



St Margaret's COLLEGE

with a view to the future

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

College Life

St Margaret's College is a Christian values-based community of learners, which honours the heritage and philosophy of the Sisters of The Society of the Sacred Advent. We foster a positive culture and strong sense of community where residents contribute generously to daily college life in a nurturing, scholarly environment characterised by collegians who are compassionate, vital, curious and aspirational.

Collegians will have a strong sense of belonging built on the foundations of mutual trust, respect and ethical standards, which are reflected in College policies and expectations. Collegians will maintain and uphold the reputation of the College and broader St Margaret's community in highest regard.

Can I study at any university in Brisbane?

St Margaret's College is taking undergraduate and postgraduate students who intend to study in 2016 or are already enrolled at University of Queensland (UQ), Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Griffith University, Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Southbank Institute of Technology: TAFE. We will also consider other education institutions on a case by case basis.

Do you have to be a past St Margaret's student to be able to live at the College?

The College is open to all women and there are no restrictions on who can apply.

What support and pastoral care is provided?

One of the most significant aspects of living in a residential college is the encouragement and support you receive. If you are experiencing any difficulties with your studies or your personal life, the College Director and Senior Residential Assistant is available to offer support and help you settle in and make friends. Don't keep your problems to yourself. It is far more helpful to share them with someone so that you can find solutions.

Who lives onsite at the College?

The Senior Residential Assistant lives on site and is a student of highest calibre who is either a senior student in their final years of study or a postgraduate student. The Senior Residential Assistant supports the College Director and provides guidance to students as well as valuable academic and pastoral support.

Do I have to sign in and out if I want to leave?

You do not have to sign in and out if you want to leave. The College operates on a system of trust and there are no restrictions on overnight or week end leave. However, it is expected that if you are not returning to College that you inform the College Director or Senior Residential Assistant. Your personal safety and welfare is our highest priority.

What safety and security measures are in place?

The College is set in a quiet garden enclave adjacent the school grounds and provides a safe and secure environment in the northern suburb of Ascot. After hours security regularly patrol the College and lock up of an evening, but all residents have access to the College at all times through the swipe card access. External security lights have also been installed on the College buildings and service road leading up to the College.

What are the academic expectations at College?

You are preparing yourselves for your future careers, so it is important for you to plan your study program and commit yourselves to doing the best you can. The College expects that you will take this responsibility seriously. The College Director is well acquainted with the operations of the various Universities and available to discuss any topic that interests or concerns you.

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St Margaret's College ABN: 93 492 310 839

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Residents are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress and achieve a cumulative GPA of 4.0 each semester. If your cumulative GPA drops below a 4.0, your College membership may be at risk, although this depends on circumstances and is reviewed on a case by case basis.

What academic support is available?

The College provides academic support in the form of tutorials, which are customised to enhance the specific learning objectives of the College residents. Tutors will be made up of teams of under graduate and post graduate students, who will provide a high standard of academic expertise to assist you with your studies.

What is the Student Success Program and how will I be involved?

The Student Success Program incorporates a personalised female mentoring and leadership program, a social responsibility program and opportunities for employment at St Margaret's. Depending on your university commitments, it is anticipated that you will participate in the program as it will equip you with life skills and opportunities to help you confidently navigate life beyond school.

St Margaret's Anglican Girls School will offer employment opportunities, where available, to residents who may choose to take up casual work in boarding duties, tutoring, coaching or administrative work.

Is the College involved in any sporting competitions?

The College is not currently linked to a dedicated sporting competition, however, the College Director is looking at ways to engage in competitions such as invitational events. Depending on interest, there will be opportunities for College residents to participate in club sports competitions.

What social events and activities are organised for residents at the College?

The College has a welcome event, orientation activities, formal dinners and end of year celebrations. Other social activities will be student driven and you will have an opportunity to play an active role in the daily life of the College, including developing the program for college activities.

Will there be a College Student Council?

The foundation students, in particular, can have a powerful impact in their first years at the College and can help shape its future. Therefore, it will be the students who will determine the governance and development of a College Student Council.

Is there internet access and do I pay for downloads?

You have access to free wireless Wi-Fi and there are no limits on downloads. You also have access to IT help desk support during office hours. Responsible use of the service is expected and we reserve the right to withdraw the service from disruptive users as required. Students are required to comply with the College Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.

