The Rivers Secondary College is the heart of secondary education for Lismore. Consisting of three campuses, Kadina High Campus, Lismore High Campus and Richmond River High Campus, The Rivers Secondary College caters for the educational needs of students wishing to pursue the NSW Higher School Certificate, vocational education or an alternative pathway. Our students have the benefit of both specialised programs provided by each of our comprehensive 7-12 campuses as well as the combined college programs; including Shared Curriculum, college sporting teams, college dance ensemble, college creative and performing arts events and our college wellbeing program.

We provide a learning environment based on high expectations, mutual respect and personal development. With a strong focus on quality teaching, learning and leading, our teaching programs prepare students for the challenging, ever changing world of which they are a part. Our programs go beyond the core curriculum and allow our students to explore the connections that their learning has with other subject areas, their prior learning and the wider world.

Our students not only feel they are part of a vibrant learning community, they recognise the importance of our connections to the broader community. We are strongly supported by Southern Cross University, TAFE, Lismore Council and a range of non-government organisations. The Rivers Secondary College is continually looking for opportunities for our students to give back and participate in community events and initiatives.

At The Rivers Secondary College we believe in an active wellbeing approach. Our college wellbeing project is based on developing the physical, creative, emotional and social wellbeing of all of our students. We develop young people who actively engage in developing the wellbeing of themselves and their peers. As Executive Principal of The Rivers Secondary College, I am committed to supporting the development of young people who have a positive view of themselves, are resilient and future focused. We are all aware of the African proverb “it takes a village to raise a child”. As chair of Headspace Lismore, I work with consortium members to help support the programs that are provided by this exceptional service to young people in the Lismore region. Our approach to the village raising the child extends beyond the walls of our campuses.

The Rivers Secondary College is large enough to have significant resources to enhance the educational opportunities of our young people but the campus structure retains the capacity for our students’ individual needs to be identified and catered for and for students and teachers to develop positive relationships that support their learning. Come and be surprised by what The Rivers Secondary College has to offer the young people of Lismore as we work together to create an exciting future for Lismore’s secondary education.

Greg Smith
Executive Principal
KADINA HIGH CAMPUS

The Rivers Secondary College Kadina High Campus located in Goonellabah, is a proud member of The Rivers Secondary College in Lismore. Kadina High Campus is a quality comprehensive secondary school which provides contemporary educational programs and experiences in a safe, friendly and challenging environment. The campus has developed a nurturing environment in which strong support of all students is paramount, enhancing self-esteem, responsible behaviour and a strong sense of civic pride in our students. The campus has consistent and strong community support which is fundamental to the success of Kadina High Campus.

CAMPUS AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Kadina High Campus has a proven tradition of academic excellence, and our professional and skilled teachers are the key to that excellence. Our teachers are committed to nurturing the best possible outcomes for all students across the curriculum. Year Advisers oversee each year group, supported by the Head Teacher Wellbeing, the Deputy Principal and the School Counsellor. Programs include peer support, mentoring, immunisation program, Love Bites, Deadly Days and merit awards schemes. Public celebration of student and staff achievement are high priorities at Kadina High. Kadina High Campus has an enviable record of outstanding performances in the Higher School Certificate. Students consistently gain entry to leading university courses and regularly achieve ATAR scores above 90. The school enjoys high academic success across all key learning areas and boasts amongst its successes over the years, many students who have ranked in the very highest levels of achievement at the Higher School Certificate.

CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES

Kadina High Campus is providing many valuable opportunities for students with a constant reflection of the changing needs of staff and students. We strive to cater for many diverse cultures and are also committed to increasing the knowledge and understanding of the histories, cultures and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First Peoples of Australia. A collaborative process was used to identify three strategic directions and to plan evidence–based strategies to ensure that the staff, school systems and the community meet the needs of students to successfully manage the complexity and diversity of our world by becoming more fluid, more flexible, more focused on reality, and radically more innovative. Our self–assessment process will assist the school to refine the strategic priorities in our School Plan, leading to further improvements in the delivery of educational opportunities for our students.
CAMPUS AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Lismore High Campus Advanced Learning Program for High Achievers (ALPHA) classes in year 7 – 8 are led by specialist teachers with training in gifted education. We provide challenges and experiences for gifted and talented students that are more than academic. Our Working Intelligently (WIN) program empowers students to develop healthy study and work ethics which contribute to academic resilience. We have programs in music, sport, art and dance for our gifted students. We strategically use student data from testing to identify gifted students, enhance student learning outcomes and monitor student progress. There is a strong focus on excellence in Aboriginal Education through cultural and academic support programs.

