“Mentone Girls’ Grammar has exceeded our expectations in every way. We have no doubt we made the right choice for our daughters – that’s a great feeling.”

Leanne and George Fink, parents of Abbey, Jessica and Laura
Principal’s Welcome

If you live in the Bayside area you will no doubt have seen our girls out and about in their vibrant red uniforms, chatting happily to each other at the shops or holding onto their hats as they run to catch a bus or a train; they are a glorious sight to behold in all their energy, youth and vitality and they can tell you, far better than this prospectus ever will, what it is that sets their community apart.

For whilst we may be blessed with state of the art facilities, a brand new pool and recently laid playing fields, the true measurement of a school’s worth lies not in its physical environs nor in the glossiness of an appealing prospectus but in the quality of the relationships that underpin the day to day experience for its students. It’s in how well its students are taught and mentored, challenged and nurtured to be the kind of thoughtful, compassionate, creative, intelligent and moral leaders that the world needs right now. Because we are a small school with a big history behind us, we are in the enviable position of being able to create an intimate environment where every girl is known, seen and heard so that a strong sense of belonging, underpinned by high quality teaching and learning is a feature of their time with us.

The 21st Century with its rapidly digitalizing economy, community platforms and 4IR clearly demands a broad and discrete set of employable skills; our role for over 120 years at Mentone Girls’ Grammar has always been to balance what it means for our girls to make a good living, (in a future that is increasingly volatile, uncertain, changing and ambiguous) against what it means to live a good life for the betterment of all.

If ever there was an imperative to exercise one’s rights and responsibilities in a proudly independent single sex girls’ school it is now. Leading and inspiring the next generation of women to take their place in a world that paradoxically seems to simultaneously empower and disarm them; celebrate and shame them is imminently achievable however, when we focus upon each girl’s life-long need for traditional knowledge acquisition; her future industry’s need for a range of responsive, transferable skills and society’s need for the purposeful development of a set of innately human capabilities so that she is better prepared to navigate the personal and professional complexities that await her. And if we do this properly we will address her deep seated need to find meaning, purpose and belonging which in turn brings hope…powerfully transformative forces any way you look at them.

So next time you’re out and about and you see one of our girls, and ask them about their School – I promise, you won’t be disappointed.

Natalie Charles  PRINCIPAL

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Our Beliefs

We believe in creating a nurturing environment where every girl feels that she is known, seen and heard, ensuring that a strong sense of belonging underpins her time with us.

We know girls and we use our expertise in girls’ education to support them in reaching their full potential in whatever pathway to choose.

Through our holistic approach of supporting the whole girl we are focused on empowering them to become confident, capable young women.

Our Mission

To empower girls to aspire to excellence, make a difference and, as enterprising global citizens, rise boldly to the opportunities of their times.
WAVES Priorities

Our beachfront location has inspired our WAVES priorities – key principles which drive the way we meet our Mission and deliver our own unique style of education. Everything we do in the School, from our pastoral care programs, to our curriculum and the way we engage and encourage our students, is reflected in these priorities.
Wellbeing

We have established a culture that is at once nurturing, challenging and encouraging, where girls are free to be themselves.

At Mentone Girls’ Grammar, our priority is ensuring that our girls feel safe to explore their passions, make mistakes and grow into confident and capable young women.

Research indicates that girls thrive when they are in a nurturing environment that gives a voice to their opinions and choices, allows them to challenge themselves without fear of failure, and pursue a life of purpose, fulfillment and meaning. Our individualised programs and holistic approach ensure girls are seen, heard and known enabling them to flourish.

Seen. Heard. Known.
Achievement

We believe children are never too young to be challenged as we help them achieve their goals driven by a genuine love of learning.

In our Early Learning Centre (ELC), specialist early childhood teachers recognise the different ages and stages within each class and provide tailored activities so every girl has power over her own learning. This is why we are currently rated as “Exceeding National Quality Standards” in the national ELC Frameworks Accreditation.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP) sees our Junior School students develop more complex intellectual, emotional and social skills. They are exposed to a diverse program of inquiry and challenged in many areas from music and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), to financial and digital literacy, cultural understanding, leadership and social enterprise.

Students are encouraged to try new things, take risks and be bold, tapping into their interests and passions.

Students are supported through the Senior School (Years 7 – 12) on a holistic journey of academic engagement, personal growth and self-discovery. In partnership with our students and their families, we are proud to consistently achieve the best VCE results in the area and are recognised as one of the leading girls’ schools in the state whilst also holding the prestigious Council of International Schools (CIS) Accreditation that opens the door for our students to experience higher education on a global level.
Values

As an Anglican girls’ school, we are proud of our 120 year history and the grounding it provides us, while enabling us to move forward with clear beliefs and values in what is uncertain times globally.

