

*Mt St Patrick College*



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# *Prospectus*



*In this sign is my hope*

# Welcome

# Welcome



Dear Parents of Prospective Enrollees,

Thank you for considering Mt St Patrick College as an enrolment option for your child.

The information in this Prospectus will assist you and your child gain an understanding of the unique features and benefits of a Mt St Patrick College education. Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

Mt St Patrick College is more than a school. It is a special place rich in tradition, caring yet challenging, busy but not so busy that a student's needs go unnoticed. It is a place where students come first and our efforts are directed at achieving the best outcome for every child.

Mt St Patrick College is a Year 7-12 co-educational Catholic secondary College with modern, and restored historic buildings, set in a clean and well-maintained environment. The College is currently in planning for a major renewal of infrastructure which will take place over the coming years, ensuring that we offer the facilities that students require.

Digital technology infrastructure is of a very high standard in the College with data projectors and interactive whiteboards in all classrooms as well as access to video conferencing facilities. All students use the same high quality device.

I am most proud of the College's committed team of well-qualified and dedicated teachers who are focused on the needs of the students in their care. They encourage a positive culture where students feel happy, valued and are challenged. This is reflected in the consistently high levels of academic achievement of our HSC graduates.

Mt St Patrick College is highly regarded within the local community and the Lismore Diocese. It has a reputation for being a warm and caring community committed to excellence in every aspect of schooling. The College is small enough for the individual to matter but large enough to offer a broad selection of learning experiences.

The curriculum is infused with clearly defined beliefs and values that nurture 'a particular way of living' based on Gospel values. We aim to engender self-esteem and confidence in our students by offering a broad academic and extracurricular program which allows all students an opportunity to experience success.

A Mt St Patrick College education acknowledges the valuable role parents play in the formation of their children. We work in partnership with parents for the benefit of individual students and for the good of the College.

The information in this Prospectus provides only a brief glimpse of the opportunities offered at Mt St Patrick College.

Should you require further details on any matter, please contact either myself or the Enrolment Secretary:  
[mursc-enrolments@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mursc-enrolments@lism.catholic.edu.au)



Paul Reidy  
B Bus, Grad Dip Info Sys, Grad Cert LG Mgmt, Grad Dip Education  
Principal

# embrace life

# Values Our Vision



## Our Vision

*Embrace life* is our vision for Mt St Patrick College. It is inspired by the life and teachings of Christ encapsulated in John 10:10:

***“I have come so that you may have life, and have it to the full.”***

This vision encourages us as a Christian community to see life as a gift to be enjoyed, celebrated and shared, through the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom.

## Our Mission

As a Catholic Educational Community in the Presentation tradition we are called to affirm Christ as the model for human life. We endeavour to encourage excellence, a love of learning and a passion for life.



## Our Values

At Mt St Patrick College, all relationships and decision-making will give witness to the following Gospel values:

### Acceptance

Acting in a manner which recognises difference and encourages tolerance.

### Commitment

Acting in a manner that develops a positive, dedicated and consistent approach so that each person achieves his/her full potential.

### Community

Acting in a manner which nurtures quality relationships, where all College members feel respected, valued and have a sense of belonging.

### Compassion

Acting in a manner which recognises the needs, feelings and concerns of others and responds with empathy towards them.

### Forgiveness

Acting in a manner that promotes growth and seeks to restore relationships damaged by poor decisions.

### Justice

Acting in a manner which balances the needs of the individual and the community in a fair and equitable way.



## A strong commitment to Catholic beliefs and values

A Mt St Patrick College education involves much more than classroom teaching. It is about supporting families as they instil Christian values and beliefs in their children so that they may live by these values and, in doing so, make a valuable contribution to twenty first century society.

