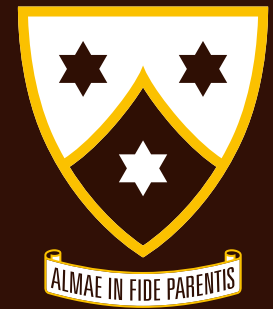


# WHITEFRIARS

*Belong. Believe. Become.*





## WELCOME TO WHITEFRIARS

Whitefriars College was established as a Catholic Secondary School for boys by the Carmelite Order of Priests and Brothers in 1961 in response to the strong demand by Catholic families for schools in which to educate their children in the tradition of their faith.

As the years have passed and the College has grown, non-Catholics have also been welcomed into the Whitefriars community, but in essence Whitefriars has remained a Catholic school in the Carmelite tradition.

The Carmelite tradition is traced back to the Holy Land of the late 12th century. There, a small group of Christians who had come from Europe as part of the Crusades, established themselves as a community of hermits on Mount Carmel. Whilst circumstances forced these early Carmelites to abandon both Mount Carmel and their hermit way of life, they took with them, as they eventually spread throughout the world, the spirit of both their original birthplace and the way of life associated with it.

To this day, Carmelites endeavour to witness to the presence of God in people, in nature, in the Word of God and in the deepest recesses of the human spirit. Wherever they go and whatever they do, including education, Carmelites endeavour to cultivate a spirit of prayer and reflection, a commitment to justice and peace – expressed in the service of others, a respect for and a welcome of the individual and a keen sense of belonging to a community. Carmelites live 'in allegiance to Jesus Christ' and draw on the inspiration of Mary his mother, Elijah – the Prophet of Mount Carmel, and the many holy men and women who have followed the Carmelite 'way' in their lives. The house-based, vertical Pastoral Care system at Whitefriars takes a different Carmelite 'Saint' or 'Blessed' as its Patron and the community draws inspiration from these legendary figures as it attempts to pursue an education of excellence on the basis of profoundly human and Christian values.

Fr. Paul Cahill, O.Carm.  
PRINCIPAL



WHITEFRIARS IS A HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY IN WHICH STUDENTS DEVELOP A REAL SENSE OF BELONGING. THEY ARE SUSTAINED AND STRENGTHENED BY POSITIVE INTERACTION WITH TEACHERS AND PEERS AS THEY MATURE INTO INTELLIGENT AND RESPONSIBLE CHRISTIAN GENTLE MEN, AIMING FOR THEIR BEST. WE FOCUS ON CREATING A WARM AND NURTURING EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT, ALLOWING OUR STUDENTS TO FIND, ACCEPT AND RESPECT THEMSELVES AS INDIVIDUALS. AT THE SAME TIME THEY FIT COMFORTABLY, HAPPILY AND RESPECTFULLY INTO THE SPECIAL COMMUNITY THAT IS WHITEFRIARS.



Belong to a supportive community of peers and teachers

'WHITEFRIARS STUDENTS ARE TREATED TO AN EDUCATION FOR THE WHOLE PERSON – SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL, PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL – PROVIDING EACH WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP SKILLS FOR A FULFILLING LIFE AS WELL AS A PROFOUND RESPECT FOR ALL CREATION.'



#### LESSONS FOR LIFE

Whitefriars educators see one of their key roles as sparking in each student a lifelong zest for learning and a drive to achieve his best in all aspects of his life. We believe education should extend the horizons of each individual. Our curriculum features challenging learning activities to encourage students to stretch towards high personal achievement. Students are provided with appropriate tools, including notebook computers, and are helped to develop a range of associated skills that are increasingly important in today's rapidly changing world. These include the ability to search efficiently and to critically sift, check and analyse a wide variety of sources of information. They also include the ability to share and critique ideas (and to know how to elicit insightful critiques of their own ideas from others), to create and refine, and to present their ideas clearly, effectively and efficiently, in a variety of ways appropriate for different audiences. Such abilities are critical in developing effective lifelong learners who can thrive in a wide range of environments.

#### BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Stepping outside the well-resourced classrooms, our boys enter the broader Whitefriars education environment. Nineteen hectares of beautiful bush provide the backdrop to a range of carefully designed field experiences. As well as on-campus field exercises, beyond the classroom activities include the Year 7 Orientation and Transition camp, the Outdoor Learning Program for Years 8 – 10, the Kairos Retreat at Year 11 and the Community Building Retreat at Year 12. Whitefriars students are treated to an education for the whole person – spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional – providing each with the opportunity to develop skills for a fulfilling life as well as a profound respect for all creation.



# An exciting place to learn



#### ENGAGING YOUNG MINDS

Variety, excitement, energy, enjoyment, challenge and achievement. All are elements of the Whitefriars learning experience, keeping young minds engaged and growing bodies strong and healthy.

Cultural pursuits are one cornerstone of our approach to a well-rounded education. All students are introduced to the colour and movement of music and drama in their early years at the College. Aspiring visual artists benefit from inspirational teachers and state of the art facilities.

Whitefriars' investment in leading edge information technology as a key learning resource motivates young minds to embrace self-directed learning, a valuable skill for life.

Participation in a range of special interest groups, including Debating, Chess and the Environment, provides additional opportunities for students to extend their opportunities to learn, build self-confidence and embark on lifetime friendships.

'CULTURAL PURSUITS ARE ONE CORNERSTONE OF OUR APPROACH TO A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION.'



DURING THE STUDENTS' PROGRESSION THROUGH THE COLLEGE, WHITEFRIARS PROVIDES SCOPE TO EXPLORE AND ACHIEVE PROFICIENCY IN A WIDE RANGE OF ACADEMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL, SPORTING AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. AS THEY DISCOVER THEIR OWN PARTICULAR TALENTS, STUDENTS GAIN CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES AND THEIR ABILITY TO ACHIEVE. SPIRITUAL LEARNING IS THE CORE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF A WHITEFRIARS EDUCATION. IT IS ALSO A SETTING IN WHICH EACH STUDENT DEVELOPS THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER REQUIRED TO FIND HIS OWN PATH TO A REWARDING FUTURE.

Believe in yourself, develop confidence and clarify your vision for the future





### DEVELOPING FAITH AND ADAPTING TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Faith in the Whitefriars context has two aspects; faith as a fundamental expression of spiritual belief according to the Catholic tradition, and faith in oneself, as a vital step on the personal journey to self-confidence, achievement and fulfilment.

Religious Education and Faith Development programs create the framework for the spiritual development of each student. These programs are aligned with the traditions of the Carmelite Order – reflectiveness and prayer, friendship and hospitality, allegiance to Christ, commitment to peace and justice, and respect for the Word of God and all creation.

Each of our students is treated as an individual and encouraged to develop faith in his own abilities. A highly qualified and caring staff looks to adapting the curriculum to cater for individual learning styles and the pastoral needs of each boy. Each and every student is able to taste the satisfying experience of working to his full potential, whatever that happens to be.

### A DEPTH OF RESOURCES

#### Sport

We regard physical health and development as an important adjunct to our students’ intellectual, spiritual and emotional development. To this end, Whitefriars has invested in modern sporting facilities, including three ovals, a turf wicket table and two well-equipped gymnasiums.

All students in Years 7 to 10 participate in a wide-ranging sporting program, complemented by a comprehensive Physical Education curriculum. Students can also try out for selection in the sporting teams representing Whitefriars in the prestigious Associated Catholic Colleges (ACC) inter-school competition.

#### Music and Drama

Participation in activities involving self-expression enables boys to develop greater self-confidence and the discipline to pursue excellence in all areas of their lives.

We encourage students to join the musical instrument program, with opportunities available in theatrical, band, ensemble and concert performances. The annual musical production is another highly regarded College activity, broadening students’ learning from performance to production management and staging.

#### Visual Arts

The College has a proud history of excellence in Visual Arts. Our teachers, facilities and technology in this area are second to none, resulting in not only an informed appreciation of the creative arts, but also a valuable introduction to careers in the Arts.

# Talents are unearthed



#### Learning Enhancement

Our philosophy is that wherever possible any extension or enhancement of a student’s program is done within the mainstream classroom. Our Teachers and Specialist Staff aim to develop and implement innovative in-class learning programs which provide the opportunities and support systems so each boy can reach his full potential.

We aim to develop the gifts and talents of all students, whilst providing support where needed. The College provides a variety of extension activities and specialist cross-curricular programs in addition to the individual subject enhancements.

