



*Mt St Patrick College
Prospectus*



In this sign is my hope



Dear Parents of Prospective Enrollees,

Thank you for considering Mt St Patrick College as an enrolment option for your child.

The information in this prospectus will assist you and your child gain an understanding of the unique features and benefits of a Mt St Patrick College education. Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

Mt St Patrick College is more than a school. It is a special place rich in tradition, caring yet challenging, busy but not so busy that a student's needs go unnoticed. It is a place where students come first and our best efforts are directed at achieving the highest outcome for every child.

Mt St Patrick College is a Year 7 - 12 co-educational Catholic secondary College with modern and restored historic buildings set in a clean and well maintained environment. An industrial kitchen, art workshop, photography laboratory and an air-conditioned Learning Support Centre, music studios, Library, three computer rooms and a newly opened technology-rich Science and Language Centre are some of the specialist teaching and learning facilities available to students. As well, senior students have access to a tiered eighteen seat lecture-type theatre. A new \$4.5 million Multipurpose Building with indoor basketball court, specialist Drama and PDHPE facilities will open in 2012. The recent installation of fifty two solar panels reflect our desire to educate by example and through active engagement.

Digital technology infrastructure is of a very high standard in the College with data projectors and interactive whiteboards in most classrooms as well as access to video conferencing facilities. A dedicated fibre optic connection and wireless internet access in all areas of the College allow effective use of a one-to-one student netbook program. Students are issued with their own netbook computer, subject to certain conditions.

The College has a committed team of well-qualified and dedicated teachers who are focused on the needs of the students in their care. They encourage a positive culture where students feel happy, valued and are challenged.

Mt St Patrick College is highly regarded within the local community and the Lismore Diocese. It has a reputation for being a warm and caring community committed to excellence in every aspect of schooling. The College is small enough for the individual to matter but large enough to offer a broad selection of learning experiences.

The curriculum is infused with clearly defined beliefs and values that nurture 'a particular way of living' based on Gospel values. We aim to engender self-esteem and confidence in our students by offering a broad academic and extra-curricula program which allow all students an opportunity to experience success.

A Mt St Patrick College education acknowledges the valuable role parents play in the formation of their children. We work in partnership with parents for the benefit of individual students and for the good of the College.

The information in this prospectus provides only a brief glimpse of the opportunities offered at Mt St Patrick College. Should you require further details on any matter, please contact either myself or the Enrolment Secretary, Mrs Jan Creasey. We are more than happy to assist with any enquiries.

Tony Daly
MCathEd MEd BSc DipEd MACEA
Principal

Values Our Vision



embrace life is our vision for Mt St Patrick College

Our Vision

Embrace life is our vision for Mt St Patrick College. It is inspired by the life and teachings of Christ encapsulated in John 10:10.

*I have come so that you may have life,
and have it to the full.*

This Vision encourages us as a Christian community to see life as a gift to be enjoyed, celebrated and shared, through the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom.

Our Mission

As a Catholic Educational Community in the Presentation tradition we are called to affirm Christ as the model for human life. We endeavor to encourage excellence, a love of learning and a passion for life.



Our Values

At Mt St Patrick College, all relationships and decision making will give witness to the following Gospel values:

Acceptance

Acting in a manner which recognizes difference and encourages tolerance.

Commitment

Acting in a manner that develops a positive dedicated and consistent approach so that each person achieves his/her full potential.

Community

Acting in a manner which nurtures quality relationships, where all College members feel respected, valued and have a sense of belonging.

Compassion

Acting in a manner which recognizes the needs, feelings and concerns of others and responds with empathy towards them.

Forgiveness

Acting in a manner that promotes growth and seeks to restore relationships damaged by poor decisions.

Justice

Acting in a manner which balances the needs of the individual and the community in a fair and equitable way.



values are closely linked to peace of mind and happiness

A strong commitment to Catholic beliefs and values

A Mt St Patrick College education involves much more than classroom teaching. It is about supporting families in their task to instil Christian values and beliefs in their children so that they may live by these values and, in doing so, make a valuable contribution to twenty first century society.

At Mt St Patrick College, our values and beliefs are a priority and are based on the life and teachings of Christ in the Catholic tradition. These values and beliefs pervade the life of the College and can be seen in every area of the curriculum, in the quality of our relationships, in what we prize and in the priorities we set.

Mt St Patrick College is a proud Presentation school. We are committed to the example of Nano Nagle, the foundress of the Presentation Sisters, who devoted her life to God and those made poor by an unjust system.

Nano Nagle, together with St Mary of the Cross and the Patron Saint of the College, St Patrick, inspire our community to a life of service, justice, commitment, community, compassion, forgiveness and acceptance. These values are of particular significance to the unique culture of the College and guide the development of quality relationships at Mt St Patrick.



community nurturing respect of self, others and property

A happy and caring community

At Mt St Patrick College, we aim to build a happy and caring community by nurturing respect of self, others and property. Our Welfare Policy, including our Anti-Bullying Policy, implement positive steps to ensure students and staff feel welcome and safe within the College environment. The College has a clearly defined Rights and Responsibilities Statement for both staff and students.

