

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**1. What do I have to do if I want my child to enrol in RSA?**

1. Go to the Rowville Secondary College website and locate the Rowville Sports Academy page. The link is - <http://www.rowvillesc.vic.edu.au/>
2. Complete our online RSA Expression of Interest form [click here](#)
3. Forward a copy of your child's most recent school report to [rsa@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au](mailto:rsa@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au)
4. Book into a three day trial camp by going through the following link – [Click here](#)
5. If your son/daughter wishes to try out for more than one sport please check the dates of the camps and if the sports are not on at the same time, you will be able to make more than one booking. If the sports are on at the same time, choose the one that your child is most interested in and we can look at other options if they are not successful for that sport.
6. For Grade 6 to Year 7 applications, you must also complete the Department of Education and Training Transition application form which will be provided to you by your Primary School Week 1, Term 2, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

**2. When and where will the tryout camps be held?**

There will be two main tryout camps for each sport. Both will be three day camps during the school vacation period. The first will be for 2 days during the term 1 vacation with the third day being conducted in the Term 2 holiday period. The second camp will involve three consecutive days in the Term 2 vacation. ***Our strong preference for those enrolling now is for families to enrol for the first camp, two days in term 1 and the last day in Term 2.*** Experience tells us that we will have many expressions of interest for students to join RSA in between the first and second camps and we would like to keep each camp as even in terms of numbers as possible so that coaches get the best opportunity to assess your child. Of course we understand that some people will already have committed to holidays and will be forced to choose accordingly.

**CAMP DATES**

Camp 1	Basketball, Golf, Cricket, Football (Soccer)	Day 1	Tuesday April 9
		Day 2	Wednesday April 10
		Day 3	Tuesday July 2
Camp 1	Volleyball, Netball, AFL, Tennis	Day 1	Tuesday April 16
		Day 2	Wednesday April 17
		Day 3	Tuesday July 9
Camp 2	Basketball, Golf, Cricket, Football (Soccer)	Day 1	Tuesday July 2
		Day 2	Wednesday July 3
		Day 3	Thursday July 4
Camp 2	Volleyball, Netball, AFL, Tennis, Badminton	Day 1	Tuesday July 9
		Day 2	Wednesday July 10
		Day 3	Thursday July 11

**CAMP VENUES**

Basketball, Netball, Volleyball	Rowville Sports Precinct, Rowville SC, Humphreys Way, Rowville (Stadium)
Football (Soccer and AFL)	Rowville Sports Precinct, Rowville SC, Humphreys Way, Rowville

Golf	(Football Pitch) Waverley Golf Club, 82 Bergins Rd, Rowville or Yarra Golf Club, 567 Warrigul Road, Bentleigh East (applicants will be advised prior to trials)
Cricket	Icon Arena, 5b/30 Green Street, Doveton
Badminton	Rowville Secondary College, Western Campus, Gymnasium, Paratea Drive, Rowville
Tennis	Eildon Park Tennis Club, 69-75 Eildon Parade, Rowville

Because the age range for students who will be attending the camps may vary considerably, coaches will group students close to their year levels particularly for the more competitive tasks.

### 3. How will I make payment for the Try Out Camp?

A payment of \$180 will:

- enable you to attend all 3 days of the sport in which you wish to trial
- provide you with lunch on each of the 3 days of the camp

To reserve your place, payment must be made prior to attendance at the camp and if you follow point #4 in Box 1 above, the process will be very apparent. If places are still available and the trial is at the Rowville Sports Precinct payment can be made on the day by cash or credit card.

Students who have been pre-selected for the 2020 intake by trialling in 2018 are invited to participate in the camps free of charge except for a lunch payment of \$12.50 per day. These students should advise the RSA Administrator at [rsa@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au](mailto:rsa@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au) of the days that they wish to participate. This is done as reward for an excellent achievement in being selected a year early.

### 4. Both camps are being held during the school holidays, what if I am away and can't attend?

If it is important to you that your child completes our specialist application to establish their suitability for our Academy in 2020 you will need to attend either Camp 1 or Camp 2. If you are not able to attend all three days of the camp, if you advise our RSA Operations Manager, Glenn Fankhauser at [glenn@fankhauser.com.au](mailto:glenn@fankhauser.com.au) of the days that you can attend, he will ensure that the coaches are aware of this and finalise their assessment of your child on the days that they attend.

Occasionally after the second camp a small number of positions remain in some sports and for some age groups. In this case individual trials may be offered to potentially suitable applicants.

