

# Senior School

YEAR 7 — YEAR 12



### Welcome from the Principal



At Toorak College, we place our students at the forefront of our decision making to ensure that we are attuned to their academic and personal needs. Our commitment to the students' learning endeavours and co-curricular achievements is unwavering as we prepare them for their future.

As Toorak is the top performing school on the Mornington Peninsula, we are focused on ensuring that we continue to prepare students for successful transitions, promote the health and wellbeing of our students and develop partnerships with industry beyond school.

Our Strategic Plan: Beyond 150, emphasises the priorities we have as a school over the next three years. These priorities include exploring the Future of Work and Corporate Partnerships, Innovation in Curriculum, Digital Enhancement and Integration, Revitalising Spaces, Global Networking, and Community Engagement and Social Responsibility. This will allow us to deliver a forward-thinking educational experience for the next generations of Toorak College students.

We look forward to working with the students, parents and community to guide Toorak College beyond 150 years.

Mrs Kristy Kendall **Principal** 



Established in 1874, Toorak College has a long and proud history of welcoming girls from many different countries from around the world. We are an independent all girls school from 3-year-old Kindergarten to Year 12 with boarding opportunities available from Years 7-12.

Toorak College is proud to be a part of the trusted and experienced Boarding School community in Victoria. We aim to empower our students through academic and personal growth so they thrive in their future. We strive to challenge and nurture every individual, developing independence, curiosity and self-belief. We recognise that every child is different and every year presents new challenges and learning opportunities. When a student joins Toorak, we encourage them to develop originality and creativity in their thinking. Their schooling is a journey that will continue to resonate throughout their life.

For many of our students, the learning journey starts in the early years. From our Early Learning students to our Year 12 graduates, our students experience a holistic academic program that fosters the growth of skill development and knowledge across all disciplines.

An integral part of Toorak College is our boarding community who reside on our campus either full time or for a short stay in the care of our dedicated staff. Our boarding program focuses strongly on the wellbeing of the individual where students can enjoy the wonders of the Mornington Peninsula and develop lifelong friendships. It is this kind of nurturing environment we strive to create on a daily basis that makes this life-changing adventure for our students so memorable.

At Toorak, there are boundless opportunities available to all students that support their journey of discovering and evolving their passions. Our School is certainly a dynamic environment as students invest their time and dedication in many co-curricular activities and House events throughout the year. We pride ourselves on delivering excellent co-curricular opportunities in leadership, music, sports, arts, dance, drama and more.



### ACADEMIC GROWTH Curriculum and Learning Skills

Our Academic Growth pillar equips our students with an academic foundation that gives them the skills to inquire, explore and innovate. Our broad curriculum develops critical and creative thinking through our explicit and immersive teaching practices. We track and communicate student progress through metrics that involve both performance and potential data markers to ensure ongoing growth, extension and enrichment of every student. By exploring the interconnectedness of various subject specialities, alongside the world beyond our gates, students gain a broader perspective and develop curiosity, adaptability, and a sense of achievement.

### PERSONAL GROWTH Wellbeing and Character Development

Our Personal Growth pillar focuses on the comprehensive development of our students, encompassing their physical, emotional, moral and social development. We view all of our students as capable, competent and full of potential, and to help each of them realise this, we offer tools, resources and support to enhance their health and wellbeing. Our curriculum is designed with age-appropriate programs that aim to promote emotional and social awareness and are informed through self-report data that identifies a student's needs, as an individual and as part of a community. The key objective to enhancing an individual's personal growth is in fostering attitudes, behaviours and capacities that create well-rounded, perceptive and healthy individuals.



To support our Vision to develop aspiring young people with confidence and character, and strengthen our Mission of empowering our students through academic and personal growth so they will thrive in their future, our Project Shine program represents a whole school approach to growth and development.

Our overarching educational philosophy, Project Shine, sits atop four pillars - Academic Growth, Personal Growth, Empower and Thrive - to create a holistic and enriching learning and wellbeing experience for students. Each pillar is viewed as integral to developing young people with confidence and character and are equally important in a young person's development.

Project Shine is shaped by educational neuroscience, developmental psychology and the future world of work to inform decisions in a child's educational journey that enable skills such as collaboration, problem-solving and innovation that supports them to thrive in the world beyond our gates.