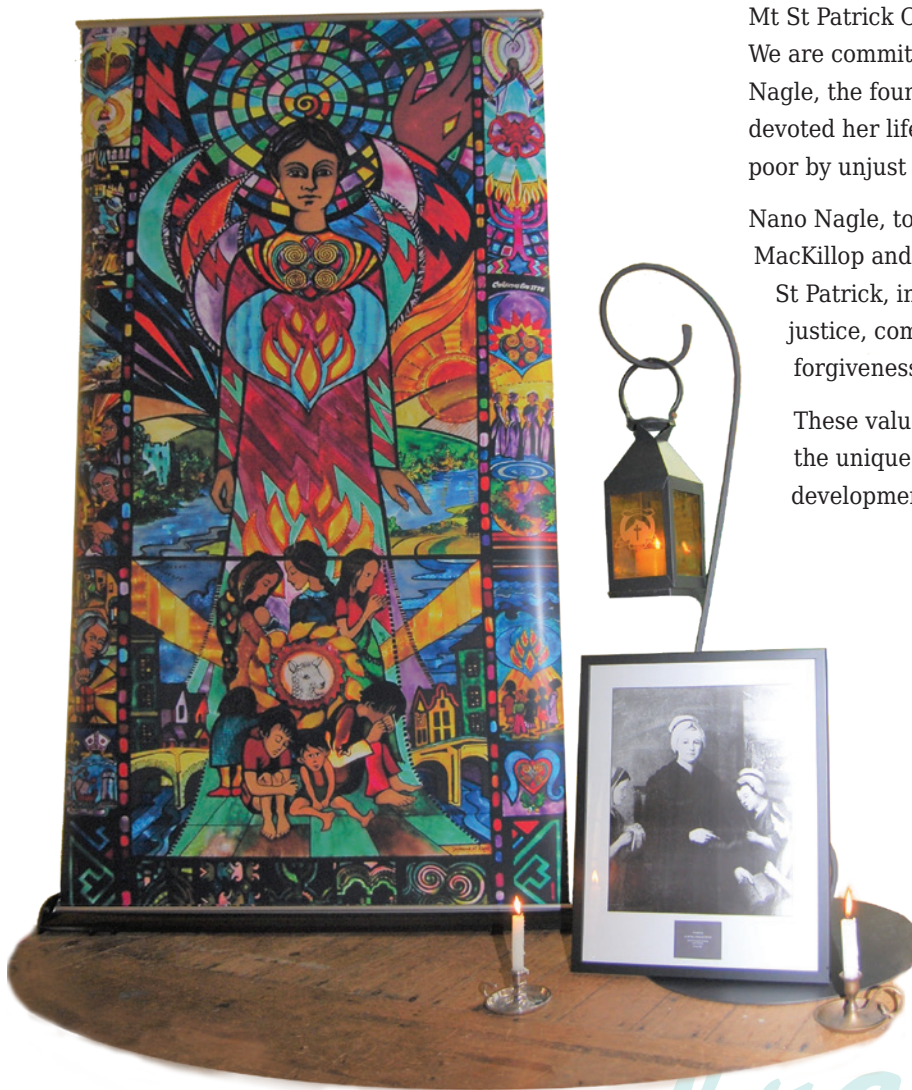
At Mt St Patrick College, our values and beliefs are a priority and are based on the life and teachings of Christ, in the Catholic tradition. These values and beliefs pervade the life of the College and can be seen in every area of the curriculum, in the quality of our relationships, in what we prize and in the priorities we set.



Mt St Patrick College is a proud Presentation school. We are committed to the example of Venerable Nano Nagle, the foundress of the Presentation Sisters, who devoted her life to God and the people of Ireland made poor by unjust systems.

Nano Nagle, together with St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the Patron Saint of the College, St Patrick, inspire our community to a life of service, justice, commitment, community, compassion, forgiveness and acceptance.

These values are of particular significance to the unique culture of the College and guide the development of quality relationships at Mt St Patrick.