CAMPUS AREAS OF INNOVATION

The 2016 inception of the school's highly innovative Project Based Learning program provides students with learning opportunities that respond to an authentic and engaging problem, or challenge. The Project Based Learning model takes a cross-curriculum approach and has been demonstrated to improve student learning outcomes. Lismore High hosts freshly renovated learning spaces specifically designed for innovative, twenty-first century teaching including a gym, Dance studio, upgraded Science laboratories and Industry Standard Trade Training facilities in Hospitality, Metal and Engineering and Construction.

CAMPUS FOCUS AREA

Lismore High Campus is the oldest public secondary school in Lismore and will celebrate its 100-year centenary in 2020. We aim to engage our students in the learning process to set them up for positive futures. To meet the needs of the 21st century learner, our curriculum includes Project Based Learning in years 7-8. The Campus takes a holistic approach to support student wellbeing, enabling them to reach their personal best. In 2017, the campus received NSW Department of Education Secretary's Awards for Outstanding School Initiatives for Excellence in the following programs; Bundjalung Language, Project Based Learning and New Choices programs.

CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES

The Nesbitt Award has been a long-standing award at Lismore High Campus with a significant donation of funds for student scholarships. Each of the top academic students in years 7-10 receive approximately $500-$1000 and the male and female year 11 duxes receive approximately $5000-$10000 each (dependent on interest earned by the trust in the year). Our annual boys and girls leadership camps enable students to develop appropriate skills in being positive contributors to society. There are several senior prefect positions where students take responsibility for a portfolio of interest within the campus. The New Choices program works with students who have disengaged from school, to re-establish trust and understanding to identify barriers to learning.
The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus has an enrolment of 750 students, including 80 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students. Richmond River High Campus and our sister campuses work closely together to maximise opportunity for the young people of Lismore and its rural surrounds.

**CAMPUS FOCUS AREA**

We at Richmond River High Campus are focused on working with a diverse community to build student engagement in learning through the implementation of quality academic programs, excellent teaching, learning and wellbeing initiatives. The campus vision of “Inspired Learning for Lifelong Success” is fundamental to the values of high expectations, collaboration, inclusivity and respectfulness that drive our shared work. We are working to be the best teachers we can be.

**CAMPUS AREAS OF INNOVATION**

Project Based Learning is currently in its third successful year of a cross curricular, problem solving based approach to individualised learning. A comprehensive Study Skills Program was initiated in Year 7 in 2017. This has been extended across all of Stage 4 to embed strong study skills in our junior students to equip them to perform at the best of their ability across both junior and senior high school. At Richmond River High Campus we endeavour to ensure our physical learning spaces are used flexibly to meet a broad range of student learning interest and needs.

**CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES**

Richmond River High Campus is able to offer most subjects our students might desire including high end academic subjects such as Extension 1 and 2 English, Extension 1 and 2 Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Agriculture as well as a variety of challenging Technology and Creative and Practical Arts subjects and courses. In addition to this our students have an array of VET and TAFE courses available to them in a variety of fields. The Ag plot has a teaching space, tractor parking and various cattle handling facilities as well as a new shed situated across the road in the southern pastures. You will also find chicken tractors used to house our flock of show chickens in the Ag plot. We have a fully equipped gym, the River Theatre performance space, an indoor multipurpose unit with large fans to cater for north coast summers, extensive playing fields and a full commercial kitchen for the teaching of VET Hospitality.
Rivers Sport sees our campuses combine to give college students the opportunity to try out for our representative sporting teams. Rivers teams create the opportunity for students to be challenged and succeed against other schools on a local, regional and state level at combined high school competitions. All students in years 7-10 participate in combined school sport on Wednesday mornings across all college campuses, providing a diverse sports selection for all students at school or at community sporting facilities. Our students continue to represent themselves, the campuses and the College with great pride and sportsmanship.

