



DISCOVER YOUR WAY



PROSPECTUS 2021



RESPECT JUSTICE COMPASSION HOSPITALITY SERVICE COURAGE

College Prayer

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



We Welcome You

Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy and was committed to education and serving the poor. Her teaching reflected her faith in God and belief in the Gospel. Students at Catherine McAuley College are encouraged to be lifelong learners, impelled to thrive and serve in a supportive environment.

Catherine McAuley College has been woven into the fabric of Bendigo since 1876 when Sister Aloysius Martyn and the Sisters of Mercy first arrived in Sandhurst, from Ireland. So, we have over 140 years of heritage and tradition to draw upon, inspired by the pioneering spirit of our founders. Our Future Direction 2020-2024 commits to continuing their legacy of service, offering an outstanding Catholic education to the families of Central Victoria and working towards a sustainable future.

We are dedicated to developing students who are independent, critical and creative thinkers, with a passion for learning and striving for excellence. Our students are empowered to see themselves as positive agents of change, who are called to participate actively and ethically in society as young people of Mercy.

Learning settings and programs at Catherine McAuley College are innovative, stimulating and inclusive. The Sister Aloysius Martyn Arts Centre at the Coolock Campus, together with the Sister Anastasia Vanderfeen Building at St Mary's, reflect the contemporary learning spaces that are evolving from our master plan. The Sr Ana building has a commercial kitchen and Allied Health learning spaces to support students' learning and pathways. These buildings are complemented by an integrated approach to learning that engages and inspires our students to discover their way in a dynamic 21st century environment.

We have established partnerships with Mercy Health, Australian Catholic University, CERES, Danihers, Cricket Australia, the City of Greater Bendigo and Fraynetwork which support outstanding learning opportunities and facilities for our students and the community. The relationships that our students form through the curricular and co-curricular programs benefit them well beyond their time at school. During 2020 you will see further evidence of these partnerships as the iGEN program continues to expand and our reGEN sustainability program is implemented across the College.

Our future is exciting, so come and discover all the opportunities on offer for your child at Catherine McAuley College.

Mr Brian Turner, Principal

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

- Catherine McAuley



We Empower You

Innovative programs and building developments at Catherine McAuley College create learning opportunities designed to support the many different educational pathways for students. The future of employment is increasingly collaborative, so it is vital that students learn to work together, interact and plan in teams.

At Coolock, the state-of-the-art Sister Aloysius Martyn Arts Centre features a performance area, specialist classrooms for drama and music and vibrant learning spaces to support integrated learning across the 'STEAM' areas – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

We will see the development of a sporting precinct commencing this year, including fresh green spaces with the upgrade of sporting fields, a new gymnasium and indoor cricket nets.

At St Mary's, the modern commercial kitchen provides opportunities for Food Technology and Hospitality careers, incorporating a canteen and indoor-outdoor dining areas. A purpose-built Allied Health area includes a simulated hospital ward for practical learning. Allied Health is a major growth area and our iGen partnership with Mercy Health Bethlehem Home for the Aged and Australian Catholic University (ACU) will provide an entry into the health and business industries and real intergenerational experience.

At Coolock, a shared industrial trade learning facility is being constructed later this year. Together with the sporting precinct development, the College will be able to offer a range of Applied Learning Courses with ACU and our other partners. A review of current timetables will create the opportunity for students to move between campuses to access the best facilities and individual pathways.



**We prepare you to thrive in a
challenging and technologically
advanced world**



We Inspire You

Catherine McAuley College is built on the Mercy Charism inspired by Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy and is actively engaged in the community of the Sandhurst Diocese. Like Catherine, the teachings of Jesus and the Gospels inspire us in our words and actions and support the Mercy Values of service, courage, compassion, hospitality, respect and justice.

The Gospel values and teachings are fundamental in the integrated programs of Veritas and Virtues, which support students in developing a greater understanding of issues and the connection to all areas of the curriculum. Outreach, community service and awareness of the needs of others is an integral part of the program undertaken across all year levels.

Students are supported in developing a meaningful contemporary connection to their faith through social justice activities, prayer, liturgies, community service and Mercy in action. Inspired by Catherine McAuley's courage and determination to educate, empower and serve the poor, students are offered opportunities to engage in activities to support both local and global projects, including the Winter Sleep Out, Seeds of Justice conference, leadership days, Bendigo Foodshare, Mercy Works and the Caritas Challenge.

