# About Being Connected

The journey in boarding commences prior to the start of the new school year. We have programmes to help pave the way and make the transition to boarding as smooth as possible.

'About Being Connected', or ABC@PLC for short, is a unique programme designed specifically for our incoming boarders. It aims to help the students in making connections with each other, connections with teachers and connections with and through technology.

ABC@PLC begins before the start of the new school year. Each family that chooses to participate in ABC@PLC is given a laptop and it is through this valuable tool, that those vital early relationships are established.

Students connect to a teacher at the School to participate in scheduled learning experiences and also with other students who are new to boarding. It is through these networks that knowledge is developed and friendships are established.

## **FRIENDS**

Starting with Orientation Day and following up with online lessons, we aim to connect the girls with their new friends. These relationships are important, as new friends form a vital part of the support network for the girls when they arrive at the Boarding House.

We encourage the girls to get to know each other by discussing their interests, family life and their home towns. Opportunities to do this are provided during lesson time and via digital means.

## PARENTS

Boarding parents have access to a suport network that enables them to get to know each other, staff and the students that will become part of their daughter's life.

## LEARNING AT PLC

PLC is focused on a concept-based curriculum that uses inquiry as the vehicle for learning and embedding understanding.

Activities in the ABC@PLC programme draw on this philosophy. The activities are transdisciplinary, combining core subjects such as science and mathematics in an engaging way designed to develop problem-solving and communications skills, along with skills in technology.

## TECHNOLOGY

PLC excels in delivering digital curriculum and technology to enhance knowledge and understanding. The ABC@PLC programme introduces the girls to the innovative technology used at PLC.

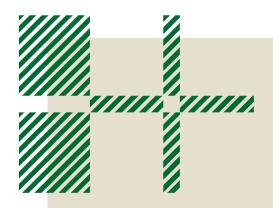
The programme enables boarders to become familiar with the learning management systems used at PLC in daily school life.

## **TEACHERS**

Another advantage of the ABC@PLC programme is the opportunity for girls to meet and work with a teacher that will be apart of their assigned pastoral care team at PLC.

The ABC@PLC tutor is someone who is available to the student and will assist in their transition.

Parents are also able to access the ABC@PLC tutor to assist them in clarifying any early issues or questions.



## STUDENT FEEDBACK

"The start of the year was a lot more comfortable and relaxing – one less thing that I did not have to think about."

Ellie, Merredin

"We got to know a little bit about each other and so I wasn't worried aobut making friends when I started."

Grace, Beverley

"We covered a lot of applications that have been really useful like iMovie, emails, excel, word and keynote."

Asha, Dandaragan

# PARENT FEEDBACK

"It has been so wonderful to be able to have this 'hands-on' experience with their laptops before they start next year to make them feel more confident. The friendships they have already made are excellent and I have seen Kiara emailing her new friends and talking about next year. She feels ready and prepared to start next year!"

## Helen Wright, Kojonup

"I can already see how less anxious Emma is about going away next year. The fact that she already has a couple of friends and contacts appears to be very comforting for her, which in turn is comforting for us!"

Michelle Barrett, Munglinup

As a result of its success, ABC@PLC is now a very important part of our orientation process.







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