



Kolbe Catholic College, Western Australia

About us

We are a large, metropolitan, co-educational, year 7-12 Catholic secondary college located in Perth, Western Australia.

Our approach

Our approach centres on the early identification of students requiring additional support and providing individualised instruction at the point of need. We test our Year 7 students within their first 2 weeks using the ACER PAT tests and the South Australian spelling test.

Our literacy coordinator categorises students based on the stanine or spelling age achieved, and those identified as being a year or more behind their classmates are flagged as requiring intervention.

We offer three 'waves' of intervention, all of which are overseen by our literacy coordinator:

Wave 1 – Languages other than English (LOTE) withdrawal

All Year 7 and 8 students study LOTE for two periods per week but those requiring a high level of intervention attend literacy classes instead. Classes typically have 6–12 students per teacher and involve literacy tasks that draw on the Comprehension Box Series by RIC Publications, Comprehension Strategy Instruction, Fluency Passages, Read Theory and Literacy Planet activities. These students are also offered Wave 2 support.

Wave 2 - English teacher and education assistant (EA) support

At this level of intervention, year 7 students are not withdrawn from LOTE classes but engage in 10-minute sessions outside of their English, HASS, Religion or Science classes. Students are given an activity such as a fluency passage, spelling words, or a comprehension exercise. Student complete the activity and return to class without the pressure of being negatively identified or falling behind in core subjects.

Wave 3 - The Zone attendance

At this level, students in Years 7–9 are offered 15-minute sessions before or after school with an individual tutor in 'The Zone'. 'The Zone' is staffed by volunteer teachers and support staff specifically skilled in literacy engagement strategies.

For students requiring alternative forms of intervention, *MultiLit* is offered as a 1:1 program.

We believe growth occurs as a combination of college and home activities, so students are given exercises to work on in their own time. Parent Information Evenings are held to inform and upskill parents and carers, and a dedicated website is in place to help families revisit strategies and create good reading habits outside of school.

Our profile

ENROLMENTS **1,144** LBOTE **13%** INDIGENOUS **3%** ICSEA **1046**