



SACRED HEART  
GIRLS' COLLEGE



# PROSPECTUS



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



SACRED HEART  
GIRLS' COLLEGE



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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

*Students are at the heart of all we do*

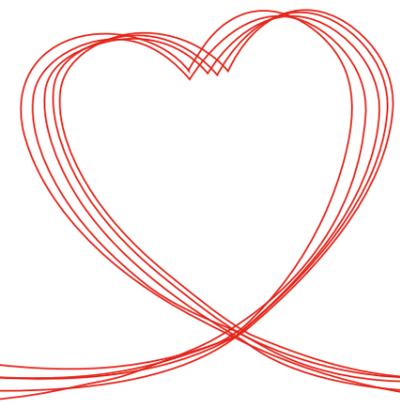
It is my great pleasure to introduce you to Sacred Heart Girls' College. Our College's rich tradition is embedded within the Catholic faith and inspired by the spirit and mission of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, who founded the College in 1957.

At Sacred Heart Girls' College we support young people to develop a love of learning, and a preparedness to take their place, with hope and enthusiasm, in our world. Our community recognises, affirms, and celebrates the uniqueness of each student and nurtures faith and skills for life-long learning and community connectedness. Students are positively engaged in a dynamic learning environment that develops the whole person through active knowledge seeking, understanding and growth which finds expression through Gospel values of love, compassion, service, justice, and peace.

I invite you to visit and experience the College in action at one of our Open Sessions.

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**CHRISTOPHER DALTON**  
**PRINCIPAL**





# OUR VISION OUR MISSION

*Always striving upwards*

## MISSION STATEMENT

Sacred Heart Girls' College is a Catholic secondary school inspired by the charism of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions (RNDM).

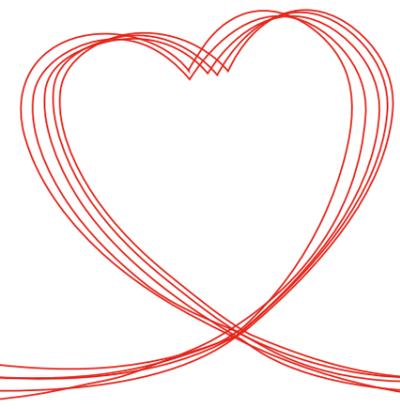
We nurture an inclusive and diverse culture, fostering life-long learning and a commitment to social justice.

The College provides a dynamic environment that educates young people to be compassionate, discerning, resilient and true to our motto, **Always Striving Upwards**.

## VISION STATEMENT

In the spirit of the RNDM Sisters, we aspire to honour the uniqueness and gifts of each person by:

- Enriching spirituality and celebrating our Catholic identity and heritage.
- Promoting excellence in wellbeing and learning.
- Adopting ethical and responsible practices that ensure sustainable use of resources.
- Demonstrating outward looking leadership and service.
- Fostering a safe community where all are treated with respect and dignity.
- Providing opportunities to be innovative and responsive to a changing world.
- Challenging each student to discover their personal attributes and strengths to engage with local and global issues.





# FAITH AND MISSION



*An inclusive Heart*

At Sacred Heart Girls' College, our Mission and Ministry Program is at the heart of our educational and spiritual journey, inspired by the RNDM Charism and the visionary leadership of our founder, Euphrasie Barbier. The principles and values of the RNDM Sisters, coupled with the teaching and exploration of faith and service.

## **FAITH IN ACTION: OUR FRAMEWORK AND PRACTICE**

Our College's liturgical life—encompassing Masses, Retreats, and special ceremonies — serves as the cornerstone for our spiritual formation. These occasions provide students with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the rich traditions of our faith, fostering a deep connection to our mission. The Religious Education program is faith-filled, designed to challenge students intellectually while nurturing their spiritual growth. Through a comprehensive curriculum, students engage with theological concepts, scriptural studies, and moral teachings, preparing them to live out their faith with conviction and understanding.

## **LIVING THE GOSPEL THROUGH SOCIAL JUSTICE**

We are committed to putting faith into action. Students actively participate in community outreach, including engaging with residents at aged care facilities and supporting local food banks to assist vulnerable community members. These initiatives are integral to our educational approach, which emphasises the importance of compassion, and active participation in societal betterment. Our College boasts a dedicated St Vincent de Paul Society College Conference, which serves as a platform for students to learn about and address issues of poverty and homelessness. Through various initiatives such as the Winter Appeal, Christmas Appeal, and School Sleepout, students gain hands-on experience in fundraising and advocacy, deepening their commitment to social justice.

