



Christian Brothers Lewisham

**EDUCATING BOYS
IN YEARS 5-12
SINCE 1891**



*Focus on the boy
to grow the man*



Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Christian Brothers Lewisham is built, and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We are honoured to recognise our connection to Gadigal Country, history, culture and spirituality through this location, and strive to ensure that we operate in a manner that respects and honours the Elders and Ancestors of these lands.

We also respectfully acknowledge Lewisham's Aboriginal, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander staff, students, alumni, partners and visitors.

We also acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia, their Elders, Ancestors, cultures and heritage, and recognise the continuing sovereignties of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nations.

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Welcome

We are proudly one of the oldest Catholic schools in Sydney. Faith is at the core of everything we do, however we are an inclusive community welcoming students regardless of background, culture or religion to share in our Christian values of hope, joy and love.

Our students are firmly at the centre of all that we do. As a school specialising in the education of young men, we understand how young men learn best, and we use that knowledge in every lesson plan and every subject to challenge, encourage and empower our boys to excel in every aspect of their lives. From our high achievers, to our Diverse Learning program, from our music program to creative arts and robotics, sport to our outdoor education program, we capture the curiosity of all students, empowering them to explore, question and make a positive and powerful impact on the world around them.

Respect, resilience and results: all three play a key role in our culture. We teach our students to show respect to the people they encounter in life and to strive to make the world a better place. We challenge our students beyond their comfort zones to be better and more resilient versions of themselves.



*“ We understand how young men learn best,
and we use that knowledge in every lesson plan
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of their lives. ”*

Our recent HSC results were outstanding with 8 students achieving an ATAR above 95+, an average ATAR of 80, 37 Distinguished Achievers and 90% of course results above the state average. These HSC results highlight the commitment of our students and the academic excellence and pastoral dedication of our teachers.

We value and foster a close partnership with our families, who share with us the responsibility for their sons' learning achievements, wellbeing, spiritual growth and growing self-reliance.

Here at Christian Brother's High School (CBHS) Lewisham we value the spiritual, academic, pastoral, sporting and cultural lives of the school. From the day students enter the gates in Year 5 until they graduate in Year 12, we are committed to forming young, confident men who think of others ahead of themselves.

For over 130 years, we have been educating boys; we have a rich history of excellence, academic success and achievement. I welcome you to CBHS Lewisham and invite you to discover the myriad of opportunities which await your son here at our school, where we focus on the boy to grow the man.



Dr Michael Blowes
PRINCIPAL

Who Are We?

The CBHS Lewisham community's values are based on being one with God, one with and for others, and one with self. These are expressed in the following values, which embed the four Touchstones of the Charter for Catholic schools in the Edmund Rice tradition.

**Inclusive
Community**



**Gospel
Spirituality**



**Liberating
Education**



**Justice and
Solidarity**





Why Choose Us?

CBHS Lewisham is dedicated to nurturing every boy's spiritual, academic, pastoral, sporting, and cultural development. From their first day to graduation, we guide them to become confident, compassionate young men who strive for excellence and positively impact the world.

Research consistently shows that boys and girls learn differently. At CBHS Lewisham, we specialise in boys' education, tailoring our teaching to how boys learn best. Our teachers understand boys thrive in environments with activity, competition, humour, hands-on experiences, clear expectations, and structured time constraints. They benefit from strong role models, a literacy-focused curriculum, and technology-driven learning, with less passive instruction and more active participation.

Our boys have access to a wide range of opportunities and experiences and are encouraged to participate based on their interests, skills, and passions. We also challenge traditional stereotypes about boys' education—our students confidently embrace activities like choir and orchestra, which are often overlooked in co-educational settings, because we foster an environment where every interest is valued.

More importantly, boys at CBHS Lewisham learn that success is not just about academics or achievements but also about building meaningful relationships, teamwork, and strong friendships—skills that will serve them well throughout life. We focus on the boy to grow the man.

Our History

CBHS Lewisham was established in 1891 as a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition. Edmund Rice was deeply committed to educating marginalised and underprivileged children in 19th-century Ireland. After experiencing personal tragedy, Edmund Rice dedicated his life to religious service and education. In 1802, he opened his first school in Waterford, Ireland, to offer a free quality education to poor boys, teaching them not only academic subjects but also moral and spiritual values.

