

# *Every day is special for your child at John Paul College*



I am proud to be the Headmaster of this very special College and would like to welcome you and thank you for visiting us through the pages of this prospectus.

To strengthen the relationship with our parents, and to create a secure and familiar environment for our students, our College is divided into three separate schools: Primary School (Child Care to Year 6), Middle School (Years 7–9) and Senior School (Years 10–12).

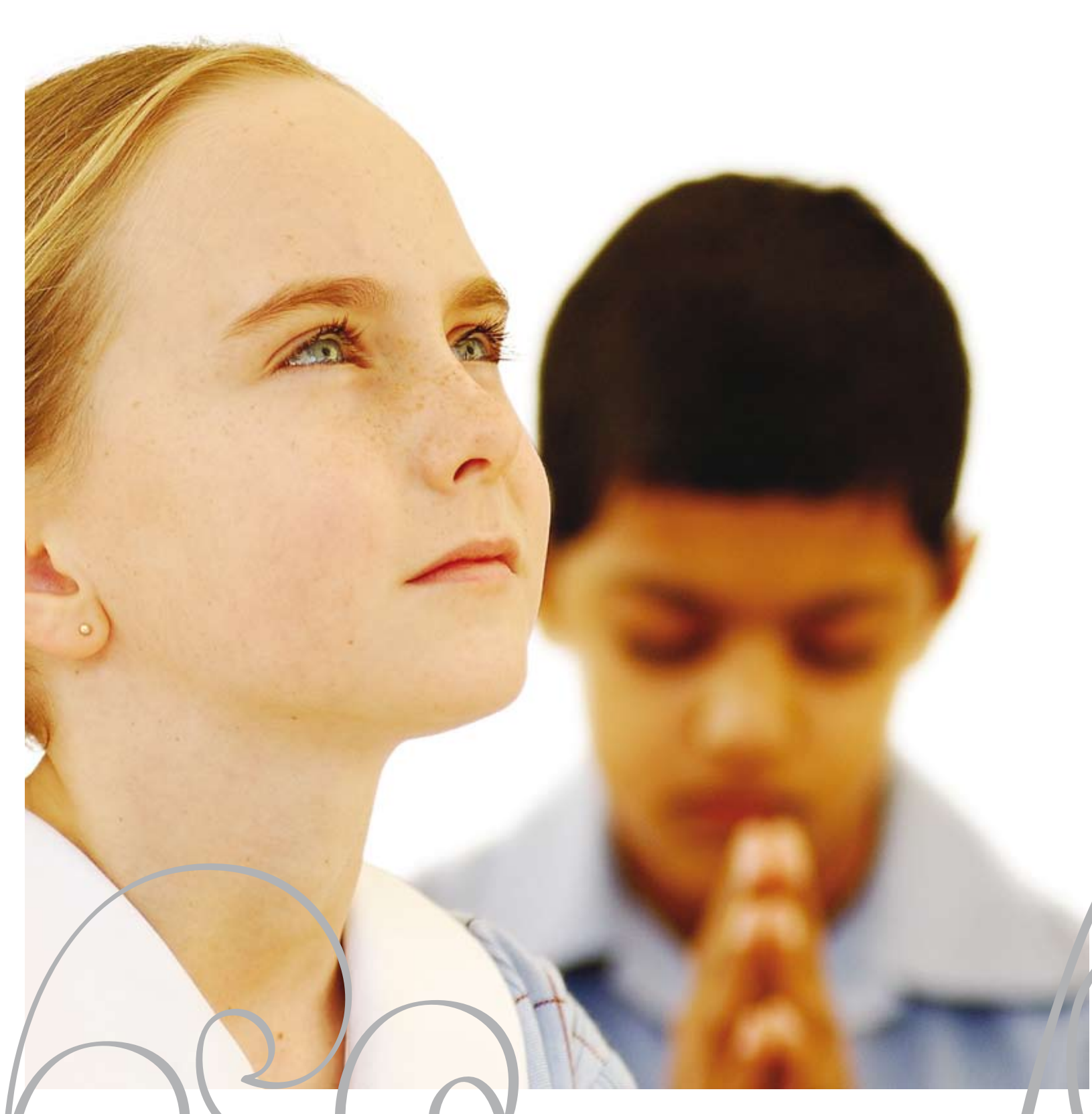
To join John Paul College is to become a member of our unique family where, as in any family, our children are its heart. Each page of this publication tells the story of who we are and what we stand for, of the traditional family values and the innovative thinking that underpin our spirited learning.

