

Primary School Information Pack



Student Leadership
Residential Aged
Care Program

Baptcare

the best of care

baptcare.org.au

Mission Vision

Partnering for fullness of life with people of all ages, cultures, beliefs and circumstances.

Communities where every person is cherished.



Values

Our Mission & Vision are lived through our WE CARE Values.

We care about...	Our Customers	Our Team
Wellbeing	... you living your life with meaning, we partner with you to enhance your health, safety, comfort and spirituality.	... strengthening our teams by cultivating a safe and encouraging work environment that enables personal growth.
Ethics	... being genuine with you, leading with integrity and fulfilling Baptcare's purpose in harmony with community expectations.	... being inspired by justice. We act with integrity and do the right thing by our customers and each other in light of current and future needs.
Co-creating	... building personalised and innovative solutions with you and our allied partners, with your goals as our shared focus.	... building an exciting future together with our customers in focus, by empowering everyone to contribute and encouraging adaptability, creativity and collaboration.
Accountability	... fulfilling our commitments to you and accepting our responsibility to continually improve.	... fulfilling our commitments and responsibilities, using our resources wisely and being able to reflect, speak up and adapt when needed.
Respect	... understanding and embracing your individuality, standing up for your equality and protecting your dignity.	... treating one another as we like to be treated ourselves, by welcoming differences with an open mind and promoting equality and dignity.
Effectiveness	... being focused on achieving the best outcomes for you, with you.	... ongoing improvement in the focus of our people and resources to achieve positive outcomes for our customers.

Who is Baptcare?

Baptcare is a purpose-driven organisation that provides residential and community-based care for elderly people, as well as support to Children, Families, people with disabilities and those experiencing financial disadvantage, and those seeking asylum.

A large focus of Baptcare is the Residential Aged Care Communities, where Residents are based in sites around the country. While the highest quality of care and support is given by the Staff in the sites, it is the Volunteers who ensure that fullness of life is experienced by all clients. This stems from the new experiences brought by Volunteers, the companionship they provide and their ability to participate in exciting activities with the residents.

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Get involved



This Leadership Program is an opportunity for Primary School Students to positively contribute to society by Volunteering at a Residential Aged Care Facility. Contributions made by Volunteers can be recognised with Baptcare Leadership Awards.

Leadership program

The leadership program is for primary school Students and aims to recognise their contribution to Baptcare. Details of the award structure are outlined on page 6.

When Students are involved with Baptcare over a longer period, there is scope for the class Teacher and centre Staff to create individualised awards for Students, based on the areas or activities they have excelled in, or the relationships they have developed most strongly within the centre.

Induction

All primary school Students are required to participate in an induction at the Residential Aged Care site they are Volunteering at before commencing Volunteer activities. This will include a tour of the facility, meeting Residents in the Residential Aged Care home and some of the Employees. The induction will also include information outlining communication tips and guidelines for the students, and procedures in case of an emergency.



Class Visits to Residential Aged Care Communities

At a primary school level, the best way to engage as a Volunteer at Baptcare is to visit the Residential Aged Care Communities in a group! Baptcare's flexible sites can cater for a variety of group sizes and ages (including composite classes).

An initial site visit will include a tour of the facility, question and answer session with site Staff, and lots of activities for Students to engage with! The activities in the initial session will be organized by Staff depending on what is happening on the day, but specific class studies or interests can be accommodated for, where possible. For example, some classes have eaten their lunch with Residents during a unit about healthy eating, and others have performed their school concert items to the Residents as part of school concert rehearsals!

Ongoing relationships and class visits beyond a single session are fantastic and encouraged, to allow for a collaborative approach between Baptcare Staff and classroom teachers, when organising activities and tasks.

Activities Include:

- Interacting with Residents in the centre
- Creating and running activities and new experiences for Residents
- Engaging with the My Dad's a Hero program
- Board Games (Scrabble, Chess etc.)
- Zumba
- Botanical Gardens Picnic
- Gardening
- Bingo
- Karaoke
- Playing video games (on the Wii console)



The Benefits

Primary school Students completing this program will benefit from exposure to a new and stimulating environment, allowing them to engage with an older generation, sharing stories and having conversations to develop a broader world view.

As part of Baptcare programs, Students will progress in some or all the following Australian curriculum outcomes:

Social Management

- Communicating effectively
- Working collaboratively
- Making decisions
- Negotiating and resolving conflict
- Developing leadership skills

Social Awareness

- Communicating effectively
- Working collaboratively
- Making decisions
- Negotiating and resolving conflict
- Developing leadership skills

Beyond these outcomes, there is opportunity for Teachers to work with Baptcare to incorporate current class content into the visits and to expand students' horizons further.



Awards Program

A Volunteer's contribution at Baptcare will be recognised through different awards, below is a rubric outlining the criteria for each award. Any Volunteers that goes above and beyond these criteria may be eligible for the CEO award.

