



Mount Carmel College Hobart, Tasmania **2019 Prospectus**

We Nurture. We Challenge. We Care.



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME





Welcome to Mount Carmel College, a Catholic school for girls and young boys that has, since 1957, encouraged a love of learning and social connection.

This brochure provides a snapshot into the College and highlights the amazing community, the dedication to excellence and the focus on student well-being. We work collectively to design and implement best teaching practices and to engage our students in innovative ways. There are many opportunities at the College to excel – academically, the Arts and in the sporting arena.

The Sisters of Charity, our founding order, were integral to the development of Hobart. Today, those connections of service and social justice are used to inspire our students to actively shape the world they live in.

Our commitment as educators is to walk alongside our students on their learning and faith journey, encouraging our students to reach their full potential.

Mrs Fiona Nolan
Principal

Mission

In a vibrant Catholic community, we:

- foster the development of the whole person;
- engender a knowledge and love of life, humanity and God's creation;
- inspire our students to be advocates of peace and justice and of service to others.

Vision

With Christ as our guiding light and in the spirit of the Sisters of Charity, we strive to challenge individuals to develop their potential, live their faith and contribute to shaping a socially just society with courage, confidence and integrity.

A PLACE FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH





Our College motto is *Fortes in Fides* (strong in faith), and this epitomises our educational approach. We strive to inspire students to know, understand and live out the gospel values as an expression of faith in our world.

Through our curriculum, in particular our Religious Education program, knowledge of the Catholic religious tradition and the charism of the Sisters of Charity is taught to all. Outreach programs are designed to allow students to form relationships with the marginalised and stand in solidarity with God's people from all walks of life, a hallmark of continuing the legacy of the Sisters of Charity.

The concerns common to all human beings such as the meaning of life, the values of positive relationships and the search for personal meaning are interwoven into the curriculum and presented from a Catholic

perspective. Major moral questions confronting humanity today, social justice, family and human freedom are addressed. Students are encouraged to strive for positive, respectful relationships with others in the school community and beyond.

Our goal is that our students will demonstrate a passion for life, and will share their strengths within and beyond the College community. Our expectation is that parents will support our values and philosophies.

Our College celebrates its Catholic faith through classroom prayer, weekly prayer services, class masses, liturgies based around seasonal events in the Catholic Church and significant events in our school year. Gathering as a whole school for the celebration of the Eucharist is a vital part of our Catholic story and our spiritual journey.

Reflection Days allow us to step out of the routine of our daily lives to reflect on our relationships with each other, ourselves and our God.

It is our belief that we are partners with parents and carers in the faith development of our young people. We can only build on the foundations established at home and we value the positive support of each student's family, in our mission of leading students towards the knowledge and love of God through Jesus Christ.

A PLACE FOR WELLBEING





"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all."

Aristotle



At Mount Carmel we recognise the intrinsic relationship between student wellbeing, pastoral care and learning. The College supports an explicit focus on the provision of a safe, contemporary and effective learning environment, where the dignity of individuals is fundamental to the growth and development of each person.

Our College fosters students' independence by:

- Creating an environment that fosters opportunities for students to flourish.
- Providing an environment where children and young people feel safe and experience a sense of connectedness.
- Valuing the importance of physical, social/emotional and spiritual wellbeing, essential to positive learning outcomes for our students.

Wellbeing and support structures:

The acquisition and development of self-confidence and resilience are essential attributes for success in life, and staff at Mount Carmel actively strive to nurture these skills. Our wellbeing and support structures begin with the class / homeroom teachers, who have a key relationship with students, and offer a valuable point of contact for parents who wish to discuss their child's progress.

Staff have different specialist roles and will oversee and support your child or adolescent throughout their school journey.

In the Primary School, key staff personnel are:

- Class teacher
- Director of Primary (Prep-Year 6)

In the Secondary School, key staff personnel are:

- Clan teacher
- Heads of House
- Director of Teaching and Learning

Working across the College, are:

- The Pastoral Care Team including Head of Learning Support and Enrichment, College Counsellor, Deputy Principal, Principal

Wellbeing and support structures:

Our Kindergarten – Year 10 campus promotes opportunities to develop interconnectedness and assist in a seamless transition from primary to secondary school.

