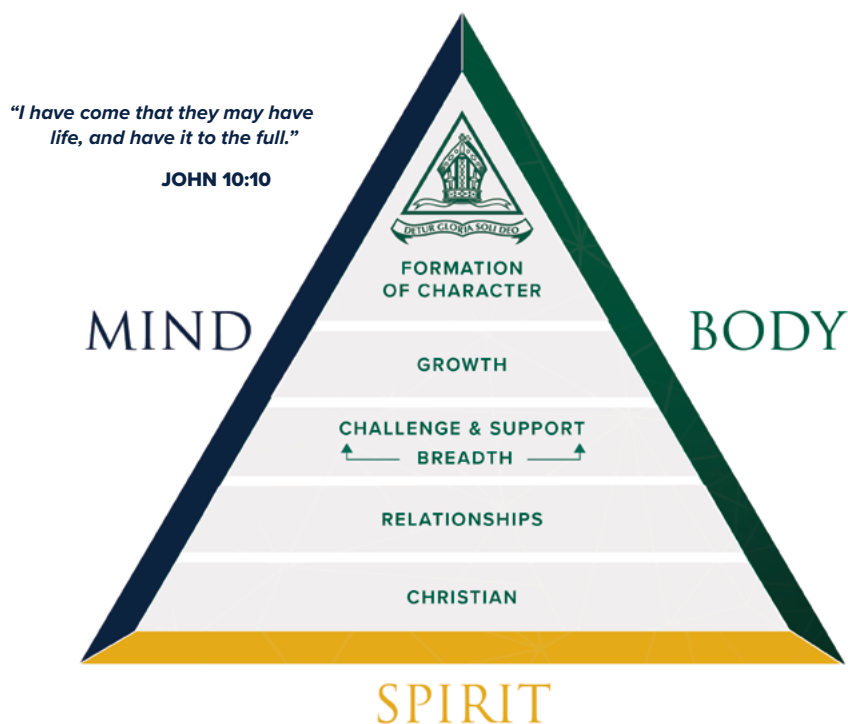
**"I used the night sky as a metaphor of the camp, the black sky is everything we do on camp, the millions of stars are all the amazing opportunities we have on camp, big or small, the moon guides us through."**

**"I was a bit nervous ahead of the residential. I didn't know many in my group. Once we started doing hikes, camp fire and tents, we really connected."**



## Growth – Life to the full

For at least one hundred years, Trinity has used the triangle that frames our crest as a way to describe our ethos of mind, body, and spirit.



**Mind:** Trinity is a learning community. The growth and development of the mind is a crucial concern. We use the concept of the 'mind' to speak about the learning that comes from the formal curriculum and the classroom.

**Body:** Trinity is a community of movement. Students here move in a myriad of ways: on sports fields, on stage dramatically and musically, across chess boards, through water, in choirs, cadets and debates. Doing so, they develop discipline, resilience, healthy habits, and teamwork. Every student grows through this shared experience.

**Spirit:** Trinity is a community of Christian faith. What makes Trinity tick, what sets its heart to beat is a humble response to God. In this humility of spirit, our boys are invited to grow as men of character and hope.













Trinity Grammar School  
119 Prospect Road  
Summer Hill NSW 2130  
t +612 9581 6000  
[www.trinity.nsw.edu.au](http://www.trinity.nsw.edu.au)

Field Studies Centre  
335 Woollamia Road  
Woollamia NSW 2540  
t +612 9581 6000  
PO Box 174 Summer Hill NSW 2130