Primary School Award	Recommended age range*	Hours	Co-Creating	Innovation	Respect	Digital Literacy	Wellbeing
Mary Pope Award Mary was the Founder of Baptcare in 1945 .	Prep – Year 4	2 hours	Looking out for other class members during the visit and working together to complete activities with the Residents.	Involving themselves in discussions and thinking carefully about the life of Residents in the RAC centres.	Treating the Residents and Staff as you would like to be treated. Respecting the environment in the centre and behaving well while you are visiting .	Identifying & recognising how technology is used in the RAC centre and compare that to its use in your daily life and school	Writing a thank you note telling the Residents something special about your visit with them.
Wes James Award Wes was a Volunteer for over 20 years who focused on maintaining the gardens for Residents	Year 5 & 6	3 hours	Looking out for other class members during your visit and working together to complete activities with the Residents.	Thinking critically about the centres operations and asking thoughtful inquisitive questions to the Staff or your Teacher.	Acknowledging the life story of Residents, from childhood to now through a sharing experience in the classroom.	Documenting, Identifying & recognising how technology is used in the centre and compare that to its use in your daily life and school	Making a creative piece of work to be given to the Residents which reflects on the visit to the centre.
Ivy West Award: Ivy was a hard working nurse who volunteered her time and made house-calls for 3 decades	Ongoing Primary school service	A contribution of 10 hours of service within 4 months	Looking out for other class members during site visit and working together to complete activities with the Residents.	<p>Once a Student has received the award relevant to their age group, they are able to achieve the Ivy West Award in addition, to acknowledge ongoing Volunteer work and relevant achievements in all criteria.</p>			

*These age ranges are recommended only - they are designed to be a guide for where students should begin if they have not been involved with Baptcare before

Primary School Opportunities

Pen Pals

Baptcare has also recently begun a new project where Children in primary school can become pen pals of our Residents – particularly for those who are in our Aged care facilities in places like Kerrang or St Hilary's where Volunteer numbers are quite low.

Children take the time to write a short letter to a Resident and tell them about activities that they are doing at school and ask questions about the activities that our Residents are doing in our RAC Communities. Photos are exchanged, and the Children keep in contact with either an individual or a group of Residents (such as one of the Men's groups).

Every so often (if the technology is available) skype can be made available for special occasions such as a special birthday or the Children presenting a class project. Learning opportunities can be built into the already established curriculum to enhance the relationships. For example: if the Children go on a school camp, they may make a short video which the Lifestyle team can assist the Residents to view etc.

The opportunities for connection are endless and will evolve over the time of the project.



The Life Story Project

Baptcare has some wonderful books that are similar to baby books that Mum and Dad filled out for us when we were little. These books however are designed to capture the life story of our older generation.

Student Volunteers visit with our Resident's regularly and help them to fill in the books, paste in photos and answer the questions. Once its completed, our Resident has a lovely book full of wonderful memories to look through and lasting moment of their lives.

Some RAC Communities also offer the digital story project but this is not as popular as Residents may find it difficult to access the technology to look through it own their own.

If you love to write, talk about real history or love to create, this could be the perfect program for you.





Adopt a Grandpa

The 'Adopt a Grandpa' program is for caring and compassionate individuals or family units, interested in adding value to an elderly citizens life; which in turn, will add value to their own.

In creating a new connection with someone outside of the residence, elderly gentleman are provided with a new lease on life.

Research has shown us that elderly Men in care tend to feel isolated more than women and more at risk of loneliness than women. To support our male Residents, Baptcare communities offers our male Residents the opportunity to get together once a week for a men's group. To compliment this, we have invited school Students to Volunteer at our communities once a week and to play games on a Wii console with them. The games include anything from bowling to trivia. Each Student is allocated to one Resident and they spend an hour or so each week playing games and spending time together. They don't always play on the Wii, sometimes they read, play music, or just chat about what it was like growing up after the world wars.



Eating With Friends

A new initiative due to begin in 2020

Our Residents eat every meal with the same people everyday. While they love catching up with the friends that they have made since joining our community, by the weekend, they are feeling a little bored and tell us that it would be nice to have some new faces at the dinner table with them.

Student Volunteers will be invited to share a lunch time meal with our Residents on the weekends or if possible during the week. They can bring their own packed lunch or purchase a meal at the cost offered to our Volunteers at each Community.

We will also be asking Students and Volunteers to play music for them after lunch once a month, as a form of entertainment on the weekends. Eating with Friends Volunteers can stay and join in activities such as the book club, gardening club or play board games with the Residents.

If you are interested in having lunch with one of our Residents once a month on a weekend, to listen to their life story and to share some time with them, Eating with friends could be the program for you.



My Dad's a Hero Project

Weekends can be difficult for our Residents. There are not as many activities on offer and for those Residents whose families are unable to visit, it can be a very lonely time.

Baptcare invites Dad's (Mums or Teachers) to become Volunteers with Baptcare and to bring along their children to visit one of our Residents. They may choose to play family board games with them, watch a movie together, take a walk, do some craft or other activities.

If you think that your Parent or Mentor would enjoy volunteering with you then this program is for you.



Family Involvement: My Dad's a Hero program

The 'My Dad's a Hero' program is a way for families to get involved in Baptcare programs, allowing dads to bring their family into residential aged care Communities and spend quality time with a resident. Each visit the family will be paired with a Resident they have shared interests with and will be able to complete activities and have conversations with them at the centre!

This program is very flexible, with visit times and durations being up to the family. All visits will occur during the school term, but there may be scope for school holiday visits as well. There are no lock-in contracts, but Baptcare encourages families to be involved in the program for at least a term.

This program provides the perfect opportunity for Dads to be a strong role model for their kids.



Contact List

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