Individual growth along each of these pillars is underpinned by the focus and support of developmental milestones in social, cognitive, moral and emotional development that occur throughout a young person's life and enable them to become curious and self-aware individuals.

See how each of our offerings at Toorak align with these four pillars in the educational journey of all our students.

### EMPOWER Leadership and Co-Curricular Pursuits

Our Empower pillar is designed to build positive relationships through shared interests and collaboration that fosters a sense of connectedness and strengthens our school community. Leadership development is prioritised, empowering every student to become responsible and empathetic role models who can positively impact their communities and enables all of our students to develop a positive sense of self. Our co-curricular offering extends on the rich foundation of skills developed in our academic and personal growth programs which builds skills in managing competing demands, communication skills, problem-solving, teamwork, competition, discipline and drive. Activities such as sports, camps, clubs, music, community and the arts, enhance our students' educational experience through personal interest, self-expression and aspiration. These skills are essential to building confidence as students discover and showcase their interests in a supportive environment.

### Student Futures and Global Networking

Our Thrive pillar seamlessly aligns with our educational philosophy in using the world around us to inform our programs, offerings and experiences. This is showcased in our comprehensive Student Futures programs that creates harmonious synergy and helps our students work closely with industry partners, offering challenging classroom opportunities that encourage resilience, collaboration, and lifelong learning. Our students are immersed in global, pathway and career-oriented initiatives that give them the confidence to pursue their goals beyond graduation to become purposeful worldly citizens. This is further strengthened through our international student program that allows for authentic and insightful connections with Toorak students wherever they may be in the world. Strong connections with our Collegian community also provide our students with access to mentorship, guidance, networking, and career advice within a lifelong community.

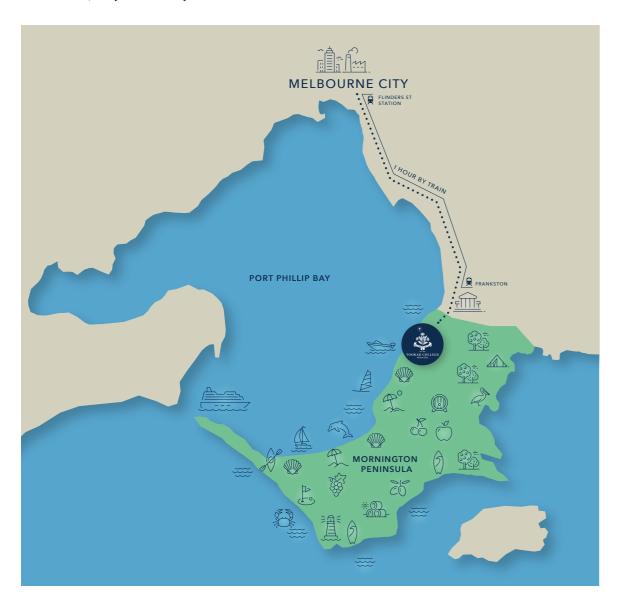
## Historical Buildings, Idyllic Location

Toorak College's history is reflected in its awe-inspiring buildings. The Toorak College campus covers 11.5 hectares with outstanding facilities, beautiful gardens and breathtaking views of Port Phillip Bay.

The heritage buildings are contrasted with facilities that are very much designed around best practice in education today. Toorak College is firmly committed to providing its students with state-of-the-art facilities, enhancing learning opportunities across the school.

Nestled in the idyllic, spacious grounds of Toorak College, the Boarding House's proximity to bayside beaches gives the campus a unique country environment, away from the city. Our location offers the ideal Australian experience, featuring a harmonious blend of lush bushlands, pristine beaches and easy access to the vibrant city culture of Melbourne, just an hour away.

With students living on campus there is no daily commute, making it easy for students to access everything Toorak has to offer.





### **Inspiring Facilities**

### SWIFT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

Our Swift Science & Technology Centre enables complete flexibility for students to work individually, in small groups, class groups and beyond. State-of-the-art technology is fitted throughout the building, ensuring that learning is not confined to the classroom.

A haven for creative minds, the architecturally stunning double-story design features ultra-modern, custom-built physics, biology, and chemistry laboratories, a DIGI Zone for innovative exploration, a sophisticated boardroom, and an inspiring amphitheatre.

