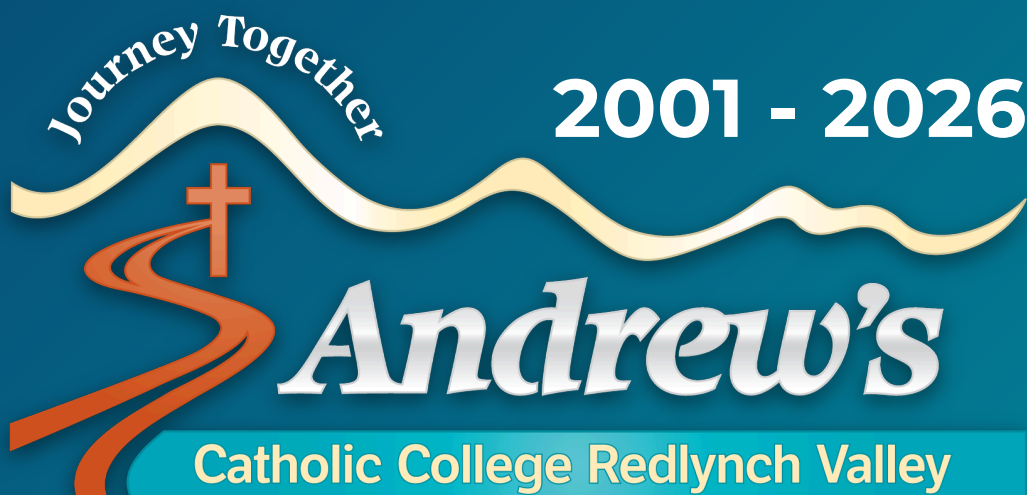




# Life Beyond St Andrew's

**"Celebrating 25 Years"**



# Life Beyond St Andrew's



Celebrating  
**25**  
Years  
2001 - 2026

## Amy Nash (nee Gordon)

### Graduating Class of 2009

 What did being a part of the St Andrew's Catholic College community mean to you?

I joined St Andrew's in its opening year in 2001 and growing alongside the school gave me a real sense of community and belonging. There was something special about being part of it from the very beginning - it felt like we were all contributing to something bigger than ourselves, and as much as we were shaping it as a school, it was shaping us as young adults.

St Andrew's was always a safe and supportive place for me, and I look back on my time there with a lot of fondness. My teachers instilled in me the importance of hard work and taking pride in everything I do and these values continue to guide me in my professional and personal life today.

### Who made a lasting impact on you during your years at St Andrew's, and why?

Maureen Cameron had a lasting impact on me through her passion for music - her energy and vibrancy for the arts were truly contagious, and she sparked a lifelong love of music in me that I continue to hold today and hope to pass on to my daughter as she grows. Trish Nash also played a significant role in shaping who I am today. She taught me the value of Christian leadership and the importance of putting my whole self into everything I do. Her influence has stayed with me over the years and continues to guide the way I approach everything in my life.

Where has life taken you since graduating and what do you love about your career/chosen pathway?

Since graduating, I have completed a Bachelor of Business (majoring in Accounting) at JCU, along with a Graduate Diploma of Chartered Accountancy and a Graduate Diploma in Human Resources. I began my career as an Accountant working within the audit division of an international public accounting firm, where I also had the opportunity to work overseas. In more recent years, I've moved into senior leadership roles, including Financial Controller and COO positions within the NDIS and community housing sectors.

What I value most about my career is the ability to use my skills in a way that contributes to a meaningful purpose. Being part of organisations that support and improve the lives of others has been incredibly rewarding and continues to motivate me in my work.





## What St Andrew's co-curricular activity, sport, concert or event meant the most to you?

Music was the co-curricular activity that meant the most to me during my time at St Andrew's. As one of the first music students at the school, it was rewarding to be a part of the department from its early stages and see it develop over time.

Music remained a consistent part of my schooling and contributed to many of my fondest school memories that I valued most. It also gave me a strong sense of discipline and enjoyment that has stayed with me beyond school.

### **In what ways did St Andrew's shape who you are today and what values or lessons from your time here still guide you?**

St Andrew's shaped who I am in ways I've come to appreciate more as I've gotten older. Being part of the school in its early years meant there was a real sense of shared experience - we were all finding our place as the school itself was growing. That environment gave me a strong sense of belonging and taught me the importance of contributing to something beyond just myself.



