



Lauriston
GIRLS' SCHOOL

A school for life

Live it. Learn it. Love it.







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VISION

A School for Life.

MISSION

To enhance the lifelong learning capabilities of our students.

VALUES

1. Relationships.
2. Courage.
3. Creative reflection.
4. Intellectual inquiry for understanding.
5. Engagement in life.





WELCOME SUSAN JUST

Lauriston Girls' School is a forward thinking and dynamic community which values our students, staff, parents and alumni. Our focus is on building relationships that will enhance the education we provide to our students and models for them the importance of social networks that support and provide opportunities for individuals.

We are preparing our students for life in a complex global community. Our intention is to offer an innovative and rigorous academic program that will challenge and engage our students in their learning. We want them to think and question and debate with their teachers in an intellectually stimulating learning environment.

As educators we care for our students and set high expectations for them – and ourselves. We are committed to continual development of our teaching practice, through dialogue with our colleagues, professional development and exploring the current research related to best practice in girls' education.

Although we are non-denominational, the values embedded by our founders remain today. We value diversity within our School community and foster spiritual growth as part of the holistic development of each student. Learning through service is part of the educational experience at

Lauriston Girls' School and our students have opportunities to serve their own communities and the global community through 'hands on' activities.

In their work and service to others, our students will make a significant contribution in their own and the wider community. Our focus is on developing young women who will have the skills, resilience and confidence to thrive and be successful throughout their lives.

In a supportive environment, we aim to help our students reach their potential by offering a range of academic and co-curricular opportunities in which students can explore their interests and their personal strengths. Our Year 9 Howqua program offers a unique experience that challenges students and encourages personal development, enabling them to become more flexible and adaptable as individuals.

By the end of their journey at Lauriston Girls' School we aim for every student to value lifelong learning and have the skills that will enable them to thrive in a constantly changing world.

I personally invite you to visit us and learn more about our School.

Susan Just



HISTORY

Lauriston was established in 1901 by sisters Margaret and Lillian Irving, to provide young women with the opportunity to develop and realise their potential.

Rapidly acquiring a reputation for academic and sporting excellence, the school outgrew its first home and moved to its present site in Huntingtower Road Armadale in 1907.

Under the stewardship of Elizabeth Kirkhope, the Lauriston-educated successor to the Irving sisters, the School withstood the financial and social pressures that forced the closure of many independent schools during the Depression years.

In 1948 Elizabeth Kirkhope managed the transition of the School from private ownership to a non-profit limited guarantee company, whilst preserving its non-denominational status. Under the leadership of Gladys Davies, another former student, the School undertook an ambitious building program during the 1950s and 1960s to provide students with modern, purpose-built facilities on the Huntingtower Road site.

The campus was further expanded in the 1970s with the purchase of landmark heritage buildings 'Blairholme' and 'Montrose' to house the lower and upper primary grades.

In 1993 the unique residential campus at Howqua (in the Victorian high country), was opened. Howqua provides Year 9 students with a full year of challenging outdoor and academic programs.

The completion of the Resource Centre and the Brooks Frazer Arts Centre at the Howqua campus, a dedicated Year 7/8 Centre and a recent upgrade to the learning facilities for the Junior School at the Armadale campus underscores the School's ongoing commitment to development of learning spaces.

Over the past century, the Irving sisters' vision has built a long tradition in both academic success and sporting triumphs.

These traditions are embraced by the current students and form a unique sense of security and pride within the School.

KINDERGARTEN

Dream, discover, question and create

Kindergarten is a place of fun, laughter, warmth and colour – a supportive atmosphere where children feel loved, respected and valued.

Boys and girls thrive and flourish in the nurturing environments of our three-year-old Kindergarten (Michael House) and four-year-old Kindergarten (Niall House).

The Reggio Emilia approach has a strong influence in the Kindergarten programs. It provides an emphasis on play, learning through experience – touch, movement, sound and sight – and developing at an appropriate pace.

Fundamental to this philosophy is a growing partnership between the children, their teachers and parents in which the children are heard and encouraged to create and drive their own learning. Parents are viewed as partners, collaborators and advocates for their children.

Through active listening and observation we carefully build an understanding of how each child perceives their world. In collaboration with the child, teachers and parents work together to enlighten and enrich the child's world vision. Building on each child's current knowledge, we encourage them to question, learning with them, not just how the world is, but how it might be.

