



Red Bend Catholic College

Forbes

THE VISION

Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes is a co-educational day and boarding school established in the Marist and Mercy traditions. It aims to foster educational excellence within a safe, Christian environment in a friendly rural setting.

There is an emphasis on every member of the College community being valued and respected.

The College prides itself on its Catholic values, family atmosphere and community involvement.

The dedicated and enthusiastic staff serve the present and future individual needs of students.

The College, through its Marist charism, focuses on the spiritual, academic, cultural, personal and physical development of students preparing them for all walks of life.

An excellent Catholic Secondary Education is available at Red Bend at a most reasonable cost which is very competitive with other private schools.

Red Bend Catholic College caters for secondary students as Boarders from Years 7 through to 12 and is fully co-educational. There is provision for weekly and weekday boarding.

BACKGROUND AND AIMS OF THE COLLEGE

Prior to 1977, the Catholic education of students in this region was provided by three secondary schools: Our Lady of Mercy College, Forbes; Our Lady of Mercy High School Parkes; and Marist Brothers' College, Forbes.

In February 1977, these three schools combined to form one co-educational High School, with the name of Red Bend Catholic College, at the site of the former Marist Brothers' College, on the banks of the Lachlan River. This merger, as symbolised on the College crest, brought together the great teaching traditions of the Mercy Sisters and the Marist Brothers. Since that time, the College has expanded in numbers, in teaching areas, and in facilities. These days the College educates 740 students and offers nearly 150 boarding places.

Red Bend Catholic College as a Catholic school aims to foster the full and positive development of all students within a Christian environment. Students are encouraged to acquire self-discipline and self-direction so that they can not only survive in and contribute to the wider society, but also develop those skills which are necessary for sound and sensible judgment.

To effectively promote the students' active curiosity about learning, the College offers a challenging and diverse curriculum. The curriculum provides for different levels of academic ability, including students with learning needs.

Red Bend Catholic College is a place concerned about people. It relies on goodwill and co-operation in the important task of education. Education is a moral enterprise and involves choice and responsibility. Students are offered the choice of responsible values based upon a strong belief in God and an imitation of the life of Christ.

MOTTO

**“PER ANGUSTA AD AUGUSTA”
“THROUGH DIFFICULTIES TO GREATNESS”**



THE ENROLMENT PROCESS

The enrolment form should be fully completed, signed by the parents, and returned promptly, with the non-refundable administration fee of \$200.00 and those items listed on the following checklist:

- Medical Form
- Immunisation Record
- Photocopy of Medicare card
- Signed Uniform Policy
- Copy of last School Report (or Principal's reference)
- Copy of most recent NAPLAN
- Copies of Learning Support Documentation
- Birth Certificate
- Copy of Court Orders if applicable
- Passport photo of student

An interview with the Principal, Director of Curriculum and or House Coordinator, the Finance Office (where applicable), the Learning Support Coordinator (where applicable) and Director of Boarding (where applicable) will be arranged.

Appointments can be arranged through the Enrolment and Publicity Officer – Mrs Tiffany Nicholls.

SCHOOL FEES

School Fees are set and billed at the beginning of each year. Generally there is an increase from year to year to keep in step with the rate of inflation, and other rising costs. In 2021 fees at Red Bend Catholic College are:

TUITION PER ANNUM: Years 7, 8, 9 and 10: \$3,955
Years 11 and 12: \$4,430

Any fee increases for 2022 will be commensurate with the CPI.

NOTE: There is a 5% discount for fees paid in full at the beginning of the year (paid by the end of February each year). Inquiries with regards to Fee Statement of accounts should be directed to the Finance Office.

It is a condition of enrolment (**for all new students' &/or families**) that fees are paid by Direct Debit, Automatic Credit Card or CentrePay, unless otherwise arranged with The College. If you wish to pay via Centrelink CentrePay, please contact the College.

DEPARTING STUDENTS

One full term's notice, in writing to be given to the Principal if a student is not continuing at the College. In default of such written notice, a full term's fees at the current rate will be charged unless exceptional circumstances apply. This will be at the discretion of the Principal. Please note such written notice is required at the end of Term 3 if a student is not returning the following year.

