



ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
SPRINGWOOD





ST COLUMBA'S

ST COLUMBA'S IS A VIBRANT CATHOLIC COEDUCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SET IN THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE MOUNTAINS.

SURROUNDED ON ALL SIDES BY THE NATIONAL PARK, THE SCHOOL WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT AS A SEMINARY IN 1909.

TODAY IT COMBINES OLD SANDSTONE BUILDINGS WITH FIRST CLASS, MODERN FACILITIES THAT CREATE A UNIQUE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

THE STRIKING MIX OF OLD AND NEW REMINDS OUR STUDENTS TO VALUE THE PAST, LIVE FOR THE PRESENT AND HAVE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At St Columba's we are committed to the education of the whole person: spiritually, physically, emotionally and intellectually.

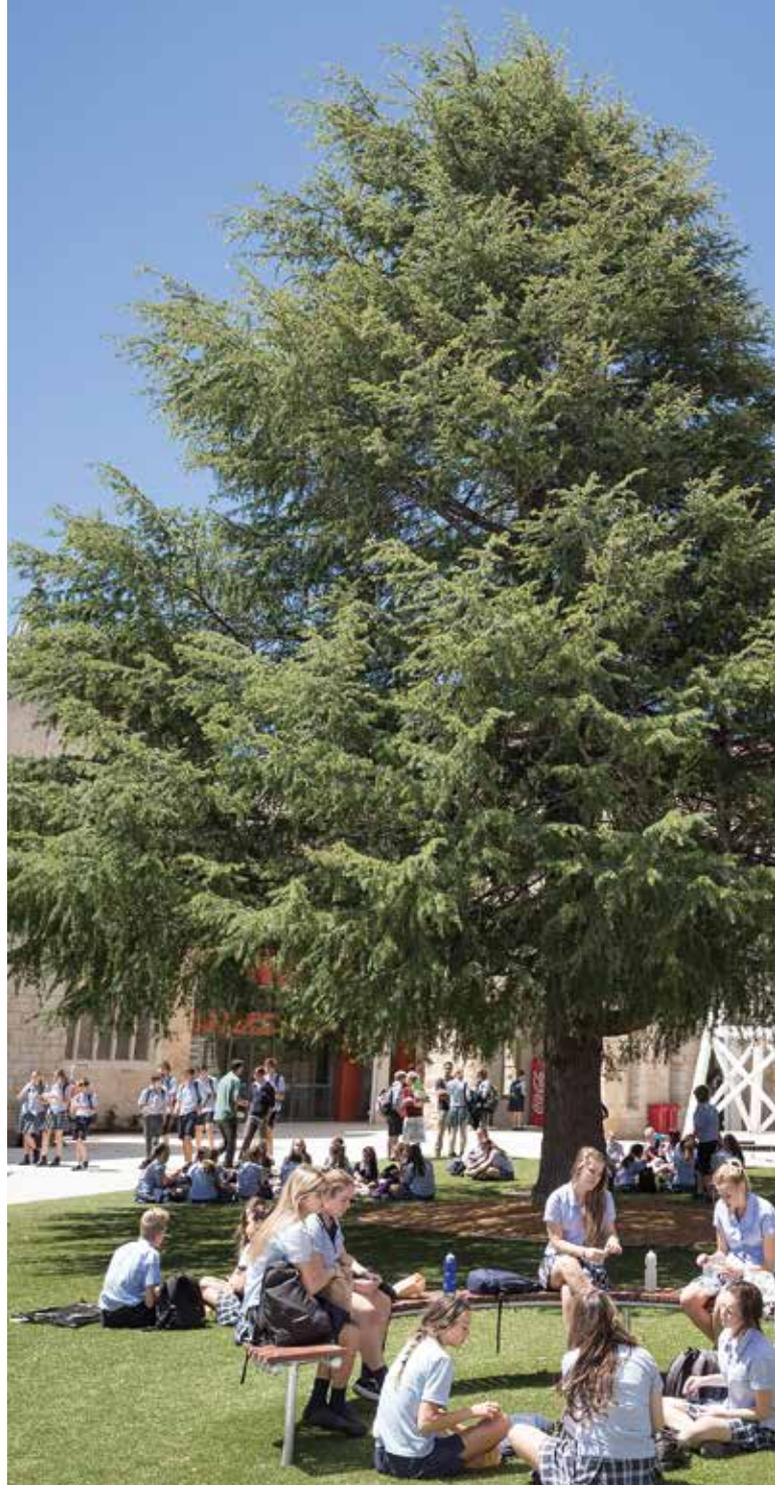
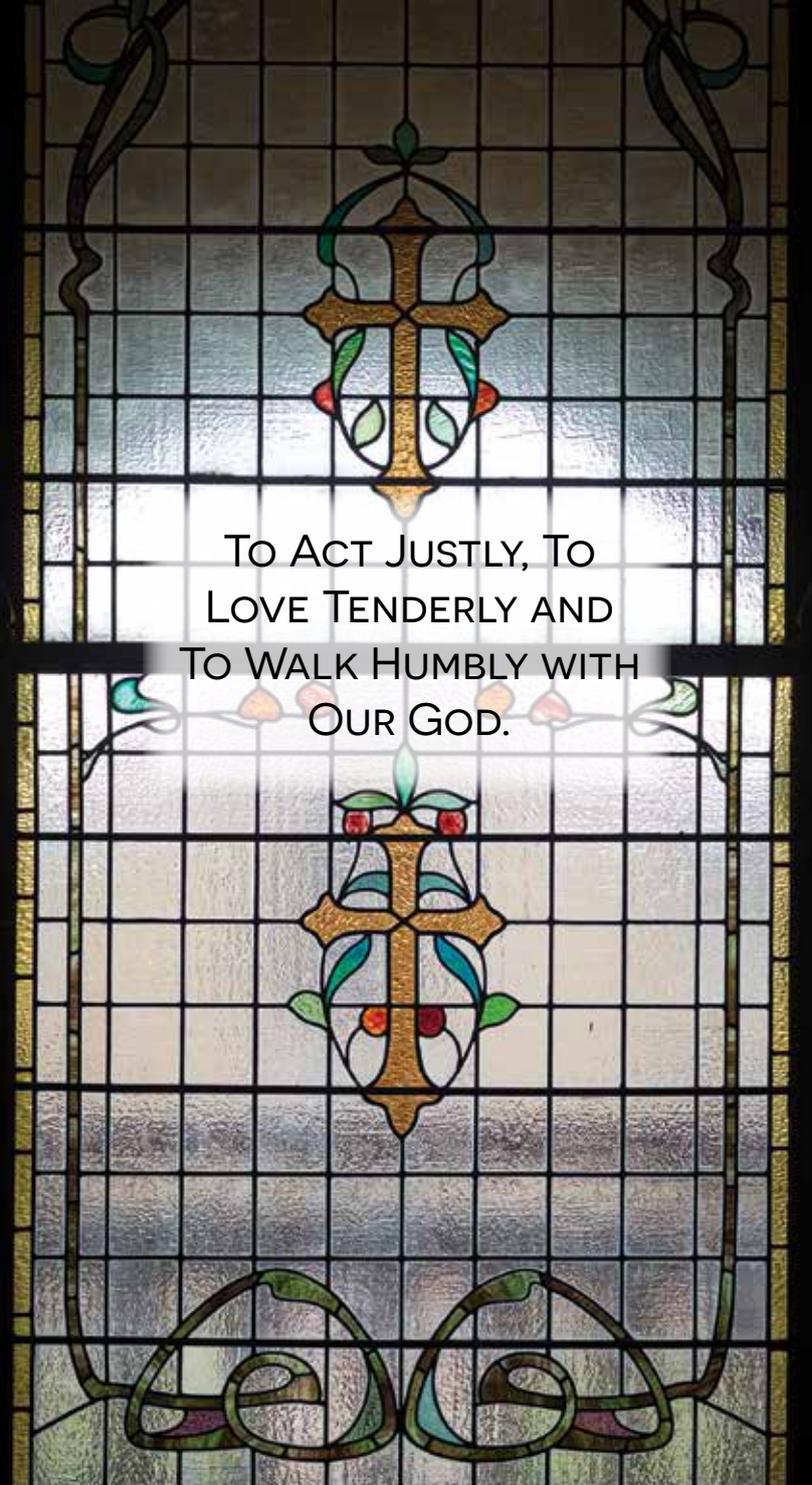
We are a Catholic learning community where each member of the community is encouraged to be a life long learner. I believe that everything that takes place for our students at the College is 'all about learning' and all students must have high expectations of themselves and others if they are to achieve their full potential as human beings. Learning at St Columba's is personalised, contemporary and challenging.