Edmund Rice's schools grew rapidly. By the 1820s, he had established several more across Ireland. His vision was to create schools that would help transform the lives of young boys by providing them with opportunities for a better future, regardless of their background. His work led to the foundation of the Christian Brothers religious order, which spread globally, continuing to run schools with a strong emphasis on faith, service, and education.

CBHS Lewisham began in 1891 with modest facilities. Its single building, which accommodated 100 students and a gymnasium, cost £1,500 to build at the time. Today, over 130 years later, CBHS Lewisham operates as an independent Catholic school under the governance of Edmund Rice Education Australia, serving 1,250 students from Years 5–12.

We remain true to Edmund Rice's vision of providing a holistic education that fosters each student's emotional, spiritual, physical, and intellectual development, preparing them to positively impact the world.





Campus

Based in the leafy inner west of Sydney, Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham has been educating boys from the same campus for over 130 years.

Classrooms are optimised for effective and engaging learning with cutting edge facilities, light, spacious and modern design and layout, and are all networked with up-to-date ICT solutions to enable innovative teaching.



Dr Victor Chang Science Building

Six state-of-the-art science laboratories for Year 7–10 Science classes, Years 11 and 12 Marine Studies, Biology, Chemistry and Physics electives.

Waterford Learning Centre

The Waterford Learning Centre goes beyond the traditional role of a library and provides a welcoming space for students to enjoy before, during, and after school hours. Our Teacher Librarians maintain strong collaborative relationships with educators across all key learning areas, developing meaningful projects for students that foster collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Br Julian McDonald Centre

Our multi-purpose hall is designed to accommodate full school assemblies, liturgies, and presentations. The space can also be reconfigured to include a full-size basketball court, volleyball court, and indoor soccer field.

Treacy Centre

An indoor lecture theatre with a 200-seat capacity can also accommodate music performances, guest speakers, debating, house assemblies, incursions, and year meetings.

Specialist Classrooms

Specialist classrooms include Visual Art rooms, Technology and Applied Sciences (TAS) Workshops including a state-of-the-art Hospitality Commercial Kitchen, Music, Drama and PDHPE.

Green Spaces

Our green spaces provide versatile outdoor areas for learning, relaxing, socialising, or enjoying quiet time. Development of these green spaces is an ongoing initiative at CBHS, with additional areas planned for expansion in 2025 and 2026.

School Chapel

The Chapel provides a quiet, sacred space available for private prayer at any time. Each Wednesday morning, a Community Mass is offered for staff and students, providing an opportunity to pause and reflect before the school day begins. With seating for 150 people, the Chapel is also used for Year Group Masses, Reconciliation, and Religious Education classes.

CBHS Retreat Centre

CBHS students can also access our retreat centre, Workul Koo, in Terrigal on the NSW Central Coast. Set on the beach, the centre provides a peaceful environment for students to reflect and connect with themselves, their peers, and God during their retreats in Years 6, 8 and 10.

Canteen

Our onsite Canteen is open for breakfast, recess and lunch with daily specials and a wide menu selection.

Onsite Uniform Shop

The onsite school uniform shop offers a convenient location for students and families to purchase all required school attire. It provides a range of uniforms, accessories, and other school essentials to ensure students are fully prepared for their academic year.



Primary Years 5 and 6

Years 5 and 6 lay the foundations for high school and through our rich co-curricular and challenging upper-primary curriculum, increased opportunities lead to the development of confident learners.

Our Primary students enjoy a dedicated playground, and each Primary class benefits from its own classroom teacher, giving your son a strong foundation in their upper primary year. Our purposeful small class sizes in Year 5 provide more individualised attention from teachers, allowing for tailored instruction and greater support for each student. This environment fosters stronger relationships, encourages active participation, and promotes a more personalised learning experience

Our Primary students participate in whole-school events, including assemblies, sports carnivals, and masses, helping them become familiar with the wider school campus, expectations, and senior teachers. This well-rounded experience ensures a seamless transition into Year 7 and the senior school.

The Primary curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire critical thinking while nurturing each student's unique talents and abilities. Throughout the year, boys have the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs that extend beyond the core curriculum. These include the University of New South Wales competitions, Science Enrichment, Waterford Words, The Portrait Prize, the Media Project, and Debating.

