



LAVALLA
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

STRONG MINDS. COMPASSIONATE HEARTS



Prospective Students & Families

Information Booklet

Catholic Education In the Latrobe Valley

Catholic Secondary Education in the Latrobe Valley goes back to 1951 when the Presentation Sisters established their convent in Moe and began teaching there. In 1956 the Marist Fathers founded St Paul's College for boys, on its present site in Grey Street.

The Marist Brothers assumed responsibility for the administration of St Paul's College in 1962. The same year the Brigidine Sisters established Kildare College on the Kosciusko Street site.

Catholic Secondary Education went through many changes over the period and Lavalla Catholic College is part of a long development, which included changes to St Paul's College, Kildare College, Lourdes College, Presentation Regional College and Catholic Regional College, Traralgon.

Catholic Education has shown remarkable adaptability and resilience in responding to the changing social, financial and educational factors in the Latrobe Valley. Lavalla Catholic College co-operates with its feeder Catholic Primary Schools and there is an active liaison that prepares the path of those students entering secondary classes.



Vision, Mission and Graduating Goals

Vision

Lavalla Catholic College is a welcoming, inclusive community called to make Jesus known and loved through education in the Marist Tradition. With 'Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts' we unite to inspire, journey with and prepare learners for life in our changing world.

Mission

In our daily actions we build positive relationships following the model of Jesus Christ. We are inspired by the Marist Characteristics:

- Simplicity;
- Love of Work;
- In the Way of Mary;
- Presence;
- Family Spirit.

Families, staff and students work in partnership with the wider communities to create opportunities where all can flourish in safe and challenging learning environments.

Graduation Goals

Graduates of Lavalla Catholic College will strive to be:

- Open to the journey of faith and to practise Marist Characteristics;
- Stewards of our people, place, time and traditions;
- Adaptable resilient life-long learners;
- Responsible citizens;
- Respectful in building loving, inclusive relationships in the example of Jesus;
- People who will celebrate all that is good;
- People of compassion, integrity, dignity and hope.

Welcome to Lavalla Catholic College

Lavalla Catholic College is a Catholic College in the Marist Tradition that prides itself in being a faith and educational family that consistently strives to ensure that all students are Safe, Happy, and Successful at school and in the future.

This goal is the product of outstanding staff working in relationships with families and students to ensure that each student forms the habit of striving for excellence, which means achieving their best and celebrating this goal. The College has been recognised for our excellent standards of child safeguarding. This is an area of consistent review and collaboration with students and families. Our focus is on a zero-tolerance approach to any form of bullying or harassment. The College focuses on continuously building and sustaining a culture of positive affirmation, gratitude, and excellence.

This journey that we take with you and your child is underpinned by our College motto – ‘Strong Minds, Compassionate Hearts’. The Strong Minds are developed through strong academic challenges, meaningful assessments, and opportunities to explore and express ideas. Compassionate Hearts are stirred through students being made aware of their responsibilities to themselves, others, and the environment.

Lavalla Catholic College is a family community that focuses on the holistic development of all students. There is a continuous focus on innovative ways to combine Learning and Teaching with Wellbeing and Faith Formation. Our College focuses strongly on collaborating with other schools and educational experts to ensure that we can provide your child with the best holistic education possible.

We are a fully inclusive College community that celebrates the diversity and dignity of all. Our Marist Theme for 2022 is ‘Known and Loved: Dignity for All’.

These are not words but strategic and operational goals for our actions. All celebrate the sense of community within our College, and we welcome all to join us.

I would encourage you to join a student-led College Tour, have an opportunity to meet myself or one of my team for questions, as well as engage with our new virtual tour to familiarise yourself with our outstanding College.

Mr Doug Doherty

Acting Principal (Term 1 2022)

Deputy Principal: Student Wellbeing & Operations

"If you want to teach young people, first you must love them - love them all equally"
- St Marcellin Champagnat



One College – Two Campuses

St Paul's Campus

Students complete their secondary studies in Years 7, 8 and 9 at the St Paul's Campus.