*embrace life*





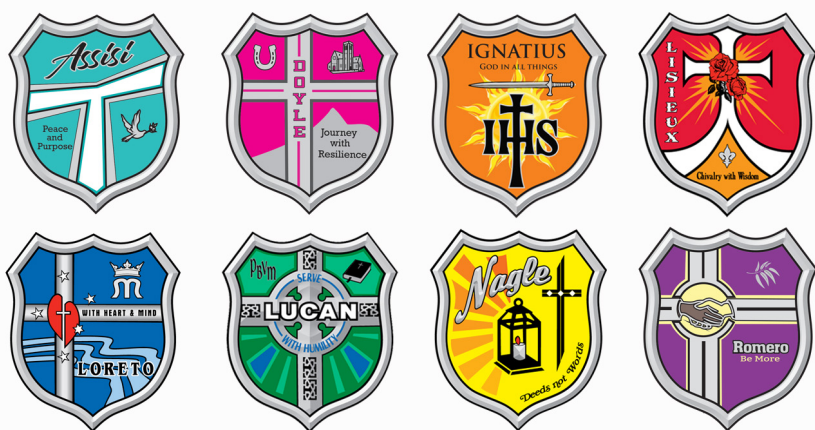
## A happy and caring community

At Mt St Patrick College, we aim to build a happy and caring community by nurturing respect of self, others and property. Our Welfare Policy, including our Anti-Bullying Policy, implement positive steps to ensure that students and staff feel welcomed and safe within the College environment. The College has a clearly defined Rights and Responsibilities Statement for both staff and students. All relationships are based on respect.

The College has specific procedures in place to ensure that Year 7 students, and new enrolments in other years, feel welcomed at Mt St Patrick. An Orientation Program and a system of Year 9 Buddies who will be in the students' homeroom in the following year, assist Year 6 students with their transition to secondary school.

Mt St Patrick has a vertical homeroom structure, based on our four houses, in the junior school which aims to build community within the College. Each homeroom class consists of students from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 with the older students encouraged to be mindful of the everyday wellbeing of younger or new students in their group.

Greetings and warm smiles are part of the culture of Mt St Patrick and are important in building quality working relationships in our community.



## A community with spirit

Mt St Patrick College has a unique spirit which is evident in all aspects of College life. Students feel comfortable participating in College-organised events, irrespective of their skill level. Their willingness to be involved is an impressive feature of Mt St Patrick College students. The students feel they are a valued part of the College and that they belong here and feel accepted.

Staff, parents and students are proud to be associated with the College and are prepared to say so. Their sense of ownership assists the College in the achievement of our vision, to *embrace life*.

The College offers a range of community-building opportunities including debating, choir, band, fundraising activities, prayer and liturgical services, athletic and swimming carnivals, theme days, drama productions, community service, skits on assemblies, College musicals, sport, sporting house and homeroom competitions.

A strong house structure provides a friendly but competitive spirit in the College community. Homeroom classes are based on houses with points awarded for class and out of class activities which add to a final tally for the St Patrick's Champion House Trophy. The Trophy is presented annually and generates a great deal of interest amongst students.



*Students are actively involved in College-organised events and have a strong sense of ownership about their school community.*

*embrace life*





## An innovative curriculum

The curriculum at Mt St Patrick College is dynamic, student-centred and has a twenty-first century focus. A three year one-to-one computer program has resulted in every student in the College having access to their own netbook computer subject to certain conditions. Wireless internet access is available in every area of the College.

In recent years our technology-rich teaching and learning environment has been further enhanced by the introduction of iSTEM, mechatronics, coding and Stage 6 VET Entertainment Industry which utilizes the 'state-of-the-art' sound, lighting and production features of the Gilbey Multipurpose Centre.

The College offers a range of different study pathways leading to the award of the Higher School Certificate. These include Life Skills Courses, Vocational Education Courses, on-line delivery, acceleration and TAFE courses.





# Flexible Curriculum



An innovative Science and Mathematics program, written specifically for Mt St Patrick College, allows Year 9 students to complete the stage 5 Science course in one year and commence their Year 11 HSC courses one year ahead of their cohort. The accelerated students sit for the HSC examinations as year 11 students in the subjects Chemistry, Investigating Science and/or Mathematics.

The aim of the program is to reduce a student's workload in Year 12, provide an opportunity for students to experience the demands of the HSC a year early and help create a more positive work ethic in their other subjects. Acceleration is available in other KLAS, subject to certain conditions. In 2021, 8 Accelerated students achieved a Band 6 result which is an excellent head start in their HSC campaign.

