

St Saviour's College



COLLEGE PROSPECTUS

Empowering young women in a changing world



Our Vision:

To inspire young women to live out the Mercy values of our founder, Catherine McAuley and become empowered women in a changing world.

Our Mission:

Our College Mission underpins our work at the College and is the foundation of our daily life.

Faith and Spirituality

We nurture our faith and spirituality through our Catholic tradition, Mercy heritage and cultural inclusivity.

Wellbeing and Relationships

We support the spiritual, emotional and social wellbeing of all within our College community.

Learning and Teaching

We commit to excellence in education through the provision of a diverse and challenging curriculum, which empowers our young women to become autonomous, lifelong learners and valued contributors to society.

Resources and Development

We commit to resourcing the College through collaborative planning, tempered by social justice principles that reflect our commitment to stewardship and a sustainable future.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



St Saviour's College is a secondary all-girls boarding and day school established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1873. The College fosters a lived faith experience and provides an inclusive, quality education, individually tailored to each student. We work in partnership with families and the wider community to challenge our young women to be resilient and to achieve excellence in their pathways.

At St Saviour's, we are proud of the dedicated, expert educators and support staff who work tirelessly and collaboratively with parents to ensure that our girls become empowered young women in a changing world. We challenge our 'mercy girls' to live lives characterised by the values espoused by Catherine McAuley and the Mercy charism, namely hospitality, justice, compassion and excellence. These values underpin the holistic education provided at the College and challenge our young women to always seek to do 'ordinary things extraordinarily well'. By doing so, the values that we aspire to uphold are imbued in all our undertakings, both inside and outside the classroom.

The educational experience of our young women is way broader than the classroom environment. We commit to meeting the needs of all our young women and our families by ensuring and facilitating opportunities to be challenged spiritually, academically, culturally and through sporting and cocurricular pursuits. In all of these undertakings, we strive for excellence.

At St Saviour's College, we recognise the important role we play in the future of our young women, and go to great lengths to ensure that our girls have a positive (and fun) secondary education, which forges for them friendships and opportunities for life; that they experience firsthand what it means to be a part of a community where they are safe, where they experience a sense of belonging, and where they are loved; in an environment where they are challenged to do and be their best.

I invite you to come and meet with us so you can experience first-hand what makes St Saviour's College so special. Join with me on a tour of our campus so that you can meet our staff and our 'mercy girls', and see for yourselves our dynamic community in action; a community that has long prided itself on forming women who become great contributors to society, ensuring that integrity is their greatest strength.

Sharon Collins
Principal

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FAITH & MERCY

Our Faith Life

St Saviour's College students and staff are a constant presence at St Patrick's Cathedral, giving of themselves as active members of the Parish. Members of our College community visibly celebrate their pride in the College, by singing in the choir and joining with other members of the Church community with readings during Eucharistic celebrations. These events provide for us all an opportunity to come together; to be filled with the Holy Spirit and immersed in our College Mercy Values. Catherine McAuley and her Sisters of Mercy led incredibly selfless lives, caring for those less fortunate than themselves. Taking the path less travelled is not always the preferred choice; however, putting others' needs ahead of ourselves is one way we can live out the Gospel values for the betterment of our community.



We regularly engage in class Masses, Lay Led Liturgies and prayer celebrations honouring our Catholic traditions. Throughout the year, the College supports local community service organisations, such as Caritas, Rosie's, St Vincent de Paul, Living Crib, Tony's Community Kitchen and Teenvinnies with an awareness campaign, guest speakers and donations drives.

Youth Ministry

As 'the heads, hearts and the hands of Jesus', we walk forward in the footsteps of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy by providing opportunities for our young women to live out the College 'Mercy values' of justice, excellence, compassion and hospitality.