HARDSHIP

It is our policy to encourage as many parents as possible to send their children to Red Bend Catholic College if they wish a Catholic education for their children. If there are cases of genuine hardship, parents are encouraged to contact the Principal to arrange a method of payment of school fees that is most convenient. We can make arrangements for payment plans in cases of genuine hardships.

Please don't send your child/children to another school simply because you feel you can't meet the full fees.

SPECIAL NOTE: Accounts are billed at the commencement of the year and unpaid accounts are sent out each month. It is expected that these will be paid promptly.

TUITION DISCOUNT FOR FAMILIES WITH MORE THAN ONE STUDENT: The sibling discount for 2 children from the same family is 10% for each child, 3 children from the same family the discount is 20% for each child and 4 children from the same family is 30% for each child – this is on tuition only and excludes boarding and incidentals.

NB: If a child in a family is receiving a scholarship or some sort of assistance e.g. special arrangement, they are not entitled to any discounts if the value of the benefit is more than the discount that would be applicable to that child and/or family.

BOARDING INFORMATION

There are three boarding options available at the College:

- a) Full time boarding.
- b) Weekly boarding.
- c) Weekday boarding.

The College has 142 boarders from predominantly country NSW. Children leave home and come away to board for various reasons:

- Geographic isolation
- Local education facilities or opportunities do not meet child's needs and or interests
- To experience an alternative environment and to partake in growing up with other children of the same age.

There may be other reasons, but whatever they are, parents are looking to provide a good spiritual, educational, physical, social, and moral platform for their children.

Red Bend Catholic College aims to meet the wishes of parents and the needs of children by integrating life experiences, a sound education and sporting and social opportunities with a young person's growth in their Catholic Faith. The Marist Brothers have over 100 years of experience in the running of boarding schools in Australia and although methods have been updated to meet the needs of the times, their basic aim remains: **the total care of the students.**

This "caring" for students takes the following forms:

- Personal interest in the welfare of each student through interviews, informal discussions, and 'being with them' at study, recreation, and sport.
- Excellence in education (well-equipped classrooms, laboratories, a well-stocked library, hall, gymnasium, specialist teaching areas) delivered by dedicated staff who are committed to helping each student develop their full potential.
- Regular, supervised study. Staff are available to help with homework, and extra tutorial assistance can be arranged.
- Sports offered include: rugby league, rugby union, netball, soccer, swimming, cricket, tennis, basketball, golf, softball, touch football, hockey, league tag, gymnastics and athletics.
- Cultural activities include: Boarding SRC, musicals, plays, musical instrument tuition, brass band, choral groups, films, theatre visits, sheep team, cattle team, chess and public speaking.
- Recreational activities include: swimming, camping and outdoor challenges.
- The modern boarding facilities, equipped with semi-private areas, are designed for the needs of students.
- The Boarding community participate in prayer liturgy on most evenings and celebrate Mass on Sunday evening. Students are responsible for leading these celebrations.
- There is a spacious dining room. Food served is monitored by a dietician and menus are planned in conjunction with the Director of Boarding. Individual diets, which have a medical or other foundation, are catered for.

- The College Health Centre provides an educational perspective so that students begin to take responsibility for their health and wellbeing. Children who are unwell are attended to by the Nursing staff during school time and carefully monitored by the Boarding staff throughout the evening and on weekends. Forbes has an excellent casualty facility at the hospital which is only minutes from the College. A School Counsellor is available for students who may have special needs.

BOARDING FEES

Full-Time Boarding Fees

Full-time boarding for Students is available and the boarding fees for 2021 are:

- Full Time boarding: \$19,160 per annum.
- Weekly boarding: \$16,425 per annum.

Any fee increases for 2022 will be commensurate with the CPI.

In assessing applications for boarding priority will be given to those students who cannot attend Red Bend Catholic College unless they board over those who can attend as day students.

Boarding fees can be paid by cash (do not post), cheque, money order, internet transfer, Visa/Mastercard/EFTPOS or direct debit from your account. Please contact the school if you require our bank details to enable you to set up a direct debit. You will need to contact your bank to set it up for you. Please ask the bank to put your school account number or your name on the payment to ensure it is credited to your account.

Weekly Boarding Fees

Weekly Boarding is available with a discount of approximately 15% on the annual boarding fee. This discounted rate includes four optional weekends per year (one per term) and any additional weekend the student stays will be at the rate of \$125 per weekend. The fee does not include laundry but this can be done at the rate of \$15 per week if required.

