

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL

ACHIEVEMENTS



Sydney

CLASS OF 2025

THE CLASS OF 2025: A SEASON OF POSSIBILITY

I will never forget the first time I met our Class of 2025.

I asked what it meant to be a St Catherine's student, and their answers perfectly captured their spirit as a year group: inclusive, kind and always ready to give things a go.

It was immediately clear how proud the girls were of our school and of one another, with very good reason. The results in this year's Higher School Certificate, achieved through the hard work over the last thirteen years, are a credit to our girls. We especially acknowledge the eight students who achieved marks above 90 in at least 10 units of study and the seven students who received an ATAR over 99.

Along with the success of our students, we also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of their teachers who delight in the learning, growth, character and success of their students. To all involved in the learning journey of each of our graduates, thank you.

Of course, marks only tell one part of the story of the graduates of St Catherine's. While we are incredibly proud of all our Class of 2025 have achieved academically, the accomplishments of the Class of 2025 are as diverse and far-reaching as the girls themselves.

Together, they have shone not only in the classroom, but also on stage with breathtaking performances in Drama and Music; in sport, with national titles in Rowing and triumphs on the AFL field and Tennis

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court; in innovation through Robotics; and in creative expression in Visual Arts. They have also served with open hearts, whether in Cambodia, at Bread of Life, or beyond, living out our value of service with such genuine care and commitment. We are so proud of each one.

For the Class of 2025, this is a season of possibility, and they are ready. What we wish for them is simple: that they may always be known and loved, and that in turn they know and love others. That they be people who will lead and serve, inspired to make a difference well beyond our school gates.

Ms Deb Magill
Headmistress



OUR 2025 HSC RESULTS



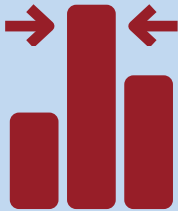
2025 TOP ATAR
ATAR: 99.65

Ella Eckford



ATAR
ABOVE 99.00

7 Students



MEDIAN
ATAR

89.55



ATAR
ABOVE 95.00

25.2% of cohort



ATAR OF 90.00
AND ABOVE

46.6% of cohort



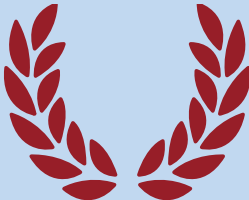
ATAR
ABOVE 80.00

71.8% of cohort



CREATIVE ACCEPTANCES
& NOMINATIONS

27 nominations and
an ARTEXPRESS selection



SMH STATE
RANKING

38th out of top
250 schools in NSW



ALL ROUNDERS
90+ IN AT LEAST
10 UNITS

8 students

WONDERFUL SUCCESSSES ALL ROUND

Our girls develop a lifelong love of learning by exploring their own interests and passions. The outstanding results achieved by the Class of 2025 are a testament to the power of this process.

The interests of the Class of 2025 were as diverse as they were inspiring, reflected in the wide range of subjects chosen for their HSC studies. From Latin Continuers to Mathematics Extension 2 and Food Technology, the girls embraced every opportunity to explore their passions and challenge themselves academically. This is reflected in the results achieved by our girls this year, with a quarter of our students achieving an ATAR of 95 or above, and a very strong median ATAR of 89.55 for the Class of 2025.

We are incredibly proud to acknowledge several students for their outstanding individual accomplishments. Congratulations to Ella Eckford, our Dux for 2025, who also achieved our highest ATAR for 2025, as well as Sofia Ignatenko, our Proxime Accessit. We are so proud of the seven students who achieved ATARs above 99: Samantha Debelle, Ruby Doyle, Ella Eckford, Audrey Ho, Sofia Ignatenko, Zhiyue (Teresa) Li and Anna Macri. Their results are a reflection of a careful commitment to study, as well as a genuine intellectual curiosity.

We also celebrate our eight All Rounders, who achieved marks above 90 in at least 10 units of study. These students exemplify the St Catherine's spirit of balance, discipline and enthusiasm for learning. We congratulate Alexandra Clarke, Samantha Debelle, Ruby Doyle, Ella Eckford, Eva Griffiths, Sofia Ignatenko, Zhiyue Li and Holly Negas for applying themselves so diligently across a wide range of subjects and for allowing their passions to guide them through the HSC.

