

S T J O S E P H S

NUD GEE

COLLEGE



PERFORMING ARTS PROSPECTUS

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Participating in Performing Arts

Participating in Performing Arts activities at St Joseph's Nudgee College provides a platform for self-expression and creativity, empowering boys to express themselves confidently both on and off the stage.

The Performing Arts are an important part of the cultural life of the College. At Nudgee College, we encourage all boys to be involved in Performing Arts activities to ensure a well-rounded educational experience. Performing Arts activities are led by a team of gifted and experienced staff, most of whom engage in their activity professionally outside of the College.

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Art Club

Art Club is a vibrant and creative group providing a space for students to explore and express their artistic talents outside the classroom.

Benefits of Participation

Participating in the Art Club enables students to refine their skills, discover new techniques, and work on collaborative projects. Art Club is also an opportunity to develop skills and gain knowledge in set design and construction of props for the College musical.

Join Us

Wednesday afternoons 3.00pm - 4.00pm in the Cleary Building.

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Art Club' in Find My Team





Chess

Chess “the game of Kings” has a proud history at Nudgee College. Long before it became part of the GPS Competition in 1995 it was a beloved pastime in the boarding house and our lunch time chess club.

In 1997, student Max Leskiewicz won the Australia Junior Championship and we were lucky that he returned as an Old Boy to coach the next generation of our students. As Chess grew even more popular at the school, we started our Inter-House Chess Competition in 2004 and by 2011 we were hosting our own weekend chess tournaments open to students from all over Brisbane. In 2020, chess made the transition from Activities to Performing Arts to further its focus on enriching the minds of Nudgee College students.



Competition and Training

The Nudgee Chess Club has coaching all year long in preparation for the various Inter-School and Open competitions that we compete in. In addition to our own chess competitions that regularly attract over 150 players to compete at Nudgee College one Sunday each Term.

In Term 3, we compete in the GPS competition on Friday evenings. All of our coaching sessions and competitions help our students earn a QLD Junior Chess Rating which ranks them amongst students from all over the state.

Chess is a game that anyone can excel at and we have regularly seen our youngest students thrive and claim a spot in our top team the 1st IV as young as Year 7.

Our coaching sessions are traditionally run on Tuesday and Friday afternoons and are run by experts from Gardiner Chess and our own Old Boys returning to the school to share their knowledge.

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Chess' in Find My Team





Debating

Nudgee College Debating is proving to be a force to be reckoned with amongst our GPS and Queensland Debating Union (QDU) competitors.

Nudgee College Debating works closely with both organisations to produce high-quality debaters and foster an enjoyment of academic rigour. The GPS season is a Term 1 activity; the QDU competition runs from mid Term 1 into Term 2 for Years 7-12, and across Term 3 and Term 4 for Years 5-6.

Our College debaters are consistently represented in student leadership groups across year levels and are significantly represented in academically demanding subjects. This illustrates the role that debating plays in developing the whole person and its contribution to the learning culture of the College.



Benefits of Participation

Nudgee College Debating offers coaching all year long. The MIC and 2IC of Debating work alongside the Director of Performing Arts, Coaching Director (Debating), coaches and coordinators to achieve the following:

- Highly skilled coaching across all year levels
- Development of 21st Century skills of confidence, curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, oral and written communication, collaboration, diversity and leadership.
- A comprehensive debating curriculum through easily accessed manuals.
- The provision masterclasses, workshops, inter-school development days and development squads to nurture developing debaters.

Key Highlights

- Winner, Year 6 QDU Brisbane Primary Championship 2025
- Second, Year 5 QDU Brisbane Primary Championship 2025
- Finalist, Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 QDU Brisbane Secondary Championship 2025

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Debating' in Find My Team





Photograph courtesy of Shake and Stir Theatre Co.

Drama Extension Activities

Drama offers a number of extension activities that provide our students with further opportunities to extend and challenge themselves. We engage in programs run by Brisbane based theatre companies. This allows our students to work alongside other passionate young people in a professional environment where they gain industry experience.

