



St. Margaret's



DISCOVER *the* DIFFERENCE!

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DISCOVER

the St Margaret's DIFFERENCE



St Margaret's has been educating young women since 1895, when the Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Advent founded a school in Nundah that would eventually be relocated to its present site in Ascot and take the name of Saint Margaret of Antioch.

Ahead of the times in their desire to further the educational opportunities available to girls, especially those from regional Queensland, the Sisters laid down strong foundations, which have endured for over 120 years.

Today, the school caters for girls from Pre-Prep to Year 12, with boarding from Year 5. Boys are also welcome in Pre-Prep and Prep.

The school's enviable location, in the safe enclave of leafy Ascot and perched on a hill with expansive views of Brisbane city and beyond, provides a peaceful sanctuary for both day and boarding students.

St Margaret's girls thrive within a warm, vibrant and supportive community, where they are free to express themselves, explore their passions and discover who they are.

They leave St Margaret's well prepared, ready to embrace their future and expand their horizons.

Discover the difference a St Margaret's education can make for your daughter.

DISCOVER *her* GIFTS

St Margaret's personalised approach to each child's learning allows her to shine in her own way.

Our broad, balanced and flexible curriculum ensures girls can explore a range of interests and disciplines, laying a strong foundation for future success.

Teaching at St Margaret's is vibrant, progressive and innovative. Our specialist staff deliver relevant, authentic and engaging programs, using the latest technology in well-equipped facilities.

Recognising that deep learning occurs only when a girl's physical, emotional, social and intellectual needs are met, St Margaret's holistic approach to education focuses on creating an optimal learning environment.

Our strong pastoral care framework, through the Head of Year and House systems, provides the girls with a broad support network and nurtures a sense of belonging throughout their schooling. Engaging in the many extracurricular opportunities available also helps every girl find her place, and, with it, a positive sense of wellbeing.

A range of additional programs outside the classroom support the girls' progress, giving them every chance to succeed – from supervised study and mentoring, through to personal and careers counselling.

Our Flyers Program for outstanding scholars from Years 7 to 12 provides girls with opportunities to embrace intellectual challenge across a range of disciplines.

Discover how a St Margaret's education can shine a light on your daughter's gifts.



DISCOVER *her* CREATIVITY

Creativity is as important now in education as literacy and we should treat it with the same status.

Ken Robinson

Nurturing and developing a child's creativity not only connects to the core of who they are, it also helps develop critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. St Margaret's embraces the Arts and Arts education, encouraging all students to sing, act, play, paint, create, dance and perform throughout their years at the school.

From the very early years, the opportunities for your daughter to express her creativity are boundless. Primary Arts events are a kaleidoscope of colour, song

and movement, combining all aspects of the Arts, including the chance to perform and build early confidence in front of an audience.

The extracurricular music program offers participation in traditional music ensembles and choirs, as well as contemporary rock bands. A series of concerts and recitals throughout the year helps set practice parameters, encouraging discipline and meaningful progress, as well as providing opportunities for the girls to showcase their talents to appreciative family and community members.

Each year, one of our signature events – Classics in the Cathedral – draws hundreds to the city landmark, St John's Cathedral, while touring opportunities have taken various choirs and orchestras around Australia and also to Europe to perform and compete on the world stage. The school is renowned for its auditioned ensemble choir – Éncorah – which regularly captivates audiences with its remarkable tonal warmth, expressive power and polished performances.

The school musical is held biannually and places in these professional productions are highly coveted. The musical alternates with another 'must see'

arts calendar event – the Mayo Festival – which invites prominent artists to exhibit at the school, as well as showcasing our talented Art students' work to the wider community.

The Flyers Program for outstanding visual and performing artists recognises the additional hours that are required to excel in one's craft, while also achieving academic goals.

Whether pursuing Arts as a formal study option, or participating in the many extracurricular opportunities available, the Arts provides unique experiences, develops passion unlike any other source, and enhances critical and creative thinking.



St Margaret's is passionate about its sports programs, understanding all the wonderful benefits participation can provide. From building strength, coordination and confidence, to team building, competing with grace, and learning to lead, sport will help develop countless qualities your daughter will call upon many times in her life.

With 18 sports on offer in the secondary school, including rowing, netball, gymnastics, volleyball, hockey, soccer, touch football, badminton, softball and tennis, most girls find at least one or several sports they can enjoy.

St Margaret's participates in a number of interschool competitions, providing plenty of opportunities for healthy and robust sporting contests. These include Andrews Cup (Primary School), the Queensland Girls' Secondary Schools Sporting Association (QGSSSA) and the Brisbane Schoolgirls Rowing Association (BSRA). While smaller in size to some other schools in these competitions, St Margaret's is known for its sporting prowess and often finds itself on the podium.

