



LORETO

Mandeville Hall Toorak







THE CHALLENGES SHE NEEDS.

To become confident, self-assured women, girls need the right challenges. Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak has created an environment where your daughter will be nurtured, challenged and encouraged to discover her true self.

We embrace genuine values of freedom, justice, sincerity, verity and felicity to foster a mutual respect and deep understanding of the individual and a compassion for the broader community.

Each year Loreto Toorak delivers excellent academic results, of which we are very proud, but this is only one aspect of our holistic approach to education. Our shared focus is an authentic Loreto experience; broadening the possibilities for your daughter and helping her to prepare for the ongoing journey of life.

The opportunities we provide will challenge and extend your daughter, helping her to graduate with self-confidence and an inner belief that there is much she can achieve.

Ms Angela O'Dwyer, Principal

*"Women in time to come
will do much."*

Mary Ward

THE FOUNDATION SHE NEEDS.

Our Heritage

Mary Ward, a remarkable English woman who overcame extraordinary opposition and hostility to found the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM), who are also known as the Loreto Sisters, established the worldwide Loreto tradition of education 400 years ago. Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry led the Australian foundation in 1875, which established primary and secondary schools in Ballarat committed to a liberal Catholic education. Today there are seven Loreto Schools in Australia and over 90 throughout the rest of the world.

Loreto Toorak was established in 1924, and continues that 400-year-old tradition. Our goal is to foster in each student the foundation for a strong and mature faith – in God, in herself and in life. These foundations will provide a vibrant core of values and beliefs that will stand her in good stead to face and, indeed, to embrace all the challenges, the joys and the adventures that lie ahead in life.

The tradition in which we stand is one that is proudly and confidently committed to an education of the whole child, both heart and mind, and based on a strong set of Loreto values. These values lie at the heart of all our endeavours.

“The School in 1934 provided a sound education on modern lines. Many of the girls were highly intelligent and talented as well as ambitious, set on attending university and taking up worthwhile careers opening up for women.”

Sr Ruth Winship *ibvm*



The Loreto Sisters acquired *Mandeville Hall* in 1924.



THE REFLECTION SHE NEEDS.

Religious Education

When you choose to join the Loreto Toorak School family, you will choose a Catholic School, a school which is firmly grounded in the Loreto values and which nurtures spiritual as well as academic and social development.

In Preparatory-Year 6, students are invited to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist as a School Community. The students have a daily prayer and share in a journey of faith.

Rich and engaging courses are taught, covering such areas as scripture, morality, comparative religions, Catholic Church teachings and ethics.

Opportunities for prayer, reflection and spiritual growth are provided in both the Religious Education classroom and across the vibrant liturgical life of the School through year level Chapel assemblies, School Masses and retreat days.

*"Serve God with great love
and liberty of mind."*

Mary Ward



THE DEVELOPMENT SHE NEEDS.

Rathfarnham, Preparatory-Year 6

At Loreto Toorak the junior years are exciting and challenging. Central to learning are the individual needs of our students from Preparatory-Year 6. Stimulating programs, which are constantly reviewed, enable students to achieve their goals.

Our School is committed to the development of a healthy mind, body and spirit. The broad range of curriculum offers a variety of programs including English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Sport, Music, the Arts and Languages other than English (LOTE). Chinese (Mandarin) and French are taught from Preparatory.

Student leadership is part of the formal academic program for girls in Year 6 and leadership training is conducted to support all girls throughout this year.

Clubs are available to all students during lunchtime and are an important component of our School. These include Garden, Stretch and Chill, Knitting, Chess and Equestrian Club.

Other programs on offer are Loreto Speaks, Huff 'n' Puff (an early morning exercise program), Perceptual Motor Program (PMP), a collaborative buddy program with St Kevin's College, Mathematics competitions through the Australian Mathematics Trust, Music Eisteddfods and Interschool sporting competitions.

*"Our ideals often make
our realities."*

Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry *ibvm*

THE SUPPORT SHE NEEDS.

Pastoral Care

We seek to nurture a mature self-hood in your daughter, by encouraging a confident sense of self-worth and a willingness to take initiative, to accept responsibility and to exercise leadership.

