

St Margaret Mary's College

Prospectus



discover
it all

ACADEMIC. CULTURE. FAITH. SPORT.



Mission Statement

St Margaret Mary's College is a dynamic Catholic learning community where young women are educated, inspired and inspired.

True to the story of the Good Samaritan, we are people of hope, who live compassionately and justly. We respond to the call from Jesus to be a neighbour to all.

Who is my neighbour?
The one who showed mercy.
Go and do likewise.

(LK 10:36-37) CHRISTUS VERITAS

To live as a Good Neighbour: At the heart of who we are is to respond to the call from Jesus to be a neighbour to all.

To offer:

Hospitality

Welcome: Open doors and hearts.

Service: Share our gifts & resources.

Compassion

Love: Act kindly.

Mercy: Seek peace, forgiveness and be forgiving.

Community

Respect: See all as equal.

Relationships: Build connection with God, self, others and all creation in our learning community.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our College sits, the Wulgurukaba and neighbouring Bindal peoples. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging and acknowledge their continued, deep spiritual relationship to this country. May we walk gently together on this land.



Welcome to a glimpse into life at St Margaret Mary's College, the largest Catholic girls' secondary school in Townsville.

St Margaret Mary's College provides your daughter with the best opportunity for success. Our students consistently achieve outstanding results in academics, culture, faith and sport. Within a supportive and motivating environment, fuelled by the research-backed benefits of an all-girls education, our students grow to become young women of spirit and purpose.

St Margaret Mary's College was founded by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in 1963 as a Catholic high school for girls. Since then, the College has established a reputation for educating generations of confident, well-rounded young women. The students of St Margaret Mary's College are immersed in the spirituality of the Benedictine charism including the vision of compassion, hospitality and service modelled by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Our Religious Education program and Catholic Identity initiatives promotes social justice and service to others furthering the College's mission to inspire young women to "Love thy neighbour". (Matt 22:37-39)

Our students are empowered to leave their mark on the world and we hope that the 'Maggies' who walk through the gates of our College take advantage of all of the opportunities provided to them here. This includes a willingness to embrace the house spirit, the community events and the 'sisterhood' cultivated across the year levels through our pastoral care programs. Our young women are encouraged to develop their leadership potential and the responsibility to make a positive impact within the school community and a difference to the broader society.

At St Margaret Mary's College we provide a unique opportunity for our young women to develop an 'attitude of gratitude', self-confidence, resilience and a 'can do' approach to their studies. As a 'Maggie' alumni and past Parent myself, I can attest to the wonderfully supportive and nurturing education offered to our students. We are proud to partner with our Parents and the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish to provide our students with the very best support they need to achieve their dreams.

We warmly invite you to explore our website and contact the College to arrange a school tour. We would love you to join our positive and inclusive community and discover all the possibilities that await your daughter at St Margaret Mary's College.

Kathleen McCarthy

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL





At a glance...



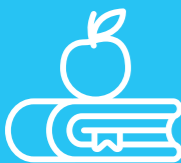
YEAR ESTABLISHED

1963



NUMBER OF STAFF

105



YEARS OFFERED

7 to 12



NUMBER OF SENIOR SUBJECTS OFFERED

34



NUMBER OF COLLEGE PRINCIPALS SINCE 1963

11



NUMBER OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATES OFFERED

8



NUMBER OF CO-CURRICULAR SPORTS

7



NUMBER OF HOUSES

4

ALINTA, ANUNAKA, KIATA, KARINYA

College Leadership Team



Kathleen McCarthy
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Angela Marano
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
LEARNING & TEACHING (ACTING)

Bernadette Anderson
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
ADMINISTRATION

Chris Davis
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
PASTORAL CARE



Rachel Harrison
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
IDENTITY & MISSION

Discover Academic

St Margaret Mary's College has a long tradition of offering quality education to its students. In accordance with this tradition, we strive to offer the best possible combination of courses based upon the Key Learning Areas.