The St. Paul's Campus has been educating Latrobe Valley students for over sixty years. Students entering the College are joining thousands of accomplished men and women who have studied here.

Pastoral support is provided through Homeroom Teachers, Year level Wellbeing Leaders, Counsellors, camps and retreats.

A comprehensive wellbeing program is provided through the use of the Learning Curve, Homeroom teachers and external experts.

Student leadership opportunities are an important part of developing good Christians and good citizens and are available at all Year levels.



Kildare Campus

Students complete their secondary studies in Years 10, 11 and 12 at the Kildare Campus. Strong minds are further enhanced through an extensive curriculum which allows many paths for students to achieve success. The Campus offers a structured yet more adult environment and helps students of varying abilities face the demands and responsibilities of VCE, VCAL or VET.

Pastoral support is continued through vertical Learner Advisor Groups, Heads, Counsellors and retreats.



Learner Advisors, Career Advisors, Counsellors and staff assist students and their families with the challenges of making smooth transitions to University, TAFE or the Workplace.

Mindful that our students are growing into adulthood, student leadership opportunities are offered and encouraged in the spiritual, academic, cultural, sporting and civic arenas.

Student Wellbeing

At Lavalla Catholic College, we have a range of structures, programs and processes to support students and their families as they journey through adolescence.

The wellbeing of our students is a priority and we work proactively to develop, maintain and encourage a caring and orderly learning environment for our students.

The wellbeing of students in our care is the responsibility of all teachers as we know that good emotional health correlates powerfully with strong academic development.

At Lavalla Catholic College we have Wellbeing & House Leaders in place to guide your child through his or her learning journey.

Counselling

Lavalla Catholic College provides a counselling service to further support our students. This service is available to all students. This professional service is provided by experienced school counsellors, whom will aim to address student and family concerns in a confidential and respectful way that students can maximise their learning opportunities. This service also aims to assist students to develop personal problem solving skills which are useful for their lifetime.

Where to go for Assistance

St Paul's Campus

Wellbeing Support

Homeroom Teacher

Wellbeing Leader

Director of Students
Mrs Meaghann Ambrose

Member of Leadership Team

Subject Support

Subject Teacher

Learning Area Coach/Subject Leader

Yr 7-9 Junior Programs Coordinator
Mrs Candice Ford

Deputy Principal of Learning & Teaching
Mr Brett Van Berkel

Not Resolved

Not Resolved

Not Resolved

Not Resolved

Acting Principal
Mr Doug Doherty

College Counsellor or School Nurse can be accessed at any stage.



Known and Loved
dignity for all

Integrating Faith Learning & Life

Integrating Faith Learning & Life

Catholic schools are committed to an education which integrates and celebrates faith, learning and life. Lavalla Catholic College provides religious education and opportunities for faith development, for students of all religious traditions, in a community where prayer and sacramental celebrations are integral to life.

At Lavalla Catholic College in all our endeavours, and most especially through our Religious Education Curriculum, our key objective is to walk alongside our students, listening to their hopes and aspirations, sharing their joys and difficulties, and inviting them to an awareness of the presence of God in their lives.

Religious Education

Religious Education is at the centre of the Lavalla curriculum, and is compulsory for all students from Year 7 to Year 12. Developed in accordance with the Religious Education Curriculum for the Diocese of Sale, Religious Education classes invite students to reflect on the world in which they live through the lens of Scripture and the traditions of the Catholic Christian community. In Years 10, 11 and 12 students are able to select from a variety of options for studying Religious Education, including Liturgy and Youth Ministry Engagement.

Beyond the Classroom

Your child's Religious education and faith formation is further supported by opportunities and programs beyond the classroom.