Many boarding students receive some form of boarding allowance and hence the cost of boarding is often less than the full amount shown here. Parents are urged to explore avenues of financial assistance listed elsewhere in this booklet.

The student generally arrives at the College on the Monday morning and departs on the Friday after school concludes.

Weekday Boarding Fees

This option is available for students whose parents live a distance out of town and have sporting, cultural or educational commitments that require them to stay at the College until the time of their commitment. Transport to the various venues within Forbes is provided and the parents collect their child at the conclusion of the commitment. An evening meal is provided where required. A very reasonable cost can be negotiated according to the student's needs.

All boarders pay tuition fees as well as boarding fees. Fees are to be paid in advance where possible.

ENROLMENT FOR BOARDERS

An Application for Boarding Enrolment form will be forwarded on request, together with the College Prospectus and other relevant information. The form should be completed as fully as possible, signed by the parents, and returned to the College with the non-refundable administration fee of \$200 and those items listed on the checklist on page 3 of this prospectus.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Principal of the College is responsible for the welfare of the whole College. However, he delegates responsibilities to other members of staff. The care of Boarders is delegated to the Director of Boarding. Any matter concerning Boarding should be directed, in the first instance, to the Director of Boarding.

EXEAT WEEKENDS

Every year there are three weekends when the boarding student must leave the College. These are called compulsory Exeat weekends and are held in Terms 1, 2 and 3.

TRAVEL

The organisation of student travel on compulsory Exeat weekends and at the beginning and end of each term is a significant administrative undertaking. It is critical that students have an accurate idea of their travel arrangements for these periods. Parents are asked to take a proactive role in ensuring that their sons and daughters are clear, in good time, about what travel arrangements are to be made.

It should be noted by parents that the continuation of this service by the School Student Travel Scheme is clearly linked to the efficiency of the program. Students and parents who continually allow bookings to be made by the College and who then do not travel as arranged are putting this vital service at risk. Parents are liable for a \$25 fine if travel arrangements are changed at short notice without adequate reason.

Students who establish a pattern of poor management of this service will put at risk their individual bookings.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Most students are involved in some form of sporting or recreational activity on the weekends. Other activities may be arranged from time to time which involve travel to venues away from the College.

BOARDERS' TELEPHONES

Girls (all ages)	6852 3062	Monday to Friday: 7.00 – 8.30 am
Boys (7-9)	6851 1236	3.30 – 6.00 pm
Boys (10-12)	6851 1237	8.30 – 9.00 pm (junior students) 8.30 – 10.00 pm (senior students)
		Saturday/Sunday: All weekend

Parents can be helpful in reminding their children that overly long conversations on the telephone should be discouraged. If a parent needs to have a long conversation with a child, then they should choose a time when there is not peak demand. If the matter were sensitive, then it would be useful to contact the Director of Boarding who can arrange a suitable venue and time.

Boarders may have mobile telephones. If phones are equipped with photographic or video technology they must be used with discretion and never be used to take photographs within the residences. However, they must understand that any inappropriate use (class time, study time, after lights out, or any instruction from a member

of staff) will result in the mobile telephone being confiscated for a period of time. Mobile phones are not to be taken to school and are to be left locked in their dormitory. Mobile phones and electronic technology is handed in each night before bed.

SUPERVISOR'S TELEPHONES:

Female boarding supervisors:	6852 2797	
Male boarding supervisors:	6852 3752	
Director of Boarding:	6852 2495	
	0428 522 038	
Boarding Office Fax:	6852 3753	(All permissions and weekend leave must be faxed to this number).

POCKET MONEY

\$150 per term is a reasonable amount for younger students. However, situations will vary from child to child. It is unwise to allow a child unlimited access to funds. This can cause difficulties across a number of areas. Students are encouraged to manage their money through the use of an ATM facility. All boarders are required to have an ATM card with a local bank. It is recommended that parents set up a direct debit into their son or daughter's account on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

WHAT TO BRING IN BOARDING

Bedding and towels

The College provides all linen and towels. Students must provide their own pillow and doona.

Students should bring three blankets OR a doona and a beach towel to be used at the College pool.