The values I took from that time - showing up consistently, taking pride in what I do, and leading with care and integrity - have become part of how I approach both my work and my life. Looking back, those lessons weren't always obvious at the time, but they've stayed with me and continue to influence the way I navigate the different seasons of my life.

### **Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self as a student?**

Keep going, you're only just beginning to discover what this life has to offer. Trust the journey and where it will take you.



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## Jesse Argent

### Graduating Class of 2012

 What did being a part of the St Andrew's Catholic College community mean to you?

Being part of the St Andrew's community meant everything to me, it was a time where I went through some of my hardest times; finding and accepting myself, coming out to my family, creating lifelong journeys. I helped support the community, providing the four massive figs trees that are planted on the oval and facilitating Zumba classes for Wednesday afternoon activities including post graduation.

#### Who made a lasting impact on you during your years at St Andrew's, and why?

Trish Nash became like a mother figure, supported me through life within school, personal and professional and saved me during two times in my life when I was about to give up on everything!

Where has life taken you since graduating and what do you love about your career/chosen pathway?

I went to university to study Primary School Teaching and whilst there I started out with the Student Union in events. This then lead to a job in the university which then followed on to my building a career in universities spanning across Australia and Canada.

I have now returned to Melbourne and started as the Senior Coordinator- Projects and Developments within the Access, Inclusion and Success division. This position is focused around supporting minority groups, underprivileged groups and transition from high school to university. Helping to build the future leaders.

#### In what ways did St Andrew's shape who you are today and what values or lessons from your time here still guide you?

I learnt to be a leader to support those that were less fortunate or those of minority groups that didn't have any support! My teachers have reached out post-graduation and provided encouragement and support, telling me how proud they are to see what I continue to do for the communities I live in.

 What does the future in 5 years look like for "you"?

Senior executive role in a university whilst running my own charities supporting those in need.





## What St Andrew's co-curricular activity, sport, concert or event meant the most to you?

The Wednesday afternoon activities where I led Zumba as a program for the Senior school students.



## What is your advice for current graduating Year 12 students?

Honestly take every opportunity you get and network. Get out of your comfort zone, go talk to people (even the quiet ones, the loud ones, the weird ones) you don't know where it can lead to or how it can impact you personally.

## Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self as a student?

Be more confident in yourself, trust your instinct, don't hold back because you are worried that you won't be enough or that someone else is better than you.



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## Liam McIntyre

### Graduating Class of 2021

 What did being a part of the St Andrew's Catholic College community mean to you?

Being a part of the St Andrew's Catholic College community meant mateship to me and I enjoyed having the opportunity to partake in many extra curricular activities.

**Who made a lasting impact on you during your years at St Andrew's, and why?**

The people who made the most lasting impact on me during my years at St Andrew's were my teachers, particularly Brian Hurdley and Blair Cutler.

**Where has life taken you since graduating and what do you love about your career/chosen pathway?**

Since graduating, I have moved to Brisbane to live and am attending the University of Queensland furthering my studies to become a teacher.

**In what ways did St Andrew's shape who you are today and what values or lessons from your time here still guide you?**

Some of the things I took away from my years at St Andrew's was learning the importance of being punctual, organised, and motivated. These attributes have all helped me at university, making sure I don't fall behind.

 What are your strongest memories of your time at St Andrew's?

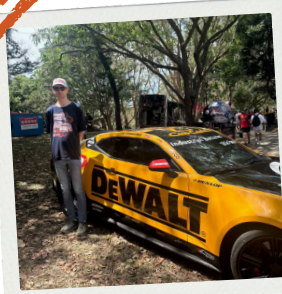
Performing concerts with the bands with both the Concert Band and Jazz Band. Being surrounded by friends in these bands really gave me a sense of community.





## What St Andrew's co-curricular activity, sport, concert or event meant the most to you?

The Centenary of Armistice Concert was a great night, it still stands out to me!



### What does the future in 5 years look like for "you"?

Hopefully my future will be as a teacher, but who knows.

### What is your advice for current graduating Year 12 students?

My advice to them would be to spend plenty of time with your friends, they're the people that make school worth it.

### Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self as a student?

I would tell myself to try to enjoy myself more and spend more time with friends!



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