#### COMMUNITY AND ARTS PRECINCT

Our newest development showcases Toorak College's performing arts and musical talent in a state-of-the-art, 800 seat theatre-style facility that promotes confidence, collaboration, and creativity among students, staff and guests under one roof. With the ability to bring the entire Junior and Senior School together for assemblies and special events, this new facility is a place where significant moments are created and celebrated.

### MARJORIE WILLIAMS SPORT CENTRE

Our Marjorie Williams Sport Centre offers a purpose built dance and aerobics studio, pilates and yoga studio, basketball court and gymnasium. Outdoor facilities feature a state of the art athletics track, soccer field, hockey pitch and AFL ground.

### **AQUATICS**

We are proud to have all our water facilities on-site to promote confidence and skill enrichment to our students who have a passion for the pool. Our diving pool offers a 1-metre and 3-metre springboard for all young diving enthusiasts, while our 25-metre, 8 lane lap pool is the home for Physical Education classes, co-curricular water activities and House Swimming.

### MUSIC CENTRE

The Music Centre is a harmonious space with an awe inspiring contemporary auditorium that hosts choirs, orchestras and concerts. The centre has rehearsal rooms, private tuition rooms and a recording studio.

### DANCE STUDIO

Our dance studio is fitted with sprung polished wooden flooring, full length mirror and fixed ballet bars. This space inspires artistic expression for all.

### JOAN ANSETT HALL

Our Boarding House, Joan Ansett Hall is located on the spacious grounds of Toorak College. Joan Ansett Hall serves as a nurturing home for Australian and international students from Years 7-12. Here, academic and personal growth are seamlessly integrated into the living environment, creating a holistic learning experience. Our boarders enjoy modern, spacious bedrooms, contemporary common rooms, indoor/outdoor dining options and full access to the onsite academic and recreational facilities.





### On Campus English Language Support Centre

Toorak College has long been the leader in international education in Australia. Toorak College was one of the first schools in the country to set up an English Language Support Centre and is currently the only girls school in Victoria to have language support on campus. Toorak has taken its decades of expertise in English Language Acquisition for school students and created a revolutionary model of immersive language acquisition for all international students.

Toorak College supports students with their language acquisition by working with each student prior to their mainstream class and front loading them with the vocabulary, definitions and knowledge required for the class. Students are then easily able to follow the mainstream teacher and classroom activities, giving them more confidence to participate in the class and accelerating their learning and language acquisition rapidly.

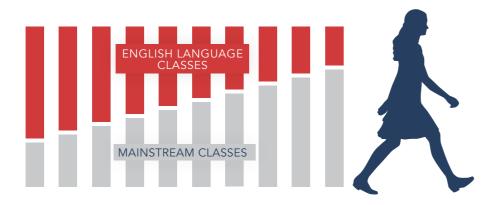
Toorak deeply understands the needs of international students and the way in which they acquire language as well as the need for each student to build confidence in speaking, learning and living in an English environment. The Immersive Language Acquisition program is just another way that Toorak College sets itself apart from all other schools with its unparalleled support for international students.



### TOORAK COLLEGE'S UNIQUE BLENDED APPROACH

Toorak College students access mainstream classes from day one and they always have the support of the onsite English Language Support Centre until their graduation.

This unique blended learning model accelerates their academic and personal growth.



### Specialist Support For International Students



### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE** SUPPORT CENTRE

Our on campus English Language Support Centre is available to all international students and has a 1:5 teacher student ratio. Our dedicated teaching staff ensure each student is supported and guided in their English language acquisition and help to accelerate their learning.



### STUDENT ADVOCATE

At Toorak College, we understand the challenges our international students may face. A dedicated Student Advocate is part of our Health and Wellbeing Program for international boarding students. The Student Advocate speaks your daughter's native language so communication is easy.



#### **TUTORIAL**

Every morning begins with a tutorial where every student is seen by their classmates and teacher. It is a time to set priorities for the day and ensure each student starts with a positive mindset and a purpose for what is to be achieved, enabling their own selfconfidence and self-sufficiency to develop.



### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Next to Joan Ansett Hall is Toorak College's Health and Wellbeing Centre. Our trained nurses take care of any medical needs our students have and quality doctors and hospitals are only a few minutes away from our campus should the need arise.