The programs align with the Drama curriculum and allows those students who wish to participate to extend themselves beyond the classroom walls. Students get to engage with professional directors, actors, playwrights, producers and technical crews within these offerings from the theatre companies.

Programs Offered

THE SCENE PROJECT

Queensland Theatre - The Scene Project - this project allows our students to work with a director from Queensland Theatre for one workshop session and a published script by a commissioned playwright. They then transform the playtext to devise their own piece of theatre which they get to showcase at the 'Outcome Day'. This is where they go to Billie Brown Theatre and present their work to other schools.

queenslandtheatre.com.au/tsp

Year Levels

- Years 9 to 12



QLD SHAKE FEST - SHAKE & STIR THEATRE CO.

Shake Fest is an annual competition for students across Queensland. It is a unique program where students who are passionate about acting, music, dance, photography, stage design and film can enter their work. Their creation is inspired by the works of Shakespeare. It is a fantastic opportunity that allows our students to work with students from other schools and industry. Over the years a number of our students have participated in the acting, music and photography sections. We have had much success with students winning and placing in different categories and also being chosen for the Shakespeare production that is part of the event.

qldshakefest.com.au

Year Levels

- Years 9 to 12





Esports

Nudgee College Esports has established itself as a leading program since its inception in 2022, becoming a recognised force within the school esports landscape. Grounded in a commitment to innovation, teamwork and digital literacy, the program provides students with a structured, supportive and high-quality environment in which to pursue competitive gaming and emerging technologies.

Nudgee College Esports fosters both competitive excellence and personal development, positioning students to thrive in collaborative, strategic and fast-evolving digital contexts. The program caters for students with varying levels of experience and encourages participation across year levels.

Key Highlights

- **Finalist** - Best Australian School Esports Program 2025
- **Winner** - Australian Rising Star in Esports Education 2025
- **Winner** - NC Esports Open 2025
- Consistent high performances in FUSE Cup Competitions
- Consistent Top 3 placements in the QUT High School Esports Competitions
- Enhanced strategic and critical thinking through engagement in games such as Rocket League, Mario Kart, Super Smash Bros., Minecraft Education, FIFA, NBA2K, and Overwatch
- Development of teamwork, communication and leadership skills through collaborative gameplay and competition
- Opportunities to compete in high-level interschool competitions, including the QUT High Schools Competition and the FUSE Cup Competitions
- Exposure to pathways within the esports and technology industries through guest speakers and industry connections, supporting career exploration and digital literacy
- Opportunities to participate in and lead Nudgee College-hosted events, including experiences in commentating and behind-the-scenes event setup

Benefits of Participation

Nudgee College Esports operates year-round and is overseen by the Esports Coordinator who works collaboratively with staff and senior leaders to deliver a high-quality and future-focused program. Through structured training, competition and enrichment opportunities, the program aims to achieve the following:

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Esports Technology Club' in Find My Team





Musical

The biannual College Musical is an event open to all students from Years 5 to 12. It is held in Tierney Auditorium and runs for a period of four performances. This is a major College event that encourages students to pursue their creative endeavours within the following areas; actor (lead or ensemble), dancer, musician, backstage crew, technical crew, set and artistic design.

Students are invited to participate through an audition process for the actor (lead or ensemble), dance and musician roles. Other students can nominate for the other important roles for the production. The Musical brings together a team of students, staff and parents who work collectively towards the high quality production. It is a wonderful opportunity to build confidence, develop skills and be part of a team working together across multiple disciplines to bring to life a full scale production to a high standard- showcasing excellence. The Musical brings the community to celebrate and support the creativity of our students.

The College invites both St Rita's College and Mary MacKillop College students to audition to be part of the production, orchestra or nominate to be part of the behind the scenes. The choice of musical is chosen to suit our College and provide the best opportunity for the students to experience the real world of performance. All productions align with licensing requirements and agreements.

