



**OVERSEAS  
STUDENTS  
AT ST CATH'S**  
HER SYDNEY STORY STARTS HERE.



Sydney



# A WELCOME FROM OUR HEADMISTRESS

St Catherine's School has a long history of welcoming students from around the world into our community. We are passionate about creating a diverse and inclusive place where girls from all backgrounds are valued and their unique perspectives are able to enrich the culture of our school. Today, students from the UK, US, Japan, China, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, East Timor and Korea all proudly call St Catherine's home. As Australia's oldest Anglican school for girls, we have been a place for girls to learn, bond and thrive since 1856.

Our campus is located in a safe residential neighbourhood in Sydney's eastern suburbs, just a short distance from the iconic Bondi Beach. We educate students from Kindergarten to Year 12, with boarders joining us from Year 7 onwards. We are proud that a St Catherine's education is well-rounded. Our hope is that as your daughter lives and learns in her years with us, she will make her mark on this community and beyond as a confident, compassionate and proud graduate of this school. We offer students a first-rate education with a broad, challenging and

academically rigorous curriculum. Our international students benefit from our strong academic support system, including a dedicated English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) program, the English Plus program, our teacher-run Prep Centre, academic mentors and more.

At St Catherine's, we educate our students for a world where global networks will be expected. By joining St Catherine's, our girls become part of a global alumni community that lasts a lifetime. Years after graduating, we continue to hear from Old Girls from around the world who remain deeply connected to their St Cath's community; proof that the St Catherine's experience is both deeply local and proudly international. This is what we can offer your daughter. We look forward to welcoming you to our St Cath's community.

**Ms Deb Magill**  
Headmistress

# OUR LEARNING JOURNEY

At St Catherine's, our goal is to inspire a love of lifelong learning in our girls, by offering a wide range of opportunities that cater to the unique interests and passions of each student. With a broad curriculum covering subjects including engineering, textile design and health sciences, and cocurricular clubs offering everything from magazine publishing to rock band, there is truly something for every learner at St Cath's.

In the classroom, our teachers combine explicit instruction with inquiry-based learning, to help students develop their individual strengths and exceed their expectations. Our teaching is also intentionally designed for girls, as research consistently shows that girls in single-sex schools achieve higher academic outcomes, greater self-esteem and increased

confidence. Our learning environment reflects this approach, providing unparalleled opportunities for our girls to find their voices, excel in STEM and sports, build self-confidence and grow their skills as leaders.

Our girls are also supported in their learning journeys by a strong framework of resources. Teachers have dedicated time to analyse students' results and run small masterclasses each week, where students can focus on refining specific skills or areas of knowledge. Our team, including the Director of Senior School Students, Director of Research and Professional Practice, Head of Learning Growth and Performance, Heads of Year, Learning Enrichment department and teaching staff, work together to understand each student's strengths, weaknesses,

abilities and challenges to develop a path towards success.

All senior school students also have access to our Research Centre and the teacher-run Prep Centre, where staff provide daily homework support, guidance and mentorship. Additionally, senior students are assigned an academic mentor for regular check-ins and additional support. Whether your daughter needs extension work or extra help, you can be confident that her learning is well-supported at St Catherine's.





“  
Studying at St Catherine’s  
taught me not only to have  
faith in myself but also to aim  
higher and push myself outside  
my comfort zone.

Annika P



# A PLACE TO LEARN AND THRIVE

Founded in 1856, St Catherine's School Sydney has a long tradition of educating young women of character and intellect, dedicated to making a meaningful contribution to the world. With 170 years of experience, we warmly welcome students from Kindergarten to Year 12 and boarders from Year 7.

Supported by world-class facilities and a broad curriculum, our school is a place crafted for girls to learn, bond and thrive. From the classroom to the sporting field and the stage, the well-rounded education we provide gives our girls the strongest foundation for navigating an ever-changing future.