#### WELLBEING

Our curriculum offers students a deep understanding of themes surrounding health and wellbeing, ensuring our students are equipped with a range of strategies and are informed of the risks and responsibilities, which are taught by qualified teachers in this specialist subject area.



### **BOARDING STAFF**

The staff at Joan Ansett Hall are enthusiastic, caring and committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for your daughter. We know each of the students well and form respectful and open relationships with each girl and their parents. Next to Joan Ansett Hall is Toorak College's Health and Wellbeing Centre.

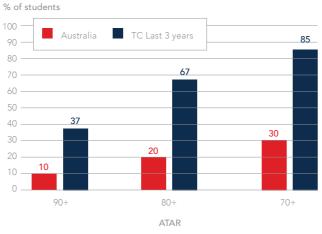
### **Outstanding Results**

Toorak College students are among Australia's best. Toorak College consistently ranks in the list of top 20 girls schools in Victoria and has exceptional VCE results.

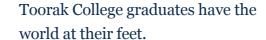
In the past three years, Toorak College has seen impressive achievements from the entire cohort.

- ▶ 19% of our students achieved an ATAR of 95 or above, placing them in the top 5% of Australia
- ▶ 37% of our students achieved an ATAR of 90 or above, placing them in the top 10% of Australia
- ▶ 67% of our students achieved an ATAR of 80 or above, placing them in the top 20% of Australia

These exceptional results enable Toorak girls to take the university pathway of their dreams.



### **Exceptional Pathways**

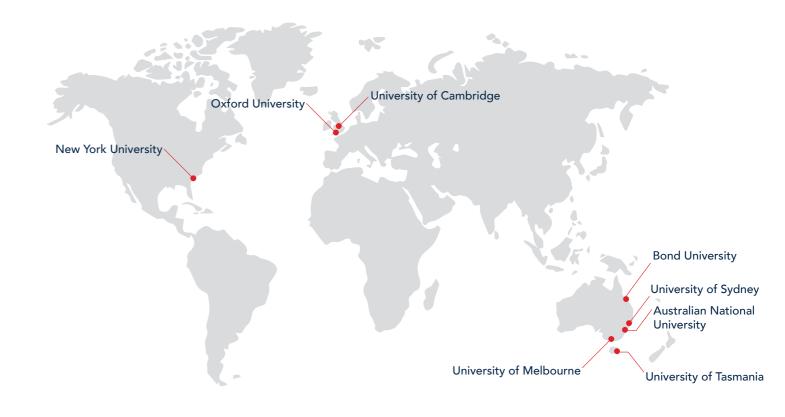


After studying at Toorak College all of our international students choose top universities in Australia. The University of Melbourne, Monash University or the University of Sydney are the preferred choices with 100% of our 2023 international cohort being accepted to the University of Melbourne. Toorak College international students will go on to study Science and Engineering, Architecture, Medicine and Education.



### UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Toorak College holds a prestigious partnership with The University of Melbourne and the Melbourne Schools Partnership International. Every year The University of Melbourne organises a range of activities tailored to international students enrolled in Year 11 to inspire them about their future study. This partnership also offers the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program for Toorak College girls. Every year all Year 11 international students apply and The University of Melbourne chooses the most outstanding student based upon not only the student's academic results but their participation within the school's co-curricular activities and their involvement in leadership roles at school and in the community.



### **Student Progress**

One of the biggest changes to the world of education lies in our ability to effectively access, learn and respond to data.

Toorak College is a leader in the educational landscape of data analysis. Data is frequently gathered on student learning and growth to enable a developing picture to emerge on each of our students. The use of data ensures that we create a truly personalised and individualised program for every student. It also ensures that every student is being mapped and tracked, taking the guesswork out of education. Our use of data looks at three main fields:



### EDROLO

In Senior School, we want to ensure our teachers can authentically know what our students understand. This is particularly important in the VCE years. By using a program called Edrolo, our students are exposed to a second teacher through video content, and teachers have access to see which areas of the course students don't understand, where errors are being made and where content is being revisited. This data helps to shape teaching day by day instead of at the end of a unit, semester or year.





#### STUDENT DATA TRACKING

In both our Junior and Senior Schools, we use computer software to track student development in at least 24 key developmental skills. This data is obtained through NAPLAN, PAT and other standardised tests to ensure it is benchmarked and can be used to look at growth over time. The data allows Toorak College to track individual, class, year level and school trends ensuring that our program and curriculum changes are always informed through data and not through the latest trends.

