

You will be met with curiosity, adventures and
find new passions In these walls you will grow
in spirit and compassion

2026 PROSPECTUS

In deeds not words



A photograph of a school entrance. In the foreground, there is a large, dense bush with silvery-green leaves. To the right, a red brick wall is visible. In the background, there are trees with green and some autumn-colored leaves. A black metal gate is partially visible on the right side. The sky is blue with some light clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Our commitment

St. Mary's Primary School Myrtleford is committed to providing a safe and nurturing culture for all of our students. In adherence to the Victorian Government Child Safeguarding Standards, we have a range of resources, policies and procedures to support us in doing this.

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We acknowledge and pay respect to the original and ongoing custodians of the land upon which our schools are situated. We commit to actively working alongside First Nations people for healing, reconciliation and justice. May we all stand tall, stand firm, grounded in truth, together as one.



Welcome

Founded in 1923 by the Presentation Sisters, St Mary's has been a cherished part of the Myrtleford community for over a century. Inspired by the life and mission of Nano Nagle, we continue to live out the Presentation charism -placing faith, compassion, and service at the heart of all we do. Guided by our school motto, "In Deeds Not Words", we encourage our students to live their faith through action, kindness and a commitment to justice.

At St Mary's, we offer a nurturing and inclusive environment where every child is known, valued, and supported. Our broad curriculum fosters academic excellence and emotional wellbeing, with engaging programs in literacy, numeracy, science, the arts, and Italian. We believe in educating the whole child, helping each student to flourish in heart, mind and spirit.

Faith is woven into daily life at St Mary's. Through prayer, liturgy, and community outreach, our students grow in their understanding of Gospel values and learn to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and Nano Nagle. We strive to build a school culture where love, respect, and hope are lived every day.

We warmly invite you to become part of our St Mary's family - a welcoming Catholic community where children are encouraged to grow, lead and shine.

Andrea O'Connor,
Principal
St Mary's Primary School, Myrtleford

St Mary's Primary School

Difference



St Mary's Primary School, Myrtleford offers a warm and welcoming Catholic community where every child is nurtured and known.

Steeped in the values of faith, compassion and service, our school is committed to educating the whole child, spiritually, academically, socially and physically.

With a strong emphasis on Gospel values and the Presentation charism, students are encouraged to grow in heart, mind and spirit. The inclusive environment fosters meaningful relationships between families, staff and the wider community, creating a safe and supportive space where children can flourish.

Academically, St Mary's stands out with outstanding NAPLAN results, consistently performing above the Victorian average across all learning areas. This commitment to excellence is complemented by a rich array of extracurricular opportunities that inspire and engage students beyond the classroom.

From dynamic camps and sports programs to a vibrant performing arts curriculum and the unique Myrtleford Ski Program, students are given diverse avenues to explore their interests, build confidence, and develop lifelong skills. These experiences, combined with a strong academic foundation and nurturing ethos, make St Mary's a truly exceptional choice for families seeking holistic education.

VISION

St. Mary's is a supportive Catholic learning community that encourages and challenges individuals to reach their full potential. St. Mary's school strives to:

- Teach and promote Catholic faith, tradition, and model the teachings of Jesus.
- To ensure all children feel safe and are always safe.
- Be welcoming, safe, and inclusive.
- Nurture partnerships between families, school, parish, and the community.
- Encourage action for social justice and hope for the future.
- Provide an engaging and challenging learning environment that encourages excellence and lifelong learning.
- Educate the whole child, spiritually, physically, socially and academically

GRADUATE OUTCOMES

We aim to have students leave St Mary's with the capacity to be:

Accepting, compassionate, caring and able to show empathy

- Embrace diversity and treat others with kindness and respect, building inclusive relationships that foster a sense of belonging.

Resilient, confident, independent and to have self-belief

- Persevere through challenges and setbacks with a growth mindset. and believing in their own abilities and take initiative in learning and life.

Open to faith & to value human dignity

- Explore and respect spiritual beliefs, including their own and others'

Literate, numerate, and physically and socially capable

- Demonstrate strong foundational skills in reading, writing, and mathematics and apply these skills in real-world contexts with confidence and competence.

Positive, passionate, enthusiastic, and persistent

- Approach life and learning with optimism and energy, pursuing goals with determination and a sense of purpose.