I have many hopes and dreams for the young people of St Columba's and believe they should always strive to be the best they can be, so that they will go out into our world and make a difference as Christian men and women who will continue to grow as people of faith, living out our College motto, "To act Justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with our God."

Paul Ryan,
Principal.







✦ OUR TRADITIONS

'AT ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE WE STRIVE FOR THE FULL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STUDENTS, GROUNDED IN THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST AND SUPPORTED BY OUR CATHOLIC FAITH TRADITION.'

Students are encouraged to:

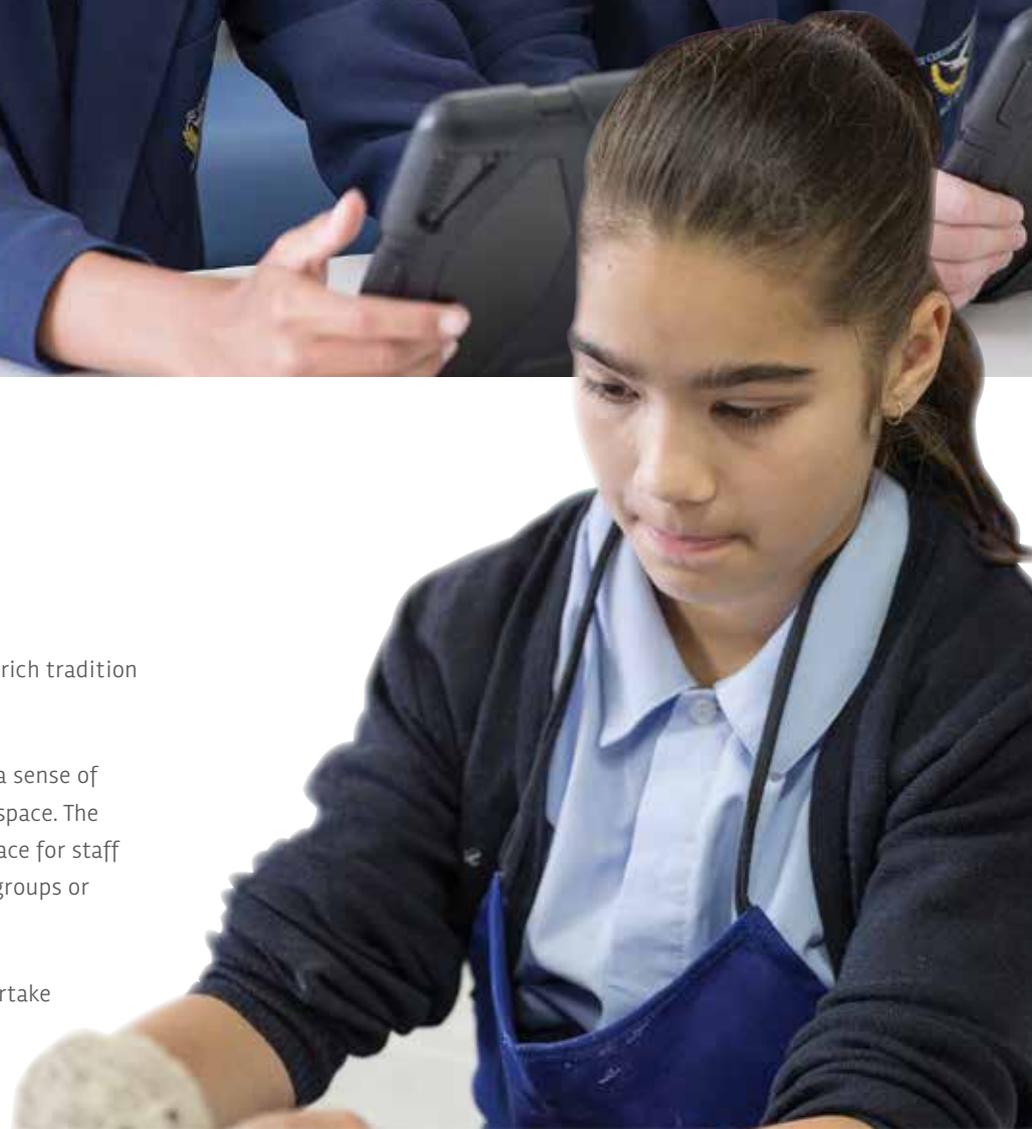
- * Develop a commitment to their faith through a Catholic way of living.
- * Show active concern and care for themselves, their family, the community and global issues.
- * Develop a love of learning necessary to make them active and responsible members of the community.
- * Develop and pursue excellence in intellectual and practical skills appropriate to their age and ability
- * Appreciate the arts, music, literature and the nature of our multicultural society.
- * Appreciate and pursue a healthy lifestyle through physical activities and health education.