- **Game Changers:** An extracurricular youth ministry program which is open to all students from years 7-12.
- **Student Leadership Formation:** for students elected to leadership roles within the College
- **Retreats and Reflection Days:** Offered at every year level, culminating with a residential retreat in Year 12.
- **Social Justice and Community Service:** Students are encouraged to engage in civic and public life, involving community service and working for social justice.
- **Immersion opportunities:** Senior students are able to engage in immersion opportunities as an expression of solidarity in remote communities and overseas. Past immersions have worked with communities in Suva, Fiji and Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa) in the Northern Territory.



Educational Pathways & Programs

Year 7

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- Religious Education
- LOTE (Italian)
- Visual Communication
- Art
- Music
- Design & Technology: Food
- Digital Technologies

Year 8

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- Religious Education
- LOTE (Italian)
- Visual Communication & Design
- Art
- Music
- Design & Technology: Wood
- Design & Technology: Ceramics

Year 9

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health & Physical Education
- Religious Education Community
- Geography and/or History
- Civics & Citizenship

Year 9 Electives

- Food Specialisations
- Non-Resistant Material
- Resistant Material
- STEM
- Game On
- Outdoor & Environmental (Duke of Ed)
- Exercise & Sports Science
- Sports Enrichment
- Economics & Business
- Italian
- Media Arts
- Music Performance
- Theatre Performance
- Visual Art
- Visual Communication and Design

Educational Pathways & Programs

Year 10

Religious Education

- Religious Education
- Liturgy

Design & Technology

- Textiles Design
- Revamp, Reuse, Recycle
- Materials A & B
- Food for the Future
- Food for Us

Digital Technologies

- Design
- Computing

English

- Literature A & B
- English A & B

Health & Physical Education

- Healthy Lifestyles
- Sporty Lifestyles
- Sports Enrichment

Languages

- LOTE (Italian) A & B

Humanities

- Business & Economics
- Geography
- Rights & Freedoms
- World War II

Mathematics

- Introduction to Mathematics Methods
- Mathematics A & B

Science

- Psychology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics

The Arts

- Art A & B
- Music A & B
- Visual Communication & Graphic Design A & B
- Drama A & B
- Media A & B

VCAL Studies

Foundation

- VCAL Personal Development Skills
- VCAL Work Related Skills
- VCAL Literacy
- VCAL Numeracy

Intermediate

- VCAL Personal Development Skills
- VCAL Work Related Skills
- VCAL Literacy
- VCAL Numeracy

Senior

- VCAL Personal Development Skills
- VCAL Work Related Skills
- VCAL Literacy
- VCAL Numeracy

**In addition to the above, students will also incorporate VET Studies and/or VCE Units into their programs.

For more detailed information regarding subject areas & BYO Device requirements, please refer to the College website www.lavalla.vic.edu.au

Educational Pathways & Programs

VET Studies

- Certificate III Laboratory Skills
- Certificate II Building & Construction
- Certificate III Screen & Media
- Certificate III Sports & Recreation (Outdoor Rec)

**In addition to the above, Off-Campus VET Studies are available

Year 11 (VCE Units 1&2)

- Liturgy
- Ministry
- Unit 1 Religion & Society
- Personal Learning
- English & EAL
- English Language
- Literature
- Foundation Maths
- General Maths
- Specialist Maths
- Math Methods
- LOTE (Italian)
- Health & Human Development
- Outdoor & Environmental Studies
- Physical Education
- Drama
- Media
- Music Performance
- Studio Arts
- Visual Communication & Design
- Product Design & Technology: Materials
- Product Design & Technology: Textiles
- Food Studies
- Systems Engineering
- Applied Computing
- Accounting
- Business Management
- Geography
- History: Modern History
- Philosophy
- Legal Studies
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics
- Psychology

Year 12 (VCE Units 3&4)

- Liturgy
- Ministry
- Unit 2 Religion & Society
- Personal Learning
- English & EAL
- English Language
- Literature
- Further Maths
- Maths Methods
- Specialist Maths
- LOTE (Italian)
- Health & Human Development
- Outdoor & Environmental Studies
- Physical Education
- Drama
- Media
- Music Performance
- Music Style & Composition
- Studio Arts
- Product Design & Technology: Materials
- Product Design & Technology: Textiles
- Visual Communication Design
- Food Studies
- Systems Engineering
- Data Analytics
- Software Development
- Accounting
- Business Management
- Geography
- History: Australian History
- History: Revolutions
- Philosophy
- Legal Studies
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics
- Psychology

Note: Subject Offerings are reviewed annually and may change.