At Mt St Patrick College we endeavour to do our best for every student in terms of their educational needs and their growth as a Christian person. Every student is offered opportunities to experience success, develop self-esteem and feel confident about entering the digital age of the twenty-first century.

*The curriculum is flexible and offers students a number of different pathways leading to the Higher School Certificate.*

# embrace life



# Outstanding Outstanding Results



## Outstanding examination results

Mt St Patrick College is proud of its academic tradition of excellence and has consistently achieved well above State average results in the Higher School Certificate Examinations, confirming our place as the best academic school in the region.

The College has ranked in the top 200 Best Performing Schools in the Higher School Certificate on fourteen occasions since 2006. It has also ranked in the top 100 Best Performing Schools on three occasions.

In 2021 Mt St Patrick College was ranked 114 in the State which is an exceptional effort.

MSPC students consistently achieve ATARs above 90. In 2021, 20% of the cohort received an ATAR above 90. Outstanding achievements to note were:

Dux - 99.35

Two students with ATARs above 99

1st place in Music

4th place in Multimedia

Nominations in Art Express, Onstage and INTECH.

Our consistently high results indicate the expertise of staff and reflect a strong work ethic at Mt St Patrick College. Our approach is based on the Fullness of Life Framework where a rich curriculum is designed to engage the learner; one that is inspiring, rigorous, informed by assessment, feedback and data, and is responsive and continuously evaluated.



*In the Higher School Certificate, the College has always had students in the top 10% in the State in the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).*