This is fostered by informal and formal processes:

- 'Big Sister Program' between Year 7 and 10 students
- A House system that develops connectedness through annual activities such as Beach Activities Day, House Drama and Mount Carmel Feast Day
- Year level camps and excursions
- Outreach opportunities
- Belonging Week in Year 7

We foster positive relationships and partnerships between the College, home and community. Communication between home and school is encouraged in a number of ways including regular contact via the student planner, electronic communication, information evenings, parent welcome barbecue in Year 7 and other informal occasions.

The opportunity for leadership is offered to all and we acknowledge the range of gifts that are necessary to build a strong school community. Our small school site is ideal for peer support and the natural way in which older students care for younger ones is affirmed.



WE NURTURE, CHALLENGE AND CARE

At Mount Carmel College, the provision of pastoral care is of the utmost importance. We recognise that if young people feel a sense of attachment and belonging at school, their overall wellbeing will be improved, and with it their chances of academic success.

The development of quality relationships amongst students, and between students and teachers, is essential in building a nurturing social environment.

Each year the Year 10 Student Leaders decide upon a theme that will illuminate their focus for the year ahead, and which aims to strengthen and unite the College community. Class, year level and whole school activities are planned around the exploration of this theme, which becomes an overarching call to action and helps

generate and build school pride.

At Mount Carmel the development of the whole person is the fundamental focus of behaviour management practices. Every student is encouraged to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally and socially. Self-management, the acceptance of personal and group rights and responsibilities, and the maintenance of effective behaviour management practices and procedures underpin behaviour management at the College.

A Restorative Practice Framework:

We believe that students, staff and parents must be well supported and treated with equity and justice. We understand that the most profound learning occurs when healthy relationships exist. Restorative Practice is a strategy that seeks to build, maintain and restore relationships that have been harmed. We expect that all members of our learning community act as witnesses to the gospel values of respect, justice and love for our neighbour. Restorative Practices will help build capacity to enable students to manage their behaviour and contribute to the improvement of learning outcomes. A Restorative Practice framework focuses attention on the quality of relationships within the entire College community. This presumes an acceptance



of clear and reasonable expectations and an acknowledgement of personal accountability.

Every member of the College community is encouraged to commit to:

- The Catholic ethos of the College
- The charism of the Sisters of Charity
- The Creed of Rights and Responsibilities
- College expectations / procedures
- Develop a sense of responsibility for actions and their consequences
- Develop the capacity to re-affirm, repair and rebuild relationships
- Develop reflective practices in relation to behaviour
- Trust in and commit to fair process

Staff and parents are encouraged to help students:

- Give witness to the message of the Gospel
- Affirm the essential goodness of each individual
- Respect the dignity of the human person through consideration and courtesy

"The College supports an explicit focus on the provision of a safe, contemporary and effective learning environment, where the dignity of individuals is fundamental to the growth and development of each person"

Mount Carmel College Strategic Plan 2015-2019

BUILDING A LEARNING COMMUNITY: KINDERGARTEN





"Play is the highest form of research"

Albert Einstein

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Our Kindergarten building also provides Outside School Hours Care.

The College offers:

Before School Care

7.30am – 8.30pm

After School Care

2.45pm – 6.00pm

Vacation Care

8.30am – 6.00pm

Long Day Care is provided on

Mondays and Tuesdays

7.30am – 6.00pm

The Kindergarten is an integral part of our College community. While operating as an autonomous centre, and situated in a property adjoining the College, it enjoys the benefits of its connection to the larger school.

This connection provides mutual benefit through integration and peer support at every available and appropriate opportunity. As confidence develops within the Kindergarten environment, children begin to participate in activities such as liturgical celebrations, Grandparents'/Friends Morning and whole school celebrations.

