



San Sisto College



our prospectus



A Catholic Secondary Girls' College

our mission



Our Mission is to be a Catholic community in the Dominican tradition where the heart, mind and spirit of each young woman is nurtured, challenged and shaped by the lived experience of the Gospel.



We believe
that there is no
compromise in
the pursuit of
excellence.



our welcome



Educating young women in Years 7 – 12 is an extraordinary privilege, and I thank you for expressing interest in our college as the school for your daughter.

Nothing replaces visiting us on Open Day for appreciating how much we love our college and for deciding whether or not it is the perfect place for your precious daughter. However, through this prospectus, I hope that we can convey something of the passion we feel for this place of learning.



San Sisto is old enough to have a tradition of excellence; young enough to be vigorously energetic and innovative. San Sisto is a Catholic secondary girls' school, established by the Dominican Sisters in 1961 and since 1974 conducted under the auspices of Brisbane Catholic Education.

College life is framed by the four

Dominican pillars of Community, Study, Prayer and Service. Our values are founded on the Gospel of Jesus and we explicitly teach these through our Habits of Spirit program. Values such as truth, joy, hope, compassion, justice and attributes such as passionately loving learning and seeking and appreciating beauty and valuing creation are central to our way of life here. Our community spirit is incredibly strong, and we greatly value the engagement of parents, supporters and the wider community in the life of the College.

We believe in the centrality of the relationship between each young girl and God. The formation of a strong spirituality is essential for her wellbeing, and we foster this within an environment that is rich in its expression of prayer, service to others and justice for all.

We believe that learning and wellbeing are inextricably linked, and so provide numerous services to students and parents through our wellbeing centre (The WELL).

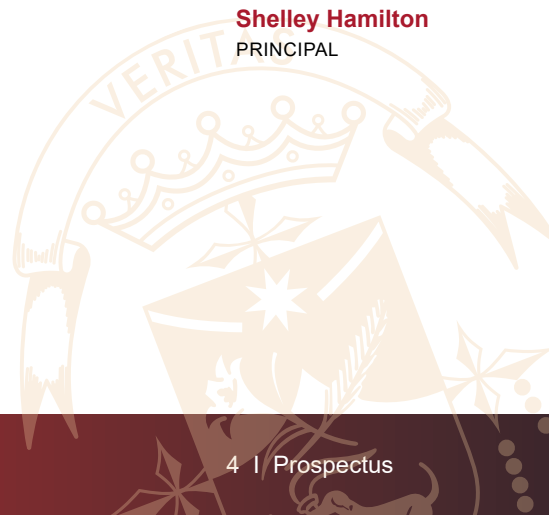
A Dominican Catholic education is



founded on the inclusion of all students, Catholic and non-Catholic, and it seeks to offer a holistic Christian education, where excellence is not compromised and where young women flourish. Our fees are affordable, yet the opportunities we offer are diverse, numerous and of the highest quality.

We welcome you into our community and, with you, commit to educating, celebrating, inspiring and empowering young women with integrity to shape the future. Together, we shall provide them the skills to engage with and lead their communities, whilst arming them with the tools and resources to confidently shape their futures.

Shelley Hamilton
PRINCIPAL





Our girls enjoy an extensive program of induction into our community so that they can quickly feel valued and very much at home.



a love of community

Our college is divided into three schools: Caleruega (Years 7 and 8), Fanjeaux (Years 9 and 10) and Bologna (Years 11 and 12).

Each school has a strong identity and its focus depends on the developmental needs of the girls.

There is a strong bond between teachers, students and parents, fostering wonderful relationships that continue long after graduation.

We offer an extensive program of induction into community so that our girls can quickly feel valued and very much at home.

The involvement of parents in college life is highly valued, and our partnership with you in the education of your daughter is considered vital. Our Parents & Friends (P&F) Association works in partnership with our college community to facilitate the development and future improvement of the college to achieve the best possible outcomes for students.

Our past students are also an integral part of our continuing success with an annual reunion held in celebration of this diverse group of women.



