



GENAZZANO  
FCJ COLLEGE

# Boarding Handbook

Ready to take  
on tomorrow.

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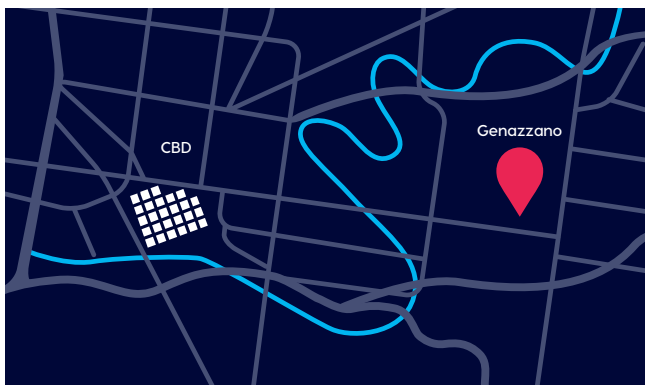
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The Genazzano FCJ College campus is situated approximately 10kms from the Melbourne CBD, located on Cotham Road Kew, the campus is easily accessible.


The College is located within expansive grounds surrounded by lush trees and gardens. This beautiful environment provides space for students to engage, explore and discover.

You can contact the College via email [registrar@genazzano.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@genazzano.vic.edu.au) or on **+61 3 8862 1000**.

We invite you to come and experience the Genazzano FCJ College difference.



301 Cotham Road, Kew VIC 3101  
+61 3 8862 1000  
[genazzano.vic.edu.au](http://genazzano.vic.edu.au)

 [facebook.com/GenazzanoFCJCollege](https://facebook.com/GenazzanoFCJCollege)  
 [@GenFCJ](https://www.instagram.com/GenFCJ)



# Welcome to Genazzano.

Genazzano FCJ College was founded in 1889 by the Society of Faithful Companions of Jesus, originally as a boarding school for country girls. Boarding for country and international students remains a significant aspect of the offerings at the College today.

As Director of Boarding at Hopetoun Hall, and on behalf of my staff, I would like to welcome you to our boarding community. The Genazzano boarding house, Hopetoun Hall caters for 40 boarders from Years 7 to 12 and is the only all-girls' Catholic boarding school in Victoria.

There is no doubt enrolling your daughter as a boarding student is significant time in the life of your family, especially for your daughter. At Genazzano, we understand and respect the sacrifice that boarding families make, and our dedicated and professional team aim to ensure that the boarding experience for your family is a positive one.

Boarding offers students a wide variety of positive and significant opportunities for personal growth and wellbeing; as well as the development of independent life skills and lifelong friendships. Our boarders foster a sisterhood that is like no other, and the friendships the boarders form will last well beyond their time at Hopetoun Hall.

Following a supported transition to the house, boarders are responsible for organising themselves and managing their time, just as they would at home.

The development of personal life skills, especially those learnt while living in a community at a young age are invaluable; as are the very strong friendships that are forged in a boarding community.

The Boarding House is an environment conducive to study. The routines and environment in the house ensure that boarders have quiet and appropriate spaces to study.

Having time to relax and unwind is also very important for all boarders and there are always places and opportunities for this to happen within the House. Saturday nights in the house are a time for fun activities and socialising. Senior boarders assist staff in planning activities including cooking, art and outings.

Our boarders are heavily involved in a wide range of co-curricular activities, many of which take place at the College. They also participate in local community teams including Womens' AFL and netball, making use of the excellent local parks and facilities close to the house.

Your daughter will enjoy many valuable experiences during her time as a boarder at Hopetoun Hall and will leave as an independent and confident young woman equipped with important life skills and well prepared for the next stage of her life.

I look forward to working with you as we support your daughter on her boarding journey.

**Lauren Kennedy**  
Director of Boarding

## Our vision

# A sense of going home.



Our boarders leave as independent, confident and caring young women with an aspiration towards excellence. They are motivated to strive for greatness to reach their full potential.

Genazzano remains Victoria's only Catholic girls' boarding school, with a long and proud history educating and nurturing the wellbeing of our students for well over a century.

Providing our girls with a sense of 'going home' at the end of each school day is the foundation upon which our Boarding House, Hopetoun Hall, is based.

Located just three kilometres from the College, the off-campus location is a happy and nurturing home that encourages independence and social responsibility for students from various social and geographic backgrounds.

Hopetoun Hall is a safe and welcoming place where all boarders enjoy a friendly community life in an environment conducive to study. The boutique style accommodation ensures that each boarder knows one another and they share a close bond. Unlike school, when the boarders return 'home' to Hopetoun Hall, the concept of year levels are forgotten and the boarders are drawn together.

Supported by a dedicated and professional team of staff, committed to providing quality care, the boarders are provided with an environment that guides throughout their educational journey. Staff also encourage boarders to embrace the many opportunities available to them, through the extensive co-curricular program on offer.

