

You will be met with curiosity, adventures and  
find new passions In these walls you will grow  
in spirit and compassion

# 2026 PROSPECTUS

*Strength & Kindness*



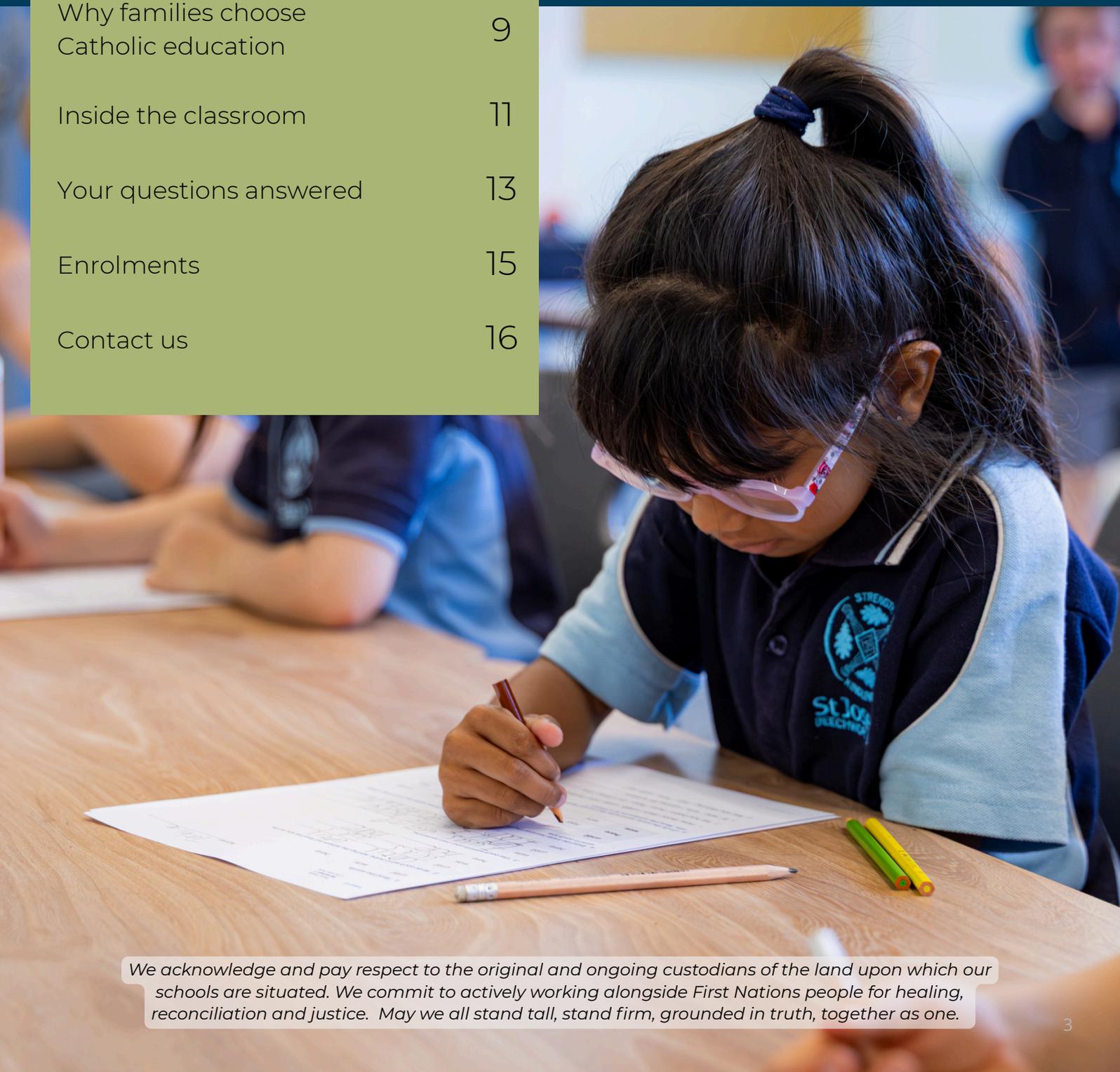


# Our commitment

St Joseph's School is committed to creating an environment where every young person feels secure, valued and able to live life to the full. We foster a nurturing and inclusive community that prioritises each child's safety and wellbeing, ensuring all can grow and flourish with confidence

