

Below are some questions that are frequently asked by prospective families:

- **We aren't Catholic, does this matter?**
No, Damascus welcomes student of all faith beliefs.
- **How much RE does a student study at Damascus? Are they disadvantaged if not Catholic?**
Religious Education underpins and informs all aspects of teaching and learning and is a compulsory part of the education program across all year levels. The framework for Religious Education at the College is "Awakenings", the mandated curriculum of the Diocese of Ballarat. The Religious Education program allows students to explore their own spirituality and identity, whatever that may be, within the rich context of the Catholic faith tradition.
- **Are scholarships available?**
There is one incoming scholarship available called the Bright Futures scholarship which is awarded to one financially or personally disadvantaged Year 7 student (nominated by the Primary School Principal). Other scholarships are available throughout the years once a student is studying at Damascus. Further information on the Damascus website:
<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-scholarships>
- **How much does the uniform cost?**
\$1300 – 1500 for every item on the uniform list. The uniform can be purchased from Dobsons, located on campus or Crockers, located on Armstrong Street North, Ballarat. Further information at:
<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-students-uniform>
Second-hand uniforms are also available for purchase at Dobsons.
- **How do I organise a bus for my child?**
Contact CDC Buslines for the routes. Most students catch a bus to Damascus (CDC Ph: 5331 7777). Country bus enquires 5334 3579, Daylesford 5348 4668 or Bacchus Marsh 5367 2344.
- **How do I get in contact with my child's teachers?**
Every student has a Teacher Adviser who is the first point of contact. They can then get you in contact with Subject teachers if needed. Further information on staff names available at:
<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/resource-hub-parent-resources-key-personnel>

- **What sporting opportunities are available?**

After school sports are available including: basketball, football, soccer, table tennis, badminton, baseball, golf, hockey, volleyball, rowing, tennis, ultimate frisbee, croquet and much more. Further information at:

<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/life-damascus-enrichment-sports-program>

- **Can my child continue with music tuition?**

Yes. Through all year levels, students have the opportunity to learn an instrument and be part of many performance opportunities at the College. Instruments available to learn with visiting tutors are: brass, clarinet, drums, flute, guitar, piano, saxophone, singing, strings. Further information at:

<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/life-damascus-enrichment-music-tuition>

- **Am I guaranteed a position if I am Catholic?**

No. Enrolment applications of Catholic students are given priority in line with the enrolment policy. The enrolment criteria listed on the enrolment form which informs the consideration of each individual application, including: Catholic Primary School, past student of Damascus or Foundation colleges (Sacred Heart, St Pauls or St Martins in the Pines), level of involvement in a faith tradition, involvement in community.

Catholic evidence = three sacraments (baptism, confirmation, reconciliation).

Enrolment information available at:

<https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-enrolment-information>

- **What are the tuition fees?**

- 2019 fees are: \$5,355 (Year 7) – 6,355 (Year 12)
- Capital annual levy - \$400
- Microsoft Surface Pro Technology annual levy - \$275-290
- Discount for payment in full by end Feb - \$200-350
- Family discount – two children attending at the same time, 12.5% discount applies
- Three or more children at one time – third child is free, only ever pay for two students

Further information at: <https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-tuition-fees>