



VILLANOVA COLLEGE

Developing fine young men



Prospectus





Welcome

Welcome to Villanova College, a Catholic school in the Augustinian tradition, dedicated to nurturing young men of intellect, faith, integrity, and courage. Since its establishment in 1948 by visionary Augustinian priests from Ireland, Villanova College has grown from humble beginnings to become a thriving educational institution.

At the heart of our College lies the ideals and teachings of St. Augustine, where our community strives to be “one in mind and heart on the way towards God.” We instil in our graduates the values of humility, emphasising that their skills and talents should be utilised for the betterment of the world, and not solely for their own benefit. Our young men are encouraged to be reflective and considerate, committed to continuous improvement and learning, even amidst success. Their integrity is demonstrated through their everyday actions, as they value community ideals, foster meaningful relationships and treat everyone with respect and dignity. Above all, they are encouraged to develop and unwavering quest for truth.

Today, Villanova College proudly educates a diverse student body of approximately 1,500 students. Recognising the distinct stages of boys’ development, our College is comprised of three sub-schools; the Junior School (Years 5 and 6), the Middle School (Years 7 to 9) and the Senior School (Years 10 to 12). Each sub-school offers programs that cater for the unique social, educational and emotional needs of boys at different stages in their development.

To cultivate the holistic growth of our students, we provide a wide range of academic, cultural, sporting and social justice programs. These opportunities empower our students to explore their potential, discover their passions and develop as well-rounded individuals.

On behalf of the Villanova College community, I extend a warm and heartfelt to all prospective students and their families. Together, we are dedicated to providing an exceptional educational experience that nurtures the minds, hearts, and spirits of our students.

Paul Begg
Principal



VILLANOVA COLLEGE

Developing fine young men

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Our Values

DEVELOPING FINE YOUNG MEN

At Villanova College, we are committed to developing fine young men who excel academically, embrace their faith, uphold integrity and exhibit courage in all aspects of life. Founded in 1948 by visionary Augustinian priests from Ireland, our school has grown to become a leading Catholic institution in Queensland.

Our Catholic heritage and values rooted in the teachings of St. Augustine form the cornerstone of our identity. We foster a community where our members are “one in mind and heart on the way towards God,” emphasising spiritual growth, compassion, and service.

Excellence is at the core of our approach to student development. Our academic programs challenge and inspire young minds, preparing them for a rapidly evolving world. We cater to the unique needs and stages of boys’ development, from Junior to Middle and Senior School.

Beyond academics, we offer a diverse range of co-curricular activities, allowing students to explore their passions and develop life skills. From sports teams to performing arts and social justice initiatives, we foster belonging, teamwork and personal growth.

Our comprehensive wellbeing program addresses students’ social, emotional and mental health needs, ensuring their overall wellbeing. The decision to implement a thorough wellbeing program within our curriculum was incorporated in the same year as Villanova celebrated its 75th anniversary. Villanova is now a leading school in the development and use of initiatives and programs that improve student wellbeing, which we envisage will benefit our students even after they graduate from the College.

Join us on this remarkable educational journey, where your son can reach his full potential and emerge as a well-rounded individual prepared for a lifetime of success.



A Place To Belong

NURTURING CONNECTIONS

At Villanova College, we understand that engaged and connected boys are more likely to achieve their potential. We take pride in creating a supportive and inclusive environment where every boy and family can find their place within our community. Our dedicated support structures and caring staff ensure that each boy is known, valued and supported at every stage of his Villanova College journey. We believe that fostering strong connections is essential for student wellbeing and growth.

OUR HOUSE SYSTEM

The House system at Villanova College is a vibrant and inclusive community that celebrates unity, camaraderie and friendly competition.

With a total of eight houses, each named after distinguished individuals embodying our core values, the House system creates a strong sense of belonging and fosters lifelong friendships.