We value the partnership between school, home and community. This partnership provides students a safe, caring and enjoyable pastoral environment together with a motivating and challenging educational environment.

Our pastoral care program is evidence-based, responds to the changing social and emotional needs of our students and includes:

- Strong pastoral support provided by subject teachers, homeroom teachers and year coordinators
- School Counselling program
- Peer-support program in P-6 and Years 7 and 10
- Year Level and house group activities for Years 7-12
- Academic support programs throughout Years 7-12 which include study skills and homework club for Years 7-9
- Careers and pathways focus for Years 9-12
- Transition program for students in Year 7
- Social Emotional Learning programs from Preparatory-Year 10
- Mental health awareness programs

We encourage our students to care for the younger girls, support their friends, work with their teachers and love their School.

LORETO

Girls





THE RESILIENCE SHE NEEDS.

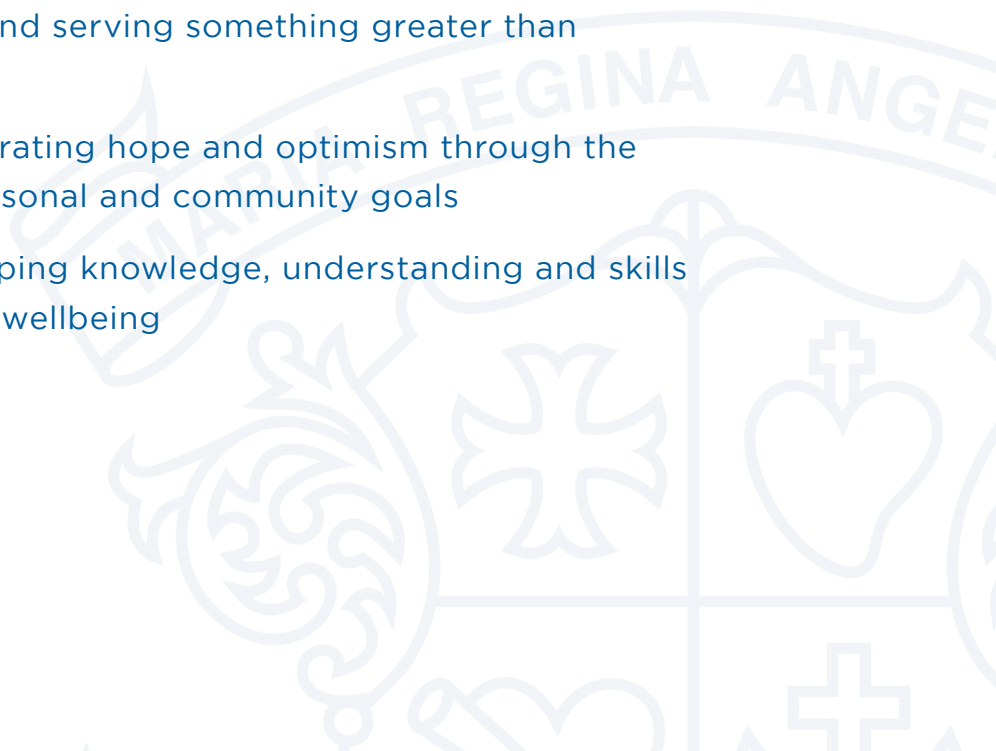
Positive Education

At Loreto Toorak we believe in developing the whole person. We strive to achieve this by maintaining a dual emphasis on wellbeing and academic achievement across all aspects of school life. Positive Education complements and strengthens our approach to pastoral care.

Positive Education is explicitly taught from Preparatory to Year 12. The curriculum is evidence-based, strengths-focused, aims to engender resilience and promote a learning environment that allows young women to flourish.

At Loreto Toorak, Positive Education incorporates the following six domains:

- Positive Emotion: building and experiencing positive emotion
- Engagement: developing critical thinkers by promoting challenge, curiosity and creativity
- Positive Relationships: nurturing positive relationships based on respect and promoting a flourishing community
- Meaning: believing in and serving something greater than ourselves
- Accomplishment: generating hope and optimism through the accomplishment of personal and community goals
- Positive Health: developing knowledge, understanding and skills to promote health and wellbeing



THE ATTENTION SHE NEEDS.

