



Prospectus



St John Fisher College



mission



The St John Fisher College Community is inspired by God's Spirit and the Catholic faith tradition to live, to love and to learn with respect for truth, the courage to seek justice, the gift of peace and the grace to forgive as we respond with equal dynamism to society's challenges today and tomorrow.



community

COLLEGE COMMUNITY

The St John Fisher College Community is a very special place where the atmosphere of care permeates all that is done. This is a community where students are happy and tell you openly that they love their school, where the opportunity exists for them to achieve to their potential no matter what their talents and where they can grow in a caring and nurturing environment. It is a stepping stone for your daughter to become a confident and articulate young woman.

We acknowledge that parents are the primary educators of their children and at St John Fisher College we aim to work in partnership with you in nurturing the growth and development of your daughter. Family involvement and open communication between home and school are encouraged in all aspects of schooling.

From her first steps into the College, your daughter will become an integral part of this community. The Orientation Day before the start of Year Seven will be her first introduction to new faces and a new environment. Camps in Years Seven, Nine and Eleven provide not only a fun physical experience but an opportunity to live in a community for a short time, to appreciate differences, to develop tolerance and to forge close relationships. There are a number of community celebrations held on an annual basis such as the Welcome Liturgy, St John Fisher Day, Illuminare (a celebration of cultural pursuits) and the Night of Excellence.





faith

INSPIRED BY GOD'S SPIRIT AND THE CATHOLIC FAITH TRADITION

Our holistic approach to education means that we promote your daughter's spiritual, social, emotional and physical growth as well as her academic learning.

The formal teaching of Religious Education in our curriculum is underpinned by the daily lived experience of Gospel values in our community. The values of love, justice, peace and forgiveness are taught by example and experience.



St John Fisher was the Chancellor of Cambridge University and was acclaimed for improving its curriculum. He was also an accomplished writer and preacher and a defender of the Catholic faith during his thirty years as a Bishop of Rochester in England. He was executed in 1535 for opposing Henry VIII's marriage plans and was proclaimed a saint in 1935.



The first students arrived at St John Fisher College in 1981. The College relocated from Sacred Heart College at Sandgate which had formerly been operated by the Sisters of Mercy. Hence the College also maintains its links with the Mercy tradition.

Inspired by St John Fisher's commitment to academic excellence and Catherine McAuley's commitment to educating the poor, St John Fisher College maintains strong traditions of academic excellence, social justice and Christian values.



discipline

TO LIVE

Many co-curricular activities are on offer to our girls. Our extensive oval space and Sport Centre accommodate numerous sports on site in both indoor and outdoor facilities. We compete strongly against other Colleges in a range of sports such as netball, volleyball, basketball, soccer, AFL, touch football, indoor cricket, athletics, cross country and swimming.

Our hall is used to host a range of cultural events and performances in dance, drama, music and speaking and we have a number of performance spaces throughout the College. Your daughter has the opportunity to be involved in activities such as public speaking, debating, choir, theatre sports, vocal ensemble, band and the instrumental music program offered by the College.

As well, there are a number of clubs in curriculum-based pursuits such as reading, writing, Art and Science. Students also have access to a variety of curriculum support offerings including Homework Club, Assignment Help and subject tutorials. The range of co-curricular offerings may vary from year to year.





goodness

TO LOVE

There is a genuine sense of staff and students nurturing and caring for each other and this is evident in all aspects of College life, from the formal structures of the school day through to informal offers of assistance at lunch time.

Each student belongs to a Pastoral Care class with a Pastoral Care teacher who is there to support them and offer them guidance. Also, each Year level has a Pastoral Middle Leader who provides them with further support and advice. Our College counsellor also provides support with careers information and personal issues.

Through the Personal and Social Development Program, each girl will explore the life challenges facing them and the implications of living a faith-filled life. We aim to develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values needed of our girls to become resilient, self-confident young women who can show the initiative to solve their own problems and determine their own future.

St John Fisher College also has a Big Sister – Little Sister Program in which older students help to orient and support younger ones. Students take part in regular sister group activities such as shared lunches.



THE JOHN FISHER WAY

At St John Fisher College, a tradition exists of expressing our vision using the language of “the John Fisher Way”. This is a way of acting, speaking and behaving that encompasses our values. In essence, the John Fisher Way aims to develop our young women into confident and articulate problem solvers.

In practice, the John Fisher Way may be demonstrated by showing manners, taking pride in your appearance, having respect for self, others and their property, being responsible for one’s actions, having positive relationships with others, being inclusive and tolerant of others, performing acts of kindness, contributing to the community, doing your very best and treating others the way you wish to be treated. This language is interwoven through many daily interactions and throughout all aspects of College life.



knowledge

TO LEARN

Our diverse and academically challenging curriculum is designed to provide a solid foundation for learning and prepare students to be life-long learners. The Australian Curriculum is followed in Years Seven to Ten with units in Year Ten aligning with Senior school subject choices.

In the Senior school, students may choose from tertiary-oriented academic subjects or from more practical vocationally-oriented subjects or they may choose a combination of both. In addition, students may participate in work placements, traineeships, school-based apprenticeships, first year university subjects and TAFE subjects where appropriate.

Our aim is to cater for the individual learning needs and talents of all our students.

Our indoor learning spaces have been carefully designed to provide a wonderful environment to support student learning. These facilities include Science laboratories, Art rooms, Music room, rehearsal rooms, Drama spaces, Resource Centre and Chapel.

As well, our spacious and beautiful grounds and gardens are used as learning spaces and for recreation.

Technology is an integral tool in the learning process and students are provided with individual devices and have extensive access to programs and other learning tools.





respect

WITH RESPECT FOR TRUTH
THE COURAGE TO SEEK
JUSTICE THE GIFT OF PEACE
THE GRACE TO FORGIVE



The College aims to provide a range of rich faith experiences. Masses are held regularly in the College chapel and there are powerful and thought provoking liturgical celebrations throughout the year. Each class room has a prayer table and students and staff members engage in daily prayer.

The College values of respect, integrity, excellence, care, service and inclusiveness are evident and articulated in all aspects of Community life and form the basis for how we live the John Fisher way.

Reflection days are held for girls in Years Seven to Eleven as an opportunity for girls to reflect on their personal spirituality. Year Twelve students attend a three day retreat as part of their own faith development as they approach the end of their formal schooling.

The College Social Justice group has a commitment to a number of justice programs including St Vincent de Paul appeals, Caritas and regular support of community charities. The Interact Club is also very active within the College and the wider community.



integrity

WE RESPOND WITH DYNAMISM TO SOCIETY'S CHALLENGES TODAY AND TOMORROW

St John Fisher College aims to empower young women to face challenges in life with integrity and respect for others and to respond to them with courage, resilience and dynamism.

We promote relationships based on mutual respect, kindness and understanding and we aim to prepare students to engage in rich and deep relationships throughout their lives.

Through their connectedness to the St John Fisher College community, we hope to prepare students for meaningful participation in and contribution to the wider community.





*We should
be shining
lamps,
giving
light to all
around us.*

~Catherine McAuley~



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