Students have the opportunity to join a Rivers Sport team in the following sports:

**BOYS**
- Australian Football 15 and under
- Baseball – WJ Proud Shield
- Basketball Opens
- Basketball 15 Years
- Cricket – Alan Davidson Shield
- Hockey
- Rugby League – University Shield
- Rugby League – Buckley Shield
- Rugby Union – Buchan Shield
- Soccer
- Softball – Teachers Credit Union Cup
- Squash
- Tennis – Stan Jones Trophy
- Touch Football
- Volleyball – Steve Birt Shield
- Water Polo Opens – NSW Amateur Water Polo Shield
- Water Polo 15 Years – Dave Woods Shield

**GIRLS**
- Baseball
- Basketball Opens
- Basketball 15 Years
- Cricket – Marie Cornish Trophy
- Hockey
- Netball Opens – Teachers Credit Union Trophy
- Rugby Union Opens
- Rugby Union 15 years
- Soccer
- Softball – Teachers Credit Union Cup
- Squash
- Tennis – Floris Conway Cup
- Touch
- Volleyball – Steve Birt Shield
- Water Polo Opens – Sydney University Ladies Club
- Water Polo 15 Years – Speedo Shield
INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

The creative and performing arts are strongly fostered across the college with access to skills development, creative collaboration and performance opportunities nourishing students' talents and interests. Students have access to college-wide ensembles that draw on the skills of highly-qualified teaching staff and allow for greater access to performance and competitive opportunities.

Students have the opportunity to audition for the Rivers Dance Ensemble (P-12), which meets weekly to hone their ensemble dance skills, work on new choreography and rehearse for performances. Dance ensemble members can foster their practice with two fully-qualified dance teachers to develop skills ready for the HSC Dance course or for a career in the performing arts. The Rivers Dance Ensemble showcase their talents in several public and in-school performances each year including the Rivers Dance Showcase, Far North Coast Dance Festival, the Lismore Lantern Parade, Lismore Performing Arts Festival and the State Dance Festival.

The college also produces a bi-yearly musical, in 2016 audiences were enraptured by Aladdin, which had high production values including circus performances, a full band and audio-visual projections. In 2018 The Rivers Secondary College in collaboration with our Rivers P-12 community produced the highly successful, locally written River Rock musical.

Each year all creative faculties across the college collaborate to host the River MADDness night. This gives College HSC students the opportunity to showcase their final works in Drama, Dance, Music, Visual Arts and Photography. Students are proud to perform and exhibit some of the region's best creative arts pieces to the public. Rivers Spotlight facilitates an opportunity for junior creative arts students in visual art, drama, dance and music to perform for the public in a professional context.

Visual arts students can take part in college excursions to Sydney and Brisbane where students tour art galleries, museums and universities to gain inspiration and enrich their arts practice. Through the college's close partnership with Southern Cross University, music students are given professional recording opportunities where they can experience recording in the SCU's world-class recording studios.

A good example of Aboriginal students literally stepping into the limelight, is the Rivers Aboriginal Performing Arts Ensemble. Students from across the Rivers come together to share their cultural and creative knowledge while working closely with our Dance teachers in the college to develop and perform at events such as NAIDOC, the Lismore Performing Arts Festival and Rivers MADDness, as well as touring local primary schools and receiving performance requests from the wider Lismore community.

HSC students can gain essential experience in music and theatre production by studying the T-VET Entertainment course, where they will be challenged by being responsible for the sound and production elements for the Byron Blues Festival Busking Competition, as well as other in-school events.

The Rivers Secondary College has a long tradition of being a part of the Lismore Performing Arts Festival, where all public primary and secondary schools in the Lismore region perform over a number of nights.

The Rivers Secondary College is a place where creativity and skill are valued and nourished through diverse programs that cater to all students and creative areas.
INTRODUCTION TO SHARED CURRICULUM

The Rivers Secondary College Shared Curriculum model is now firmly established between Kadina High Campus, Lismore High Campus and Richmond River High Campus and provides unprecedented opportunities for students to access a very broad senior curriculum. By offering Preliminary and HSC subjects across all three campuses to all Rivers students our student’s individual education and career goals are catered for and students are able to excel in subjects for which they have the aptitude and enthusiasm to succeed. First class programs and highly qualified teachers provide the ideal learning environment where every student can realise their true potential. Students can now select from a broader range of HSC subject electives, and travel cross-campus to attend classes at other campuses of the college to experience a rich, challenging and supportive senior studies environment.