Academic & Cultural Enrichment

At Lavalla Catholic College we strive to develop, and indeed seek out, the potential of each student. This occurs in the context of each student's holistic development; spiritual, moral, social, emotional, physical and intellectual, across every domain of learning.

We are committed to building communities of learning that provide a safe, nurturing and academically stimulating environment for all students. Such communities promote inclusion and celebrate diversity. They aim to develop students' sense of connectedness and belonging and to strengthen the well-being of students and the whole community.

Lavalla Catholic College has adopted a contemporary approach to teaching and learning. Contemporary learning is differentiated and personalised, responding to the learning needs, interests and experiences of each student. Students' learning is supported through a climate of inquiry and creative exploration of ideas and the use of new and emerging technologies. Students are partners in their learning, not only with their teachers, their peers and their families, but with the wider community, both local and global. They not only engage with and collaborate with communities beyond the traditional boundaries of the school, they also contribute to the good of the wider community.

Lavalla Catholic College aims to ensure that all students become successful learners who are able to embrace opportunities that are emerging in the local, national and global communities, and are empowered to shape and enrich the world with direction, meaning, purpose and hope delivered from their encounter with the life and teachings of Jesus.

Competitions

Competitions are an excellent way for students to challenge themselves in areas of interests, measure their skills against students across Australia and start practicing for examination conditions. As a participant, students will be awarded a certificate based on their performance, participation will be included in our College awards database and in many cases they will have the opportunity to receive a Medal for outstanding achievement, prize money or scholarship.

Co-Curricular Involvement

We encourage our students to engage in a breadth of activities in order to foster their holistic development in a variety of learning areas. Our College offers a broad range of co-curricular activities tailored to engage and challenge students while exposing them to new experiences and learning opportunities.

- Instrumental Music & Band Program
- Choral Singing Program
- Tournament of Minds
- Lavalla Art Club
- Sports Enrichment
- Youth Ministry & Leadership Program
- BrainSTEM Mentoring Program & Challenge
- Annual College Production
- Italian Cultural Exchange



Sports Enrichment



Lavalla Catholic College is a school that recognises and supports students who are Elite Sports Performers within our school and community.

At Lavalla Catholic College we aim to identify and enrich our Elite Sports Performers. We recognize that a high number of our secondary students are competing in their chosen sport at an Elite/State Level. We recognise that many of our students train a significant amount of hours per week, even before and after school as they strive for success. Melbourne based, interstate and international competition frequently requires extended absence from school and interruption to face-to-face contact with teachers therefore making appropriate learning adjustments paramount.

At Lavalla Catholic College we aim to:

- Identify and enrich students who are competing and participating in sports at an Elite/State Level;
- Assist elite student athletes as they seek to balance their educational demands with their sporting commitments by offering tutoring opportunities at lunchtime and after school;
- Allocate elite student athletes a staff mentor who will help them cope in times of high stress;
- Provide weekly Strength and Conditioning and Recovery sessions with trained providers;
- Help students in the program with time management, prioritising, goal setting, communication with staff and stress management techniques, and
- Create a network for elite sports performers so they can support and encourage each other and become their best.

Guest Speakers

A crucial part of the program is to engage with guest speakers as they explain how they manage and balance their sporting commitments with school work, stress management, opportunities and how they achieved their success.

Victorian Institute of Sports Tour

Students will have the opportunity to visit the VIS. The tour will involve being instructed by many of the nation's top coaches in areas such as Sport Psychology, Nutrition, Recovery Procedures, Strength and Conditioning and Athlete Career Education. We believe that there is a need for the students of Lavalla to participate in this activity to demonstrate the commitment and dedication required at this level. They will gain experience and knowledge that will undoubtedly improve their performance in their chosen sport.