Year 7

CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Humanities
Science
Health & Physical Education
Japanese

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Art
Dance
Design & Technologies
Digital Technologies
Drama
Food Specialisation
Material & Technologies Specialisation
Music

Year 8

CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Humanities
Science
Health & Physical Education

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Art
Dance
Drama
Design & Technologies
Digital Technologies
Food Specialisation
Japanese
Material & Technologies Specialisation
Music

Year 9

CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Humanities
Science
Health & Physical Education

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Art
Business and Economics & Civics and Citizenship Education
Dance
Drama
Design & Technologies
Digital Technologies
Food Specialisation
Japanese
Material & Technologies Specialisation
Music
Sport Science & Performance Pathways

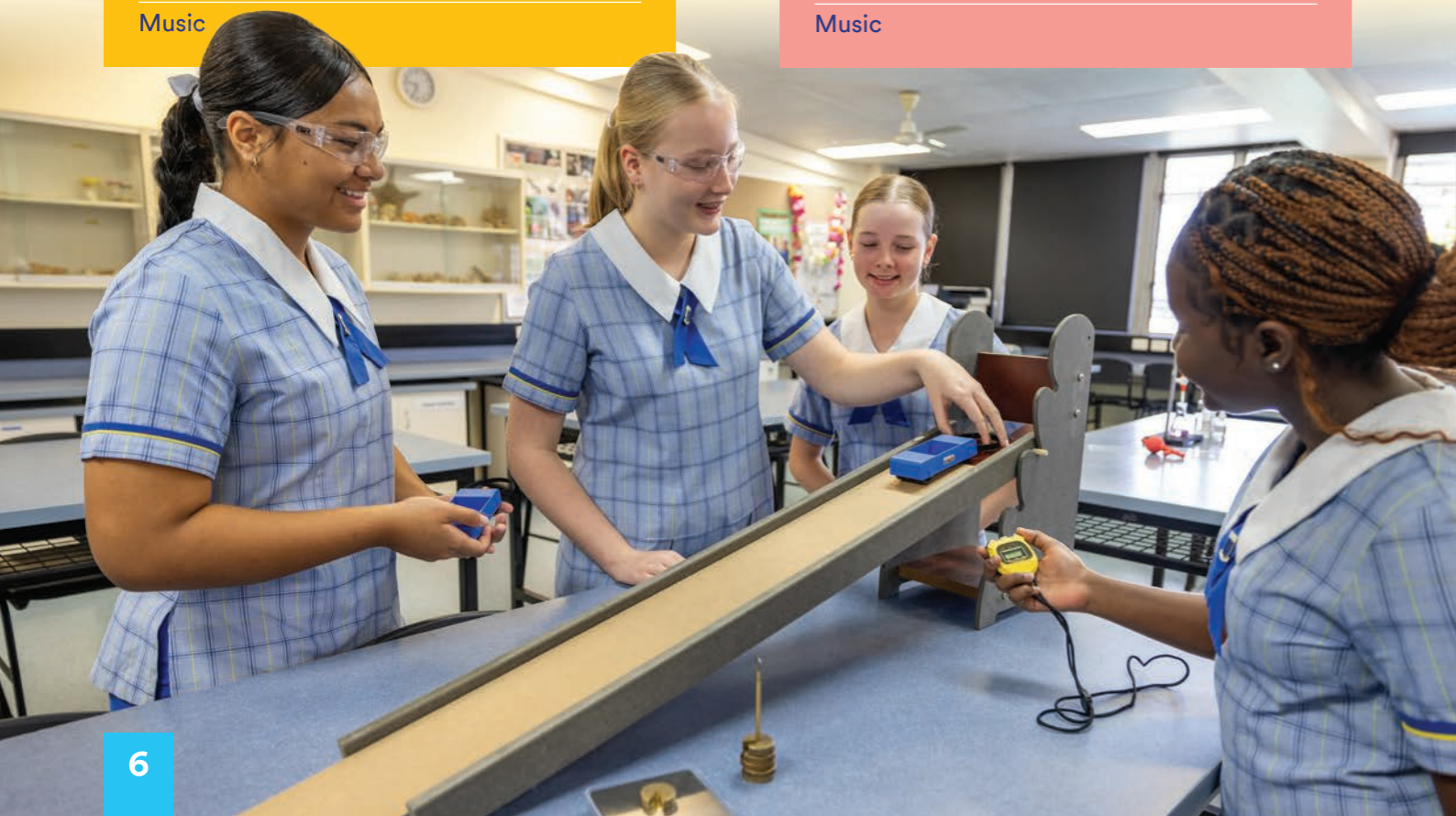
Year 10

CORE SUBJECTS

Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Science

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Advanced Study of Health & Physical Education
Art
Certificate I in Hospitality
Civics & Citizenship and Business & Account Foundations
Dance
Drama
Design & Technologies
Digital Technologies
Food Specialisation
History & Ancient History Foundations
History & Geography
Japanese
Music
Material & Technologies Specialisation



