



St Francis de Sales
COLLEGE

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME



Your dream starts here...

Welcome from the Principal



Central to the St Francis de Sales College ethos is a culture that nurtures students to participate in a journey of personal development within a caring, inclusive and supportive community. This environment promotes academic achievement, a love of learning and an acknowledgement of the unique gifts of each student. We offer a quality education from their first day in Reception to their last day in Year 12.

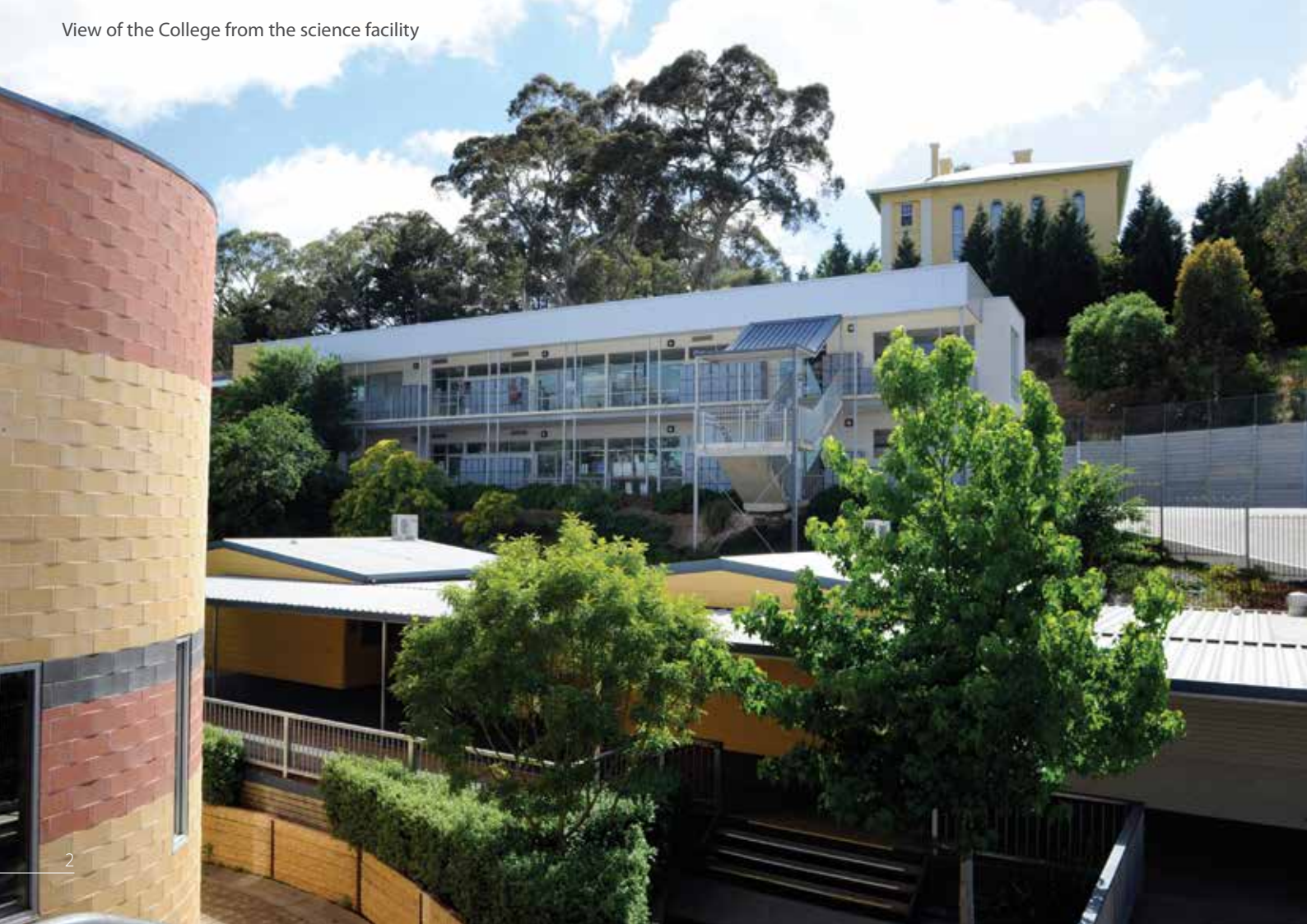
St Francis de Sales College offers exciting opportunities to meet the needs of every student by giving them a focus on personal learning and promoting a clear sense of self-worth and wellbeing. We base our ethos on that of Saint Francis de Sales (1567-1622), who said *'Be who you are and be that well'*. He envisioned a world where all people are capable of achieving their goals and positively influencing the world in which they live.