Beyond the joy of participation and the thrill of competition, St Margaret's has nurtured the early careers of many sporting success stories – from champion rowers to Olympic and Commonwealth gold medallists across multiple sports.

Under the Flyers Program for elite athletes, there are opportunities to meet with nutritionists and medical experts, as well as access state-of-the-art training facilities and specialist coaches. A student who is accepted into the program can also personalise her learning around sporting commitments, which might include independent study options, test rescheduling or assignment extensions, allowing her to follow her sporting dream while completing her education.

The opportunity to play sport at any level is an important part of the well-rounded education your daughter will receive at St Margaret's.



DISCOVER

her STRENGTHS

When you have a dream you have to work hard to achieve that dream. Your dreams when you are young can be the force that keeps you going.

Evonne Goolagong-Cawley

Generations of rural, regional and remote families have chosen to send their daughter to board at St Margaret's. In fact, the first three St Margaret's students were boarders who enrolled in November 1894, in preparation for the school's opening in 1895.

Today, the 170 boarders from Years 5 to 12 who live with us each year are at the heart of our diverse community. They hail from all parts of Queensland, NSW, Northern Territory, the Pacific nations and beyond, affording

all our girls (and their families) the opportunity to connect and forge friendships with people from many different parts of the world and walks of life. The day girls embrace the boarders and open their own homes to them, while the boarders delight in reciprocating, with sleepovers in the boarding house, and holiday visits back to the farm or across the ocean.

At St Margaret's, our boarders are housed in the heart of the Ascot campus – a safe and tranquil environment surrounded by tree-lined streets, well-kept gardens and residences, and views that extend across the river and cityscape to the distant ranges.

Specialist boarding staff guide, nurture and encourage our girls through their education and provide unwavering support as they grow and mature into young women.

It's comforting to know that our Health Centre is staffed by registered nurses and forms part of the boarding house, while our experienced catering staff provide well-balanced and varied menus, preparing over 1000 restaurant quality meals every day. There is also a kitchen just for the boarders where they can try their hand at baking or cooking a favourite meal from home for their friends.

Supervised study with qualified teachers provides boarders with a high level of academic support, while a dedicated activities coordinator devises a schedule of engaging, age appropriate activities for the girls, which offer both enjoyment and opportunities for personal growth.

Living and learning in Brisbane – a sophisticated, new world city – offers a thriving, cultural and events scene, with exclusive shows, major sporting events and important international exhibits. As the home to many universities of choice, boarding in Brisbane allows the girls to lay important foundations in preparation for tertiary study, including the confidence to navigate the city, and friends with whom to continue the journey.

The St Margaret's boarding experience brings with it enduring connections, as the girls live, learn and grow together, in their home away from home.

DISCOVER *her* HOME away from HOME



DISCOVER

her FAITH

The Christian message of love through example, compassion, hope and charity is a core value of St Margaret's. For over 120 years, the Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Advent, the founders of St Margaret's, have dedicated themselves to God, to service, and to the education of young women. It is this foundation of faith and learning from which the school draws its deep sense of community and spirit.

The school follows the teachings of the Anglican Church and the mission of the Sisters. Our students are encouraged to apply their faith to their everyday lives and to question, enquire and learn through the school's religious and values education subject, which is a core part of the curriculum.

St Margaret's is a living faith community, ministering to our students, their extended families and the wider local area. The school is proud to play a significant role in the religious lives of its students, with many Old Girls returning to the heritage chapels for weddings, christenings and confirmations.

The legacy of the Sisters, remarkable women who have focused their work on improving the lives of women and children, provides a wonderful touchstone for the girls on their faith journey.

*So we pray for grace
and courage when we
need to take a stand.
We will live as Jesus'
people in this school
and in this land.*

St Margaret of Antioch hymn



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

DISCOVER *her* HUMANITY

Each semester, the student-led Philanthropy Group choose a charity to donate to and the student body is galvanised into action, through bake sales, sausage sizzles, and a great many other colourful, entrepreneurial activities.

The St Margaret's Toc H Action Group takes part in a host of volunteer projects and activities, from Easter egg drives for the children in hospital through to connecting with the elderly or underprivileged families.

The primary and secondary Oaktree Clubs also lead a number of social responsibility initiatives – providing many avenues for personal growth, leadership and life education.

Through all their service activities, the girls ensure their gaze is not only local but also global, each year contributing to a number of international causes. This has included raising money for and assembling hundreds of birthing kits, so mothers in developing countries can give birth in a cleaner, and therefore safer, environment. This work, and the realisation of lives lived so differently, has a profound effect on our young women.

Your daughter will be moved to action, and will discover she can make a difference.