Beyond academic achievement, our creative students excelled across the arts, earning a selection for ARTEXPRESS and 27 nominations for state-wide showcases in Drama, Music, Technologies and Visual Arts. These nominations highlight not only the technical skill demonstrated by our girls but also their originality and imagination. We are especially proud of Elsie Yang, who was selected for ARTEXPRESS and Scarlett Maisy Neal, who received three nominations across two separate showcases, which are both remarkable achievements that deserve special congratulations.

Our sporting stars also made their mark, impressively balancing their studies while representing us at state, national and international competitions. We would especially like to recognise the roles the Class of 2025 played within our national champion Rowing and AFL teams. Their leadership, teamwork and sportsmanship have been a source of pride and inspiration to the entire St Cath's community.

Overall, the Class of 2025 has embodied what it means to be a lifelong learner. Their wonderful results, whether in academics, creative or athletic fields, reflect a deep commitment to pursuing their passions and challenging themselves to achieve their best. Throughout their time at St Cath's, they have shown resilience, curiosity and a genuine love of learning. Congratulations to the Class of 2025 on your incredible success. You have set a shining example for future generations, and we could not be prouder of you all.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

- A quarter of our students achieved an ATAR of 95 or more.
- 11th in the state in both English Advanced, Extension 1 and Extension 2 and English Studies, English EAL/D and English Standard.
- 8 students received a 90+ in at least six units of study.
- 7 students received an ATAR over 99.
- Alannah Brown ranked ninth in the state in English Advanced.
- A median ATAR of 89.55, compared to the NSW median ATAR of 70.75.
- 46.6% of students achieved an ATAR above 90, compared with 17.3% across NSW.
- 71.8% of students achieved an ATAR above 80, compared with 34.6% across NSW.
- 27 creative showcase nominations with Elsie Yang selected for ARTEXPRESS.
- Chelsea Baker represented Australia at the World Rowing U19 Championships.
- Molly Adamson and her team won gold at the 2025 Australian Rugby Union Championships.
- Isabella Li was shortlisted for the John Locke Institute Essay Competition, out of close to 65,000 entrants from around the world.



2025 HIGHEST ATAR



ELLA ECKFORD
TOP ATAR & DUX OF THE YEAR
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7-12
ATAR: 99.65

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Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I would say finishing my English Extension 2 major work, as it was the first time I've ever written something to that length. I've always dreamed of writing something like that, so it was really rewarding. I learned a lot about myself, especially that, with motivation, I can produce anything I put my heart into.

Q. What will you remember most about your time at St Cath's?

A. In Year 10, I went on the Cambodia service trip with 30 other girls from our year group, and that was probably the most amazing experience I've ever had: not even just at school, but in my whole life. I got so close with so many girls, and it

was really eye-opening. I'm really lucky that St Cath's was able to offer that experience for us.

Q. How did you prepare for Year 12 and the HSC?

A. I was a bit scared because, of course, Year 11 was demanding enough. But I think I was also really excited, especially entering Year 12 with things like getting the common room. It was exciting and nerve-wracking at the same time. I feel like by Year 12, we'd really melded as a year group. There aren't really set groups anymore; we're all just friends with each other. I think we're really lucky to have such a nice year group, and getting closer to everyone was exciting.

Q. What advice would you share with students beginning their HSC journey?

A. Don't put too much pressure on yourself too early. It is easy to be a perfectionist and strive to do really well, but sometimes people push too hard in Year 11.

Of course, it's important to work hard, but you don't want to burn out. Prioritise your wellbeing and prepare yourself, knowing Year 12 will be more demanding. Make sure you balance your time between study and the things you enjoy outside of school.

Q. What is the most important lesson that you've learned at St Cath's?

A. I've learned that you don't have to be the smartest person to do really well in school. It's not intelligence that matters; it's motivation. I always felt as though I was quite average, but I realised that with effort and potential, I could achieve anything I set my heart to. I remember deciding to study Chemistry for Years 11 and 12 and thinking I wouldn't be good at it. In the end, I was first in the course. You don't need to count yourself out just because you think you are not good enough.

Q. What does it mean to you to be a St Cath's girl?

A. I think it's about collaboration and support. What I've developed here is an ability to communicate, show respect and build relationships with people I wouldn't usually connect with. Especially in Year 12, I realised how important collaboration is. It's about developing unity and a mutual understanding with each other, despite our differences.