# TABLE of Contents

Welcome to our school	4
The St Joseph's difference	5
Magnify Sandhurst	8
Why families choose Catholic education	9
Inside the classroom	11
Your questions answered	13
Enrolments	15
Contact us	16



*We acknowledge and pay respect to the original and ongoing custodians of the land upon which our schools are situated. We commit to actively working alongside First Nations people for healing, reconciliation and justice. May we all stand tall, stand firm, grounded in truth, together as one.*



# Welcome

Welcome to St Joseph's Primary School in Beechworth, Victoria. At St Joseph's we will help your child thrive in their learning, develop self-confidence, care for others and grow in faith in a happy, safe and nurturing environment. We are an exceptional Prep-Year 6 school with approximately 65 students and a dedicated team of professional teaching and administrative staff. All are welcome at St Joseph's.

From humble beginnings nearly 170 years ago, St Joseph's provision of education continues to be steeped in the Catholic values and traditions of its Brigidine heritage. The school motto, 'Strength and Kindliness' is the basis of teaching and learning here.

Along with our staff, we also have a vibrant community of families that actively partner in our students' educational journey. It makes all the difference. Character is developed over time, through the inspiration and influence of multiple people, experiences, and life lessons.

At St Joseph's, we educate the whole child with dedicated and talented language, performing arts, visual arts and science teachers. Our school is part of the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHiPs) program and believe that social, emotional and well-being support is as important as giving children academic support.

We provide a safe, nurturing environment for young learners with newly renovated classrooms and a stunning exterior for play. If you haven't visited our school yet, I warmly invite you to book a personal tour. We'd love to show you our community and give you an insight into how we engage, educate and excite our students. I look forward to welcoming and meeting you soon.

*Ashley Pasqualotto*  
Principal

# THE *St Joseph's* Difference



At St Joseph's, we know that choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you'll make. Families choose us because we are a welcoming community where children feel safe, happy, and valued.

Our caring and dedicated staff place your child's learning and wellbeing at the centre of everything we do, ensuring they have every opportunity to thrive. From the early years through to Grade 6, students are encouraged to find their voice, grow in confidence, and discover their unique gifts.

At St Joseph's we strive to provide an excellent education in an atmosphere that is nurturing, inclusive and caring.

Founded in 1857, today St Joseph's is a thriving school providing quality, affordable education for all families in the Beechworth region. Valuing kindness, respect and strong relationships, St Joseph's is proud to be in partnership with the Beechworth community.

# We endeavour to...

**Be passionate life-long learners.**

We nurture curiosity and a love of learning so that students grow into thinkers who continue seeking knowledge throughout their lives.

**Be fully engaged in their learning and pursue personal academic excellence.**

We encourage every child to take an active role in their learning, striving to achieve their personal best and celebrating growth along the way.

**Be resilient, optimistic and self confident.**

We help students develop the courage to persevere, the confidence to believe in themselves, and the optimism to approach challenges with a positive mindset.

**Be empathetic, accepting and respectful.**

We foster a culture where students value the dignity of every person, show kindness, and build respectful relationships.

**Be active in caring for the environment.**

We guide students to appreciate and protect God's creation, taking responsibility for sustainable actions that support a healthy planet.

**Be open to challenges and opportunities.**

We encourage students to embrace new experiences, step outside their comfort zones, and recognise challenges as opportunities for growth.