The College has specific procedures in place to ensure that Year 7 students, and new enrolments in other years, feel welcomed at Mt St Patrick. A two day Orientation Program and a modified Peer Support Program assist Year 6 students with their transition to secondary school.

Mt St Patrick has a vertical homeroom structure in the junior school which aims to build community within the College. Each homeroom class consists of students from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 with the older students encouraged to be mindful of the everyday wellbeing of younger or new students in their group.

Greetings and warm smiles are part of the culture of Mt St Patrick and are important in building quality working relationships in our community.



*Intrigue
Unique
Features*

are proud of their College and are prepared to voice this

A community with spirit

Mt St Patrick College has a unique spirit which is evident in all aspects of College life. Students feel comfortable participating in College organised events, irrespective of their skill level. Their willingness to be involved is an impressive feature of Mt St Patrick College students. The students feel they are a valued part of the College and that they belong here.

Staff, parents and students are proud to be associated with the College and are prepared to say so. Their sense of ownership assists the College in the achievement of our vision, to *embrace life*.

The College offers a range of community building opportunities including debating, the choir, band, fundraising activities, prayer and liturgical services, athletic and swimming carnivals, theme days, drama productions, community service, skits on assemblies, College musicals, sport, sporting house and homeroom competitions.

A strong house structure provides a friendly but competitive spirit in the College community. Homeroom classes are based on houses with points awarded for class and out of class activities which add to the final tally for the St Patrick's Champion House Trophy. The Trophy is presented annually and generates a great deal of interest amongst students.



*Students are actively
involved in College organized
events and have a strong
sense of ownership about
their school community.*

embrace life



develop self esteem and gain confidence to meet their future

An innovative curriculum

The curriculum at Mt St Patrick College is dynamic, student-centred and has a twenty first century focus. A three year one-to-one laptop program commenced in 2010 with the distribution of netbook computers to students in Years 7 and 10. All students will own their own netbook by 2012, subject to certain conditions. Prior to this, students will be able to gain access to a computer either in the Library or in a specialist computer room. Our technology-rich teaching and learning environment was further enhanced by the opening of five new high quality digital technology classrooms in 2011.

Students have access to a number of different study pathways which lead to the award of the School Certificate or the Higher School Certificate including Life Skills Courses, Vocational Education Courses, on-line delivery, acceleration or TAFE courses.

An innovative Science program, written specifically for Mt St Patrick College, allows Year 9 students to sit for their School Certificate Examination in Science at the end of Year 9 and then complete their Higher School Certificate Examination in Chemistry at the end of Year 11.



The aim of the program is to reduce a student's workload in Year 12, provide an opportunity for students to experience the demands of the HSC a year early and help create a more positive work ethic in their other subjects. The Mathematics KLA offers acceleration commencing in Year 7. Other KLA's offer acceleration, subject to certain conditions.

At Mt St Patrick College we endeavour to do our best for every student in terms of their educational needs and their growth as a Christian person. Every student is provided with opportunities to experience success, develop self esteem and to feel confident about entering the digital age of the twenty first century.

*The curriculum is flexible
and offers students a number
of different pathways leading
to the School Certificate and
Higher School Certificate.*

embrace life



Outstanding examination results

Mt St Patrick College has consistently achieved well above State average results in the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate Examinations confirming our place as one of the best academic schools in the region. The College has ranked in the top 200 Best Performing Schools in the Higher School Certificate for five consecutive years. It has also ranked in the top 100 Best Performing Schools on two occasions in the last four years. In 2007, the College was placed in the top 10% in the State with a rank of 66 while in 2010 Mt St Patrick College was ranked 80th in the State.

For five consecutive years, Mt St Patrick College has ranked third or higher in the Higher School Certificate out of the twenty nine schools on the North Coast. The College was also ranked as the top Catholic School on the North Coast and, in 2010, was the top Catholic School in the Lismore Diocese.

Our School Certificate results have been above State average in every subject for the last five years with the exception of one subject in one year. Our consistently high results indicate the expertise of staff and reflect a strong work ethic at Mt St Patrick College.

In the Higher School Certificate the College has always had students in the top 10% in the State in the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).



Lay the foundations upon which dreams are built



Achieving success

At Mt St Patrick College, we endeavour to make teaching and learning an exciting adventure and believe that every person is a “work in progress”. Education is an ongoing journey that is much more than the results obtained in the Higher School Certificate. A quality Catholic education is about learning not only the prescribed content of syllabus documents but also about living life in a particular way. We endeavour to nurture strong religious and personal values in our students so that they may live life to the full guided by our College motto *in hoc signo spes mea*, (in this sign is my hope).