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GETTING TO KNOW ELLA

Since joining us in Year 7, Ella has been deeply involved in school life. Looking ahead, she hopes to study medicine, veterinary science or another degree that combines her interests in science and art. With a genuine love of learning, Ella aspires to continue studying throughout her life.



ANNA MACRI
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 8–12
 ATAR: 99.20

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I am most proud of getting through the year and finding a way to still enjoy myself and make the most of everything that this school has to offer. This year, I managed to make so many amazing memories that aren't related to my academic success. I'm really proud of what everyone has achieved, but I'm especially proud that we really made the most of the year together and ended up becoming even closer as a year group throughout that process.

Q. What do you think you will remember most about your time at St Cath's?

A. I think it will be the little things; chats in the common room, celebrating all our last events together, from sports carnivals to PC and Clubs and Choirs. I'll remember our graduation and everyone walking across the stage to collect their prizes. I was just so proud of everyone and all the hard work they put in.

Q. What does it mean to you to be a St Cath's girl?

A. Being a St Cath's girl is about so much more than simply being part of the school. Through St Cath's, we have built close connections and become

part of a network we will never forget. I know that the friendships I have made here will be part of my life forever. I think St Cath's girls have such a special mix between being ambitious academically, while also caring deeply and being actively involved in our community and in each other's lives. St Cath's girls are special because we're different.



QIONGYU (VERA) FAN
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 3–12
 ATAR: 97.50

Q. What do you think you will remember most about St Cath's?

A. Definitely how important my teachers have been. Being able to reach out to them whenever I've had problems has been so valuable.

Q. What does it mean to you to be a St Cath's girl?

A. For me, being a St Cath's girl means you have a lot of connections and friendships that you form along the way. And that means in every problem you run into, or any challenge you experience, you always have someone to reach out to — whether it's your friends, your teachers, or anyone else in the school. I feel like that's really special to our school. I have friends at other schools, but their schools aren't quite the same community as ours. That sense of community is very special.



CHELSEA BAKER
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 5–12
 ATAR: 95.70

Q. What is the achievement that has meant most to you this year?

A. Making the Australian team in Rowing at the World Championships for sure. It was such an incredible experience. I was also lucky enough to have two St Cath's girls on the team with me. Being able to experience the competition together with my friends from home was amazing!

Q. What did you learn about yourself throughout your time at St Cath's?

A. I have definitely learned how much I'm willing to put in for a team. When I came to St Cath's in Year 5, I had never rowed before. Back then, I could never have imagined how far I was going to take Rowing or how much I would end up caring about the people I've done this sport with. I have learned how far I am willing to go for my team.

Q. What are your plans for life after St Cath's?

A. I've been offered a spot on the Rowing team at Yale. I'm looking forward to going there and growing as a person, both academically and in my sport. Also, St Cath's has a huge emphasis on the communities that we build, which is another reason why I chose Yale. They have the same type of emphasis on community, so I'll feel right at home.







GEORGINA KIMPTON
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
ATAR: 96.80

Q. How did you prepare for Year 12 and the HSC?

A. It really helped to have an academic mentor, which we all get at the start of Year 12. Working with my mentor really helped me process the challenge that was ahead and adjust to all the new work we had to do. Together, we set up a study schedule that helped me commit to doing work every day but in a sustainable way.

Q. What do you think you'll remember the most about your time at St Cath's?

A. Definitely my friends. I'm just really glad that I got to meet them and that I've had these people who I can support and who can support me throughout high school and beyond. Together, we've built a network that we will be able to draw on for the rest of our lives. We will always be able to help each other out in the future.

Q. What has it been like to be a boarder while also doing your HSC?

A. Going home to the Boarding House and having this community of girls who are all going through the same thing is really helpful. Whether it's a late-night chat before a difficult exam or a debrief afterwards, it's been really nice to be with the other Year 12 boarders and be a strong support network for each other.

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I'm hoping to go to The University of Sydney to study Mechatronics Engineering. I've been part of the Robotics program at St Cath's since Year 8. I actually only started Robotics because my Maths teacher suggested it. I hadn't thought about doing Robotics at all before because we don't have anything like that back home in Scone.



DAISY BOWES
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
ATAR: 96.60

Q. How important do you think it is for students to find a study-life balance?

A. It's very important. Having a routine and scheduling breaks is essential — you need time for yourself to recharge. I made sure to fuel my body and mind and only studied when I was productive, not cramming late at night. My academic mentor helped me structure my study routine, so I could be effective without burning out.