Clothing

In addition to the uniform requirements, students should bring appropriate casual and semi-formal clothing. There should be appropriate clothing for sports and swimming; as well as whatever the student prefers to wear to bed. No alcohol advertising on clothing. Inappropriate clothing will be confiscated and sent home.

Common sense will dictate what should be brought to the College. The most significant problem is not what should be brought, but what should be left at home. Some students, of both sexes, struggle to store all the items which they have brought with them.

Students will need something they can wear to weekly Mass and to any discos which they might attend. This is what is meant by semi-formal.

Each student will need a laundry bag clearly marked with their name. All clothing should be clearly marked with the student's name.

Students are required to have a sealed container to keep any food in their press.

Electrical items, including power boards must be tested and tagged before bringing to the College. Power boards must have a safety switch.

Boarding newsletter sent to parents every fortnight.

NOT SURE OF SOMETHING?

Contact the Director of Boarding on 6852 2495 (direct line) or leave a message with the administration staff of the College on 6852 2000.

SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS

Text books are purchased by the parents with the nominated textbook company.

ORIENTATION DAY

During November, the College conducts an 'Orientation Day' for the New Year 7 students. Notification about this day is given to those students prior to the actual day.

In conjunction with 'Orientation Day' there is also a Boarding Orientation day. New Year 7 boarders should make every effort to attend this.

SPORT

Sport is part of the College curriculum and all students in Years 7 to 10 are expected to take part in this weekly activity unless a Doctor's Certificate forbids this. Sports include athletics, basketball, golf, hockey, netball, rugby league, rugby union, soccer, softball, squash, swimming, tennis, league tag and touch football.

The correct sports uniform must be worn when participating in sport.

ACTIVITIES

The St Vincent de Paul Society, Public Speaking, Musicals, Tournament of Minds, Drama, Chess, Music, Debating, Mock Trial, Sheep team, Cattle team, Dungeons and Dragons and student hobbies are promoted at Red Bend Catholic College.

LIBRARY

Our well-resourced Library enables the students to borrow books for the purpose of research and leisure reading. A reference section exists and a wide selection of periodicals are available.

Apart from the usual class visits to the Library, it is open and available for students before school, at recess, lunch and after school on most days.

CANTEEN

The College conducts a Canteen on the school premises. Prepared lunches may be purchased each day if required.

ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend school regularly and punctually. School hours are from 8:55 am to 3:20 pm and students are expected to be on the College property during this time unless they have the appropriate permission to be away.

Whenever a student is absent from school, a written explanation from the parent/guardian is required. In the case of extended absence, the Principal should be notified, and an application for extended leave should be submitted for the Principal's approval.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds without authority from the Principal or a member of the School Executive. This permission can usually be obtained on presentation of a written request from the parent. Any student leaving the school during the day must be signed out at the Main Office.

PERMISSION TO DRIVE CARS

Senior students who have a motor vehicle licence must have the permission of the Director of Students before they are allowed to drive to and from school. Forms to be filled in by parents/guardians are available from the Student Services office. It is the prerogative of the College to withdraw this permission for any reason. **Use of motor bikes is not permitted.** All student drivers MUST hand their keys in at the Student Services Office each morning before school.

Students are **NOT** permitted to carry other students in their car without the written permission of both the driver's and passenger's parents.

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT WELFARE

Students attending Red Bend Catholic College are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the principles of the College. At all times the students must realise that they are ambassadors of the College and act accordingly. The Behaviour Management and Student Welfare system is based on the principles of mutual respect and self-discipline. For any breach of College regulations the student will be sanctioned in a manner appropriate to the breach of regulation, according to the school's Behaviour Management and Student Welfare Policy, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

HOMEWORK AND STUDY

Parents are asked to cooperate with the school by providing facilities for home studies. The giving of homework is school policy. It is normally given most nights, but parents are encouraged to see that their children do a certain amount of homework and/or study each night of the week. Minimum time expected:

Year 7:	1 hour	Year 9:	1.75 hours	Year 11:	2.5 hours
Year 8:	1.5 hours	Year 10:	2 hours	Year 12:	3 hours

Even if no written work is given, the revision and general reading required for each subject would easily fill this required minimum time. Study skills sessions are held on a term basis with each year level.