### 5. Why is the last day of the first camp in Term 2 the same time as the first day of the second camp?

RSA is an elite program for students with special athletic ability, while still being good students in the classroom. We will therefore be looking to accept those students who best meet the standards required by the program. To enable the coaches to be certain of their rankings and proposed choice of athletes as many applicants as possible are brought together for one day to enable the coaches to more easily compare the standards across the two camps.

### 6. What hours will the camp operate each day?

On each day of the camp the program will be from 9.00 a.m. until 3.00 p.m. except that on the first day each camp will begin with a registration process as follows:

Basketball, Netball, Volleyball, Football (Soccer and AFL) will register at Rowville Sports Precinct, Rowville Secondary College, Eastern Campus, Humphreys Way, Rowville between 8.25 a.m. until 9.15 a.m. Golf, Tennis, Cricket and Badminton will register at the venue for each sport (See Box 2 above) between 8.45 a.m. until 9.15 a.m.

The Precinct will be open from 8.15 a.m. each day in case parents need to drop their children off on the way to work. Unfortunately the other venues will not be officially supervised prior to the start of the program each day except on Day 1 for registration coaches will be there at 8.45 a.m.

#### **7. What will my child need to bring on the day?**

They need to be dressed to participate in the sport of their choice. Usually their club uniform or something similar is best. For football codes they will need boots and for cricket (trials will be indoors), netball, volleyball and basketball they will need non marking indoor shoes. Golfers and tennis players will need appropriate footwear for their sport, golf shoes or sports shoes for golf and sports shoes for tennis. They will also need to bring a water bottle and if the weather is warm for all outdoor sports they should have a cap and sunscreen.

Lunch will be provided on each day and is part of the cost for participating in the camp. There is no discount for bringing your own lunch as our contract with caterers is based on numbers participating.

#### **8. My child is a bit nervous about trialling. What would you suggest?**

Nervousness is a part of life and all children should be encouraged to pursue their dreams and not be put off by feeling uncomfortable. However to make life easier, especially for students who are feeling anxious, we suggest that your child might like to invite a friend to come along. The same charge will apply for friends irrespective of whether or not they are actually seeking a placement at RSA, as they will also get exposure to great coaching from our highly qualified coaches and lunch included. Their presence might reassure your son/daughter and equally they might decide after exposure to the camp that they wish to be considered for the program or even just attend future camps.

#### **9. Will parents be able to attend the camp?**

Yes, Rowville SC is a family friendly school and parents are welcome at all events that the college has. In return we ask that parents behave respectfully, don't get too intense and definitely don't approach coaches about how their child is performing. Rather just encourage your child to see the camp as another great opportunity to have fun and develop their skills in the sport that they love and at the same time meet a few new people.

#### **10. How will it be determined whether my son/daughter has met the required standard in their trial for RSA?**

At the end of the 3 day camp the coaches will provide advice to the RSA Operations Manager on how each student has performed. Coaches will rank the students on several selection criteria which consider the attributes which lead to the realisation of potential such as athleticism, skill, coach ability, sport specific intelligence, ability to follow instruction, team orientation and general attitude.

The RSA Director will also have received, read and analysed each student's most recent school report. Attitude and work effort represented by things like completion of set tasks, personal best achievements and seeking feedback to improve will be key requirements being considered.

The RSA Operations Manager will then determine who has met the required standard at their trial.

**For those applying for year 7 placement in 2020**

Places will be confirmed by your Primary Schools after the Department of Education and Training placement process has been completed.

**For those applying for year 8 to year 12 in 2020**

The RSA Operations Manager will determine who has met the required standard at their trial and will confirm an offer of placement.

**11. Why are School Reports taken into consideration?**

RSA is one of the four strength based program pathways at Rowville Secondary College and its aim is to provide all students with opportunities for a great post school life. Students who do become professional sports players will find this to be a relatively short part of their working life. The minimum recognisable education is almost always seen now as a satisfactory completion of Year 12 or its equivalent (such as an apprenticeship) and the college accepts its responsibilities to ensure that every student gets the best possible education they are capable of. The Strategic Plan for RSA is built on the notion “Smarter, Higher, Further” referring to the pre-eminent position of academic outcomes, the need for high expectations in everything that is done and the potential for great outcomes.

The school is unapologetic about not taking (or if we accidentally do, not keeping) students in RSA who will disrupt the learning of others and reduce their chances of excellent educational outcomes. That comes with being in an elite learning and sporting environment.