Q. What does it mean to you to be a St Cath's girl?

A. It means being part of a community of incredible girls with diverse interests. I know it sounds clichéd, but it's like a family — you just have such a strong support network. I'm proud to be part of a group of incredible young women.



CLARISSA LING
AT ST CATH'S: KINDY–YEAR 12
ATAR: 98.40

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I'm proud of how I was able to balance myself this year. I was very happy that I still did cocurriculars and was even one of the leaders in Adelphe. I'm very proud that I managed to keep doing all the things I love this year.

Q. What is the most important lesson you've learned at St Cath's?

A. St Cath's has taught me that I have a voice and that I should use it. It has helped me grow my confidence to say what I believe in, to speak with conviction and to not be afraid of what other people think. This school has taught me how much I love speaking up.

GETTING TO KNOW CLARISSA

Clarissa joined St Cath's in Kindergarten and has been an enthusiastic member of the St Cath's Christian community ever since. In Year 12, she led the Adelphe Christian group, helping to organise their yearly camp and run weekly sessions with younger students. She also found time to complete her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award and take part in the FIRST Robotics Competition.



SAMANTHA DEBELLE
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 3–12
 ATAR: 99.25

Q. What is the most important lesson you have learned at St Cath's?

A. There are just so many places you can thrive at this school. I was in the music and performing arts area, but also thrived in my academics. Whether you take an arts route, a sports route or an academics route, there's a place that you can be nurtured and grow, and there are resources for all those areas that help you get to where you need to be, which I think is such a lucky and fortunate experience in school. It's such an awesome opportunity to leave school knowing that you were a St Cath's girl. I'll be so happy to say that I had my education here, and that will stick with me for my whole life.

Q. What advice would you share with students beginning their HSC journey?

A: I'd say prepare your study and feedback, and organise it well. At the end of the year, if you're scrambling to find stuff you've spread out, it's really hard. But more broadly, I think, try to find balance and enjoy it. It will be hard to find moments of enjoyment when you're studying all the time. Those moments of joy and happiness make the year memorable. You want it to be a year with really good memories, not just a year spent studying the whole time.

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I'd love to do a law degree. Doing Legal Studies, we did units on world order and global environmental protection, which encouraged me to look at all the other ways a law degree can be used. So that curriculum really shaped my understanding of law. I'm not sure about a gap year, I'll probably just continue with my studies and get where I want to be.



SADIE CROKER
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 9–12
 ATAR: 80

Q. What did you learn about yourself throughout your time at St Cath's?

A: I've learned that if I set my mind to do something, then I can do it. I struggled a lot when I was younger and often felt like I wanted to give up, but I pushed through. It made me realise that I can push myself and get things done, even when it's hard. Now I feel like I've got so many more opportunities ahead of me.

Q. How important do you think it is for students to find a study-life balance?

A: For me, it was so important to get outside and be active this year. If I just studied all the time, I would get tired and unmotivated. Playing sport, even on weekends, allowed me to take a break and also to clear my head. Doing that really supported me through Year 12.



MOLLY ADAMSON
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 11–12
 ATAR: 80.70

Q. What has it been like to be a boarder while also doing your HSC?

A. I remember as soon as I walked into St Cath's, it just felt like home. Everyone in boarding is very supportive and comforting. There's not a day I feel alone.

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I'm taking a year to focus on Touch Football. Then hopefully in 2027, I will study occupational therapy at The University of Queensland. I might study to be a PE teacher when I'm around 40, as I've really benefited from my teachers at St Cath's. Of course, if I get an offer to play for the New South Wales Waratahs, then I'll pursue that opportunity.

GETTING TO KNOW MOLLY

Moving from regional NSW, Molly joined St Cath's as a boarder in Year 11 as a rising star in Rugby Union. Previously commuting three hours each way for training, being at St Cath's has allowed Molly to progress her game to the next level. In 2025, Molly was named a top young talent in Rugby by *The Daily Telegraph*. She was also part of the winning U18 team at the Australian Junior Rugby Union Championships in July.



CREATIVE EXCELLENCE AT CATH'S

Each creative project begins with a single concept that will be explored throughout the year. The Class of 2025 did not shy away from tackling complex issues in their works, instead selecting themes that reflected a deep awareness of the world and a genuine commitment to change.