The House system provides students with numerous opportunities for personal growth, leadership development and character-building experiences. Through a range of inter-House competitions, service projects and collaborative activities, students discover their unique talents and strengths while working together to achieve common goals.

Houses are more than just a source of pride and identity; they are platforms that encourages students to embody our school's values and spirit, nurturing their sense of responsibility, resilience and respect.

The House system enriches the Villanova College experience and creates a supportive and dynamic environment where students can thrive academically, socially and personally.

To read more about our House system, scan the QRCode, or visit <https://www.vnc.qld.edu.au/our-house-system/>



FAITH & MISSION

At Villanova College, our Faith and Mission form the heart of our educational philosophy. Guided by the Augustinian tradition and our Catholic heritage, we strive to nurture a strong sense of spirituality and moral values in our students. Through prayers, liturgical celebrations and opportunities for reflection, we create an inclusive and reverent environment where students, staff and families come together as a united community.

We aim to develop young men of humility, love and commitment to the common good, instilling in them a sense of empathy, integrity and service to others. Our goal is to cultivate compassionate leaders who excel academically and make a positive impact in the world, guided by the values of truth, justice and peace. We are dedicated to fostering students' spiritual growth and preparing them to become thoughtful and caring individuals, equipped to contribute meaningfully to their communities and beyond.





Wellbeing

HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

The decision to implement a thorough wellbeing program within our curriculum was incorporated in the same year as Villanova celebrated its 75th anniversary. Through age-appropriate lessons and activities, we empower students with essential life skills, including self-awareness, emotional intelligence, effective communication, stress management, resilience building and problem solving. This strategic move positions Villanova at the forefront of student wellbeing initiatives, bringing long-lasting benefits to our students far beyond their years at the school. Prioritising the mental and emotional health of our students ensures they graduate as socially adept, resilient and well-adjusted young men. In today's world, this commitment is essential as it encompasses the holistic development of our students, preparing them for life beyond Villanova College.

Emerging research consistently emphasises the foundational role of wellbeing in academic success. It

reveals that students who possess the knowledge and skills to nurture their own wellbeing tend to achieve enhanced academic outcomes. This empirical evidence aligns with our intuitive understanding that happy, optimistic and resilient students are more effective learners. At Villanova, we firmly believe that wellbeing, resilience and character are teachable attributes, central to the principles of Positive Education.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

At Villanova College, we offer a range of student support services to ensure the wellbeing and success of our students. Our dedicated team, including our College Counsellors, Heads of House, Heads of School, College Chaplain and Head of Careers and Pathways, is available to provide confidential support, guidance and resources for students and their families. These professionals play a crucial role in addressing emotional, mental and spiritual health needs, helping students navigate personal challenges, and fostering a nurturing environment.

PASTORAL CARE

Our pastoral care system forms the backbone of our wellbeing program. Each student is assigned a House group led by a caring and supportive staff member. These groups provide a sense of belonging and foster positive relationships. Through regular group meetings and activities, students have opportunities to engage in open discussions, receive guidance and build connections with their peers and pastoral care leaders. We believe that strong relationships and support networks are crucial for student wellbeing.

POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE

Villanova College fosters a positive and inclusive school culture that values respect, empathy and kindness. Our students are encouraged to uphold the ideals of community, demonstrating respect and dignity for all. We promote a safe and supportive environment where students feel comfortable seeking help, engaging in open dialogue and supporting one another. Through various initiatives, such as peer mentoring programs, anti-bullying campaigns and community service opportunities, we instil a strong sense of social responsibility and promote a culture of caring and compassion.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Our annual camp program is a cherished tradition at Villanova College. These off-campus experiences span three to five days and serve as a catalyst for personal growth and development. The focus of our outdoor education program is to cultivate confidence, resilience and self-reliance, while also strengthening relationships among peers and with staff.

PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

At Villanova College, we believe that wellbeing is a collaborative effort involving students, parents, staff, and the broader community. We actively engage parents through regular communication, informative workshops, and support groups focused on wellbeing topics. Our college also values its connections with the wider community, ensuring that our students have access to a broad range of resources and support beyond the school environment. Through events that encourage family participation and open communication channels, we foster a culture where parents and the community play an integral role in nurturing the mental and emotional health of our students. Together, we work towards preparing our young men for a future that values resilience, empathy, and personal growth.



Junior School

YEARS 5-6

At Villanova College, our Junior School is committed to catering to the unique needs of boys at different stages of their development. We prioritise creating a sense of belonging and fostering friendships among the students, parents, and staff. This is especially crucial during the pre-adolescent phase, where managing peer relationships and emotions plays a significant role in their growth.

Our approach to teaching and learning is informed by best practice in educating boys. We also incorporate the principles of an authentic Augustinian pedagogy while aligning with the Australian Curriculum. Building strong foundations in literacy and numeracy are also important for our dedicated staff to ensure our students are well prepared for future success in the Middle and Senior Schools.

Throughout Years 5 and 6, students study core subjects such as English, Mathematics, Humanities and Social Sciences, Science, Health and Physical Education, and Religious Education. They also have opportunities to explore Creative Arts (Music, Drama, and Visual Art), Languages Other Than English (Italian), and Technologies (Design & Digital).



Our Curriculum and Pedagogy Leaders work collaboratively with Junior School staff to plan units of work that offer rich and connected content. We believe in providing personalised and differentiated learning experiences to cater to the needs of every student.

At Villanova College, we strive to maintain a positive school climate, where our young learners feel connected and supported. Our pedagogy focuses on the importance of relationships, encouraging students to be accountable for their actions and treat others with respect. This approach helps cultivate a nurturing learning environment for our students' growth and success.



Middle School

YEARS 7-9

The Middle School at Villanova College is a vibrant and enriching learning environment designed specifically to cater to the developmental needs of boys in Years 7, 8 and 9. Grounded in the principles of boys' education, our approach in the Middle School is carefully crafted to meet the unique requirements of boys in those year levels.

At this pivotal stage of their educational journey, we recognise the importance of addressing several key areas that foster holistic growth and personal development by:

- Nurturing a strong sense of identity as young men, students, sons, brothers and Villanovans.
- Fostering positive and affirming relationships with peers and adults whilst also promoting a culture of respect for diversity.
- Encouraging a sense of purpose in learning, enabling students to find meaning and relevance in their education.
- Cultivating critical thinking, independence, cooperation and responsible decision-making.
- Providing multiple opportunities to acquire valued knowledge and skills, while recognising and celebrating individual successes.
- Offering realistic learning challenges with high expectations and constructive feedback.
- Creating safe, caring and stimulating environments.

Our Middle School curriculum aligns with the Australian Curriculum, encompassing a comprehensive program that include English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Religion, Health and Physical Education, Civics and Citizenship, the Arts and Technologies. Students also study Chinese and Italian as a second language. Alongside these subjects, the College fosters students' social, emotional, physical and spiritual development through engaging activities and programs both within and beyond the classroom.

- In Year 7, students experience all of the subject areas of the Australian Curriculum.
- As students progress to Years 8 and 9, they take more ownership of their course of study, selecting electives based on their interests and passions. This allows students to immerse themselves in subjects that motivate and engage them, providing opportunities for self-discovery and exploring specific areas of interest.

We are committed to fostering a love of learning, empowering our students to thrive academically, socially and personally. With a nurturing and supportive environment, we strive to equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to excel and become responsible, confident and compassionate global citizens.





Senior School

YEARS 10-12

Our Senior School offers a unique and transformative learning experience, preparing students for their future endeavours and equipping them with essential skills to thrive as confident and capable citizens after graduation. A rigorous academic program is underpinned by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority's (QCAA) senior syllabuses and respective Registered Training Organisations (RTO's) course materials. Complementing this is student career profiling, a comprehensive careers education program, an annual careers EXPO and scholarships event, a work experience program and regular guest speakers, all intended to support our students.

