COLUMBA CATHOLIC COLLEGE
CHARTERS TOWERS

Shine at Columba PROSPECTUS

Welcome to Columba Catholic College

For over 140 years, Columba Catholic College has offered an outstanding student experience, encouraging students to be the best they can be.

Columba students more than just attend; they form part of a community with a history that stretches back to the nineteenth century. With outstanding modern facilities across two campuses; extensive curriculum offerings focused on contemporary competencies of connection, collaboration, entrepreneurial thinking and a growth mindset; students are well equipped to be the leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

Columba is a vibrant, affordable Prep - Year 12 Catholic College catering for the full needs of families and students. Being co-educational, students can find their own special niche for learning and personal growth. With a Kindergarten on site, run by Townsville Catholic Kindergartens, our educational setting gives families a seamless educational and cultural experience spanning across the early, middle and senior phases of learning. This Prep - Year 12 setting gives students access to a wide range of subjects and opportunities, matched to current and emerging pathways.

Columba Catholic College students have a sense of purpose of being the best they can be, drives them to embrace the many opportunities available, to achieve a balance between their academic, social, spiritual, sporting and cultural pursuits.

Our College camping facility at Marybank, a 30 hectare property, ensures that the balance between academic rigours and time away in the great western outdoors features prominently in our purposeful curriculum and pastoral offerings.

Our twin boarding facilities on Mt Carmel Campus (for boys) and St Mary's Campus (for girls) ensure that the residential needs of both sons and daughters are met with sensitivity to their own special circumstances. We are proud of our wrap around program in boarding, where students enjoy structured weekend activities; transport to sporting and work commitments and travel to and from Townsville by College bus for weekly boarders. This sense of family and service is a hallmark of the Columba boarder.

The three Catholic traditions that formed the College - the Christian Brothers; Good Samaritan and Mercy sisters provide a model of how the Columba student treats one another, as well as the way in which students work hard to use the gifts God has given them. Each student is recognised as an individual, and is known, cared for and respected. There is no blueprint for the "Columba student" - each child is unique; we see our role as helping all of our students to become the best they can be without compromising the true nature of their personality.

Columba Catholic College is a place where children can confidently be themselves, growing in every way to become competent, confident, compassionate and successful contributors to society. This is done in a safe, nurturing and academically challenging environment with an extensive range of co-curricular opportunities.

I invite you to make a time to visit and take a tour of our facilities and see the way that Columba students learn and grow every day. Enrolment at Columba is an easy process - complete the enrolment forms and documentation as soon as possible, and we will organise an enrolment interview time with you and your son or daughter.

Many Blessings,

Shayne Harrison
PRINCIPAL

Built on a strong foundation our history, traditions and values

In 1998, the three Catholic schools in Charters Towers amalgamated to form a single school, Columba Catholic College, operating from the three existing campuses.

ST. COLUMBA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Parish School under Diocesan authority, with co-educational classes Pre-school through to Year 7. St. Columba's was founded in 1876 by the Sisters of Mercy, later administered by the Good Samaritan Sisters, and then by Lay staff from 1988.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

A Diocesan secondary school founded in 1882 by the Sisters of Mercy. From 1900, the Sisters of the Good Samaritan administered the College. This continued until 1979 when the first Lay Principal was appointed.

St. Mary's offered Junior Secondary (Years 8-10) classes to girls. Prior to 1978, the girls continued their education at St. Mary's through to Year 12, but since that time, the senior girls move each day to the Mt. Carmel College for co-education. On the same site is a well appointed boarding facility for girls only from Primary to Year 12.

MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE

Mt Carmel College was founded in 1902 and was owned and operated by the Christian Brothers, until 1997.

In 1998, the Brothers relinquished control of the school to the Diocese, but the Congregation retained ownership of the site until the beginning of 2007. The Christian Brothers continue to provide support to the Staff and Students of Columba Catholic College. Mt Carmel offered a comprehensive education to boys from Years 8-10 and co-education in Y ears 11 and 12. The well-equipped and modern boarding facility caters for boys only from Primary to Year 12.

Today, Columba Catholic College comes under the authority of the Diocese of Townsville, through the Catholic Education Office.

Columba Catholic College was built by people motivated by: faith, the desire to achieve and a spirit of community service. These are the same characteristics we aim to develop in the young men and women who graduate from Columba Catholic College today.