Children are curious, eager to learn and love to communicate. Through interaction with people, materials and coordinated events, children develop and discover physical, social, emotional and cognitive skills.

Our integrated, play-centred program offers each child the opportunity and the time to play, explore, discover, question, predict, wonder, imagine and to dream.





PREP TO YEAR 2

Explore and discover the world

Based in the beautiful heritage Victorian building, Blairholme, girls begin the exciting journey of learning. By stimulating their curiosity and imagination children begin to build solid foundations for later learning. They are discovering and developing their personal skills, whilst exploring the beginnings of reading, writing and numeracy. All of our programs are built out of respect for and understanding of children's differing rates of development. Blairholme is a place filled with fun, joy, laughter and learning.

Prep to Year 2 are years of formative skill and emotional development, and of great fun and adventure. Students actively seek new ideas and knowledge and are encouraged to ask questions to foster their growth. Girls are motivated, enthusiastic and curious about the world around them.





Providing a flying start for young girls

In Prep, our Developmental Curriculum provides for a unique and seamless transition from Kindergarten. Our program builds upon young girls' natural curiosity and innate love of learning, which ensures the start of their formal years of school is nurturing, exciting and emerges from their interest and learning readiness.

Year 2 is a special year where horizons are broadened by having regular access to a wide variety of activities. Students participate in specialist areas from physical education (including House sporting events) to music and library experiences. All subjects ignite the girls' passion and enthusiasm towards expanding their knowledge. Year 2 girls also participate and practise in a unique leadership program.

YEARS 3/4

Years 3 and 4 are designed to encourage learning, develop resilience, acquire self-esteem and support girls to achieve their very highest potential.

In Years 3 and 4 programs promote hands-on, independent learning for students and integrate the wider curriculum of literacy, numeracy, art, drama, languages, music and sport.

In Year 3 students are introduced to LOTE (Language Other than English). They commence French lessons which continue throughout the Junior School and take part in House sporting events. Drama is introduced in Year 4 and encourages the girls to communicate with, and

understand others in new ways, creating a more confident and positive self-image. They love the opportunity to fully express themselves creatively.

Our Integrated Units of Inquiry focus on topics that develop an understanding of oneself and the world, how the world works and the ways in which students can make their own valuable contribution. Throughout Junior School the girls' leadership skills are also developed.

Different learning styles are catered for and individual needs are met through a range of extension, enrichment and support activities.





YEARS 5/6

The 5/6 Centre expands the girls' horizons encouraging them to investigate and evaluate the world in which they live.

The Centre has a collegial approach which allows staff to work together closely as a team. By pooling resources and sharing responsibilities for students and programs they plan a wealth of experiences for the students. This ensures differentiation within the curriculum catering to the needs of all students. The girls are supplied with choice and opportunity.

Core studies and LOTE (French) continue along with Integrated Units of Inquiry, which encompass studies of society and the environment, science, technology, health and wellbeing.

Year 5 is a key stage in the Any Time, Anywhere Learning @ Lauriston program. Students receive personal, light-weight computers to explore and understand our increasingly global society – a society where seamless use of technology is a prerequisite.

Our Year 6 leadership program provides all

girls with the opportunity to develop and meaningfully apply their skills through self-selected leadership groups.

A unique feature of the 5/6 program is the inclusion of two Creativity and Challenge Days when girls in mixed age groups participate in elective activities. These may range from computer animation and china painting to biking, hiking, or making movies.

Students are encouraged to participate in cocurricular activities such as aerobics, chess, communication and speech, dance, lunchtime drama, tennis, swimming and snow sports.

Students in Years 5 and 6 begin to comprehend the world from a broader perspective and have specific needs different from those of earlier years. To prepare them for the transition into Senior School, their final year culminates in a comprehensive orientation program for Year 7 and beyond.



YEARS 7/8

Our purpose-built Year 7/8 Centre (the Lillian Bayly Centre) provides a nurturing environment that focuses on the specific learning, physical and social needs of girls in this age group. Learning is linked across the two year levels to develop an innovative academic care philosophy.

Lauriston's 7/8 Centre caters for the needs of young adolescent learners in large stimulating spaces. Designed to give students a sense of belonging, the abundance of natural light and bright, warm colours makes the Centre a welcoming and friendly learning environment for teenage girls.