At Mt St Patrick College, we accept our special responsibility to lay the foundations upon which dreams are built.

embrace life



Curriculum Options and Activities

Religious Dimension

- Strong religious culture in the Catholic tradition
- Religious Education for all students
- Retreat and reflection experiences
- Mt St Patrick College prayer
- Celebration of religious and College events
- Masses and Liturgies
- College Chaplain
- Christian Witness:
 - Fund Raising for local charities
 - St Vincent de Paul Conference
 - Meals-on-Wheels
 - You Have A Friend
 - Red Shield Appeal
 - Legacy

Academic

- Broad Academic and Vocational Curriculum
- Qualified and Experienced Staff
- Outstanding individual HSC Success
 - Majority of HSC courses achieve about state average
 - Consistently high HSC and SC results
 - Majority of HSC students gain admission to University
- On-line Learning—Distance Education
- Streamed and mixed ability classes
- Formal Examination Period
- Semester Reporting and Parent Teacher Interviews
- Year 7, 10, 11 Progress Reports
- Acknowledgement of success and effort
- Career Education
- Vocational Education Course
- TAFE Courses
- Gifted and Talented Program
- Life Skills Courses
- Literacy Program
- Numeracy Program
- Competitions
 - Sydney Morning Herald Writing Competition
 - Australian English/Mathematics/Science Competition
 - Australian Geography/Computers Competition
 - Tournament of Minds
- Acceleration Program

Technology

- Computer and internet access for all students
- Computerised Library
- Three modern air-conditioned Computer Laboratories
- College Webpage
- Variety of Technology subjects
- One to one Laptop Program
- Video Conference facilities
- Interactive Whiteboard
- Clickview
- Notebook

Cultural

- College Choir and Band
- Drama performances
- Musical productions
- Selections in ArtExpress
- Eisteddfod and Festivals Achievements
- Excellence in debating—State Champions
- Drama and Music Performance Evenings
- Instrumental program
- Public Speaking

Student Welfare

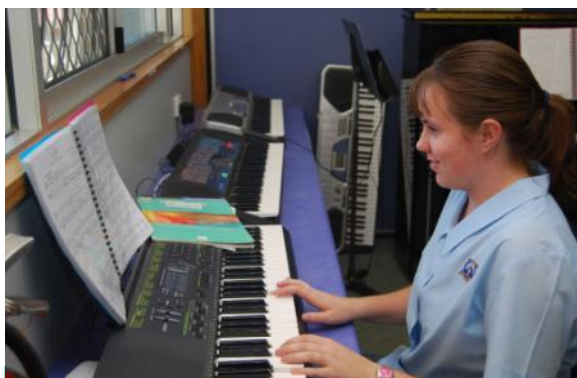
- Positive Discipline Program
- Merit System
- Student Representative Council
- Student Counselling
- Respectful student/staff relationships
- Healthy College Canteen
- Two Day Transition Program
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Rights and Responsibilities of Students
- Vertical Homerooms

Sport

- Weekly Sport
- Athletics/Swimming Carnival
- Interschool Competitions
- Regional and State Competitions
- Leisure Sports

Parent Participation

- College Board
- Parents' and Friends' Association
- Parent Information Meetings
- Canteen
- Have-a-Chat



Special Events

College Fund Raising
 Clean-Up Australia
 Anzac Day
 Open Day
 St Patrick's Day
 College Assemblies
 Year 12 Graduation Mass and Formal
 Five Day year 9 Excursion
 Year 12 Formal Assembly

English Key Learning Area (KLA)

English
 Special Education Classes
 Standard English
 Advanced English
 Extension I English
 Extension II English

Mathematics (KLA)

Mathematics
 General Mathematics
 Extension I and II

Science (KLA)

Science
 Biology
 Chemistry
 Earth and Environmental Science
 Marine Studies
 Physics
 Senior Science

Human Society and its Environment (KLA)

Catholic Studies
 Studies of Religion
 World History and Global Geography
 Ancient History/On-Line)
 Modern History
 Business Studies
 Commerce
 Geography
 Economics (On-Line)
 Legal Studies
 Australian History
 Australian Geography

Languages Other than English (KLA)

French

Creative Arts (KLA)

Art
 Drama
 Music
 Music Course I
 Photography
 Visual Arts

Technology and Applied Studies (KLA)

Design and Technology
 Technology (Mandatory)
 Food Technology
 Hospitality (VET)
 Information Processes Technology
 Marine and Aquaculture Technology
 Software Design and Development (On-Line)
 Industrial Technology - Timber
 Industrial Technology - Timber Products
 Textiles Technology

Personal Development, health and Physical Education (KLA)

PD/H/PE
 Physical Activity and Sports Studies
 Community and Family Studies
 Sport Lifestyle and Recreation

Sport

Traditional Sports
 Athletics, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Touch Football, Volleyball, Surf Life Saving

Interest Elective Sport

Aerobics, Aqua Aerobics/Synchronized Swimming, Beach Cricket, Beach Fitness Activities, Beach Volleyball, Beach Walking, Fishing, Indoor Cricket, Lawn Bowls, Rowing, Self Defense, Surf Board Riding, Surf Survival, Water Polo, Weight Training, Yoga, Zumba

Note: Elective subjects offered depend on student numbers and are Stage specific.



In this sign is my hope

Mt St Patrick College

Murwillumbah

Mt St Patrick

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Mt St Patrick College

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