Youth Ministry provides activities which:

- Build self-esteem
- Build community
- Invite students to connect with community
- Invite students to focus on life and the circumstances of others who are less fortunate
- Invite students to make a positive difference
- Invite students to walk forward together, with compassion and hospitality

Students participating in the Youth Ministry Team bring to life a College modelled on our Mercy Charism. As 'mercy girls', we embrace Catherine's values by giving of our time and ourselves for the good of other people. The key to helping others find independence is through building their faith and supporting them in their time of need. Working in partnership with local people, responding to the needs articulated by them and building the strength of our community, is achieved through hospitality. At St Saviour's, this is often seen through our nights volunteering at Rosie's and St Pat's Bingo nights. We, as present-day 'mercy girls', are called to follow in the footsteps of Catherine McAuley and her Sisters, who wholeheartedly committed themselves to respond to the needs of our times. This Mercy spirit lives on in our Youth Ministry initiatives of student solidarity and support.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Our Commitment To Excellence

At St Saviour's College our students strive for excellence, one of our College Mercy Values, in their academic studies. Our academic offerings challenge students to achieve their personal best with the support of our expert teachers. The College is committed to providing student centred learning programs that meet the needs of students from Year 7 to 12. Our broad range of subject offerings cater for both academic and vocationally oriented pathways as students progress into their senior phase of learning.

Students learning is supported through additional activities and programs including:

- Academic Awards for high academic achievement each semester/unit
- Academic badges for high academic achievement across the calendar year
- Academic interviews
- After school tutoring one afternoon per week
- A focus on resilience and a growth mindset
- Debating competition
- Learning support groups
- Public speaking competition
- RACI Titration competition
- Science and Engineering competition
- Student enrichment classes including senior preparation classes
- UNSW ICAS competitions



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YEAR 7 & 8

Year 7 and 8 learning areas focus on building foundational knowledge and skills in a range of subjects. All students engage in a range of core subjects as well as four semester-long elective courses. These courses allow students an opportunity to attempt subjects that will be on offer across Year 9 and 10, and into the senior years, and to make informed decisions about their strengths and interests.

Core subjects:

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health and Physical Education

Electives:

- Art
- Business
- Dance
- Design
- Digital technologies
- Drama
- Japanese
- Music

Students also participate in the Skills program which includes topics such as high school transition, IT skills, identifying 21st century skills, NAPLAN preparation, cyber safety, library, research and study skills and wellbeing strategies.



YEAR 9 & 10

Our Year 9 and 10 study programs focus on developing the foundational skills acquired in Year 7 and 8, while preparing students to move into their senior phase of learning. In Year 9 and 10 students continue to study core subjects, while also having the opportunity to select from a range of semester long elective courses of study. These electives allow students to further develop their skills in areas of interest, ultimately informing their decisions about future study and career pathways.

Core subjects:

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Health and Physical Education

Electives:

- Art
- Business
- Dance
- Design
- Digital technologies
- Drama
- Geography
- Japanese
- Legal Studies
- Media Arts
- Music

Students also participate in the Skills program which primarily focuses on developing 21st century skills and understanding career pathways. The Year 9 program focuses on exploring individual strengths and personalities, as well as writing resumes, cover letters and interview skills. In Year 10, the careers program assists in identifying student's career goals and works with students to ensure they have the required resources to attain these goals. This includes planning, applying for and participating in three days of work experience. Students and their parents/carers are involved in SET (Student Education and Training) Plans, as well as senior subject selection processes.



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YEAR 11 & 12

Senior students at St Saviour's College can design their senior phase of learning to suit their desired pathways. The College offers a mixture of General, Applied (Essential), Applied and Certificate courses for study across Year 11 and 12.

General subjects are suited to students who are interested in pursuing tertiary studies beyond secondary schooling. These subjects form the basis of study for students wishing to be awarded an ATAR (Australia Tertiary Admission Rank), the primary mechanism used nationally for tertiary admissions. To be ATAR eligible, students are required to study five General subjects or four General subjects and an Applied or Certificate course (Certificate III or higher).

Applied subjects are suited to students who are interested in pursuing a vocational pathway or an employment pathway beyond secondary schooling.

Certificate courses are nationally recognised qualifications. The College utilises a number of external RTOs (Registered Training Organisations) to provide teaching and assessing materials.