The Year 7 program ensures a smooth, yet academically challenging start to secondary schooling. Students entering Year 7 need time to adjust to the different format of the day, moving

from subject to subject with a variety of different teachers. For this reason Year 7 students spend the early part of the year involved in the development of personal management skills and group cohesiveness.

Year 8 students take part in an overnight team-building camp followed by numerous weekend activities such as surfing, rock climbing, white-water rafting, gliding and other adventures.

All students in Year 8 spend a week based in the city at City Cite. This program builds independence, self-confidence and autonomy through learning in the 'real world'.

Other activities available to students in Years 7 and 8 include debating, public speaking, jewellery making, photography, music and a wide variety of sporting pursuits.





HOWQUA

Our Unique Year 9 experience

Our engaging and dynamic academic and outdoor programs encourage students to become explorers, interpreters, supporters, leaders and doers. Most of all, they become passionate learners.

Set in the Victorian high country, our Howqua campus provides a spectacular educational setting where learning is not constrained by classrooms or timetables.

Howqua challenges the traditional idea of the four-walled classroom. The surroundings inspire girls to live and do rather than just read and learn.

What is it that is unique about Year 9 students' experience at Howqua? Howqua gives girls the opportunity to meet a variety of physical, social and academic

challenges; learn from primary sources; learn to live away from home in a secure environment and to take individual and collective responsibility.

Students live in residential houses overseen by a House Tutor, sharing responsibility for such tasks as cleaning and gathering firewood. Girls have their own individual space, collections of posters, music and special items that give each house a personal touch.

The academic program at Howqua is firmly grounded in traditional disciplines and is challenging, rigorous and purposeful. The best learning occurs when we experiment, when we explore and when we try new things.





Designed to make the most of the campus' unique location, the outdoor program complements the academic program and is an integral part of the Howqua experience.

Girls participate in an enviable array of outdoor activities such as horse riding, cross-country skiing, mountain bike riding, abseiling, canoeing, hiking and camping.

The outdoor program emphasises 'having a go' and developing the skill set of each student. It caters for a variety of skill and fitness levels and empowers girls through physical activity.

Expeditions are a significant part of the Howqua program. Set in stunning bushland these expeditions provide ongoing opportunities for girls to work cooperatively and to develop their self-reliance and planning skills.



Year 9 at Howqua offers girls the opportunity to become explorers, leaders, doers and passionate learners.



YEARS 10-12

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 form the Lauriston Senior College. Senior College provides an extensive academic program, stimulating and collaborative learning environment, and leadership opportunities that underpin the final years of schooling. Girls are encouraged to be active initiators of their own learning.

During the last three years of schooling, students have the option to study some subjects at an accelerated level and to choose either Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB) for study in Years 11 and 12. Lauriston has a history of outstanding academic results in both the VCE and IB.

Year 10 students study a common core of subjects, but choose electives each semester. This program maintains the continuity of learning in key areas, while encouraging students to explore new areas or spend more time following their particular areas of interest. Studying philosophy encourages the girls to develop critical thinking skills to analyse arguments and to identify and evaluate assumptions.

A particular feature of Year 10 is the Learning Enrichment program. Students have the opportunity to extend their learning in a number of different ways and are presented with chances to develop a range of skills including planning, time management, study, exam preparation and leadership through participation in programs such as Peer Support and through membership of the Senior College Council.





The VCE is a two-year course which consists of a number of 'Units of Study', each designed to take one semester to complete. Units 1 and 2 are designed for Year 11 students while Units 3 and 4 are for Year 12 students.

The IB Diploma is a two-year, internationally recognised course, which balances the pursuit of academic excellence with the education of the whole person. The structure of the course encourages lifelong independent learning, perception and critical thinking.

The results from both courses are converted to an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR), used for university entrance purposes both in Australia and overseas.

All students in Senior College benefit from extensive career counselling. A comprehensive program in Year 10 is supported by careers testing, a careers information evening, guest speakers and individual guidance from our Careers Advisor.

Senior College students are offered the opportunity to involve themselves in a wide range of activities: sporting, artistic, dramatic, musical and debating.



PHILOSOPHY

The Faculty of Philosophy and Beliefs aims at deepening the experience of being human in a world of challenge and wonder. It is guided by our School values in delivering and promoting the following five core outcomes.