Our community extends beyond the college boundary. We support Dominican communities in several parts of the world and we concentrate our fund-raising efforts on helping them to provide some basic requisites. We network with our fellow Dominican schools across Australia and New Zealand.





Our high expectations encourage the pursuit of excellence in the extension and refinement of knowledge and its meaningful use.



Our framework is a research-based, system-wide approach. We strive to produce independent and responsible learners.

Our high expectations encourage the pursuit of excellence by providing enhanced student learning experiences with innovative teaching techniques combined with flexible and state-of-the art curriculum and resources.

All learning takes place in the context of programs that explicitly foster the development of positive attitudes and

perceptions and the strengthening of Habits of Mind and Spirit.

We offer an wide-range of subjects in each year level with extensive planning underway in readiness for the new QCE / ATAR system. We also provide enrichment opportunities for our gifted and talented learners.

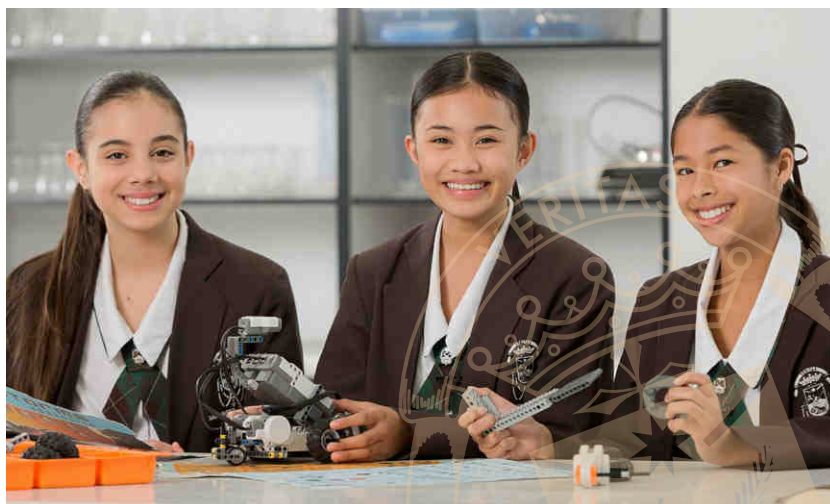
VET study offerings are also a distinctive feature of our curriculum for which


students are awarded Certificates on successful completion.

Our students have full access to online learning and are enrolled in our laptop program from Years 7 – 12.

We expect our girls to be fully committed to their lives as students while at San Sisto. Homework is an integral part of our learning program.

a love of learning



A photograph of three young girls in school uniforms playing violins. The girl in the foreground is smiling and looking down at her instrument. The other two girls are slightly out of focus in the background.

Our girls are engaged in a range of cultural, academic, sporting, justice and service programs.

a love of study

By becoming involved in an extra-curricular and co-curricular activity, students develop key skills such as self-discipline, responsibility and the commitment that comes from working as part of a team.

Extra-curricular Activities

A well-rounded, integrated student engages in a variety of extra-curricular and/or co-curricular groups and activities on offer at the College. Pursuits such as debating, inter-house team events, fitness boot-camps, social groups, creative writing, social justice pursuits, media and communications group or Greenies group memberships, are just a few of the integral opportunities in student life at the College.

Co-Curricular Music

This program aims to foster and develop the musical skills of every student involved. This is achieved through offering students the opportunity to take private lessons, to join the College's ensembles and participate in college musicals.

Aims of the Program:

- To enhance the presence of the performing arts in the College community.
- To create a welcoming and inclusive community of musicians in the College who encourage and support each other in their endeavours.
- To continually improve the musicality of the students through lessons, rehearsals and performances.
- To provide rewarding experiences so that self-esteem and wellbeing are improved.

Co-Curricular Sport

This program is about having fun, getting fit and being involved. Participation in sport and games is one way to improve physical, social and mental health. It is also a great way to



interact with one's peers. We aim to instil in our students an understanding of the benefits that come from engaging in physical activity. We also encourage participation in team sports and recreational activities as a means of promoting team, house and school spirit. San Sisto provides opportunities for girls to represent the college at a number of levels and in a variety of sports. The college is a member of the Metropolitan East School Sport and CaSSSA (Catholic Secondary Schoolgirls Sports Association).