We are committed, above all else, to learning and to offering the very best all-round educational opportunities to each and every one of our students,

as they aspire to realise their personal talents and abilities. Your children will live and work their entire lives in the 21st century and we see it as our responsibility to equip them with an education relevant to their time. As we farewell our graduates, we hope that the journey they have taken with us will continue to serve them throughout their personal and professional lives.

We can offer you only a glimpse of our College in these pages. I invite you to view our website at [www.jpc.qld.edu.au](http://www.jpc.qld.edu.au) for further insights and information, and to visit our campus so that you can see for yourself the many outstanding qualities that make John Paul College a school like no other.

Stephen Paul



## *M*onday's child is strong of faith

John Paul College is a school with a short but proud tradition, a school built by our community for our community. This sense of community and family remains as strong today as it did when the College opened in 1982. You will feel this spirit too!

As a Child Care to Year 12 co-educational, independent school, we are proud of our reputation as one of Australia's most highly-profiled, progressive and dynamic schools. Innovative from the outset, John Paul College is Queensland's first ecumenical school. Every day we

see children from different Christian traditions learning and worshipping together, living our commitment to Christian unity, just as our Founding Fathers from the local Anglican, Uniting and Roman Catholic parishes had envisioned. In this ecumenical spirit, we affirm the individuality of our traditions; we acknowledge our differences; and we rejoice in our efforts to understand each other's beliefs.

We are also delighted that this acceptance and understanding of each other's Christian beliefs has naturally

extended to include families of all faiths. Our ecumenism promotes within us an increased sensitivity, so that we can hear, understand and respond to other traditions and faiths.

In this way, ecumenism offers a glimmer of hope that John Paul College students will live in a world where religious intolerance and hostility are things of the past.

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## *Tuesday's child sets the pace*

*...students have unlimited capacity to communicate, collaborate and explore.*

For many children today, their bedrooms are far more technologically sophisticated than their classrooms. But at John Paul College, we have long recognised the value of technology in the learning process. This is why all students in Years 4–12 use personal notebook computers, supported by a campus-wide wireless network and internet portal to learn *anytime, anywhere*.

Our learning programs are complemented by an extensive range of software preloaded on to notebook computers or the computers in Child Care to Year 3 classrooms. These programs are further supported by a bank of digital resources that can be accessed online from home or school by notebook computer users.

Throughout their time with us, technology is naturally integrated into our students' learning programs. Our experience has shown that this technology will assist your child in undertaking research; in developing creativity, logical and lateral thinking; and in achieving digital and information literacy skills essential for future employment.

Technology is the gateway to ensuring that learning and human interaction do not stop at the end of the school day. Using personalised learning portals, students have unlimited capacity to communicate, collaborate and explore. It is about creating a learning experience that is rich, powerful and relevant to their time.

But technology breaks down the walls of our classrooms for parents too, encouraging continuous communication with the College as members of our 'connected learning community', while reinforcing the partnership and sense of family which are so important to us.



# Wednesday's child shows respect and care

Like all children, your son or daughter will be faced with many choices that will shape and influence life's journey. There will be moments of anxiety, indecision and even confusion. At these times, you need to know that the family values so important to you at home, in guiding your child to make the right decisions, are just as important to us here at school.