Our girls are encouraged to challenge expectations and extend themselves across all areas of learning. Our students embrace

opportunities and grow in confidence to go beyond what they thought possible, supported every step of the way by our strong and caring community. We celebrate our girls' achievements with pride and stand beside them with compassion and support when things don't go as planned.

Guided by our values of integrity, courage, relationships and service, we foster empathy, humility and a strong sense of purpose in our students. We teach our girls to be deeply engaged with the world around them, helping them leave us as confident, well-rounded and kind individuals who can tackle any challenge that comes their way.

## **CLOSE TO OUR HEARTS**

At St Cath's, the fact that our parents have entrusted us to care for their daughters is always close to our hearts. This is why the wellbeing and happiness of our students are central to all that we do. Each day, we strive to maintain our nurturing, warm and welcoming environment where every girl feels safe, supported and among friends. We know that students thrive when they feel known, valued and understood, with our caring staff working in partnership with families to ensure that every girl's experience is positive and enriching.



“  
St Catherine’s taught me to  
not let others stop you from  
achieving your goals.  
At St Cath’s, I’ve learned to  
become ambitious and to strive  
for what I want.  
Ruby S



# A WELL ROUNDED EDUCATION



**2025 ATAR  
ABOVE 90.00**  
46.6% of students



**2025 SMH  
NSW STATE RANKING**  
38th out of top 250 schools



**THREE-TIME  
NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**  
1st VIII rowers (2023-2025)



**CREATIVE ACCEPTANCES  
& NOMINATIONS**  
27 nominations & 1 selection



**2025 ELITE  
STUDENT ATHLETES**  
50 students



**2025 TOP ATAR**  
**ATAR: 99.65**  
Ella Eckford



**2025 ATAR  
ABOVE 99.00**  
7 students



**2025 ALL ROUNDERS**  
**90+ IN AT LEAST 10 UNITS**  
8 students

\* Information is based on ATAR-eligible students and outcomes that were disclosed to the School.

# OUR WONDERFUL TEAM

## CARING FOR YOUR GIRLS

Our students are supported by a passionate and caring staff team who work hard to create a warm, nurturing and inclusive environment for all girls. Our staff are highly experienced and dedicated to their roles, working tirelessly to create a well-balanced environment where both boarding and day students can grow and thrive during their time with us.



**MS DEB MAGILL**  
HEADMISTRESS

Previously Principal of Roseville College, Ms Magill has over 30 years of experience as an educator and educational leader in international, regional and urban schools.

Ms Magill has a master's and bachelor's degree in education, with particular interest in constructivist learning design and personalised learning. Ms Magill is a member of AISNSW Independent Schools Centre for Excellence Council (ISCE). Ms Magill believes that the work of good education is the work of relationships. She is a strong believer in the education of the whole child, of leading with compassion and of strength in community.



**MS REBECCA HERBERT**  
HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

Ms Rebecca Herbert has always demonstrated a passion for the development of the whole person in a school setting. Rebecca has been at the school for 18 years and loves the diversity each day brings. She relishes being able to spend time with both day girls and boarding students and enjoys working collaboratively with others to ensure that students find a place to belong in order to thrive.

Rebecca has always had a passion for schools. Rebecca is respected for her down-to-earth, practical, flexible, compassionate, approachable and warm personality by both day and boarding students.



**MS CHELSEA SLADE**  
DIRECTOR OF BOARDING  
INDIGENOUS STUDENTS COORDINATOR

Ms Chelsea Slade oversees the Boarding House and is responsible for all boarders, their welfare and development. She is also our Indigenous Student Coordinator and serves to provide support to our Indigenous students during their time at St Catherine's.