## **EMBRACING CULTURAL AWARENESS**

Sacred Heart Girls' College also prioritises the inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives within our curriculum. The school has a dedicated Fire Carrier student leaders program who plan advocacy and fundraising events. By commemorating National Reconciliation week and managing our indigenous garden program, we aim to foster a deeper understanding of and respect for Indigenous cultures and histories. Our partnerships with outreach organisations enhances our students' learning experiences, allowing students to gain insights into local, national and global issues of justice and human rights.

## **STAFF INVOLVEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Our commitment to mission and ministry extends beyond our students to our dedicated staff, engaging in spiritual development through bi-annual Mission & Ministry Liturgy and Retreats. Our program is a testament to our holistic approach to education, one that integrates faith, learning, and action. By encouraging our community to apply their Head, Heart, and Hands to real-world challenges, we prepare them to be compassionate and proactive leaders in their communities and beyond.



*An inquisitive Heart*

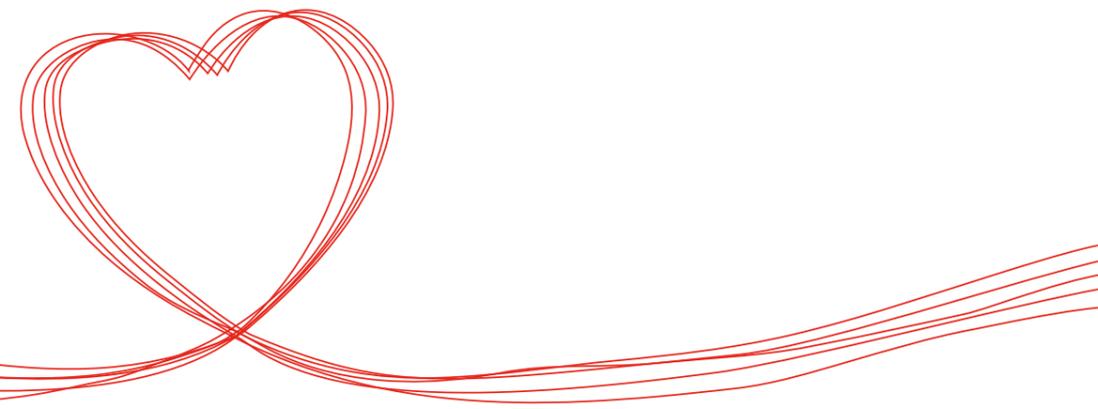
In February 1957, a group of very excited girls assembled in the hall of Sacred Heart Girls' College. When the Principal of the College, Sr Mary St Theophane, walked on to the stage, the excited chatter quickly grew to silent hush. This was the beginning – the first day in the life of this new Catholic Girls' College, on the corner of Warrigal and Kangaroo Roads, Oakleigh.

The College was built by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions – a missionary Congregation of Sisters dedicated to the education of women and girls. Arriving in Oakleigh in 1936, the Sisters established Sacred Heart Primary School. Noting there was no local opportunity for secondary education for girls or boys in the area to the southeast of Oakleigh, the Sisters applied for permission to build a secondary school for girls.

Many of the girls were daughters of returned soldiers and immigrants from war ravaged Europe. The Sisters commissioned the prestigious architects' firm Grounds, Romberg and Boyd to design a beautiful school for the girls, laying the foundation stone in 1952. In 1957, 105 students - Years 7 to 12 - moved into the new building with seven teachers: four full time including the Principal and three part time. Teachers doubled as School Secretary and cleaners.

Two months later an official inspection was made by Inspectors of the Council of Public Education recommending the College be registered as a secondary school and reporting that "The building is new, is of excellent design and meets all the requirements of a Secondary school. The open-air covered area is used for physical education and changing rooms and locker rooms are provided for pupils. Special features are a fine assembly hall, a good up to date library room, a well-planned science laboratory, an up to date, well equipped domestic science room and a craft room. These along with bright airy classrooms provide the best of conditions for teaching".

The tradition of excellence was already established for the future of our fine College.