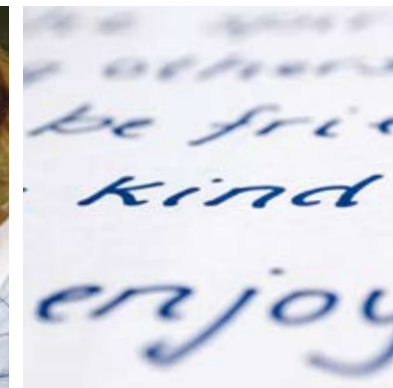
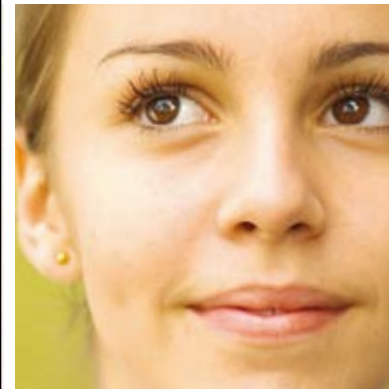
We know that self-esteem and personal worth are the foundation of a happy child and essential to success later in life.

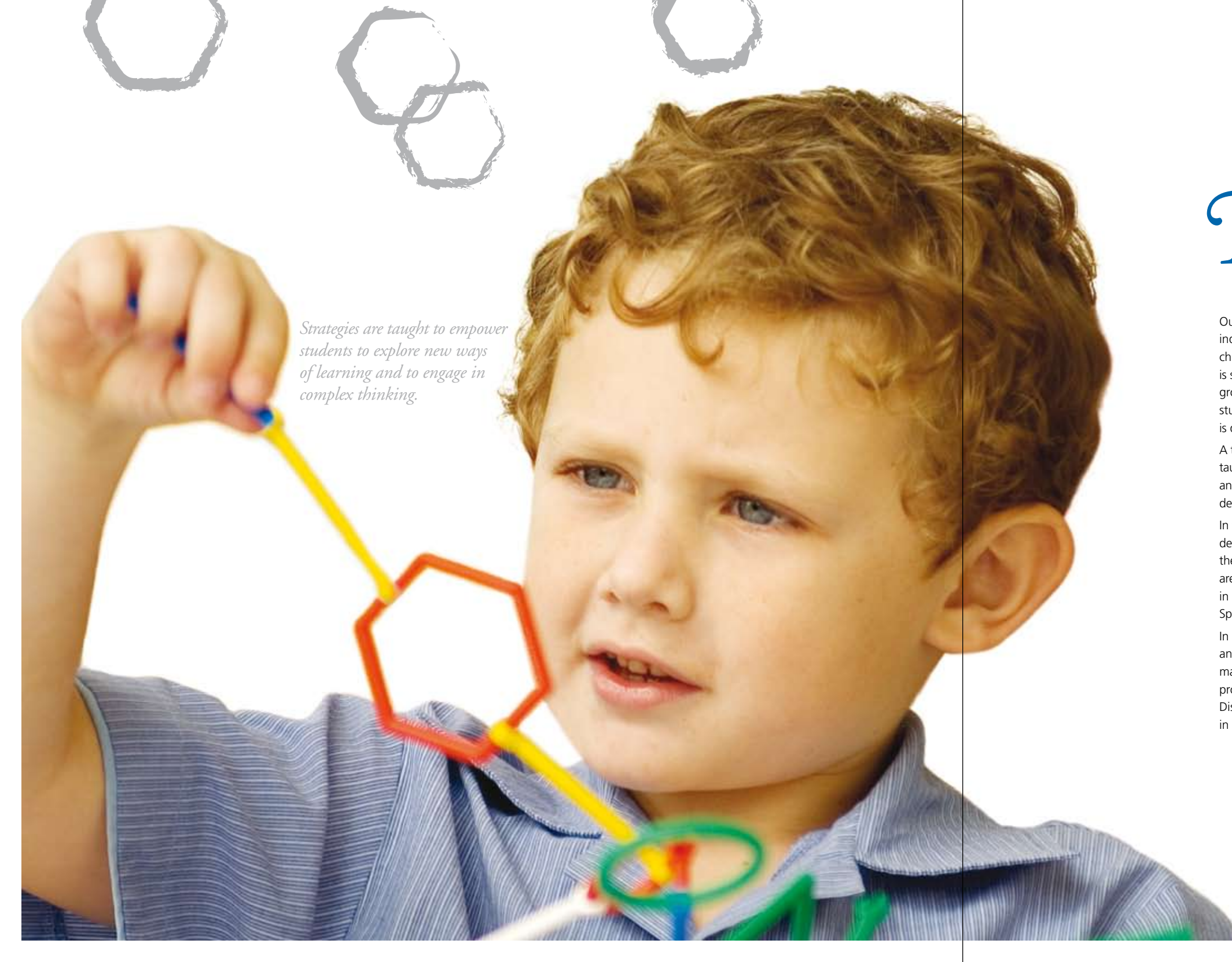
The celebration of individual achievement, our pastoral care programs and regular year-level retreats teach our children to build resilience, confidence and friendships, and to respect themselves and those around them.