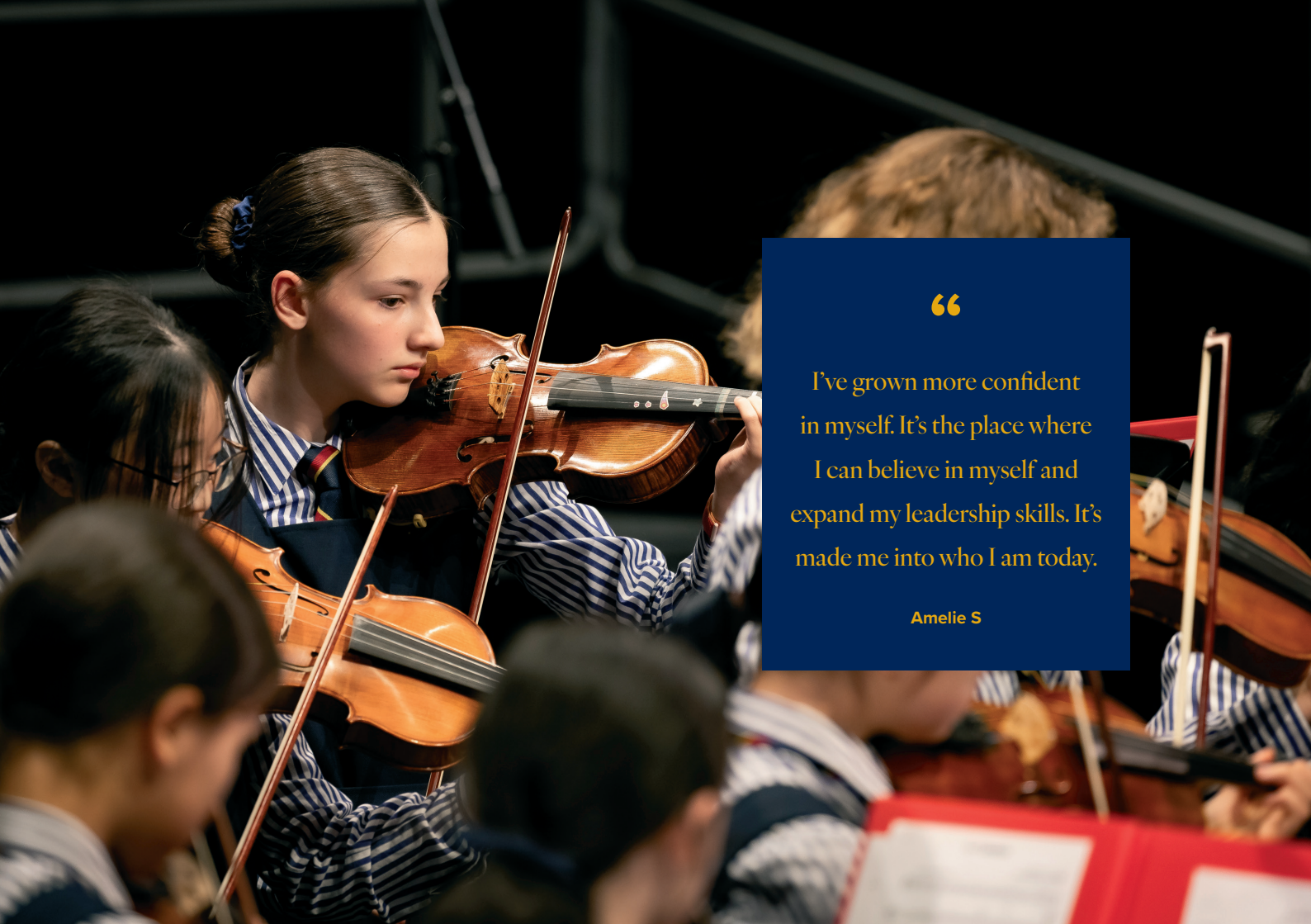
Chelsea sees communication as the key to education. She strives to develop our boarding and Indigenous student communities so that these girls leave St Catherine's as confident and optimistic young adults with character and grit. She firmly believes that relationships, trust and belonging are essential for students to enjoy academic and personal success.