Year 10 is a pivotal year at Villanova College whereby students have the opportunity to study many of the Year 11

and 12 General subjects, empowering them to shape their academic journey. Year 10 students undertake six subjects, including Mathematics, English and Religious Education, providing a solid foundation for their educational choices in the coming years.

Year 10 students complete a comprehensive career profiling exercise, which results in each student receiving a personalised careers report. Detailing their interests, strengths and a list of potential career paths for further exploration, this report encourages students to make informed decisions about their future course of study. Students wishing to pursue a career as a skilled tradesman will also have the chance during Year 10 to participate in the TAFE Trade Taster program. These activities are further supported by a careers education program in



Semester 1, which assists students in determining their chosen pathway in Years 11 and 12.

As students progress to Years 11 and 12, they have the flexibility to choose from a range of General, Applied and/or vocational education and training (VET) courses that align with their interests and aspirations. For those pursuing tertiary education, the General subjects enable them to attain an ATAR and access further studies at university level. Alternatively, students can elect to study Applied and/or VET courses leading towards an industry or blended pathway, with practical skills and direct employment prospects.

Our College ensures that students and parents have a thorough understanding of the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) university entrance process, through informative parent evenings and regular communication. Similarly, the College plays host to a range of guest presenters from universities, trade and employment organisations, targeting our students in their Senior year.

Through our work experience program, our young men are able to explore and develop their interests and skills in a variety of fields, including roles in the corporate world (Digital Media and Marketing), the professions (Law, Commerce and Engineering) and Allied Health, along with trade and vocational training opportunities.





*Academic And
Career Support*



Academic excellence is at the core of our mission at Villanova College. The Dean of Teaching and Learning, Heads of Faculty and Heads of House, along with dedicated classroom teachers, are all committed to the academic success of every student. Additionally, the College offers robust careers advice and individualised support from our Head of Careers and Pathways to help students make informed decisions about their future pathway for a successful and fulfilling future.

As students journey through our Senior School, our team of expert staff strives to nurture each student's growth, inspire their curiosity, and provide them with the tools they need to flourish academically, personally and professionally. With a wide array of subjects and pathways, Villanova College aims to empower each student to chart their unique course and embark on a future filled with promise and possibilities.



Co-Curricular Life

At Villanova College, our young men have the privilege of immersing themselves in a rich and diverse co-curricular program, encompassing Sports, Music, and Ministry activities. These offerings provide a holistic platform for nurturing their individual talents within an environment that fosters not only personal growth but also a sense of camaraderie, enjoyment, and spiritual enrichment. Engaging in these activities encourages our students to cultivate vital life skills such as cooperation, teamwork, and sportsmanship, all while forging lasting friendships and contributing to their overall development.



SPORT

Sport is at the heart of life at Villanova College. With a proud sporting tradition and an outstanding reputation, we offer an extensive sports program that caters to all interests and abilities. Throughout the year, over 200 teams, proudly wear Villanova's green and gold as they compete on fields and courts across Brisbane. Our students have the opportunity to join the school's representative teams, which actively participate in the highly competitive Associated Independent Colleges (AIC) competition. Backed by top-tier coaching and unwavering support, our boys not only excel in their chosen sports but also develop life skills that extend far beyond the playing fields. Villanova's sports program encompasses a

wide range of disciplines, including AFL, basketball, chess, cricket, cross country, football, golf, rugby league, rugby union, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and water polo. Our expansive Villanova Park, located just 20 minutes from the College, boasts 14 hectares of playing fields for training and games, while additional fields are conveniently situated on and near our campus. Beyond traditional sports, students can engage in Debating, Esports, Public Speaking, and Tournament of Minds, rounding out a holistic approach to their development. Join us in celebrating the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie that defines Villanova's sporting culture.



