



Saint Mary MacKillop Colleges

Wagga Wagga

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION IN THE CATHOLIC TRADITION

FOUNDATION - YEAR 12



PROSPECTUS



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A School with a Difference

Introduction

This school seeks to form students as candidates for Heaven, each one loved and respected as a unique person - truly a child of God.

To this end we train the students to seek what is true, good and beautiful, educating them in an atmosphere of Catholic culture where the Catholic Faith is taught in its fulness, the life of virtue seriously pursued and academic excellence promoted as a true and great human value.

The Difference

- ✓ Authentically Catholic
- ✓ Dedicated Teachers
- ✓ Religious Sisters
- ✓ Supernatural Outlook
- ✓ Academic Excellence
- ✓ Christian Formation
- ✓ Catholic Doctrine & Culture
- ✓ Small Classes
- ✓ Senior Philosophy, Theology and Apologetics



Student Formation

Our expectations of student behaviour are high and reflect our aim of developing true Christian virtues in the young people entrusted to us.

The virtues of self-motivation, responsibility, diligence, gratitude, consideration and care for the needs and rights of others, and religious fidelity; these are what we seek to cultivate in the students as we guide them in their studies.

Testimony

"My prayers were answered when I discovered Saint Mary Mackillop Colleges in Wagga Wagga.

It is here that the salvation of the children's souls comes first. Every child is viewed as a candidate for heaven and the educational environment is geared to ensuring total success...

Every staff member is a devout Catholic... the Conventual Sisters of Saint Dominic are compassionate women, and embody the mission of creating Catholic students who will go on to do great things for God in their lives." - Parent of students.



Life in Christ

Catholic Life

The overall aim of the Religious Education programme in this school is the development of the religious knowledge and spiritual life of each student.

This is achieved through:

- Study of the doctrines of the Catholic faith.
- Study of the history and cultural heritage of the Catholic Church.
- Study of the moral and spiritual teaching of the Catholic Church.
- Experiences of prayer, the life of Christian virtue and Christian service.



Mass is celebrated twice weekly in the school chapel. Great care is taken to make this celebration reverent, dignified and beautiful. Mass is celebrated in both the Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms of the Roman Rite and the students are able to respond and sing their parts in both Latin and English.

Students are prepared for the first reception of the Sacraments of Penance, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Penance is offered in the school for both Primary and Secondary students on a monthly basis.

Opportunities for Adoration and Benediction are provided where possible.

The **Conventual Sisters of St Dominic** provide invaluable assistance by the witness of their religious lives and the sharing of their knowledge of the Faith.

Christian Formation

We integrate Faith and Life by offering systematic and coherent teaching of the truths of Catholic Doctrine.

We also instruct the students throughout their schooling in the principles, doctrines and practical implications of Catholic Moral Teaching.

“As you grow up and step into the world, the skills and faith that SMMC has helped develop in you will give you confidence, help you stand up for your faith, speak your mind and trust in God.”

- M.B. Past Student, 2016.

Pastoral Care

The program is divided into three components: general care of students, the care of individual students experiencing difficulties and the care of student-groups in Pastoral Care Sessions.

There is strong focus on character formation from Foundation to Year 12.



Academics

Primary

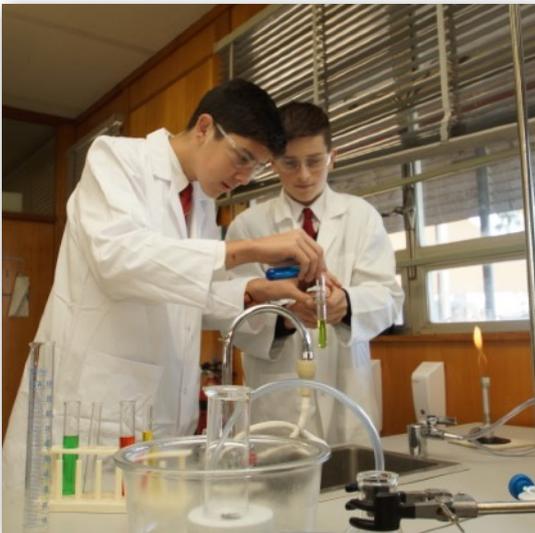
Our challenging curriculum builds firm foundations in English and Mathematics. Prioritising both breadth and depth of knowledge in literacy and numeracy, we dedicate a significant proportion of the timetable to these areas of learning. We try to instil in the students a love of reading, competence in communication, both oral and written, and a strong grasp of mathematical skills.

We have chosen the Fitzroy Reading Scheme along with strong phonics programmes. Reading both for learning and for pleasure is strongly encouraged and all students participate in poetry memorisation and recitation.

