

## ST AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE SYDNEY

## **PROSPECTUS**

HOW DO YOU MEASURE SUCCESS?



## OUR PRINCIPAL

**WELCOME** 

A distinctive feature of our Augustinian heritage is our sense of welcome and the strength of our community. As a Catholic independent school for boys in Year 5-12, we practice our faith with an emphasis on strong values, clear expectations and working in partnership with our families.

It is our values of *Truth*, *Love* and *Community* that focus and unite our staff, parents and students. This cohesion of purpose has built our reputation as a Catholic college striving for excellence in the education of young men. Over the past decade, we have developed a culture of achievement and continue to set high academic expectations.

As an Augustinian school, we are also equipping our graduates with life skills and personal traits that go beyond the classroom. Students have access to a rich variety of cultural, sporting and social justice programs. In developing the 'whole person', we provide opportunities for students to develop their gifts and talents and to explore new opportunities that challenge them to strive to achieve.

I invite you to become familiar with the Augustinian story, and to meet our staff and students by joining us on a tour of the College. It is our belief that all boys can achieve significant success, no matter what their academic pathway.

We look forward to meeting your son and supporting him to achieve his personal best.

Jonathan Byrne

Principal



### OUR COLLEGE

The College began when the Provincial of the Augustinians, Fr Tom Hunt OSA, accepted the challenge to build a school on a vacant block of land in Brookvale, on the Northern Beaches of Sydney.

On 7 February 1956, the College opened its doors to its first 65 students.

Since then, our facilities have dramatically improved, our academic achievement continues to rise, and our student body has grown to approximately 1,200. We now have over 120 highly qualified teachers, who are experts in their field with a dedication to boys' education. We proudly remain a Catholic school for boys, teaching in the Augustinian tradition. We equip students with the skills and a sense of responsibility to make their world a better place. With care, compassion and understanding as our hallmark qualities, we guide the young men as they grow in their faith, finding purpose and meaning, by engaging them to make gospel values real in their lives.

## LEADERS IN BOYS EDUCATION

Contributing to our success is our innovative curriculum, structured specifically for boys. Fostering creativity and critical thinking is a natural part of our teaching, enhanced by integrated and sophisticated technology.

We know boys and shape their education in ways that fill them with a sense of purpose and success. We are aware of their differences, their academic capabilities and interests, as well as their challenges. We continuously explore opportunities to structure a more personalised, relevant curriculum that meets all of our boys' needs in the present, with the flexibility to adapt to change in the future.



The educational journey of our students is based on Catholic values delivered through the lens of our patron, Saint Augustine. Saint Augustine was an early leading Father of the Church, and his inspired writings are still widely quoted today. He is renowned for his intellect, contribution to philosophy and theology, and his own personal struggles with finding truth. For Augustine, truth is Christ and the Gospel message of love. In Augustine's words, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you".

We strive to live out the Gospel through Augustinian characteristics or lenses:

- Restless Search for Truth appreciating the dynamic and lifelong nature of the search for truth
- Humility having a sense of gratitude for life and its promise
- Interiority going beyond the surface values of society and popular culture
- Community giving priority to relationships, seeking tolerance, forgiveness and service
- Ongoing Conversion accepting and meeting others where they are on life's journey

## OUR AUGUSTINIAN VALUES

Christ and the Gospel message of love are at the core of all we do:

- Peace living in harmony with ourselves and others
- Justice and Goodness doing what is right
- Compassion and Empathy taking on the heart of Jesus when dealing with others
- Forgiveness and Redemption forgiving ourselves and others who may hurt us
- Service bringing hope to those in need

Our students are encouraged to hold these values in their hearts and minds as they undertake their educational journey at St Augustine's College, and to find guidance and comfort in them well beyond graduation.

Our College is truly blessed to have two Augustinian priests on staff to help and guide our Mission journey. Students regularly engage in Eucharist (Mass), Retreats and Prayer.



## OUR PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEARS 5 AND 6

A PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH THE BENEFITS OF A SECONDARY SCHOOL

Starting your son at our first entry point of Year 5 offers significant advantages.

With a breadth of resources unique to our primary school education, boys are positioned to develop into successful and confident learners, gaining a sense of optimism, which in turn promotes emotional, mental and physical wellbeing.

The Good Counsel Primary School is a tailored environment that includes specialised music and drama rooms and sophisticated science laboratories. Your son can explore these facilities to their full potential with a team of specialist teachers to guide them. All of our Primary teaching staff are exceptional educators, planning engaging and exciting activities pitched at the instructional level of all students.

Starting at St Augustine's College in our primary intake ensures that your son's formative educational experiences are in the one school and prepares him for a seamless transition into his secondary education.





