Welcome to Xavier.

Middle and Senior Schools
Xavier College Prospectus
Welcome to Xavier.
Xavier. Where my journey begins.
Xavier College

Vision
Xavier College aspires to set hearts on fire by an educational commitment to a faith that does justice.

Mission
Xavier College is a Catholic school within the spiritual and educational tradition of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits).

Our inspiration is Jesus Christ, the model of fulfilled human life.

Our aim is excellence in education and the formation of reflective, compassionate and articulate men and women of Christian faith, hope and love who will provide outstanding service and leadership in our world.

Guiding Principles

Education and Development of the Whole Person

• Having a personal concern and care (Cura Personalis) for the whole life of each member of our College community.

• Forming our students intellectually, spiritually, morally, aesthetically, physically, socially and emotionally.

Formation of Men and Women of Faith to Work for Justice in the World

• Forming members of our community to serve God in the world.

• Having a committed and practical concern for those in need, such that students, staff and parents make an explicit connection between their Catholic faith and their work for justice in the world.
Pursuit of Excellence in Humanity
- Welcoming all to Xavier College, where they can flourish and passionately pursue excellence in all things.
- Encouraging each person to live out his or her vocation in life by developing their God-given gifts to the best of their ability.

Discernment and Wisdom
- Developing a self-reflective disposition in members of our community, particularly in students, preparing them to make informed decisions in accordance with their conscience.
- Preparing the individual to find God in all things through the use of each person’s imagination and creativity, and the integration of faith and reason.

Critical Engagement with the World
- Courageously and respectfully engaging with world cultures and perspectives.
- Critically pursuing a depth of learning by reflecting on experience and being moved to action.

Striving for the Magis
- Developing a desire to strive for the *magis*. The Jesuit ideal of *magis* is a thirst for ‘depth’, for the greater good and for the most courageous response to the challenges of our time.
Opening hearts and minds

A Jesuit education encourages the individual to develop talents and fosters reflection so that the heart, mind, body and spirit may become fully engaged to serve in the wider world.

Setting hearts on fire

Xavier College is a Catholic school founded in 1878 by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). It belongs to a worldwide network of over 2,000 Jesuit educational institutions.

Our aim is excellence in education with a particular focus on the individual.

In the Jesuit tradition, we believe that through rigorous self-reflection each person’s imagination and creativity can be more fully integrated with faith and reason.

We encourage each of our students to become more fully alive to their own potential and the challenge of living out their Christian values in the world, through outstanding leadership and service.

We call it ‘setting hearts on fire’.

Welcome from the Rector and the Principal

In a world of change we are guided by the principles of Jesuit education formed over 460 years ago by St Ignatius of Loyola. Our inspiration is Jesus Christ who modelled a fulfilled human life. We seek to form reflective, compassionate and articulate men and women of Christian faith, hope and love.

At Xavier, we challenge our students to pursue excellence in all things within and outside the classroom. Education for life in the true sense embraces the intellectual, spiritual, moral and social aspects of life. This ensures that each individual achieves his highest potential.

There is a joy and spiritual freedom that grows out of a deep thirst for understanding, for the ability to look within to seek the greater good and the most courageous responses to the challenges of our time.

We invite you to use this prospectus as a starting point in discovering how Xavier College may help develop the God-given gifts and talents of your son.

Wishing you every blessing.

Fr Chris Middleton SJ
Dr Chris Hayes
Preparing young men for the world

A Jesuit education encourages deep reflection and a thirst for self-knowledge so that each student is best equipped to serve and make a real difference in their lifetime.

The Jesuit Tradition

Xavier College was named after St Francis Xavier, who was one of the closest friends of St Ignatius of Loyola. Together with five other companions, they founded the Jesuit order in 1540. Jesuit principles of education emphasise the centrality of the Catholic faith, the pursuit of excellence, development of the whole person, care of each individual (Curá Personalis), and service to others. These principles define all aspects of College life.

A Supportive Christian Community

Xavier is a welcoming and close-knit community. The three Xavier campuses are well integrated despite their geographic separation. From the Early Years at Burke Hall in Kew and Kostka Hall in Brighton, through to the final years at the Senior Campus in Kew, Xavier’s more than 2,000 students and 400 staff all feel a strong sense of belonging to a unified school community. A community that shares the same set of Christian values and a consistent underlying philosophy of education.

New students settle in very quickly at Xavier. Boarders have extra adjustments to make, consequently special care is shown to them and their families as they make their transition to life at the College. At all campuses, staff members are extremely approachable and interactions between staff, students and parents, as well as between the students themselves, are friendly, respectful and co-operative.
A focus on values

A Jesuit education inspires the individual to find God in all things. An open heart and an inquiring mind are the basis for a rich and fulfilling life.