Other key areas of learning are fostered with the aims of nurturing minds which are open to the beauty and wonder of the world and able to contribute in a creative way to true culture.

“SMMC was the obvious choice for us. The authentic Catholic culture combined with an excellent academic and sporting record was very hard to resist.

“We know that when our children graduate they will be well formed, well rounded adults ready to make their mark on the world.”
- Parents of five.



Secondary

The secondary classes are small and allow for close teacher-student interaction and careful monitoring of student work-standards and behavioural development. All studies are carried out in accordance with Catholic ethos and the requirements of the NSW Education Standards Authority.

“Dear teachers and supervisors, I am writing to tell you all that I have been accepted into Law... I am thanking you again for your tireless effort, and will hopefully be given an opportunity to repay St Mary Mackillop Colleges and also each of you personally.”
- HSC student, 2014.

Senior

We offer a solid High School Certificate programme, and our ATAR scores are consistently high. Our classes benefit from a high teacher-student ratio. The issue of offering a range of HCS subjects in the context of small class numbers is overcome by the provision of Distance Studies.

In the senior years students study Theology, Philosophy and Apologetics, using courses devised by the school's Religious Education Department.



Uniform

The Colleges have adopted a uniform that reflects the school's appreciation for personal discipline and standards of excellence as well as its commitment to cultivating a communal school spirit. The uniform helps the students to appreciate the higher importance of the inner life of the person over external appearances.

Aiming for the Best



English Literature Classics

A particular feature of the school is the English Programme 7-10 which is strongly based on the classics of English Literature, covering each year works by the great English novelists (Stevenson, Dickens, Jane Austen, the Brontes, Thomas Hardy), poets (Wordsworth, Keats, Shelley, Hopkins, T.S. Eliot), plays by Shakespeare and some works by Australian authors. We aim to educate the students to appreciate fine literature, expand their knowledge of humanity and society, and develop their skills of creativity and communication.

The school Library is very well used and has a growing collection of the classics and the best of children's literature.

Culture in the School

The Colleges aim to expose its students to a rich cultural heritage, especially that which is influenced by the Catholic Church.

Sacred Music

We acquaint our students with the traditional music of the Church. Our chapel and its adornments reflect Catholic liturgical tradition and the best of human creativity.

Celebrations

We celebrate one major feast-day per term with solemn Sung Mass and "fun" activities. These activities have included to date - Bush-dance, Mission fete, Auction, Irish Dance, Country Town Showcase, Variety Concert.

Technology Policy Summary

Saint Mary Mackillop Colleges is conscious of the many human and educational advantages provided by communication and information technologies. However, we are also aware of the evils accessible so easily by the young, as well as the scientifically-proven personal harm from excessive use of technologies.

Our Commitment:

Since we are committed to the human and spiritual welfare of our students, we seek an environment where students are protected from the negative influences of technology. We are mindful that our students are best able to flourish humanly and spiritually when they are able to use the various technologies moderately and responsibly.

ALUMNI: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



- Nursing
- Law
- Liberal Arts
- Carpentry
- Dental Nurse
- Medical Radiation Science
- Hospitality and Events Management
- Commerce Law

- Teaching
- Business (Advertising and Marketing)
- Education
- Health and Rehabilitation
- Electrician
- Infantry Lieutenant
- Actuary
- Civil Engineering
- Aviation

Admissions

Since this school seeks to build a truly Catholic ethos and teaches unapologetically and completely the truths of the Catholic Faith, it is important that parents seeking to enrol their children in the school, believe and practise the Catholic Faith and support fully the educational and religious aims of the school.

The school exists to reinforce the religious and cultural values of the parents. It recognises that conflict between home and school in these matters is detrimental to the human and Christian development of the child.



Enrolment Process

1. Initial contact by email, letter, phone or a visit is an essential first step.
2. A prospectus will be provided by the school to be perused then returned.
3. If the parent/s desire to proceed to an interview, a questionnaire is supplied regarding their expectations of the school and the needs of their child/children. This should be returned to the school if the parent/s wish to proceed with an interview.
4. Based on the results of this questionnaire an interview may be granted.

Annual Re-enrolment

Re-enrolment is on a yearly basis and the school reserves the right not to re-enrol students as it sees fit. Parents will be notified of the school's decision to re-enrol in the last term of each year. Parents always have the right to withdraw their children or not to re-enrol them but they should, as far as possible give one term's notice of this.

"I cannot recommend Saint Mary Mackillop Colleges, Wagga Wagga, highly enough. It is truly a Catholic school."

- Father of four, 2017.

St Mary MacKillop Colleges Wagga Wagga

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School Directors

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[The Conventual Sisters of St Dominic](#)



Contact Us

You are welcome to ring or drop in during school hours to learn more about the Colleges.

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