### ACADEMIC CARE

Student life in primary school is based on the principles of co-operative learning, with an innovative curriculum encouraging collaboration, problem solving, critical thinking, communication and creativity.

Students experience the Creative and Practical Arts program, Languages (Chinese and Italian), Drama, PDHPE (Personal Development, Health and Physical Education), Music Instrumental Program, Computer Coding, and STEAM lessons incorporating Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.

Importantly, all subjects are supported by specialised teachers in these areas. All Primary School teachers are skilled up to teach science laboratory lessons, providing a practical, hands on activity not normally offered until high school. The College invests heavily in its Primary music program, where Year 5 students learn an instrument each term before selecting one instrument of choice for Year 6. Music instruction is provided to students by highly qualified teachers, usually in small groups of six.



## STUDENT CARE AND WELLBEING

Our core values of *Truth, Love, Humility, Interiority* and *Community*, along with our Positive Education program, gives students the skills and resources to foster wellbeing.

Years 5 and 6 attend PosEd (Positive Education) lessons based on the PERMA framework, a method of positive education combining traditional education principles with research-backed ways of increasing happiness and wellbeing. Our staff undertake professional learning from Geelong Grammar's Institute of Positive Education, to teach students valuable life skills that increase their learning capacity, but also their emotional and social capacity too.

We offer several programs to foster positive relationships amongst students and provide our Primary boys with excellent Senior role models. In the Big Brother Reading Program, boys from Years 11 and 12 spend time reading with our Primary students to help them develop a love of literature and strengthen their support networks. The Year 6 Buddy program begins before day one, when commencing Year 5 students receive an introduction letter from their future buddy, before meeting for the first time. Students also attend Orientation Camp to meet other students and encourage social bonding.

The bonds fostered at the beginning of Primary help our students to feel safe and connected, and create a sense of community between Senior and Primary boys. These bonds continue throughout the students' time at the College, and for many also endure far beyond graduation.



## OUR SECONDARY SCHOOL

## DIVERSITY OF SUCCESS

We are proud of the many different pathways our students pursue, and the success that they achieve in their chosen fields. St Augustine's College graduates have careers in areas including economics, arts and culture, education, science and technology, sport, hospitality, law, trades, health and medicine, and government, amongst many others.

A highlight of our high school results is the diversity of success of the students. High achievement in Mathematics and Science, English, Humanities and the Creative Arts continues to give us confidence that all boys can achieve significant success no matter what their academic pathway.

The support your son receives at the College enables him to identify his own talents, and helps him achieve above his own expectations. The breadth of education offered caters for all of our students.

#### **7**TH

in the State in Studies of Religion

#### 21<sup>ST</sup>

in the State in combined Mathematics Extension and Mathematics Advanced

#### 21<sup>ST</sup>

in the State in combined English Extension and English Advanced

#### 19

#### **HSC NOMINATIONS AND SELECTIONS**

ARTEXPRESS, ENCORE, OnSTAGE/OnSCREEN, InTech and Shape

### COURSES OFFERED AT ST AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE

Ancient History Japanese

Biology Legal Studies

Business Studies Mathematics

Chemistry Mathematics Extension

Chinese Modern History

Chinese and Literature History Extension

Commerce Music

Design and Technology Music Extension

Drama Physical Activity and Sports

Studies

Earth and Environmental

Science Personal Development,
Health and Physical
Economics

Education

Engineering Studies Photographic and Digital

English Media

English Extension Physics

Geography Studies of Religion

Italian Software Design and

Development

Industrial Technology

Timber Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies

Information and Software

Technology Visual Arts

Investigating Science



## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

As a comprehensive boys' school, the College has a culture of achievement.

An Augustinian education promotes achievement across all aspects of the curriculum and encourages students to pursue results commensurate with their ability. Students with natural curiosity and a willingness to learn flourish with a flexible and adaptive pedagogical style. Our curriculum continues to evolve and develop through the use of a higher order thinking framework. We seek excellence in teaching and learning with a commitment to curriculum, renewal and academic challenge.

Our academic success is achieved through a combination of student application, dedication and hard work and the significant support of families and our highly qualified, dedicated and expert teaching staff.



Relationships sit at the heart of all learning. We value strong pastoral care alongside our academic program.

Our Augustinian core values are the foundation of our Student Wellbeing Program or Augustinian Wellbeing in Education (AWE) Program in which boys build their social and emotional capacity through the PERMA model of positive education - positive emotion, engagement, relationships, meaning and accomplishment.