“*The Primary curriculum is designed to challenge and inspire critical thinking while nurturing each student's unique talents and abilities.*”

Secondary Years

In Secondary school, students engage in a more specialised and dynamic learning environment, where they are supported in developing independent learning skills. With a focus on deeper subject knowledge and the application of skills across various disciplines, students are encouraged to take ownership of their learning. Opportunities are provided for both collaborative projects and independent study, preparing them for future pursuits and success beyond school.





Curriculum

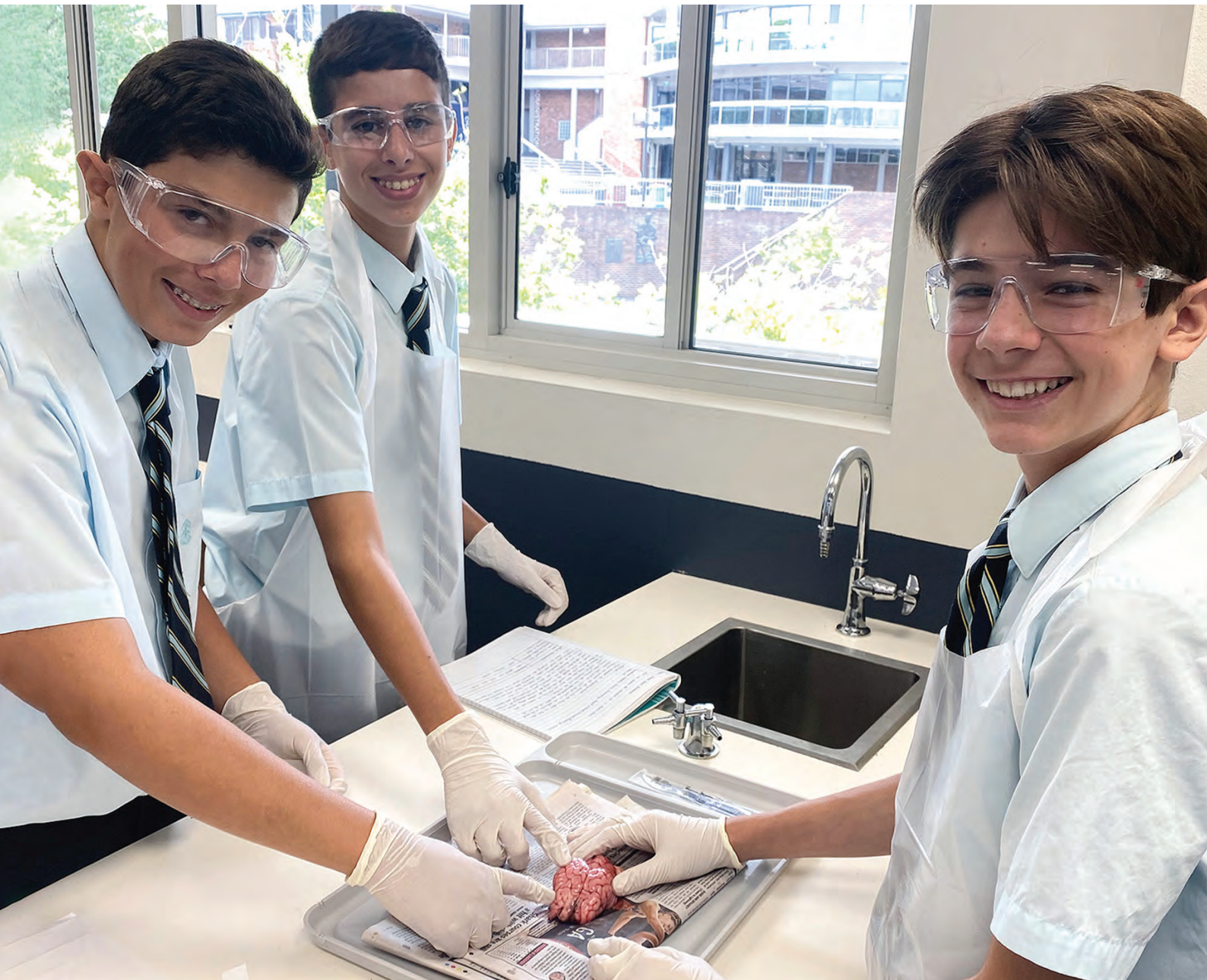
A Holistic Approach to Learning

Our integrated approach to learning equips students with essential skills, fostering critical and creative thinking to tackle real-world challenges. Building on their knowledge and experiences gives them the confidence to develop innovative solutions and shape a better future.