#### Learning Support

To support students with specific and general learning needs, we provide in-class support in the form of Learning Support Teachers and Aides to ensure that all students within our programs develop their self confidence and improve their academic performance.

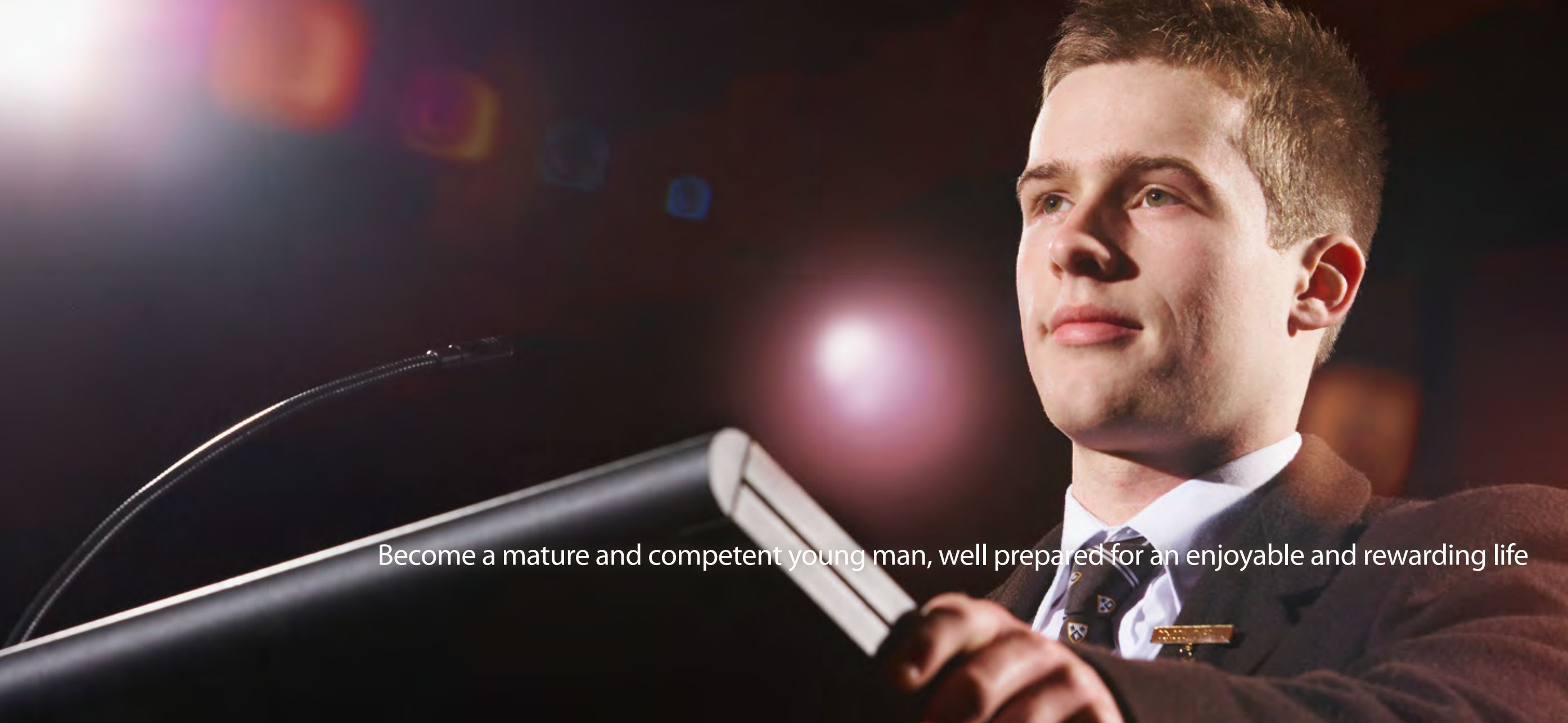
#### Senior Learning Pathways

The majority of students at Whitefriars will complete the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). However, we also recognise and support the growing interest and prospects associated with vocational pathways. The ‘applied learning’ approach of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) will suit some students better whilst enabling them to complete an accredited secondary certificate. VCAL combines school based classes with a Vocation Education and Training (VET) certificate and Structured Work Placement(s). VET subjects can be undertaken as part of both VCE and VCAL studies and, where not available at the College, can be accessed independently through the College’s membership of the Mullum VET Cluster and at TAFE Institutes. Our students have access to programs such as: Automotive Technology, Hospitality, Furniture (Cabinet making), Community Recreation, Building and Construction, Information Technology, Horticulture and Multimedia.



