

Albany Residential College Newsletter

Respect • Belonging • Independence

Mid-Term 4 - 2025



Perth Camp

Perth Camp will take place from 5-7 December. Students will stay at SIDE accommodation on Oxford St in Leederville. Students will be taking part in the following activities:

- Adventure World
- Lazer Tag
- Bounce

The cost of \$100 per student includes meals, accommodation, transport and activities. If your student has not expressed interest yet, they can do so through the Reach App.

Positive Behaviour Support

We continue to recognise good behaviour through our PBS system. Students are encouraged to collect tokens and cash them in. If they have any suggestions of what they would like to see in our PBS cupboard, they are welcome to share this.

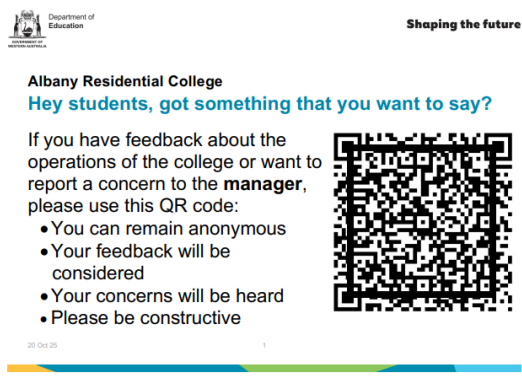
Day of the Dead Dinner

On 6 November, the Student Council organised a Day of the Dead themed dinner. The menu included a variety of Mexican cuisine and staff and students got into the spirit and dressed for the occasion.



Student Feedback

This term, students were given a card similar to this:



This gives students an opportunity to give feedback, make suggestions and voice concerns. In your discussions about daily life at the college, please encourage your child to use this forum if they need to share any information or give feedback.

Changes Coming in 2026

We are aiming to be consistent with all residential colleges in WA. As a result, the following changes will be made to our operations:

Head Students – Next year, we will introduce a process to select head students. The role of the Head Student is a prestigious, responsible position which requires drive, commitment, support and interest in college life throughout the year. Interested students will apply and go through a selection process, which will include a student and staff vote. Head students will be part of the Student Council and represent the college with integrity, respect, responsibility, honesty and teamwork.

Mobile Phones and Devices – All mobile phones and devices that are connected to the internet (e.g. laptops, smart watches, tablets) will now be stored in a central location near reception. Years 7-10 will be handing in devices at the required time.

We would also like students to refrain from using their mobile phones during meals to encourage socialising.

Additionally, consequences for poor behaviour may include confiscation of devices for longer periods of time. Guidelines for this will be communicated to students and parents in the near future.

Students in Rooms – Students are allowed to have friends in rooms. There will be a limit of two students per room (including the occupant) before lights out. The door must also be propped open when they have a guest in their room.

Further to this, consequences may be implemented if students are found to have additional people in their room after lights out.

Study/Quiet Time – There will be a period of time dedicated to study and/or quiet time every school night to allow students to focus on homework and other activities related to school. Students will be required to stay in their rooms and remain respectful during these times. They can also attend tutoring if it coincides with this time.

Tutoring at the College – The College invests a proportion of its budget to employ a tutor to help students four nights per week. The following guidelines will be implemented to ensure students are maximising this opportunity:

- Music and phones will not be allowed during tutoring to ensure students are able to study without distractions
- Excessive socialising will not be allowed out of respect for students who want to focus on studying
- The tutor will be asked to either rearrange how students are sitting or ask students to leave if they are not using the time appropriately
- Students will be encouraged to attend study with the tutor

Activities – The College endeavours to keep students busy and active. Weekly activities are planned and students are encouraged to take part in them. Communication will improve so parents are aware of activities to help encourage attendance through:

- Weekly Facebook posts
- A noticeboard in reception for students

Attendance and Lateness to School -

Students board at the College to attend school. It is important that they are organised for the day and ready to get to school on time. Consequences will be implemented if there is persistent lateness to school due to disorganisation.

Additionally, students should only stay at the College if they are unable to attend school due to illness. If they are unable to attend for long periods of time, parents will be asked to organise travel for students to return home. They can return when they are able to attend school again.

Annual Informed Consent for Activities and Excursions – Early next year, we will be asking you to sign an annual consent form that covers a variety of activities based in Albany. This will enable us to enter automatic leave into Reach that will not require your approval. This will streamline the process and create less admin for parents and supervisors.

Student Lunches – We would like to encourage more independence at the college. A great opportunity to do this is for students to prepare their own lunches. We have slowly rolled out our lunch prep bar over the last two terms.



Next year, we envision this being available to students every day of the week. Over the course of the year, we would like every student to be responsible for self-managing and preparing their own lunch for the day.

Leave and Bus Runs – Next year, new parameters will be put in place for entering leave and bus runs. This will include the following:

- The college will need to know by Wednesday of every week if students will be away on weekend leave – this is to enable us to staff the college with an appropriate number of supervisors to run activities and excursions on the weekend
- All students will be responsible for entering their own leave and bus runs through their Reach account
- There will be a deadline for bus runs put in place in order for these to be approved
- In certain circumstances, proof may need to be provided for a bus run to be approved
- Personal appointments for haircuts, nail appointments, etc. will only be approved if possible

College Menu and Nutrition – The college endeavours to provide high quality meals that meet the needs of students who reside here. We are currently reviewing our menu and how this aligns with the department's FreshSNAP program. We expect changes to be made to ensure we are providing meals that are healthy and delicious.

Consistency of Rules and Consequences –

The college is working to create more consistency when breaches to the code of conduct occur. This means that supervisors will have better knowledge of the rules and there will be consistency in how students are held accountable when breaches occur. Here are some potential examples of consequences that may be implemented:

Action	Warning	Consequence 1	Consequence 2	Consequence 3
Devices not in on time/hidden	7-day warning*	2-week confiscation	5-week confiscation	10-week confiscation
Late or up after lights out	7-day warning*	30min early to bed the next night	1 week of 30min to bed early	2 weeks of 30min to bed early
Room not clean	7-day warning*	Student to hand in electronics until room cleaned	Phone call home – support sought by parents	Student to be put on Student Wellbeing Support Plan
Late to college bus	7-day warning*	1 week student to be in reception by earlier set agreed set time	2-week student to be in reception by earlier set agreed set time	Student to be put on Student Wellbeing Support Plan
Late to school	7-day warning*	1 week student to depart for school by earlier set agreed set time	2-week student to depart for school by earlier set agreed set time	Student to be put on Student Wellbeing Support Plan

* A 7-day warning is recommended to give students the opportunity to learn and correct the undesirable behaviour. This is to be documented by pastoral note to ensure all staff are aware and can monitor.

ARC Parent/Student Handbook – A new version of the parent/student handbook will be available later this year. It will be important to read through this and note key changes for 2026.

Last Note about These Changes

It is important to note that we will be communicating these changes to students for the remainder of Term 4. For some of these changes, we will start to implement them so students are familiar with them when they return in 2026. Your support with them will be appreciated.

If you have any questions, please email us at: Albany.ResCol@education.wa.edu.au