Hopetoun Hall boarders are always well represented within the College in leadership roles and as recipients of academic honours, music, sports and performance awards.

The academic benefits of boarding include the strong and close support of teachers and peers. Within Hopetoun Hall, boarders are involved in study routines and specific educational programs, including tutoring support. This learning culture supports and engages all boarders, with older boarders providing guidance and assistance for younger boarders which in turn enhances the community and culture within the house.

## Faith & mission

# A passion for life.

As a Catholic College, the particular emphasis on faith and mission at Genazzano flows from a strong sense of Catholic identity and the FCJ Charism (spiritual gift). Faith education at Genazzano is informed by three core values: a passion for life, a love of learning, and the courage and confidence to lead and serve others.

**Our graduates will be seen as women of contemplation, competence, compassion, and commitment**

The inspirational foundress of the Sisters FCJ, Marie Madeleine d'Houet, was a woman for our time. Her great faith gifted her with the courage and confidence that was the basis of her life's work, and the work of all the Sisters, past, present and future, who continue to respond as women, to the call of those in need.

In the spirit of Marie Madeleine, the College seeks to create a caring atmosphere where all students find their place and feel at home. We encourage all students to view the world with kindness and curiosity.

With a real and meaningful commitment to sharing the importance of social justice, Genazzano prepares students for the world beyond the College where they can continue to be valuable members of the community; both local and global.

Companionship is central to the FCJ philosophy of education, being expressed through faithfulness, gentleness and respect.

Genazzano seeks to be a nurturer of life and a joyful messenger of hope and love, preparing our students for a life of leadership in the wider community.



# Boarding information.

Hopetoun Hall Boarding House is situated in leafy Camberwell, a short tram ride, 3kms from the main campus.

Boarders come from far and wide; including country areas of New South Wales and Victoria and international students from Hong Kong, China, Vietnam, Japan and Dubai.

## Day in the life of a boarder

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### 6.00am

Boarders involved in co-curricular that may require an early start are woken and travel to their activities.

### 7.00am

Boarders are woken for College, get dressed and attend breakfast.

### 7.30am

Organise for the day and tidy bedrooms.

### 7.50am

Travel to College.

### 8.15am

Arrive at College.

### 8.30am

College commences - Throughout the College day, boarders participate in the life of the College. Recess and lunch is provided by the onsite Café.

### 3.25pm

College concludes and boarders generally return to the Boarding House.

Some boarders may participate in co-curricular activities or elect to study in the College library.

### 4.00pm

Boarders arrive at the house and enjoy afternoon tea. They enjoy free time and may choose to socialise with one another, study, go to the local shopping precinct, go for a walk or use the gym at the Boarding House.

### 6.00pm

The evening meal is an important time for all boarders and staff to share a meal.

### 6.30pm

Boarding duty teams work together to complete their cleaning duties.

### 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Study time.

### 9.00pm – 9.15pm

A light supper is provided.

### 9.30pm

Bedtime for Years 7, 8 and 9 boarders.

### 10.00pm

Bedtime for Year 10 boarders.

### 10.30pm

Bedtime for Years 11 and 12 boarders.

### 11.00pm

Year 12 boarders may study further.

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**On weekends, the Boarding House is a hive of activity with boarders involved in a variety of sports and music commitments, social justice activities, personal social events, excursions, as well as activity nights.**

# Opportunities for boarders.

The experience of boarding and living in a community enables the development of a range of life skills that prepare our boarders for life.

- Study skills are taught and enhanced within the House.
- The opportunity to develop a wide range of friendships and networks from within Australia and overseas.
- Association with Xavier College for boarders and families, including attendance at various social events.
- Opportunities to participate in house activities, excursions and events as a boarding group.
- Access to all facilities of the College.
- Leadership within the house for all senior boarders is arranged through leadership programs.
- Boarders have access to participate in over 130 co-curricular opportunities.
- Be part of a culture of academic excellence which ranks Genazzano in the top 5% of the state for VCE results.
- Our GenSTAR Program supports students to develop resilience, think for peak performance and develop skills for a safe, healthy and positive approach to life.
- Boarders are supported by the Performance Psychology Centre, who offer counselling, education and skill development, as well as strategies for performance enhancement in areas such as sport, exam technique, public speaking and music performance.



# Friends of Hopetoun Hall.

Friends of Hopetoun Hall was established in 2013 to provide a network of support for Genazzano boarders. This parent led community is an important component in the life of a boarder, enabling families from across the country, and the globe, to connect.

The highlight of the boarding calendar is the 'Friends of Hopetoun Hall Annual Eucharist and Luncheon'. This event is a wonderful opportunity to reflect and give thanks, and to celebrate the achievements of boarding students. This is an especially lovely occasion to welcome new families to the boarding community, providing them with a network of connections to ensure they feel welcome and supported.

Friends of Hopetoun Hall provide opportunities to connect throughout the year and keep families up to date with social activities.