Year 11 & 12

Accounting
Ancient History
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Dance
Design
Drama
English
English & Literature Extension
Essential English
Essential Mathematics
Fashion
Food & Nutrition
General Mathematics
Geography
Health
Information & Communication Technology
Japanese
Legal Studies
Literature
Mathematical Methods
Modern History
Music
Music Extension
Physical Education
Physics
Psychology
Religion & Ethics
Specialist Mathematics
Sports & Recreation
Study of Religion
Visual Art
Visual Arts in Practice



Discover VET

Vocational Education and Training

St Margaret Mary's College supports students engaging in TAFE, additional certificate courses and school-based traineeships and apprenticeship.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND CERTIFICATE COURSES

Cert I in Hospitality
Cert II in Hospitality
Cert II in Health Support Services
Cert III in Business
Cert III in Health Service Assistant
Cert III in Fitness
Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care
Cert III in School Based Education Support



Discover Your Purpose

Careers Program

St Margaret Mary's College offers a personalised approach to career development and lifelong career education. The College Career Practitioner provides a service to students and families which aims to assist each student in making informed educational, training and occupational choices that align with their interests, abilities and contributions. Students participate in face to face interviews, guest speaker opportunities, work integrated placements, industry simulations, incursions and excursions and are guided by informed practice to identify their strengths. They are empowered to work hard in their studies to achieve their goals and ambitions.

With a whole school career development program embedded into the learning and teaching areas, St Margaret Mary's College students are prepared and guided to make their own informed decisions through career guidance, inspiration, encouragement and opportunities that go beyond the classroom.

Work Experience

At St Margaret Mary's College, we believe that hands-on experience is key to shaping future success.

Our students have the unique opportunity to undertake work experience during Years 10, 11 and 12, allowing them to explore a wide range of industries, develop essential workplace skills, and discover their passions in real-world settings. Whether in a corporate office, a creative studio, or a local community organisation, work experience provides invaluable insights that help students make informed decisions about their future career paths.

Discover it all as you gain practical knowledge, build professional networks, and prepare for the next exciting step in your journey.



Discover Sport

Sport is an important part of College life, offering every student the chance to discover new skills, build resilience and experience the joy of being active.

Participation in sport supports the wellbeing of our young women, helping them to form friendships, strengthen leadership skills and maintain healthy lifestyles. Whether competing at school, regional, state or national levels, our students proudly represent the College with determination, positivity and the Maggies spirit.

Sports offered at the College:

- AFL (AFLQ Schools Cup)
- Basketball (CBSQ, Regionals and State)
- Football (Bill Turner)
- Netball (QISSN, Vicki Wilson, Year 7 Netball Cup)
- Rugby 7s (Santos Schools State Cup, NQ Super Series 7s)
- Rugby League (Confro, National Open School Girls' Cup, KMC Cup)
- Touch Football (NQ All Schools' and Gold Coast All Schools')

Netball Academy

St Margaret Mary's College proudly delivers a Netball Academy that supports the development of skills, fitness, and mental resilience. Open to students of all abilities and experience levels, the program runs during Terms 1 and 4, with team-specific training provided in Terms 2 and 3.

Rugby League and Rugby 7s (L7s Squad)

St Margaret Mary's College is excited to introduce the L7s Squad, an extracurricular initiative designed to strengthen our sporting identity, create meaningful pathways for students, and foster a strong sense of belonging within our College community.

The program provides a structured approach to both Rugby League and Rugby 7s, while supporting the development of key skills such as teamwork, leadership, and resilience.

Students of all ages, experience levels, and abilities are encouraged to participate.



Discover the Arts & Culture

At St Margaret Mary's College, our rich and dynamic Cultural Program invites students to explore their creativity, express their individuality and grow in confidence. Through Drama, Dance, Music, Visual Arts and Language, students are encouraged to discover their passions and develop skills that will support them well beyond the classroom.

Engaging in the arts offers far more than creative expression. Whether through music, drama, visual arts or language study, students strengthen memory and concentration, learn to take thoughtful risks and build resilience. The arts play a vital role in nurturing well-rounded young women who are prepared to contribute meaningfully to their world.

Cultural Opportunities Include:

- Art Jams
- Bella Voce Choir
- Combined Schools' Musical
- Dance Troupes
- Drama Club
- Guitar Ensemble
- Language Competitions
- Rock Band
- Scene Project
- Taiko Drums
- Talent Tuesday
- Townsville Eisteddfod



Discover Faith

At St Margaret Mary's College, students are invited to discover their faith through meaningful experiences that nurture reflection, community and spiritual growth.

