



ST MARY'S
COLLEGE

Prospectus



One Face Beyond...

We Welcome your Interest in St Mary's College



St Mary's is a Catholic College for girls from Kindergarten to Grade 12 and Kindergarten to Grade 2 for boys. The College was established on its present site in Harrington Street in 1868.

In 1866, perceiving a great need in the fledgling colony for spiritual guidance, Bishop Daniel Murphy arranged for a Mother Superior of the Presentation Order (who happened to be his own sister), to travel from Ireland in order to bring Nano Nagle's mission to far-off Hobart Town.

On 3rd February 1868, the little school of Mount St Mary's (as we were then known), received its first pupils. The fine sandstone convent was designed by the convict architect, Henry Hunter.

The College is dedicated to Mary, Mother of Divine Providence.

The importance that we attach to this dedication is reflected in the words on the College badge, Mary Our Mother.

A respected and flourishing educational institution, St Mary's College has nurtured the spiritual, cultural, academic and sporting lives of many thousands of students across three centuries.

One Face, Beyond...

Our Catholic & Presentation Ethos

Pastoral Care is Central



Gospel values and sound Christian principles, underpinned by Catholic doctrine, and the Archbishop's Charter for Catholic Schools and Presentation traditions, provide the structures and special dimensions which set St Mary's College apart. The founder of the Presentation Sisters, Nano Nagle, was the inspiration for women of strong faith whose particular ethos and charism guides our school today.

Our Vision Statement:

In a world of constant change, we the community, strive to live the teachings of Jesus Christ within the tradition of the Catholic Church, developing just and compassionate people who are resilient, responsible and informed, and ready to contribute to society.

Operationally, St Mary's College values the Catholic Faith, Gospel values, the Presentation charism, community, authentic learning and teaching, as well as striving for personal excellence. We seek to be a community which values and lives social justice, hospitality, simplicity and inclusion.

In her poem 'To Nano Nagle', Sr Raphael Considine P.B.V.M. writes about always 'going one pace beyond...' As a College community, we seek to emulate Nano Nagle in this by focusing on continuous improvement and never being satisfied with the status quo in the things we value as a Christian learning community.

At St Mary's we believe that the basis of a good school is good pastoral care, and we take this aspect of education very seriously. The Senior Management Team and the Grade Coordinators working with committed Home Room teachers, are pivotal in providing for the wellbeing of the student body. We acknowledge that learning only takes place in an environment where students feel supported, safe and respected. Consequently, helping our young people to achieve the best learning outcomes means that pastoral care is given a high priority.

Another important goal is the idea of connectedness: we want your daughters to feel connected to St Mary's and to their faith. We encourage the idea of working closely with parents as partners in their daughters' education, and as we care for our students, we offer support to their parents.

We are continually reviewing our policies and procedures to make sure that we are providing the best possible learning environment, and believe that we are giving our students opportunities to grow in confidence. We also believe that a large helping of fun is important, and we aim to give students the chance to enjoy themselves. Our focus is the development of the whole person.

One Pace Beyond...

One Pace Beyond...

A Great Journey - Kindergarten to Year 12

Personal Development



One of the advantages offered by St Mary's College, is that as a Kindergarten to Grade 12 school, it can provide seamless transitions in the critical years between Grades 6 and 7 and between Grades 10 and 11. As a member of the Alliance of Girls' Schools, we also are connected to the national and international networks which allow for collaboration on and access to research on how girls learn.

From Kindergarten to Grade 12, staff and parents work in partnership to guide students towards their full potential. At both Primary and Secondary levels, the College provides an extensive curriculum as well as a range of co-curricular activities. Creative Arts are an important part of developing the whole person and there are many opportunities to participate in Art, Drama and Music. The College has a strong Languages program, and a wide range of sporting opportunities promote physical wellbeing.

We encourage a high level of participation in extra-curricular activities including debating, public speaking, music, community service and a wide range of team sports.