St Columba's Catholic College has a rich tradition of prayer and liturgy.

As a community, we celebrate with a sense of the sacredness of people, time and space. The College's Iona Chapel is a special space for staff and students to reflect and pray in groups or individually.

All students from Years 7 to 12 undertake Religious Education.







STUDENT CARE AND WELLBEING

St Columba's has a well-developed student care and wellbeing program designed to ensure all students receive the support, advice and encouragement needed to be the best that they can be.

During their time at the College, students will participate in a number of programs including peer support, student leadership, anti-bullying and transition.

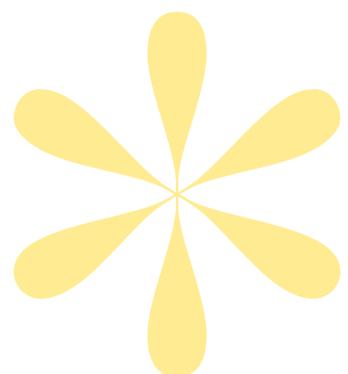


EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular activities provide opportunities for students to develop leadership and organisational skills and to contribute to the College and local community in many ways. Students are encouraged to find their passions and develop them.

Social justice programs, the performing and visual arts, debating, leadership programs, student exchange, the Duke of Edinburgh program and the Media Team are just some of the curricular offerings at St Columba's.

St Columba's has a committed, highly qualified staff with a mix of youth and experience. This allows for high quality, innovative teaching in an environment in which students of all abilities are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning and achieve beyond their expectations.





OUR LEARNING CONTEXT

The 21st century is here and now: our focus is on creating a contemporary learning context for all of our learners. Access to the tools for learning is wide ranging, including laptops and iPads. Students and teachers use wikis, blogs, online learning environments and other contemporary web based tools to

support learning. Students at St Columba's are prepared to take their places in the world today. There is a focus on students taking responsibility for their learning, developing effective thinking skills and problem solving strategies.



