



Passion  
for life.  
Courage  
& confidence  
to lead.  
Grace  
& dignity.

**Inspiring  
young  
women™**

Leading  
& inspiring.  
The joy  
of sharing.  
Exciting  
young minds.  
Giving space  
& freedom  
to grow.  
Encouraging  
a commitment  
to learn.

# WELCOME TO GENAZZANO

I warmly welcome you to Genazzano FCJ College, a Catholic day and boarding school, recently having celebrated 125 years of Catholic education.

Genazzano is a College proud of its history, its past and present students, and importantly, its community. Together as educators, parents and friends, we work to create a learning environment permeated by the richness and traditions of the Catholic faith and the Ignatian heritage of the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus. Ours is a College where intellectual pursuits flourish in a climate of excellence and enquiry.

The College's motto of *Fidelis* (faithful to one's God, oneself, others and the world) is applied daily in all that we undertake. Further embedded into this motto are three core values: a passion for life, a love of learning and the courage and confidence to lead and serve others.

These values encourage our students from kindergarten to VCE to approach life with optimism, to be creative learners looking for ways to contribute to society and to be actively engaged with issues of social justice.

Just like your child's imagination, learning should have no bounds. Our co-educational Early Learning Centre instils in its young students the joy of learning and discovery. Our girls-only environment from Prep to Year 12 enables each student to take intellectual risks and focus on achieving personal bests across a wide range of subjects and pursuits including, quality religious education, diverse co-curricular activities and social justice programs.

The teacher-student relationship at Genazzano is particularly strong. Families can be confident that our teachers have the expertise and resources required to match their teaching methodology and course development to their students' needs. Further, our College's exceptional facilities are surrounded by beautiful park-like gardens, which collectively work to immerse students in a unique and inspiring learning environment.

Genazzano is a College where students can express their passion for life. Though the College is large enough to provide an enormous variety of learning opportunities, all students are known and loved.

There are many distinctive aspects to our College and I hope that you will enjoy reading about them all in further detail. As I wish you well in your search for the right school for your daughter, I warmly invite you to visit Genazzano in person and observe our learning environment in action.



**Patricia Cowling**  
Principal

# OUR VALUES

COURAGE AND  
CONFIDENCE



# **Role modelling in a girls' school is a natural occurrence and every Genazzano student benefits from seeing in the older girls the kind of young woman that she will become.**

Genazzano is a vibrant and energetic community that seeks to positively influence all aspects of a student's development. At Genazzano, learning and wellbeing go hand in hand.

The College is renowned for providing a wide variety of opportunities. Academically, musically and recreationally, Genazzano offers students a rounded education that prepares them to become resilient, adaptable and confident women.

Genazzano is not a selective entry school. The College celebrates difference and diversity, promotes inclusion and makes it a mission to provide every student with the chance to build upon her strengths, whatever her background.

Companionship is central to the FCJ philosophy of education, expressed through faithfulness, gentleness and respect. In the Ignatian tradition, the College encourages students to "find God in all things".

Genazzano recognises that students learn in different ways. In an all-female classroom, girls develop the confidence to take the risks necessary for genuine achievement. Research tells us that students in all-girls schools achieve significantly stronger academic results than any other group in Australia.

The College is deeply committed to its social justice programs in the belief that students with a keenly developed sense of the needs of our society will be the leaders of tomorrow.

In everything it does, Genazzano has an aspiration towards excellence and works to provide students with the tools to be the best they can be.

**FOUNDED ON FAITH**  
A 125-YEAR  
TRADITION

**Marie Madeleine  
d’Houët lived her own  
life with courage and  
confidence, and her  
example continues  
to provide inspiration  
for all who pass  
through the College.**



The Faithful Companions of Jesus is a Society of Catholic Sisters that was founded by the Blessed Marie Madeleine Victoire de Bengy de Bonnault d’Houët in France, 1820. A woman for our time, Marie Madeleine was a daughter, sister, friend, wife and mother whose life was defined by a restless commitment and willingness to assist those in need.

To this day, the College is situated on the same site in Kew that was originally secured by the 12 founding Sisters who had set sail from England in 1882 to help meet the growing need for Catholic education in Australia.

This one-time pastoral land now comprises more than five hectares and features striking buildings, both classical and modern, and beautiful gardens.

Genazzano is named after a small Italian town, home to the shrine of Our Lady of Good Counsel to which many thousands of pilgrims journey annually.

“

Genazzano women  
are educated  
in the tradition  
of the Faithful  
Companions  
of Jesus.