- 1. Critical engagement with alternative viewpoints.*
- 2. Reasoning – developing a coherent worldview.*
- 3. Developing a sense of personal and communal integrity.*
- 4. Nurturing the capacity for reflection and stillness.*
- 5. Recognising and embracing our shared humanity.*

In these five outcomes, the role of philosophy and beliefs shows itself to be a central element in the education of

our students. Each student is engaged in exploring both reason and emotion.

The journey begins in Year 1, with small groups of enquiring minds looking at the morals contained in fairy tales. In Years 3 and 4, students investigate the ethical and philosophical issues about behaviour and the world in which they exist.

In Years 5 and 6 questions of epistemology and metaphysics are introduced. From Year 7 philosophy is fully integrated into the Humanities curriculum. In Senior School, all Year 10 students study philosophy for an entire year. Students undertaking the VCE will focus on the study of Ethics in Year 11 and have the option of studying University Enhancement Philosophy in Year 12. Year 11 and 12 students undertaking the IB spend two years studying Theory of Knowledge.



OUR COMMUNITY

At Lauriston, students come from many countries and backgrounds. They join together to create an enriching environment and greatly benefit from participation in community service, academic and extracurricular programs.

We are community minded and spirited with a four-tiered approach to community service – global, national, local and environmental.

In the Junior School, our students have the opportunity to participate in the Junior School Service Committee. In Senior School our students help provide financial support for SMP17 School in Aceh, the Cancer Council and the Salvation Army. At the local level, students support Malvern Food Relief, the St Kilda Crisis Centre and the Footpath Library, with a number of students also providing individual assistance to local nursing homes and child care centres. Students also have the opportunity to become involved in different groups within the School including Amnesty International

and 'Greenies' – a group that aims to raise our community's environmental awareness and reduce our environmental impact.

We value diversity and embrace enhancing the talents of all students from around the globe. Our staff are well trained in supporting international students making successful transitions into our School and the community.

Students are given the opportunity of exchange to China and France, as learning a foreign language and living in a foreign country nurtures tolerance and a respect of differences. The notions of tolerance and respect are also encouraged at a local level with students offered an exchange opportunity to Kulkarriya Independent School, an Aboriginal school in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. Exchanges teach new ways of thinking and looking at the world and promote an informed and compassionate understanding of other cultures.

We consider every Lauriston girl to be a global citizen.



THE ARTS

Performing arts, music and drama

The arts inspire skills that equip students with the drive and conviction to lead creative and invigorating lives: skills like reasoning, decision making, creative thinking, problem solving and visualising. The arts form an essential element of the education program across all year levels.

We delight in giving students every opportunity to explore their creativity. Through activities such as dance, plays and musicals, festivals (often initiated and managed by the students themselves), vocal soirees, cabaret nights and debating, students learn the fun of participating as leaders, team players or supporters.

Through involvement in the visual arts, students become better equipped to understand the visual aesthetics of the world in which they live. Girls can expand their creativity from an early age whilst Senior School students have the opportunity to specialise further in their area of interest.

The Music Department provides practice space for groups as well as individuals to learn, develop and grow. With over 30 specialist teachers and an integrated

performing arts and music centre, Lauriston has one of the finest school music programs in Melbourne. Girls from Prep to Year 12 are encouraged to become involved as soloists or group musicians whether it's simply for fun or to follow their musical ambition.

Drama is offered from Year 4 to Year 12 with an exciting program offering a rich and varied experience at each year level.

A regular intensive program of guest speakers and visiting artists provides students with exciting opportunities to explore their potential. Our arts programs give students the ability and confidence to act upon their dreams.





PASTORAL CARE

Every child has the right to expect a learning environment that is both stimulating and supportive.

Our culture is one of care; student-to-student, student-to-staff and staff-to-staff. Because this is not limited to the traditional exchange from teacher-to-student, it flourishes naturally.

Pastoral care focuses on the overall care and wellbeing of the girls. Student wellbeing requires an active partnership between students, parents and the School. We provide for the development of the 'whole' person – socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically.

With the guidance of our teaching staff, supported by a comprehensive pastoral care program, students are empowered to care for each other and resolve problems through the provision of a range of proactive programs and individual support. This allows students to learn about themselves and their relationships with those around them, and paves the way for their social behaviour and emotional wellbeing in future life.