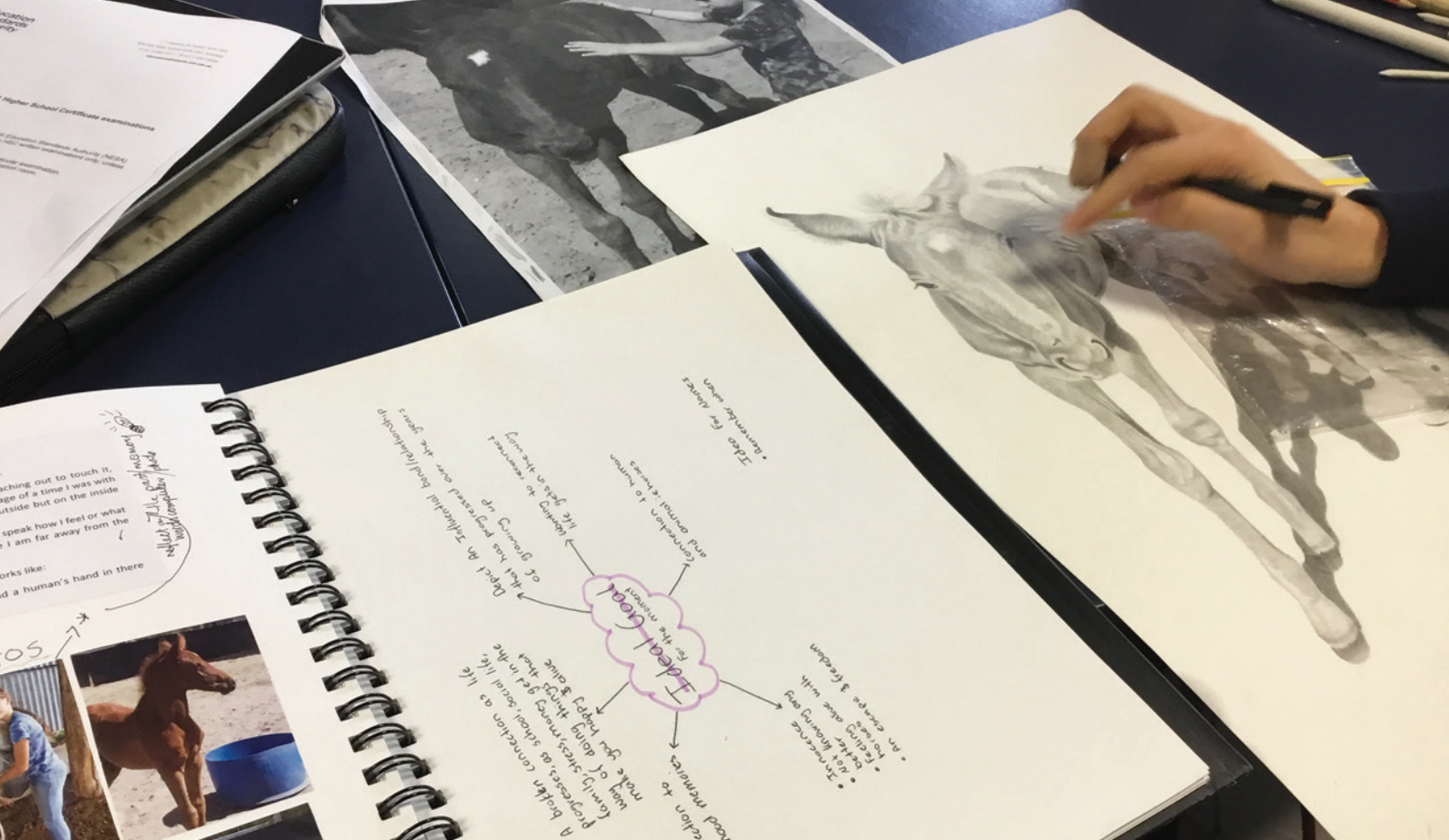
## Achieving success

At Mt St Patrick College, we endeavour to make teaching and learning an exciting adventure and believe that every person is a “work in progress”. Education is an ongoing journey that is much more than the results obtained in the Higher School Certificate. A quality Catholic education is about learning not only the prescribed content of syllabus documents but also about living life in a particular way. We endeavour to nurture strong religious and personal values in our students so that they may live life to the full guided by our College motto *in hoc signo spes mea* (in this sign is my hope).

At Mt St Patrick College, we accept our special responsibility to lay the foundations upon which dreams are built.

*embrace life*





## Creative and performing arts

Mt St Patrick College has a reputation for excellence in the Creative and Performing Arts. Mandatory NESA courses in Visual Art and Music are taught in Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8); elective Visual Art, Photography, Music and Drama courses are offered in Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10); and Visual Art, Photography, Music, Drama and are available in Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12).

There are regular evening performances and exhibitions by senior Visual Art, Photography, Music and Drama students which are staged, in the multi-purpose Gilbey Centre, by their peers studying Entertainment Industry. All students have the opportunity to be part of the choral and/or instrumental programs offered at the College. 'Spes Mea', our Year 7-12 Choir, rehearses weekly and performs regularly at liturgies and Masses and represents the College at various community events.



There are small vocal ensembles which perform a variety of repertoire and every alternate year a major musical production is staged in May. Our next production is due in 2023, so auditions and rehearsals will begin in Term 4, 2022. A creative and performing arts spectacular will take place in 2022 showcasing the talents and skills of students in the areas of Visual Arts, Music, Photography and Drama over two nights.

Students can avail themselves of the opportunity to have individual or group lessons in strings, brass, woodwind, piano, voice, guitar and drums, on site during the school day. There is an active Jazz Band, Concert Band, Drumline, Rock Band and String Group for students to engage in group music-making under the direction of skilled conductors.



# Technology New Technology



## Technical and Applied Studies

At Mt St Patrick College, the TAS (Technical and Applied Studies) KLA (Key Learning Area) is developing a makerspace with a focus on Digital Manufacturing.

This space complements our traditional school workshops and provides students from Year 7 through to Year 12 with practical experience working with materials in a digital age. This will provide opportunities for our students to become familiar with the possibilities associated with 3D CAD, coding, mechatronics, laser cutting, vinyl cutting, product design and rapid prototyping through 3D printing.

Besides programmed class time, students often use the makerspace during lunchtime and after school to pursue personal projects and projects from other classes.

Multimedia and iStem electives have been capturing the attention of students in recent years and they have produced innovative projects. We are lucky to have experienced and dedicated staff to channel the students' creativity and innovative ideas.

The College also offers Vocational Education Pathways with hospitality student involvement in the Hospitality/ Kitchen Operations Course. With the College's full industrial kitchen, students learn skills and knowledge to access part-time work, or if they so choose, can move on to further courses to work in the hospitality industry. VET Entertainment Industry is available in Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12).