”



“

Our values are:  
a passion for life,  
a love of learning  
and the courage  
and confidence  
to lead and to  
serve others.

”



# FAITH AND MISSION

## OUR SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

### Faith and Mission

The particular emphasis on faith and mission at Genazzano flows from a strong sense of Catholic identity and the FCJ Charism. Faith education at Genazzano is informed by three core values: a passion for life, a love of learning and the courage and confidence to lead and to serve others.

The College is committed to supporting the important work of the FCJ Sisters in Australia and Asia, as well as Catholic organisations including CatholicCare and St Vincent de Paul. Religious education is taught from ELC to Year 12, with a curriculum leader dedicated to each of the College's three Stages of Learning.

Prayer and liturgy are integral components of Genazzano life, providing all students with the chance to reflect upon and develop their spirituality. The College Chapel, a beautiful light-filled sacred space, is always open for those who wish to stop for a moment to reflect and pray.

### Companionship and Social Justice

Companionship is a central feature of FCJ education and the College seeks to create a culture of social awareness and an education that will enable all members to respond to Jesus' cry of "I thirst" wherever it is heard.

Social justice is more than a series of programs designed to create awareness and understanding of broader community issues. It is a reflection of the students' desire to contribute, share the values of their faith and make a difference to the world in which they live. By participating in these programs students experience what it is to be a faithful companion of Jesus.

Informed by Catholic social justice teaching, there are no boundaries around the causes and issues students are willing to address. The College shares a long-running exchange with St Mary's Broome, a school in Western Australia's Kimberley region. Annually, selected Year 9 students from each school are given the chance to discover life within communities very different from their own.

The program provides an opportunity to nurture young Australian voices for social justice and reconciliation while building confidence, self-esteem and the ability to appreciate and interact with people from all cultures.

Further afield, Year 10 students have been challenged and energised by the school's Timor-Leste (East Timor) program. The program is fulfilling, demanding and confronting. Students return from the experience with a deeper first-hand sense of what it is like to live in a culture that is profoundly faithful, yet does not share the economic prosperity of their own country.

From environmental sustainability to International Women's Day, students are constantly immersing themselves in, and expanding their knowledge of, important social issues.

With a real and meaningful commitment to sharing the importance of social justice, Genazzano is shaping a lifetime of attitudes and preparing students for Christian leadership in the world beyond the College gates.





# OUR COLLEGE COMMUNITY CONNECTED AND UNITED

Parent associations and committees provide a strong backing to the fabric of life at Genazzano. These significant partnerships ensure that students are supported and given every opportunity to shine.

Parents and friends of the College have many channels through which they can extend their involvement.

The College benefits from both the **Genazzano Mothers' Association** and the **Genazzano Fathers' Association**, in recognition of the different but equally important roles played by parents in the upbringing and education of their children.

The associations offer tremendous support to the College, but also provide parents with a ready-made network that comprises friendship, professional connections and shared parental experiences.

At the start of each school year, the Mothers' and Fathers' Associations collaborate with the College for the GenWelcomes event, where in excess of 600 current parents and community members welcome newcomers to the College.



This spectacular gathering is held around the Circular Drive outside the Wardell Building and provides a celebratory opening to the school year.

For more than 100 years, the **Alumnae Association** has brought Genazzano women together and today it is one of the oldest and strongest associations in Australia with over 10,000 members.

**Friends of Sport** supports the overall health and wellbeing of girls through physical activity. The group recognises differing social, cultural, economic and physical backgrounds in a quest to promote participation.

The **Genazzano Rowing Club** is one of the most prominent schoolgirls' rowing clubs in the country and provides students with the chance to compete at the annual Head of the Schoolgirls Regatta.

The College's swimming pool is home to **GenAquatic**, a club dedicated to the complete development of swimmers, allowing them to reach their full potential.

Other valued groups include the **Friends of Hopetoun Hall**, which supports the boarding house, and the **Past Mothers' Association**.



**The Genazzano family is incredibly diverse. This extends to the wide variety of associations that provide parents, friends and past students the chance to be involved with, or remain connected to the College.**



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We are encouraged to view the world critically, to be discerning in our decision making and to view learning as a life long journey.

”



# LEARNING AND TEACHING BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

At Genazzano, every student undertakes independent diagnostic testing upon entry to the College and at key development stages.

Gifted students are given the chance to engage with their learning on a higher level via enrichment opportunities involving specialist programs and events with high achieving students from other schools.

## **Educating For Tomorrow**

Providing students with limitless opportunity is a powerful academic theme at Genazzano. For example, the GEMS (Genazzano Engineering, Maths and Science) program is designed to offer girls enriched experiences in maths, science and technology so that they are better equipped to pursue these areas in their tertiary study.