General subjects:

- English
- Study of Religion
- General Mathematics
- Mathematical methods
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Dance
- Design
- Drama
- Geography
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Specialist Mathematics
- Visual Art
- Essential Mathematics
- Essential English

Applied subjects:

- Essential Mathematics
- Essential English
- Religion and Ethics
- Drama in Practice
- Fashion Studies
- Social and Community Studies
- Sport and Recreation
- Visual Art in Practice

Certificate courses:

- Certificate III Business (within the school timetable)
- Certificate III Hospitality (within the school timetable)
- Certificate II Health Support Services and Certificate II Community Service (one day per fortnight in the College's Health Hub)
- Certificate III Rural Operations (one day per fortnight at UQ, Gatton)

Across Year 11 and 12 all students work towards achieving the QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) or the QCIA (Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement). General, Applied and Certificate courses all contribute points towards attaining a QCE.



VOCATIONAL (VET) & CAREERS EDUCATION

St Saviour's College offers VET programs that run in the Health, Business, Agriculture and Hospitality industries. Added to which are our ongoing partnerships with the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office that manage our School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SAT). Students may also access the TAFE at School program for the engagement in a variety of Certificate Courses.

What are the benefits?

These programs add value to a student's Senior Education experience by developing work ready skills and knowledge that can be directly applied in the workforce. They also contribute to a student's Queensland Certificate of Education.



Methods of Delivery:

- **Stand-alone Certificate Courses:** In this format, the student learns through self-directed and face-to-face training completed in a simulated work environment and classroom. Students will usually engage with an online learning platform or hard-copy learning materials and show their competence through a variety of assessment techniques. The Health Hub, Rural Operations Program, and the TAFE at Schools program all utilise this form of delivery for their respective qualifications.
- **School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship:** Students may also complete a VET qualification through a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT). In this format, the student applies for an advertised SAT position and is successfully employed by a business, usually after an interview and work experience placement. The student will then attend the workplace during agreed hours while completing their units of competency in their own time. Depending on the workplace requirements, students may need to be absent from school to complete their work hours. Upon successful completion of the SAT, students will graduate with a nationally recognised certificate and a certificate of completion of a minimum number of work hours in the industry.

Registering interest in a VET program

A VET course of study is available to Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Student register their interest with the Careers Development Practitioner via an Expression of Interest form and a suitable placement will be sought through partnership with the student and the College.

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St Saviour's College VET opportunities:

- **Health Hub:** The St Saviour's Health Hub is a simulated Health Clinic where students will develop their skills and knowledge in the Health and Community Services industries. These industries include occupations such as Nursing, Aged and Disability Care, Youth Work, Allied Health and many more. The full program is conducted over two years and allows students to receive up to three qualifications. This course is studied in addition to a student's senior subject choices.
- **Rural Operations:** The University of Queensland, Gatton, is a state-of-the-art training facility for students seeking to develop their skills in the agriculture industry. This program will allow students to participate in hands-on training at the campus and be exposed to areas in the sector such as large animal production, crops and machinery as well as drone and utility vehicle operation. This course is studied in addition to a student's senior subject choices.
- **School-based Apprenticeships or Traineeships:** Students may participate in a SAT to gain valuable workplace experience and an industry qualification while completing their senior years of schooling. A SAT will usually require attending paid work one day per week and completing a nationally recognised qualification. The length of the SAT will depend on the qualification with traineeships usually taking from one to two years and apprenticeships taking from three to four years.
- **TAFE at School Courses:** TAFE provides opportunities for students to study a nationally recognised qualification while in their final years of schooling. Students may study a vocational qualification from a variety of industries with most taking between one to two years to complete. Students typically attend training on the TAFE campus for one day per week.



TUTORING

St Saviour's College further supports students' learning by operating a free tutoring program on Thursday afternoons from 3.15pm to 4.15pm. Staff from across a range of subject areas are present to assist with homework, revision and assessments. Our tutoring program is open to students from all years and is a valuable opportunity for students to access extra support.



STUDENT WELLBEING

St Saviour's College is a very special place that we hold dear; our students are nurtured, supported, cared for and challenged academically in the time they spend with us. We have an able, talented, warm and qualified staff with a mix of specialist skills to ensure we encourage the very best in our students for the duration of their schooling at St Saviour's College. Working with young women to guide them on their own spiritual life journey, as they make new friends and seek to find some meaning of and connection with the world around them, is at the heart of our commitment. Developing strong foundations for healthy relationships, and viewing life with curiosity, wonder and joy are just some of the ways we promote wellbeing across the College.