A Jesuit education integrates faith and reason, encouraging a deep level of reflection in everything we do. The way to wisdom encompasses discernment and understanding. It challenges, questions and engages with others. It is a personal journey of discovery – drawing out those talents and beliefs that will set hearts on fire for life. It is one of the greatest gifts a Jesuit education can offer.

As a Catholic school, Xavier’s mission includes helping to form our students in their spirituality grounded in the life of Jesus and the key aspects of the Catholic faith. To this end, Xavier’s educational programs are permeated throughout with a religious dimension.

The Jesuit spirit of education informs all aspects of personal development and faith formation. Members of staff undertake many programs which advance their understanding of a Jesuit approach to education, thus ensuring a strong Jesuit ethos throughout the school.

Spiritual threads run through the entire fabric of life at Xavier. Under the guidance of the Centre for Faith and Service, all students are given opportunities to experience and to articulate their spiritual development. They undertake a sequential series of reflective and spiritual experiences including retreat days throughout their time at the College. The goal is to engender a growing self-awareness and a maturing faith.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is available to all members of the school community and seeks to awaken and strengthen their personal faith commitment.

Xavier College teachers and administrators, both Jesuit and lay, are more than academic guides. They are involved in the lives of the students, taking a personal interest in their intellectual, affective, moral and spiritual development and helping each one to develop a strong sense of self-worth, to exercise freedom responsibly, and to become a person of conscience within the community.

We seek to develop a set of values that go beyond ‘the self’ and lead to life choices that include a concern for the needs of others.
Xavier College has always provided both a first-class grounding in all the traditional core subjects and a breadth of learning experience which includes the compulsory study of a language other than English (LOTE) until the end of Year 9. At each campus, Learning Enhancement Centres meet the special needs of students who wish to extend the scope of their studies or who need consolidation in basic learning areas.

In Years 5 to 8, the curriculum is taught sequentially using an integrated approach that links subjects through common themes. The program gives students increased responsibility for their own learning, emphasising social skills and peer support. It allows students to progress according to their differing rates of accomplishment.

In Years 9 and 10, the extensive range of course options enables students to tailor their studies according to their emerging interests and talents.

The programs are also designed to increase their understanding of the specialist subject disciplines they are considering for the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), so they can make fully informed choices.

In Years 11 and 12, students can again choose from a very wide range of courses. Most commonly they undertake the VCE, but Vocational Education and Training (VET) units and some university studies are also offered.

Xavier’s academic results at VCE are always of the highest standard, reflecting the school’s commitment to excellence both in terms of teaching standards and expectations of students.

With assistance from the careers education program, all Xavier students acquire by their final year not only a sound knowledge of specific subject disciplines but also a realistic appreciation of their individual interests and intellectual capabilities.

They understand the demands of post-secondary education and have a broad awareness of the world of work. Whatever their chosen path beyond school, they leave with the confidence and capacity to pursue their goals to the highest level.

A Jesuit education promotes intellectual achievement and outstanding academic results. It also inspires each student to discover his or her unique gifts and develop them fully.
Developing the whole person

A Jesuit education instills in students a lifelong love of learning. Our students are encouraged to seek the best for themselves through a continuing openness to growth in all areas of their lives: intellectual, spiritual, moral, aesthetic, physical and emotional.

All students have the opportunity to experience a full range of intellectual, creative and physical activities. They can help clarify career options and kindle passionate interests that will endure well beyond their school years.

**Music**

Xavier students have numerous opportunities to develop their musical talents.

In addition to theory classes, they can learn to play a wide variety of instruments and be part of the school’s many orchestras, ensembles and bands.

**Art**

Art is an integral part of education at Xavier in both Art History and practical classes.

Students can express their talents through a variety of media, ranging from traditional modes of artistic expression to multi-media creations and digital art.

**Drama**

Play-acting is an aspect of every young person’s life and from it comes the study of Drama and Theatre Studies as the students move through the College. Creative performance, often with other schools is a key element; but so too are directing, stage managing and all the technical aspects of theatre.

**Sport**

Xavier offers its students a huge variety of sports catering for the different talents within the student population.

There is a strong emphasis on developing a lifelong commitment to a healthy lifestyle, and on acquiring team skills and the ability to work and play co-operatively with others.

**Local and Overseas Study Tours**

At Xavier, students are able to participate in a wide variety of study tours, immersions and exchanges to at least five overseas countries, as well as to Indigenous communities within Australia.