The nurturing of each person's spirituality through prayer, ritual and liturgy is central to life at San Sisto. The Assistant Principal: Religious Education, the Academic Leader: Religious Education and the Campus Minister all play a role in guiding this area of College life.

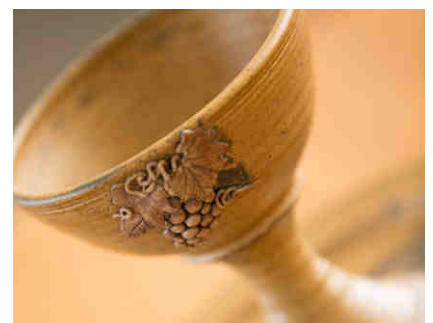
Gatherings such as morning homeroom and School and College assemblies begin with prayer, as girls and staff acknowledge the presence of the Sacred in life. Solemn ritual, often including the use of our College symbols, is used to mark significant occasions, such as the opening of the College year, Feast Days of the patron saints of our Houses, ANZAC Day and Dominican Family Day.

The teaching of personal prayer in many forms is seen as crucial to the development of the girls' spirituality

and is included in the Religious Education curriculum. There are many opportunities for students to engage in personal prayer, such as daily meditative time, and the chapel and labyrinth are always available to students for times of stillness and silence. Retreat days are held for all year levels, culminating in a 3-day retreat for Year 12 students.

As a Catholic College, there is recognition of the importance of the Mass to Catholic life. The opening of the College year and San Sisto

Day are celebrated with a College Mass. Class Masses, celebrated in Religious Education class groups, are held throughout the year in the chapel. Once a month the celebration of Mass occurs before school in the chapel and students, staff and families are invited to this community Mass. Our graduating Year 12s, along with parents and staff, celebrate Mass in Our Lady of Graces Parish Church as part of their Graduation ceremony.



a love of prayer

We nurture students' relationship with God in numerous ways...





We encourage our girls to participate in justice and community service activities.

We raise awareness in the College of social justice issues by holding an annual justice event, fundraising for St Vincent de Paul and other Catholic and Dominican groups, and volunteering with Meals on Wheels and Rosies - Friends of the Street.



a love of service



Providing service is a tremendous way of developing a healthy respect for others and learning the importance of giving.

Catholic Social Justice teaching, based firmly in the Scriptures, requires that we look after those in need in our societies and seek to address those needs by charitable service and, where necessary, social justice action.

At San Sisto, the Christian call to service and justice is explicitly taught in the Religious Education curriculum. Opportunities to respond to that call are provided by extra-curricular service and justice activities. Providing service is a tremendous way of developing a healthy respect for others and for learning the importance of giving.