*embrace life*





## Sporting opportunities

Students at Mt St Patrick College have the opportunity to participate in a large range of sports throughout the school year.

Term 1: The Inter-House Swimming Carnival takes place in Week 3. Students then participate in selection trials and training for upcoming sport competitions.

Term 2: The Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals occur this term. Years 7-9 compete in an Inter-House competition where they compete for valuable points which are awarded to the Champion House Trophy.

Term 3: Students are offered a range of recreational activities and sports.

During Term 4 elective sports are offered, many of which suit our climate and some groups get to visit local beaches for Surfing and Surf Life Saving.



Mt St Patrick College offers its students sporting pathways through the New South Wales Combined Catholic College Sporting Association. Visit the association's website to view the full range of sporting opportunities offered in the Catholic Secondary Schools Sport visit [www.csnsw.sport](http://www.csnsw.sport) or phone 02 9287 1595.



At a Diocesan Level, Mt St Patrick College participates in sporting carnivals and competes against the other 9 High Schools in our Diocese from Tweed Heads in the north to Port Macquarie in the South. Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics are our big three, with other major Diocesan sporting events including Touch Football, Football, Tennis, Basketball, Netball, Gymnastics, Volleyball, Golf and Cricket to name a few.

On a more local level Mt St Patrick College competes in the newly formed Northern Rivers Catholic College's (NRCC) competitions. Competition is spread across the year with the aim to increase collegiality amongst students and staff as well as providing quality sporting opportunities that don't involve too much travel. The NRCC competition is a chance for College teams to refine their skills and game play leading into major Diocesan events.

*Mt St Patrick College have been successful in winning the NRCC Aggregate Shield in the first two years of this competition.*





## Youth Ministry

All students have opportunities to be involved in a range of social justice and ministry activities which practise the Catholic values of Service and Compassion. These include You Have a Friend, Meals on Wheels, St Vincent de Paul Society and a number of fundraising events for Australian and overseas charities, such as Caritas.

Other opportunities are specifically designed around Student Discipleship where students deepen their faith and develop a closer relationship with Jesus. These include Transitus (Year 7), Festa Christi (Year 8), Shine (Years 9 and 10), Street Retreat, LEAD and Kairos Retreat (Year 11) and Ignite Conference (Years 9–12). These complement and deepen the Years 7–9 and Year 11 Reflection Days and the Year 10 and 12 Retreats over three days.

The Year 9 and 10 Youth Ministry classes (formerly known as CSYMA) have a wide range of opportunities for Student Discipleship. They are given leadership roles for CSO Exuro (Year 5) and Incitare (Year 6) Programs as well as Primary Sacramental days and Primary school/class retreats and Leadership days.



Our Youth Ministry Officers, past Year 12 students, journey with our students in their faith development and help them “live life to the full” (John 10:10).

*embrace life*





# Curriculum Options and Activities

## Religious Dimension

Strong religious culture in the Catholic tradition  
 Religious Education for all students  
 Retreat and reflection experiences  
 A student-written College prayer  
 Celebration of religious and significant events  
 Masses and Liturgies  
 College Chaplain  
 Christian Witness:  
 - Fundraising for local charities  
 - St Vincent de Paul Conference  
 - Meals-on-Wheels  
 - You Have a Friend  
 - Legacy Appeal  
 - Solomon Island Immersion Program  
 - Wilcannia Immersion Experience

## Academic

Broad Academic and Vocational Curriculum  
 Qualified and Experienced Staff  
 Outstanding individual HSC Success  
 - Majority of HSC courses achieve above State average  
 - Consistently high HSC results  
 - Majority of HSC students gain admission to University  
 On-line Learning - Distance Education  
 Streamed and mixed ability classes  
 Formal Examination Periods  
 Semester Reporting and Parent Teacher Interviews  
 Acknowledgement of effort (Beacon Award)  
 Career Education  
 Vocational Education Courses  
 Gifted and Talented Extension Activities  
 TAFE Courses  
 Life Skills Courses  
 Literacy Program  
 Numeracy Program  
 Competitions  
 - Sydney Morning Herald Writing Competition  
 - Australian English/Mathematics/Science Competition  
 - Australian Geography/Computer Competitions  
 - Tournament of Minds