Individual Differences

Individual Difference programs cater for students across the academic spectrum, helping to nurture and encourage our girls to be young women of self-worth.

The aim is to foster the unique gifts of highly able students, as well as cater for students with learning challenges. Support staff and extension programs are available throughout the School. Students with specific learning needs are taught by specialist teachers and include sessions devoted to improving English and Mathematical skills.

During Preparatory-Year 6 our Individual Differences team cater and assess students to create programs and support specific needs. Teaching plans and strategies are regularly discussed with relevant class teachers. When necessary, individual or small group programs are also implemented.

Philosophy classes at Years 7-9 are designed to extend and creatively engage students. With an emphasis on critical thinking and discussion, these classes are available to all students in Years 7-9.

Our varied teaching methods deliver a lively and coordinated curriculum to help your daughter discover, develop and embrace her talents. Our stimulating learning environment will provide her with the opportunity to strengthen her understanding, develop her confidence and foster her ability to reach her full potential.

"All around you are the possibilities of doing good and making the world richer for your having lived in it."

Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry *ibvm*



THE VALUES SHE NEEDS.

Social Justice

Loreto Toorak is a School Community focussed on justice as a core value of the spirituality and tradition of the Loreto sisters. Mary Ward understood justice to be a sense of personal integrity, based on a harmonious relationship with God, with other people and with the whole of creation.

At Loreto Toorak, we teach our students to critically analyse the structures of our society that perpetuate injustice; we nurture their hearts and minds to become aware of issues of social justice in the world around them; we also provide them with opportunities to take action themselves. As a School Community we are called to take part in such 'Works of Justice' as an integral part of our education of young women.

Our students take part in the following 'Works of Justice' activities:

- Advocacy and fundraising for Mary Ward International Australia
- Friday Night School, where students assist each week in the tutoring of refugee families in Richmond
- A range of local volunteer opportunities and experiences including support for Very Special Kids' Annual Fair, Sacred Heart Mission and other local organisations
- Attendance at regular Social Justice Club meetings where justice issues are discussed and responded to
- Star Camp; a live-in camp for children with disabilities, held in December each year
- The Year 9 *Journey to Our Heart* Pilgrimage; focussing on the place of Indigenous Australia in our identity



*"Participating in the Journey to our Heart Pilgrimage
this year was a life changing experience for me."*

Charlotte, Year 9

Freedom Justice Sinc



erity Verity Felicity





THE STIMULATION SHE NEEDS.

Core Curriculum

An extensive and challenging academic program is integral to the education of heart and mind that is cherished at Loreto Toorak. A love of learning is fostered by specialist teachers who share a passion for their subjects with the students.

Core Subjects (Years 7-10): English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education, Health and Physical Education, Humanities (History, Geography and Commerce) and LOTE (French, Indonesian, Chinese Mandarin and Italian).

Electives (Years 7-10): Drama, Visual Art, Music, LOTE, Food, People and Technology, Information Technology, Commerce, Archaeology, Aviation, Literature and Film, and Elective Science (Chemistry, Physics and Biology).

VCE Electives (Years 11 & 12): An extensive range of studies is offered to cater for the very diverse range of talents, ambitions and interests. Students can select from a broad range of approximately 32 subjects. Specialist teachers provide support and guidance throughout VCE.

“Love verity; seek knowledge; not for knowledge alone but for the end it brings you to; then you will be happy and able to profit yourself and others.”

Mary Ward

THE COMPETITIVE CHALLENGE SHE NEEDS.

Physical Education

The Physical Education program ranges from the development of energetic sporting skills to an understanding of the physics of the human body. This is designed to promote a healthy lifestyle and active participation.