**Extensive Co-curricular Programs**

Debating, outdoor education, environmental activities, leadership programs and a range of house activities all help to provide a fully rounded education.
Contributing to the community

At Xavier College there is a strong focus on preparing students for a life of service in the community. They are taught to view the society in which they live with critical eyes and to apply their creative and questioning minds to the challenge of making a positive difference. In pursuing this goal, their model is Jesus Christ who served others with selfless generosity and dedication.

As St Ignatius said, “Love ought to manifest itself in deeds rather than words.” Through the school’s many Ignatian Service programs, students come into contact with people who are marginalised within our society and discover the value and rewards of offering their time and talents in the service of others. Throughout Years 5 to 11 all students are required to participate in Ignatian Service, either through opportunities provided by the College or in activities provided in the wider community.

On Friday afternoons throughout the year, students involve themselves in various Ignatian Service activities, including visiting elderly or sick people in nursing homes and tutoring newly arrived migrants in Richmond. In Year 11, they also spend a week pursuing an Ignatian Service activity.

A week in Term 3 is set aside as Social Justice Week. Students at all three campuses engage in a range of activities which highlight the plight of the millions of people around the world whose lives are affected by poverty, drought, sickness or mistreatment.

A Jesuit education fosters a social conscience, a genuine concern for the poor and the marginalised, and a desire to work for justice in the world. Xavier students leave school with the attributes and the motivation to become ‘men for others’.
A true sense of self-worth

A Jesuit education promotes the belief that each individual should feel genuinely cared for and their achievements and contributions should be valued by others and themselves.

Staff and students alike are governed by a commitment to ‘Cura Personalis’, or ‘care for the individual’. Pastoral care and concern for each individual are central elements of a Xavier education, reflecting a genuine concern for the well-being of each individual in all areas of their school experience.

Within this environment, students grow in self-confidence to become valuable contributors to College life and their wider communities through:

Classroom Teachers
At Xavier we recognise that the quality and dedication of the teaching staff are fundamental to our ability to provide the highest quality education for our students. The College recruits teachers who are innovative, inspirational and who relate well to children at all levels.

Tutors and Home Room Teachers
Individual students and their teachers have support from a wide range of partners – Jesuit priests, Heads of House, Tutors, Learning Leaders, Home Room Teachers, School Counsellors, Career Counsellors, Faith and Service Co-ordinators, Boarding staff and sporting coaches. These partnerships ensure that each student is cared for individually acknowledging the partnership that exists between the College and the child’s family.

Close Contact with Parents
Xavier parents are an integral part of the school community and close contact is maintained through parent information evenings, parent-teacher interviews, semester reports, newsletters, House Family Masses and numerous social gatherings. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their son’s learning experiences and co-curricular activities and to take pride in the developments of their son’s gifts and talents.
Middle Years at Xavier College

The Middle Years of schooling, Years 5 to 8 (approximately ages 10 to 15), are a time of the most significant physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth in a child’s life.

With this in mind at Xavier we have pursued a Middle Years specialist approach to the educational needs of boys in particular since 1936 at Kostka Hall in Brighton and 1920 at Burke Hall in Kew.

Our Middle Years, Years 5 to 8, caters for individual student needs. Adolescent learning is enhanced when students are given greater choice in, and responsibility for, their learning. Our aim is to set student hearts on fire, equipping them to be young men of competence, conscience and compassion. This is achieved through student-centred learning methodologies, a broad skills-based curriculum and various leadership opportunities. A Xavier Middle Years student is one focused on deeds and not just words.

In all those pursuits in which we encourage the boys, our aim is to engage head, heart and hands.

Xavier’s Middle Years Pastoral Care system is designed to provide a range of significant peer adult relationships in the life of each student. People demonstrate care, respect and model a love of learning. The staff at Xavier know their students well and communicate openly with parents to support each child’s fullest academic and personal development.

The following features characterise the Xavier Middle Years:

• Following the tradition of striving for the magis or greater depth.
• A strong and vibrant commitment to Ignatian service and social justice.
• Fostering positive and respectful relationships within our community. This is supported by a restorative practices approach to conflict resolution.
• Being passionate about finding God in all things.

• A pastoral program that supports the emotional and developmental needs of boys.
• A 1:1 mobile device program that enhances learning and teaching by integrating new technologies that support a contemporary and relevant education.
• Co-curricular activities that offer experience for a variety of learning styles.
• A Xavier Middle Years student is involved in sporting, dramatic, musical and artistic pursuits.

