St Francis de Sales College
A RECEPTION TO YEAR 12 CATHOLIC CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE

‘The heart is a resting place in which we live and grow’
‘Be who you are and be that well.’

St Francis de Sales
Living Catholic: Faith in joy of the Gospels
Everyone Flourishes Here

Every school needs a heart and a way of connecting people. Our College is all about people, partnerships and relationships.

Feelings of confidence and self-worth can flourish only in a place where individual differences are valued, communication is open, opinions are respected—the kind of atmosphere that is found in a nurturing family.

Through strong, positive relationships between staff, students and parents the students are the central focus of our College. We aim to provide them with a quality education, helping them to achieve personal excellence in school life and career. The care of each individual is paramount in the minds of our teachers. We strongly believe working together with parents to provide the best possible environment for your child.

St Francis de Sales College has a multi-age campus where students learn and grow alongside people of many ages and stages of life. Our classroom and extra-curricular activities have been developed to bring young people and adults together to learn and contribute within the school community.

Students collaboratively develop a platform for deep engagement as they explore the interconnectedness between themselves and the world of learning and wellbeing. Our open classrooms, with excellent ICT capacity in ‘Bring your own device’ environment are enhanced by break-out spaces allowing students to work collaboratively and creatively in multi-modal models of learning.

St Francis de Sales College has four house teams: Padua, Savoy, Geneva and Lyon. Students are allocated a house team and family members are placed in the same house. This helps to provide a sense of belonging, which allows students to be themselves and to bring out the best of their God given talents.
Early Learning
Sowing the Seed

Growth happens quickly: the foundations of learning, curiosity, wonder and creativity that are needed to equip our children for a rich understanding on life’s journey.

Throughout their journey each child’s mind is a sponge for experiences, development and socialisation.

Both the Playgroup and Early Years’ experience provide a safe and supportive environment where the ‘love for learning’ is nurtured and all of our students begin to ‘bloom’. The foundations are laid for ‘blooming’ based on relationships within and beyond the school community, supported by learning experiences, pastoral care and diversity of opportunity provided by our highly trained staff.

‘Be the best person that you can be’
St Francis de Sales
Our Reception to Year 3 experience is a place for families. Parents/carers are the child’s ‘First Teacher’.

We value the importance parents play in the development of their child. In sharing the knowledge, the skills and the learning journey, we can work together towards the very best outcomes for each student.

As children move from Reception through to Year 3, learning becomes more structured with a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy.

Our approach is placing the child at the centre of learning to ensure that we are creating an interactive learning environment which will allow each child to consistently achieve their best.

Our curriculum is aligned with the development of the Australian Curriculum. We believe that by adopting a proactive approach to wellbeing and teaching our students the skills of resilience we are preparing them for their future life.

‘Nurturing creativity & the love of learning’
Year 4 - Year 6
The Learning Environment Grows

Friendships are formed and cemented and new relationships of trust established. As a Catholic community we are committed to ensuring that respectful and meaningful relationships are in the centre of our interactions. Our restorative processes create opportunities for those involved in a conflict to work together to understand, clarify and resolve the situation and work together towards restoration.

Through an abundance of opportunities within and outside the school, we are helping students to discover that they can positively influence their world and be catalysts for change. Understanding the power of influence is a lifelong gift that they can take with them on the journey ahead. We aim to create well rounded individuals who have opportunities for achievement, spiritual discovery, developing social confidence, fostering sporting prowess and gaining a love of the arts – building blocks for life.

By encouraging students to discover their own learning style, we place the keys to navigate in the hands of the students! By constructing knowledge rather than absorbing it, students spark their desire to learn to find their passion and knowledge. Our philosophy encourages our students to learn effectively, engage through problem based curriculum, and how to develop higher order thinking skills and moral decision making skills to shape their personal development.

‘Be the person who you want to be’
Years 7 to 9 students are at a significant and diverse growth stage on the journey to flourishing. It is a time of self-discovery and acceptance, along with new challenges and responsibilities. Year 7 is the commencement of secondary schooling.

Each student becomes part of a close knit homeroom group, where they study integrated topics across different disciplines.

We provide opportunities for personal spiritual development, through our robust Retreat and Camp programs. It is a time to embrace diversity, to learn to share together. There are times of silence and times of celebration with an understanding that through each, the body, mind, soul and spirit are invigorated and recreated. Students understand the importance of service to others and are able to accept responsibility for their own actions and choices following Jesus’ example as taught through Gospel values. This spirit of service is supported by our strong student wellbeing network.

Our school encourages young minds to ask deep and searching questions to which there are often no easy answers, to see that accepting ourselves is the foundation on which thriving young men and women grow.
Year 10 - Year 12
Flourishing to Independence

In preparation for life beyond the Senior years at St Francis de Sales College, students make deeper connections between their school-based learning and the world around them.

In this process students develop a strong sense of self-awareness and appreciation for the global community. They willingly take on new responsibilities and become role models for the younger students. Every student is valued for who they are and what they bring to our College.

Students become independent and self-managing as they engage with various educational experiences in Stage 1 and 2 of SACE and Flexible Vocational Training Courses. At this level students are encouraged to pursue areas of personal interests and with a view to making subject choices. They receive individual guidance from their teachers, specialist staff and career advisor. Staff work to reinforce talents and strengthen student skills particularly in the areas of collaborative and individual problem-solving. Students cultivate strategies for making confident and considered decisions in all that they pursue.

Specialist programmes including Retreats and Overseas Study Tours to Japan and the Western Front provide students with opportunities to embrace the world around them and to expand their academic, social and cultural knowledge.
As Year 12 signifies the completion of their educational journey we aim to empower our young people to confidently navigate and engage with the challenges of the year.

Students are carefully guided to realise their potential through goal setting, prioritisation, pacing and preparation. They gain an appreciation for their achievements and who they will become. By learning to leverage their strengths, they are praised for success.

By the end of Year 12 our young people are ready to branch out beyond the College gates and continue to flourish as confident, competent and active participants in our world.

‘Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength’

St Francis de Sales