



Life at St Catherine's

Bold. Independent. Resilient. Creative.



St Catherine's School



As a leading girls' school in Australia, St Catherine's is committed to nurturing and empowering independent and globally responsive young women, enabling them to approach their endeavours with confidence, wisdom, and integrity.





“We often speak about the intimacy of St Catherine’s. I am hooked on its strength. It is this unpronounced, resounding feminine force. A quiet understanding that we are all here, on the same team – as happy for each other as we are for ourselves.”

NICOLA SITCH (’15)

Welcome

At the heart of our engaged, dynamic, and inclusive community, St Catherine’s School nurtures young women to be bold, creative, independent, and resilient in all that they pursue.

The essence of St Catherine’s School is captured within the authentic learning experiences and the quality teaching provided by our professional and dedicated staff.

Their expertise and warmth ensure the provision of a stimulating, tailored and future-focused education, for which St Catherine’s is internationally renowned, defining our School as a leader in girls’ wellbeing and academic achievement.

Established in 1896, our reputation as a leader in girls’ education, for well over a century, is based on our readiness to embrace innovation.

Our goals are in keeping with our Founder’s original aim to prepare students for life; not only through education but also empowering girls to take ownership of their learning through active participation and engagement in School academic and co-curricular programs.

St Catherine’s School accepts girls from Prep to Year 12 and is centrally located in Toorak, Melbourne, Australia. We also welcome three and four-year-old girls and boys to our Early Learning Centre.

As a non-denominational school with Christian values, and boarding for rural and international girls, our community of students, staff, families, and past students are actively involved in life at St Catherine’s.

To know and value each of our students, St Catherine’s maintains small Year levels and class numbers. Our size, along with our one campus advantage ensures all our students – from our youngest in the Early Learning Centre to our VCE students – learn in one central and encouraging community.

When your daughter joins St Catherine’s she will tread the same floorboards as generations of remarkable women before her.

Like them, she will discover her own path to a meaningful career and a full and relevant life.

We look forward to welcoming your family to St Catherine’s School.

Early Learning

Guided by the Early Years Learning Framework, St Catherine's Early Learning Centre (ELC) provides an exceptional educational experience for each child.

Our highly qualified and professional educators create a vibrant learning environment that offers every child the best possible start to their school years.

The ELC philosophy is underpinned by an inquiry-based educational program, inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach. A focus on nature-based pedagogy is embedded within our program and is evident in our beautiful learning environments. We take a holistic approach to each child's learning and development, guiding and supporting their social, emotional, intellectual and physical development and wellbeing.

A selection of specialist classes, incursions and excursions are offered to supplement their learning in the classroom programs.

Our ELC encourages children to wonder, imagine, explore, investigate, create and belong.



“Almost 35 years after finishing school, I still feel I am coming home; I feel a sense of warmth and remember the nurturing that helped shape me.”

MS MELISSA
SWEETLAND ('86)



Junior School

Barbreck is a vibrant hub of learning that nurtures every girls' ability and potential – academically, physically, socially and emotionally.

Purposefully small, our average class size of 17 students enables every girl to receive engaging learning experiences and personalised learning plans. A Barbreck education embraces the Harvard University-led Culture of Thinking approach to teaching, fostering in our students the ability to question, reason, imagine and create solutions.

We ensure a daily commitment to prioritising literacy and numeracy through a model of explicit instruction and 100% of our students undertake STEM based learning each week. Also included in our academic program is French, Art, Physical Education, Health and Library.

Our weThrive:Wellbeing@St Catherine's Program builds connection, communication and confidence. Our partnership with Swinburne University enhances the Wellbeing Program through the delivery of evidence-based emotional intelligence lessons, providing each student with age appropriate activities to learn how to recognise, understand and manage their emotions.

Our broad range of co-curricular programs and special interest clubs ensures all students can pursue their passions and expand their interests. Activities include snowsports, choir, music ensembles, music lessons, gymnastics, dance, chess and debating.



“My years at St Catherine’s were a major imprint on my life and all that I was to achieve.”

LADY JUDITH THOMSON
(OGDEN '57)

Senior School

Embedded within St Catherine's Senior School is an unwavering focus on intellectual curiosity through a rigorous academic program, sensitive to the needs of individual pursuits.

As a school we are committed to ensuring every student is able to enquire deeply, respond positively to challenge and change and is ready to lead in rich and meaningful ways. Our approach to learning ensures every student finds connection to the breadth of knowledge surrounding them, shaped by our seven pillars of learning; English and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Civics, Languages, Health Sciences and Physical Education and Visual and Performing Arts.

Years 7 and 8

Our Years 7 and 8 students are immersed in a broad-based academic program that develops them as enthusiastic life-long learners. Students are provided experiences in the core curriculum areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History, Languages, Geography, Performing and Visual Arts, Health and Physical Education, laying a foundation for students to make choices from a wide range of elective studies at senior level.

Our Academic Honours Program complements the core curriculum, providing unique opportunities for talented and gifted academic students in Years 7 and 8 to further enhance their skills in English/Humanities, Mathematics and Science.

Year 9

We inspire our Year 9 students to actively seek and discover their individual strengths and interests. Our Critical Conversations Program in Humanities captures the intellectual endeavour, critical thinking and curiosity of our Year 9 students. They are also encouraged to explore their individual capabilities though Sport, Music, Visual and Performing Arts, our Global Exchange Programs and Study Tours, and the pursuit of outdoor endeavours and community service.

Understanding Year 9 is a critical point of self-discovery for many students, our signature Year 9 program harnesses the interests and passions of young women to enable a confident transition to their senior years of learning.

Years 10 and 11

Our innovative Senior Years Learning Model for Years 10 to 11 empowers students in their learning and equips and prepares them for the academic requirements of Year 12 and tertiary study after school. Students step into a hybrid learning model, with face-to-face classes, as well as online delivery of Masterclass lectures and tutorials. The Learning Model strengthens student independence, scholastic assuredness, vocational awareness and successful transition into tertiary pathways.

Within Year 10, the academic program connects more closely with VCE subjects, expanding time allocation to subjects through the narrowing of curriculum

offerings. This provides a greater depth of study, enabling students to sharpen their focus and provide an improved platform for the heightened needs of the VCE program.

Our Science curriculum in Year 10 offers disciplined-based, semester long courses for Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Psychology, enabling students to study the equivalent of two years of Science in Year 10, expanding their knowledge and preparing them for VCE. Year 10 students can also accelerate into VCE study to allow for additional intellectual challenge, experience navigating VCE assessments and the opportunity to study Units 3 and 4 subjects in Year 11.