## STUDENT CARE AND WELLBEING

#### STUDENT WELLBEING

St Augustine's College believes that 'every teacher is a teacher of wellbeing'. Our staff help develop and implement a consistent and sequential approach to social and emotional learning (SEL) from Year 5 through to Year 12, timetabled AWE lessons up to Year 9, as well as throughout the year for all students in our fortnightly Friday Wellbeing Period.

#### **COUNSELLING TEAM**

An integral part of our support for student wellbeing and our families is the provision of a counselling team, including qualified psychologists and social workers.

Significant progress has been made to promote and destigmatise the use of counselling services, and many of our students who work with our psychologists self-refer. Our College Psychologists liaise very closely with all key stakeholders in the care of our students and encourage early intervention through the provision of counselling, education and prevention initiatives.

#### **OUR HOUSE SYSTEM**

Our House system, consisting of six Houses, is central to our pastoral system. We have a vibrant annual House competition known as the Bishops Shield. All students are involved in House competitions throughout the year, earning points through a wide range of activities such as academic endeavours, poetry competitions, creative arts, debating, sporting competitions and carnivals.

Working in conjunction with our House system is our highly engaged Student Representative Council, Peer Support and Student Leadership Programs.

### OUR FACILITIES

#### OUR COLLEGE OFFERS NORTHERN BEACHES FAMILIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS WORLD-CLASS AND AWARD-WINNING FACILITIES CLOSE TO HOME.

Our facilities are carefully designed to provide the best learning environment for students, with a key focus on tailoring learning spaces to boys. Our most recent project, the four storey Goold Building, was awarded the Master Builders Association of NSW 2020 Excellence in Construction Award.



#### ARCHITECTURALLY DESIGNED MUSIC HUB

The Goold Music Centre forms part of the creative hub. It includes specially designed music classrooms, tutorial rooms, a recording studio, amphitheatre, and a multipurpose auditorium with retractable seating. All rooms have been acoustically treated to accentuate sound properties whilst minimising sound spill between rooms. Creative storage solutions house the large collection of instruments and teaching materials.



#### **SPECIALIST ART STUDIOS**

Our bespoke art rooms offer a creative environment with abundant natural light and were designed in close collaboration between architects and our Visual Arts faculty.



#### **DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOPS**

Our TAS workshops offer open-plan multifunctional spaces, including a central working hub. There are two designated spaces for the Industrial Technology timber students.

Design and Technology resources include 3D printers, laser printers and other speciality machinery.



#### **LIBRARY**

The library is a key part of the award-winning Goold Building, spanning three levels and intentionally blurring the lines between library, transit areas and classrooms. This actively encourages the boys' propensity to browse and immerses students in an engaging learning environment.



#### **SCIENCE SPACES**

The Mendel Science Wing includes open plan science laboratories and classrooms. The laboratories are connected to classrooms through large bi-fold doors, allowing teachers to move students between practical and theory lessons with ease.



#### HALLS AND AUDITORIUMS

We are fortunate to have both the Brimson Centre's multipurpose hall for assemblies, events, sports training and games, and the multi-purpose Lecceto Auditorium.



#### **CANTEEN**

Our canteen has been designed as a sophisticated commercial kitchen to effectively deliver high quality, healthy and tasty meals to students and staff, as well as being equipped to manage large scale catering for various events. Our dedicated food services team, including a professional chef, prepare and cook nearly all food onsite. We run a cashless system for purchases, allowing easy spend tracking and ordering for students and their families.



#### **OPEN SPACES AND GYMNASIUM**

Our structured building program is undertaken with a commitment to maintaining ample green space. We understand that boys are active learners, and our open space allows students to burn off energy during breaks so they can focus during class. Our sophisticated gymnasium is well equipped and managed by Athletic Development Coaches.



#### **CHAPEL**

We are fortunate to have Monica Chapel and two Augustinian priests available at the College for students, staff and families.

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

**SPORT** 











The task of the formation of the whole person lies at the heart of an Augustinian education.

A genuine participation in the Sport and Co-curricular Program is an integral element of a boy's schooling to enrich his educational journey at the College. We offer a diverse, inclusive and consistently successful program, accepting and catering for all needs.

Playing sport, in particular team sport, is a proven part of healthy development. Sport teaches students to organise their time, enhances friendships and builds relationships with other students and adults. Sport teaches valuable lessons about resilience, respect, challenge, courage, failure and success.

We offer a variety of sports in both ISA (Independent Sporting Association) and local competitions. Our students are coached by a mix of experienced and passionate staff members alongside elite specialist coaches, many of whom have achieved great success in their own sporting careers.

We are proud of our Augustinian graduates who have represented at State and National level in a variety of sports learned at the College.