Mercy for our Common Home is the College theme for 2020, which challenges our community to work together to contribute to the school's goal of creating a sustainable future. The encyclical *Laudato Si'* provides the base for the reGEN program which encourages students to care for our environment and reduce our carbon footprint, minimise waste, save energy and water, promote biodiversity and reduce our impact on climate change. Many challenges and activities to support the reGEN project will be implemented by the student leaders.



“All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents.”

- (*Laudato Si'*, Paragraph 14)

Living Mercy day to day



We Support You

As an integral element of an inspiring and rewarding education, Catherine McAuley College offers a mature and responsive student pastoral care program. We nurture our students in a safe environment, to become confident and independent young adults. We acknowledge that all students grow and develop differently, which is supported by our structures and programs.

Each student has a staff Learning Mentor, who actively supports their learning and wellbeing. Learning Mentors encourage the small number of students in their group and develop an understanding of students and their learning through regular communication with the student, families and teachers.

Individual support for students may also be provided by Year Level Learning Leaders, Interdisciplinary Learning Leaders, the Learning Diversity and Wellbeing teams, Educational Psychologist, Koorie Education Workers and Careers Practitioner.

Catherine McAuley College is an inclusive community that is enriched through cultural diversity, empathy and understanding. All members are expected to be respectful and considerate, of service to others and to care for the earth.

The transition program ensures that we have a thorough student profile prepared in partnership with you for your daughter or son when they start in 2021. All students are given individual support through orientation and the enrolment process to ensure a smooth transition.



**We nurture
your confidence**



Where are you heading?



We Prepare You for Your Future

Catherine McAuley College provides an integrated, broad and challenging academic curriculum which fosters a passion for learning, develops independent, critical thinkers and focuses on excellence for all students.

Integration

At Catherine McAuley College we engage students in an integrated curriculum that is reflective of the skills that will be required in jobs of the future. Students learn to research, design and adapt to a range of real-world problems. Students develop their own learning strategies and processes so that they can adapt to new problems, situations and curriculum in the future. Above all, our students learn how to learn and be innovative.

Applying skills beyond the classroom

Through community partnerships, students have the opportunity experience learning that is authentic and realistic. These real-life experiences are critical, for instance students learn about biology and agriculture in a working agriculture space, they learn about allied health in local hospitals through the iGen program and partnerships with Mercy Health and Australian Catholic University.

Supports and Interventions

There are a range of targeted interventions to support students in developing their literacy and numeracy skills which see students gain confidence to collaborate more readily with their peers and to achieve success across their subjects. Interventions are regularly reviewed through ongoing assessment and feedback to ensure they effectively target individual and group needs.

iGEN: Intergenerational Learning

A partnership between Mercy Health, Australian Catholic University and Catherine McAuley College.



iGEN Learning
InterGenerational Education Nexus

Year 10 students in the iGen program engage with residents of a local Aged Care Home, Mercy Health Bethlehem. They undertake pre-education modules including infection control, ageing, dementia and Mercy Model of Care. Attending Bethlehem twice a week, students engage with residents in a wide range of activities, including gardening, cards, painting, exercise, reading the newspaper, cooking and bingo.

Research into the benefits of this program is being conducted by ACU in preparation for the next phase; semester-long programs catering for a range of pathways in the health and business sectors.



STEAM

Employment in the fields of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) is increasing rapidly, as is the need for workers who have combinations of these skills. Our Coolock Campus has a dedicated STEAM space that enables students to apply and develop their skills. Students learn to use a range of modern equipment, including drones, 3D printers and design spaces and make use of their knowledge in a range of applications during their studies.

Agriculture and Animal Studies

The Coolock Campus hosts a dedicated Trade Training Centre, focussed on developing students' skills in Agriculture and Animal Studies. Students engage in these programs at a range of year levels, including having the option of completing senior certificates in Years 10-12.

In 2020, the Trade Training Centre will be further expanded with the planned development of a facility to house building and construction, automotive engineering and associated trades.

Co-Curricular Learning

Music, Debating, Sports, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Academic Competitions, Justice Camps, Tournament of Minds and the Frayne Speech Festival are examples of co-curricular opportunities on offer to appeal to the wide range of student interests. We encourage students to have fun, extend their knowledge and skills and discover something new. The College successfully competes in all state and national competitions.

House Activities

Our house activities and competitions are popular features of student life. All students are invited to participate and compete in a range of sports and events that are organised throughout the year.