We provide a high quality educational program for four year old boys and girls three days per week (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) and offer long day care for three and four year olds on Monday and Tuesday. Our Kindergarten is a learning environment where all children have the opportunity to become confident, enthusiastic learners

in preparation for the rest of their education. The program allows children to learn and achieve at their own level, in a play-based environment where they feel safe but also challenged to learn and to participate in new experiences. Within the Kindergarten community, the children grow in confidence as their gifts and capabilities are acknowledged, respected and celebrated. Specific attention is given to the different needs, interests and developmental levels of the individual children.

A PLACE FOR LEARNING: PRIMARY





“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

Nelson Mandela

The Primary School at Mount Carmel College provides a nurturing rich and diverse educational environment for the younger members of our learning community. Strong home links, a focus on individual learning styles and pastoral care combine to create a vibrant community of learners from Early Years to Year 6.

A rigorous curriculum catering for the learning needs of all students is complemented by a diverse range of co-curricular opportunities. A rich learning experience includes a wide range of subjects: Religious Education, English, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Health and Physical Education, Japanese and the Arts (Music, Visual Arts and Drama). Students experience learning in a variety of settings, through excursions, guest speakers and the purposeful use of educational ICT tools such as one-to-one iPads in Year 3 to 6. Students have access to specialised facilities for Drama, Science, the Visual and Performing Arts and Applied Learning. Class camps, interstate trips and

collaborative inquiry based experiences allow our students to develop their creative and critical thinking skills.

To ensure the smooth transition to Middle School, the Year 6 program incorporates challenging learning experiences that build upon students’ personal interests and help the students to develop connections between the content, their present lives and future directions.

Strong pastoral care structures ensure that each student is nurtured to achieve their personal best.

We also value and foster:

- Respectful relationships built on Restorative Practice and gospel principles.
- Open and regular communication with parents and carers.
- Opportunities to nurture the crucial skills of literacy and numeracy.
- Experienced, informed and innovative Class Teachers, Learning Support Teachers and Teacher Assistants.
- The social and emotional wellbeing of each student, guided by the ‘Kids Matter’ program and supported by an on-site counsellor.
- Opportunities for ‘buddying’ with older students on our unique K – 10 campus.
- Student leadership, motivated by service to others.
- Energetic participation in a range of sporting endeavours, including House competitions and interschool carnivals.



A PLACE FOR LEARNING: SECONDARY

The Secondary School at Mount Carmel College has an enviable reputation as a learning community where academic achievement is fostered, expected and abundantly evident.

Our students consistently:

- achieve well above the state and national averages in the National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
- perform exceptionally well in various co-curricular activities, tournaments and competitions (including regional, state or national competitions for debating, public speaking, science and engineering, writing, visual and performing arts)
- achieve very strong results in their Australian Tertiary Admission Rankings (ATAR).

Central to this success is our understanding of and commitment to the development of the giftedness of each student as a unique individual.

We actively encourage students to develop:

- confidence in their own abilities
- a high level of accountability
- the desire to achieve the highest standard they can
- a strong understanding of the basis of academic progress and achievement
- a capacity to build a personal vision for the future.



"Mount Carmel embraces best practice in education. Its students are encouraged to identify and pursue academic excellence and to actively partake in sporting endeavours, cultural pursuits and social justice initiatives. The College is committed to each individual's full development: spiritual, academic, social-emotional and physical"

Mount Carmel College Strategic Plan 2015-2019

The secondary curriculum offers a breadth of opportunity for all our students in a wide range of learning areas. In Years 7 and 8, a rich foundational experience includes a wide range of subjects: Theology and Spirituality, Mathematics, The Performing and Visual Arts, Science and Technology, English, Health & Physical Education, Languages (Chinese Mandarin and Japanese), History and Geography.

In Years 9 and 10, students are encouraged to select from a wide range of subjects prior to moving on to senior secondary education. The content, structure and

teaching practice of our curriculum in Years 9-10 are deliberately and specifically designed to challenge students and to comprehensively prepare them for the rigours of senior secondary education.

