



*Nurturing young women to believe, lead, inspire and challenge*



“  
There where you are,  
you will find God.

- Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop together with Father John Joseph MacFarlane founded the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart. Throughout her life and ministry Mary displayed the virtues of faith, integrity, selfless courage and wisdom.

As a Josephine college, today the community of WCU is called to follow the example of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart.



# WELCOME TO MOUNT ST. JOSEPH GIRLS' COLLEGE

Mount St. Joseph Girls' College (MSJ) is a Catholic College for girls founded in 1964 by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart. We have a rich heritage of nurturing, educating and inspiring young women in the spirit of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Father Julian Tenison Woods, co-founders of the order of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

Our motto, **Virtue Courage**, is behind all that we aspire to.

Learning, Faith and Wellbeing are at the heart of all that we do.

Our purpose is to bring out the best in all students by inspiring lifelong learning, developing character and fostering individuality in a challenging, caring and safe environment.

If you are interested in shaping the future, an education at MSJ can equip you to succeed.





## DISCOVER US

*If you value integrity, fairness, community spirit and faith, come and join us for a voyage of discovery*

We offer a vibrant and challenging education that focuses on the holistic growth of our students. Through our dynamic learning, faith, wellbeing and co-curricular activities, we provide a balanced learning experience.

You will be encouraged to question, to wonder, to imagine and to engage your curiosity. This will empower you to make informed decisions and feel challenged in your learning.

You will learn to think independently and creatively, and be compassionate, kind and respectful. You will be confident when shaping your opinions based on your learnings, understanding and experience.

We can help you discover the person you will become by sparking your curiosity and your desire to learn.





## OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY

### *Supporting individual wellbeing and growth*

We are a nurturing learning and faith community where you are encouraged to excel in your academic, co-curricular and personal goals, while bearing witness to the Gospel values.

We value the three-way partnership of students, families and teachers working together as pivotal to educational success and commit ourselves to supportive communication and goal sharing.

Our high expectations are intended to stretch your mind to achieve and grow in a caring and supportive learning environment as you strive for success.

We encourage a love of learning through our innovative, dynamic and challenging curriculum, where opportunities are available to make your talents shine.

Excellence in learning is only achieved with the support of excellent facilities and we are proud to offer state-of-the-art learning spaces.

### **MSJ IS ALL ABOUT YOU**

Your personal journey is at the core of all that we do. Supporting you as you develop self-confidence, resilience and courage is paramount to us, as is our desire to nurture your strong sense of belonging to our community of faith underpinned by the rich Josephite traditions. With this in mind, we have carefully developed programs that nurture girls and foster a sense of community and responsibility in others.

We encourage you to reflect on your own development and to strive to achieve your personal best. We also encourage you to contribute to the wider community with a genuine sense of compassion and concern.







# FIND YOUR LEARNING PATH

## *Guiding you as you make your way in our world*

Every student is unique with different abilities, interests, hopes and dreams. We respect different strengths and talents at MSJ and help to build on them by supporting the development of your potential.

As a contemporary Catholic community, we nurture relationships built on the values of the Gospel and have respect for the special gifts of every individual.

In our vibrant learning community, we prepare you to become a critical thinker equipped with the knowledge and values to help you make a significant contribution to the world.

Our teachers promote contemporary and dynamic learning to support you in achieving your academic and personal goals. They are passionate, dedicated, highly-qualified professionals who will be there to guide you along your learning path.

As leaders, facilitators and supporters, our teachers encourage you to recognise your roles and responsibilities for creating environments of excellence that are warm, friendly and vibrant to foster individual and group success.



## YOUR CHOICE FOR SUCCESS

*We will prepare you to make informed choices as your education progresses*

When you start at MSJ, you embark on a holistic journey that nurtures your individuality in a challenging, safe and welcoming learning environment where expectations are high and success is celebrated and affirmed.

We offer a broad range of subjects and co-curricular opportunities from which you can create an education program that suits your strengths and interests. You will also have the opportunity to experience new areas of study that may not have been available to you in primary school. Change seems challenging at first but discovering new things can be exciting and lead to a new world of possibilities for your future. You are never on your own as your teachers and family are there to guide you.

### **EXPLORE YOUR PASSIONS**

The curriculum at MSJ is challenging and rewarding, exploring your areas of interest and in Years 8 to 10, a variety of elective units are offered.

In Years 11 and 12, you can choose from two courses – the **Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)** or **Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)**.

Our excellent VCE and VCAL results have provided our students with a variety of future pathway options.

### **LEARN A LANGUAGE**

You may already speak two or more languages, but there is always room to improve or study one more. For others, studying a language other than English will be a new experience that will open up new learning pathways, now and into the future. At MSJ, you will have the choice of learning French, Italian or Japanese right through from Year 7 to Year 12.

### **TRAVEL THE WORLD**

Be prepared to become a world traveller through cultural and language immersion programs and form lasting connections with like-minded students in other countries. Through our curriculum, there are opportunities to travel overseas to practice your language skills and learn more about art, history and culture. As part of our Japanese Peace Program, you can also host overseas students during their short-stay visit and share your family traditions and culture.

### **MAKE MUSIC**

Whatever instrument you choose to play, you can join one of our College ensembles and play in concerts or at assemblies, Open Days and awards events throughout the year.

If you are more of a singer than a player, MSJ Voices are always looking to lead the singing at College assemblies, Masses and other official events and competitions. You may even get the lead role in the College musical production!

