



2019 PROSPECTUS

Welcome

Welcome to Catherine McAuley College. It is an exciting time for our College as we establish our identity and further reflect the characteristics of a Mercy School steeped in the tradition of our founder the Venerable Catherine McAuley.

Catherine founded the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland in 1831 and established many support foundations. Inspired by the spirit and ethos of Catherine McAuley, Sister Aloysius Martyn and the Sisters of Mercy first came to Bendigo from Ireland in 1876 to provide care and education for the people of the goldfields. In 2016 we celebrated the significant milestone of 140 years of Mercy education being offered in Bendigo.

Each Mercy school strives to reflect in its structures, curriculum and practices and in the quality of the relationships within it, the particular spirit of mercy which Jesus lived and taught. Each school endeavours to reflect its commitment to these values by expressing its unity and solidarity with the poor, the unemployed, the distressed and the marginalised through its service to the community. Through their faithfulness to the spirit of Catherine McAuley's vision, Mercy schools work to provide a Catholic Education which enables the formation of the whole person imbued with those values which Catherine exemplified.
Mercy Ed Ltd statement.

“We aim to inspire all in our community to be learners impelled to thrive and serve.”

Our catchphrase for 2018 establishes a foundation for all of our future strategic planning that encompasses the learning and teaching and pastoral needs of each student. In our masterplanning, curriculum development and delivery, we are creating contemporary spaces that are engaging and inspiring students to think and work independently. We strive to form students who graduate, with an understanding of the importance of being critical thinkers and who reflect the Mercy values of justice, compassion, courage, hospitality, respect and service.

We want our graduates to be aspirational, to understand their own learning style and who have the skills to thrive in any pathway they choose. Graduates, who in time will continue to realise the importance of learning throughout their lives and continue to serve their community with the gifts that have been nurtured through their formative experience at Catherine McAuley College.

Mr Brian Turner, Principal

In the words of Catherine McAuley,

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

Development

The new Performing and Creative Arts Centre is nearly complete. This STEAM facility (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) will complement Music, General Purpose Learning areas, Art, Drama and Visual Communication.

The Masterplan includes other major works at Coolock with the removal of the portable buildings and a new stadium and sporting facilities.

At St Mary's work will commence on View Street with the redevelopment of that building to provide a specialised Food Technology and Allied Health facility.



Faith, Mission & Social Justice

As a Mercy school and member of the Sandhurst Diocese, our Faith and Mission program immerses students in contemporary matters and explores and animates the Mercy Values.

Our Mercy Values are integrated across all of our curricular and co-curricular activities highlighted by events such as the Winter Sleep Out, Justice Matters Camps, Seeds of Justice Conference and Caritas Leadership Day.

Connection to our Mercy story is important in the spiritual journey of our 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 the Gospel Values.

*Loving God,
We ask you to bless Catherine McAuley College
and challenge us to act in the spirit of Catherine.
May we inspire all in our community to be learners impelled to thrive and serve.
Guide our community to live our Mercy Values and the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.
Amen*



**Creating awareness in our community
and responding through the practice
of Mercy Stewardship**

Learning for the Future

Our College promotes lifelong learning by developing student independence, initiative and understanding. We are impelled to equip all students in our care to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Our approach is to challenge students with engaging projects involving real world contexts that are individual for all students. The College constructs learner profiles based on the knowledge we have of each student which helps cater for specific learning needs and skills such as critical and creative thinking, literacy and numeracy, social and emotional intelligence.

Learning and Teaching Intervention

A range of interventions support student needs and are regularly reviewed through constant feedback to ensure they effectively target individual and group needs.

Curriculum

The curriculum is based on relevant National, State and Diocesan requirements. The curriculum is designed towards developing the whole person, and is adjusted to students' desired learning outcomes; offering a balance of practical and academic subjects to meet individual needs and aspirations. Students are given opportunities to undertake individual learning projects generated by their interests.

Technology & Learning

The College is committed to making use of latest technology to enhance student learning. Students access a range of opportunities to utilise technologies, such as 3D printers and drones. We are also cognisant of the need for periods of reflection and time away from these modern technologies and devices.

Graduate Pathways

Catherine McAuley College encourages a blend of learning experiences to enrich knowledge and increase Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) outcomes.

As they transition from our College, students pursue a number of pathways ranging from university study to full-time work. Participation in our Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) subjects across year levels provides opportunities for students to obtain apprenticeships, traineeships and TAFE training. The College is a member of the local school consortium and hosts a Trade Training Centre on site. Careers Practitioners provide ongoing support to ensure students have the best possible chance of success in the future.

Targeted learning that allows each student to experience personal success



Co-Curricular Learning

Debating, sports competitions, arts performances, academic competitions, justice camps, Tournament of Minds and the Frayne Speech Festival provide opportunities for students to extend their knowledge and skills, try new activities and connect with likeminded students and staff.

Self-expression and creativity to develop personal and inter-personal skills



Exploring the Arts

Exploring the Arts

Self-expression and creativity is 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 recital evenings as well as performance opportunities in the broader community.

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 performed Godspell in the stunning Ulumbarra Theatre and this year they are preparing the colourful spectacle of Seussical the Musical.

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

Education which inspires learners to be impelled to thrive and serve



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is integrated across all programs and is in accord with State and Federal practices. The College provides students with a holistic approach to education which “inspires them to be learners impelled to thrive and serve”.

We acknowledge that all students grow and develop differently. Individual meetings and learning assessments allow us to gather information about the strengths and aspirations of each student.

A motivated team of professionals provide support to students. Educational psychologist and wellbeing counsellors work with students and families to provide support if needed. This, along with excellent relationships with external health professionals and agencies, ensures the highest quality care.

All staff are accessible to both students and parents. Careers, Learning Enrichment, Koorie Education and English As a Second Language (EAL) also provide expert support for students.

The College believes the active partnership between the staff, parents and students is critical through a range of mediums.



**Enrichment programs that work
towards building resilient learners**



Students as Leaders

Student voice is of great importance at Catherine McAuley College. There are many opportunities for students to become involved in leadership across the school. Student leaders work closely with and for the school community in decisions for the future direction of our College and are consulted on significant developments. They help to create an atmosphere that supports and promotes a community that continually seeks opportunities to learn about the range of ways individuals and groups can create change, inspire action and represent ideas and opinions. The Student Representative Council (SRC) provides a structured opportunity for students to contribute their ideas through this central leadership group.

The SRC aims to provide the opportunity for students to raise issues, make recommendations and encourage greater understanding and communication between all members of the College. It is involved in planning and leading Liturgies, assemblies, and the organisation of whole school events such as Mercy Day and Caritas K's.

The SRC also works closely with the Faith and Justice team to promote social justice and environmental issues, creating awareness and raising funds for groups such as St. Vinnies, Caritas and Mercy Works.



Sporting Life

There are many opportunities for students to participate in a range of sporting activities at a level of their choice. Sport enables students to develop both physical and emotional skills encouraging participation, confidence and success.

The College offers a range of individual and team sports, represented at local, State and National levels. The College is one of the most successful regional schools in Victoria, with multiple individuals and teams qualifying in State finals each year across a wide range of sports.

House competitions in swimming, athletics and at break times through each day provide great competition and friendly rivalry.



Great competition and friendly rivalry to encourage participation and confidence





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