Our curriculum gives students freedom to explore, question, evaluate and create. By the time students complete Year 10, they will be developed and nurtured as responsible learners, who recognise the benefits of self-discipline and balance and the value of personal as well as academic growth.

As a Christ-centred community all teaching and learning occurs within the context of the gospel values, specifically justice and compassion. In this way our students are challenged to use their gifts well, respecting and caring for the needs of self and others, and walking forward strong in faith to be women of knowledge, integrity and truth.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND ENRICHMENT



At Mount Carmel College we nurture independent, creative and collaborative learners. We recognise that students learn at different rates, have different strengths, and need support in different areas.

The Learning Support and Enrichment Department works to enable the diversity of skills and talents of all students within the College to be nurtured. We strive to enhance partnerships between staff, students, their families and outside specialist providers to best support each student's needs.

Learning Support

Specialist support in the form of differentiation within our mixed ability classes allows us to cater for a diversity of learning needs. Appropriate intervention will depend on the individual learning needs of students and may include:

- Classroom support
- Individual Education Programs
- Learning programs used to support

literacy and numeracy (Key Maths, Letters and Sounds, Spelling Mastery, Multilit)

- Life Skills programs and mentoring
- Individual and small class tutoring, targeting specific academic needs and designed to remediate identified learning barriers.

The aim is to support the development of students as resilient, engaged learners.



"Just because it has not been done before, there is no reason why it should not be done."

Mary Aikenhead

Enrichment Support

A rich and engaging mix of tailored learning programs and support is provided to further engage and challenge our students.

This includes:

- Tiered and open-ended tasks
- Gifted and Talented events
- Individual learning programs for extension
- Access to online courses for acceleration

Extension and Enrichment Opportunities:

Extension and enrichment opportunities are designed to complement our curriculum. They broaden students' experiences and

help to develop key skills such as self-discipline, confidence and team work.

Some of the extension opportunities available at the College include:

- Science and Engineering Challenge
- International Competition and Assessments for Schools
- Languages (Japanese and Chinese Mandarin)
- Debating
- Tournament of the Minds
- History Challenge
- Drama, Art and Music Competitions and Eisteddfods

- Sporting opportunities
- English – essay writing competitions
- Public speaking competitions
- Technology Master classes
- Australian Maths Competition

The Aim is to develop critical and creative thinkers in a global perspective.

LEARNING FOR LIFE



Learning at Mount Carmel College is about more than what happens inside the classroom. We are passionate about learning for life.

Our co-curricular program is fundamental to enabling students to identify and build upon their strengths, to learn more about themselves and others.

Students are encouraged to be involved in a wide range of co-curricular opportunities, designed to foster their personal, spiritual, intellectual, social and emotional development. The range of activities offered by our College encourages students to

be active members of their school and local community. Such activities provide students with the opportunity to develop new interests, increase their social network, foster teamwork skills and build leadership abilities.

Co-curricular opportunities at Mount Carmel College include:

- Clubs: Chess, Lego, Knitting and Book Club
- College Socials
- Competitions: local, national, state
- Debating
- Gifted and Talented challenges
- Music: Choir, ensembles and performance opportunities, both instrumental and choral, private music lessons
- Musical Productions
- Public Speaking
- Social Justice groups: Mini Vinnies, Mission Sisters, Mentoring Program
- Indigenous trip



"Education is the
kindling of flames"

Socrates

- Japanese Immersion
- Dance
- Computer Programming Groups
- Sport: 23 different sports are offered including
 - AFL
 - Athletics
 - Badminton
 - Basketball
 - Cricket
 - Cross Country
 - Equestrian
 - Hockey
 - Netball
 - Rowing
 - Running
 - Sailing
 - Soccer
 - Softball
 - Surf Lifesaving
 - Surfing
 - Swimming
 - Teeball
 - Tennis
 - Touch Football
 - Triathlon
 - Volleyball
 - Water Polo



A PLACE FOR CHALLENGE



At Mount Carmel College development of the whole person is encouraged through experiential opportunities that build on students' concept of their place in the world.