VCE – Years 11 and 12

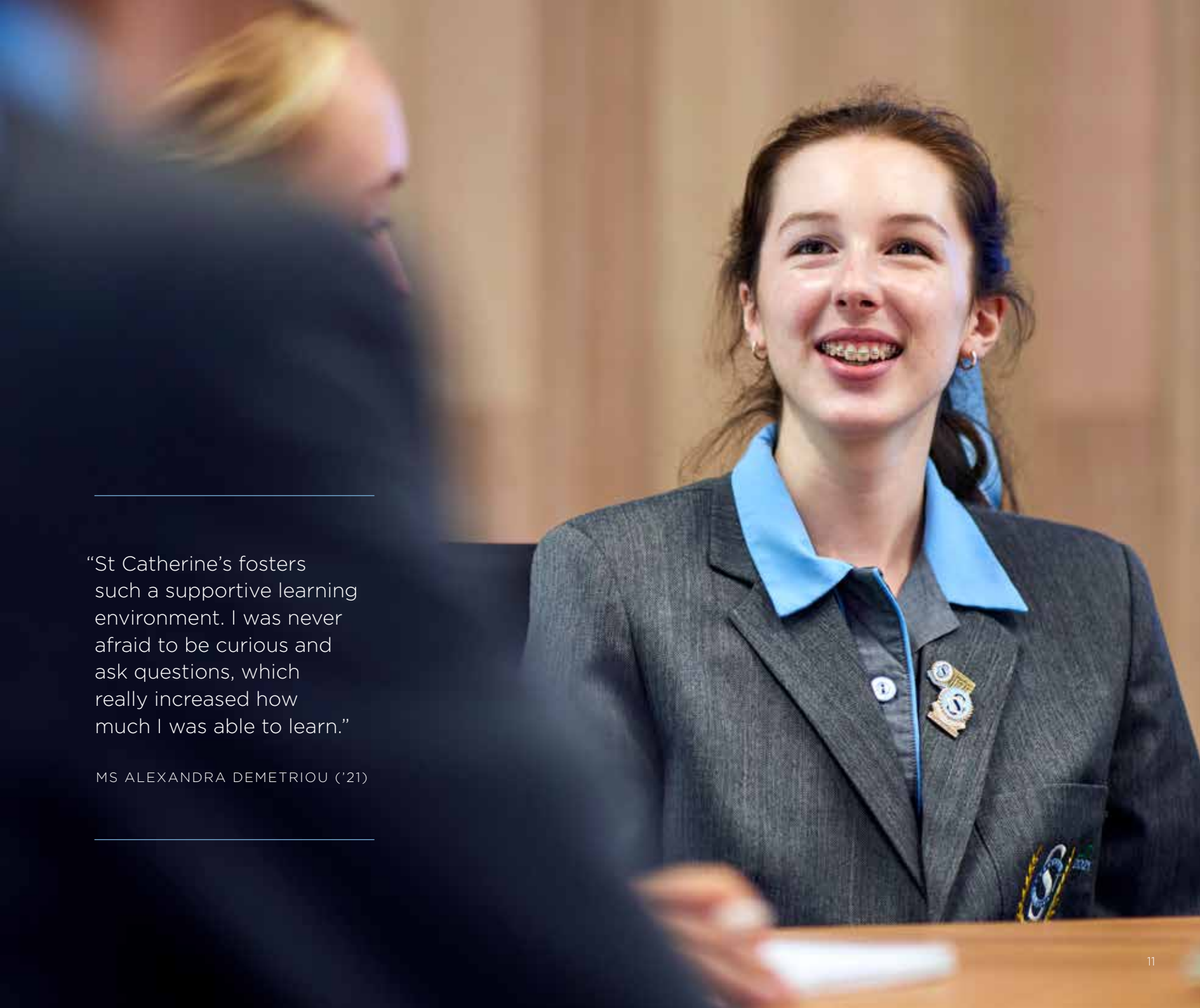
Students in Years 11 and 12, undertake considered subject selection with our experienced Careers Practitioners and our Faculty teachers. Careful planning, evaluation and reflection, as well as accommodating individual interests and abilities are considered within our comprehensive careers program.

St Catherine's is known for its personalised academic care, providing every student with the strongest foundation possible to reach their individual aspirations in learning, and in life. Our Heads of Year, and Pastoral Care Heads, work alongside students and their families to provide ongoing guidance and support.

Students in Years 11 and 12 also have the opportunity to take a Vocational Education and Training subject as part of their VCE program, providing them with vocational training and hands-on workplace experience.

“St Catherine’s fosters such a supportive learning environment. I was never afraid to be curious and ask questions, which really increased how much I was able to learn.”

MS ALEXANDRA DEMETRIOU ('21)





Wellbeing & Leadership

For more than 125 years St Catherine's has educated and empowered young women. Our academic and wellbeing programs are intentionally girl-centric and tailored to the specific needs and interests of girls.

Along with our vibrant, student-led House system, our weThrive: Wellbeing@St Catherine's Program provides a holistic wellbeing journey, embracing emotional, social, physical and cognitive development.

St Catherine's Student Leadership system provides girls with leadership training and skill development as well as opportunities to experience positions of responsibility.

Years 9 and 10 students are provided the opportunity to contribute to the School community and further develop their leadership skills through St Catherine's unique Leadership Diploma qualification. Encouraging students to step outside their comfort zones, the Diploma provides students with a strong insight, not only into School and the wider community, but also themselves through personal reflection and growth. The Leadership Diploma provides the pathway to be selected for leadership positions in Years 11 and 12.

Our Student Leadership Program, V.O.I.C.E.S (Voice, Ownership, Inclusion, Compassion, Empowerment, Strength) focuses on empowering girls to step forward and embrace every opportunity, including our Student Executive and Student Representative Council.

Through our Wellbeing and Leadership programs we encourage our young women to be proud of their accomplishments, to see challenges as opportunities and build a strong sense of confidence and personal leadership.



Co-Curricular

Learning beyond the classroom empowers our young women to discover through experience and extend their capabilities, pursue their interests, talents and passions and find their voice in the community and the world around them.

Our bespoke co-curricular program encourages, inspires and enriches participation for our students, empowering them to be authentic and fearless in all that they pursue.

Through exciting and authentic experiences across Sport, Music, Performing and Visual Arts, Debating and Public Speaking, School Clubs and Global Exchange and Study Tours our students step outside their comfort zones in supportive and safe environments.



Boarding

Our boarders call Illawarra home. The National Trust listed, Victorian Boarding House offers a warmth and sense of community that generations of St Catherine's girls have enjoyed.

Boarding at St Catherine's provides our girls with a safe and comfortable living environment, as well as broadening their understanding of other communities and cultures. Boarders also develop personal and academic independence within our Boarding House, with supported study routines and shared activities, and the freedom to socialise with friends and explore Melbourne on organised weekend activities.

Our boarders are all valued for their individual contribution to Illawarra, and encouraged to be involved in St Catherine's broad academic offerings and dynamic co-curricular program.



“St Catherine’s boarding program really fosters independence. It taught me how to take care of myself and manage my time.”

MISS FLYNN O'BRIEN ('19)



Exemplary Staff

At the heart of the St Catherine's experience is the relationship between teacher and student. To ensure a continuous culture of learning is implemented in every classroom and co-curricular program, St Catherine's School enhances the student experience through the engagement of exceptional staff, committed to girls' education and wellbeing.

Our culture of learning is realised by the professional expertise and ongoing development of our educators and staff. Leaders in their disciplines, St Catherine's School remains committed to building the professional excellence of our staff to deliver optimal learning outcomes for our students.