The significant value we place on mutual respect is clearly reflected in our students' high standards of behaviour, dress and common courtesy to others. These standards have always set our students apart in the eyes of the community and will continue to do so.



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## *T*hursday's child thinks outside the square

Our learning programs are designed for the diverse and individual talents of each student. To better assist your children at each stage of their learning journey, our College is separated into three smaller schools. In each school, a core group of exceptional teachers, with an awareness of each student's unique intellectual, social and emotional needs, is dedicated to realising your children's performance potential.

A thinking culture is fostered in every classroom. Strategies are taught to empower students to explore new ways of learning and to engage in complex thinking. Along the way, we aim to develop active and analytical minds to last a lifetime.

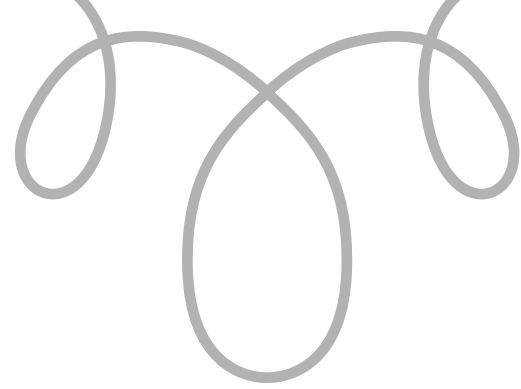
In the Primary School years, teaching is organised on a developmental basis to respect the fact that all children have their own rates and patterns of growth. Literacy and Numeracy are high priority areas, as the skills and concepts developed in class are the basis for successful learners of the future. Specialist programs keep young minds active and stimulated.

In the Middle School years, a time of significant emotional and physical growth, teaching is presented in a way that makes content personally relevant for the learner. Learning programs in Literacy and Numeracy are complemented by the Discovery program, where students can explore their interests in preparation for more specialised study in Senior School.

An assessment of learning styles means students have ownership of their own learning because they understand how and why they learn best.

The Senior School programs offer exceptional choice for our students as they make decisions about life after school. Whether our students are destined for further study, a trade or employment, we can offer the right pathway to success. Every year a growing number of students, under the guidance of our Careers and Pathways Manager, successfully experience the real world through traineeships, school-based apprenticeships or first year university subjects. Our students really can try everything and be anything.

Academic audits, regular reporting and communication with parents enable teachers to work in partnership with the home. In this way, we can keep you fully informed of your children's academic progress. A full-time network of support personnel, including a Chaplain, Counsellors, English as a Second Language and Learning Enhancement teachers, is available. An outside hours' tutorial program is designed to extend and support your children in their pursuit of academic excellence.