There is an extensive choice of 20 different sports on offer throughout the School and is dependant on the student year level:

- Tennis
- Swimming
- Rowing
- Hockey
- Athletics
- Surf Lifesaving
- Volleyball
- Equestrian
- Softball
- Soccer
- Netball
- Cricket
- Water Polo
- Diving
- Cross Country
- AFL
- Basketball
- Badminton
- Snowsports
- Gymnastics/Aerobics

Loreto Toorak is a member of Girls Sport Victoria (GSV) which includes 23 Girls' Schools who compete with spirited rivalry across a range of sports during weekly competition.

Other optional sports run through GSV include:

- Golf
- Cycle Sport
- Beach Volleyball
- Triathlon
- Table Tennis
- Fencing

We challenge girls to participate, be part of a team and foster healthy attitudes towards competition.



THE CREATIVE EXPRESSION SHE NEEDS.

Art

Our highly acclaimed Art program challenges our students by engaging them in a diverse range of creative and innovative art making experiences.

All students study Art from Preparatory to Year 8. The subject is an elective in Year 9 with expanded electives on offer in Year 10 including Art, Studio Art (photography and digital imaging) and Visual Communication Design. These subjects are all offered for continued study in VCE.

The quality and calibre of the Art program is revealed in its popularity with approximately 50% of students selecting to choose to study an Art related subject as part of their VCE. The consistently outstanding results, along with the annual awards and prizes received by our students, are testament to the quality of the programs we offer.

Students have the opportunity to develop specialist skills in a diverse range of media including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, traditional photography, digital imaging and graphic design.

Professional training is provided by a group of dedicated and highly experienced teachers. The department is made up of practising artists, industry professionals and curriculum leaders.

*Smile upon all that is dear to us, Smile on our school and home,
Smile on the days we are passing now, Smile on the years to come,
Brighten our work and gladden our play, O Causa Nostrae Laetitiae.*

(School Holiday Hymn)





THE CONFIDENCE SHE NEEDS.

Performing Arts

Drama at Loreto Toorak provides great inspiration and enrichment for the students, developing sophisticated practical and communication skills which can be applied to life beyond school.

All students from Years 3-8 study Drama as part of their core curriculum, and it can be selected as an elective in Years 9 and 10. Theatre Studies is also available to students in Years 11 and 12.

Participation in Drama develops skills through playbuilding and practical exploration. Students collaborate with peers and professional practitioners to enhance their knowledge of a variety of theatrical forms. Drama fosters critical thinking skills through the analysis of theatre, with students attending a range of productions, both professional and student-based.

The Drama Program also includes:

- Performing Arts Festival – involving all students from Years 7-12
- Year 6 Musical Production
- Winter and Spring Plays with Xavier College
- Senior and Middle School Musicals with St Kevin's College
- Interhouse Drama Festival
- Drama Club – open to Years 7-12 and run by the Drama Captain and support crew
- Stage Crew – offering students the opportunity to develop production skills
- Voice and Speech - lessons are available to all students from Year 5 onwards as a co-curricular subject. This involves working in small groups to develop and enhance voice tone and speech which builds confidence and effective communication



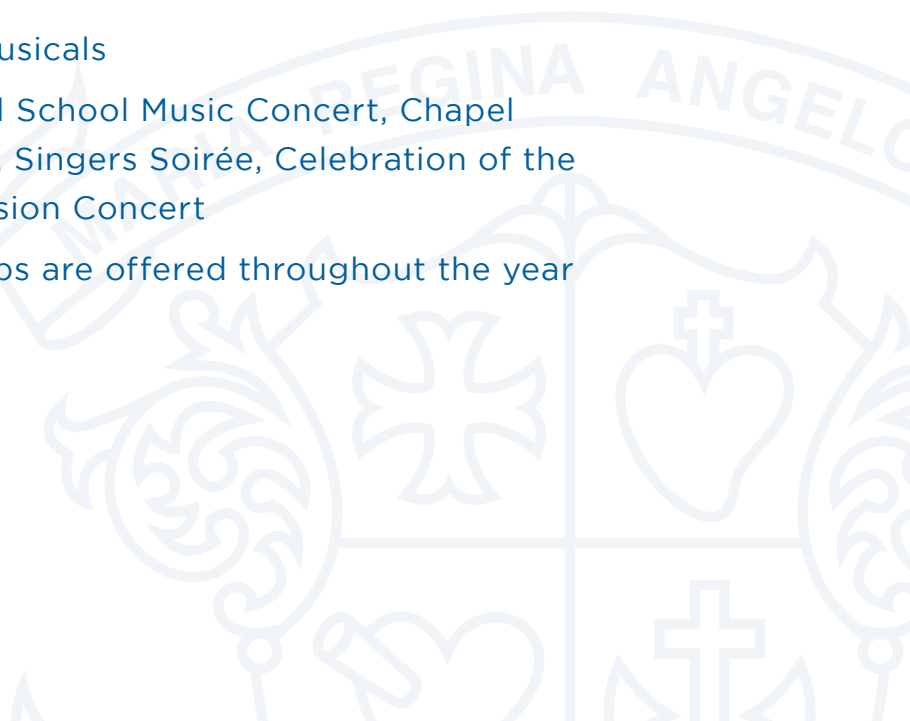
THE INSPIRATION SHE NEEDS.