Our Careers Advisor is always available to provide one-to-one counselling for all students in the Senior School. By Grade 10, this becomes an intensive process, helping students to discern their strengths, preferences and personal qualities which will lead them to making the best subject choices for Grades 11, 12 and beyond, to further education or the world of work.

Leadership



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One Face Beyond...

Pathways to Success



We offer a broad and stimulating curriculum which encourages the achievement of academic success and excellence. The College aims to encourage individual development and provides a range of learning experiences to ensure all students have the opportunity to develop their true potential. Such provision includes Learning Support and a Talented Student Program.

Our curriculum spans the core areas: Religion, English, Mathematics, Science, Studies of Society and the Environment, and Health and Physical Education. From Kindergarten to Grade 10, teams of teachers work together to cover these core areas within an integrated and connected curriculum, while focusing on the social and economic futures of young people. The Australian Curriculum seeks to focus on the skills, competencies and outcomes needed by our students in the 21st Century work environment. In addition, units in Certificate I Construction and in Certificate I Hospitality are presently offered in conjunction with the Southern Catholic Colleges Trade Training Centre.

A broad range of subjects is offered in Grades 11 and 12 including pre-tertiary syllabuses approved for university entrance. St Mary's College is also committed to the provision of Vocational Education and Training courses as

enhancing a direct pathway to the workplace. The College is a Registered Training Organisation and vocational education is given parity with our academic program. A number of students combine academic and VET subjects in their senior study program.

Dedicated specialist teachers enable students to have a wide range of choice in areas such as Languages other than English, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, and Food Technology and Textiles. The sports program encourages all students to develop skills and fitness through active participation in a wide variety of team and individual games. The College is committed to the incorporation of ICT into all aspects of student learning, with an extensive array of technology spread throughout the campus.

With a progressive approach to modern education, students are encouraged to become active participants in their own learning. We see St Mary's as a learning community. Staff are encouraged to be reflective practitioners and our students reflective learners. The College seeks to cater for student needs at all levels, and in the senior years enjoys partnerships with other Colleges, the University of Tasmania and other education providers. Such partnerships allow students to expand even further their learning opportunities while in Grades 11 and 12.

Creativity



The Visual Arts program encourages students to explore, experiment and develop creativity, skills and knowledge through a variety of techniques and media. Photography, Graphic Design and Design in Wood are some of the more specialised areas covered in the senior years. The purposebuilt Barbara Amott Design in Wood Centre is a state-of-the-art workshop allowing students to develop practical and design skills while they work independently and cooperatively on beautiful, functional objects.

The Performing Arts program: Music covers music theory and practice for all students from Kindergarten to Grade 8, while performance and theory is available for choice from Grade 9 to pre-tertiary level. A Concert Band, Jazz Band, Senior and Junior Choirs and various ensembles give girls the opportunity to perform in a variety of school settings, adding that special touch to our celebrations and gatherings.

Drama provides another creative outlet, focusing on voice, movement, role-play and ensemble acting. It gives invaluable experience in performing to a live audience and helps develop confident communication, and a commitment to teamwork. It is an important part of the College curriculum.

The Nano Nagle Centre and St Peter's Hall provide excellent performance and display spaces for the Creative Arts.

One Face Beyond...

Our College Community



Whether you are a parent, grandparent, old scholar or friend, we welcome you warmly to the wider St Mary's College community. The active participation of parents, carers and grandparents in the life of the College is vital to our success, whether helping in the Canteen, taking part in Parents and Friends activities or coaching and managing a sports team. Our students benefit from this close interaction between school and family. Past parents and grandparents are also encouraged to stay in touch – through Grandparents' days and other functions throughout the year.

At St Mary's College, our heritage is embodied in the traditions of the Presentation Sisters, and in the legacy handed down to us by the students who have gone before. Our alumni attend annual reunions, receive the Alma Mater newsletter and keep in touch with the College in many different ways. Old scholars are always welcome to come back to school – to speak with current students, to share their achievements and successes, and to tell of their life experiences.

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