Our teachers use explicit teaching strategies and evidence-based practices. We strongly emphasise school-wide literacy while providing opportunities for students to explore subjects beyond the core curriculum. As lifelong learners, our dedicated teachers create a supportive and inspiring environment that empowers every student to reach their full potential.

Primary

Academically, Year 5 and Year 6 lay the foundations for high school. Students study the NESA-mandated subjects, which include English, Maths, Science and Technology, Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE), Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE), Creative Arts, and Robotics. In addition to enrichment classes, they also have the opportunity to be involved in various educational programs that extend the curriculum.



Secondary

YEARS 7 & 8

In Years 7 and 8, we place a strong emphasis on developing student literacy, focusing on enhancing their skills in reading and writing.

Subjects include:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Religious Education
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Visual Arts
- Technology
- PDHPE
- Italian (In Year 8)

YEARS 9 & 10

The focus continues on enhancing student literacy through the mandatory subjects, while introducing a range of elective subjects that students can choose from. *These include:*

- Audio Technology and Production
- Commerce
- Computing Technology
- Drama
- Elective Geography
- Elective History
- Elective Science
- Food Technology
- Football Development Programme
- Industrial Technology – Engineering
- Industrial Technology – Timber
- Language – Italian and External
- Music
- Physical Activity and Sports Science
- Visual Arts
- Visual Design

YEARS 11 & 12

In Years 11 and 12, students can choose from two successful HSC pathways:

ATAR Pathway: In the ATAR pathway, students work towards achieving their best results in school assessments and HSC exams, aiming to maximise their ATAR and broaden their university course options.

Dual Accreditation Pathway: Under the Dual Accreditation Pathway, students work towards their HSC while also earning nationally recognised VET qualifications. This includes apprenticeships or traineeships in partnership with the school, TAFE, and employers.

The subjects currently offered in Years 11 and 12 include:

- Ancient History
- Aboriginal Studies
- Biology
- Business Services (VET)
- Business Studies
- Ceramics
- Chemistry
- Construction (VET)
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Economics
- Engineering Studies
- English (*Standard, Advanced, Extension 1, Extension 2 and English Studies*)
- Enterprise Computing
- Geography
- Health and Movement Science
- History Extension
- Hospitality (VET)
- Industrial Technology: Timber
- Information and Digital Technology (VET)
- Italian (*Beginners, Continuers and Extension*)
- Legal Studies
- Marine Studies
- Mathematics (*Standard 1 and Standard 2, Advanced, Extension 1 and Extension 2*)
- Modern History
- Music 1 and Music 2
- Photography and Digital Media
- Physics
- Sports, Lifestyle and Recreation
- Software, Design and Development
- Studies of Religion I and II
- Studies in Catholic Thought
- Visual Arts
- Visual Design
- Work Studies



Curriculum

Accelerated Mathematics Program

In Years 9 and 10, high-achieving maths students may be invited to participate in the Mathematics Accelerated Program, which enables them to advance their studies faster.

Year 9: Complete the Year 9 and 10 Mathematics courses.

Year 10: Complete the Year 11 Mathematics Advanced and Extension 1 courses.

Year 11: Complete the Year 12 Mathematics Advanced and Extension 1 courses and sit the HSC exam.

After Year 11, students can:

- Accept their HSC results and take fewer units in Year 12;
- Re-sit the exams in Year 12 to improve their marks or
- Extend their studies by taking Mathematics Extension 2 in Year 12.

Senior Academic Support Programs

Study Skills Program: Years 7–12 students receive targeted guidance and support to enhance their study skills and practices.

Senior Academic Coaching Program: All senior students can access a one-on-one coaching session, in which their current study practices are reviewed and feedback provided. Personalised support is provided to enhance their overall academic performance, regardless of their chosen pathway.