Toorak is proud to be partnering with a selection of the programs above to shape the way education is moving and changing, not just for our students but for the advantage of students and teachers everywhere.

### **Industry Partnerships**

Toorak College's Pathways & Partnerships Program provides students with career insights and experiences through mentoring, networking, work experience, cadetships, and industry immersion excursions.

Partnerships with STEM-focused companies such as The Downer Group, CellCare, NAB and Seymour Whyte offer unique opportunities for students to gain real world experience and develop skills across Science, Technology, Design, Marketing, Engineering and Mathematics.

The program has also secured cadetships for graduates studying a complementary university degree.

By working closely with our industry partners, we are able to bring meaningful challenges into the classroom and give young women opportunities in industry learning.















### Co-Curricular

### **SPORT**

Our students have access to all of our sporting opportunities. We understand the importance that sport plays in the overall physical and mental health of our students and they are encouraged to be involved in as many sports as they would like. As part of our elite sporting program, Toorak College competes in the Girls Sport Victoria (GSV) Schools Competition, which involves 24 independent girls' schools across Melbourne in 23 different sports.



Aerobics	Golf	Softball
AFL	Hockey	Surf Lifesaving
Athletics	Indoor Cricket	Swimming
Badminton	Netball	Tennis
Basketball	Rowing	Triathlon
Cross Country	Sailing	Volleyball
Diving	Snowsports	Water Polo
Equestrian	Soccer	



#### THE PERFORMING ARTS

Through a stimulating and safe environment, students engage with their imagination and are encouraged to express themselves through performance. Toorak offers an exceptional dance program where students choreograph and create dance pieces while honing their technical abilities. Drama offers the opportunity to perform in productions and produce solo or group works.

### TOORAK ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS (TAPA)

Toorak Academy of Performing Arts is a newly-launched initiative that fosters student growth and extension in all areas of the Performing Arts. TAPA is open to all students from Prep-Year 12 after school and focuses on Dance, Musical Theatre and Drama.

### MUSIC

The Music centre boasts superb facilities where students can learn, rehearse and perform in personalised learning spaces. All students who have a passion for music can participate in a range of ensemble offerings — bands, choirs, orchestras, string and brass ensembles and jazz and contemporary bands both large and small. Students also perform in formal concerts, soirées and jazz nights where family and friends can delight in their musical progress.

- ▶ Guitar Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar
- ▶ Brass Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn and Tuba
- ▶ Keyboard Electric Keyboard, Pianoforte
- ▶ Percussion Drum Kit, Orchestral Percussion
- ▶ Strings Cello, Double Bass, Viola, Violin, Harp
- ▶ Woodwind Bassoon, Clarinet, Flute, Oboe, Saxophone.
- ▶ Voice
- ▶ Theory and Musicianship

### **VISUAL ARTS**

Our Art teachers work collaboratively with students in an open setting to help realise their creative potential. Whether it be 2D or 3D art, students are encouraged to explore, discover and communicate their findings by developing their own artworks. Artworks are displayed in competitions and exhibitions including Top Arts - Designs, Shots and Screens, the Moran Prize, Ilford Photographic Competition, Mornington Arts Show and the Archibald and Silk Cut. The Toorak Exhibition showcases the students' artwork and is a highlight of the school calendar.

#### **CLUBS**

Students have the opportunity to create their own pathway by joining a club that they are passionate about. Our students indulge in debating, knitting, art, drama, chess, music and more. Being part of a club also enables students to work collaboratively with students from other year levels, strengthen friendships with those who share common interests and demonstrate leadership skills.



### The Benefits of Boarding

In Australia, over 14,566 students board on campus with over 140 schools offering opportunities for boarding. We've compiled a list of benefits for families and students considering a boarding school experience whether that be full time or under a weekly or short stay arrangement.

### OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS AND INDEPENDENCE

Boarding school teaches students a great lesson in what it means to be independent and responsible for themselves. Whilst the school offers meals, accommodation, supervision and support, students learn valuable skills including time management, organisation, and important life skills which they can develop from as young as Year 7. This might include keeping their accommodation clean, cooking for themselves in the common room and even looking after their own washing! Toorak College offers full time, weekly and casual boarding options. Flexible arrangements provide students from all locations the opportunity to study at Toorak College.