Each student must have a Student Handbook to record homework that is given during the course of the day. This Student Handbook is supplied to the students by the school at the beginning of the year.

SCHOOL CAMPS and EXCURSIONS

Educational tours, camps and excursions constitute what we call 'the broader curriculum' which complements what is taught in the classroom. They are just as essential to the child's education as are the formal lessons and are designed to develop the student's character as well as providing an education.

The school policy is to include one or more of these activities during the year if it is thought to be beneficial for the student. Some may be compulsory to attend while others are not (depending on the nature of the outing). The cost of these is over and above the school fees paid and it varies according to where and for how long the excursion is to be.

RETREATS

Retreats are an integral part of the Religious Education program at Red Bend Catholic College. The retreats aim to open the students to their spiritual dimension as well as fostering a sense of community and a heightened awareness of their own giftedness and that of others.

Retreats are compulsory for all students and it is expected that all students attend. The cost of the retreats is built into the structure of the school fees.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

All books, requisites and clothing must be clearly labelled. Students are expected to look after their own property and to put it away in their locker after use. Students are not encouraged to bring expensive items to school and, if they do, they are to leave them in the Student Services Office when not in use.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones may be handed into the SSO for safe keeping throughout the day. Parents or guardians who need to contact a student in an emergency should do so via the Main Office (6852 2000). If mobile phones are visible or accessed at school, staff will confiscate them. Confiscated items will be handed to the SSO by the staff member. Confiscated items will be retained for one night or until the parents meet with the Director of Students or Deputy Principal in his/her absence. Students who wish to contact home/parents during the day can request permission from their House Coordinators or the SSO.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

The Student Representatives Council (SRC) is an assembly where student views can be responsibly and representatively debated and formulated. It has representatives from all levels of the student body and the SRC Coordinator.

The objectives of the Student Representatives Council are to:

- (i) Promote and maintain a responsible freedom amongst the students of the College.
- (ii) Give students an opportunity to understand and participate in the democratic process which forms the foundation of our social structure;
- (iii) Give students a forum for the expression of their concern for their welfare and enable them to have a real say in the running of the College;
- (iv) Bring about an increased cooperation between the students and staff; and
- (v) Promote and organise activities of a cultural, community and educational nature amongst the students themselves.

COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Each year the annual College Magazine is published to record the events of the year at Red Bend Catholic College.

NEWSLETTER

The College publishes a Newsletter every two weeks. It serves to keep the parents in touch with activities at the College and is the main communication link between the various organisational bodies that are associated with the College community. The Newsletter is emailed to all parents/guardians.

STUDENT ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS

Throughout the year students are given topic tests and assignments to assess their progress. Formal exams are set for the students. A written report to parents on their child's progress is sent home after the mid-year and end of year exams as well as a brief report at the end of Term 1 (for Year 7-10 students).

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Parent-Teacher-Student evenings are held on a number of occasions during the year. All parents are encouraged to attend these as there is so much to be gained both by the parents and the teachers from this face-to-face meeting.

Parents are welcome to contact the College at any time to arrange to speak to the Principal or the teachers of their child. These appointments can be made by telephone through the Main Office.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS

Contact the office for details regarding enrolling an overseas student. They require a student visa to study in Australia.

CURRICULUM

To satisfy NESAS (NSW Education Standards Authority) requirements for the award of the NSW Record of Achievement (ROSA) in Year 10, students study mandatory subjects in Years 7-10. In Years 9 and 10, they choose from a wide range of elective subjects.

MANDATORY SUBJECTS: YEARS 7-10

All students in Years 7-10 study Religious Education, Human Society and its Environment – Geography/History, English, Mathematics, Science, and Personal Development /Health/ Physical Education. In addition, in Years 7 and 8, students study Visual Arts, Music, Technology Mandatory (Agriculture, Digital Technology, Wood, Food Technology and Textiles) and in Year 8 only, a Language (French).