Faith in Action

Students have many opportunities to live out their faith:

- Participate in liturgy and prayer
- Celebrate key occasions including Lent, Catholic Education Week, Easter, ANZAC Day, Samaritan Day, and Christmas
- Engage in retreats, reflection days, and service activities
- Explore Religious Education and deepen understanding of Catholic tradition

Retreats by Year Level

Our retreats are tailored to support students' spiritual growth at each stage of their journey:

- Year 7 – Walking Together
- Year 8 – Sisterhood
- Year 9 – Body, Mind, Soul & Spirit
- Year 10 – Open Hearts
- Year 11 – Holy Ground
- Year 12 – Past, Present, Future

Mission in Focus

Our Mission is lived through small and great acts of mercy each day – in our classrooms, friendships, service, and care for those in need. This in turn, shapes who our students are becoming – young women informed by faith, and committed to living with purpose and compassion.

“Who is my neighbour? The one who showed mercy. Go and do likewise.” (Lk 10:36–37) *Christus Veritas*



Discover Service

By creating opportunities for our students to support causes that mean something to them and their peers, our students experience social responsibility, practice leadership and engage with the community around them, showing love and compassion.

Service in Action

Our students actively contribute to the community through initiatives such as:

- Samaritan Angels
- Loreto Nursing Home Visits
- Good Neighbour Day
- St Vincent de Paul Christmas & Winter Appeals
- Caritas Fundraising
- Christmas gift bags for the women at Townsville Correctional Facility

Fundraising for a Cause

Students also take part in fundraising efforts, supporting important causes including:

- Ponytail Chop – Cancer Research
- Relay for Life – Cancer Support
- Australian Ovarian Cancer Awareness
- Catholic Children's Mission Stall

Through these experiences, our students not only give back to the community but also grow in empathy, leadership, and a sense of global citizenship.



Discover First Nations Education

At St Margaret Mary's College we are proud to have a strong cohort of First Nations Students from diverse communities, young women who are 'inspired and inspired' to be the best that they can be.

There are many opportunities for our students at St Margaret Mary's College to take an active involvement in a multitude of activities including academics, sports, culture and community.

St Margaret Mary's College welcomes the Alumni First Nations students to return to the College to inspire and guide our next generations. Through this, our graduate students become active role models

for our younger students in encouraging them to succeed not only in the classroom but within their communities.

The First Nations Team works collaboratively with all stakeholders within the College and the community to ensure students reach their full potential.

St Margaret Mary's College offers:

- Cultural Excursions and Experiences
- Emerging Leaders Program
- First Nations Cultural Space (Milpera)
- Partnership with NRL Cowboys House
- Academic Support
- Pastoral Support
- Homework Program



Discover More

Defence School Mentor Program

St Margaret Mary's College offers a Defence School Mentor (DSM) program that provides dedicated support to Defence students and their families.

This initiative is overseen by Defence Member and Family Support (DMFS), highlighting the commitment by Defence to assist its members and their families.

The program aims to:

- Connect Defence families with the school, offering valuable information about available support and resources relevant to their child's development.
- Ensure Defence students can access tailored school-based social and emotional support to help them thrive.
- Create opportunities for Defence students to build relationships and form lasting connections through various events and initiatives.
- Raise awareness within the school community about the unique lifestyle and challenges faced by Defence families.

Inclusive Education

Our Inclusive Education Department at St Margaret Mary's College works in collaboration with classroom teachers to develop an inclusive curriculum for students from Years 7 to 12 which caters for all of our diverse range of learners.

Designed outcomes for students:

- Empowering each student to reach their full potential in literacy and numeracy.
- Fostering the development of self-esteem, helping students feel confident, valued, and capable.
- Cultivating practical life skills that extend beyond the classroom, enabling students to engage fully in school and social activities.
- Providing work experience and community-based learning opportunities that enrich students' educational journeys.
- Offering a range of educational experiences tailored to the unique abilities and interests of each student.



Take the Next Step



STEP ONE
Application



STEP TWO
Interview



STEP THREE
Offer



STEP FOUR
Acceptance of Offer



STEP FIVE
Orientation

We would be delighted to invite you along to have a look around the College, meet key staff members and see our facilities. You will get a good feel for what it is like to be a student here at St Margaret Mary's College.