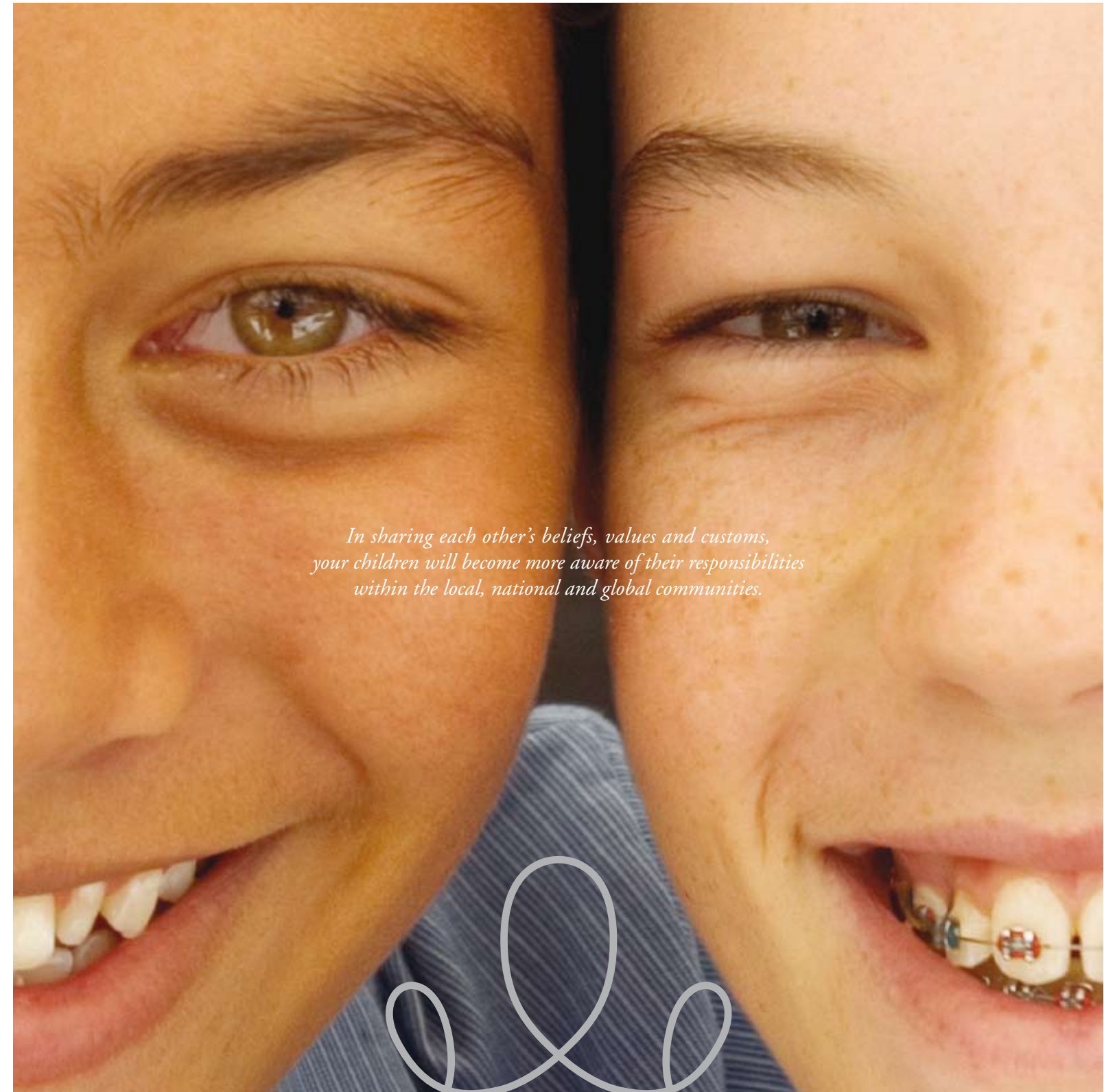
## *F*riday's child brings the world to our door

As a multicultural community in a multicultural country, we are proud to welcome international students and families from all around the world to our school. Our Homestay program offers students a home-away-from-home with Australian families. In this spirit of mutual respect and acceptance, we openly celebrate the enrichment such cultural diversity offers our College family and, particularly, our students.