**Be of service within the local and global community.**

We inspire students to act with compassion and generosity, contributing meaningfully to the wellbeing of others both near and far.

**Know and value the beliefs, rituals and traditions of the Catholic faith.**

We support students in understanding and valuing the Catholic faith, helping them grow spiritually and participate fully in our faith community.

**Be responsible for their own learning choices and actions.**

We empower students to make thoughtful decisions, take ownership of their behaviour, and understand the impact of their actions on themselves and others.

## WHY CHOOSE ST JOSEPH'S?

- Safe, nurturing environment
- Strong academic foundations
- Range of supports when needed - academic, social, emotional, well-being
- Personalised learning for every child
- Strong specialist teaching areas, including performing arts, visual arts, science and Italian
- All-inclusive fees
- Strong partnerships with families
- **Graduates who shine**



# Ready for tomorrow

*We prepare our students not just for the world they know today, but for the possibilities waiting in their tomorrow.*

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# Magnify *Sandhurst*

Catholic Education Sandhurst rolled out *Magnify Sandhurst*, an evidence-informed, science of learning school improvement initiative, to its 51 Catholic schools across the Sandhurst Diocese at the beginning of 2025.

*Magnify Sandhurst* focuses on how the brain learns, how literacy is effectively taught, uses a low variance, knowledge-rich curriculum and the creation of positive classrooms. Our practice is calm, predictable, and repeatable to maximise learning time in all classrooms.

*Magnify Sandhurst* is deliberately bold and wide-ranging, generating whole-of-system improvement.

We have partnered with world-class organisations including LME Global, Ochre Education, Knowledge Society, Steplab and MultiLit.

*Magnify Sandhurst* aims to enhance learning outcomes through several key components:

## **STRUCTURED AND EVIDENCE-BASED LEARNING**

Using the latest neuroscience and a structured, knowledge-rich curriculum, we ensure students build deep understanding.

A low-variance curriculum provides students with a consistent learning experience and reduces the amount of preparation and planning required by teachers, allowing teachers to focus on individual student needs.

## **MAGNIFYING LITERACY AND NUMERACY**

Providing targeted support and resources to improve reading, writing, and math skills at all levels. Special focus on structured literacy in F-2 and sequential programs from Years 3-10.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING FOR TEACHERS**

Each teacher receives a dedicated coach and program to learn and practice the best techniques to meet students' learning needs. We are investing in our teachers to provide the best possible learning outcomes for students in our Catholic schools.

## **CALM CLASSROOMS AND POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

Promoting calm, supportive, and positive learning environments through common practices, expectations, and social norms, our work includes a new program for student social and behavioural learning. Our classrooms will have a consistent approach throughout each Sandhurst school to support all students to learn in a calm, orderly learning environment.

WHY *families choose*

# Catholic education



Families choose a Catholic school because it offers more than strong academic outcomes, it nurtures the whole person.

Our schools provide safe, inclusive and supportive environments where every child can flourish.

Recent research by the Melbourne Institute, using the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia survey shows students who attend Catholic schools are more likely to experience greater happiness, stronger community connection and long-term career success.

They are more likely to feel connected to their communities, contribute meaningfully to society, and pursue careers that reflect both personal fulfilment and social impact.

These outcomes stem from an education that places equal emphasis on academic excellence, spiritual formation and character development; ensuring students are not only well-prepared for life but also equipped to live it with purpose and joy.

At St Joseph's, we are proud to be part of this story.





## INSIDE *the* **Classroom**

Our curriculum is designed to inspire a love of learning. Core subjects are complemented by a rich variety of specialist programs including:

- Visual Arts
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education and Sport
- Science
- Languages (Italian)

Some children shine through creativity, others through problem-solving, leadership, kindness, or physical talent. Our role is to provide a learning environment where each student can discover what they are good at and develop confidence in who they are.

