



# MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

CHATSWOOD

EST. 1890





# WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL BRENDA TIMP

Mercy Catholic College is highly regarded for its provision of excellence in education that is underpinned by the Catholic faith, and for building a strong sense of community.

Mercy Catholic College is a secondary school for girls, Years 7 to 12. Located in the heart of Chatswood, it is serviced by multiple public transport options. Students are drawn from local suburbs and from further afar.

Mercy offers an education that enables students to participate in society as well rounded individuals who are equipped to make a difference in the world. Great emphasis is placed on academic achievement and the promotion of excellence. Our team of highly qualified teachers provide students with exciting learning experiences that cater for all learners.

Across our learning community we create a happy and caring environment where all students are valued and encouraged to succeed, whatever their individual needs. We assist students to become independent, confident, and resilient learners through a range of exciting opportunities.



**FOCUSING ON  
EDUCATING, EMPOWERING  
AND INSPIRING INDEPENDENT  
YOUNG WOMEN THROUGH  
OUR SHARED COLLEGE  
VALUES OF RESPECT,  
COMPASSION, INTEGRITY,  
EXCELLENCE AND  
HOSPITALITY.**



## OUR HERITAGE

Mercy Catholic College was established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1890 and has been on the present site since 1905.

The Sisters of Mercy were founded by Catherine McAuley in 1831 in Dublin, Ireland. The Sisters of Mercy were known as pioneering women who were daring and generous in their mission to reach out to the needs of others by providing education, hospitality and pastoral care, particularly to women.

The Sisters administered the College until 1989 and since then it has been part of Catholic Schools Broken Bay, a system of schools whose mission it is to provide an authentic, professional Catholic education delivered with care and compassion.



**CATHERINE MCAULEY'S  
TEACHINGS CONTINUE  
TO GUIDE AND INSPIRE  
OUR YOUNG WOMEN TO  
STRIVE FOR BETTER  
THINGS.**

As a member of the Australasian Mercy Secondary Schools Association, we have strong links with all Mercy schools with the aim to further, the Mercy Charism through sharing expertise and resources and by providing national and international forums for Mercy students.



AUSTRALASIAN MERCY SECONDARY  
SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION



## OUR VISION

Through excellence in education, our students become critical and creative thinkers with a sense of social responsibility and discipleship.

We are committed to providing a high quality education reflected by:

- academic achievement
- high quality care and an emphasis on student wellbeing
- happy students
- successful students.



## OUR MISSION

Is to educate, empower and inspire independent young women to achieve academic, social and spiritual growth so that they can flourish as individuals and contribute meaningfully to society.

## OUR VALUES

**Respect:** we honour each other, the sacredness of the earth and the resources we share

**Compassion:** we put into practice an empathic understanding of the individual needs and cultural heritage of others

**Integrity:** we communicate with sincerity and undertake ethical conduct

**Excellence:** we aim to achieve the highest possible standard in all endeavours

**Hospitality:** we create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all







## RESEARCH SHOWS THAT GIRLS IN AN ALL-GIRLS' LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THRIVE!

Our students have more leadership opportunities, greater participation in subjects such as Science, Technology and Mathematics and are more likely to pursue university studies and careers in STEM fields. They also have enhanced career aspirations.

A girls' only learning environment is purposeful, calm, and supportive. Girls put themselves forward for opportunities and take risks in their learning. They feel comfortable to do things that they might otherwise feel self-conscious about.

**THERE IS SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT  
A MERCY STUDENT. SHE HAS GRIT,  
STRONG SELF-EFFICACY, COURAGE  
AND RESILIENCE. SHE FEELS  
EMPOWERED TO ACHIEVE HER FULL  
POTENTIAL.**





# CATHOLIC IDENTITY

The formation of students in Catholic discipleship is pursued within the Mercy ethos, which stresses the importance of hospitality, shared ministry and a concern for the poor and marginalised.

At Mercy Catholic College we strive to create a dynamic faith community where parents are recognised as the prime religious educators of their children, and teachers, through their vocation, assist parents in this role.

Engagement with the religious curriculum, social justice initiatives and the liturgical life of the College provides students and staff with opportunities to develop their relationship with God and others.