In Drama, students created performances exploring the pressures of toxic masculinity and the realities of the cycle of life, while in Music, they composed original works examining the impact of modern warfare and the power of nature. In Technologies, students produced garments featuring original Aboriginal artwork and designed products aimed at reducing the effects of climate change, and in Visual Arts, their works referenced the multifaceted nature of modern womanhood and the complex realities of cultural displacement.

As a school dedicated to educating girls who make meaningful contributions to the world, it is inspiring to see our creative students engage with such significant issues so confidently. It is clear that they have taken their learning to heart, and in many cases, have already begun turning these lessons into action. In a future where many challenges will require creative and artistic solutions, we look forward to seeing members of the Class of 2025 step forward and share their talents with the world. They have shown us that they are more than ready for the challenge.

Their achievements have already begun to be recognised beyond the gates of St Cath's. This year, the Class of 2025 received an impressive 27 nominations for state-wide creative showcases. We are immensely proud of every one of our girls for these incredible results! Firstly, we congratulate Elsie Yang, whose work, *Carnassial / Constraint*, was selected from thousands of pieces from across the state to be included in ARTEXPRESS.

Several students also received multiple nominations, an especially notable achievement given the number of students eligible across the creative subjects. Congratulations to Elicia Minjie Kim, who was nominated for the ENCORE showcase for both her flute performance and original composition in Music. In Drama, Chloe Adams, Olivia Bennett, Daisy Bowes, Alannah Brown, Emily Chambiras, Samantha Debelle, Abigail Holroyde, Anita Jazzini, Tayla O'Sullivan, Lucia Parsons and Robyn-Jane Rigby each received two OnSTAGE nominations: one for their individual performances or projects and another for their various group performances.

A special mention goes to Scarlett Maisy Neal, who received three nominations across two showcases: ENCORE and OnSTAGE. Scarlett was recognised in Music for a repertoire that included a reimagined jazz ballad rendition of *Fly Me to the Moon*, and in Drama for her monologue performance of *I'll Be Here*. She also received a nomination alongside her group for their work, *Parasite*.

Across the board, the creativity and talent shown by the Class of 2025 have been nothing short of extraordinary. They have added beauty, depth and meaning to the world through their works, and we are incredibly proud of each one of them. We hope that they continue to carry these gifts with confidence and use them to help shape a brighter, more thoughtful future for our world.

CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

ARTEXPRESS:

- Elsie Yang (selected)

ENCORE (PERFORMANCE):

- Elicia Minjie Kim
- Ruby McGillicuddy
- Scarlett Maisy Neal

ENCORE (COMPOSITION):

- Emily Jackson
- Elicia Minjie Kim
- Rafiya Schwartz Macpherson

ONSTAGE (GROUP):

- *God Complex*: Chloe Adams, Lucy Aird, Anita Jazzini, Tayla O'Sullivan, Lucia Parsons and Robyn-Jane Rigby
- *Parasite*: Olivia Bennett, Daisy Bowes, Alannah Brown, Samantha Debelle, Scarlett Maisy Neal and Juliette St Clair
- *Lord of the Ties*: Emily Chambiras, Abigail Holroyde, Elizabeth Ivanov, Georgia Parkes, Abigail Salem and Olivia Udler

ONSTAGE (INDIVIDUAL):

- Chloe Adams
- Olivia Bennett
- Daisy Bowes
- Alannah Brown
- Anita Jazzini
- Scarlett Maisy Neal
- Tayla O'Sullivan
- Robyn-Jane Rigby

ONSTAGE (PROJECTS):

- Emily Chambiras
- Samantha Debelle
- Abigail Holroyde
- Lucia Parsons

SHAPE (DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY):

- Sienna Durante
- Indigo McDonough
- Ivy Saddington

SHAPE (TEXTILES & DESIGN):

- Abigail Dingle
- Maike Morris



ELICIA MINJIE KIM ENCORE

"In general, the main goal that I had for both my Music 2 and Extension repertoires was to be able to perform my pieces without any regrets afterwards. I wasn't worried about minor mistakes, but rather, I didn't want to have any regrets about long-term things in my control, such as the amount of practice I put in across the year. Even though juggling practice along with other components of the courses, such as composition and written aural, was difficult, I found it enjoyable to practise my pieces throughout the year. It was a nice break from other studies, and I am so proud that I left my practical exams with performances that I was satisfied with."



pay off, because, by the end, I could see how all the refinements and feedback had improved my work. Then, for my Drama group performance, we decided to do an expressionist theme, which was really interesting to work on because it was very different to anything I'd seen done before. For Music, my performance was heavily influenced by my love of jazz."