In sharing each other's beliefs, values and customs, your children will become more aware of their responsibilities within the local, national and global communities. With an everyday link to other cultures and countries, we believe our students will be encouraged to see it all for themselves. And they can! Each year, many students travel overseas to one of our exchange schools in different countries around the globe.

There they can experience first-hand the language, culture and lifestyle many of their friends and classmates in Australia have talked about. What better way is there to strengthen our understanding and respect for each other and to learn about our own place in the world? This recognition of our multicultural family further enhances our commitment to ecumenism.

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# *Saturday's child lives life and much more*



To experience is to learn. We know that life skills like teamwork, co-operation and leadership are not necessarily learned in the classroom. For this reason, we offer our students an extraordinary range of co-curricular activities to help develop these very special qualities. A vibrant performing arts program and one of Australia's most extensive school sports programs allow students to 'have a go' or develop their passion to the highest level. Taking part in social and community service activities also teaches our students responsibility towards their community and the world.

Creating unforgettable performance opportunities is the focus of the School of Performing Arts. Simply put, children love to perform. You may decide that their gifts should be nurtured through our instrumental, vocal, drama and dance tuition program. But whatever their talents, children will relish their moment to shine in our performance ensembles. Where can this take them? The Queensland Performing Arts Centre, international corporate and sporting events, North America, Europe and even the Olympic Games are just some of the 'stages' on which our students have starred.

Like our performing arts students, our sportsmen and sportswomen are spoiled for choice in the range of school-based and club sports available. With an emphasis on 'trying' and having fun, our younger students revel in the health and social benefits that participation in sport provides. Our Pathways program, in the middle years of schooling, identifies students with emerging talent and partners them with some of Australia's best coaches to guide their development. In their senior years, the Horizons program allows athletes competing at state and national levels, and exceptionally

accomplished musicians, to complete Years 11 and 12 over three years. This gives them time to further develop their skills while maintaining an academic focus. Access to specialist coaches and health and fitness professionals provides our Horizons students with every opportunity for future success at the highest level. So whether your children are simply keen to enjoy being part of the team with their friends or have professional aspirations, they will be most welcome in our co-curricular programs.

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## *A*nd Sunday's child has dreams to follow, school today, the world tomorrow

So when the journey ends, it really has only just begun. Their tomorrows are waiting, filled with excitement, promise and adventure. We have been one part of the journey and we hope the gifts we have offered will endure for a lifetime. Confident, committed and compassionate, they will always be part of our family long after school has become a distant memory.

But what of tomorrow? Our students are destined for successful careers and we trust they will find their own special place in the world. Their first step may be university, TAFE or the workforce, but whichever road they travel, our interest in their progress remains. Each year our destination study reveals

the pathways our students have followed. We find that, on average, 85% elect to pursue further study while 15% choose to complete vocational courses or enter the workforce. It is a source of great pride that, three months after graduating, almost 100% of our graduates are advancing their chosen careers.

When we say our farewells, it is our ultimate hope that we have prepared our students for the challenge of work and life in the 21st century, and that each and every one of them will find personal happiness and professional fulfilment in every aspect of their future lives.





Now that you have had the chance to see us in print, we would love to see you in person. Why not contact the Registrar for your own tour of the campus or visit our website for further information?

Tel +61 7 3826 3333

Email [registrar@jpc.qld.edu.au](mailto:registrar@jpc.qld.edu.au)

[www.jpc.qld.edu.au](http://www.jpc.qld.edu.au)