Teaching and modelling the importance of kindness and service inspires a desire to make a difference in the lives of those who need our help. St Margaret's girls are encouraged to think globally and act locally through our social responsibility program, which challenges them to confront the realities of the world around them, encourages compassion for all living creatures, and inspires them to be agents of change.

The school has a long history of encouraging philanthropy, through both practical service and fundraising. In Year 7, students are given their own community service passport, where they register their hours of hands-on service during their time at the school.

The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.
Mark Van Doren

A St Margaret's education embraces the whole child. Alongside the academic curriculum are wide ranging activities designed to cultivate your daughter's curiosity, pique her interest, and inspire her creativity.

Is it the intricacies of chess... the challenge of debate... the beauty of the stars?

Does the complexity of language excite her... the magic of numbers... or the mysteries of science?

By sharing their own passions and interests, our dedicated teaching staff create diverse learning opportunities where curiosity and imagination thrive and intellect is stimulated.

A lifelong passion or career path can often be traced back to such early explorations and the inspiration of an educator.

Light the flame and discover a burning passion at St Margaret's.

DISCOVER

her INSPIRATION

*It is only in adventure that
some people succeed in knowing
themselves - in finding themselves.*

André Gide



Bring out the daring in your daughter at St Margaret's with an education that will encourage her to welcome challenge, to be bold and courageous, to test the boundaries, to be a seeker of knowledge, adventure and solutions... and to make an impact.

From the spontaneity and physicality of play, and the adventures of the outdoor education program, through to opportunities to experience new cultures and countries, your daughter will be nurtured in an environment that allows her to confidently step outside the comfort of the known, to explore the uncharted, expand her world view and to feel unlimited in her capacity to steer her own course through life.

Whether it's standing up to give a speech in class, debating a fierce opponent, or singing and dancing in the house choral competition, these small personal challenges can lead to large opportunities for growth.

Tackling heights and conquering fears in the great outdoors build confidence, replacing timid with intrepid when the next hurdle requires a leap of faith in oneself.

The world awaits a St Margaret's girl and, here, global citizenship begins at home. With a significant boarding school community and renowned exchange program, your daughter will meet young women from rural, remote and regional areas in Australia and from around the world. St Margaret's will open her eyes to the world stage and opportunities to take to that stage are never far away.

The exchange program operates to nine different countries and more than 25 per cent of Year 10 students take up this life-changing opportunity of an overseas exchange for one term.

There are many other chances for overseas travel through language and music tours and Antipodeans expeditions; and for the intellectually adventurous, our participation in the Oxbridge Summer Study Program allows girls to be housed and educated in great and historic centres of learning while exploring new cultural surroundings.

Your daughter will learn to have the courage to have faith in herself.

DISCOVER

her COURAGE

DISCOVER *her* FUTURE

Doctor, lawyer, musician, engineer, scientist, volunteer, architect, business owner, academic, artist, athlete... you will find a Margaret's Old Girl forging a successful career across all professional, entrepreneurial and creative endeavours.

Our strong academic record gives our girls many tertiary options, while vocational education and training opens up a wide variety of study opportunities and career paths. No matter what course they chart, St Margaret's strives to equip all students with the capacity, compassion and confidence to contribute meaningfully on a local and global scale.

We count many of our Old Girls among the leaders, innovators and decision makers in their areas of expertise. They remain connected to the school and passionate about the opportunities St Margaret's has afforded them, and often return to mentor students, offering them real world insight into careers and pathways to success.

Networking opportunities can leverage our Old Girls market place connections and professional acumen, distilling invaluable advice to girls seeking a start in that particular field.

Current students meeting and learning from successful past students who once walked the same corridors and dreamt the same dreams, inspires them to believe they can walk in their footsteps, or even stand on their shoulders.

The enduring foundations of a St Margaret's education will give your daughter wings to fly.



Per Volar Sunata - Born to Fly Upwards.
School motto

St Margaret's smaller size is one of its greatest strengths.

In this environment, every child is known, and every child has access to opportunities which allow her to shine in her own way. There is no mould into which your daughter is required to fit. Instead, St Margaret's offers her a chance to feel safe, allowing her to find her own direction, develop at her own pace, and, with it, the confidence to find her own voice and speak her truth.

At the same time she is developing her sense of self, your daughter will also know what it means to be part of something bigger than herself, and how to work with others, learning there is strength in unity as well as individuality and diversity.

Your daughter will discover a sense of place at St Margaret's – a place where she feels she belongs, and a community to which she will forever belong.

The connections made at St Margaret's can last a lifetime. Whether it be precious friendships that never fade, or the knowledge you are a part of the expansive community that spreads across the world, the bond is unbroken and stays with our girls as they forge their own paths as capable, compassionate, confident women in a global society.

...discover
herself

DISCOVER
her VOICE





St Margaret's



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