Past Productions

- 1996 - Jesus Christ Superstar
- 2007 - Grease
- 2017 - Guys and Dolls
- 2019 - Addams Family
- 2021 - High School Musical
- 2023 - Footloose: The Musical
- 2025 - The Wiz

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Musical' in Find My Team





Music Ensembles



Students in Years 5 to 12 are given the opportunity to join music ensembles as part of the co-curricular music program. Participating in a music ensemble encourages teamwork and collaboration, building essential social skills and fostering friendships.

Music teams regularly perform throughout the year and often compete in competitions, festivals and eisteddfods. Every year, the College participates in the Queensland Catholic Schools and College Music Festival (QCMF). In 2025 Nudgee College Music won Gold Awards in the Band, Vocal and Contemporary sections of the festival.

Each year different music ensembles are invited to attend a music tour. These tours are usually based in Australia and happen at the start of the Term 2 holiday break.

For more information about our music ensembles, scan the QR Code above to see our Music Handbook.

Music Immersion Program Year 5



On entry to the College in Year 5, students participate in a compulsory Instrumental Immersion Program.

They receive small group lessons with Music Tutors, form an ensemble with their peers, and have accompanying lessons in their core class to enhance their theory and aural skills. Using Kodály inspired teaching techniques our students learn music with the use of singing as a key teaching tool when learning an instrument. Highlights of the program include our open classes in Term One, participation in the Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival (QCMF) in Term 3 and our end of year concert and celebration at the end of the year.

For more information about the program please scan the above QR code.

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Music' in Find My Team





Music Lessons

Learning music offers numerous cognitive, emotional, and social benefits. Playing an instrument enhances brain development, sharpening skills such as memory, concentration, and problem-solving.

It fosters creativity and self-expression, providing an outlet for emotions and stress relief. Mastering an instrument instills discipline and perseverance, valuable traits that extend beyond music into all areas of life.

At Nudgee College, we offer specialist instruction in a wide variety of areas including Strings, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, Piano, Voice, Contemporary instruments and music theory. Our tutors, many of whom are current professional performers, provide engaging and inspiring lessons for our students.

Individual participation in external music examinations and competitions are encouraged and should be discussed between the Music Tutor, student and parents.

Lesson Format

Half-hour lessons for music are offered to students in school time, with some lessons out of class time at the Music Tutor's discretion – priority is given to Years 11 and 12. Music lessons are rotated so that students do not miss the same classes each week.

Lessons are offered in the following formats:

- 30 minute private individual lessons
- 30 minute shared lessons (2-3 students per group).

For more information about our music lessons and their structure, scan the QR Code below to see our Music Handbook.





Oratory Competition

Oratory nurtures confidence, intellectual curiosity and open-mindedness. It encourages students to engage with diverse perspectives, articulate ideas with precision and speak with purpose.

The Nudgee College Oratory Competition is the oldest - and arguably the most prestigious - co-curricular competition at the College. It reflects the College's long-standing commitment to student voice, critical thought and confident self-expression.

Established in 1900, the Oratory Competition holds a unique place in the cultural life of the College. Its legacy highlights the importance placed on public speaking as a means of engaging thoughtfully and passionately with ideas, issues and perspectives that matter across generations.

Oratory develops essential personal and academic skills. The ability to organise ideas, construct persuasive arguments and deliver them with clarity and conviction is a powerful tool in both academic and real-world contexts. Through the public nature of the competition, students build confidence, resilience and a strong sense of personal achievement. Participants select topics of personal interest, resulting in speeches that reflect both contemporary issues and enduring themes.

Competition Structure and Adjudication

Each year group is adjudicated by College staff, with speakers assessed against the following criteria:

- Originality
- Quality of content
- Voice work (clarity, fluency, projection and expression)
- Audience engagement
- Overall effectiveness



Celebration of Excellence

The competition culminates in a formal Oratory Awards Night, where Year 5-11 winners and Year 12 finalists deliver their speeches publicly to an invited audience. Students from Years 5 to 11 who place first in their year level are recognised at the College Awards Ceremony in Term 4. The Year 12 winner is awarded the Br O'Brien Memorial Trophy.