### **GET MOVING**

Our sports program will get you moving with all the fun, exhilaration and comradery of team sports. It will strengthen your self-discipline and teach you fair play. We cater for all abilities and interests and with a wide variety of sports to choose from, there is something for everyone.

### **TRY SOMETHING NEW**

Student life would not be complete without co-curricular activities. A vibrant array of activities is offered within the College and the wider community and we encourage you to be active and involved. There is always somewhere to go or something to do.

Activities include the performing and visual arts, special interest clubs, vocal ensembles, debating and public speaking. Visits to cultural and sporting events are also common. During your class breaks there are stimulating and fun pastimes to choose from like chess, makerspace, sport, photography and performances.





# WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP

*We value the God-given dignity of each person and promote the rights and responsibilities of the individual and the community*

Built on the values of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart, we model and are guided by the teachings of Christ and seek to walk in the footsteps of Mary MacKillop. We promote values and experiences that enable learning, life and community to flourish.

## OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

As a proud Josephite college, our mission is to provide an education founded on the Josephite principles:

- Promoting Catholic values in educating young women in the tradition of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop.
- Developing informed and compassionate women in faith who will strive to make a difference in the world.
- Valuing, fostering and respecting uniqueness, integrity and dignity.
- Encouraging a love of learning through an innovative, dynamic and challenging curriculum.
- Encouraging students to strive for personal excellence.
- Providing a safe learning environment within contemporary specialist learning facilities.

## BEING AWARE

Awareness of the world and having a readiness to use your talents and gifts are hallmarks of our College's motto **Virtue Courage** and characterises our religious education program undertaken at each year level.

Discovering and exploring the beliefs, history, rituals and teachings of the Catholic tradition in dialogue with other faith traditions will help you to better understand varying beliefs and provide knowledge to inform your developing personal beliefs and values.

## HELPING OUT

A well-known mantra of Mary MacKillop was, "To never see a need without doing something about it". In this spirit, our College community is ever watchful and responsive to the needs of others. Christ also calls us to show love to all peoples and to reach out to the margins in society. Students are called to act and respond through our dynamic and extensive social justice program. These programs enable students to actively live out their faith in a way that contributes positively to local, national and international communities.







# BECOME YOUR BEST SELF

*We want you to thrive and be the best you can be*

## **ENCOURAGING YOU TO FLOURISH**

The array of experiences you encounter at College all contribute towards your intellectual, emotional and spiritual development. This includes reflective retreat experiences and opportunities for prayer and reflection, providing a balanced approach to learning.

## **HOUSE PROUD**

When enrolled, you will be allocated to a House – Cameron, Kincumber, McCormack, Penola, Providence or Solomon – where you can study in a supportive and collaborative environment, compete in House activities such as athletics and swimming carnivals and make new friends along the way.

Houses provide students with a sense of belonging and community, developing self-belief and building resilience. This good-spirited competition also provides opportunities to demonstrate leadership, teamwork and mentoring skills.

## **TIME TO REFLECT**

In a world that is often busy, it is important for students to take time to stop, reflect and pray. There are many opportunities to engage with the spiritual dimension of life including liturgies, retreat days and youth ministry events.



## GIRLS TAKE THE LEAD

*The students of today are the leaders of tomorrow*

Future leaders need the skills that help them to critically evaluate information, be creative in the way they develop solutions to future problems and be effective members of teams who can share, collaborate and communicate with one another to achieve a shared goal.

College life will prepare you for future leadership roles, helping you to grow in awareness, self-esteem and responsibility. We will encourage you to discover and develop your leadership skills through an array of opportunities as you move through your College years.

Student leadership opportunities exist as part of the Student Leadership Team. There are a number of portfolios that students lead in planning and decision-making and promoting school spirit and local community service activity.

You are encouraged to be confident and courageous in yourself, so you can go on to be a leader of change and actively shape the future of the College, the wider community and the world.





## IT IS YOUR FUTURE

### ***You control your destiny***

College life is an important stepping stone that helps to shape the person you will become. It plays an essential role in forming a strong foundation for who you are, what you believe in and where you want to go. It gives you the confidence, self-belief and enthusiasm to engage in the world as a compassionate, responsible global citizen, able to choose your own path towards the goals you want to achieve in life.

We believe MSJ students will be equipped with the skills, knowledge, spirit and values needed to pursue their life dreams and to navigate the problems and complexities they may find along the way.







# BECOME AN MSJ GIRL

Thank you for your interest in Mount St. Joseph Girls' College.

We hope you consider being part of our community.

As an inclusive community we have a proud tradition of welcoming girls of many faiths, beliefs and cultures who wish to experience our rich curriculum, positive culture and supportive environment.

## **FIND OUT MORE**

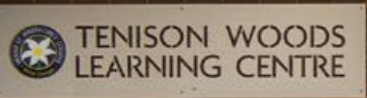
You can find out more about us, including the enrolment process, on our website: [www.msj.vic.edu.au](http://www.msj.vic.edu.au)

We are always happy to answer your questions. Please contact the College Registrar by phone: 03 8398 2000 or by email: [registrar@msj.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@msj.vic.edu.au)

## **VISIT US**

We warmly invite you and your family to our annual Open Day or one of our regular open mornings.

Tours of the College are led by our student ambassadors. This gives visiting families the unique opportunity to ask questions and gain an honest insight into our programs and what it is like to be an MSJ girl.





## CONTACTS

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Virtue Courage

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