St Columba's offers a comprehensive curriculum that caters for a wide range of student interests and abilities. Students have the opportunity to choose from a broad range of courses and subjects. Subjects offered from Years 7 to 10 include Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, PDHPE, Technology and Applied Sciences, Creative and Performing Arts and Japanese. Courses for the HSC include

Agriculture, Ancient History, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Dance, Drama, Economics, Engineering Studies, English Extension, Food Technology, Geography, Information Processes & Technology, Industrial Technology, Japanese Continuers, Japanese Beginners, Legal Studies, all levels of Mathematics and English, Modern History, Music 1 & 2, PDHPE, Physics, Senior Science, Society & Culture,



Software Design & Development, Visual Arts, Studies of Religion, Photography, Religion: Catholic Studies, Visual Design, Building and Construction, Hospitality Operations, Entertainment, and Primary Industries.

The curriculum organisation recognizes that students learn at different rates and in different styles. Ideally it is well balanced, diverse and

flexible, allowing students to proceed at their own pace, accelerate where appropriate, and choose courses that allow them to consolidate their knowledge and skills.

The College recognises the importance of offering different pathways of study and a wide range of subjects to cater for the academic and vocational needs of our students.



Years 11 and 12 are the final stages of high school, and students are given the opportunity for greater specialisation and sophistication in their academic studies. St Columba's offers senior students a number of different study options, including vocational education, Open High School, TAFE and work placement.

St Columba's has a proud tradition of academic excellence and student achievement that is recognized and acknowledged by a system of awards. These awards encourage students to strive to realise their potential thus creating a positive, learning environment.









