



2018 PROSPECTUS



Welcome

Welcome to Catherine McAuley College and the wider Mercy family. The future, at our College is exciting with the opening of new and innovative learning spaces and a new College name for 2018.

Our College has a proud tradition dating back to 1876 when Sister Aloysius Martyn and the Sisters of Mercy first arrived in Bendigo. Last year saw the celebration of 140 years of education in Bendigo inspired by the spirit and ethos of Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy.

New building developments at Catherine McAuley College will create modern, cutting-edge facilities and the new learning spaces are designed to enhance our students' skills and educational pathways, today and well into the future.

A purpose-built performing and creative arts centre including 28 flexible learning spaces will add to the established specialist facilities such as science laboratories and technology areas for food, wood and metal classes. Our students love the wide open spaces of La Valla, with the ovals, natural bush, the farm and McAuley Square.

Our College has strong partnerships with peak sporting bodies allowing us to develop our grounds and sporting facilities with the support of the City of Greater Bendigo. Spacious land owned by Catherine McAuley College at Junortoun creates the unique opportunity for the formation of an innovative community hub.

Mercy Education and the network of Mercy schools across Australia, share the values of Justice, Courage, Respect, Hospitality, Compassion and Service which guide us in all that we do. We strive to empower our students to become confident and caring young people.

For 140 years the young people of Bendigo have been 'Living Mercy' and will continue to do so into the future at Catherine McAuley College.



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

Catherine McAuley

Faith, Mission & Social Justice

The Faith and Mission program provides opportunities for students to realise and explore issues of social justice in our local and global communities. Students are encouraged to be aware of the needs in our community and for our environment, working together to create a just world in the true spirit of Mercy.

The Student Faith and Justice Team raise awareness and promote participation in activities such as the Winter Sleep Out, Justice Matters Camp, Seeds of Justice Conference and Caritas Leadership Day.

The Faith and Mission program works in partnership with the Religious Education program offered to students. Our students are encouraged to take opportunities to celebrate who we are as a Christian community through creative and diverse experiences.

Each day begins with a prayer and throughout the year we celebrate special occasions such as Opening Mass, Ash Wednesday, Easter, Anzac Day and Mercy Day. We also welcome the opportunity to celebrate with families through House Masses, the Year 7 Welcome Mass and Year 12 Graduation Mass. These are significant celebrations as a whole community and provide the opportunity for us to reflect on our Catholic Identity.

Connection to our Mercy story is important in the spiritual journey of students at Catherine McAuley College. We seek to develop a social conscience in our students through faith in action and 'living Mercy' in our daily lives. Opportunities through immersions, retreats, liturgies and Justice Matters camps continue to strengthen students' awareness of local and global issues and understanding of the Gospel values.



“ Create awareness in our community and respond through the practice of Mercy Stewardship. ”

“ Retreat brought our year level closer together than ever before! ”



Wellbeing & Belonging

Our College holds the care, safety and wellbeing of each individual student as our fundamental responsibility. We are committed to providing a nurturing environment where respect, dignity and support for every person are the underpinning values of our community.

Transition

Students are warmly welcomed into the College community and are supported by structures to ensure a smooth transition.

Transition Day allows Grade 6 students to experience life as a Year 7 student. Individual meetings with Leadership Members and learning assessments prior to commencement allow us to gather information about the strengths and aspirations of each student.

All other new students (8-12) to the school are welcomed and allocated a “Buddy” and receive regular checks from both the Wellbeing Team and their Head of House.

Houses & Belonging

Belonging at Catherine McAuley College begins with our House System. New students quickly develop a sense of belonging within their House and Housegroup, meeting each morning and going on camp together. Importantly, Housegroups have a vertical structure, allowing students to interact with each other across Year Levels. This helps build students’ self-confidence and provides opportunities for mentoring.

House spirit is evident in the colour and fanfare of our whole College events, such as the Swimming, Athletics Carnivals and Mercy Day celebrations. Heads of House and their team of teachers come to know their students very well and support them in their pursuit of educational, social, spiritual and leadership goals.

Camps & Retreats

Students at Catherine McAuley College are provided with opportunities for varied experiences away from day-to-day College life. A broad range of camps and retreats are provided for each year level for students to extend their knowledge, relationships and discover more about themselves.

Learning for the Future

Our College promotes lifelong learning by encouraging independence, initiative and understanding. This approach encourages critical and creative thinking, which benefits the students' learning. It builds resilience and social skills, equipping them to make a meaningful contribution to society.