#### IMPROVED SOCIAL SKILLS

As a child begins to develop their first social skills their parents and siblings are able to provide them with all they require. However, as children grow and become more socially adept, their most important interactions will involve their peer group. By enrolling your child into weekly or short stay boarding, they will improve their negotiation skills, sharing, social cues and empathy skills and also experience the feeling of what it is to be truly seen and valued by your peers. An invaluable lesson for your children in developing self-confidence.

### **BROADEN PERSONAL VIEWS**

Australia is a wonderfully diverse country with our Boarding House reflecting this landscape. Students who attend Toorak College will become more aware of diversity in all its forms including, but not limited to, cultural, religious, physical abilities and age. Studies have shown that children who are exposed to an array of opinions and beliefs acquire stronger social skills and improved confidence. They learn how to approach situations and people with an open mind which helps them grow as individuals.

#### FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKING FAMILIES

With fresh meals prepared daily, organised transport to sporting games, allocated study times and access to school facilities after hours, it is easy to understand how boarding schools appeal to parents. If your child is boarding on a weekly or short stay basis, the school provides transport to and from these activities allowing children and parents to focus on the meaningful parts of these experiences. It also provides an opportunity for the family unit to invest quality time with one another when it counts.



Toorak College has been a wonderful school for our daughters. It is a positive learning experience and a safe pathway for my children to meet new friends and integrate into Australian culture."

Elvis Nguyen, Vietnam



Toorak College is not just a place where we spend a few years of our lives but a community that extends beyond Year 12. The value of the connections and friendships formed here inspires me to continue nurturing these relationships."

Sophia, Australia



We are so lucky to have many cultures in the Boarding House. To live together and learn from each other."

XiTian (Mary) Li, China



A busy boarder is a happy boarder. Boarders at Toorak College have a range of social and recreational activities to choose from each weekend that explore both inner city Melbourne, the Mornington Peninsula and beyond. They are supported by enthusiastic and caring staff who are available to boarders 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Elizabeth Birrell, Head of Boarding

# A Day in the Life of a Boarder

Living and studying at Toorak College transforms lives. We provide our students with a safe environment, holistic education, dedicated wellbeing offering, and empower their goals, whatever they may be.

Boarders come from all around Australia and the world to experience everything Toorak College has to offer. Joan Ansett Hall is a home to approximately 70 local, rural and international students from Years 7-12.

Toorak College is home to girls from across Australia and overseas including Armenia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

6:00am	Boarders involved in co-curricular activities that require an early start are up and traveling to their activities	
7:00am	Boarders wake up and get dressed and ready for school	
7:30am	Boarders enjoy a healthy breakfast prepared by qualified chefs	
8:30am	Boarders walk to their classes, a short stroll from the Boarding House	
8:40am	Classes commence The Boarding House is closed throughout the day and students participate in classes at the school. Recess and lunch is provided at the onsite canteen	
3:30pm	Classes conclude	
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Free time or prep (Study)	
6:00pm	Dinner	
6:30pm	Showers	
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Free time or prep (Study) Hand in electronics (Years 7-10) Lights out	









### The Toorak College All-Girls Advantage

At Toorak College, we champion the transformative power of all-girls' education in shaping the educational journeys of young women. These environments cultivate a supportive yet intellectually stimulating atmosphere, empowering students to defy stereotypes, embrace their uniqueness, and shine brightly.

Our approach emphasises personalised learning and celebrates individuality, providing girls with the freedom to explore their passions, challenge societal norms, and forge strong connections within a nurturing community. Through this environment, students develop self-assurance, leadership qualities, and the capacity to excel across various domains, preparing them to lead with authenticity and make meaningful contributions to society.



- > Students at girls' schools have higher aspirations and greater motivation than their female peers at co-educational schools.
- ▶ The majority of girls' school graduates report higher self-confidence than their co-educated peers.
- ▶ Girls' school students are more likely to deal effectively with stress, pressure, opportunity, and challenge.
- > 93% of girls' school graduates say they were offered greater leadership opportunities than co-educated peers.
- ▶ 80% have held leadership positions since graduating.

Source: www girlsschools.org/research/quick-facts/



#### VISIT US

To find out more about joining Toorak College, contact our Enrolments Team to arrange a tour or join us for one of our Discover Toorak events.

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