“From my school years I developed a profound love of learning, which was nurtured by a band of interesting and dedicated teachers.”

MS SHELLY COLMAN ('74)



Our Community

We welcome our diverse School community into life at St Catherine's through engagement, involvement and connection, proud that we offer our students access to a community complemented by expertise and inspiration, leadership and camaraderie, strength and guidance.

Our community of current and past parents, Alumnae and members of our wider School network are dedicated to fostering, strengthening and enhancing opportunities for our students. We take great pride in our cohesive and unique community, with many parent-led auxiliaries, integral to supporting the variety of activities that enrich the experiences offered to our students.



We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today. We pay respect to the Wurundjeri Elders, past, present, and emerging and extend this respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait people from other communities.

To learn more about life at St Catherine's for your daughter contact our Registrar:

T +61 3 9828 3071

E admissions@stcatherines.net.au



Academic Excellence 2024



St Catherine's School
EST. 1896

Academic Excellence



TOP 2% IN THE STATE
Study Scores of 45+
were achieved in these subjects:

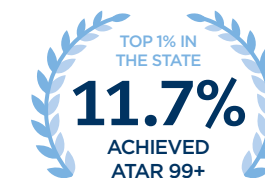
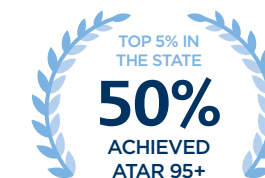
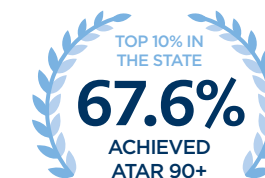
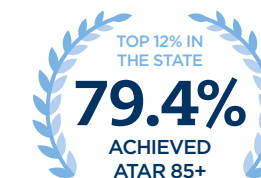


St Catherine's School nurtures young women to be confident, creative, independent and resilient. Our teachers encourage girls to become global citizens and make a true difference in the world. As a School, we are proud of our academic excellence, vibrant community, outstanding co-curricular program, exceptional teachers and alumnae networks, however our greatest achievement has, and always will be, the quality of character of our students.



Our 2024 VCE Results

In 2024, our Year 12 students demonstrated resilience, determination, and an unwavering commitment to excellence in all aspects of their schooling. As a Cohort they led our School with kindness and a sense of cohesion, displaying empathy and compassion towards each other, and their younger peers.

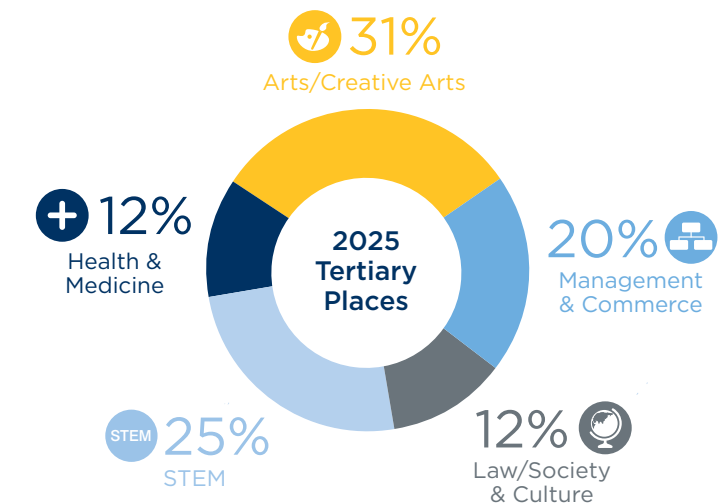


2025 Tertiary Places

Our graduating students will be represented in institutes nationally and internationally including The University of Melbourne, Monash University, RMIT, Deakin University, La Trobe University, Australian Catholic University, Harvard University, Swinburne University, University of Oxford, University of Miami and University of Washington.

2025 Tertiary Institutes

The University of Melbourne
Monash University
RMIT University
Deakin University
La Trobe University
Australian Catholic University
Photographic Studies College
Harvard University
Swinburne University
University of Oxford
University of Miami
University of Washington





Welcome to St Catherine's Early Learning Centre

Our Early Learning Centre (ELC) has a proud history of excellence in early childhood education. Led by a team of dedicated and passionate staff, the St Catherine's ELC encourages investigation, inquiry, wonder and celebration.

Our educational program is centred around children's innate curiosity, encompassing the Reggio Emilia approach and incorporating the Australian Early Years Learning Framework.

Our Philosophy

Every child at St Catherine's Early Learning Centre has the right to exceptional education and care. We value and respect all children and foster a love of learning. We believe that each child is capable and competent. A sense of wonder and curiosity is fostered in each child through creating opportunities to play, explore, investigate, discover and be active participants in their learning.

Relationships are integral to creating a sense of belonging within the Campbell House community. Relationships with others build a child's sense of belonging and identity. We acknowledge that children firstly belong to their families and bring with them their own history and culture to share with other children, families and educators. Respect for diversity is promoted within our community.

Much care and consideration is given to the learning environments, both indoor and outdoor, to provoke and inspire everyday encounters. Importance is placed on the beauty and aesthetic of the learning spaces, materials and experiences. There is a commitment to the natural environment whereby children form an appreciation of and connection with the world around them. Children are encouraged to develop sustainable practices and become informed citizens of the world.

We consider parents to be our partners in their child's learning and development and are welcomed participants in the early learning programs. Together, children, families and educators form our community and work together to provide the best possible learning opportunities for the children.

Educators recognise and respond to the unique qualities of every child. Together we become co-learners with the children, families and the community. Educators are also responsive to children's ideas and play to develop ongoing projects, stimulate their thinking and enrich their learning.

Attendance

Children in the 3 Year Old program can attend either three days or five days per week.

All children in the 4/5 Year Old classes attend five days per week.

Out of School Hours Care

Operated by Camp Australia in the ELC building, Before School care is available 7.00am until 8.45am while After School care is available from 3.00pm until 6.00pm.

Specialist Classes

Specialist classes in Music and the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) are held throughout the week for all ELC students and French is offered in the 4 Year Old program.

The children also make weekly visits to the Junior School Library to participate in Library sessions with their class teacher.

The Marigold Southey Sports & Aquatic Centre, also offers 'Learn to Swim' classes for ELC children. The lessons take place after School and incur additional fees.

Parents as Partners

Parents are valued and welcomed participants in the Early Learning programs. Children, families and educators form our community and work together to provide the best possible learning opportunities for the children.

Each classroom has a parent roster to assist in the classroom. There will also be special events, excursions, incursions and projects that parents can be involved in. We also seek parent assistance when the children participate in the PMP.

Enrolments

In accordance with the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011, our ELC is licensed to provide education and care to children from three years of age.

Children commencing in the 3 Year Old program must have turned three years of age by 31 January in their year of attendance. All children will attend an interview with the Head of ELC prior to commencement.

Exceeding National Quality Standards

Our Centre exceeds the quality standards set out in the National Quality Standards (NQS), which are assessed by Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA). St Catherine's ELC was one of the first centres to be awarded 'Exceeding National Quality Standard' by the ACECQA and continues to maintain this level of excellence.