We are committed to Targeted Learning that allows each student to experience personal success. We construct learner profiles based on individual student data which helps cater for specific learning needs.

Curriculum

The curriculum at Catherine McAuley College is based on relevant national, state and diocesan requirements. The curriculum offers a balance of practical and academic subjects to meet the needs and aspirations of each student.

The Martyn Program

The Martyn Program is an integrated curriculum in which students undertake individual learning projects generated by their interests. Their research gives them an authentic voice and allows them to develop skills such as innovation, communication, real-world understanding, creativity and problem solving.

Technology & Learning

We are committed to making use of contemporary technology to enhance student learning. All students are provided with a digital device and we aim to develop responsible citizens, engaging safely and ethically with online resources.

Graduate Pathways

Catherine McAuley College recommends a blend of learning experiences to enrich learning and increase ATAR outcomes. In 2016, our College celebrated three students achieving College Dux with an ATAR of 99.35.

As they transition from our College, students pursue a number of pathways ranging from university study to full-time work. Participation in our VET (Vocational Education and Training) and VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) subjects across year levels provides opportunities for students to obtain apprenticeships, traineeships and Tafe training.

Catherine McAuley College is a member of the local consortium and hosts a Trade Training Centre on site.

The Careers Office provides ongoing support to ensure our students have the best possible chance of success in the future.



“ We are committed to targeted learning that allows each student to experience personal success. ”

Schoolbox

Our students, staff and parents utilise our Learning Management System (LMS), Schoolbox. This system allows greater collaboration and fluid communication between all users, providing an online space where students can access learning material for their classes, share ideas and submit work that can be viewed, marked, and returned by staff. The system generates a personalised schedule of work for all students and this will be significant in student planning. Parents can view this material in real time.

Co-Curricular Learning

Debating, sport competitions, arts performances, academic competitions, justice camps and the Frayne Speech Festival provides opportunity for students to extend their knowledge and skills, try new activities and connect with students and staff who share their individual interests.

“ We offer a range of learning enrichment programs which cater for various needs and work towards building resilient learners. ”

Recognising Unique Talents in all Students

Catering for Our Students

Teachers constantly monitor and differentiate the curriculum to meet the learning needs and context of individual students. We offer a range of learning enrichment programs which cater for various needs of students and work towards building resilient learners.

Our qualified Learning Mentors are allocated to students who need additional support, within and outside the classroom. They facilitate the students' Personal Learning Plans and monitor students' learning needs.

Student Leadership

The Student Representative Council (SRC) comprises students from all year levels, giving authentic voice to the student body regarding current and future directions at our College. It is responsible for organising ways for students to participate in College life and contribute to their school community.



Sporting Life

Sport at Catherine McAuley College enables students to develop physical and social skills, encouraging participation, confidence and success. Students are empowered through their participation in sport and representing their College, displaying a strong sense of College spirit.