**You have many
opportunities to be heard**

We Listen to You

Student voice is of great importance and we are always looking for ways to increase participation. This can improve individual student's confidence and more significantly, connection to the College.

There are many opportunities for students to become involved in leadership from Year 7 to Year 12, working with and for the school community. Students are empowered to actively participate and develop their capacity to lead.

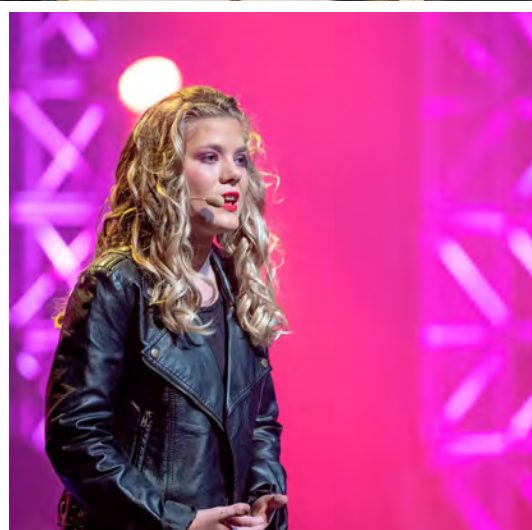
The Student Representative Council (SRC) provides a structured opportunity for students to raise issues, make recommendations and improve understanding and communication between all members of the College.

Students are consulted about significant developments and the future direction of our College. We nurture a culture that encourages and supports individuals and groups to create change, inspire action and share ideas and opinions.

Inspired by our 2020 theme, *Mercy for our Common Home*, students are working with the community towards our goal of creating a sustainable future. They will be implementing activities as part of the reGEN partnership, which challenges us to care for our environment, reduce our carbon footprint, minimise waste, save energy and water, promote biodiversity and reduce our impact on climate change.

The SRC is also involved in planning, organising and leading liturgies, assemblies and whole-school events such as Mercy Day and Caritas Ks. Students are the driving force for securing a sustainable future for our community.





We Celebrate You

The Sister Aloysius Martyn Arts Centre at Coolock provides contemporary specialist facilities for music, drama and the visual arts, fostering creativity and increased participation in the arts. College students have regularly been included in the Season of Excellence Top Class performances and exhibitions.

Music

The College provides a high-quality instrumental music program, accessible to all families. Every Year 7 student begins their studies in music with an intensive practical program including learning an instrument and participating in class ensembles.

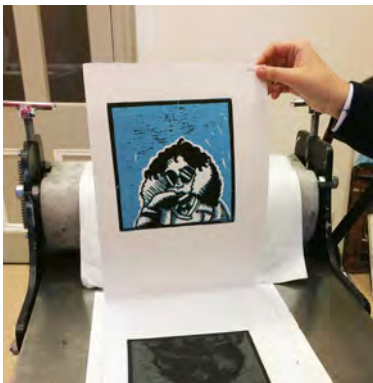
Learning an instrument beyond Year 7 is a co-curricular activity, providing small-group tuition and large ensemble experiences. Instruments include saxophone, percussion, trumpet, flute, euphonium, guitar, trombone, clarinet, piano and voice. Student musicians, rock bands, instrumental ensembles and choirs perform in concerts, masses, celebrations and the broader community.

Drama

Students perform in year level drama nights and a highlight of the performance calendar is the fully-staged College production. In 2019, students performed Rock of Ages in the stunning Ulumbarra Theatre and in 2020 we look forward to The Addams Family. There are many opportunities to connect with the production, such as performing, backstage, lighting, costumes and promotion.

Exhibitions

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



We Encourage You

We believe that sport enables students to develop both physical and emotional skills encouraging participation, confidence and success. We provide opportunities at a variety of levels for students to participate.

Catherine McAuley College offers a selection 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 variety of sports.

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



A full-page photograph captures a moment of intense competition and joy during a school sports event. Two male students, dressed in dark blue school tracksuits with yellow and white horizontal stripes on the sleeves and shorts, are leaping high into the air. Their arms are extended upwards, reaching for a red football that is suspended just above them. The football has the word 'SHERWIN' printed on it. In the foreground, a female staff member, also in a dark blue school uniform with a yellow lanyard, stands smiling and watching the action. The background features a modern school building with large glass windows and a red wall, set against a clear blue sky. The overall atmosphere is one of friendly rivalry and active participation in sports.

**Great competition
and friendly rivalry**



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