To discover more about a place for your child please contact our Registrar +61 3 9828 3071 or email admissions@stcatherines.net.au



EARLY LEARNING CENTRE FOR GIRLS AND BOYS



play • learn • grow

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL ELC



Welcome to St Catherine's Junior School

Our Junior School has a proud history of academic achievement, laying the educational foundation for generations of women – leaders and pioneers of industry, philanthropy, medicine, law and music. We are proud that both the first female Lieutenant Governor and Governor of Victoria began their educational journeys in our Junior School.

"I love St Catherine's because I am doing great school work and I have heaps of fun"

– Chloe, Year 1

St Catherine's history combined with contemporary thinking has ensured we remain committed to empowering and nurturing your daughter to reach her unique potential. Our highly qualified teaching staff focus on your daughter, addressing her individual interests and personalising her learning through the delivery of engaging and challenging programs all within state of the art classrooms to deliver a 21st century education.

During the all-important Junior School years, St Catherine's builds every girl's confidence and provides opportunity to experience a broad range of activities that enable discovery of her talents, interests and dreams; ready for a lifetime of learning.

SCHOOL VALUES

Integrity, Curiosity,
Perseverance, Empathy

"I have had so many amazing opportunities to learn and achieve. I just love it!"

– Maddie, Year 6

Educating the Whole Child

The Curriculum

Lifelong learning is our focus at St Catherine's School. We educate the 'whole child' concentrating on their cognitive and academic progress in addition to their emotional, social and physical development.

For your daughter to learn and achieve her personal best, she must feel safe, supported and secure. Our teaching staff are committed to nurturing the individual characteristics, learning needs and interests of your daughter.

Core Curriculum Subjects

Core subjects taught at each Year level are:

- » English & Literature
- » Humanities
- » Mathematics
- » Personal Development

Specialist Subjects

Specialist subjects taught at each Year level are:

- » Visual Arts
- » French
- » Music
- » Science and STEM
- » Health and Physical Education
- » Library
- » Years 3 and 4 After-school Sport (optional)
- » Years 5 and 6 After-school Sport (compulsory)

Academic Extension

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is of critical importance to developing women of the future who will live and work in the 21st Century.

Our Junior School STEM program challenges every girl to apply learning

from across many disciplines into practical, problem-based scenarios. This program supports students to design and carry out their own open-ended science investigation and technology projects.

The Maths Extension Program encourages Years 5 and 6 students to develop a breadth and depth of mathematical understanding. The Extension Program enables the exploration of challenging mathematical problems and aims to nurture enthusiasm for mathematics while ensuring students develop their analytical and problem solving skills.

Chess is offered to girls from Year 1 to Year 6. It requires a combination of creativity, communication, collaboration and critical thinking. Playing the game can improve logical and sequential thinking, analytical and reasoning skills, and decision-making ability of students. It can help students understand strategy and tactic: helping them recognise the importance of foresight, and planning, promoting sustained concentration, memory and focus

Outdoor Education

Beyond Boundaries at St Catherine's School runs from Years 1 to 10 and provides a sequential Outdoor Education program with each phase building on and reinforcing previous learning. Beyond Boundaries encourages your daughter to understand her identity, community and relationship with the natural world. Through a process of guided discovery, your daughter is presented with opportunities involving appropriate social, emotional and physical challenges, to help confirm and shape her personal values.

Co-curricular Activities

St Catherine's School offers a wide range of co-curricular activities, stimulating and challenging our girls across many learning areas. Our Instrumental Music classes and tuition

for a range of Music Performance groups are available at varying times throughout the School day. Physical skills are further developed through a wide range of sports with specialist programs offered in Gymnastics, Aquatics, Running and Snowsports. Students from Years 3 to 6 have the opportunity to qualify for district, division, regional and state level competitions.

Communication

St Catherine's School fosters an open communication philosophy offering a range of avenues to access information and communicate with the School. mystcatherines – a secure website providing access to School policies, forthcoming events, co-curricular information and academic reporting. Also accessible via St Catherine's School App.

Parent Information Line – a phone line for parents to confirm details about specific events. The Blue Ribbon – a weekly eNewsletter featuring School news from Early Learning Centre to Senior School as well as community news.

Community – Parent Involvement

St Catherine's is an extremely embracing and inclusive community encouraging parents to be involved in opportunities such as:

- » Taking part in the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP)
- » Attending an excursion
- » Attending Library Working Bees
- » Joining the Parents' and Friends' Association
- » Becoming a Class Representative
- » Attending Assemblies.

To discover more about a place for your daughter please contact our Registrar on +61 3 9828 3071 or email admissions@stcatherines.net.au

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL JUNIOR SCHOOL





ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL JUNIOR SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR

Junior School Co-curricular Schedule

Co-curricular programs at St Catherine's School provide opportunities and experiences to enhance the development of the whole child, complementing skills learned in the classroom and nurturing lifelong learners.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Chess Intensive Coaching 7.40am-8.20am STEM Room	District Training (By invitation from Ms Cody) 7.00am – 8.00am	Junior Joggers (Years 3-6) 7.30am – 8.10am At School	Epstein Choir (Years 4-6) 7.20am – 8.20am Auditorium	Netball Training St Catherine's Netball Club 7.00am – 8.00am At School on the top field
Recess	Barbreck Ukuleles (Years 3-6) 9.55am – 10.20am Music Room	Barbreck Flutes 9.55am – 10.20am Auditorium	Petite Strings (Year 3) 9.55am – 10.20am Auditorium		Chamber Strings (Years 5-6) 9.55am – 10.20am Auditorium
Lunch	Chess Club (Open to all students) 1.10pm – 1.50pm STEM Room	Stage Skills (Year 3) 1:20pm – 1:55pm Auditorium/Playground	Environment Committee (Years 4-6) 1:20pm – 1.50pm (Day 8) STEM Room/Playground	Barbreck Strings (Years 4-6) 1:20pm – 1:55pm Auditorium	Percussion Ensemble (Years 3-6) 1.20pm – 1.50pm Music Room
	Writers' Club (Years 5-6) 1.10pm – 2.00pm Room B118	Art Club (Prep-Year 6) 1:20pm – 1.50pm Art Room/Playground		Tennis Coaching (Prep-Year 3) 1.30pm – 2.00pm (Prep-Year 1) 1:15pm – 2.00pm (Years 2-3) Tennis Courts	Tennis Coaching (Years 4-6) 1:15pm – 2.00pm Tennis Courts
					French Club (Years 4-6) 1.20pm – 1.50pm Languages Lab
After School					STEM Club (Years 4-6) 1.20pm – 1.50pm STEM Room
	Sport (Years 3-4) (Optional) 3.30pm – 4.30pm At School on the field	Sport (Years 5-6) 3.30pm – 5.00pm At School on the field	Barbreck Club (Prep-Year 6) 3.30pm – 5.00pm Art Room/Village Green	Coding Club – Junior Engineers Melbourne Swimming Club Melbourne Swimming Academy Golf Next Athletics	Development Squad Swimming Golf
	Band (Years 6-8) 3.45pm – 4 45pm Myer Studio	Perform Drama (Year 4) 3.20pm – 5.00pm Auditorium/Playground	Melbourne Swimming Club Melbourne Swimming Academy		
	Melbourne Swimming Club Melbourne Swimming Academy				

- No cost (School run) – all students of appropriate Year level are welcome
- No cost (School run) – however an invitation from staff is required
- Additional cost (School run) – registration is required
- Additional cost (Third party provider) – registration is required

Please Note: Junior School Co-curricular schedule can be subject to change.



ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Empowering young women to step forward, St Catherine's encourages all girls to embrace every opportunity and to use their voice. We encourage our young women to be proud of their accomplishments, to see challenges as opportunities and build a strong sense of confidence and personal leadership.

Together, our Junior School and Senior School Leadership Programs capture the aspiration of each student and showcase a community-minded School environment that fosters a sense of service, engagement and endeavour.

Senior School

Leadership Diploma

The Leadership Diploma is a qualification unique to St Catherine's and offers students the opportunity to strengthen their ties to and involvement with our School community and to refine their own leadership skills. The Leadership Diploma promotes active engagement and leadership within the School's co-curricular and camps programs, community service endeavours and House involvement. The Diploma helps our students to be organised, altruistic, insightful and empathetic, and provides opportunities to make a tangible difference to their School and local communities.

Student V.O.I.C.E.S

This Program focuses on encouraging and empowering girls to step forward and embrace every opportunity. Established under the motto 'Use Your Voice' this Program prepares young women to aspire to leadership roles.



Recognising not all acts of leadership require an official title or captaincy role, this Program recognises leadership through action, through the acronym V.O.I.C.E.S representing the six key attributes of St Catherine's leadership: **V**oice, **O**wnership, **I**nclusion, **C**ompassion, **E**mpowerment, **S**trength.

Year 12 Captains and Student Executive

Captaincy and Student Executive positions are available for all Year 12 students who have achieved a St Catherine's Leadership Diploma through Years 9 and 10. The Year 12 cohort works as a leadership team with a Year 12 Executive. The Executive works with the entire Year level to manage initiatives and lead the student body. Captaincy opportunities include; Boarding, Art and Design, Debating, Duke of Edinburgh, Environment, International, Community Service, Drama, GSA, Human Rights, STEM, Chess, Spirit and Wellbeing, the four Houses, Music and Sport. Specific Sport and Music

Ensembles will also elect Captains to lead particular activities, for example Rowing, Snowsports, Bands and Orchestras.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

The SRC is comprised of elected members from Years 7 to 11, supported by members of the Year 12 Student Executive. They meet on a regular basis to discuss, strategise and implement activities, proposals and initiatives that serve to improve the student experience at St Catherine's.



Junior School

Barbreck Ambassador Program

Meetings with all Years 5 to 6 girls with the Head of Junior School enables girls to voice their ideas on improving Barbreck.

Student Leadership Captains

Opportunities for Year 6 girls to take on leadership positions for the school year and play an instrumental role in ensuring a spirit of connection between students and with the School. Student Captains are involved in running assemblies and wellbeing activities. Captaincy positions are:

- Junior School Captains
- House Captains
- Library Captains
- Music Captains
- Snowsports Captains
- Swimming Captains
- Cross Country Captains



Academic Care St Catherine’s School



“When students sense genuine care from their educators and school community, they are inspired to invest themselves wholeheartedly in their academic pursuits. The connection established through academic care becomes a driving force, encouraging our students to surpass their own expectations and achieve outstanding results.”

Mrs Alison Cassidy, Director for Senior Years.

For more than 128 years St Catherine’s School has been dedicated to ensuring exceptional outcomes for our students.

We strive in all that we do to develop character, competency, and wellness in each of our students. Through this, all our students have a sense of belonging, can reach their individual potential, and importantly, excel in life post-school.

A sense of belonging is crucial for students’ wellbeing as it fosters a supportive, connected, and inclusive environment. When students feel connected and valued within their school community, it enhances their overall sense of purpose and contributes significantly to their emotional and psychological resilience.

It is this culture of academic care that drives our School’s academic excellence. Our VCE results sit comfortably inside the top 10 schools in Victoria and have

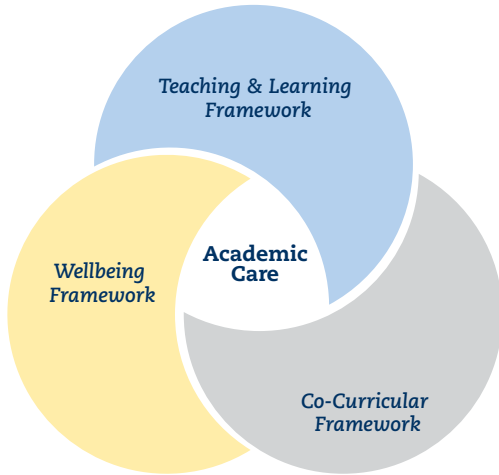
done so for many years. In 2024, we achieved a median ATAR of 95.25, the highest in our School’s 129-year history.

These results are achieved through our academic care framework and tightly connected community where the care of our students is paramount.

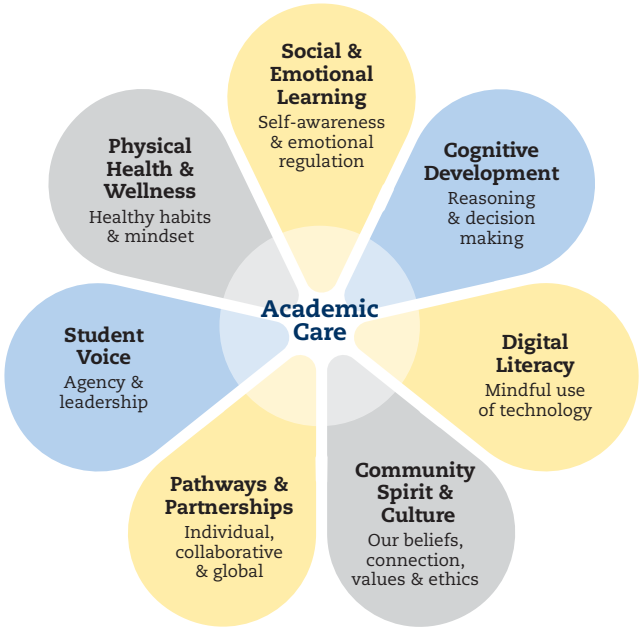
Our whole school frameworks offer a broad vision of the types of competencies students will need to thrive in school and life. As educators, we equip our learners with agency and a sense of purpose, and the competencies they need, to shape their own lives and contribute to the lives of others.

At its core, Academic Care means students are known, valued, and encouraged. It is at the heart of everything we do, inside the classroom and beyond.

To learn more about St Catherine’s Academic Care Model visit www.stcatherines.net.au



St Catherine’s School
Wellbeing Framework





ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL SENIOR YEARS LEARNING MODEL



At St Catherine's we are committed to adapting our model of learning and educational platform in a way that meets the needs of our students in this rapidly changing world.