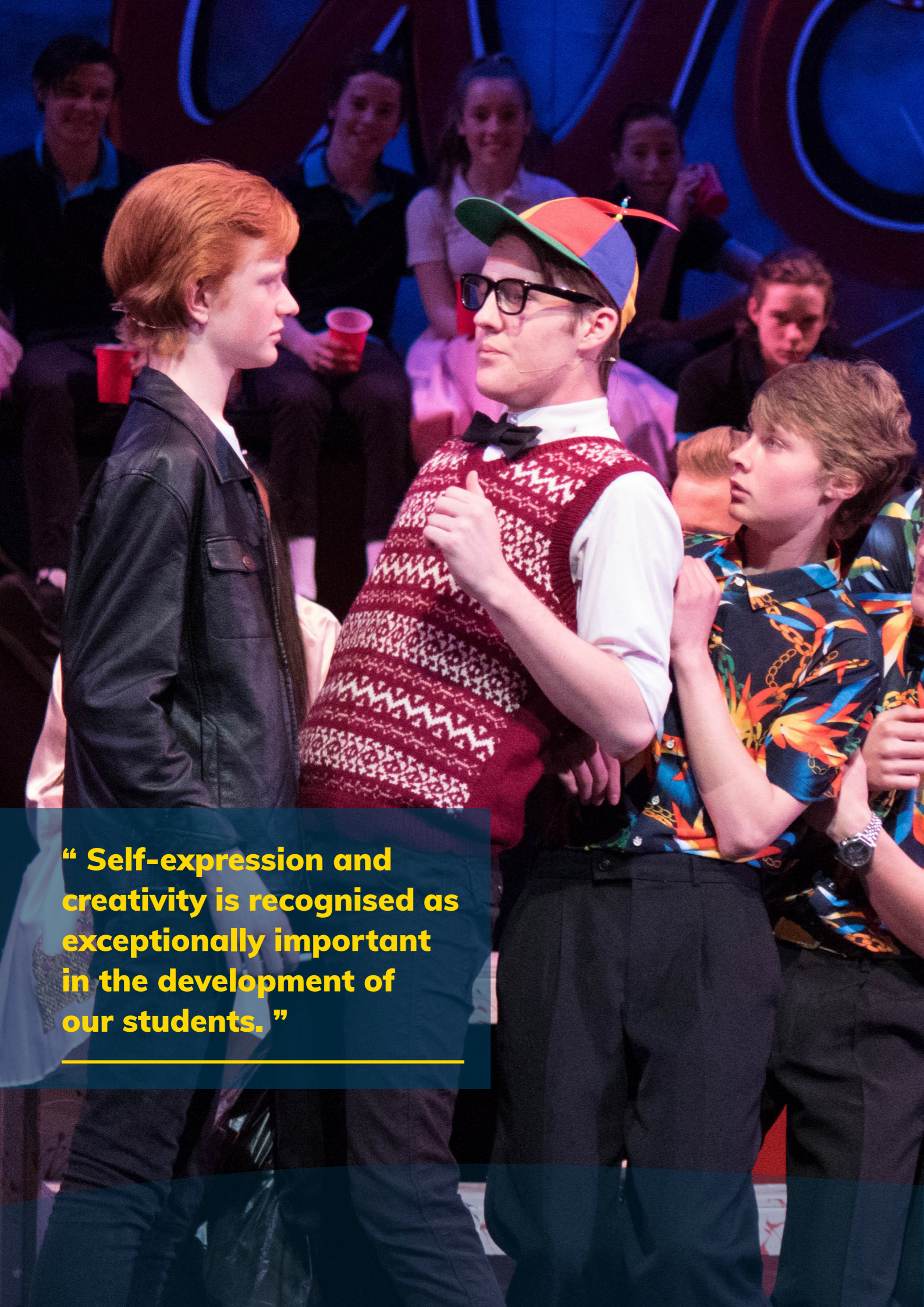
The House System creates a sense of competitiveness and pride for students when representing their House and participating in athletics, swimming and other House based sporting events.

The College offers a broad range of individual and team sports, represented at local, state and national levels. The College has long been the envy of other competitors with exceptional results each year. In 2016 the College was the most successful regional school in Victoria winning the most individual and state championships.



“ The College is an outstanding regional school for state titles and finalists. ”





“ Self-expression and creativity is recognised as exceptionally important in the development of our students. ”

Exploring the Arts

Exploring the Arts

Self-expression and creativity is exceptionally important in the development of our students. Research shows that learning a musical instrument and playing in an ensemble can enhance many areas of learning and develop personal and inter-personal skills.

Instrumental Music

We are committed to providing a high-quality instrumental music education, accessible to all families.

Every Year 7 student will begin their studies in music with an intensive practical program including learning an instrument and taking part in class ensembles.

Learning an instrument in Years 8 and 9 is an affordable co-curricular activity providing small-group tuition and large ensemble experiences. Instruments include saxophone, percussion, trumpet, flute, euphonium, guitar, trombone and clarinet.

Bands and Choirs

Our bands and choirs are involved in College masses, celebrations and performance evenings.

Art Exhibitions

Exhibitions and awards evenings display student work including art, ceramics, photography, media, graphics, textiles and fashion.

Catholic Education Sandhurst Council for the Arts (CESCA) offers arts immersion activities including the MacKillop Art Exhibition, the Festival of the Sacred, Arts on Show and the Performing Arts Camp.

Year 9 Production

A highlight of our performance calendar every year is the fully-staged Year 9 musical. In 2017, students will perform Godspell in the spectacular Ulumbarra Theatre.

Other Performance Opportunities

- Drama Nights and Music Recitals
- Rock in the Quad
- Winter Concert
- Musician of the Year
- Battle of the Bands
- Community performances including Aged Care and Primary Schools

Enrolment enquiries & tour bookings:

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