Creative, critical thinkers, inquisitive and problem solvers

- Think independently, question assumptions. and use imagination and innovation to explore new ideas.

Global citizens, environmentally aware, socially just and respectful

- Treat others with respect and contribute to a peaceful, inclusive society.

Happy, well balanced, and aware of personal wellbeing

- Foster joy, gratitude, and self-awareness in everyday life.

WHY CHOOSE ST MARY'S MYRTLEFORD?

- Faith-filled Catholic education
- Welcoming community
- Outstanding learner growth
- Expert teachers and well-resourced classrooms
- Specialist classes - physical education, Italian, science and performing arts
- Calm learning environments
- Safe bus access
- Out of hours school care
- All-inclusive fees

Ready for tomorrow

*“Our graduates leave not just with
knowledge, but with the courage to
shape their world.”*



Magnify *Sandhurst*

Catholic Education Sandhurst rolled out *Magnify Sandhurst*, an evidence-informed, science of learning school improvement initiative, to its 51 Catholic schools across the Sandhurst Diocese at the beginning of 2025.

Magnify Sandhurst focuses on how the brain learns, how literacy is effectively taught, uses a low variance, knowledge-rich curriculum and the creation of positive classrooms. Our practice is calm, predictable, and repeatable to maximise learning time in all classrooms.

Magnify Sandhurst is deliberately bold and wide-ranging, generating whole-of-system improvement.

We have partnered with world-class organisations including LME Global, Ochre Education, Knowledge Society, Steplab and MultiLit.

Magnify Sandhurst aims to enhance learning outcomes through several key components:

STRUCTURED AND EVIDENCE-BASED LEARNING

Using the latest neuroscience and a structured, knowledge-rich curriculum, we ensure students build deep understanding.

A low-variance curriculum provides students with a consistent learning experience and reduces the amount of preparation and planning required by teachers, allowing teachers to focus on individual student needs.

MAGNIFYING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Providing targeted support and resources to improve reading, writing, and math skills at all levels. Special focus on structured literacy in F-2 and sequential programs from Years 3-10.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING FOR TEACHERS

Each teacher receives a dedicated coach and program to learn and practice the best techniques to meet students' learning needs. We are investing in our teachers to provide the best possible learning outcomes for students in our Catholic schools.

CALM CLASSROOMS AND POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Promoting calm, supportive, and positive learning environments through common practices, expectations, and social norms, our work includes a new program for student social and behavioural learning. Our classrooms will have a consistent approach throughout each Sandhurst school to support all students to learn in a calm, orderly learning environment.

WHY families choose

Catholic education



Families choose Catholic education because it offers more than strong academic outcomes, it nurtures the whole person.

Our schools provide safe, inclusive and supportive environments where every child can flourish.

Recent research by the Melbourne Institute, using the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia survey shows students who attend Catholic schools are more likely to experience greater happiness, stronger community connection and long-term career success.

They are more likely to feel connected to their communities, contribute meaningfully to society, and pursue careers that reflect both personal fulfilment and social impact.

These outcomes stem from an education that places equal emphasis on academic excellence, spiritual formation and character development; ensuring students are not only well-prepared for life but also equipped to live it with purpose and joy.

At St Mary's, we are proud to be part of this story.



INSIDE *the* Classroom



St Mary's is dedicated to providing a curriculum of high-quality using strategies that are evidenced based to meet the needs of all our students. A growth mindset and safe, nurturing classrooms are embedded in our culture to ensure our students feel confident and supported.

St Mary's believes in the evidence-based philosophy of Explicit Direct Instruction when teaching new concepts to students, in particular in literacy and numeracy lessons. Teachers have therefore committed to using strategies that are explicit and direct across the school. We believe the importance in collaboration and providing an equal education for all.

While teachers can still provide individual flair in their teaching the fundamentals remain the same across the school, as this is what evidence claims to work best for students. The Inquiry Units of work allow students greater freedom in learning, as we believe it important that students have the opportunity to explore and be creative in response to activities, given they have been taught the skills in order to access new learnings.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

St Mary's provides a comprehensive curriculum with a strong focus on literacy and numeracy. All staff have been trained using 'Explicit Direct Instruction' which is evidence based, using strategies to ensure all students are learning. These strategies are used across the school. In addition to the comprehensive classroom programs offered in literacy and numeracy,

Religious education is taught following the Catholic Education Sandhurst (CES) RE Curriculum - Source of Life. The curriculum promotes dialogue and recontextualisation of scripture support faith formation.