Teaching methods need to evolve to keep up with these changing times. Our role as educators is to equip our students with the learning and skills they will need post school.

Our innovative Senior Years Learning Model (SYLM) for Years 10 to 11 empowers students in their learning and equips and prepares them for the academic requirements of Year 12 and tertiary study after school.

Our Senior Years Learning Model strengthens student independence, scholastic assuredness, vocational awareness and creates a more successful transition into tertiary pathways.

Flexible Study

Our SYLM achieves a hybrid model of learning both on and off campus. It creates a growing independence and flexibility for our senior students, while securing the relationality and educational benefits of face-to-face learning with teachers and peers.

Within the SYLM courses are delivered as a combination of 10 synchronous face-to-face lessons on campus that are complemented by a program of Independent Learning Tutorials (ILT) offering significant flexibility for students.

For each subject, the ILT includes a combination of an optional on campus *Flexi-Tute* enabling subject-specific support with teachers. There is an asynchronous online tutorial delivered in the *Flexi-Tute*, designed to provide instructional videos to support study and homework, or a series of lectures in the form of a Masterclass.

Students are timetabled with one double lesson per subject each fortnight

to engage and participate in the ILTs. For Year 11 students, their ILTs can be completed on campus with the support of a teacher facilitator or off campus at a time that suits their individual schedules.

Personalised Learning

Our hybrid learning model breaks down the traditional walls of teaching that do not work for every student. The SYLM allows our teachers to tailor the learning experience for each student, offering flexible time frames personalised to each student, allowing them to learn at their own pace.

Most importantly, the SYLM provides student agency by offering students choice, self-direction, independence and ownership of their learning.

Mastering the Masterclass

Within the SYLM students participate in fortnightly Masterclass lectures. The delivery of these lectures is varied across the broad range of subjects available at St Catherine's but focuses

on the key concepts, skills and content of the particular subjects.

Students view, listen and engage with a range of multimedia and independent study modes during the Masterclass lectures, as well as providing them with experience in the university style mode of learning and teacher delivery.

Students engage with a suite of lectures on texts of historical context, views, and values as well as skill development in the various essay types. Problem-solving strategies are developed by working through mathematical equations, responding to analysis questions, or listening to lectures in another language that students are studying to consolidate oral language skills. The more practical subjects like the Arts and Physical Education have embraced instructional videos on how to cut a lino print, construct a stage set model, plus short vignettes on visual diary annotations, and game strategies in matches.



ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS



With more than 127 years of experience nurturing and empowering young women, St Catherine's School understands Year 9 is a critical point of self-discovery for many students.

Our signature Year 9 program harnesses the interests and passions of our young women to enable a confident transition to their senior years of learning. A key element of our Year 9 offerings is our Critical Conversations Program. This Program cultivates St Catherine's Thinking Agenda across Year 9.

What is Critical Conversations?

Inspired by the Harkness approach to learning our Critical Conversations Program is an alternative methodology of teaching and learning in which students lead conversations. The central purpose of the approach is to develop student capacity to use questioning and dialogue to direct their own learning.

Critical Conversations in Action

This new model of learning involves teachers and students collaborating to deepen knowledge around key challenges relating to Geography and History topics. As part of the process, students reflect on their learning and conversation dynamics are mapped to assist students in considering not only what they bring to discussions, but how much they are involved in shaping those conversations.

Benefits of the Model

The advantages of our Critical Conversations Program for Year 9 students includes:

- Structured and purposeful development of speaking, listening, and reasoning skills
- Requires independence and critical thinking
- Works through collaboration and constructive discussion
- Develops intellectual and social skills
- Promotes confidence in contributing to rigorous discussions.

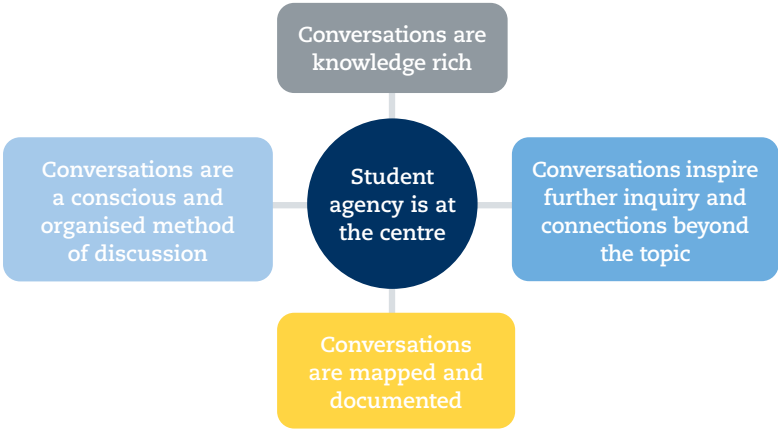
To be successful in the Program, you must be a good listener, a thinker, empathetic and articulate. Given all of these advantages, introducing this at Year 9 hopes to develop an open and academic thinking culture.

Specialised Rooms

Within St Catherine's, our Harkness-inspired approach not only changes the classroom patterns of teaching and learning, but the architecture

and design of the rooms. Class sizes are limited to 12, increasing the capacity of students to be confident in their contributions, and active and supportive listeners during discussions.

St Catherine's currently provides two specialised rooms for the Critical Conversations Program. The focus of the room centres around the large, oval shaped 'Harkness Tables', replacing the standard student desks.





ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL MUSIC

Classroom Music

Music is part of the core curriculum at St Catherine's for students in the Early Learning Centre (ELC) to Year 8. The Junior School (Barbreck) has a strong emphasis on Kodály and Orff pedagogy.

Instrumental tuition and choral learning occurs in the Junior School through the Classroom Program to develop instrumental, vocal, music literacy, aural and ensemble skills. These contexts open up pathways into the enriching co-curricular music offerings of the School. The Choral Program is considered the best way for students to develop an appropriate level of vocal and aural training at a junior level. Students are also actively encouraged to pursue the instruments learned in these programs through private tuition across the Junior and Senior School to develop expertise and mastery.

The Classroom Instrumental Programs include the Year 2 String Program, Years 3 & 4 Recorder Program, Melodic Percussion Program. The Classroom Choral Program includes the Langley Choir (Foundation to Year 2), Heyington Choir (Years 3 & 4) and Barbreck Choir (Years 5 & 6).

In Years 7 and 8 students develop their musicianship through a range of theoretical, aural, performance and composition units. Across Years 9 & 10, the subject is extended as a Music Performance Elective and continued in Year 11 as VCE Music Performance Units 1 & 2 and Music Performance Units 3 & 4.

Performance skills are developed by participation in a range of recitals and concerts along with the classroom vocal and instrumental program. Students also listen and respond to a broad range of styles and genres. Study in both the elective program and VCE continues to expand students' musical understanding, with a greater emphasis on polished performances and recording, composition and analysis skills.

Instrumental Music

Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programs are taught by specialist teachers who are experts in their fields. The aim of this Program is to ensure high calibre tuition leading to the mastery of an instrument, so that a student's full musical potential can be realised. Individual instrumental lessons are offered in a diverse range of instruments from Years 1 to 12 and Voice lessons are offered at Years 6 to 12.