The College employs the Genazzano Learning Management System (GENLMS) to communicate with students and parents. GENLMS provides online resources and materials to each student, making learning more accessible and flexible.

## **Leading By Example: The Teaching Body**

Genazzano is immensely proud of its teaching body. It is a dedicated group of professionals who commit long hours and are always willing to spend time outside class to work individually with students.

Teachers at Genazzano work collegially, as information sharing vastly improves student outcomes. Postgraduate qualifications are common and our teachers possess deep levels of expertise in specialist areas. There is a vibrancy and enthusiasm amongst the teaching group that inspires and motivates the students.

The College works on a curriculum and wellbeing model that is designed to channel students into highly engaged and immersive learning that benefits their welfare. The philosophy underpinning this model is that if the learning and teaching program engages, challenges and promotes learning, it will also meet the pastoral needs of students. So too, if wellbeing needs are met, optimal learning experiences will follow. Teachers are integral to bringing the model to life and fostering an environment where learning and wellbeing are united.



The curriculum offered by the College is up to date, well researched and designed to suit the learning needs of all students. Individual differences are provided for in the classroom by teachers, and supported by a dedicated Learning Enhancement team and highly qualified psychologists.

Students are encouraged to experience the world in which they live through their work both within and outside the classroom.

Incursions and excursions promote curiosity and ignite and support a passion for learning.

A Genazzano education encourages students to view the world critically, to be discerning in their decision-making and, most importantly, to understand that learning is a lifelong journey limited only by the restrictions we impose upon ourselves.

## **At every level of a girl's learning, she will be challenged, stimulated and supported by a highly qualified teaching body.**

# LEARNING AND TEACHING CONTINUED

## Stages of Learning

A unique feature of a Genazzano education is that the College is structured in Stages of Learning, rather than the traditional primary and secondary model. In such a construct, students are able to chart and celebrate the various levels of education inspired by a wide range of curriculum and co-curriculum opportunities. At each stage of learning, students participate in programs that are stage and age-appropriate.

### Early Years - Laying the foundations

ELC Kindergarten to Year 4

### Middle Years - Building breadth and depth

Years 5 to 8

### Later Years - Developing pathways

Years 9 to 12

The learning and teaching programs at Genazzano are designed to give students the opportunity to grow, develop and excel. The College believes that learning should be engaging, challenging, interesting and, above all, fun. Students are encouraged to dream large, be confident in all that they do and, most importantly, allow their passion for learning to grow and develop at every opportunity.

## The Early Learning Centre's (ELC) 3 & 4 Year-Old Co-educational Kindergarten Program

The ELC is a place of wonder, where children can be observed deeply engaged in learning that stimulates, challenges and provokes thinking and curiosity. In partnership with families, the ELC team supports each child to gain a greater understanding of themselves and their world; becoming competent, compassionate and community-minded young citizens.

The **Early Years (Prep to Year 4)** is a time when little girls are given the freedom and guidance to grow, develop and understand the world around them. Grange Hill, the magnificently restored Victorian mansion that is home to Early Years students, is resourced with the latest learning technologies, modern classrooms and a newly renovated library. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi's Flow Theory informs the pedagogy and students are immersed in the wonder of learning in core studies and specialist areas.

The **Middle Years (Years 5 to 8)** at Genazzano FCJ College provides a rich and challenging academic, social and spiritual learning environment that encourages students to strive for individual excellence.

Learning programs in the Middle Years are developed using the teaching model 'Metacurriculum' developed by Harvard University Graduate School of Education. This framework for learning centres on building deep levels of understanding. Students are supported to ponder fertile questions, construct their own understanding and make real-life connections.

The **Later Years (Years 9 to 12)** at Genazzano encourages students at this level to make decisions about their own learning pathways. They are encouraged to further develop their interests and skills, and are given the opportunity to explore new areas of study. It is a time for students to strengthen their social skills and develop positive relationships with their peers and adults, both in the College and the wider community.

The College's dynamic Year 9 program, titled **Making Connections - Journeying Beyond the Gates for Learning**, is designed to engage students in a diverse and challenging range of learning experiences. Located at the beautiful All Hallows site in Balwyn, it is just a short tram ride to the Cotham Road campus.

The program encourages students to utilise the relevance of what they learn in class and employ this in the real world - exercising self-reflection and a keen focus on strategies to improve their learning.



“

At all stages,  
learning must  
be relevant and  
authentic.