The College aims to foster a spirit of inquiry and a reflective disposition to learning, so as to provide students with a strong foundation for making realistic, life giving choices in their journey as Catholics.



Reflection Days



Retreats



Youth Ministry



Masses and Liturgies





Mercy Week



Immersion



Mercy Action Group (MAG)



Fundraising

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

At Mercy we focus on putting our faith into action and giving students agency and confidence to build a world that is positive, just and inclusive.

With emphasis on student led activity students are encouraged to be involved in activities such as campaigns, fundraising or immersion experiences and contribute to people and communities who have not had the same opportunities in life as they have.

Engagement with the religious curriculum, social justice initiatives and the liturgical life of the College provides students and staff with opportunities to develop their relationship with God and others.

The College aims to foster a spirit of inquiry and a reflective disposition to learning, so as to provide students with a strong foundation for making realistic, life giving choices in their journey as Catholics.



# STUDENT WELLBEING

**WE PROVIDE A CARING  
EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT  
WHERE EACH STUDENT IS KNOWN  
AND CARED FOR AS AN INDIVIDUAL  
AND WHERE SHE FEELS INCLUDED  
WITHIN THE CLASSROOM AND THE  
COLLEGE COMMUNITY.**

Mercy Catholic College recognises the worth of each individual. We value the role of the individual within our community, encouraging the understanding that rights must be balanced with responsibilities.

Students are encouraged to develop strong relationships and interact in a positive way with their peers and staff. Specialised staff including the Assistant Principal: Evangelisation, Catechesis and Student Wellbeing, the Year Co-ordinators, the College Counsellor and the Youth Minister work with students on a wide variety of projects involving faith development, social justice and wellbeing.

Students are assisted to develop an understanding of the importance of personal goals, their words, actions and commitment, in relation to learning and living in the school and wider community.

Based on a framework of positive psychology our well-developed pastoral care structure allows support for student's wellbeing. The framework is also supported by programmes including our Vertical Tutor Group system, structured around the College Houses – Mercy, McAuley, Coolock and Stormanston.





# TEACHING AND LEARNING

Underpinned by the Catholic Schools Broken Bay 'Towards 2025' vision, the goal of the College is to establish a positive culture of learning that enables each child to achieve their best.

We provide a wealth of opportunities for students to become confident, resilient and independent learners.

A wide range of courses are offered and throughout their time at the College students are given informed advice around subject choices which balance personal interest and challenge to support progression through to university, TAFE and other pathways.

Our teachers take responsibility for educating and inspiring young learners to achieve success. Professional development of staff assists teachers in the design and delivery of high quality learning programmes.



**AT MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE WE  
RECOGNISE THAT THE NEEDS OF OUR  
STUDENTS ARE DIVERSE, AND WE  
ENDEAVOUR TO ACCOMMODATE THE  
DIFFERENT LEARNING STYLES, RATES OF  
LEARNING AND LEARNING ABILITIES.**

## LEARNER DIVERSITY

The Learner Diversity team assists teachers with the development of learning strategies, ensuring that the curriculum is differentiated to cater for the various levels of need.

Our Learner Diversity Team is made up of teachers who have qualifications in a variety of fields including Inclusive Education. Students are supported by expert Learning Support Assistants who work with individual students in mainstream classes across subjects as needed,







**BY CONNECTING CLASSROOM LEARNING TO THE REAL WORLD, STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO UNIQUE CAREERS AND PATHWAYS & PARTNERSHIPS EXPERIENCES THAT CONNECT SCHOOL TO THE WORLD OF WORK.**

## **PATHWAYS & PARTNERSHIPS**

Our unique Pathways & Partnerships program for Years 7 to 12 aims at better preparing students for life beyond school. It encourages students to embrace their interests and passions while assisting them to understand and develop the essential 'in demand' work-ready skills required for jobs of the future.

Our program is designed to integrate industry opportunities and experiences into the curriculum, giving students a deep understanding of the future skills they need to succeed.

Our expert leaders provide students with practical opportunities to gain real-world experience and exposure to current information, allowing them to make informed decisions about their future careers.







# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

**THE COLLEGE ENCOURAGES THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE PERSON NOT JUST THE ACADEMIC, AND OFFERS NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.**

## **Sports Include:**

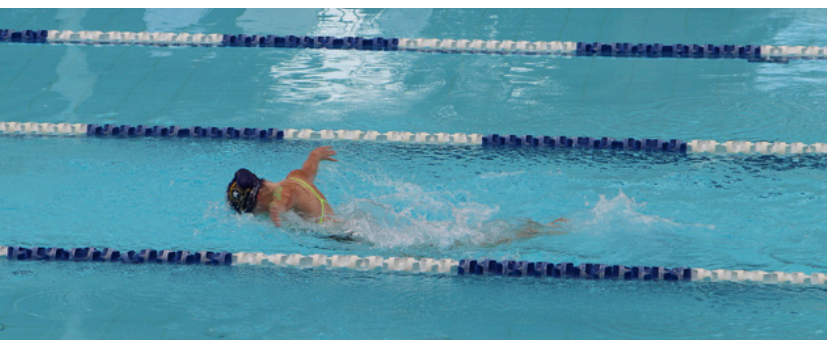
Athletics  
Netball  
Soccer/Football  
Rugby  
Basketball  
Swimming

In addition to the College Co-curricular sports and activities select students have the opportunity to compete in the Catholic Schools Broken Bay Secondary School Sport Association (CSBBSS). Through the Secondary Schools Diocesan Pathway, students are given the opportunity to represent the College, the Diocese and ultimately NSW.

## **Creative and Performing Arts Include:**

Recreational Dance Ensemble  
Competitive Dance Ensemble  
Drama Club  
Concert Band  
Stage Band  
Rock Band  
Jazz Band  
String Ensemble  
Guitar Ensemble  
Flute Ensemble  
Pop Choir  
Chamber Choir

In addition to the College Music program students have the opportunity to engage in private tuition







### **Clubs and other Programs:**

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme  
CSDA Public Speaking & Debating  
Mercy Action Group (MAG)  
Overseas Immersion Programme  
Enrichment Programme  
Homework & Study Club  
Mathematics Club  
Mercy Book Club  
Mercy and St Pius Book Club  
Drama Club  
Walking Club  
Bootcamp  
Pathways & Partnerships





# PARENT ENGAGEMENT

**WE WELCOME THE WHOLE FAMILY TO OUR COMMUNITY TO ENHANCE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP AND ENRICH EACH STUDENTS' WELLBEING AND DEVELOPMENT.**



Parents and carers offer strong leadership and support in many aspects of College life including:

- Membership to the College Parent Engagement and Advisory Group (PEAG)
- Membership to the Broken Bay Catholic School Parents (BBCSP)
- Special event organisation
- Contribute to and attend our Parent Engagement programs run by College Parent and engagement co-ordinator (PEC)
- Convening, coaching, and managing College sports teams
- Mentoring and providing careers advice within our Pathways & Partnerships team

It is our hope that parents support College activities and commit to the ongoing development of our community.





# ENROLMENT

The Enrolment Committee welcomes all applications and follows the Catholic Schools Broken Bay Enrolment Policy which can be found on our website.

For Year 7 enrolment, applications are welcome up to 3 years prior to commencement (i.e. in Year 4). Offers of enrolment are usually made 2 years prior to commencement (i.e. Year 5). Whilst early application to our schools is encouraged, it does not guarantee placement.

We welcome families wishing to apply for Years 8-12 at any time throughout the year. All applications will be considered but are subject to spaces being available and our Enrolment Principles.

If you are coming from a Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) primary school, you may be eligible for priority entry to the College (subject to enrolment windows) and a range of other benefits as part of this program. Please note, students from Priority Feeder Schools still need to advise us of their interest in Mercy Catholic College by following the application process.

To learn more about our enrolment procedure, book a tour or submit your enrolment via our Online Enrolment Platform



<http://www.mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au/enrol>



101 ARCHER STREET, CHATSWOOD NSW 2067  
PHONE (02) 7256 2120 | [MERCY@DBB.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU](mailto:MERCY@DBB.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU)  
[MERCYCHATSWOOD.NSW.EDU.AU](http://MERCYCHATSWOOD.NSW.EDU.AU)