ANITA JAZZINI ONSTAGE

"Performing at the Drama Showcase felt like all my efforts over the year had paid off. Seeing how the audience reacted to everything and that the decisions I made were being received well was such a great achievement. Overall, the entire HSC Drama curriculum taught me so much. The group performance really showed me the importance of collaboration and uplifting each other in a group environment. Together, we created a supportive environment where everyone felt comfortable putting their ideas in and approached critiquing with kindness. Then, for the individual piece, it was all about time management and consistency. I had a really good routine with my Drama teacher, where I would schedule time with her to keep refining my performance. You have to put in the work in your creative subjects and approach them with a determined mindset."

IVY SADDINGTON SHAPE

"My project was a 3D-printed mobility aid adapted for various outdoor climates and environments. Navigating CAD software to make the models and perfect them was fairly difficult, as was the process of getting the seats to look floral and aesthetically appealing while being functional and ergonomic. Overall, my project took a rather long time to perfect, but in the end, I was happy and relieved with how it turned out. I was ecstatic to be nominated for SHAPE, as I wasn't expecting it at all. I felt as though there were still so many elements I would have changed about my design if I had more time, so receiving a nomination for it really made my day. The nomination gave me a lot of confidence in my design skills and also got me super excited to see all the other SHAPE designs from across NSW."

SCARLETT MAISY NEAL ENCORE AND ONSTAGE

"Even though it was a lot of work to do both Music and Drama, to me, they were the easiest subjects to work on because I am really passionate about both of them. To be honest, it didn't even feel like work because I was enjoying myself so much. I think the process taught me not to put too much pressure on myself. Ultimately, it is not the results that matter but the strength and effort you put in. It is much more important to stay true to your passions. For Drama, I did a musical theatre monologue for my individual piece. I was proud to see all my hard work



ELSIE YANG ARTEXPRESS

"In my body of work, I explored the tension between the primal and the constructed, using teeth as a central motif. Teeth, in their raw, organic form, represent the instinctual, untamed aspects of our nature. They are markers of what is animal within us, existing beyond language and reason. By juxtaposing these natural forms with man-made inventions, namely muzzles, braces and dental instruments, I examined how society seeks to restrain, control or reshape what is innate."







ALANNAH BROWN
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
ATAR: 98.65

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. Honestly, just getting through it — and getting through it pretty well. Even though I've had lapses of motivation, I've managed to keep everything steady, and I'm proud of that. I learned early that it's easier to work with small goals instead of setting really high ones and then not meeting them. That's not only unproductive but also disheartening. So I set smaller goals and just focused on finishing things — that really helped.

Q. How important do you think it is for students to find a study-life balance?

A. It is so important. If you don't have anything else that brings happiness, you lose your way pretty quickly. Even really simple things like joining a school production or cooking something you enjoy. It doesn't matter if you're not good at it; it's about developing an identity and finding joy. I've thrown myself into a lot of things that I didn't feel sure about or think I was prepared to do. That used to be really anxiety-inducing, but I've realised it's not about feeling secure — it's about just getting involved and starting. For example, I tried Mock Trial without having ever done Legal Studies, and it turned out to be such an interesting and eye-opening process.

Q. What do you think you will remember most about your time at St Cath's?

A. The school assemblies. You'd hear sports achievements, arts achievements, enrichment achievements; everyone is involved. This school cultivates every part of education, and that's memorable to me. Everyone is talented at something and can really apply themselves here.

GETTING TO KNOW ALANNAH

After joining St Cath's in Year 7, Alannah quickly embraced all our school has to offer. She took part in Choir, Debating and our service trip to Cambodia, while also finding time to star in multiple dramatic productions. At Year 12 Prizegiving, Alannah was awarded both a General Achievement Prize and a Drama Prize.



LOK HANG AUDREY HO
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 10–12
ATAR: 99.05

Q. What is the most important lesson you have learned at St Cath's?

A. The importance of friendships. We've been through everything together. These girls have motivated me so much. Knowing I'm not going through it alone, and their support has kept me going.

Q. What does it mean to you to be a St Cath's girl?

A. It's a really supportive environment and a place for me to connect with the world. When I first arrived here, I was scared — being in a new country far from home with a new language — but quickly I realised St Cath's was preparing me for life beyond school, by helping me meet new people and adapt to new places.