Amazing Australian
ROAD TRIP
JACKIE MOSKING
LESLEY VAMOS

COLUMBA
COLUMBA
LIGHT TO THE WORLD
COLUMBA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Our Mission

Columba Catholic College inspires day and boarding students, in a climate of Courage, Commitment and Compassion, to grow in faith, purpose and knowledge. Founded on Catholic traditions, the College community encourages students to use their gifts and talents to pursue excellence and to be a '**Light to the World.**'

COLLEGE BADGE

The design is based upon four symbols, all of which are linked to form the motto 'Light to the World".

CELTIC CROSS: the specific Irish Christian influence on the establishment of Catholic Schools in Australia.

BOOK: the Word of God, our source of light and life.

STARS: the three schools/ colleges - St. Columba's, St. Mary's, Mt. Carmel - which joined to become one.

DOVE: the symbol of St. Columba, whose peaceful ways and love of learning are our model.

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These symbols, placed in harmony, represent Columba Catholic College.

Academic Life

Columba Catholic College students consistently achieve excellent academic results and outcomes. These results and outcomes are measurable and are published annually on the My School website and in government data. What is immeasurable is how well we do for each and every student who joins our community. We are a school for everybody. Our students are from many different backgrounds and they have different abilities. Every Columba Catholic College student is known as an individual and is prized for who they are. At each year level students are immersed in an integrated program of personal development, pastoral care and educational experiences designed to support students to develop emotionally, socially and spiritually. All Columba Catholic College students study Religious Education. Students are educated to understand, appreciate and celebrate Catholic traditions and to explore and understand various religious traditions of the world. Through the curriculum, students are encouraged to: think for themselves, investigate and question and to value the importance of having opinions that are well informed.

PROGRAMME THAT HAS EXTENSION

Many of our students are gifted in some way. Students with talent in a particular area of study have the opportunity to work at a higher level but we believe it is important they stay within their social infrastructure and are not isolated from their peers – extension within the classroom is the best option. There are many opportunities at Columba Catholic College for those students requiring extension or enrichment challenges and initiatives ranging from receiving coaching in public speaking to extension in mathematical equations.

EXTRA HELP

Students who need help in an area of study may make use of the Learning Enrichment Support Programs.

Boarding at Columba

A FAMILY AND A HOME

Columba Catholic College has a reputation for providing a devoted, supportive learning environment, fostering a sense of community and belonging for each boarder.

Columba Catholic College provides a specialist boarding experience, framed and infused by the Goals of Catholic Education. The School currently takes Boarders from Years 5 to 12.

We encourage each student to discover, develop and value their talents, and to be the best they can be. This is achieved through a balanced, well-rounded educational programme which is enhanced by comprehensive care in a comfortable and protective boarding environment.

For over 100 years we have challenged our students through a broad range of academic, sporting, social and cultural experiences to become confident, committed, compassionate young men and women capable of transforming their world.

Culture & Sport

The College has a full and varied calendar of cultural events and pursuits, along with seasonal sporting fixtures, catering to the different talents and interests of students at all levels.

Sports are conducted on three levels within the College, as an integral part of the curriculum with swimming, fitness, athletics, lifesaving, dance, skill development programs, as part of local inter-school competitions at Primary and Secondary levels, as part of regional, zone, state and national competitions.

Social sports, not organised at inter-school level, include Soccer, Basketball, Hockey, Triathlon, Rugby Union, Indoor Cricket, Volleyball, Touch Football. Columba Catholic College students are involved in these sports through local competitions.

ORGANISED SPORTS FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS:

- Ball Games
- Rugby League
- Cricket
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Netball
- Hockey
- Flippa Ball
- Aussie Rules
- Athletics
- Swimming
- Touch Football
- Cross-Country

ORGANISED SPORTS FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS:

- Netball
- Cricket
- Softball
- Tennis
- Rugby League
- Swimming
- Cross Country
- Athletics
- Touch Football
- Rugby Union
- Volleyball
- Basketball

ORGANISED RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Skating
- Fishing
- Trips to other centres such as townsville for sporting
- Cultural or social interests
- Cattle club
- Camping
- Theatre and movies
- Holiday trips to places of interest both within Australia and overseas

ORGANISED CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:

- Debating
- Cadets
- Art Exhibitions
- Drama
- Theatre
- Duke of Edinburgh Scheme
- Community Service
- Drum Line
- Arts Showcases

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