# OUR HISTORY

Archives: 1959



# LEARNING AND EXCELLENCE

*An adventurous heart*

Sacred Heart Girls' College provides a dynamic learning environment that educates students to be compassionate, discerning, resilient, and true to our motto, *Always Striving Upwards*.

Our dedicated teachers seek innovative ways to bring learning to life by making real world connections. Teachers are committed to their own development and regularly participate in a range of professional learning activities, with the constant aim of improving the learning outcomes for all students.

Our learning spaces encourage collaborative learning in an environment that is technologically rich. Our students are provided with a College laptop in Years 7 and 10 and all learning spaces include interactive whiteboards to ensure digital technologies are seamlessly and purposefully integrated throughout the curriculum.

## **CURRICULUM**

Our curriculum is designed to meet the requirements of the Victorian Curriculum at Years 7 – 10 at the VCE level we offer a wide range of subjects and multiple pathways including the VCE Vocational Major and VET programs.

Year 9 STRIVE is a project focussed learning program that challenges our students to apply their learning to a variety of contexts, whilst at the same time developing them to be collaborative, creative and confident lifelong learners. Students are empowered to take an active role in their learning through a variety of immersive learning opportunities and are challenged to broaden their perspectives and take risks with their learning in preparation for an ever-changing world.

In addition to a rigorous academic program, the College offers a range of co-curricular opportunities to further develop and enhance these skills. These opportunities cover areas such as Social Justice, Sport, The Arts, Debating, Student Leadership and subject-based competitions and clubs.

Please visit [shgc.vic.edu.au/student-life/learning](http://shgc.vic.edu.au/student-life/learning) online for a full overview of Year 7 – 12 Curriculum.

## **LEARNING DIVERSITY**

At Sacred Heart all learners are welcomed and valued and provided with opportunities and supports to enable them to flourish in their learning.

Our Learning Diversity team provides individualised support to students at their point of need. This includes open and regular communication between student, school, and home, and if required, in class support is provided by teachers through differentiated learning, support of learning support officers and/or modified learning programs and targeted numeracy and literacy interventions.



*Endless opportunities*

# ENRICHMENT

## ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Sacred Heart recognises the importance of offering enrichment opportunities to further develop the academic success of our students. Differentiation within the classroom adds breadth and depth to the curriculum so that students can access the coursework at a deeper level. We aim to extend learning beyond the usual classroom setting by offering a variety of multidisciplinary extracurricular activities to foster and enhance the unique talents of our students. The Science Talent Search, Coding Club, DAV debating and the VCAA Plain English-Speaking Awards are just a few of the activities on offer.

The College also invites highly academically talented student to partake in programs targeted towards expanding critical, creative and divergent thinking, such as Tournament of Minds and the Australasian Problem-Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO). We seek to enrich the learning experience of our students so that they are always striving upwards to achieve their personal best.

## THE ARTS

**COLLEGE CO-PRODUCTION** - Each year Sacred Heart Girls' College and Salesian College Chadstone co-produce a musical production. Opportunities to participate include performers, musicians, hair and make-up artists, costume and backstage crew.

**HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION** - The House Performing Arts Competition is part of Sacred Heart Day, held on the last day of Term 2. This competition, which is open to all students, consists of singing, dancing and filmmaking. There is no need to have any training or expertise in these areas.

**ARTS FESTIVAL** - The College Annual Arts Festival is held in Term 4 and features work from students in Years 7 - 12 in all Arts subjects across music, dance and drama.

## LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL TOURS

Sacred Heart is committed to providing engaging cultural opportunities for students. Languages studied at Sacred Heart comprise of French, Indonesian and Italian, and provide students with the opportunity to develop communication and multi language skills.

Periodically as part of Language Studies, senior school students are offered opportunities to travel to a range of countries to experience immersive international experiences across Indonesia, Italy and France.



# MUSIC

*Music is the heartbeat of life*

Sacred Heart Girls' College provides a wide range of optional music education opportunities that equip our students with the tools to enhance and enrich their lives through emotional, social and cognitive growth. There are many benefits to learning an instrument, including the development of fine motor skills and enhancing critical listening.

In a structured learning environment, students are taught to value creativity and teamwork and are given a foundation to develop a lifelong involvement with the Arts. An ideal learning environment for your child's musical education is provided through the convenience of on-campus music educators and a rotating timetable to eliminate the possibility of the same classes being missed each week.