**MS HANNAH ADAMSON**  
ASSISTANT HEAD  
OF BOARDING

Ms Hannah Adamson supports the day-to-day operations of the Boarding House. Raised in regional Queensland, Hannah first worked as a casual boarding staff member before moving into classroom teaching. Since joining St Cath's in 2022, she has worked across Science, student guidance and wellbeing, developing a strong understanding of our students and their needs.

Hannah brings valuable insight from her work in the day school into boarding life, strengthening connections between day and boarding students. Her experience, combined with her calm and caring nature, makes her a highly valued member of our boarding team.



“

I've grown more confident  
in myself. It's the place where  
I can believe in myself and  
expand my leadership skills. It's  
made me into who I am today.

Amelie S

# A BROAD OFFERING

We often say that St Catherine's never sleeps, with our extensive cocurricular program covering everything from Robotics to Rock Band. The program is designed to supplement school studies and foster positive physical and mental wellbeing to offer each and every girl a well-rounded student experience. While our cocurricular program is not compulsory for all students, boarders in Years 7–10 must participate in at least one activity each term. Additionally, boarders in Years 7–8 are required to play a Saturday sport..

## **SPORT AND BTC**

Our broad sports and Beyond the Curriculum (BTC) offering provides students with the opportunity to compete in a wide range of activities at any level. While fun is at the

forefront of all St Cath's cocurricular programs, our premium facilities and professional coaching provide students with the chance to explore their sporting interests and goals. We also provide resources for our students striving for sporting success through our Elite Athlete Program. Through this program, we support and mentor students as they participate in state, national and international teams and competitions.

## **MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS**

Our creative and performing arts program also provides our students with endless avenues to express themselves. We are proud to have two designated performing arts buildings, with our 500-seat theatre, rehearsal rooms, practice studios, band room, computer lab, recording

studio, fully interactive teaching areas, dance studio and drama theatre all available for our students to use. Many of our students opt to study creative subjects for their Higher School Certificate, achieving remarkable results.

## **GLOBAL CONNECTION**

We are also proud to offer a global cocurricular program, with girls given the opportunity to take up immersive language exchanges, service trips and cultural tours across the world. Our global enrichment program runs throughout the year, offering students opportunities to explore diverse cultures and deepen their classroom learning. Our students' studies are enriched by exchange programs or course-specific tours, helping your daughter prepare for a globally connected future.

# A HOME FILLED WITH OPPORTUNITY

Many of our international students decide to join our school as boarders. As a St Cath's boarder, your daughter will enjoy full access to everything our campus, and the wider city, has to offer. From floating movie nights in the Aquatic Centre to relaxed strolls through nearby parkland, our Boarding House is ideally situated to give students the opportunity to enjoy a rich variety of cultural, artistic and sporting experiences across our wonderful city and beyond.

Most importantly, our Boarding House is a warm and welcoming home away from home for our girls. With comfortable living areas, custom-built bedrooms and a family-style dining room, we have created a space where they feel safe, supported and connected. Our boarders are cared for by five boarding staff members

who live on campus and are available around the clock for support, even if it's just for a chat.

Meanwhile, our talented chefs prepare five nutritious and delicious meals each day, almost as good as Mum's cooking. Breakfast and dinner are shared in the dining room, while recess, lunch and afternoon tea are available to take away, allowing boarders to spend time with day school friends and participate in our wide range of cocurricular activities.

We also maintain strong communication between our teaching and boarding staff to ensure each girl is well supported. Through thoughtful tracking and regular check-ins, we celebrate successes and step in early if extra support is needed. We work together to nurture each boarder's academic progress, personal growth and overall wellbeing.