Academic Writing Intervention Program: This program, available to Year 12 students and led by an experienced English teacher, focuses on academic writing across various subjects. It enhances students' ability to construct strong arguments and write cohesive and sustained responses.

Aquinas High Potential Classes

Our newly established Aquinas High Potential Classes are designed to identify and support high-performing students from Year 5 to their HSC in Year 12.

Students in these classes complete the core curriculum in a condensed format, creating opportunities for extension and enrichment activities. Higher-order learning strategies challenge and engage students, ensuring their academic needs are met. Additionally, academically gifted students participate in various co-curricular activities, including the Ethics Olympiad and ECHO.

Diverse Learning

Our Diverse Learning team provides tailored support for students who require extension or assistance in their learning. Support is provided for students:

- with gifted and talented potential
- experiencing challenges in literacy and numeracy acquisition
- who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- learning English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D)
- who are neurodiverse

The DLC Team implements adjustments to help students succeed in their learning. At CBHS Lewisham, most students complete their education in mainstream classrooms, with occasional small group support from our Learning Support Officers.

*Our integrated approach to learning
equips students with essential skills,
fostering critical and creative thinking
to tackle real-world challenges.*





Co-curricular

Sport

Sport plays a vital role in the formation and development of our students. It fosters teamwork, sportsmanship, and lifelong friendships. It helps build self-esteem, confidence, and essential skills while strengthening team and school spirit.

At CBHS Lewisham, sport seamlessly integrates into the school day, ensuring all students can participate. Each student is encouraged to stay active through internal or representative sports every Thursday, with opportunities throughout the year to compete at various levels and proudly represent the school. All students also participate in the annual CBHS Swimming Carnival, CBHS Athletics Carnival and the CBHS Cross Country Carnival.

Our **Primary** students enjoy physical education lessons on Thursday mornings at local parks. Additionally, various primary sporting activities and gala days are offered throughout the year, providing opportunities for them to compete against their peers and other schools.

Secondary sports take place on Thursday afternoons, including skill development and participation in House competitions for students not participating in Representative Sports.

Secondary sports currently offered include:

TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4
Touch football	Rugby League	Athletics	Volleyball
Basketball	Football	Rugby 7s	Cricket
Swimming	Table Tennis	AFL	BMX
Cross Country	Golf	All Abilities 7s	Mountain Bike
Chess		Football	Futsal
Triathlon		Gymnastics	Badminton
		Hockey	
		Baseball	

Representative Sport

In addition to weekly sports lessons, annual trials are held to select representative teams for Sydney Catholic Schools' competitions. CBHS Lewisham students have the opportunity to represent the school, region, and state in a variety of sports.



The ALFA Football program offers a genuine football pathway with top-tier coaching and continuous player development, nurturing students' talent both on and off the field. The program, available from Year 5, is delivered within the school environment for added convenience.

ALFA programs are open to CBHS students from Years 5–12, with options for Elite Squads and Development Sessions.



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and development of our students, fostering
teamwork, sportsmanship,
and lifelong friendships.*



Co-Curricular

Music

Extensive research shows that involvement in music activities, such as playing a musical instrument, enhances cognitive abilities and engagement, leading to improved academic performance.

Our students are encouraged to participate in the school's musical program, which includes musical ensembles and bands.

Primary Music Program

The Primary Music Program allows students to participate in music-making outside classroom music lessons. Participation is voluntary, except for the Primary Mass Choir, and comprises various activities where students can develop their musical skills.

Students have the option to be involved in:

- Beginner Instrumental Groups and Training Band
- Junior Band, Kilkenny Choir
- Junior Percussion Ensemble

An extensive Instrument Tuition Program is also available for students interested in learning an instrument for the very first time.

Senior Bands and Ensembles

CBHS Lewisham offers an extensive range of senior bands and ensembles of different abilities and musical interests. *The current range includes:*

- Music Club
- Vocal Group
- Concert Band
- Jazz Band
- Percussion Ensemble
- Liturgy Band
- String Ensemble
- Guitar Ensemble

In addition to these regular ensembles, students can take instrumental tuition weekly with our peripatetic tutors. Students are also provided the opportunity to participate in more significant performance events throughout the school year, such as Music Nights, Soiree evenings, Guitar and Piano Recital, Masses, Assemblies, ANZAC Day, and Inner West music festivals. These events allow students to showcase their talents to their families, friends and the wider community.