Students take lessons during the School day and priority for times scheduled out of class are given to VCE students.

Students undertaking instrumental lessons are encouraged to set goals with their teachers at the beginning of each term in order to extend their skills. These may include sitting an official examination, performing at a recital or mastering particular works.

Individual Performing Arts Lessons On Offer:

Bassoon	Piano
Cello	Recorder*
Clarinet	Saxophone
Double Bass	Trombone
Euphonium	Trumpet
Flute	Theory of Music
French Horn	Tuba
Guitar	Viola
Harp*	Violin
Oboe	Voice^
Percussion	

* To be discussed with Head of Music prior to enrolment

^ Voice lessons are available to Barbreck students from Year 5. To be discussed with Head of Music and Junior School Music Coordinator prior to enrolment.

Ensemble Program

The Co-Curricular Choral and Instrumental Ensemble Program is critical in providing learning contexts for all St Catherine's musicians.

Students enrolled in lessons are expected to participate within the Co-curricular Ensemble Program as soon as they are able, as this context provides invaluable opportunities for the development of instrumental and vocal skills. Those students who learn piano are able to participate in choir or band.

There are a variety of performance and learning opportunities for each ensemble and choral group including the Spring and Gala Concerts, School Assemblies, Recitals, Music Festivals, Music Camp and Eisteddfods.

The ensembles offered each year may be subject to change depending on the particular strengths or cohort of musicians.

Senior School

Brass Ensemble
Chamber Flutes (Years 9 to 12)
Clarinet Ensemble
Double Reed Ensemble
Jazz Ensemble
Jorgenson Orchestra*
Middle Years String Ensemble
Middle Years String Quartet
Percussion Ensemble
Senior Concert Band*
Senior Saxophone Ensemble
Senior Strings
Senior Years String Quartet
Sherrin Singers (Years 7 & 8)
Viva Voci (Years 9 to 12)
Years 6, 7, 8 Concert Band
Years 7 & 8 Flute Ensemble

Junior School

Barbreck Choir (Years 5 & 6)
Barbreck Concert Band
Barbreck Flute Ensemble
Barbreck Strings (Years 4 to 6)
Barbreck String Quartet
Epstein Singers (Years 5 & 6)*
Heyington Choir (Years 3 & 4)
Junior School Percussion Ensemble
Langley Choir (Preparatory to Year 2)
Petite Strings (Year 3)
Ukulele Ensemble

Whilst ensembles rehearse in both the Junior and Senior School, selected Junior School students may be invited to participate in Senior School ensembles.

*Auditioned ensemble



ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL SPORT

Senior School Sport

St Catherine's highly encourages sport as an important part of every student's well-balanced weekly routine to foster overall wellbeing. Our extensive sporting program aims to provide athleticism through fitness, expertise, confidence and enjoyment in all areas of sport. The St Catherine's Sports program includes involvement in interschool competitions, interstate tours and internal House competitions throughout the year. With expert coaching available, many of our students are outstanding sportswoman and excel within their individual sporting pursuits. We are privileged to have nurtured numerous elite athletes who have represented Australia. Within St Catherine's Sports Program girls participate in:

Carnival Sport

Incorporating Girls Sport Victoria (GSV) Carnival competitions, as well as State and National sports programs. This level of participating involves structured training and lead up competitions in preparation for major championship events. Sports included in Carnival Sport include Aquatics, Athletics, Rowing and Snowsports.

GSV Sport

GSV weekly sport provides students the opportunity to sample different team sports in a fun and structured learning environment. Each term students select different GSV weekly sports and participate in training sessions in order to be selected to represent St Catherine's School in weekly GSV matches against other GSV schools in a range of graded competitions. Sports included are Tennis, Softball, Water Polo, AFL, Netball, Hockey, Soccer, Badminton, Cricket, Volleyball and Basketball.

Engagement Sport

Incorporating GSV special sporting events and St Catherine's fitness programs, engagement sport provides students with the opportunity to try new sports and broaden their experiences with the aim of establishing an active lifestyle. Sports included are Triathlon, Run and Swim Group and Strength and Conditioning.

House Sport

House Sport is incorporated into our St Catherine's inter-House Cup competition. House Sport encourages teamwork and peer leadership to develop a School-wide sport competition, revolving around fun and enjoyment of Sport. Sports included are Aquatics, Athletics, Cross Country, Running and Snowsports.

St Catherine's Athlete Development Academy

Our Athlete Development Academy provides a platform for aspiring female athletes to further develop their sporting abilities through individualised sport-specific training programs, strength and conditioning sessions and a suite of athlete education services including sports psychology, nutrition, recovery and injury prevention, time management and goal setting.

"I have been involved in Snowsports, Swimming, Running, Triathlon, Athletics and Cross Country at St Catherine's. The skills I developed through training and competition at St Catherine's has allowed me to improve my performances and I have been able to compete at State and National levels for Snowsports and Swimming."

Madeleine Hooker (Class of 2022)
Snowsports State & National Champion
Western Melbourne Propulsion, Swim Team

Junior School Sport

Within St Catherine's Junior School Sports Program all girls participate in physical education and Sport.

Physical Education & Health Curriculum

Students participate in specialist Health and Physical Education sessions every week. Within the sessions students develop gross motor skills through a wide range of activities including running, skipping, hopping and jumping. They also develop their aquatic skills through swimming sessions in St Catherine's Marigold Southey Sports & Aquatic Centre. In Years 3 and 4 students have the opportunity to participate in after School Sport as an optional activity.

In Years 5 and 6, students participate in after School Sport on a four week rotation of a range of Sports, including Hockey, Netball, Soccer, Handball, Basketball, Volleystars, Softball, and Cricket.

Interschool Sport

Our Junior School competes within the School Sport Victoria (SSV) competition. The SSV Competition provides students with the opportunity to participate in carnivals against schools in the Armadale District. Students have the opportunity to learn and experience a variety of sports within the SSV Competition and is complemented by our training squads and co-curricular programs. Sports included in the SSV competition include Swimming, Diving, Cross Country, Athletics, Netball, Basketball, Tennis, Soccer and AFLW.





ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Learning beyond the classroom empowers our young women to discover through experience and extend their capabilities, pursue their interests, talents and passions and find their voice in the world around them.

Our bespoke co-curricular program, *Her Signature*, encourages, inspires and enriches participation for our students and empowers them to be authentic and fearless in all they pursue.

Her Signature offers extensive programs that enhance the development of our young women through exciting, authentic experiences across:

Sport

St Catherine's highly encourages sport as an important part of every student's well-balanced weekly routine to foster overall wellbeing. Our extensive sporting program aims to provide athleticism through fitness, expertise, confidence and enjoyment in all areas of sport.

The St Catherine's Sports program includes involvement in interschool competitions, interstate tours and internal House competitions throughout the year. With expert coaching available, many of our students are outstanding sportswomen and excel within their individual sporting pursuits. We are privileged to have nurtured numerous elite athletes who have represented Australia.