Highlights of the Middle Years experience at Xavier include:

• Curriculum designed especially around the interests of boys.
• A 1:1 iPad program at Years 5 and 6 and MacAir laptops at Years 7 and 8.
• Specialist classes in Drama, Art, Music and a laboratory-based Science program.
• Curriculum support to assist with any learning difficulties students may encounter academically.
• Extension program to enrich students in Years 6, 7 and 8.
• Instrumental music program at Year 5.
• School musical and drama productions.
• Fostering leadership opportunities and experiences.
• An Ignatian Service program serving and engaging our community.
• Religious retreat programs
• Debating
• Homework club
• Participation in the APS sports program across a range of sports including, but not limited to, sailing, rowing, cricket, hockey, basketball, tennis, rugby, soccer and football.
• Extensive outdoor education and camping programs.
Boarding at Xavier

The Xavier Boarding House prides itself on creating a community based on Catholic values, where students and staff forge lasting bonds and where every student experiences a broad and challenging program in a small Boarding House setting.

At Xavier College we strive to engender a love of learning that will last long after graduation from the College. We do this by providing a caring community within which boys from Years 9 to 12 are encouraged to develop personal leadership skills, to become responsible members of the community, to strive for excellence and to become ‘men for others’.

The House is divided into two sections: the Senior House and the Junior House. There is accommodation for 28 boarders in Years 9 and 10 and 48 boarders in Years 11 and 12, making a total of 76 in all. Year 12 boys share a room with one other boy. Year 11 rooms accommodate four boys each. In Years 9 and 10 each student is given a private alcove within the context of a larger residence.

Each House is well appointed and has its own common room, kitchen and television room. For after-hours study, the boarders have ready access to the school library, notebooks and the Internet. Boarders also have access to all facilities within the Stephenson Sports Centre.

An innovative pastoral program supports these aims. To this end your son is allocated a tutor who oversees his development in the school.

A specifically designed study skills program is offered to every boarder, covering issues such as time management, project planning, speed reading, diary use and examination preparation. The program is designed strategically from Year 9 through to Year 12 and your son will be challenged to perform to the best of his ability.

Boarders’ VCE results reflect the excellence of this program.

Boarding staff live adjacent to the Boarding House. In all, there are ten live-in staff members who work within the Boarding House – a ratio of one staff member to eight boys – which ensures that each boy receives individual attention.

In addition a team of nurses, committed to your son’s wellbeing and supported by health professionals, provide excellent health care for your son.

The relatively small size of the Boarding House means students know one another well and can therefore contribute positively to the learning and social development of their fellow boarders.
## A typical week boarding at Xavier

### Weekdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.15am – 7.45am</td>
<td>Students rise, shower, dress, make bed and tidy residence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.15am – 8.15am</td>
<td>Breakfast in the Dining Room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.20am</td>
<td>Breakfast finishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>All boys leave the house and go to the day school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.40am</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Return to boarding house for afternoon tea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.45pm – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Sport practice – 2 nights per week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.50pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.35pm – 7.45pm</td>
<td>1st Supervised Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.05pm – 8.45pm (Years 9 and 10)</td>
<td>2nd Supervised Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.05pm – 9.15pm (Years 11 and 12)</td>
<td>Duty Group begins clean up and recycling. All electronic equipment off (music only).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.15pm (Years 9 and 10)</td>
<td>Students to be in the residence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.05pm (Years 11 and 12)</td>
<td>Main lights off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.45pm (Years 9 and 10)</td>
<td>Students in bed. Year 12 students may choose to study later in their room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.15pm (Years 9 and 10)</td>
<td>Reading lights and music devices off.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45pm (Year 11)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15pm (Year 12)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Weekends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Quiet time in residence until 9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30am – 10.00am</td>
<td>Breakfast available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.20am</td>
<td>Students rise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Saturday sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00pm – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Saturday sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.50pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm – 10.00pm</td>
<td>Free time or organised activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00pm</td>
<td>Years 9 and 10: Duty Group begins clean up and recycling. All electronic equipment off (music only).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.15pm</td>
<td>Quiet time in dormitory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.20pm</td>
<td>Years 11 and 12 return to Senior Boarding House.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45pm</td>
<td>All students in bed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00pm (Year 11)</td>
<td>Lights out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30pm (Year 12)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Quiet time in residence until 9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Breakfast available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Students rise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Brunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00pm – 5.30pm</td>
<td>Free time or organised activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.50pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.00pm</td>
<td>Clean up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.15pm (Years 9 and 10)</td>
<td>Students to be in the residence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Years 9 and 10 students in bed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Years 9 and 10 reading lights and music devices off.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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We understand that your son’s teenage years will lay the foundation for his future. From his skills, passions and work ethic to his self-image and place in the community; the journey begins here.
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