An integrated classroom program addresses the curriculum areas of humanities, technologies, civics and citizenship, economics, and health. These curriculum areas are also cross referenced with the literacy program to ensure sufficient time is allocated to address the content.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives are embedded across the curriculum, supported by strong community partnerships and CES networks.

Social and emotional learning is central to our curriculum. The Respectful Relationship wellbeing curriculum explicitly teaches respect, resilience, healthy relationships and confidence.

The capabilities are embedded across all learning areas to support students in developing essential skills such as literacy, numeracy, critical and creative thinking, and personal and social competence.

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS

Specialist teachers provide instruction in physical education, language (Italian), science and performing arts.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The PE program helps students build movement skills and teamwork, promoting physical health, resilience, social interaction, and lifelong fitness habits.

SCIENCE

Our primary science program, based on the Victorian Curriculum, builds curiosity and inquiry through hands-on learning. Students explore key science areas, develop skills to question and investigate, and learn how science shapes society, sustainability, and everyday life.

THE ARTS

Our art program blends visual and performing arts, encouraging creativity and self-expression through activities like painting, sculpture, drama, and music. Students learn to create, present, and respond to art while building confidence, collaboration and cultural appreciation.

ITALIAN

Our Italian program develops language skills and cultural understanding through speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities. Students learn to communicate in everyday contexts while exploring Italian traditions, fostering global awareness and a love of languages.

YOUR *questions*

Answered

Here are some frequently asked questions about our Catholic schools and why we believe you will feel at home in one of our welcoming school settings.

WHO CAN ENROL?

We warmly welcome families from all backgrounds to join our community. Our schools provide a high-quality and affordable education for everyone, not just Catholics.

DO I NEED TO BE CATHOLIC? DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BE CATHOLIC OR BAPTISED TO ATTEND?

No, you, your child or your family do not need to be Catholic or baptised, we welcome families of all faiths and backgrounds, however, priority will be given to baptised Catholics in the case where schools are at capacity based on an enrolment priority criteria approved by the Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited Board.

IF MY CHILD ISN'T CATHOLIC, WILL THEY FEEL LEFT OUT?

Not at all. All religious education which includes the classroom teaching of religion and the religious life of the school, is respectful of all learners and is based on the foundational belief in the dignity of every person.

MASS ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES?

It is the expectation that students will attend masses that occur during school times as part of the school

celebrations, significant faith days and liturgical events. While we encourage participation in Parish Masses outside of school hours to foster a sense of community, it is not mandatory.

CAN I AFFORD THE FEES?

Catholic schools remain an affordable option for most families and is surprisingly more affordable than some may realise. When you enrol your child in a Catholic school your fees are inclusive, with no hidden costs.

Our fees are structured to be affordable, with options for payment plans. Families with a Health Care Card are eligible for significant fee relief in our Catholic primary schools.

Catholic School fees include all external costs, including camps, excursions, swimming lessons, technology and more! The ability to pay school fees is not a pre-requisite for enrolment in our schools.

DO I HAVE TO GO TO MY NEAREST CATHOLIC SCHOOL?

We do not have zoning regulations for our primary schools, therefore, you are able to enrol your child at any of our Catholic primary schools. Some of our Secondary Colleges do have enrolment boundaries relating to local Parish boundaries and we encourage you to contact your local school to discuss. We encourage you to visit our schools during open days or tours to find the best fit.

HOW DO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CATER FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS?

Catholic schools' welcome Indigenous students and a variety of specialist educational and pastoral care strategies are available to ensure that Indigenous students feel supported and culturally respected.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM A CATHOLIC SCHOOL?