Music

Our dynamic and enriched Music Program provides students with opportunities to learn and appreciate Music for life. Our extensive classroom Music curriculum and thriving instrumental program provide students with an exciting range of opportunities to learn and build upon their musical skills through both individual and ensemble performances. Scholarships based on musical ability are awarded each year.

Performing Arts

Delivered within our new Jamie & Rebecca Gray Theatre, St Catherine's Performing Arts program across both the Junior and Senior Schools, provides a professional performance space for our performing arts and stagecraft students to share a love of performing on stage as part of St Catherine's theatrical productions.

Visual Arts

Visual Arts at St Catherine's enables personal growth and the creative expression of ideas for all girls. Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Visual Communication and Design, Digital Media and Product Design and Technology, students are encouraged to experiment with their artistic expression through creating artworks using a range of different forms. Annual exhibitions of artworks offer an insight into the diverse interpretations of life and experiences of our emerging artists.

Debating and Public Speaking

Offered from Year 5 in our Junior School through to Year 12, St Catherine's Debating and Public Speaking Program enhances students' skills in persuasive advocacy. Our debaters learn to speak confidently in a public forum and develop positive attitudes toward the intellectual exchange of ideas, gaining confidence in preparing, presenting and defending logical argument. Opportunities to compete in House, interschool and community-based debating and public speaking competitions are part of the program.

Student Leadership

Empowering young women to step forward, St Catherine's encourages girls to embrace every opportunity to use their voice.

Students are presented with a range of leadership opportunities to challenge and inspire them, including:

- Barbreck Ambassador Program
- Years 9 and 10 St Catherine's Leadership Diploma
- Student VOICES Program
- Student Executive

School Clubs

Along with our vibrant House System, St Catherine's School Clubs provide girls the opportunity to join together and share common interests, across the Year levels. Girls are able to pursue their interests and passions in areas such as Art & Design, Cultural Diversity, Drama, Environment, STEM, Chess and Human Rights and Writer's Club.

Global Exchange Programs and Study Tours

St Catherine's School provides students with a wide range of opportunities to extend their learning, knowledge and confidence through interstate and overseas travel. Our well-established exchange programs and study tours broaden the educational offerings allowing Senior School students to contribute to the wider community, explore opportunities and develop a deep understanding of their responsibilities within local, national and international contexts.

Outdoor Education

Our Beyond Boundaries Camp Program fosters a love of the outdoors through learning experiences that extend our classroom curriculum. The Program encourages students to understand their identity, their community and their relationship with the natural world. The Program commences in Year 1 and concludes in Year 9 when St Catherine's Global Pathways Program commences.

Community Service

Community service is an important expression of St Catherine's School Values. Nurturing a culture of empathy, understanding and giving St Catherine's provides continual opportunities for students to work together to develop and promote relationships and initiatives that will assist our local and international communities. Students plan activities for the whole School, inform the School community on issues of both local and global need and assist local charities with their activities.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme

St Catherine's has proudly been involved in The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award for over 40 years. Focusing on leadership, creativity, skill development, community service, physical activity and adventure the Duke of Edinburgh's Award allows our girls to embark on a journey of adventure, volunteering time to their local communities as well as learning important life skills and resilience.

"I discovered my greatest strengths and weaknesses through my co-curricular experiences. I learnt persistence, acceptance, relying on myself, and how to be part of a team. I learnt there is no shame in failing. I learnt to be organised and use my time well and that something worthwhile always involves hard work."

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ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

Your Passport to Global Learning

St Catherine's provides students a wide range of opportunities to extend their cultural understanding, broaden their perspectives and improve their personal awareness through interstate and overseas travel.

Our well-established Exchange programs and Study Tours broaden educational offerings and allow students to contribute to the wider community and develop a deeper understanding of their global responsibilities.

Global Exchanges

Our Global Exchange program broadens horizons for our Year 9 students. In turn, participating students host students from Sister Schools during return visits. St Catherine's holds strong links with the following Sister Schools:

- St Catherine's School, UK
- Buffalo Seminary School, USA
- Shawningan Lake School, Canada
- Crofton School, Canada

AFX French Exchange

This French Exchange Program is facilitated through our third-party provider, AFX Student Exchange, an organisation that specialises in coordinating language immersion programs to France and is accredited by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA). St Catherine's students and their families will be offered two program options: the One-Way Exchange (no need to host), or the Reciprocal Exchange.

Reciprocal Requirements: Students participating in the Reciprocal Program will also be required to host a French student for a 6-week duration from the

end of the June-July break to mid Term 3.

Expeditions

Global Expedition

Offering education through experience, expeditions are packed with eye-opening cultural exchanges, physical challenges and meaningful service projects in some of the world's most beautiful developing countries. Students are engaged in all aspects of the Expedition, playing a major role in planning their itinerary, including project work in a local community and challenging treks. Students are also supported in setting and achieving individual and team fundraising goals to help cover the cost of the program. Past destinations have included Peru, Nepal, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, Borneo and Vietnam.

Local Expedition

The Outdoor Education Group, who run St Catherine's Beyond Boundaries program offer Australian expeditions for interested students. These expeditions allow students to challenge themselves and extend the skills they gain through the Beyond Boundaries program. This expedition allows students to meet the expedition requirement for the Silver or Gold level of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Study Tours

Our Study Tours cater for the interests of our students and the diversity of our curriculum. Overseas Study Tours are offered on a rotating basis to enrich study areas including History, Art, Music, Languages, Geography and Science for students predominantly in Years 10 and 11, although some tours are open to younger students.

Italy Study Tour

Explore the great galleries and major sites of Italy, visiting Venice, Prato, Florence, Sienna, Assisi and Rome.

Art students are able to experience famous art works they have studied and sketch famous sites whilst exploring the historical context of them.

Japan Study Tour

Travelling to three different cities of Japan: Tokyo, Kyoto and Nagoya, the Tour provides students an enriching experience, both linguistically and culturally. It includes a visit to Shukutoku High School, our Sister School in Nagoya and a short homestay where students will connect with their host families.

China Study Tour

This tour introduces students to the fascinating aspects of China's past and present. Venturing off the tourist track provides students time to interact with locals and visit Beijing and Shanghai, climb the Great Wall, see the Terracotta Warriors and visit our sister School Olive Tree International Academy. In 2026, this trip will be offered to Years 9 to 12 students.

NASA Space Camp

Endorsed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Years 10 and 11 students participate in a rigorous program at NASA's training facility in Alabama and the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida. Space Camp promotes Mathematics, Science and Technology, teaching students about the mental, emotional and physical demands astronauts face, as well as providing leadership and teamwork training.

Central Australia

In line with our pastoral wellbeing theme in Year 8, weConnect, Central Australia has been purposefully chosen as it holds great cultural significance in the history of our nation. The Year 8 Central Australia Program provides an outdoor cultural experience, which introduces students to Aboriginal Indigenous Cultural via a series of interactive workshops and activities. Throughout five days and four nights, students visit Alice Springs, Kings Canyon and Uluru.



Easy Online Application



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Fees & Business Practices



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