## Creative Arts (KLA)

Art  
 Drama  
 Music  
 Music Course I  
 Photography  
 Visual Arts

## Technology

Computer and Internet access for all students  
 One-to-one computer program  
 College Website  
 Variety of Technology subjects  
 Video Conference facilities  
 - Interactive Whiteboards  
 - Clickview  
 iSTEM, Coding, Multimedia, Computing Courses

## Cultural

College Choir, Band and Drumline  
 Drama performances  
 Musical productions  
 Selections in ArtExpress, OnSTAGE, InTECH, OnShape  
 Eisteddfod and Festival Achievements  
 Excellence in Debating - State Champions  
 Drama and Music Performance Evenings  
 Instrumental Program  
 Public Speaking Competition - Lions Youth of the Year

## Student Welfare

Respectful student/staff relationships  
 Rights and Responsibilities of Students  
 Positive Discipline Program  
 Merit System  
 Student Representative Council  
 Student Counselling  
 Healthy College Canteen  
 Year 6-7 Transition Program  
 Anti-Bullying Policy  
 Vertical Homerooms 7-10

## Sport

Weekly Sport  
 Athletics/Swimming/Cross Country Carnivals  
 Interschool NRCC Competitions  
 Regional and State Competitions  
 Representative Pathways  
 Leisure Sports

## Parent Participation

Parents' and Friends' Association  
 Parent Assembly Guest Presenters  
 Parent Information Meetings  
 Parent/Student/Teacher interviews  
 Canteen  
 Exam readers and writers



## Special Events

College Fundraising  
Clean-Up Australia  
Anzac Day  
Open Day  
St Patrick's Day  
College Assemblies  
Year 12 Formal  
Year 12 Formal Assembly, Graduation Mass  
Year 9 Activities Week  
Year 8 Adventure Camp  
Year 7 Currumbin Challenge  
Overnight Retreats for Years 10 and 12  
Reflection Days for Years 7, 8, 9 and 11

## English Key Learning Area (KLA)

English  
Special Education Classes  
Standard English  
Advanced English  
Extension 1 English  
Extension II English  
English Studies

## Mathematics (KLA)

Mathematics  
Advanced Mathematics  
Mathematics Standard 1  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Extension 1 and 11  
Applied Mathematics

## Science (KLA)

Science  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Earth and Environmental Science  
Physics  
Senior Science  
Investigating Science

## Technology and Applied Studies (KLA)

Design and Technology  
Technology (Mandatory)  
Entertainment Industry  
Food Technology  
Hospitality (VET)  
Information Processes Technology  
Marine Studies and Aquaculture Technology  
Marine Studies Year 11  
Software Design and Development (On-line)

Industrial Technology - Timber  
Industrial Technology - Timber Products  
Industrial Technology - Multi Media  
Textiles Technology  
iSTEM

## Human Society and its Environment (KLA)

Studies of Religion  
Catholic Faith in Action  
World History/Global Geography  
Elective History  
Ancient History  
Modern History  
Business Studies  
Commerce  
Geography  
Economics (On-line)  
Legal Studies  
Australian History  
Australian Geography  
Business Services (VET)

## Languages Other than English (KLA)

French  
Japanese

## Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (KLA)

PD/H/PE  
Physical Activity and Sports Studies  
Community and Family Studies  
Sport Lifestyle and Recreation  
Fitness (VET)  
Child Studies  
Early Childhood Studies

## Sport

Athletics, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Soccer, Softball, Surf Lifesaving, Swimming, Tennis, Touch Football, Volleyball, AFL, Water Polo

## Interest Elective Sport

Aerobics, Aqua Aerobics/Synchronized Swimming, Beach Cricket, Beach Fitness Activities, Beach Volleyball, Beach Walking, Fishing, Indoor Cricket, Lawn Bowls, Rowing, Self Defence, Surf Board Riding, Surf Survival, Water Polo, Weight Training, Yoga, Zumba

Note: Elective subjects offered depend on student numbers and are Stage specific.





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