We foster mental wellbeing, academic aspiration, trust, opportunity and engagement, resilience, and social and environmental justice within the search for faith and meaning. The Anglican values of openness and inclusivity are at the heart of our school community.

Through our Religion and Values Education (RAVE) Program, we focus on the whole girl, nurturing her personal wellbeing while encouraging her to also look outward through community service and social enterprise. Our students participate in a variety of projects; from helping disadvantaged women through international camps and fundraising projects, to supporting environmental sustainability both locally and globally. In ways that are appropriate for each age and stage, we challenge and encourage our students to think creatively, to learn about local and global issues and to think about the world as it is now and what it could be into the future.

Through our all-girls environment all activities – leadership positions, subject choices, sports, performing arts, technology and more, are open to them to participate, influence, lead and support each other.
One of the greatest responsibilities of schools today is to prepare students for an uncertain future. The ‘traditional school’ is no longer sufficient. Enterprise is an intrinsic part of the Mentone Girls’ Grammar curriculum and something that is fostered from a young age. We must empower girls with the relevant skills and ‘can-do’ attitudes to flourish in such a complex environment, as well as tap into their unique talents, interests and desire for learning.

The Mentone Girls’ Grammar Enterprise Academy, designed for multi-disciplinary, experiential learning and creative development, encourages the convergence of innovation, deep subject knowledge, creativity, empathy, intercultural understanding, intelligent risk taking, resilience, and the drive and determination to make ideas of value happen.

Our unique Junior and Senior Enterprise Programs see students work in an age and stage appropriate way on specific enterprising skills and attributes through practical, real-life problem solving projects. In the Junior Program for Years 2 – 6, students are actively introduced to the concept of ‘invention’ and address complex problems in innovative and rigorous ways. Students in our Senior Enterprise Program (Years 7 – 12) have access to professional mentoring, a variety of workshops, holiday programs and entrepreneurial sessions on a wide range of topics from creativity and design to social media, marketing, business planning, and more.
Success

Every student creates her own definition of success. One of the benefits of our School is that our team of dedicated staff know each and every one of their students. They know about their hopes, strengths and talents, and their fears and challenges. Our expert staff encourage each student to set her own goals and aspirations, and provide support as she strives to achieve them and reach her potential. This is why success looks very different for each and every girl, and why our students excel across so many areas.

As an open entry school we accept students of all talents and abilities and have designed our curriculum to engage and inspire students at every age and stage. This includes everything from debating, drama and music to physical education, digital media, visual arts, Duke of Edinburgh, leadership training, social enterprise, and a formal careers program, all within a technology-rich environment. In addition, strong community alliances provide many opportunities, from water skills with Mentone Life Saving Club, to quality competition and team building through Girls Sport Victoria. As a school, we are recognised for innovation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) teaching for girls, with expert staff renowned in their field. We offer a gifted SAIL program that provides intellectually demanding and rigorous curriculum for highly able students from Year 3. Various residential camps and programs in Australia and overseas, extend our students’ learning. As a result of this breadth and depth, our students regularly win prizes for sporting and artistic endeavour, as well as attain high levels of academic achievement. Through our personalised approach to learning, combined with our expertise in the education of girls, we help students build their self-confidence, achieve excellence and, importantly, make a difference – this is the measure of success that matters most.
The Junior Years

We believe children are never too young to be challenged as we help them achieve their goals driven by a genuine love of learning.

In our Early Learning Centre (ELC), specialist early childhood teachers recognise the different ages and stages within each class and provide tailored activities so every girl has power over her own learning.

We provide a highly developed program of intentional teaching based on the principles of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP) which supports a unique blend of inquiry and play-based learning. We can see the benefits of our education, not only in how ready our girls are to enter Prep, but how advanced their reading and writing skills are, as well as their social and emotional confidence. This is why we are currently rated as “Exceeding National Quality Standards” in the national ELC Frameworks Accreditation.

The PYP framework is extended in our Junior School as students develop more complex intellectual, emotional and social skills. They are exposed to a diverse program of inquiry and challenged in many areas from music and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), to financial and digital literacy, cultural understanding, leadership and social enterprise. They are encouraged to try new things, take risks and be bold, tapping into their interests and passions. Teachers develop a rich picture of every student’s learning successes, strengths and challenges, and each girl is supported to grow and develop to her full potential. As a result, our Junior School is recognised as one of the best in the state and consistently ranked well above state and national averages in the NAPLAN literacy and numeracy testing. Most importantly, our students develop confidence, capability and self-worth that are great assets to them in their senior years and beyond.
The Senior Years

Our vibrant Senior School is a rich, dynamic environment for our next generation of leaders to extend themselves and prepare for the future.