EVA TODD
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 4–12
ATAR: 93.05

Q. How did you prepare for Year 12 and the HSC?

A. I did accelerated Mathematics in Year 11, which really helped me understand how much work I needed to be putting in. It also helped me as I was able to study with last year's Year 12 students, so I could see how they were studying and implement those strategies myself.

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. Honestly, I'm proud that I kept up with Choir, Band, Dance and Tennis. I'm really proud that I managed to juggle everything. It was important to me to have that balance between studying and my hobbies. It gave me structure, so I didn't waste time, and it also gave me something to look forward to.



EDEN MACGREGOR
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
 ATAR: 84.95

Q. What would you say went into achieving your results?

A. The key was enjoying what I was doing — when you actually like the projects you're working on, it makes it so much easier to keep going. My major works in Visual Arts and History Extension, and doing Rowing were all big commitments that didn't leave much spare time, which definitely taught me to organise myself really well. Also, I'd say being in Year 12 with two younger sisters at the school has made me more aware of setting an example and helping them find their way.

Q. How did your teachers help you to achieve your goals this year?

A. I really value the learning culture that our teachers have created here — it's such a supportive community. The teachers are incredible, and they really take on a mentoring role. They're always available, and they genuinely want to see us do our best.

Q. What advice would you share with students beginning their HSC journey?

A. Chip away at it bit by bit, as even 20 minutes of work makes a difference. And make sure you sleep, rest and keep time for yourself. Balance is everything. It's important to take study seriously, but it's just as important to take yourself

seriously. That means looking after your wellbeing as much as your grades, because in the long run, it makes you a better student too.

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I want to go to university and study a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Deciding on this direction came from a lot of conversations with people, whether it was Ms Lobo, our Tertiary Advisor, or just talking with friends. Sometimes others see strengths in you that you don't even realise, and that really helped me work out what I might want to do.



RAFIYA SCHWARTZ MACPHERSON
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 8–12
 ATAR: 97.20

Q. How did you prepare for Year 12 and the HSC?

A. Going into Year 12, I made sure that I was on top of my notes. I did two compositions for my Music major work, which was a lot of work. But in the end, those compositions were a nice difference from my regular study, as they let me use my creative brain.

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I am going to take a gap year, but I'm really excited to then study a double degree in Arts and Science. Talking about how the mind influences the body in Biology and also just critical thinking in general across all my classes has made me realise that is what I want to study.



TAYA LANGENBACH
 AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
 ATAR: 80.40

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I'm most proud of being AFL captain as I've been playing since Year 7. And to win the state championships in my last year playing, I'm really proud of that. My parents were also really proud, as they saw how closely the team worked together to achieve that result.

Q. What is the most important lesson you have learned at St Cath's?

A. The importance of getting to know girls from different years and how much they can help you get through things.

GETTING TO KNOW RAFIYA

Rafiya joined us in the middle of COVID lockdown, but jumped straight into both our STEM and Music programs. Rafiya maintained these connections throughout school, competing at the FIRST Robotics Competition each year and also eventually becoming Music Captain in Year 12. In the senior years, Rafiya especially loved being able to mentor younger students in Music.







AMELIA AVERY
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 9–12
ATAR: 93.25

Q. How did you prepare for Year 12 and the HSC?

A. Physically, I started exercising a lot more regularly than I had in previous years. Mentally, I made sure to keep a balance. People often think you just have to study all the time, but I tried to keep my hobbies consistent throughout the year. At the end of the day, it's about perspective. If you've done your best, that's enough. I think it's so important to stay grounded and not lose sight of the things that really matter.

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I'm most proud of my major project for English Extension II. I've always loved writing, but I usually keep it to myself. This was the first time I wrote something so personal and shared it with teachers. It was nerve-wracking, but also so rewarding to get feedback and put my work out there.

Q. What does it mean to you to be a St Cath's girl?

A. For me, it's all about community. At my old school, I didn't really feel connected, but here it's been completely different. The St Cath's community supports you in such a unique way — it feels like being part of something bigger than yourself.

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I'd love to do a degree in English as writing has always been a passion of mine, and I want to pursue it in the future. By doing English Extension II this year, I really rediscovered how much I love writing. For a long time, I thought I had to follow a more conventional path like medicine because I was good at Science, but St Cath's has really helped me feel confident about following my passion for writing.