SPORT

Every student at Lauriston is given the opportunity to participate in and enjoy sports.

With over 20 sports played at competitive and recreational level, professional coaches and outstanding facilities, we have a tremendous reputation for producing top sportswomen at local, state and national levels.

The comprehensive physical education program is an integral part of the curriculum from Kindergarten to Year 12. It teaches physical and interpersonal skills, develops students' fitness and creates a positive attitude towards physical activity.

Sporting options include athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, cross country, diving, golf, hockey, indoor cricket, netball, soccer, softball, swimming, skiing, tennis, volleyball and water polo.

In addition to sporting competition, the School offers a range of activities designed to encourage girls to be fit and

active in life – now and in the future. These include aerobics, pilates, yoga, running club, recreational swimming, diving, and strength circuits.

Lauriston is an inaugural member of Girls Sport Victoria (GSV). Through this association of 24 girls' schools, Years 7 to 12 students have many opportunities to compete at a wide inter-school level in more than 15 sporting categories.

All students belong to a House and have the opportunity to compete in a range of team sports in regular House Sport competitions. There are three major carnivals throughout the year: swimming/diving, athletics and cross country.

Students represent their Houses and have a lot of fun. The focus is very much on teamwork, peer support, fun and participation, with most teams managed by House Captains and other student leaders.

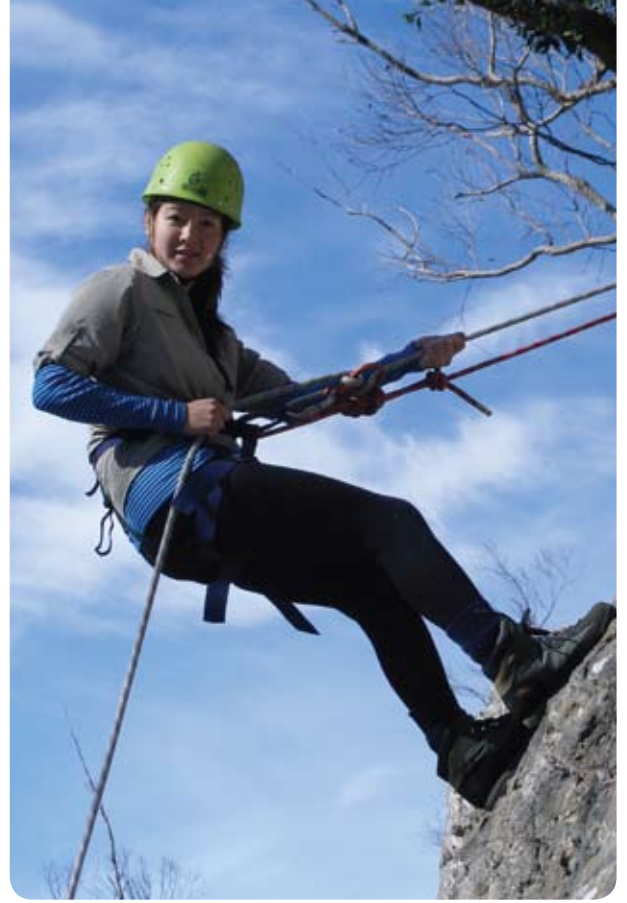
Lauriston sport is about fun, fitness and participation – not just now, but for life.