”





## LEARNING AND TEACHING CONTINUED

At Year 10 the curriculum is relevant and purposeful, designed to allow students to explore issues related to health, welfare and ethics within the context of their core studies. Students are guided and encouraged to be independent learners, and the establishment of sound work habits is emphasised in the homeroom and in class. Students are encouraged to self-monitor in order to identify their own strengths and weaknesses and, in consultation with their teachers, to continue on a pathway of learning appropriate to them. The process of personal, academic and careers exploration provides the basis for informed decision-making as students make choices for Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

The choice of a VCE program of studies for the remaining two years of secondary education means that students have to make some important decisions about themselves and their future. Having been provided with a comprehensive curriculum in Years 7 to 10, which involved a range of core and elective studies, students entering VCE begin the earnest process of refining their options for their final years of schooling, as well as tertiary study, careers and future pathways.

Within each stage of learning and every year level, programs reflect best practice in terms of sound educational research and theory. The College prides itself on ensuring that the best elements of different theories and research are incorporated across all programs. Embedded within the curriculum at each level is the scope for teachers to individualise programs so that the different learning needs of students are provided for.

The Learning Enhancement Department specialises in working with classroom teachers to ensure that students receive the support needed to achieve their best. This department also provides a unique enrichment program for greater depth and complexity of the topics studied.





# CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Genazzano is home to an outstanding co-curricular program, comprising well over 100 activities.

It is a source of great pride that the College can offer each student such a unique breadth of opportunity across so many expert fields.

From the Gavel Club (the first of its kind in Victoria), to the Make Poverty History and Young Vinnies groups that are working towards creating a better future, our co-curricular activities celebrate diversity and add richness to each student's education.

Co-curricular activities are run before, during and after school, or on weekends. A student who commits to participating consistently in co-curricular activities over her time at the school is recognised with the College colour award system.

From Year 5, students are welcomed into the co-curricular program. These celebrations of learning and performance establish strong friendships, foster a sense of belonging and promote a profound connectedness to the College community. At the end of each semester, students receive a formal co-curricular report alongside their academic report.

## Exploring New Horizons

Co-curricular opportunities span music, sport and a wide range of interest-based activities including, public speaking/debating, writing, liturgy, social justice and academic clubs, Duke of Edinburgh and Fire Carriers.

The College has a rich musical and choral tradition. With more than 30 music ensembles, students can discover the joy of music by learning an instrument of their choice.



**Activities in the College's co-curricular program cater for the diverse abilities of our students and are designed to introduce them to what often become life-long interests.**



# SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS LEADING IN LEARNING

Genazzano's innovative **Performance Psychology Centre** employs world's best practice to promote wellness, resilience, development and optimal functioning.

Performance psychology focuses on skills that assist students to achieve their personal best. Three registered psychologists who specialise in educational and developmental psychology staff the centre. The service is confidential and free to all Genazzano students.

Genazzano's **Companionship Program** provides a vehicle for students to connect with members of the wider community, to offer them assistance and gain a deeper appreciation of their needs.

The College's **GenStar Program**, run on a fortnightly basis, supports the Genazzano vision and mission to promote the 'whole person'. Focused on building resilience, thinking for peak performance and promoting a safe and healthy approach to life, the program is underpinned by extensive theory and research.

Regular **national and overseas tours** offer students a broad range of immersive opportunities through language and cultural experiences, as well as creative arts, music and international sporting tours.

**Not every girl is aware of the capacity she has. Employing a 'personal best' model, Genazzano aims to identify the capacity of each girl and encourage her to set her sights ever higher.**



“

Gen girls are taught the importance of wellness, resilience and self-belief.

”



“

We are Genazzano sisters, together in our home away from home at Hopetoun Hall.

”



# BOARDING AT GENAZZANO

## A GRAND TRADITION

Genazzano was established back in 1889 as a boarding school that catered for 14 young girls. Today, every student who enrolls at the College as a boarder is part of a long, proud and unbroken tradition.

Genazzano remains Victoria's only Catholic girls' boarding school. Boarding adds to the rich tapestry of life at Genazzano and the College deeply values the contribution made by its boarders.

Home for the boarders is Hopetoun Hall, a period house in Camberwell that is located three kilometres from the College. It is a happy place designed to function as a family home, and the girls enjoy a wonderful camaraderie that develops into lifelong friendships.

The boarding house provides students with great support, including a dedicated psychologist. Social events, parties, formals, ski trips, beach trips and film nights promote bonding between boarders. Transition activities are organised early in the school year to welcome new girls.



Hopetoun Hall students are well represented within the College community as prefects, house captains, performers, members of sporting teams and recipients of academic honours.