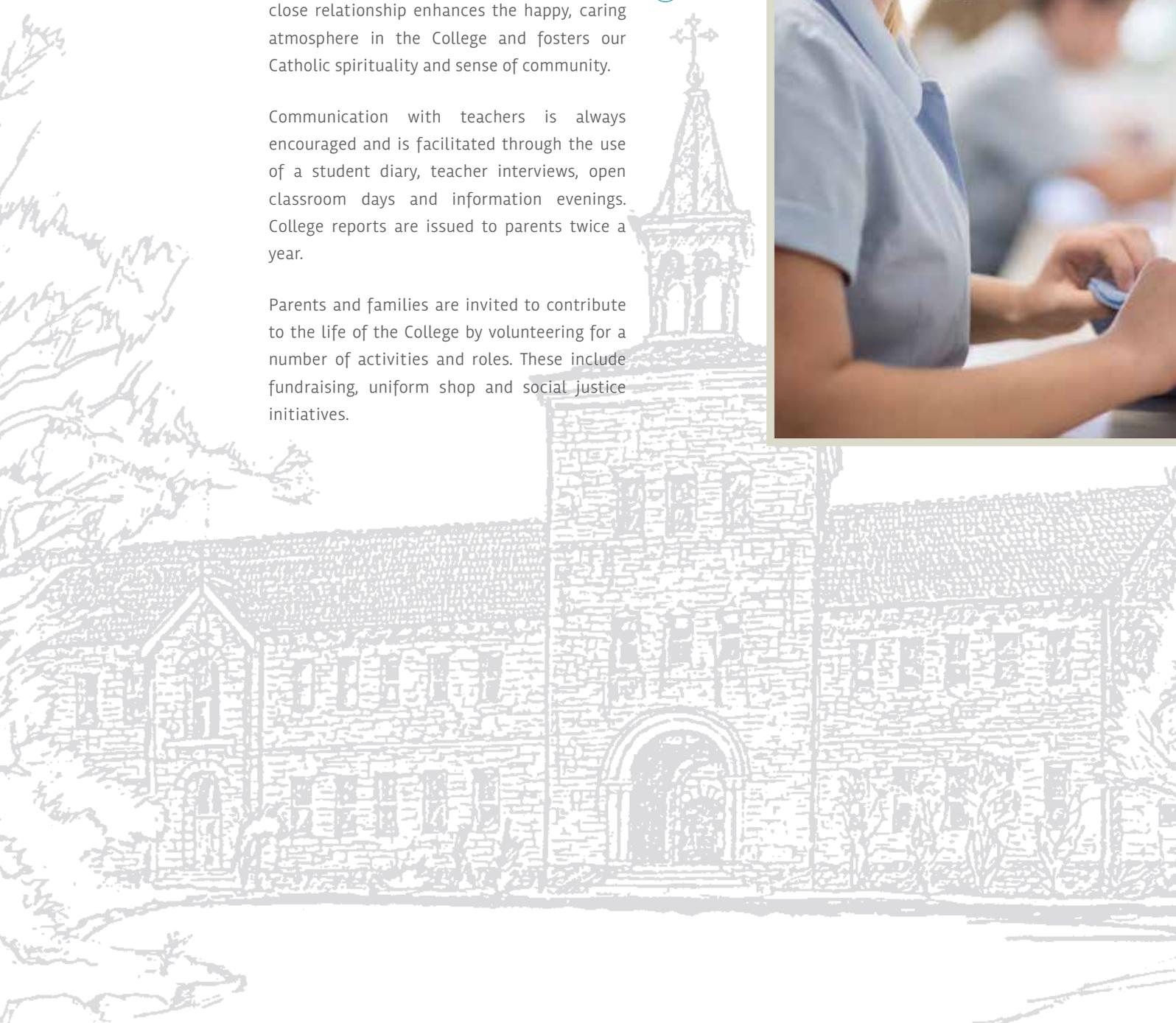
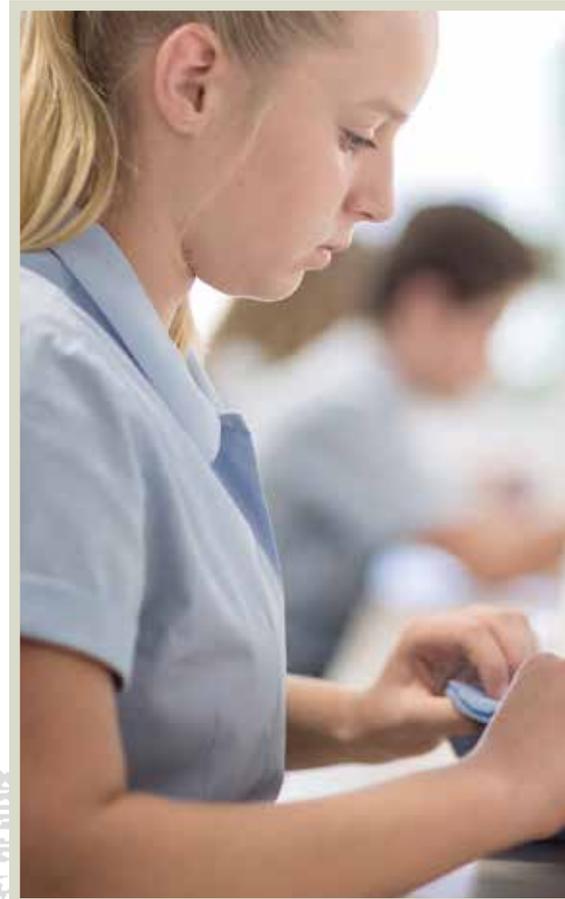
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

At St Columba's we value the partnership between the College, home and parish. This close relationship enhances the happy, caring atmosphere in the College and fosters our Catholic spirituality and sense of community.



Communication with teachers is always encouraged and is facilitated through the use of a student diary, teacher interviews, open classroom days and information evenings. College reports are issued to parents twice a year.

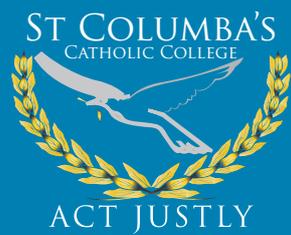
Parents and families are invited to contribute to the life of the College by volunteering for a number of activities and roles. These include fundraising, uniform shop and social justice initiatives.











St Columba's Catholic College
168 Hawkesbury Road (PO Box 7) Springwood NSW 2777
tel 4754 1022 fax 4754 3558 email stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au