Extra Curricular

Central to our commitment to developing each boy as an individual, we offer a wide range of extra curricular activities to nurture their unique talents and passions. Lunchtime and after-school clubs, led by staff and students, provide opportunities to connect with like-minded peers across all year levels. Students are welcome to join any time and are encouraged to propose new clubs, creating a dynamic and inclusive school community. *Options currently include:*

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Debating
- Public Speaking
- STEM
- Chess Club
- Environment Club
- Aviation Club
- Art Club



Wellbeing

Pastoral Care

CBHS Lewisham prioritises the safety and well-being of each of our students. Within a nurturing environment, students are encouraged to forge strong relationships with their peers, House, teachers, and God while developing key attributes such as respect, communication, leadership, and a strong drive for success.

We strive to ensure that every student is well-known and supported through our dedicated pastoral care program.

The key elements of our Pastoral Care Program include:

- Homeroom Teachers and Year Coordinators
- School Counsellors
- Assistant Principal – Pastoral
- Career Pathway programs
- Sporting and Co-curricular programmes
- Camps and retreats
- Incursions, special guest speakers and excursions
- Parent information and engagement events
- Recognition and reward for achievement and effort
- Peer formation and leadership programs
- Respectful Relationships Program
- Pastoral Care lessons
- House System
- Digital Citizenship and ICT education



House System

The House System is a vertically integrated method that encourages students to play an active, vital role in school life while fostering a sense of responsibility and connection with their peers and students of all ages within the school community.

Upon enrolment, all students are assigned to a House and remain in that House until graduation, with siblings placed in the same House. Staff members will also be assigned to a Homeroom and House group, staying with their assigned group throughout their time at CBHS Lewisham. This system fosters positive relationships between staff and students, enhancing the strong sense of community at CBHS.

Buddy System

CBHS Lewisham has developed a unique Buddy System that pairs new students with a buddy from an older year group within the same House. This system fosters a special connection between younger and older students, providing great comfort to the younger boys as they begin their journey at CBHS. Each Year 5 student is partnered with a Year 10 student, and this partnership continues as the boys progress into Year 6 (and 11) and Year 7 (and 12). The buddies meet regularly on a scheduled timetable, engaging in friendly games and mentoring activities. Older students also lead the younger boys in their reading program, strengthening the bond.

Social Justice

CBHS Lewisham strives to help each student understand the world beyond the school gates. Inspired by the Edmund Rice charism, we aim to offer hope in a world where the dignity of humanity and the beauty of creation are often overlooked. Both students and staff are given opportunities to play an integral role in the broader community by addressing justice issues and supporting those in need.

Our Primary Justice and Peace Program focuses on Right Relationships and Service to Others. Primary social justice initiatives include making sandwiches for the homeless, delivering Christmas gifts to local nursing homes, supporting the St Vincent de Paul winter appeal and food drives, and raising awareness for Indigenous Literacy through our Book Swap initiative.

Our Secondary students volunteer their time at the Matthew Talbot Hostel, Tierney House, and Cairnsfoot School and facilitate the School's participation in events like St Vincent de Paul's Christmas and Winter Appeals. Our senior students are also encouraged to support causes close to their hearts and are given guidance on how to do this effectively.

We integrate justice and peace literacy into our learning programs, ensuring they are empowering, rigorous, and authentically reflect the EREA Touchstones in an age-appropriate way for our students.

*“We strive to help each student
understand the world
beyond the school gates.”*



Begin your CBHS Journey

We understand the importance of selecting the right school for your son, and we appreciate your consideration of Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham.

The Primary intake occurs in Year 5 with a smaller intake in Year 7. Applications for other year levels are also welcome, subject to availability.

We invite you to submit an expression of interest. Contact will be made with you approximately three years before your son's start date to begin the enrolment process.

Our Open Days and Discovery Tours throughout the year provide the perfect opportunity to explore what CBHS offers. Our online Virtual Tour also offers a snapshot of the school grounds and our facilities.



**To begin your CBHS journey,
visit the Enrolment page via the QR code**

OR

cbhslewisham.nsw.edu/enrol

Questions?

Contact our Enrolments team for more information

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A CROWN TO THE ONE
WHO STRIVES



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