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12



Technical Production Crew

The College's Technical Production Crew provides a unique opportunity for students interested in live production within multiple fields around sound, lighting and video.

We work behind the scenes at the many events the College is involved with throughout the year both onsite and externally. Students will learn from our experienced Technical Production staff and Old Boys currently working in this industry.

Students will have opportunities to learn skills in; live audio mixing, bumping in and micing up bands and performances, live control of multi camera video mixing, framing and capturing live action on professional broadcast cameras, operating and designing lighting systems and managing backstage spaces for audio/talent.

The Tech Crew plays an integral role in many of the College's events throughout the year. These include assemblies, ceremonies, dinners and concerts all the way up to festival style events.

Crew are trained during our weekly assemblies on a rotating basis with all new crew starting off operating a camera before moving to other areas.

The Tech Crew is a year round activity and you can sign up through Student Cafe.

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Tech Crew' in Find My Team





Theatresports

Theatresports is a fun, energetic and creative activity using the skills of improvisation. It requires teams of actors working collaboratively where they make up scenes 'on the spot' based around stimuli provided and the game chosen.

Each game has specific rules and falls under categories of one, two, three and four minute games. Theatresports is highly entertaining where players make up on the spot the characters, dialogue, action and narrative.

Theatresports is great for those students who love performing, want to increase their performance skills, enjoy teamwork and friendly competition. It is a high energy physical activity where it challenges students creativity, focuses on imaginative storytelling and entertains an audience. Theatresports is open to all students from Years 5 to 12. For Years 5 and 6 students in particular, they can participate and learn the games of Theatresports.

Competition

Sit Down Comedy Club runs the *Youth Theatresports Competition Queensland*. This is an annual event where schools from around Brisbane, Sunshine and Gold Coasts compete against each other for the ultimate trophy - *Youth Theatresports Champion*. The competition is categorised into Junior (Years 7 to 9) and Senior (Years 10 to 12) competition. Teams consist of a maximum of 6 players. Training takes place during Term 1, 2 and 3. The official competition is run in Terms 2 and 3. Teams compete in heats, quarter and semi-finals and then the grand final. Training occurs at lunch times and then nominated afternoons after school for specific teams.

Past Successes

Our teams have had numerous success over the last 15 years with making it to the Grand Final and Semi Finals.

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Theatresports' in Find My Team





Writers' Circle

The Nudgee College Writers' Circle is a structured and inclusive co-curricular program that brings together students with a shared interest in creative and expressive writing. The program provides a rigorous yet supportive environment in which students develop their craft, engage critically with texts and ideas, and contribute meaningfully to the literary culture of the College.

Through guided mentorship and collaborative practice, Writers' Circle nurtures both technical skill and creative confidence. Students are encouraged to experiment with form, voice and perspective while engaging with contemporary and enduring themes, positioning writing as both an academic discipline and a powerful means of personal and social expression.

Benefits of Participation

The Writers' Circle Coordinator works alongside the Director of Performing Arts, senior leaders and Library staff to deliver a program that enables students to:

- Develop control of narrative structure, context establishment and the craft of "show not tell"
- Refine editing skills through structured drafting processes and constructive peer critique
- Engage with creative stimuli and participate in collaborative and independent writing tasks
- Publish original work in the Nudgee College Writers' Circle Student Booklet
- Contribute to the 'Writers' Circle Desk' feature in the College's Behind the Stripes magazine
- Participate in internal competitions, including the Junior Writing Competition and the Maggie Shaw Creative Writing Competition
- Submit work to external writing competitions, gaining exposure beyond the College
- Engage with professional writers through author talks, workshops and guest presentations
- Attend writing festivals, including the Brisbane Writers Festival
- Participate in Year-level author visits that support curriculum and enrichment learning