GETTING TO KNOW AMELIA

After joining us in Year 9, Amelia has participated in everything from Cadets to Robotics and the Symphonic Winds ensemble. Amelia has also demonstrated our value of Service by taking part in Bread of Life, a Sunday morning community kitchen. Amelia has helped bring food, friendship and hope to those on the margins in our city.



LUCY AIRD
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
ATAR: 80.10

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I'm most proud of achieving a balance between all of my schoolwork and life.

You can't work at your best if you're not happy, and you can't show up for others if you're not yourself.

Q. What motivated you through Year 12?

A. Knowing my best is my best. I'm not trying to achieve anyone else's best, so keeping that in mind helped remind me I was doing as well as I could.



ELENI PSARADELLIS
AT ST CATH'S: YEARS 7–12
ATAR: 90.35

Q. What achievement are you most proud of this year?

A. I was proud of finishing my Science Extension project, where I investigated how theta waves affected memory recall. It was satisfying to work on it over the year and watch it come together. I'm also quite creative, so having a major project to put effort into was really nice. I don't know if I'd call a major work a 'break', but it was different, and I liked that.

Q. How did your teachers help you to achieve your goals?

A. Our teachers really care about us — not just about how well we're doing academically, but also about our wellbeing. They've been making sure we maintain a healthy balance, not just with the HSC, but right from the start.

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

The Class of 2025 continue to demonstrate curiosity, ambition and a commitment to shaping a better world, fuelled by their dedication to academic excellence.

Our 2025 graduates have shown a clear preference for tertiary education, with the majority applying to universities across Australia and others exploring international opportunities. Their choices reflect a diverse range of interests across the cohort. The University of Sydney is the most sought-after tertiary institution, closely followed by The University of New South Wales, the University of Technology Sydney, The Australian National University and the Australian Catholic University.

In terms of academic disciplines, Society and Culture emerged as a leading field, with students interested in courses such as Psychology, Criminology, Politics, Philosophy and Economics and Arts/Law. Management and Commerce also featured prominently, with students opting for degrees in Business and Strategic Innovation. Health-related programs such as Physiotherapy, Nutrition and Dietetics and Occupational Therapy attracted significant attention, reflecting a growing interest in allied health professions.

The sciences, including Medical and Clinical Science, continue to be popular, particularly among students pursuing pathways to medicine. Engineering also saw strong engagement, with students selecting Biomedical, Aeronautical and Civil Engineering programs. Students also showed interest in Creative Arts, Architecture and Building. Additionally, Agriculture, Environmental Studies and Information Technology were represented with preferences for Veterinary, Bioscience

and Cybersecurity degrees, respectively.

We have also seen an increase in double degree applications, with combinations such as Commerce/Law, Science/Medicine and Arts/Advanced Studies reflecting a strategic approach to tertiary study, with students seeking to broaden their skill sets and enhance future employment opportunities.

While scholarship data for 2026 is still being finalised, early indications suggest continued success in securing prestigious awards, including academic excellence and elite athlete scholarships. These achievements underscore the calibre of the cohort and their readiness to contribute meaningfully to their chosen fields.

The Class of 2025 enters the next phase of their educational journey with confidence, curiosity and a clear sense of purpose. Their choices reflect not only academic ambition but also a desire to make a positive impact in the world around them. Their contributions will undoubtedly enrich the communities and industries they choose to serve. The future is bright for our graduating Class of 2025, and we look forward to witnessing the impact they will make in shaping a more thoughtful and innovative world.

Ms Sylvia Chronis
Acting Tertiary Advisor

VOCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



- Georgina Kimpton is one of only six students to be offered a Kim Jackson Scholarship to study Engineering at The Australian National University.
- Chelsea Baker will be heading to Yale to join their Women's Rowing crew.
- Alice Steed will be going to the University of St Andrews in the UK, where she will study history.
- Maike Morris will be travelling to New York, where she will be studying at Vogue College of Fashion.
- Isabelle Yardley has been recruited to row as part of the champion University of Texas crew.
- Both Elicia Minjie Kim and Ruby McGillicuddy have been accepted to study at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.
- Josie Khoo was awarded two scholarships to study at The Australian National University: the ANU College of Systems and Society Excellence Scholarship for Women and the Bright Horizons Scholarship.





Sydney



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