Our well-sequenced camp and excursion program forms an integral part of the curriculum. We believe that camps and excursions offer experiences that are not possible within the traditional classroom setting and that such experiences equip students with the skills and values that will promote healthy attitudes and foster a sense of belonging. Camps and excursion can greatly enhance learning by offering new, challenging and

practical experiences across all learning areas. They are designed to develop a range of skills and values, including communication, environment awareness, responsibility, leadership, resilience, self worth and teamwork.

Our camp program includes the following experiences:

- Year 4: Far South Wilderness 1 night camp
- Year 5: Port Arthur 2 night camp
- Year 6: Melbourne /Canberra interstate trip
- Year 7: Spring Beach 2 night camp
- Year 8: Maria Island 2 night camping trip
- Year 9: Port Arthur 2 night camp
- Year 10 Street Retreat



BUILDING ON TRADITION



Mount Carmel College is the amalgamation of two schools: St. Joseph's College, founded in 1847, and Mount Carmel Primary School, founded in 1942.

Both schools were run by the Sisters of Charity. The Sisters of Charity were the first group of Women Religious to come to Australia in 1838 and to Tasmania in 1847. They established St. Joseph's in Harrington Street, before moving the school to the corner of Molle and Macquarie Streets in 1922. "Little Mount Carmel" began in a house in View Street, Sandy Bay in 1942, and transferred to "Lauramont" on its present site overlooking the Derwent River, in 1947. The two schools amalgamated in 1957 to form the present day Mount Carmel College.

The founders' commitment was to serve the marginalised. They improved educational opportunities, especially for young women, equipping them with skills to make a positive contribution to society. We remain true to this focus today at the College, and strive to provide an education steeped in gospel values which fosters creative thinkers, confident problem solvers and independent learners.

Building works and refurbishments have continued since the College's origin and, in 2017, we completed the redevelopment of Providence House and the Sophia Centre for Innovation. Our building plans and re-design of other learning spaces will focus on the alignment of spaces to foster healthy relationships, flexible learning spaces and ensure the provision of opportunities for critical thinking and supported risk taking.

WHY CHOOSE A GIRLS' SCHOOL?





“The single-sex environment provides females with the best opportunity for academic achievement”

(Bradley, 2009)

At Mount Carmel College we are strongly committed to the value of a single-sex education for girls from Year 3 to Year 10. We believe that such an environment provides many advantages for our students.

These advantages are substantiated by educational research and include:

- Girls thrive in learning situations where they can work in groups and be supported by one another; they enjoy cooperative challenges.
- Girls are more likely to achieve academically and are more confident learners in a single-sex environment.
- A broad curriculum without traditional gender boundaries.
- Our staff understand girls’ education and how they learn best. A conscientious approach to study is developed through

a supportive pastoral structure in which staff tailor their instruction to create opportunities for critical and creative thinking, to increase confidence and foster a love of learning.

- A culture of achievement exists in which academic rigour is of importance, and the development of individual potential is paramount.
- Individuality, creativity and diversity are fostered and celebrated. There are fewer opportunities for stereotyping of subjects, and less barriers to girls pursuing their interests, whether they are in sport,

academia or co-curricular areas.

- Enhanced leadership opportunities including College leaders, core captains, primary leaders, House involvement and College representation in a range of co-curricular and sporting pursuits foster the potential of young women to serve their communities and take their place in the world.

Distinctive to our learning environment is our faith-based curriculum of Catholic education. Together with our single-sex focus, this allows us to provide a highly successful model for students, encouraging them to flourish as individuals and grow as the leaders of tomorrow.



MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE BUS SERVICE

We have dedicated buses servicing the Eastern Shore, Northern and Western suburbs, and the Blackmans Bay/Kingston/Margate area, providing a direct service to and from Mount Carmel. For more details on routes and costs, together with information about public bus services, please visit our website or contact the school office on (03) 6216 7900.

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