Choosing a school is one of the most significant considerations you make towards for your child's future and a final decision only comes after careful thought. Thankyou for considering St Francis de Sales College. I hope this information will be a valuable starting point for your career aspirations and study in Australia.

Yours sincerely,
Pam Ronan
Principal



View of the College from the science facility



International Programmes

At St Francis de Sales College we welcome students from all cultural backgrounds and we value the contribution each student makes to ensure all our students develop and appreciate cultural perspectives and become positive global citizens.

Our international outlook is reflected in our curriculum, our international student programmes, our inward and outward student and staff exchanges and study tours and our growing international school relationships.

The Principal and senior staff regularly travel to Asia to meet with current and prospective students and to celebrate the successes of our international students with their families.

The St Francis de Sales programmes enable our international students to achieve the following objectives:

- Improve English Language Skills (ELS)
- Grow self-confidence
- Develop lifelong international friendships
- Develop an understanding of Australia's language, heritage, culture and values
- Achieve their SACE qualification and gain entry to an Australian or overseas University

International Students

We help all our students realise their full potential by inspiring and challenging them to exceed their limits. International students work, play and study alongside Australian students. Every interaction is another opportunity to develop strong bonds with a diverse group of students. Together they learn cooperation and teamwork and build connections that will last a lifetime.

International students enrich our College in many ways. Their global outlook produces students who are citizens of the world.



Senior students socialising in their study break



Transition to School in Australia

As part of their orientation programme, our international students will be assessed academically. These academic results and other assessments will be used to determine the most appropriate entry level and class for each student.

Students will be supported with intensive English, numeracy and cultural awareness before they proceed to mainstream lessons at St Francis de Sales College.

New international students are placed into the International Students Transition Programme (ISTP). They receive intensive language support and training in English for academic purposes as well as cultural assimilation activities. Our College staff will concentrate on enhancing their proficiency in maths, English, science and humanities, and provide an interesting orientation to Australian learning and study skills development.

The intensive ISTP programme is designed to give students the confidence and skills to ensure a smooth transition to mainstream studies and academic success.

While the main priority is working with the students to strengthen their proficiency in English, students are prepared for the subjects, methodologies, assignments and activities they will experience in senior years learning and university studies.



Students having fun with science





Student working on a design project

Curriculum

At St Francis de Sales College we offer a well-rounded educational programme. The College provides an educational programme that:

- Enables achievement of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE)
- Enables achievement of an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR), allowing transition to the university and tertiary courses of the student's choice.
- Provides direct links to The University of Adelaide, The University of South Australia, Flinders University and Charles Darwin University.

The majority of our international graduates aim to progress to university education courses of their choice in Australia or overseas.

Subjects available at St Francis de Sales College include academic subjects including the range of mathematics, science, English and arts subjects. Students can also study geography, history, legal studies, horticulture, Japanese, technology, photography and media studies. Students also have access to Vocational Education and Training (VET) subjects in a range of areas including fitness, animal studies, aged care, business, creative industries, screen and media and construction. For a full description please visit our Year 10-12 page on our website.

Students are encouraged to enter academic competitions and activities including a tutoring and mentoring programme to allow more senior students to develop skills and responsibilities by supporting younger students with their learning.

The College has excellent horticultural facilities and offers agricultural studies as part of our continuing expansion in this area. Digital technology studies are taught in Years 7 to 9, allowing our students to learn the contemporary skills required for success. The College IT facilities include interactive tools allowing students direct access to useful curriculum resources and learning tools.