MINISTRY

Our Ministry groups at Villanova College exemplify our students' profound commitment to serving others and fostering a spirit of community. Our students dedicate their time and energy to making a positive impact on those in need, whether it's within our campus, at our doorstep, or in the wider world. These groups not only ignite a sense of community through their fundraising endeavours but also bring about incredible transformations when our students personally connect with those we extend a hand of friendship to. Our Ministry groups represent our unwavering commitment to serving others and nurturing the values of compassion and community spirit among our students, which encompass:

- Green Team
- Young Augustinian Youth Ministries (YAYM)
- Australian-Filipino Augustinian Solidarity (AFAS)
- St. Vincent De Paul
- Young Christian Students (YCS)
- Emmanuel City Mission
- Rosies
- Eucharistic Ministry (Senior School)
- Liturgical Music Group



MUSIC

Music at Villanova College is a true embodiment of community collaboration, boasting enthusiastic involvement from our dedicated staff, talented students, supportive parents, and the wider Villanova community. Our esteemed Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival (established in 1991) has grown into a monumental annual celebration, drawing over 10,000 students from across Queensland and beyond to partake in this musical extravaganza. Over the course of four remarkable days, the festival usually welcome over 20,000 visitors, underscoring the monumental logistical effort invested in ensuring the event's resounding success.

Music is an inclusive art form, and we take pride in providing a place for every student in our program who aspires to

create music at a remarkable standard. Beginning with our Year 5 program, every young man can experience the educational and social advantages that participation in ensemble programs offers.

Within our vibrant choral, bands, and strings program, we offer a large repertoire of diverse ensembles. These opportunities are complemented by regular performances, including the chance to embark on interstate and international tours. Our musical heart, the Augustine Centre, anchored by the illustrious 500-seat Hanrahan Theatre, serves as the epicenter of performing arts at the College. We are equipped with dedicated rehearsal spaces that cater to individual practice, small group collaboration, and ensemble rehearsals.



New Master Plan

MODERN FACILITIES FOR ENHANCED LEARNING

At Villanova College, we are committed to providing state-of-the-art facilities that empower our students to excel in their educational journey. Our Master Plan Review has paved the way for exciting developments on our campus. We recognise the importance of fostering an environment that aligns with our pedagogical strategies and supports innovative approaches to learning.

One of the cornerstones of our upcoming facilities is the construction of a versatile STEM and multi-purpose hall. This dynamic space, strategically located at the intersection of Seventh Avenue and Main Avenue, will serve as a hub

for various activities, including sports, performances, and gatherings. Within this hall, students will have access to international-level multi-purpose facilities, cutting-edge science investigation labs, engineering and technology workshops, general learning areas (GLAs), and inviting learning commons for collaborative study sessions. Moreover, the inclusion of a kiosk and commercial kitchen ensures that students have access to nourishing meals and snacks, further enhancing their overall learning experience. Our commitment to holistic development is exemplified by the provision of a strength and performance gym, a



**These images are concepts only and may not be a reflection of the final build.*

uniform shop, spacious parking facilities, and modern change rooms, ensuring that every aspect of our students' needs is met within this innovative space.

With these new facilities on the horizon, Villanova College continues to invest in providing an enriching and holistic educational environment, fostering a passion for learning and personal growth in every student. Our commitment to excellence in education extends beyond the classroom, and we are excited to embark on this journey of creating cutting-edge facilities that inspire, engage, and empower our students.

LOCATION & TRANSPORT

Villanova College is located just four kilometres from the heart of Brisbane's CBD, nestled on the south side of the Brisbane River. Many students travel to and from the College each day by bus. Old Cleveland Road is a major corridor for buses on the Translink network and is only 200 metres from the College. Dedicated school bus services provide additional transportation options. For those opting for rail transport, the Coorparoo Train Station, conveniently situated on the Cleveland line of the Brisbane rail network, is a short 10-minute walk from our campus.



Villanova College

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Explore Villanova College.
Take a virtual tour, visit
our website or book a
Principal's tour.