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS: YEARS 9-10

A wide range of elective subjects offered include:-

AGRICULTURE	Agriculture
HSIE	Commerce, History Elective
TAS	Design and Technology, Food Technology, Information & Software Technology, TAS (Wood and Metal), Textiles & Design
Creative Arts	Drama, Music, Visual Arts
Physical Education	PASS (Physical Activity and Sports Studies)
Language	French

SUBJECTS AVAILABLE IN YEARS 11 AND 12:

Board Developed Courses:-

Agriculture, Ancient History, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Community & Family Studies, Design & Technology, Drama, English Standard, English Advanced, English Extension I, English Extension II, Food Technology, Geography, Hospitality, Industrial Technology, Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Standard, Mathematics Extension I, Mathematics Extension II, Modern History, Music 1, PD/H/PE, Physics, Primary Industries, Studies of Religion I & II and Visual Arts.

Board Endorsed Courses:-

Studies in Catholic Thought, Work Studies & Sporting Lifestyle and Recreation I & II.

LEARNING SUPPORT

The Learning Support team at the College aims to provide support for students who need extra assistance in any areas of school life. The Learning Support teachers collaborate with class teachers and aim to provide support so that students can participate fully in the school curriculum. Assistance is given in a variety of ways, both in and out of the classroom. This could include literacy, numeracy and ESL support, assistance for students with set work, organisation of disability provisions for exams, accompanying students on excursions and accommodating individual student's needs.

Learning Support at the College endeavours to enhance learning outcomes for students with needs by providing support where it is needed in a way that is most beneficial to them. The Learning Support Team aims to foster an environment which provides a positive school experience and encourages students to achieve to their full potential.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Red Bend Catholic College has a student population of approximately 828 (2021) students. The College offers a wide range of courses to its students. Through timetabling and collaboration amongst teachers, we are able to cater for the numbers of students in each course.

To accommodate the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) mandatory courses and elective courses for the ROSA and the Higher School Certificate, Red Bend Catholic College provides the following facilities:

16 general classrooms – which all have Smart Boards.

SPECIALIST CLASSROOMS

MPH – Seating capacity 1000; data projector and large sized screen; sound system; extended sound system; stage.

HSIE

WORK STUDIES/CAREERS – Careers Resource Room – houses current Tertiary information. Has an adjoining Careers Office which is used for interviewing students.

PD/H/PE

Pool for swimming/survival strokes; MPH for indoor sports; ovals for outdoor activities; long jump pits; covered basketball courts (1 indoor/3 outdoor); netball courts.

TAS

MAIN BUILDING – 3 Woodwork Rooms with integrated Machine Areas and Student Project storerooms, 2 Metalwork Rooms with integrated Machine Areas and Welding/Heat Treatment Bays, 2 Major Project Areas, 3 Multipurpose Technology/Computer rooms, 1 Textiles Room. There is adequate floor space for the assembly of projects ect storerooms and Major Project Areas allows for the successful completion of projects.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY/HOSPITALITY

An Industry Standard Hospitality Kitchen with full stainless steel benches, exhaust, cool room, freezer, commercial ovens and other cooking equipment, storerooms, serving areas and preparation areas.

A Food Technology Kitchen with new benching, ovens, extraction and preparation areas.

Student change rooms, toilet facilities, staffroom and storeroom are all present.

AGRICULTURE /PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Livestock – cattle, sheep, poultry, alpacas

Farm shed, cattle yards, sheep and wool room

Farm - the Farm consists of 30 acres divided into nine paddocks. Each paddock has a water trough and access via gateways. There is a hay shed, shearing shed, implement shed, chicken shed, cattle yards, barn.

CREATIVE ARTS

DRAMA ROOM – Performance space; storage; DVD and TV; darkening blinds

MUSIC

2 music rooms; 4 practice rooms; 1 keyboard room; 1 recording studio room; 2 instrument store room; Access to stage in Multi-Purpose Hall.

ART

2 visual arts rooms, teaching space; TV; DVD; computer; ventilation; work access; sink, linoleum floors. Both rooms have Data Projectors and Smart Boards.

MARCELLIN LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTRE

STUDY ROOM – for senior study.