BOOK A
PRINCIPAL TOUR



DISCOVER OUR
SHOWCASE



APPLY ONLINE



Discover Our Alumni



Chelsea Clay

English and Humanities Teacher and St Margaret Mary's College Graduate

Chelsea is a dedicated educator and St Margaret Mary's alumna, who graduated in 2018 before completing a Bachelor of Secondary Education at James Cook University. With her two teaching areas in English and Humanities, her passion lies in creating innovative, enthusiastic, and engaging learning experiences that empower students to think critically and express themselves with confidence.

Having experienced St Margaret Mary's College as both a student and now a teacher, Chelsea deeply values the unique strength of an all-girls education. She recognises its impact in shaping young women who are unafraid to share ideas, take risks, embrace their individuality, and celebrate the differences of others. During her time as a student, she actively participated in Debating and Public Speaking, strengthening the communication skills she now fosters in her own students; grounded in her strong belief in the power of words to shape perspectives and amplify voices to create meaningful change in the world.

These formative years, alongside her professional experience across State, Independent, and Catholic school systems, sparked her own love for lifelong learning, inspiring her commitment to continuous growth as an educator. Most recently, Chelsea was selected by the English Teachers' Association of Queensland to present at their Early Careers Conference, delivering her workshop: Beyond the Swipe: Cultivating Cognitive Thinking in a Culture of Instant Gratification.



Alexandra Fowler

WNBL Player, Australian Representative and St Margaret Mary's College Graduate

A proud North Queenslander, Alex was born in Townsville in 2001 and graduated from St Margaret Mary's College in 2018. She began playing basketball at an early age with her triplet sisters and loved representing her club (Blackstars), her school, Townsville and Queensland at local, state and national championships. A highlight of her school years was being part of SMMC's championship team, which won a National Schools title in 2017.

During her final two years at SMMC, Alex was honoured to represent Australia as a member of the Sapphires, Gems and 3x3 teams, including competing at the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games. She also gained valuable experience as a Development Player with the WNBL Townsville Fire (2017-2018), which helped shape her future pathway.

In 2019, Alex joined the University of Portland, spending four years with the Portland Pilots and graduating in 2023 with a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Communication and a minor in Psychology.

After college, she returned home to begin her professional career with the Canberra Capitals before re-signing with the Townsville Fire for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 WNBL seasons. In March 2026, the Fire won their fifth WNBL championship, becoming the WNBL26 Champions.

In 2025, Alex made her debut with the Opals and also represented Australia with the Gangurru 3x3 team. This year she will join the Opals for the FIBA Women's Basketball 2026 World Cup Qualifying Tournament in Istanbul, Türkiye.



Dr Rheannon Griffin

Doctor, Queensland Rural Generalist Pathway and St Margaret Mary's College Graduate

Rheannon graduated from St Margaret Mary's College in 2013 and later found her calling in medicine through personal life experiences that shaped her deep commitment to women's health and rural communities.

She completed a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and a Master of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at James Cook University. During her studies, she served as President of the JCU Obstetrics and Gynaecology Interest Group, led student initiatives in women's health, and was awarded several scholarships recognising her commitment to rural medicine and community leadership.

Throughout medical school, Rheannon gained experience serving remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across North Queensland, strengthening her passion for culturally safe, accessible healthcare.

In 2026, she commenced her internship at Townsville University Hospital as part of the Queensland Rural Generalist Pathway. Rheannon is deeply passionate about her hometown of Townsville and is committed to improving healthcare outcomes for women and families in regional and remote Queensland.

Through all of her achievements, she carries the faith, resilience and lifelong connections she gained during her time at St Margaret Mary's College which are the foundations that continue to guide both her personal and professional life.



Taya Bowie

Former College Captain, Rugby League Player and St Margaret Mary's College Graduate

Taya graduated from St Margaret Mary's College in 2024, after serving as one of the College Captains. She was actively involved in the Rugby League Program, where she co-captained the SMMC Rugby team. During her time as co-captain, Taya played in both the Confraternity and NQ School Girls Rugby competitions. Outside of school, she played for the Western Lions and Townsville Blackhawks.

Taya also graduated from the First Nations Emerging Leader Program, with her dedication and leadership being recognised when she was awarded the Bishop Michael Putney Student of the Year. Additionally, she was part of the QATSIF Scholarship Program, highlighting her commitment to both academics and community. Currently, Taya is studying Forensic Science, Criminology, and Criminal Justice at Griffith University. Driven by her passion for justice, she aspires to join the Police Force after graduation. In addition to her studies, Taya is also playing for the Under 19s Wynnum-Manly Seagulls this year.

Taya's journey continues to inspire those around her.

Are you a former graduate of the College?
We would love to reconnect with you.



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