STAGE SIX SHARED CURRICULUM SUBJECTS ACROSS THE RIVERS SECONDARY COLLEGE

The extensive list below represents all the courses the college is able to offer. As the timetable is coordinated across the three campuses, approximately half are available as a Shared Curriculum subject for all senior students.

Aboriginal Studies
Agriculture
Ancient History
Biology
Business Services & Administration
Business Studies
Community & Family Studies
Ceramics
Chemistry
Computing Application
Construction
Dance
Design & Technology
Drama
Earth & Environmental Science
Engineering
English Advanced
English Standard
English Extension
Entertainment
Exploring Early Childhood
Food Technology
Geography
Hospitality
Hospitality Food & Beverage
Information Processes & Technology
Industrial Technology
INTRODUCTION TO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Vocational Education is a strong college focus with an emphasis on preparing students with the skills, capabilities and confidence to successfully enter the workforce. We aim to give our students the edge in the employment market by offering vocational opportunities that prepare them for the workforce. Expert advice and guidance is available throughout their secondary schooling. Our Careers Advisors are there to support students in finding a pathway to a rewarding vocation, including organising career information days and college excursions to tertiary education facilities. Our college campuses have excellent facilities that allow our students to gain skills in workplaces practices.

Through the North Coast Institute of TAFE our students have access to many courses through the EVET program, where students are able to study a subject at TAFE as part of their preliminary and/or HSC studies. Students spend either a half or one full day at TAFE completing their studies which include theory based and hands on activities ranging from competency based qualifications through to certificate I-III qualifications. Many students use their EVET courses/qualification to continue on with further TAFE study after completing year 12. This curriculum framework includes courses which are accredited for the HSC and provides students with the opportunity to obtain nationally recognised vocational qualifications. Employability skills are features in all Vocational and Education and Training courses units of competency; they are defined as “skills required not only in gaining employment but also to progress within an enterprise, and to achieve one's potential and contribute successfully to enterprise strategic directions”. The eight Employability Skills are effective communication, teamwork, problem solving, initiative and creativity, planning and organising, self-management, learning and technology.

Our Rivers Shared Curriculum Vocational Education subjects give students the opportunity to join TAFE courses and as well as gain placements in the workforce; our students can be found in cafes, shops, on farms, in childcare centres and on building sites, to name but a few, across the region.

Academic success can lead to entrance into university or students achieving their career goals through vocational education and training. The Rivers Secondary College is proud to provide students with a supportive environment and a host of opportunities to attain their vocational and career goals.

Vocational Education and Training courses currently available as part of The Rivers Secondary College Shared Curriculum;

- Construction
- Entertainment
- Hospitality
- Metal and Engineering
- Retail Services
- Primary Industries
Each campus has their own team of dedicated staff who work to support Aboriginal Education both at a campus and college level. However all staff have a part to play in providing comprehensive support, guidance and opportunity that meets the individual needs of the students on their campus. This is reflected through a variety of initiatives, programs and practices at each campus. In 2017 a Broncos Girls Academy was set up across the college to provide culturally-based mentor support for all Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander girls in Years 7-12.

A key benefit as a result of the three campuses coming together, has been the opportunity for staff to work together, share ideas, expertise and best practice. There is an ever-increasing number of staff now trained in Stronger Smarter and the 8 Ways pedagogy, all of which is having a positive impact in closing the gap for our ATSI students.

Widjabal Wiyabal Dreaming is an initiative we have developed for our potential and aspiring Aboriginal leaders in the college. The program aims to bring students together to participate in a series of cultural and civic leadership workshops. The main focus is to give our Aboriginal young people a chance to work together, share ideas and have a voice in addressing issues that affect them. The program is conducted off-site and allows the students to immerse themselves in learning about and reflecting upon core leadership values in the context of Culture, History, Identity, Awareness and Language. Many of these students go on to distinguish themselves academically, culturally and within the wider community. Most recently Aboriginal students from the college have being awarded such accolades as the John Lincoln Youth Service Award and the Nanga Mai Award for outstanding student engagement.

From a more creative perspective, the Rivers Aboriginal Performing Arts Ensemble draws students together from across the college to learn and perform a fusion of contemporary and Aboriginal dance. This group performs regularly for campus, college, and Rivers P-12 events as well as accepting invitations to perform to the wider community. NAIDOC is a busy time throughout the college especially as the inter-campus Aboriginal Oztag competition is hotly contested at this time.