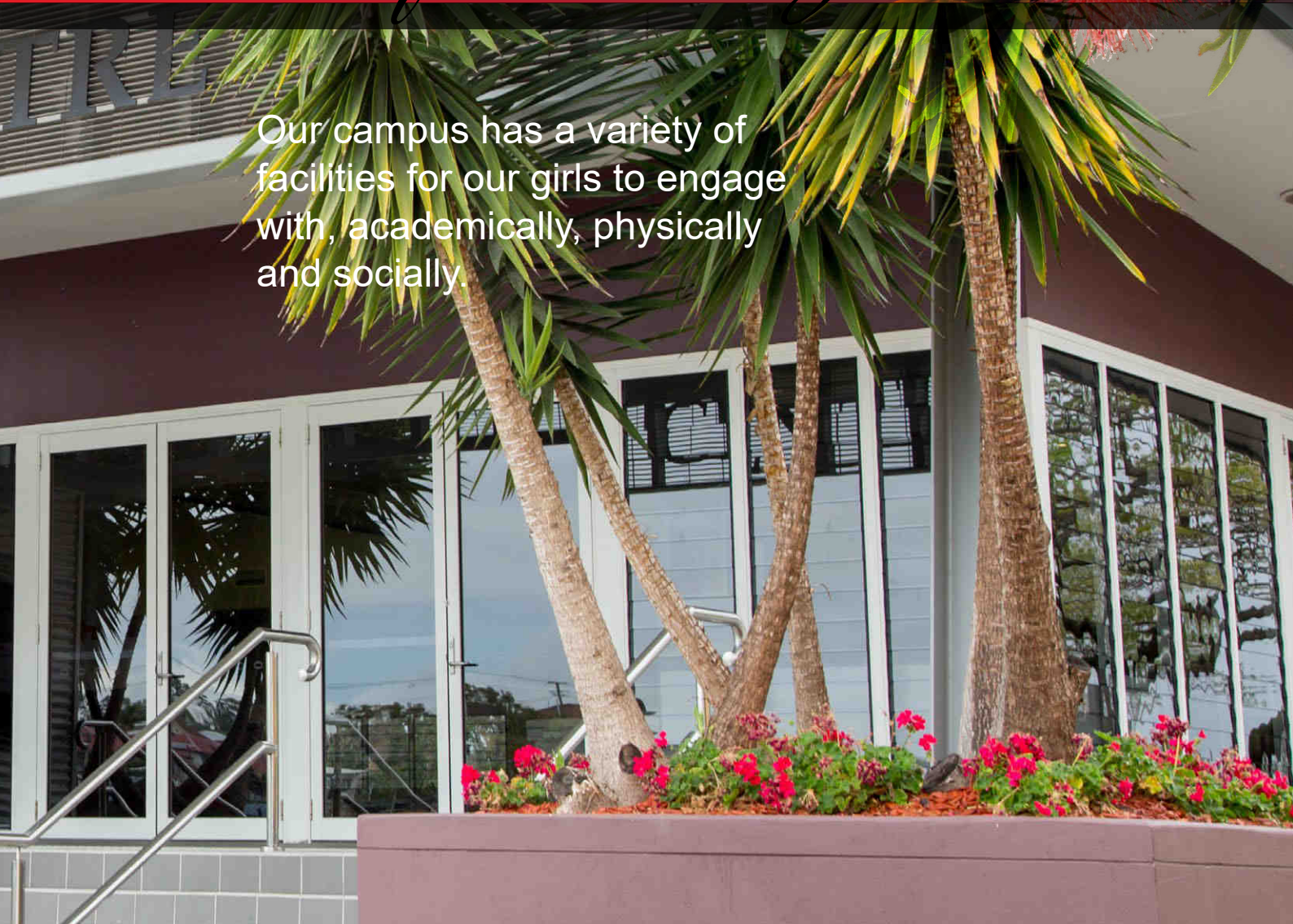
At San Sisto, our aim is to maintain a safe, healthy and sustainable campus environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors with a combination of new and existing facilities that support the evolving future needs of our College community.

Our Albertine Science Precinct includes science laboratories, a prep room and the science courtyard.

Our Caesarini building includes two general learning areas, two flexible learning areas, a catering facility, and a home economics classroom, commercial kitchen and dining room.

Our Siena Centre provides a superb space for learning, performing arts, sport and fitness, with state of the art audio visual and lighting equipment. Adjacent to the Siena Centre are our two multipurpose outdoor courts which cater for a wide range of sports including netball, volleyball, and tennis.

a love of our college



Our campus has a variety of facilities for our girls to engage with, academically, physically and socially.

Our Angelico Creative Arts Centre is a superb creative art space with clay ovens, a performance facility and music studios.

The re-development of our Dominic Building will further enhance student learnings in robotics, media and communications technologies, science, learning support and physical enrichment, into the future.

The presence of the WELL (our Centre for Wellbeing) is just one part of a whole-of-college initiative to enhance the wellbeing of the girls and their parents in our community. It complements curriculum, study and support initiatives, our physical and spiritual enrichment programs, career support, meditative prayer and our Catholic ethos and Dominican charism, in offering a place of integration. Its ethos is central to our community.

Students at San Sisto College head to the WELL to support and enhance their ongoing academic, social and emotional, physical, spiritual and cognitive wellbeing.





San Sisto College

Thank you for your expression of interest in San Sisto College and the educational opportunities available for your daughter. We would be delighted to welcome your family into our community.