Will there be much interaction between St Margaret's Anglican Girls School students and College students?

St Margaret's College is a completely separate identity and unless you are employed at the School, you will have very limited contact with current students. Over time we hope to foster links with the School and this will evolve as new opportunities arise.

Can I use the St Margaret's Anglican Girls School facilities like the pool and library?

You can access the facilities during specified times.

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Can I have visitors to the College?

Visitors are welcome at the College between 9:00am and 11:55pm. However, in the interests of Fire Safety and Child Protection legislation, no guests are permitted to stay overnight unless prior approval has been granted by the College Director.

All visitors must sign the Visitor Book upon arrival and sign out when they leave. This is a FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENT.

Are visitors allowed to share a meal?

You are welcome to invite your family and friends to come and share a meal with you. You need to ensure you inform the kitchen in advance.

Where do we eat our meals?

A continental breakfast will be provided each morning and hot breakfast available on weekends. Lunch will be provided daily including a packed lunch. Evening meals will be provided in the main kitchen of the College and you can enjoy your meal either in the kitchen dining area or student lounge. Meals for special events and formal dinners will be served in The Oratory.

How will I access meals if my classes clash with meal times?

Packed lunches and early/late dinners can be arranged to fit in with your class times (on week days).

Is alcohol allowed to be consumed at the College?

Residents who are under 18 years of age are not permitted to consume alcohol at the College, at any events, or be in the College grounds whilst under the influence of alcohol. Residents under 18 are particularly reminded that it is against the law to access alcohol.

St Margaret's College permits responsible consumption of alcohol for adults over 18 years of age. The College encourages you to drink in moderation following Drink Wise guidelines and opposes excessive consumption and binge drinking.

Students over 18 may enjoy a quiet drink in their room or another student's room if they are invited. There is to be no more than three people in a room at any given time.

Drinking is not permitted in any public spaces including corridors, balconies, common spaces and college grounds. Drinking may be permitted in other areas for special occasions and by request.

INTOXICATION AMONG STUDENTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

Where can I get my mail?

Mail is delivered to the residence in the afternoon.

Where do I find public transport timetables and information?

Visit the TRANSlink website- www.translink.com.au or call TRANSinfo-13 12 30 (24 hour, 7 days a week service).

Are there any onsite parking spots?

Limited onsite parking is available at a fee of \$350 per semester. Please refer to website for further details.

Who is in charge in the evenings and on the weekend when the College Director is not in the office?

We have an onsite Senior Residential Assistant and Residential Assistant Supervisors who provide supervision. The College Director is available on call if a serious problem or incident occurs. The Director of Boarding at St Margaret's Anglican Girls School and Boarding staff are also in the immediate area in the event of a serious issue or emergency.

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What do I do if I lock myself out of my room?

Contact the Senior Residential Assistant or College Director who will let you into your room.

What do I do if I lose my keys or swipe card?

You will need to notify the Residential Assistant, Senior Residential Assistant, Facilities Department or College Director. You will be issued with a new set at a replacement cost of \$25.00.

Can I leave my room unlocked when I go out for a short while?

You are encouraged to get into the habit of locking your door and placing valuables in the safety box supplied in your room. The College is not responsible for any thefts.

How much do the washing machines and dryers cost?

The washing machines and dryer are free to use. Residents are to supply their own detergent.

Who is responsible for cleaning my room?

You are expected to keep your room clean and tidy. Your room will be vacuumed and cleaned once a week. Cleaning staff will not move any items, so it is important that you move items so they can access the basins and other bench tops. A vacuum cleaner is also provided on each floor.

You can personalise your room including posters. However, you must not make holes in the walls. You will need to clean off all blue tac before leaving. If there is any damage to the paintwork/structure you will be required to repaint/fix the wall/door.

Can I move out in six months if I don't like it?

Residents sign a contract that commits them for an entire year (with the exception of some students by arrangement with the College Director). As the contract applies to the whole academic year, residents will not receive a refund of fees if they leave college early. Residents wishing to leave early are responsible for fees until another resident enters the College. Every effort will be made to find another suitable resident. An administration fee applies.

Am I allowed to keep pets in my room at College?

No pets are permitted at the College.