Extra Support

St Francis de Sales is expanding its International Student Programme to enrol students from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, Korea and Vietnam. The College is developing a good balance of international and Australian students.

On arrival in Adelaide students are met by our International Students Coordinator and participate in a number of activities and programs that enable them to integrate into the College and wider community. Ongoing mentoring and support is available for International students.

In support of its growing International Programme, the College employs extra specialised staff such as:

- ESL teachers and tutors
- Homestay Coordinator
- Academic Advisor
- Career Advisor
- Vocational Education Counsellor
- Well-being Counsellor

This specialised support enables our international students to reach their academic potential in Year 12 examinations, allowing them to proceed to university.

St Francis de Sales College prides itself on the quality of pastoral care we provide to all our students. The College is particularly aware of the pastoral care needs and support requirements of our international students. We carefully monitor our international students and support them where required, particularly during their first three months as they settle into College life in Australia.



A family with their Homestay student

Extracurricula Opportunities

Our extra-curricular programme continually revolves around the students' interests and talents. This approach engages and extends students in their areas of interest and expertise and provides challenges for them to learn resilience and perseverance. In addition to their regular physical education lessons, students are offered the opportunity to play a range of individual and team sports including soccer, basketball, swimming, athletics, football, netball, tennis, volleyball, and touch football.

Other extra-curricular opportunities also include drama productions, choirs, orchestras, instrumental ensembles, dance, chess, art, design and a number of inter college competitions and events.

We are currently building a new international standard sporting complex on the College grounds.

At St Francis de Sales College all students are encouraged to participate in the extracurricular programmes where our emphasis is on collaboration and enjoyment, and the development of personal and social capabilities.

Accommodation and Welfare

Students studying at St Francis de Sales have the following accommodation options:

- Live with a parent or nominated relative/guardian, with no welfare responsibility by the College.
- Live in St Francis de Sales approved Homestay accommodation. The College is responsible for the student's welfare.

International students who do not live with a parent or a direct relative will be accommodated with carefully selected Australian families registered through the St Francis de Sales community Homestay Programme under College management. Homestay is a term used to describe full board accommodation offered by a family for which a set weekly fee is charged. St Francis de Sales College is responsible for organising Homestay accommodation for our International students.

Homestay accommodation enables students the opportunity to be hosted by a trained Homestay host and provides a safe and happy introduction to living and studying in the Adelaide Hills. Homestay is an enriching life experience for building cultural understanding between the student and an Australian family. Homestay often leads to lifelong friendships with fellow students and families from very diverse backgrounds in both regional and rural Australia.



Top Reasons to Live and Study in the Adelaide Hills

- Quality education opportunities
- Safe, clean, unique and healthy lifestyle environment
- Excellent quality of life
- Easy to get around and only 30 minutes from Adelaide CBD
- Excellent and experienced teachers
- Low cost of living
- Great weather
- Direct links to Adelaide University, UNI SA and Flinders Uni



Living and Studying in the Beautiful Adelaide Hills

Adelaide, the capital city of South Australia, is made up of over 100 different ethnic communities, many proudly maintaining links with their homeland culture. Adelaide combines interest, creativity and liveliness with a safe and clean environment.

St Francis de Sales College is located at Mount Barker, a 30 minute car trip from the Adelaide CBD, in the heart of the Adelaide Hills. Mount Barker is a thriving regional town with a rapidly growing business district, and is one of the fastest growing towns in Australia.

The location of the College gives students easy access to wildlife sanctuaries, bushwalking, orienteering, a large selection of sporting opportunities, rural living and beaches.

Students are also able to participate in many cultural activities that take place in the Adelaide Hills and the city of Adelaide such as SALA Arts Festival, Oz Asia Festival, Festival of Arts and many other family events.

St Francis de Sales College is located conveniently to public transport, with all major bus routes providing access to the school.

Location

St Francis de Sales College is located in the township of Mount Barker – 33 kilometres (a 30 minute car trip) from the City of Adelaide, in the Adelaide Hills. The township is a thriving regional centre with a population of approximately 15,000 people, surrounded by a beautiful landscape of open farmland and natural vegetation.