‘EACH OF OUR STUDENTS IS TREATED AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP FAITH IN HIS OWN ABILITIES.’

THE VERY POWERFUL SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL, PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL GROUNDING STUDENTS RECEIVE DURING THEIR WHITEFRIARS YEARS PRODUCES RESPONSIBLE, GENEROUS AND CAPABLE MEN. SENIOR STUDENTS BECOME HAPPY IN THEMSELVES, HEALTHY IN THEIR RELATIONSHIPS, CONFIDENT IN THEIR ABILITIES AND READY TO PURSUE SUCCESS IN ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR LIVES.

A young man with short brown hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie, is speaking at a podium. He is looking slightly to his right with a thoughtful expression. The background is dark with blurred lights in shades of purple and blue. A microphone is positioned in front of him.

Become a mature and competent young man, well prepared for an enjoyable and rewarding life



## SENIOR YEARS

The final years of secondary school are usually a watershed time in the life of a student. A key focus of the College during this period is the provision and support of students in their transition from boys to young men. This enables each individual to develop the confidence to work through the many choices he may face. Senior students are especially supported by being offered a number of unique opportunities:

- Year 10 boys undertake work experience to develop an insight into possible career paths.
- The Kairos retreat allows Year 11 students to enhance their spirituality and relationships through a process of self reflection.
- The Live Smart study skills enhancement course for Year 11 students and their parents teaches students how to learn more effectively and to harness their abilities to become high achievers.
- Additional teacher tutorial support in Years 11 and 12, especially in English and Mathematics, allows students to focus their learning and resolve specific problems.
- Leadership opportunities are available through the mentoring of younger students in both the House Pastoral Care structure and Peer Mentoring Programs and also across College, House, Sport, Cultural, Community Service and Academic contexts. Additionally, a special preparatory process in Year 11 works specifically towards formation in College and broader community leadership.
- Faith Enrichment Seminars for Year 12 students build on the themes of the Community Building Retreat, with further emphasis placed on Gospel values and life beyond Whitefriars College. Particular attention is given to continuing spiritual growth, maintaining and developing healthy relationships and accepting wider social responsibilities.
- The Community Building Retreat in Year 12 provides an opportunity for each person to reflect on his personal and spiritual growth, and to strengthen and seal relationships among staff and students. Through a range of community building activities and self reflection, students are encouraged to explore their spiritual life, look at the demands of the year ahead, set personal goals and plan a balanced approach to the demands of the year.
- Non-class 'study' periods give students the opportunity to assume greater personal responsibility for their own learning.
- An intensive week of study at the end of Year 11 offers boys a head start on the Year 12 curriculum.
- Careers and course selection counselling ensures students are guided towards a career most suited to their individual abilities and passions.
- Advance study of Unit 3/4 VCE units whilst in Year 11 and of 1st Year University Enhancement courses whilst in Year 12 gives boys the chance to excel beyond the standard curriculum.
- Trial VCE exams in Year 12 with rich feedback are an excellent way for students to prepare for their final assessments.



'THEIR EXPERIENCES ALONG THE WAY GIVE OUR YOUNG MEN THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO BE READY, WILLING AND ABLE TO WHOLEHEARTEDLY EMBRACE LIFE AFTER SECONDARY SCHOOL.'

## TAKING ON LIFE'S CHALLENGES

Whitefriars boys are supported and encouraged throughout their school career by the College's caring staff. Over the course of their time at the College, our students' spirituality is deepened, imaginations are challenged, dreams are encouraged, commitment is cultivated, talents are unearthed and promoted, and mistakes are considered to be stepping stones to growth.

Their experiences along the way give our young men the skills and confidence to be ready, willing and able to wholeheartedly embrace life after secondary school, making their mark in any direction they choose to pursue.

We look forward to offering your son the opportunity to develop the strong and positive foundations Whitefriars College helps each of its students to build in order to live a useful, meaningful and successful life.

# Looking forward to a bright future







**WHITEFRIARS**  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR BOYS

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