The College also hosts events in rural Victoria and New South Wales and internationally, which provide an opportunity for prospective families to meet current and past families and to obtain a valuable insight into the Genazzano Boarding Program.

The Genazzano boarders feel part of a wider network of supporters through Friends of Hopetoun Hall and this community is a natural extension of the welcoming and engaged community at Gen.







**We look forward to welcoming  
you as a boarding family and  
a Friend of Hopetoun Hall.**

# Boarding student profile.



**“My advice to a new boarder is to be brave and take risks. Don't be afraid to talk to new people, they may turn out to be your best friend. Try new things, such as painting club or volleyball might just become your new hobby. Take advantage of every opportunity”**

**Kathy Chang**  
Hong Kong  
Class of 2023

Ever since I watched Harry Potter, I have always dreamed of going to boarding school. When it came to the real thing, I was terrified!

As an international student, I was afraid to be away from home, afraid to make new friends, afraid that I wouldn't be able to eat homemade Asian food for a whole year. Fortunately, the moment I arrived at Hopetoun Hall, these thoughts completely disappeared, as I was welcomed by the warm smiles of the staff and the inviting gestures of the girls.

My fears turned to excitement, as I began to anticipate the fulfilment of doing my own laundry and organising my own study schedule.

The beauty of boarding is that living in close proximity to other boarders, you get to know people, not just from your own year level, so quickly and naturally.

Even studying can become enjoyable with friends. The friendships I have built are incredible, from both happy times and the hardships we have faced together.

Beginning as a Year 9 boarder, the positive atmosphere of Hopetoun Hall brightened my days at Gen. Now that I am a Senior boarder, I help to support the Year 9 boarders, providing words of encouragement in the hope of making their experience at Gen as amazing as mine.

Boarding is truly a remarkable experience. Not only has it taught me independence and diligence, it has given me lifelong friendships. There is always help when you need it and absolutely nothing to be afraid of.

**GenConnect**

# Community & Connection.

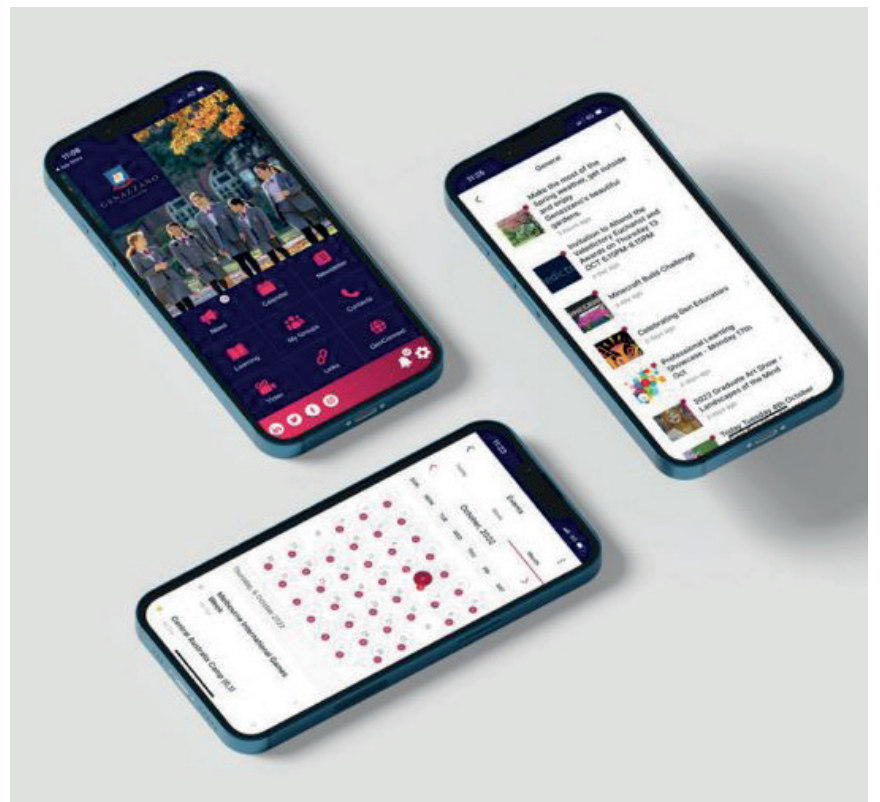
GenConnect has been developed as the central learning platform for the Genazzano FCJ College community. GenConnect provides an online environment that enables communication, learning opportunities and collaboration.

A major feature of the platform is the sophisticated notification system, enabling the delivery of crucial information such as student assessments, College news and events delivered via email and mobile push notifications. Parents can customise these notifications to their preferred options, from delivery types to the receiving of messages.

GenConnect provides the connection necessary for families in their daily organisation which includes online payments, managing personal details, the College calendar, policies and electronic forms.

The platform also connects the community to many other groups within the College including the Mothers' and Fathers' Associations, co-curricular programs, sporting and music groups.

Through the GenConnect platform, notifications, groups and news will keep you well informed and connected to the broader College community.





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