- Contribute to social justice initiatives with the Viridian Aged Care Residency
- Collaborate in the annual Write a Book in a Day competition, developing teamwork skills while supporting the Kids' Cancer Project

Key Highlights

- The inaugural Junior Writing Competition (2025) attracted 128 Year 5 and 6 participants, with awards presented by local MP Leanne Linard
- Launch of the Maggie Shaw Creative Writing Competition in 2025, with the winner receiving the Maggie Shaw Creative Writing Award at the Annual Awards Night
- \$6,300+ raised for the Kids' Cancer Project through Write a Book in a Day (2024 & 2025)
- Second Place - Student Result, ETAQ Literary Competition 2025
- Second Place - Student Result, Words Out West Short Story Competition 2024

Year Levels

- Years 5 to 12

Join Team App

- Scan the QR Code below and search 'NC Writers' Circle' in Find My Team





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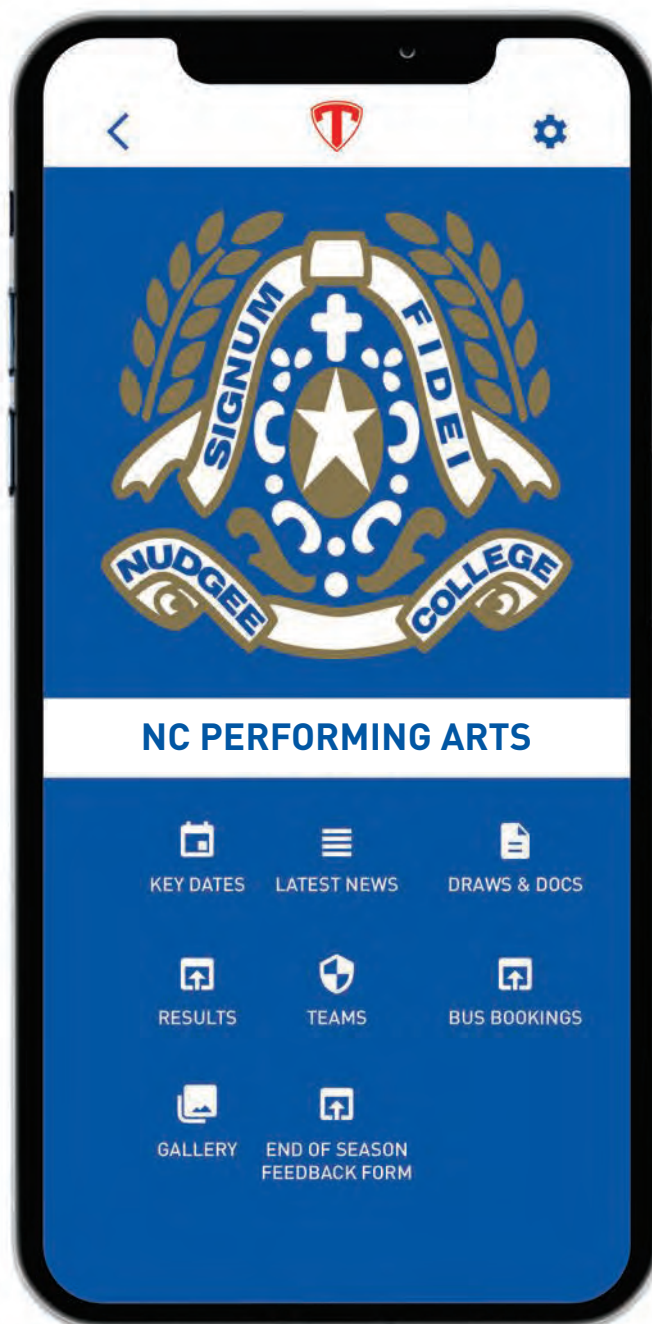
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PERFORMING ARTS

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