## **PART OF OUR FAMILY FOR LIFE**

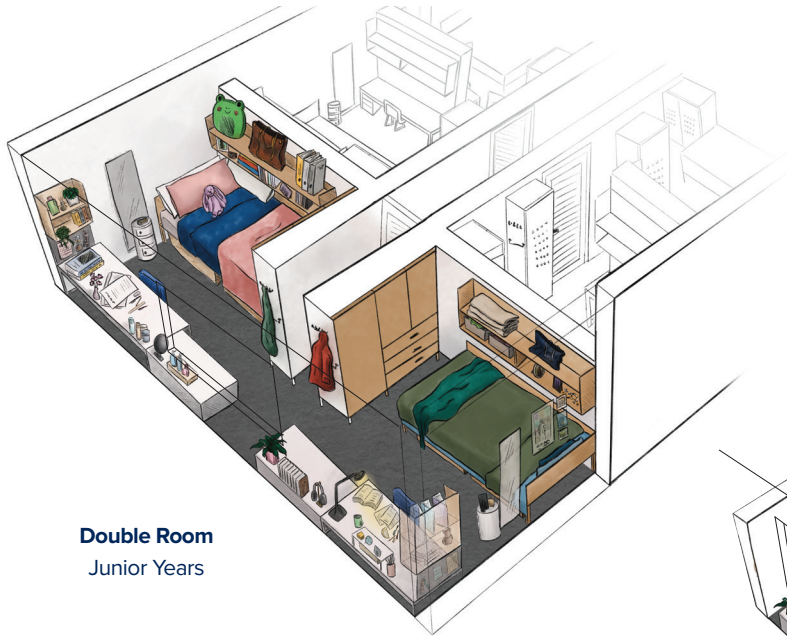
At St Cath's, we often talk about how our boarders become part of a lifelong sisterhood from the moment they arrive. Across year groups, the girls form lasting friendships that we see them lean on for support throughout their lives. This is also true of the parents of our boarders. We make sure they are included in our close-knit boarding community through regular newsletters, catch-ups, lunches and barbecues. This helps our parents develop strong, lasting bonds that continue long after their time at St Cath's comes to an end, just like their daughters.

A group of five young women, likely students, are posed outdoors. They are wearing dark blue school uniforms consisting of short-sleeved shirts and pleated skirts. The woman in the center-right is smiling broadly. The background features a brick wall and green foliage on the left. A dark blue text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

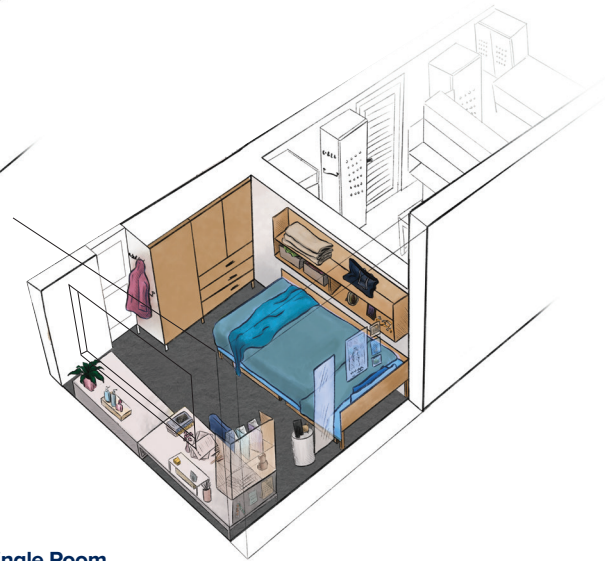
“

I was scared, being in a new country far from home with a new language, but I realised St Cath's was preparing me for life beyond school.

Lok Hang Audrey H



**Double Room**  
Junior Years



**Single Room**  
Senior Years

# A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Living in the St Catherine's Boarding House is described by our girls as a "sleepover every night" with boarders living alongside their friends from across Australia and the world. They are supported by five boarding staff members who live on-site to ensure that each girl is well cared for during her time with us.