At the completion of their time at Hopetoun Hall, boarders are independent and capable young women who are well prepared for the next stages of their lives, wherever that journey may take them.



# INSPIRATIONAL LEARNING SPACES

## A SCHOOL IN A PARK

With its expansive green lawns, mature gardens and beautifully landscaped grounds, Genazzano is often referred to as, 'the school in a park'.

The College places significant emphasis on the learning environment. Glass panelled walls bring the outside world in. Open spaces create collegial learning experiences. There are areas for quiet times and listening, and integrated spaces that facilitate social relationships and collaboration.

### First Class Facilities

The historic Wardell Building stands at the heart of Genazzano and houses class rooms, reception, administration, staff offices and the College Chapel. Designed by celebrated nineteenth century architect William Wardell, the building is a spectacular example of Gothic Revivalism and is a Melbourne landmark.

The d'Houët Building features library and technology facilities, state-of-the-art science laboratories and preparation areas, a modern careers centre, classrooms and recently renovated Year 5 and 6 learning spaces. The d'Houët Building is also home to the Performance Psychology Centre and the Learning Enhancement Area.

The charming Grange Hill Building and its surrounds feature light-filled contemporary learning spaces that have been created to support the College's rich and varied curriculum for the ELC and Early Years. A stunning central library interfaces with communal piazzas and outdoor areas where students have the opportunity to construct, research and reflect.

The All Hallows campus provides a unique and immersive experience for Year 9 students. Located in the leafy suburb of Balwyn and only a short tram ride from the Kew campus, All Hallows features its own hall, science labs, library, sports courts and landscaped grounds.

The Madeleine Centre for Music and the Performing Arts is a superb 450-seat venue complete with orchestra pit, classrooms, tuition rooms, exhibition spaces, catering facilities and much more. The Centre provides exceptional performance and learning spaces for students and the community.

The sporting facilities at Genazzano are of the highest quality. From dedicated, state-of-the-art tennis courts to Centenary Hall, which features a full gymnasium and heated indoor swimming pool, the College's sporting facilities enable students to develop their skills in inspiring surroundings.

**The College places great store in its physical environment in a belief that it stimulates a girl's imagination, learning and creativity, while also providing her with a place to which she will long to return.**



“

It feels just like  
being at school  
in a park.

”





# GENAZZANO FCJ COLLEGE

## AN OVERVIEW

Genazzano FCJ College is a Catholic day and boarding school located on Cotham Road in Kew. In 1889, the Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, established their first boarding school at the site where our College still stands today.

Today, over 1100 students from ELC to Year 12 attend the College, which is permeated by the richness and traditions of the Catholic faith and the Ignatian heritage of the Sisters. It is a College where intellectual pursuits flourish in a climate of excellence and enquiry.

### Stages of Learning

#### Early Years

Laying the foundations:  
ELC to Year 4

#### Middle Years

Building breadth and depth:  
Year 5 to Year 8

#### Later Years

Developing pathways:  
Year 9 to Year 12

### Find Us Online

[genazzano.vic.edu.au](http://genazzano.vic.edu.au)

[beinspiring.com.au](http://beinspiring.com.au)

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 [au.linkedin.com/company/genazzano-fcj-college](https://au.linkedin.com/company/genazzano-fcj-college)

### Our Location



The Genazzano FCJ College campus is situated on Cotham Road, Kew, just west of its junction with Burke Road, and is easily accessed from many suburbs.

The College is located within magnificent grounds surrounded by lush green trees and flourishing garden beds. This beautiful environment provides many spaces for students to explore and discover.

You can contact the College on  
**+61 3 8862 1000.**

Genazzano FCJ College  
301 Cotham Road Kew,  
Victoria, Australia 3101

To visit the College at an Open Morning please visit [www.beinspiring.com.au](http://www.beinspiring.com.au). Or to arrange a one-on-one visit, please telephone the College Registrar on **+61 3 8862 1000.**

### Genazzano Alumnae

Past students remain deeply attached to the place where their education and spiritual values were shaped. Many return years later with their own daughters and granddaughters. Always, they are confident about the school life their daughters will enjoy.

For more than 100 years, the Alumnae Association has brought Genazzano women together. They celebrate their connection and continue to support the College community through various fundraising activities. The Genazzano Alumnae Association is one of the oldest and strongest associations in Australia with over 10,000 members.



**GENAZZANO  
ALUMNAE**

[www.genazzano.vic.edu.au/our-community/alumnae](http://www.genazzano.vic.edu.au/our-community/alumnae)



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