Funday Friday

Each Friday lunchtime, staff and students look forward to games, activities, music and community engagement in Dublin Place. Staff and students take part in leading games and activities, designed to build a sense of fun, belonging and confidence, whilst strengthening relationships. This initiative is supported by a growing body of research and evidence that encourages schools to implement wellbeing strategies into the teaching and learning environment. Weaving wellbeing into the fabric of school life is a strong focus for our College.



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GROWTH MINDSET 'COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE'

Positive Education and Growth Mindset

At St Saviour's, we work with a tailor-made prevention and intervention program designed to bring positivity and joy to the lives of members of the St Saviour's College community. Our wellbeing team works with the foundational pedagogy of Positive Education, the 'Growth Mindset' principles of Carol Dweck, with an overarching lens of Catholicism. This involves incorporating a number of programs and initiatives for the staff and students, aimed at increasing wellbeing and building a positive sense of belonging for staff and students at St Saviour's College, supported by Gospel Values.



The Wellbeing Hub

The St Saviour's community Wellbeing Hub is one of the breakout spaces within the College. The College Guidance Counsellor works in close collaboration within this space, alongside the Assistant Principal: Mission and Student Wellbeing and the cross-campus Chaplain. The purpose of opening "The Hub" is to break down barriers to 'help seeking'; encouraging an association to counselling as a way of enhancing wellbeing as opposed to a service just for people with problems. "The Hub" is a meeting place for every student and it is an inclusive and safe place that welcomes all. "The Hub" opens most lunch breaks throughout the week. "The Hub" provides a richness of student life and is represented through the many cultures, backgrounds and interests shared. "The Hub" is a place to meet

new friends, play board games or card games, dance, paint, sing, chat and laugh. There is a focus on developing students' skills and promoting discussion around self-care and self-regulation. An example of this is through teaching mindfulness and meditation and exploring art as a self-soothing technique.

The You Can Do It! Program

St Saviour's College offers the well-established, evidence-based social-emotional learning curriculum, called the You Can Do It! Program. Selected students participate in the program every Friday afternoon, commencing Term Two, as an alternative to Sport and it covers the following topics:

1. Achievement: work, confidence (growth mindset), persistence, organisation and teamwork
2. Relationships: values, character strengths and getting along skills
3. Wellbeing: resilience and happiness (self-awareness, self-management, ABCs, cognitive restructuring and mindfulness)
4. Social-Emotional Blockers: anger, not paying attention, procrastination, worry and feeling down (awareness and self-management)

Each social-emotional learning activity addresses an aspect of the Australian Curriculum, and the Assessment Reporting Authority (ACARA) national curriculum's Personal and Social Capabilities.

TRANSITION PROGRAM

Orientation and Transition Program - Community before Curriculum

For students settling into St Saviour's College in Year 7, we have tailored a special program, focusing firstly on right relationships. Putting community before curriculum, students learn about our College's history, our Mercy traditions whilst making new friends, getting to know Homeclass buddies and meeting key staff. Students learn to navigate their way around the College, whilst learning about the heart of the College – our Mercy Sisters, founded by Catherine McAuley. Appropriate classroom practices are discussed along with procedures to enhance students' 'toolkit' to help them plan their upcoming weeks in and out of the classroom during their first year at St Saviour's College. With the alternate program for class activities, we focus on new students sharing some of the emotions they experience as well as embracing their excitement about starting at high school. Students also spend extended time with their Homeclass teacher.

Year 6 Orientation Day

The College Orientation program is filled with dynamic and relationship-building activities designed to engage, entertain and keep our newest students busy all day. We provide spaces and learning opportunities in a context where students can be creative; allowing the 'flow' to happen. Our Year 11 buddies, along with students from many other year levels, join the students at various times throughout the day. Our activities involve many of the practical subjects. Students engage in a scavenger hunt, crazy science experiments, House 'wars', making mini pizzas for lunch, an art session and drama games. Our aim is for students to make friends, become familiar with the College, their senior buddy and key staff. The day concludes with a coffee and tea pitstop in the Callaghan Centre for a parent 'meet and greet' with College staff.



RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Welcome to McAuley House

The Sisters of Mercy offered residential support for young women from rural Queensland since 1861. McAuley House, the residential section of St Saviour's College, provides a unique experience of residential community living for girls in the Mercy tradition.

It is an experience steeped in care, respect and mutual trust, and the cultivating of positive partnerships between the students' families and the College.

Residential staff and students work together to nurture:

- Catholic education in the Mercy tradition
- Relationships based on respect and personal dignity
- Personal growth through the building of relationships
- Friendships developed in a family orientated environment
- Personal spirituality and a disposition to social justice
- A balanced education to meet the individual needs of young women
- Personal independence, self confidence and a personal best orientation in all aspects of life
- Growth towards maturity in a caring, happy boarding family



Residential Life News:

McAuley House is a member of the Australian Boarding Schools Association which serves to support and develop best practice in residential communities across Australia.



"Lights Out", a quarterly journal by the Australian Boarding Schools Association (ABSA), gives opportunities to learn more about how best to support and care for our girls and also provides an opportunity for members to learn from and support each other. Please visit: <http://www.boarding.org.au/>

Our Boarding Staff

"Miss Catherine is calm, kind and helps us with our homework and when we forget things. She is always driving us in the bus, even when she isn't always confident where to go, but does it to give us girls opportunities and experiences." - Kathleen

"Miss Tanya is willing to help us, even when we are not always polite. Nothing is ever too much trouble because she cares for us like a mum. She also has funny little jokes that make us laugh." - Kayley



"Miss Kerry is so nice and kind; she never says a cross word and says goodnight to us before bed. Her smile is so lovely. She speaks gently to us and this is comforting." - Deenorah

"Miss Christie is amazing because I don't know how she gets through all that washing and ironing! She also comes and helps in boarding when we need an extra pair of eyes. She is thoughtful and often gives us little treats, and she gave us Christmas cards last year." - Ruth

"Miss Nicki is lovely. She helps on weekends and some nights during the week. I like it when she drives us to basketball because she always asks us how we went and likes to watch us play. She has another job in a primary school as well." - Roxy

"Miss Georgia isn't around as much because she moved to the University, but we like it when she takes us shopping and stays at the dorm. She also helps with study. Because she is going to university, she knows how things should be written. She is also kind and has a great smile." - Emmie



"Miss Narelle has helped with lots of things like netball and yarnning circle. Her idea to design boarding shirts was great and she gave us lots of ideas. She is also helping with study and always yarns to us when we clean up the kitchen. This is nice and a big help." - Eliza

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SPORT

Sport at St Saviour's College is a vital co-curricular program that supports students' wellbeing and provides an outlet for students to demonstrate teamwork, humility, discipline, and self-esteem all while fostering a mercy spirit. St Saviour's College offers a wide range of sports that allow students to develop their skills and improve their health.

Students participate in Health and Physical Education (HPE) as part of their academic program and they compete in different house-based events which carries the theme of participation, which is key to success as students battle for the Mercy Shield.



St Saviour's College is a member of the Toowoomba Secondary Schools Sports Association (TSSS) which may lead students to representing the Darling Downs region in representative school sport. St Saviour's College organises swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals and provides a sporting program on Friday afternoon for students in Year 7 to 10 that caters for both competitive and social based opportunities.



The following sports are offered at St Saviour's College:

- Touch Football
- Netball
- Soccer
- Rugby League
- Volleyball
- Tennis
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Rugby Union



Interhouse and Inter School Competitions

Interhouse carnivals provide an opportunity to foster the values of justice, compassion, excellence, and hospitality. Student participation is strongly encouraged within these events.



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CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES



Students are provided with many opportunities and are encouraged to engage in a wide variety of programs on offer at the College:

Musical production (biennial)
Showcase
Debating
Performance Choir
Harmony Day
Shake and Stir performances
Instrumental music lessons
Deadly Sisters dance troupe
Interact
NAIDOC Week





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Neil Street, Toowoomba

07 4637 1600

WelcomeStSav@twb.catholic.edu.au

www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au

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