The College offers private individual music tuition in the following areas:

- Bass Guitar
- Cello
- Clarinet
- Double Bass
- Drums/Percussion
- Flute
- Guitar
- Music Theory
- Piano
- Saxophone
- Trombone
- Trumpet
- Violin
- Viola
- Voice





# STUDENTS

*We all have special gifts and talents*

Social and emotional skills are crucial contributors to positive adolescent development, mental health and wellbeing. We want our students to be motivated and adaptable life-long learners and recognise that the importance of building strong connections and experiencing genuine engagement.

Utilising explicit programs, student and community initiatives and partnerships with families, we nurture positive relationships and genuine opportunities for students to learn and grow. Students co-create a safe and inclusive learning community.

#### **WELLBEING FOR LEARNING PROGRAM**

Explicit and informed teaching of social emotional skills that is developmentally appropriate, timely and meaningful forms the basis of the Wellbeing for Learning Program. Collaboratively developed, evidence-based and flexible, this program is delivered by the Homeroom teacher and builds student self-understanding and personal capabilities.

#### **COLLEGE COUNSELLORS**

Working with Year Level Leaders, Deputy Principal – Students, parents and carers and community agencies, our counsellors provide students with short-term mental health support.

#### **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ACROSS THE SCHOOL**

A strong sense of community, belonging and care is nurtured through student activities and programs that build positive relationships and provide avenues for student voice and agency. Students thrive through engagement in House activities, interest-based clubs, Big Sister Little Sister program, sports, Arts programs, student leadership, community groups and more.





# SPORT

*An encouraging environment*

Sacred Heart Girls' College has a proud and successful sporting tradition. Our Sport Program aims to create a positive and encouraging environment where students may experience enjoyment and achieve success. Sport provides our students with an avenue to learn new skills, fairplay, teamwork, and co-operation. We believe that participating in the wide variety of sports offered will be of great benefit to our students' education and development.

## **INTRASCHOOL COMPETITIONS**

**HOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL** - Held annually in Term 1 the House Swimming Carnival is a whole school event. The event is held at Oakleigh Recreation Centre and encourages participation, individual and team races, team spirit and friendly competition between the four Houses.

**HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL** - The competition between the four Houses continues in Term 2 with the House Athletics Carnival. The level of student participation and enthusiasm on this day is outstanding. The event is held at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park and allows students to participate in track and field events.

**HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION** - This event is open to all year levels, however, it is not compulsory. Approximately 150 students participate in the part-day competition held on the outside running track of Duncan Mackinnon Reserve.

**HOUSE NETBALL COMPETITION** - This event is the last House Competition on the College Calendar and attracts the participation of approximately 250 students. It is open to all year levels and is not compulsory.

## **INTERSCHOOL COMPETITIONS**

The CGSAV (Catholic Girls Sports Association of Victoria) is the main interschool association that Sacred Heart Girls' College competes in. Throughout the year the CGSAV competitions are held as whole day round robin tournaments. A training program is developed in the lead up to tournament days.

Students at Sacred Heart Girls' College have the opportunity to participate in the following CGSAV Sports at Junior, Intermediate and Senior level:

- Aerobics
- Athletics
- Aussie rules football
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cross country
- Diving
- Futsal
- Hockey
- Indoor cricket
- Netball
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Table tennis
- Tennis
- Triathlon
- Volleyball



# OUTDOOR LEARNING

*Designed to challenge Students*

Our Outdoor Learning Program runs over four years, with all students participating in a series of sequentially linked adventure experiences. Developed using an experiential learning model, it is designed to challenge students individually and collectively by placing them in unfamiliar surroundings, and in a range of situations.

In the classroom students can continue to pursue outdoor and environmental learning through the Year 9 elective program and in the VCE subject of Outdoor & Environmental Studies.

## **YEAR LEVEL CAMPS**

### **YEAR 7 DISCOVERY CAMP**

Focusing on accepting challenges and building friendships, Year 7 students head to Shoreham and participate in a range of adventure style coastal activities with the highlight being a surfing session. Students spend one night in a cabin and the other in a bush campsite.