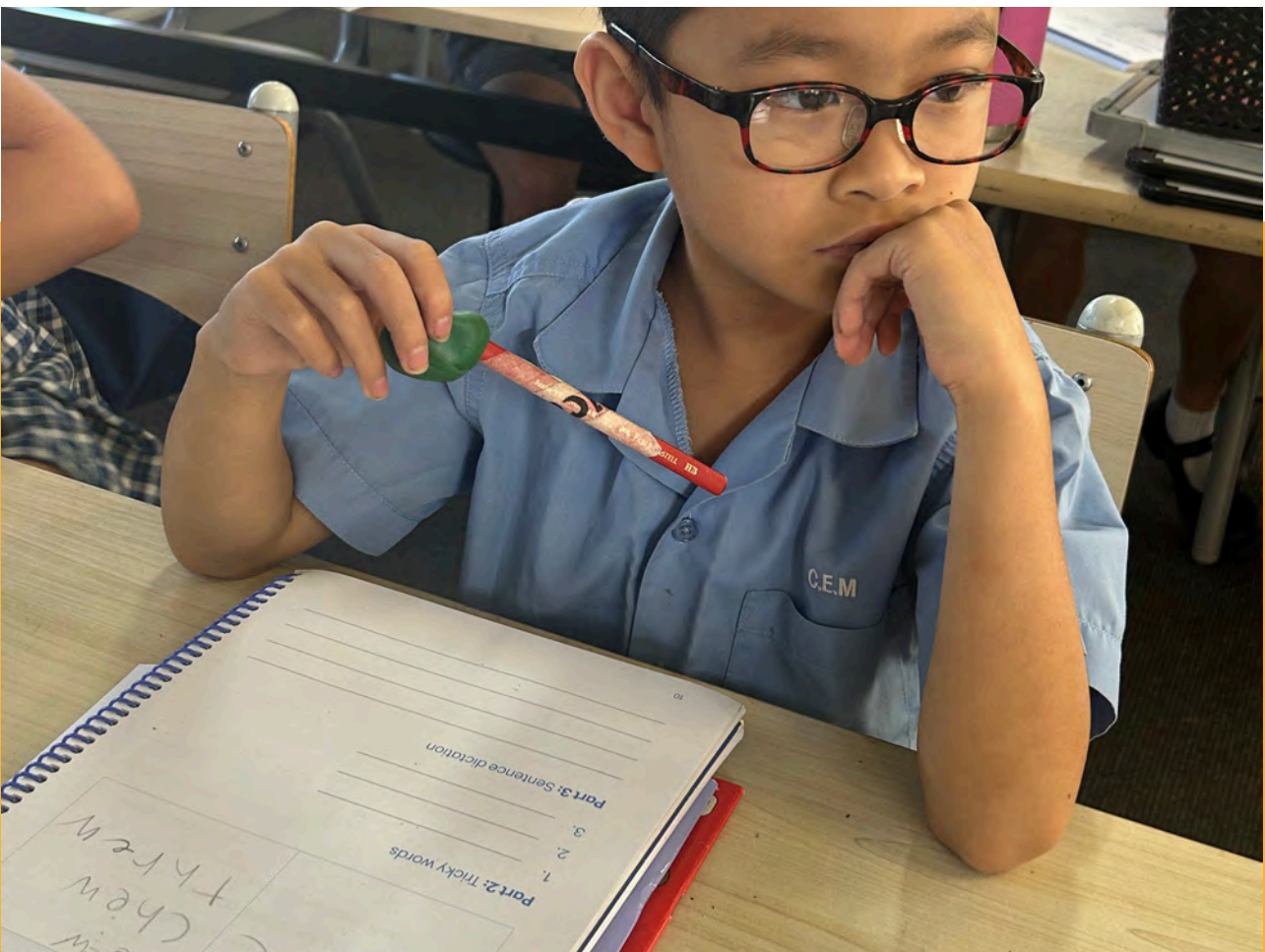
You can expect calm, safe and predictable classrooms with a strong academic focus. Our Magnify Program enhances learning and we have a variety of programs in each of our schools to support the emotional wellbeing of students. We offer broad support services and prioritise child safety with a zero-tolerance policy for bullying.

WHY CHOOSE CATHOLIC EDUCATION?

Catholic schools offer different pathways for students, from early education to senior education. We focus on nurturing, safe, and inclusive environments.

Our academic program, Magnify Sandhurst brings together world class partners in education to ensure that all students are able to maximise their learning potential.

With recent research showing that students who attended a Catholic school are more likely to be happier, contribute to community and be employed, there has never been a better time to be in Catholic education!





Stay connected

We'd love to welcome you to St Mary's Primary School, Myrtleford

VISIT US

School tours available by appointment

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS OF CARE

Available after school, providing safe and engaging activities.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Application forms available online or from our school office.

CONTACT

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