**12. When and how will my son/daughter be notified whether they have met the required standard at their Trial in RSA?**

All parents of those children who attend the Try Out Camp will be emailed a letter informing them if their child has met the required standard in RSA within about two weeks of the camp completion.

**For those applying for year 8 to year 12 in 2020**

For those attending Try Out Camp 1 notification will occur by Friday July 19. For those attending Try Out Camp 2 they will be notified by Friday July 26. If something goes amiss you will be able to email the RSA Operations Manager at [glenn@fankhauser.com.au](mailto:glenn@fankhauser.com.au) to ascertain the outcome. This notification will advise each applicant whether they have been:

1. Successful and offered a position in RSA for 2020 or pre-selection for 2021
2. Placed on a waitlist to see whether any current RSA athletes are not returning thereby creating availability
3. Offered an invitation to trial for another sport
4. Invited to consider one of the other program pathways at Rowville Secondary College – The Arts Institute, Maths and Science Academy or our General Excellence program
5. Unsuccessful

**For those applying for year 7 placement in 2020**

It is the parent’s responsibility to update their Primary School if their school preference choice needs to be changed i.e. if you have entered another Secondary College as your first choice you may now wish for Rowville Secondary College – RSA to be your first choice.

We are a State Secondary College, we still need to comply with the Transition Placement Policy and your Transition application form which was provided by your Primary School and returned to them by 17<sup>th</sup> May

2019 will need to be amended if your preference of school has changed. However we do not have any enrolment restrictions at Rowville Secondary College at this time.

Your Primary School will then provide you with the official offer of placement on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

**13. My child is also listed for a private school placement in 2019. We are required to give final acceptance to the school and pay a deposit prior to announcement of the RSA trial results. What should we do as our first preference is for our child to attend RSA?**

You should email the RSA Operations Manager at [glenn@fankhauser.com.au](mailto:glenn@fankhauser.com.au) and advise him of your situation. You should also make sure that your application is for Camp 1. (If you have already applied for Camp 2 you should contact RSA Administrator at [rsa@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au](mailto:rsa@rowvillesc.vic.edu.au) and ask her to change the application to Camp 1). The coaches will then be advised of your situation and while we are not permitted by the Department of Education and Training to make school offers prior to a date still to be advised in August we will give you assistance for your communication with the private school.

**14. What if my son/daughter is notified that they did not meet the required standard?**

It is always disappointing when we don't achieve things that we hoped we would. So firstly, we will endeavour to write our letters very respectfully and encouragingly. Often though it is not the unsuccessful response to a trial that worries students so much but rather the feeling that they have let down their parents. So we would ask parents to support their children so that they are able to recognise that just because they did not achieve something that they had wished to it is not necessarily someone else's fault. No blame has to be found. The experience of trying can also be a great life lesson.

Rowville SC can offer other options for your child. In fact, we are very proud of the opportunities that we provide. In addition to the RSA we have other strong programs:

1. Rowville Institute of the Arts (Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, Media and Music specialisms)
2. Rowville Maths and Science Academy
3. General Excellence

All of these programs would be open for enrolment to students who miss out on RSA. In the case of our General Excellence program all you need to do is enrol. An audition or test needs to be undertaken to enter our arts program or Maths and Science program respectively.

We will also be willing to offer feedback to those who request it by contacting the Operations Manager. The feedback will be in the form of which selection criteria your child performed well in relative to the group and the standard required and which they did not.

**15. What do we do if we would like a tour of the school or we want to find out more information?**

There are two significant opportunities to get to know more about the school and more about the RSA program. These are:

**Open Night**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 from 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. to be held in the Performing Arts Centre, Humphreys Way, Rowville. [Book here](#).

**RSA Information Night**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019 from 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. to be held in the Performing Arts Centre, Humphreys Way, Rowville. [Book here](#).

Questions that can be answered at these nights include:

- How does the RSA training schedule fit in with the student's academic program?
- What are the uniform requirements for RSA students?
- What are the qualifications and experience of the coaches for each sport?
- What pathways are there for students who graduate from the RSA programs?
- How should I complete my enrolment forms that the primary schools require for my child?
- What are the school's expectations of performance levels both sporting and academic for students to be offered an RSA position?
- What are the costs of the program and what will be included and excluded from the RSA fees?

After these events the college will also likely offer interested families the opportunity to attend mini information nights or walk through tours. You will need to book in for these and we will advise you later in the year when these opportunities exist.