Elite Athlete Mentors

At Lavalla we encourage our older students to become mentors to assist in supporting our younger students in the program who need help with time management or their studies in order for them to achieve success academically.

Sporting Opportunities

- Basketball
- Netball
- Cricket
- Volleyball
- Baseball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Touch Football
- Aust. Football
- Cross Country
- Soccer
- Athletics

Diverse Learning Needs

At Lavalla Catholic College, we are committed to improving outcomes for all students taking into account their abilities and backgrounds. Our focus is on students' learning needs, strategies to overcome barriers to their learning and access to programs that provide enriching experiences.

In recognising the needs and circumstances of individual students, support is offered in a variety of ways, including:

- Transition plans for different circumstances;
- Profiles of students' learning needs and strategies for improvement;
- Combined classroom environments for collaborative learning;
- Presence of education support officers as additional support in key aspects of programs;
- A team approach to developing and sustaining students' learning goals and programs;
- Access to enrichment programs, and
- Links with professionals through a range of service providers: speech programs, counselling and psychological services, health services, community agencies, tutoring and workshops for staff and parents



Music Program



The music program at Lavalla Catholic College has been recognised as one of excellence at a local, state and even national level. Boasting a rich history, it is one of the vibrant and rewarding experiences any student can have at our College. Our diverse program offers an enriching and worthwhile experience for students and families.

Individual Instrumental Lessons

Every student attending Lavalla Catholic College is warmly invited to be a part of our extensive instrumental music program. With a wide range of instruments on offer, students will be able to benefit from regular one-on-one instruction from our specialist instrumental teaching staff. The individual instruction these lessons offer lend themselves to a learning environment where the curriculum can easily be differentiated to offer our students an engaging program that is achievable and challenging, while catering to their individual learning needs and pace of learning. What's more, by guiding students towards the technical mastery of their instruments, these instrumental lessons help to further develop creative skills through musical expression and performance while practically integrating these skills into one or more of our College ensembles. Beginner lessons are generally structured in small groups and held once per week.

Band Program

Lavalla Catholic College's ensembles allow students to represent the college in their artistic endeavours alongside like minded students. Students initially join our Training Band and Junior Choir before moving into more advanced Concert Bands, Jazz Ensembles and our Senior Choir. Each ensemble has a before school rehearsal commitment and membership is not limited to students enrolled in individual lessons.

There is a place for everyone in our Music Department. More information can be found by contacting our Music Secretary on 5174 7355 or emailing music@lavalla.vic.edu.au.

Expectations & Guidelines for Student Behaviour

Students are accepted into Lavalla Catholic College on the understanding that they are prepared to become familiar with and accept and act in accordance with the Gospel and Marist values, which are the foundations of the College Community.

Students are expected to:

- Treat all people with the respect and dignity they deserve. It is the legal responsibility of the College to ensure that discrimination and harassment do not occur in the College Community. If they do occur, complaints will be taken seriously by the College.
- Behave in a responsible and co-operative manner, enabling all members of the College Community to feel safe and respected.
- Respect the right of every individual to learn by consistently behaving in a responsible manner in all classes.
- Participate in and support fully the Religious Education and liturgical programmes of the College.
- Co-operate with the Teachers instructions and all College Policies and Procedures.
- Respect the College environment and the property of others.
- Complete school work and homework requirements to the best of their ability in a timely manner.
- Be fully supportive of all College activities and participate as much as possible.
- Consistently strive for excellence in all that they do.
- Be punctual to school and to all classes.
- Wear the correct College uniform with pride and dignity.
- Represent the College in a manner which brings credit to themselves, their family and the College Community.
- Abstain from all dangerous, threatening or illegal activities, including the possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs and dangerous weapons.
- Adhere to the College's Technology and Social Media Policy, as amended from time to time.
- Accept the consequences of breaches of the Student Code of Behaviour, which may include detention and suspension.





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