We also make sure every boarder has her own space in the house. Even our junior double rooms are designed to provide privacy while still allowing students to enjoy the companionship and support of a roommate. All boarders are also encouraged to make the space their own as they would back at home.

We also ensure our boarders have a balance between study, rest and play. Although life at St Cath's can be busy, our routine gives boarders an idea of what to expect each day.

## **WEEKDAYS**

**6.45am – 7.45am:** Breakfast  
**8.15am:** Students leave Boarding House  
**8.20am:** School starts  
**10.30am – 11am:** Recess  
**1.30pm – 2.15pm:** Lunch  
**3.20pm – 5.30pm:** Students return to Boarding House or participate in cocurriculars  
**6pm:** Dinner  
**7pm:** Prep Centre  
**8.30pm:** Years 7-9 leave Prep Centre  
**9pm:** Years 10-12 leave Prep Centre  
**9.15pm:** Years 7–9 devices collected  
**9.30pm:** Years 7-9 lamps off  
**9.45pm:** Year 10 devices collected  
**10.15pm:** Year 10 lamps off  
**10.30pm:** Year 11 devices collected  
**10.45pm:** Year 11 lamps off

## **SATURDAY**

**9am – 10am:** Breakfast  
**1pm:** Lunch  
**6pm:** Dinner  
**9.30pm:** Years 7-8 devices collected  
**9.45pm:** Years 7-8 to bed and Year 9 devices collected  
**10pm:** Year 9 to bed  
**10.30pm:** Lamps off

## **SUNDAY**

**9am – 10am:** Breakfast  
**1pm:** Lunch  
**1.30pm – 5.30pm:** Sunday activity  
**6pm:** Dinner  
**7pm:** Quiet time in lieu of prep time  
**9.15pm:** Night routine same as weekdays

# TAKING THE FIRST STEP

If you're applying from overseas, we recommend using an education agent. Each application is reviewed individually and may have extra requirements. Please note that meeting the minimum test scores does not guarantee admission. All international students must take English, Mathematics, and General Ability tests through the Australian Education Assessment Services (AEAS). We do not accept IELTS. The minimum required AEAS scores are:

- **Years 5-6:** 51+ with an intermediate proficiency level.
- **Years 7-9:** 61+ with an upper intermediate proficiency level.
- **Year 10:** 71+ with a pre-advanced proficiency level.

If you have any questions about enrolling, please email [enrol@stcatherines.nsw.edu.au](mailto:enrol@stcatherines.nsw.edu.au).

**STEP 1:** Complete our online application form, with all documentation translated and validated by the school or an education agent.

**STEP 2:** Your daughter will be invited to interview with our leadership team two years prior to her commencement year. One parent is also required to attend the interview.

**STEP 3:** If a place is available, your daughter will receive a formal letter of offer. The letter of offer will also indicate whether an ELICOS course is required.

**STEP 4:** You will have two weeks to accept our offer. Then, your daughter's place will be reserved, and we will provide the documents needed for her student visa application.

**STEP 5:** Arrange the following before your daughter starts with us (fees may apply):

- Nominate an English-speaking guardian in Sydney.
- Provide your daughter's student visa and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).
- Contact the Australian Homestay Network (AHN) if needed.
- Pay one term's tuition, any boarding fees, and the refundable A\$10,000 holding deposit at least 30 days before your daughter starts with us.

**STEP 6:** Your daughter will be invited to an orientation before she starts with us. We'll help you both get to know the school in advance; with introductions to staff, uniform fittings, school tours and access to the school portal.





Sydney



**St Catherine's School**

[www.stcatherines.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stcatherines.nsw.edu.au)

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CRICOS 20322K



- **There is so much to the**
- **story of St Catherine's School.**
- Scan the QR code to read and
- experience our wonderful School.

St Catherine's School acknowledges the Gadigal and Bidjigal people, the traditional owners of the lands on which the school sits, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We extend this respect to the continuation of the cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.