Students are supported through Years 7 – 12 on a holistic journey of academic engagement, personal growth and self-discovery. Our senior year’s program is about engaging students with our WAVES priorities and challenging them in an open, adult way to prepare them for the future to emerge from school as mature adults who can make a difference.

We are committed to an extensive program of enterprise skills education from Year 7 in Senior School (Years 2 – 6 in Junior School), along with careers education and tertiary counselling that commences as a core subject at Year 9. This comprehensive program, which includes personalised in-depth Morrisby career assessment, helps students understand their personal aptitudes, skills, strengths and challenges. Students are encouraged to make informed choices about future pathways and the learning experiences required to achieve them. Our students have a well-developed sense of their vocational preferences and are able to choose courses that match their interests, personality, preferred learning style and future career aspirations.

In partnership with our students and their families, we are proud to consistently achieve the best VCE results in the area and are recognised as one of the leading girls’ schools in the state. These results are a reflection of the hard work put in by our students and their teachers over many years in all critical areas of learning. We are particularly delighted when students exceed personal expectations which are not always reflected in an ATAR score. Given our School is open entry, welcoming students of all academic ability, these results are even more remarkable and are a testament to the true depth of our unique learning culture.
The Arts

Mentone Girls’ Grammar takes great pride in offering some of the best performing arts and visual arts programs in Bayside. With choirs, orchestras and ensembles competing state wide and achieving outstanding results our students are often invited to audition and perform in external events while our visual arts and digital media students have their work shown at exhibitions across the State.

The David Hunt Centre is home to our music, drama and dance programs while our Visual Arts Department is based in the Creative Learning Centre with curriculum and co-curricular programs from ELC to Year 12. Private tuition is offered in all disciplines of performing arts and is available to all students while our Junior School also has an in-house dance school offering ballet and jazz classes from ELC – Year 6.

Students across the school are encouraged to play an instrument and our choirs fill the halls with their dulcet tones on a daily basis.

Our school productions sell out year on year with students from Years 7 – 12 taking up the opportunity to perform in front of hundreds in one of our stage productions. Behind the scenes our industry renowned mentor program provides students the chance to learn new skills and work alongside a professional in lighting, sound, stage crew, costume, make up or choreography.

Our extensive performing arts programs also enable students to experience the performing arts world outside the school gates with excursions to shows, exhibitions, gallery tours, masterclasses and artist-in-residence sessions.

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Our sporting program has been designed to cater for girls who wish to compete at a national or international level to girls who simply want to participate in sport and physical activity for fun. From our nationally renowned sport aerobics program to our Junior School tri-sport competition there is something for everyone. With one of the only facilities in Bayside with diving boards, our Aquatic Centre offers swimming programs from learn to swim to squads, diving programs and water polo.

Sports on offer include: Athletics, Australian Rules Football, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Diving, Golf, Hockey, Netball, Sailing, Sport Aerobics, Snow Sports, Soccer, Softball, Surf Life Saving, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Touch Football, Volleyball and more!

Students in Years 7–12 compete in the Girls Sport Victoria (GSV) Competition in both summer and winter sports while our Years 3–6 girls compete in the School Sport Victoria competition with participation in the Cheltenham District and Kingston District events along with a tri-sport competition with other girls’ schools.
Global

The School welcomes international students to enhance cultural diversity, our students travel the globe on camps and educational experiences, and we have active international and language programs to promote the growth of our students as confident, connected, articulate global citizens.

Holding the prestigious Council of International Schools (CIS) Official Accreditation opening the door for our students to continue their education at universities and higher education facilities around the world, and internationally acknowledged as an IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) leader, we are often benchmarked against some of the best schools in the world.

Our curriculum challenges and inspires our students to learn, lead and live with an international focus.
Facilities

We are proud of our enviable beachside location with the best facilities and resources combined with expert teaching staff to provide your daughter with the learning and wellbeing environment she needs to succeed.

Our learning spaces are purposed built for teaching girls with an age and stage appropriate design for all year levels. From our open and inviting Early Learning Centre, our new Aquatic Centre and Wellbeing Precinct to our VCE building, Cobbalanna, designed to support our students in their final years of study. We believe our facilities provide the best environment for girls.
School Tours

We offer school tours on a number of dates throughout the year. Weekday tours are a wonderful opportunity to see our one campus K–12 school in action while our weekend tours offer another alternative to explore our wonderful school.

Our tours are led by our students who share their insight into the school as they see it and chat with your daughter if she is with you. Sometimes we find that beautiful new friendships form from girls meeting at these tours!

If one of our scheduled Open Days/School Tours does not suit please feel free to contact our Admissions Team on 03 9581 1200 to organise a personal tour.

* Book a tour online at [www.mentonegirls.vic.edu.au](http://www.mentonegirls.vic.edu.au)

We look forward to welcoming your family in to our Mentone Girls’ Community.