*By valuing varied abilities, we help children understand that success looks different for everyone - and that every strength has a place in our community.*

# What our families are saying...

*I chose to come to St Joseph's because it was evident there is a great community of parents here, and that the school has care for kids at the centre of what they do.*

*It's a great environment for our children to thrive.*

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YOUR *questions*

# Answered

*Here are some frequently asked questions about our Catholic schools and why we believe you will feel at home in one of our welcoming school settings.*

## **WHO CAN ENROL?**

We warmly welcome families from all backgrounds to join our community. Our schools provide a high-quality and affordable education for everyone, not just Catholics.

## **DO I NEED TO BE CATHOLIC? DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BE CATHOLIC OR BAPTISED TO ATTEND?**

No, you, your child or your family do not need to be Catholic or baptised, we welcome families of all faiths and backgrounds, however, priority will be given to baptised Catholics in the case where schools are at capacity based on an enrolment priority criteria approved by the Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited Board.

## **IF MY CHILD ISN'T CATHOLIC, WILL THEY FEEL LEFT OUT?**

Not at all. All religious education which includes the classroom teaching of religion and the religious life of the school, is respectful of all learners and is based on the foundational belief in the dignity of every person.

## **MASS ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES?**

It is the expectation that students will attend masses that occur during school times as part of the school

celebrations, significant faith days and liturgical events. While we encourage participation in Parish Masses outside of school hours to foster a sense of community, it is not mandatory.

## **CAN I AFFORD THE FEES?**

Catholic schools remain an affordable option for most families and is surprisingly more affordable than some may realise. When you enrol your child in a Catholic school your fees are inclusive, with no hidden costs.

Our fees are structured to be affordable, with options for payment plans. Families with a Health Care Card are eligible for significant fee relief in our Catholic primary schools.

Catholic School fees include all external costs, including camps, excursions, swimming lessons, technology and more! The ability to pay school fees is not a pre-requisite for enrolment in our schools.

## **DO I HAVE TO GO TO MY NEAREST CATHOLIC SCHOOL?**

We do not have zoning regulations for our primary schools, therefore, you are able to enrol your child at any of our Catholic primary schools. Some of our Secondary Colleges do have enrolment boundaries relating to local Parish boundaries and we encourage you to contact your local school to discuss. We encourage you to visit our schools during open days or tours to find the best fit.

### **HOW DO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CATER FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS?**

Catholic schools' welcome Indigenous students and a variety of specialist educational and pastoral care strategies are available to ensure that Indigenous students feel supported and culturally respected.

### **WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM A CATHOLIC SCHOOL?**

You can expect calm, safe and predictable classrooms with a strong academic focus. Our Magnify Program enhances learning and we have a variety of programs in each of our schools to support the emotional wellbeing of students. We offer broad support services and prioritise child safety with a zero-tolerance policy for bullying.

### **WHY CHOOSE CATHOLIC EDUCATION?**

Catholic schools offer different pathways for students, from early education to senior education. We focus on nurturing, safe, and inclusive environments.

Our academic program, Magnify Sandhurst brings together world class partners in education to ensure that all students are able to maximise their learning potential.

With recent research showing that students who attended a Catholic school are more likely to be happier, contribute to community and be employed, there has never been a better time to be in Catholic Education!





# Enrolments

Enrolments for 2027 and 2028 are now open via our website or by obtaining forms from the school office.

We invite all interested families to join us for one of our Open Days each term where you will have an opportunity to tour our classrooms, ask questions and discover all that St Joseph's has to offer. Parent Information Evenings will also be held in Terms 1 & 2 with specific focus on the transition to school. Please follow us on social media for updates.

Transition days for 2027 Foundation students will commence in Term 4. The statewide transition day will be held on Tuesday, December 8.



# Stay connected

We'd love to welcome you to St Joseph's Primary School.

## **VISIT US**

School tours available by appointment.

## **ENROLMENT INFORMATION**

Application forms available online or from our school office.

## **CONTACT**

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