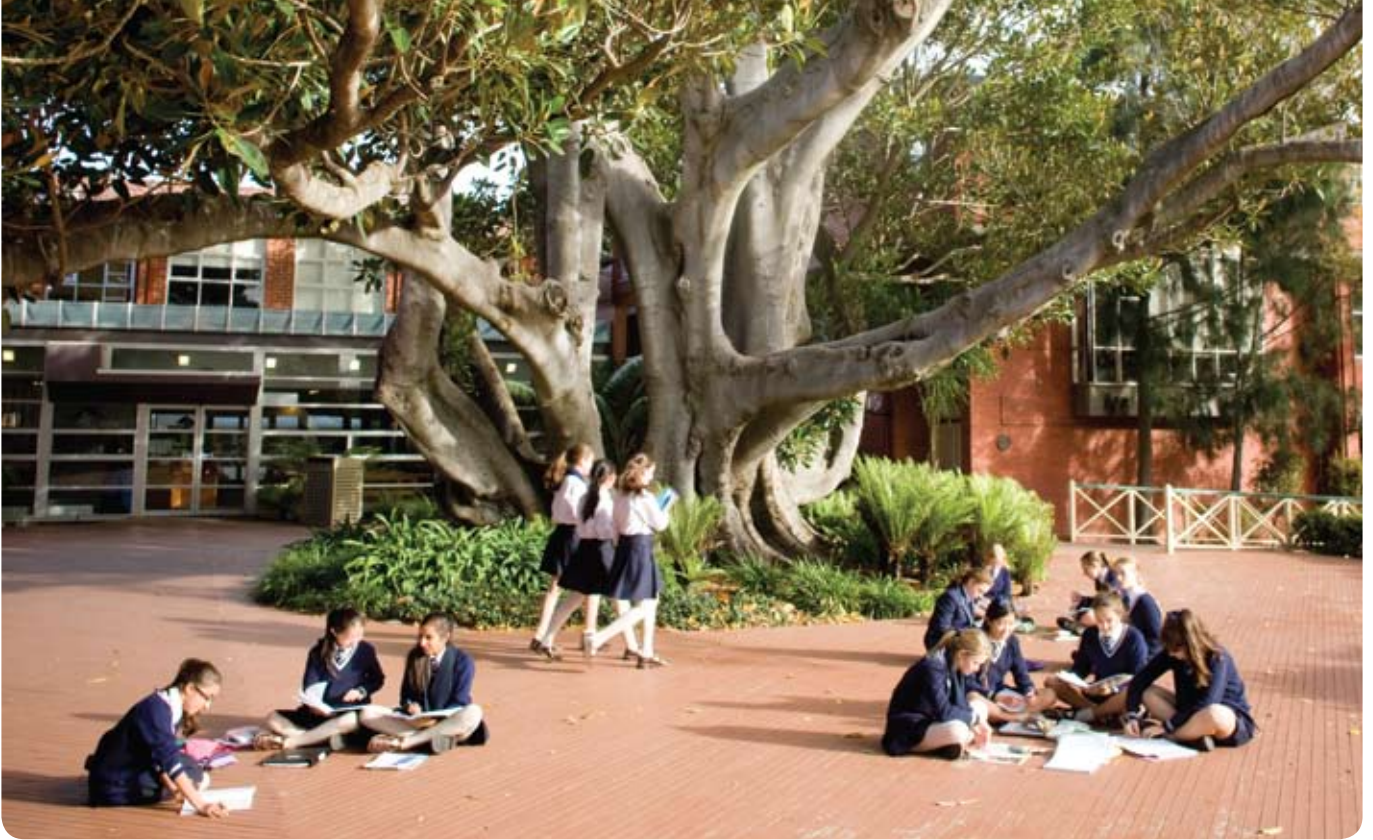
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outdoor education promotes self-confidence, team skills, community living, resourcefulness and an appreciation of our natural environment. It is well recognised that providing students with opportunities to physically challenge themselves in the outdoors can lead to tremendous personal growth and confidence.

The outdoor education program is sequential and begins in the Junior School with the camp program, followed by Year 7 camp, a team-building camp and weekend outdoor activity program in Year 8, Howqua and Year 10 Personal Group Challenge Week.

Girls have the opportunity to participate in the internationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh Award, offered to girls from Years 8 to 12. The Award comprises four components: skill development, physical activity, community service and adventurous journey.





COMMUNITY

We use the word community to describe the most important aspect of our School – the people.

Our community extends to all students (past and present), staff, parents and families that are involved with our School in some way. Our common interest is providing the best possible education, support networks and opportunities for every student who passes through the School.

The Lauriston community is linked through a number of channels via the intranet and weekly newsletters through to the Old Lauristonian Association, Lauriston Parents' Association, Friends of Lauriston Arts and the International Parents' Support Group.

Lauriston is not just a school, it is a community. It is a community that lasts for life. Our commitment to fostering this culture is what sets us apart from other schools.





LOCATION

The Armadale campus is located in a beautiful tree-lined street seven kilometres from the Melbourne CBD.

The campus is very close to the Armadale train station and well served by trams travelling down High Street, Malvern Road and Glenferrie Road. Students can travel

to school on private buses or on public transport – trams, buses and trains service the Armadale Campus.

The Howqua Campus is located in the tranquil Howqua Valley, close to Mansfield in north-eastern Victoria.





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