Music

Music is a rich and diverse component of a Loreto Toorak education. There are 25 ensemble groups available for students to join including bands, choirs, orchestras, instrumental ensembles and chamber groups.

The Music Program also includes:

- Preparatory-Year 3 'Loreto Sings' Program
- Year 3 Strings Program – lessons on violin, viola, cello and double bass
- Year 4 Percussion Program – a 10-week introductory course
- Year 5 Brass and Woodwind Program – lessons on bassoon, clarinet, euphonium, flute, French horn, oboe, saxophone, trombone and trumpet
- Year 7 Instrumental Program – new students are offered a semester's complimentary tuition on a variety of instruments
- Tuition is available on any instrument, including voice, for an additional tuition fee
- Performance opportunities including recitals, lunchtime concerts,
Middle and Senior School Musicals
- Concerts include the Annual School Music Concert, Chapel Concert, Showcase Concert, Singers Soirée, Celebration of the Piano and Brass and Percussion Concert
- Masterclasses and Workshops are offered throughout the year





THE EXTENSION SHE NEEDS.

Clubs

Loreto Aquatic offers swimming classes for children from 3 years to adults. Classes range from swimming lessons to squads.

The programs are available at the Mary Gonzaga Barry Centre before and after school for students and the broader community.

The Gymnastics Club has an excellent gymnastic facility in the Mary Gonzaga Barry Centre and offers the following gymnastic programs under the supervision and commitment of excellent coaches. Classes are held after school and during weekends. These are available to students and the broader community and include Gym for All (Recreation), Women's Gymnastics (Competitive), Aerobics Gymnastics (Recreation and Competitive) and Specialist Dance (Competitive) – Cheerleading.

The Loreto Toorak Netball Club provides fun opportunities for students to play netball in a community-based competition. We cater for all levels, from our youngest and newest players in NetSetGo, to those with greater experience in the sport.

Rowing Club for students in Years 9-12 is run during Terms 1 and 4. In Year 8, a two-week complimentary program is run to trial the sport.

Snowsports is available for intermediate level enthusiasts, who can participate in training weekends which culminate in the State Interschools events. Family supervision is required for this offsite activity.

*Staff and students are united in their commitment to
"aim at something excellent."*

Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry *ibvm*

THE COMMITMENT SHE NEEDS.

Other Co-curricular

Public speaking is available in Preparatory-Year 6 through the Loreto Speaks program. Debating is offered to all students in Years 7-12 regardless of experience. Girls are placed in teams of five to seven, each with an assigned coach. Events include:

- Interhouse Debating
- Junior Secondary Program for Years 7 and 8, held during the evenings in Term 3 – under the auspices of the Debaters Association of Victoria (DAV)
- Senior Debating (DAV)
- The Friendlies for Years 7 and 8 - Students debate with St Kevin's College in a series of fierce but friendly after school debates
- Exhibition debates can include competitors from Xavier College, St Kevin's College and Scotch College

Current initiatives and competitions, which include extension opportunities, are continually sought and are embedded in the following:

- National Simpson Prize for History students in Years 9 and 10
- The State John Botton Prize for students in Years 10-12
- Loreto Toorak Writing Competition for students in Years 3-11
- National History Challenge for students in Years 7-11
- The Australian Maths Competition from Year 5

During Year 7, a team of girls are invited to participate in the Victorian 'Da Vinci Decathlon'. An academic interschool gala day, run in the spirit of an Olympic decathlon, the events have an academic nature, with an emphasis on problem solving, creativity, code-breaking and strategy.





COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Carol Hart - Convenor
Dolinda Leishman
Fiona Baker
Gillian Michael
Lillian

"Our aim in developing a strong and vibrant School community is to work at every area of relationship in connecting to students, past pupils, parents, friends, and the wider community with the School."

Ms Angela O'Dwyer, Principal

Story Room
Marvel Stadium

THE CONNECTION SHE NEEDS.

Community Engagement

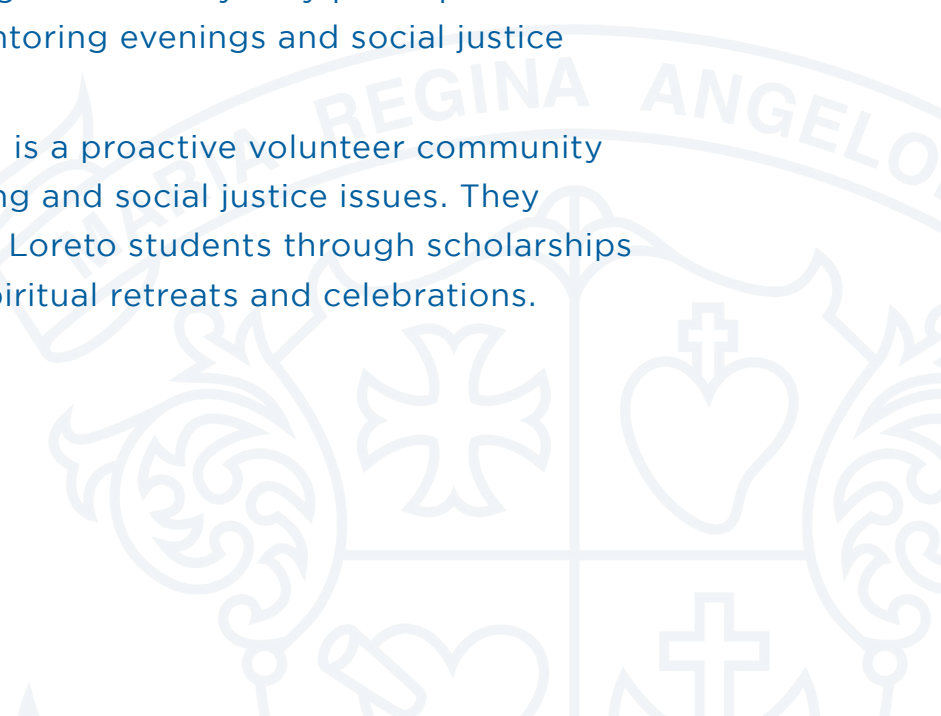
At the heart of everything we do at Loreto Toorak is a united, generous and inclusive School community.

The Parents' Association plays a key role in assisting the School to create a friendly and caring environment for parents and students. They organise a variety of social and fundraising functions, while providing valuable funds for facilities that benefit our students' learning. They also co-ordinate our Loreto Welcomes program that involves parent volunteers who welcome new families into the School community which is an invaluable support structure for new parents.

Similarly, other parent groups include Friends of Sport, Friends of Music and Friends of Rowing who actively assist the School through fundraising and voluntary pursuits.

Throughout the year, the School hosts several functions and events to broaden community engagement. In addition our alumnae celebrate several milestone class reunions including interstate and overseas gatherings. These reunions strengthen our commitment to connection and create opportunities for engagement and networking. Additionally they participate in events, interest groups, mentoring evenings and social justice endeavours.

The Past Pupils' Association is a proactive volunteer community group, involved in fundraising and social justice issues. They support new generations of Loreto students through scholarships and coordinate their own spiritual retreats and celebrations.









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THE CHALLENGES
SHE NEEDS

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