#### SPORTING PROGRAM

Athletic Development

Basketball

**Boxing Fitness** 

Cricket

Football

Rowing

Rugby Union

Running Club

Swimming Squad

Swimming Rep Squad

Tae Kwon Do

Tennis

Water Polo

### CO-CURRICULAR

Cultural pursuits are a vital part of College life at St Augustine's and provide opportunities for our students to pursue their creative talents as well as adding to community experiences within the school. Through our cocurricular program, students experience various activities that extend their critical thinking and creative flair.

Our College offers an extensive suite of specialty spaces, providing opportunities for the boys to perform and enhance their skills in music and drama.

We are proud of our Augustinian graduates who have attended renowned Australian Tertiary Creative Arts establishments such as the prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) and the Conservatorium of Music, and pursued careers as artists, musicians, designers and authors.









#### **CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM**

Art Club

Chess Club

Computer Coding

Debating/Public Speaking

Duke of Edinburgh

Mock Trial

Music – Concert Band, College Choir, Drum Line, Guitar Ensemble, Stage Band, Jazz Ensemble

Performing Arts – Drama Production and Theatre Sports

Writing Club



### **COMMUNITY**

St Augustine's College is known for its strong sense of community care and spirit, uniting students, families and staff. The enthusiasm displayed by our teaching staff and the boys pervades all areas of our community, setting the tone for a lively, stimulating and happy environment.

## STUDENTS

Student voice is very important and forms the main part of our community.

The Augustinian Educational Apostolate states that teaching in an Augustinian school "should always be regarded as essentially a pastoral activity". The College has Formation Leaders who lead with a team of Tutors to provide a continuous relationship for your son. Every day begins with fifteen minutes of Tutor time, where boys can connect with each other and their Tutor before embarking on their day of learning.

#### **SERVICE EDUCATION AWARENESS (SEA)**

We live out our Catholic, Augustinian faith through our SEA Program. Students learn that helping the marginalised and less fortunate is a profound gift and doing so is essential for shaping good hearts and minds. Structures are in place to serve others both locally, through organisations such as Lifeline, St Vincent de Paul and the local Women's Shelter, as well as overseas. Over the decades, students have helped communities in countries including Nepal, Africa, Philippines and Cambodia.

### AUGUSTINIAN WELLBEING IN EDUCATION (AWE) - A YEAR 9 ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

In Year 9, we provide students the opportunity to experience interesting and exciting activities that connect with the local community. We give back to society and provide boys with a 'point of difference' that is rewarding, stimulating and generous in nature. Year 9 students engage in activities such as cooking and motor mechanics at our local TAFE, singing for children living with disabilities, assisting at local infants' schools, cleaning up our local beaches and learning about healthy relationships.

## **PARENTS**

Our parents are very much an integral part of our community.

We have a thriving Parents & Friends Association, an organisation involved in a wide range of College activities. This active and dedicated team of volunteer parents forms a vital link between the College and the parent body.

Parents also support our canteen and uniform shop, along with our sports activities including manager and coaching roles, and participate in school excursions and other cultural pursuits.

We interact via Class Parent emails, social media channels and an internal portal for both academic and administrative needs for parents and students.

## FOUNDATION

The College Foundation assists with the advancement of the College as an educational institution. It is a resource for friendraising and fundraising programs and events, parent community and Old Boy (alumni) liaison and engagement.

## SAOBA/ALUMNI

SAOBA (St Augustine's Old Boys Association) exists to maintain links with our alumni, and among alumni themselves. We keep our Old Boys connected through many mediums, as well as hosting specialised events.

When you join St Augustine's College, you become a part of our global community of over 400 schools, universities and churches.

We would love to welcome you into our community.



# NEXT STEPS

### VISIT

We encourage you to book a tour of the College via our website **www.saintaug.nsw.edu.au** 

See for yourself the world class facilities and opportunities that await your son, right here on the Northern Beaches.



## CONNECT

To learn more about St Augustine's College, visit our website **www.saintaug.nsw.edu.au**.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.



### **APPLY**

Our formal entry points are Year 5 and Year 7. Enrolment applications close two years prior to the requested entry year. Enrolment in non-intake years is subject to availability and the Principal's discretion.

Please visit our website **www.saintaug.nsw.edu.au** to complete the online Application for Enrolment Form.

Please also refer to our website for more details regarding the Enrolment Process, Enrolment Policy and School Fees.

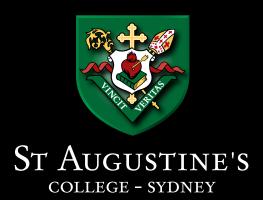
For any further information, please contact our College Registrar:

E: registrar@saintaug.nsw.edu.au

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