



WALK IN NEW LIFE

MATER MARIA
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

PROSPECTUS





Mission and Values

Our Mission

Inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ we, at Mater Maria, provide a well-rounded, high quality education for young men and women within the welcoming environment of a Catholic faith community.

We aim to build an educational foundation for life with an emphasis on social justice and the celebration of the uniqueness of the individual.

We will therefore:

- Encourage** a sense of community
- Promote** gospel values
- Nurture** the human spirit
- Develop** a welcoming, peaceful environment
- Provide** opportunities for the realisation of potential
- Celebrate** the uniqueness of the individual
- Educate** for life

Our Values

At Mater Maria Catholic College we are all called to take up the challenge to live our five values as we discover new ways to realise the parable of the Good Samaritan in all that we do.

- Community** is our call to serve
- Justice** is our call to go and make a difference through respect and dignity for all in our world
- Hospitality** is our call to freely contribute to the life of this community
- Spirituality** is a mindful awareness of that God is with us in all that we do
- Stewardship** is our reverence for the sacredness of all of God's Creation



Welcome

Mater Maria Catholic College is a co-educational school, for Years 7 to 12, located in the tranquil bush setting in Warriewood Valley.

Our College provides young people with an exceptional educational experience focused on learning, positive support networks and an infinite array of opportunities grounded in our shared College values of Community, Hospitality, Justice, Spirituality and Stewardship.

Our College provides an engaging, technology-complemented learning environment where both students and teachers are challenged to increase the learning gain for each individual. Quality transformational learning is our focus and through flexible learning structures and informed by the latest professional practice our teachers guide our students to nurture curiosity, develop quality relationships and achieve their personal best.

Graduates of Mater Maria not only do well, they make a positive impact in their local communities and the world in ways that matter. These pages provide a glimpse of the special opportunities provided to your sons and daughters at our College.

Welcome to the College, please feel free to come and see for yourself on our annual Open Day or book a tour.

Marc Reicher
College Principal



Catholic Heritage

In the tradition of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, the founding religious order of the College, our students are called to be neighbour to all, to listen in a deeper way and discover new ways of realising the parable of the Good Samaritan in all that they do. The Catholic tradition in which we educate at Mater Maria enables each student to make a contribution to others in unique ways.

In 1962 the Sisters of the Good Samaritan founded a secondary school for 38 girls at Narrabeen and two years later moved the school to our current site in Warriewood. The College became co-educational in 1979 and in 1990 the responsibility for the College was handed to the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay.

With Blessed Mary as our College patron and guide, each student is encouraged to share the gift of faith, to be active in social justice campaigns and initiatives, involved in youth ministries, to be stewards for the world and to make a difference in the ways that matter.



Innovative Positive Learning Culture - Curriculum

At Mater Maria we strive to develop EPIC students who are;

- Engaged** in learning
- Positive** in their attitude
- Independent** by taking personal responsibility to reach their full potential
- Connected** by collaborating with teachers and peers

Learning is the primary focus at the College and as a co-educational community our teachers confidently embrace the uniqueness of each student, actively seeking to develop the special gifts that each student has by tailoring learning to their needs.

We accept the professional challenge of raising our students' academic standards of achievement by providing opportunities for creative problem solving and critical thinking, whilst guiding students' progress and instilling a love of lifelong learning.

Mater Maria is a vibrant, nurturing community which affords creative, academic and sport loving students with a diverse program of knowledge and skills. This maximises their individual achievements providing the opportunity to flourish beyond school.



Caring for the Individual - Student Wellbeing

Our student wellbeing and pastoral care program is structured so that each child is known as an individual, is challenged to reach his or her potential and feels connected to a cohesive community through various student leadership, faith development, social justice, mental health, anti-bullying and cyber safety initiatives.

We encourage our young people to value and respect themselves, build positive relationships and contribute to the welcoming feel that our College is renowned for. At Mater Maria, the inclusive nature of our co-educational setting provides a wide range of natural opportunities for building positive and healthy relationships between girls and boys needed for life after school.

Students are encouraged to have a growth mindset by developing personal goals and the resilience to use feedback for learning. Our behaviour management approach is grounded in restorative justice in a spirit of reconciliation which allows our students to discern appropriate behaviour and grow into responsible young adults.



Share your Gifts Co-Curricular Activities

Our curriculum is enriched by a diverse range of opportunities, to allow our students to follow their individual interests and share their talents in a more challenging and fulfilling way. Students have the opportunity to be involved in:

- Social Justice initiatives
- Faith formation events e.g. World Youth Day and Australian Catholic Youth Festivals
- Sporting and cultural tours
- Sport – a wide variety of representative sports as well as fitness training
- The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Performing arts programs including music ensembles and individual tutoring, drama and dance groups
- Creative arts clubs
- Debating and Public speaking
- Various academic competitions e.g. chemistry titration and mock trial
- Environmental stewardship activities
- House based competitions and activities





Parent Engagement

Parents, as the primary educators of their sons and daughters, are valued contributors to the life of the College. We welcome the whole family to our community to enhance the learning partnership and enrich each child's wellbeing.

There are many ways to be involved:

- Membership to the College Advisory Board and the Parents and Friends Association,
- Special event organisation
- Coaching of College sports teams
- Providing careers advice for students at the Careers Information day
- Mentoring students

It is our hope that parents support College activities and commit to the ongoing development of our community – your feedback is always welcomed.



Our Facilities

The College site is organised around a grand staircase ascending to the heart of the College - the beautiful Mater Maria Chapel.

Our facilities are modern and technologically equipped to offer engaging and creative ways for collaborating, communicating and delivering the curriculum. The site is wirelessly networked to service our 'Bring Your Own Device' program.

The College has indoor and outdoor agile learning spaces, new administration and staff facilities, an easily accessible student welfare hub, a new cafe style canteen and the old parts of the school have been reconfigured into 6 new classrooms, a new junior kitchen, a purpose-built STEM lab that thrives with over 1,000 students each receiving a holistic Catholic education.

It also has specialised learning spaces for electronics, digital learning, drama, fitness, hospitality, languages, music, science, timber, textiles and visual arts.

Students have the benefit of performing and presenting in the Byrne Theatre auditorium and the Marana Complex, which is an impressive gymnasium and gathering space for College events.

In the open air, the Mater Maria Oval, covered outdoor court and cricket nets provide training grounds and pitches for a number of Mater Maria's sporting teams.





Enrolment

Mater Maria Catholic College is the only co-educational Catholic secondary school on Sydney's Northern Beaches and welcomes all families who are seeking a faith-based, co-educational, quality education for their sons and daughters. As a school we strive for excellence in education and provide an opportunity for young people to belong to a Catholic community.

The Enrolment Committee welcomes all applications and follows the Catholic Schools Broken Bay Enrolment Policy.

Enrolment applications and enquiries are welcome once your child reaches Year 4 in primary school for entry into Year 7. Enrolment applications for Year 7 close two years prior to the students' commencement date (i.e. when students are in Year 5, Term 1 of their school year). All applications are held on file until the enrolment process has commenced.

Vacancies do occur from time to time for current Years 7 to 11. When such vacancies occur all applications held for that year are reviewed and enrolment offers are extended, subject to an interview with the Principal.

Please visit <https://matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolments/> for the list of enrolment documents required.

All enrolment paperwork should be sent to our Enrolment Registrar Deborah Fitzgerald at deborah.fitzgerald@dbb.catholic.edu.au.

Visitors are always welcome at Mater Maria Catholic College. We look forward to meeting you at our annual Open Day, or a College tour which can be booked online.





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