### **YEAR 8 CHALLENGE CAMP**

Held along the Gippsland Lakes, the Challenge Camp focusses on marine environments. The three-day program aims to extend the skills students acquired during their Year 7 experience.

### **YEAR 9 MOUNTAIN CAMP**

Year 9 students spend four days in the beautiful Mount Baw Baw region of Victoria. The alpine location increases the level of personal and physical challenge while providing opportunities for students to connect with each other and the surrounding environment.

### **YEAR 10 SUMMIT CAMP**

Structured as a four-day journey, Summit Camp is for many students the finale of their Outdoor Education experience at Sacred Heart. The focus of the Year 10 experience is on leadership, accepting challenge and community action. Set across three stunning locations; students can choose from canoeing, rock climbing or a multi activity/hiking programs.



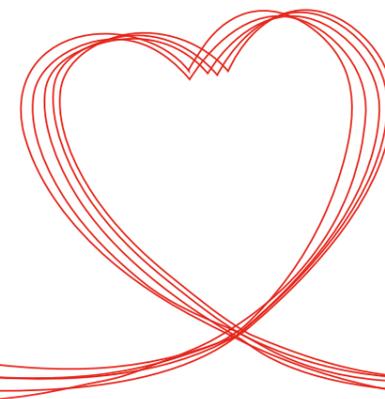
# PATHWAYS AND CAREERS

*Each Student is unique*

At Sacred Heart Girls' College, we believe in the provision of a holistic education that prepares students for an everchanging world and for careers and jobs that may not yet exist. Our emphasis is on equipping students with the skills and disposition they will need to become work ready, lifelong learners.

Our progressive Pathways and Careers Program provides students with an insight to life beyond Sacred Heart Girls' College. Recognising that each student is unique, we emphasise the many pathways available for atudents to achieve their goals and ambitions.

The Pathways and Careers Program at Sacred Heart is broad and responsive to the needs of our students. It includes Morrisby Profile Testing, our Future Ready program, career counselling, subject selection advice and support in transitioning to higher education.





# FACILITIES



McBride Sports Centre



Chapel



Dance Studio



Kendall Hall



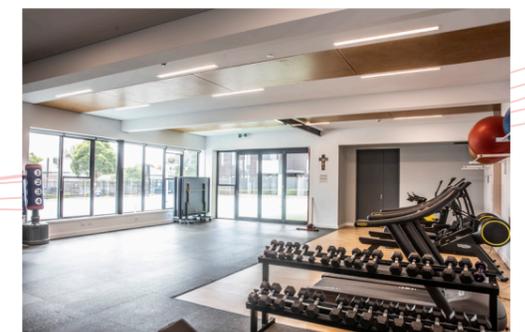
Music Studio



Library



Science Labs



Gymnasium



# ENROLMENTS

*Inclusive enrolment process*

Sacred Heart Girls' College welcomes students from the southeast corridor of Melbourne. Applications are invited for all year levels and are taken from any age. Please contact the College Registrar on 9568 5488 or at registrar@shgc.vic.edu.au to discuss current enrolment vacancies or related matters.

For a full overview of the Enrolment Application Process, please visit the Enrolments section on our College website at [www.shgc.vic.edu.au/enrolments](http://www.shgc.vic.edu.au/enrolments). Applications for Enrolment can be submitted electronically via our website, submitted via email to registrar@shgc.vic.edu.au, hand delivered to the College or mailed to:

The Registrar, Sacred Heart Girls' College  
PO Box 228 OAKLEIGH VIC 3166

PLEASE NOTE: Sacred Heart Girls' College is not registered with CRICOS (Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students) so is unable to enrol international students on a student visa.

#### TRANSPORT

The College is located in Hughesdale, about 16km southeast of the city centre. The campus is well serviced by public transport across both Melbourne rail and bus services.

You can utilise the Journey Planner tool on the Public Transport Victoria website to help you to determine the best public transport options for your daughter. Students of Sacred Heart Girls' College are issued with a PTV Approved School Student ID. This entitles students to travel on student passes or concession fares.

The College is a 3-5 minute walk from Oakleigh railway station. This is a premium station and staffed around the clock. Oakleigh station is serviced by Metro Trains on the Pakenham and Cranbourne lines. There are also numerous bus services and routes around the College. Check the Public Transport Victoria website for up-to-date timetable information and route maps.