SCIENCE

4 complete science labs and 1 physics lab – electronic demonstrations. Able to safely conduct all high school science practicals.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Upstairs office and rooms for Learning Support groups; toilet facilities for disabled students; ramps at strategic locations around the school.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR BOARDING STUDENTS AT RBCC

Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC):	Services Australia Student Services Reply Paid 7804 CANBERRA BC ACT 2610 Phone: 132 318
Living Away From Home Allowance (AFHA):	Rural and Distance Education PO Box 717 BATHURST NSW 2795 Phone: 02 6334 8070 Email: rde@det.nsw.edu.au
Abstudy:	Services Australia Student Services PO Box 7804 CANBERRA BC ACT 2610 Phone: 1800 132 317
School Drive Subsidy:	Transport for NSW (School Drive Subsidy) Locked Bag 5085 PARRAMATTA NSW 2124 Phone: 131 500 Website: www.transport.nsw.gov.au/school-drive
Bush Children's Education Fund:	The Secretary Bush Children's Education Foundation of NSW PO Box 138 LINDFIELD NSW 2070 Phone: 0492 878 622 Email: info@bcef.org.au Website: www.bcef.org.au

For further information and queries please contact the Department concerned.

EXTERNAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR BOARDING STUDENTS AT

RED BEND CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC): There is a range of allowances available for students who reside in an area of geographic isolation; distance criteria apply. e.g. 1 ½ hours travel home to school (each way) or 56kms (or more) from the nearest suitable government school or 4.5 kilometres to bus stop from family home and family home is more than 16kms from the nearest government school or impassable roads (at least 20 a year). There is also criteria relating to Disability/Special Needs or other criteria relating to the work of parent(s) requires frequent moves. Part is means tested and Family Tax Benefit may still be paid.

Youth Allowance: applies to students (16 to 17) generally in post-secondary institutions; those in Years 11-12 taking the Youth Allowance in lieu of AIC lose Family Benefits, can also get rent assistance paid to boarding school.

ABSTUDY: Similar to Youth Allowance/AIC criteria, must be based on a criteria to board, eg distance to nearest government school, family travels for work, other eligible criteria including home life makes study difficult. Family Tax Benefit may still be paid to the student's parents.

Depending on circumstances, scholarships to the value of \$6,096.00 p.a. at the Principal's discretion and Family Tax Benefit – Means test and meeting criteria still apply.

Full Details and application forms are available from Centrelink

AIC Phone: 13 23 18, Youth Allowance Phone: 13 24 90, ABSTUDY Phone: 13 23 17

Bush Children's Education Foundation of NSW (BCEF) Scholarship: Secondary boarding bursary for weekly or full-time boarding students who are from rural NSW with exceptional circumstances who meet the criteria, usually receiving AIC or LAFHA. Apply through Bush Children's Education Foundation of NSW (www.bcef.org.au)

Living Away From Allowance (LAFHA) (NSW Government: Assistance for Boarding Secondary Students)

A Living Away from Home Allowance is available to students residing more than 48 kms by road from home to the nearest Government school (or school of preferred religious denomination) or travelling time between transport pick up point and school is more than 1 ½ hours each way. Other criteria include medical, impassable roads and one-parent family provisions. A means test applies. **(Ph): 02 6334 8070**

ALLOWANCE	VALUE	CRITERIA	PAID TO:	COMMENT
<i>Basic AIC</i>	\$8,557.00 p.a.	Under 19 - Non means tested	Parents / School	Distance home to school a factor (can still get FTB)
<i>AIC Supplement</i>	Up to \$2,454.00 p.a.	Means test applies	Parents / School	Means test applied (can still get FTB), usually distance from nearest government school or travel to bus stop, impassable roads, subjects not offered
<i>Maximum AIC</i>	Up to \$11,011.00 p.a.	Means test applies	Parents / School	Maximum allowance (can still get FTB)
<i>Bush Children's Education (BCEF)</i>	Up to a max of \$2,500 p.a.	Receiving AIC and LAFHA	School	Eligible criteria of usually AIC or LAFHA.
<i>Youth Allowance</i>		Paid fortnightly, age 16 – 24 years	Students	Parents do not also get Family Benefits, may be means tested, may be entitled to rent assistance as well.
<i>ABSTUDY</i>		Value of Boarding and School Fees subject to means test and meeting criteria	School	Aboriginality applies, other benefits may be payable. May receive Family Tax Benefit as well.
<i>LAFHA (NSW) Year 11/12 Supplement</i>	\$2,173.00 \$ 500.00	Means test applies \$71,147.00 less amount for other dependent child/ren or spouse	Parents / School	48 kms from student's home to nearest school of preferred religious denomination and / or distance criteria. To receive Year 11/12 supplement, must be geographically isolated from government school.