

BANKSIA

November 2021

MAGAZINE FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS



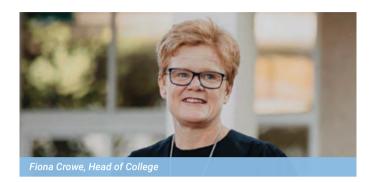
Message from the Head of College

There has never been a more exciting time to be part of St Catherine's College. We emerged from a challenging 2020 and we've worked hard to make 2021 even more spectacular for our residents. Now, we can't wait for 2022!

Our residents are inspiring young adults, who come from all walks of life to join our vibrant community. The programs, resources and opportunities that St Catherine's provide are an essential component in harnessing and guiding our community to enable them to reach their true potential.

This year, in addition to our diverse schedule of events and bespoke programs, we launched Shine, a leadership program run through Bloom, our Centre for Youth Innovation. The program equips individuals with the knowledge, life skills and confidence to achieve higher personal, academic and professional goals at any stage in the future and is geared to enhance employability. What a fantastic initiative that has seen over 70 participants take part this year!

Through *Dandjoo Darbalung* our Indigenous Access Program, we partnered with over 30 West Australian schools to produce cultural artworks that represented their unique communities. These were then brought to life by acclaimed digital media artist Sohan Ariel Hayes and projected onto the roof of the Crown Metropol in Perth.



The exhibition, which was a joint initiative with the Crown Foundation, took place in September and had over 85,000 people view the breathtaking display of light and colour.

I am also incredibly excited to announce that St Catherine's College at Curtin University is now accepting enrolments for 2022. The building is spectacular and the programs and ethos will mirror what we currently do at at our Crawley campus. Our residents, past, present and future will truly enjoy "the best of both worlds".

If you are interested in enrolling at either our UWA or Curtin campuses, then please visit our website or reach out to our Admissions Team at admissions@stcatherines.uwa.edu.au

Fiona Crowe

Contents

Features

Scholarship Opportunities	1
Making a Scene: Indigenous Artists at St Catherine's $\ \ldots \ \ldots$	4
Shine: Achieving Your Goals	16
Advice for High Schoolers	20

Alumni

Amanda Meegan: From St Cat's to the Big Mouse.		•	•	12
What are our Presidents up to now?				14

College Life

O'Week Memories	2
Patrick Morton: Innovating with Engineering and Medicine	
Sports Highlights	8
Culture and Wellness Highlights	9
Networking, Mentoring and Leadership at College	10
Annual Ball and Valedictory Dinners	19

Editorial: Sian O'Sullivan

Photographic Contributions: Darius Toh and Pyay Chan (EyeCandy Australia)

Design: Kandina Terrar - Indelible Imprint **Printing:** Optima Press

Cover Image: Image by Darius Toh

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which St Catherine's College operates and lands throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to Elders past, present and emerging.

Celebrating Jesse Schelfhout:

2022 Rhodes Scholar!

We are proud to announce that UWA postgraduate physics student and St Catherine's resident, Jesse Schelfhout, has been awarded the 2022 Rhodes Scholarship.

Jesse (22), has a Bachelor of Philosophy with First Class Honours in Physics and is currently completing a Masters of Physics (Experimental).

At the University of Oxford he plans to undertake a DPhil in Atomic and Laser Physics, where he intends to work on cutting-edge experiments to broaden understanding of fundamental physics.

"The experiment I'm hoping to work on is around atom interferometry, a maturing quantum technology that has demonstrated the highest sensitivity in gravity measurements," he said.

"The quantum technology industry is projected to be \$40 billion by 2040 and impacts in areas such as defence and cyber security, mining, healthcare and the biomedical industry."



Jesse has attended St Catherine's for five years on an academic scholarship and is a Residential Advisor and Postgraduate Coordinator as well as having special carriage of the Academic Extension programs at College.

He is also an accomplished euphonium player and State open medallist in javelin, who intends to vie for a place in the 2028 Australian Olympic team.

Congratulations, Jesse! We can't wait to see what impact you make on the world.

St Catherine's in 2022

There are so many opportunities waiting for you!



Accommodation: With our Curtin accommodation now open for 2022 there is more choice for our residents. You can choose a room that suits your lifestyle on the most convenient campus for you. We have everything from Premium Single Rooms through to Premium Studio Rooms.

Scholarships: We want to attract bright, aspirational young people to our community and our Scholarship Program recognises excellence, supports and helps students to enjoy a top class residential experience. We offer the most generous scholarships of all the residential colleges.

Visit our website to find more information on rooms, book a tour or apply for scholarships. The best university experience is waiting for you!

O'Week 2021 Memories

Ask any of our residents what their favourite memory is of College life and most will say O'Week. Looking at these photos, it's not difficult to see why.

ORIENTATION WEEK

Your first week at St Catherine's is Orientation Week, so you have time to get settled, learn about your new home and meet new friends before your classes start.

On Move-In Day you get unpacked, say goodbye to your family and then meet your new neighbours at our welcome lunch. At the Cultural Immersion night you learn more about the *Dandjoo Darbalung* program and Indigenous Cultures, watch performances and try some delicious bush tucker. There is a jam packed program of activities and information sessions throughout the week and we end it with the Fresher Fest. This is a celebration down on Matilda Bay where we compete with other colleges in exciting challenges and show them all why St Catherine's is the best!





CULTURAL IMMERSION NIGHT



Celebrate Indigenous Cultures through artwork, music and food with our *Dandjoo Darbalung* residents.





Making a Scene:

Indigenous Artists at St Catherine's College

Learn how Rebeka and Ammbi use their art to represent their land, their family and dreamtime stories.

Rebeka Morrison

I am a Bibbulman Nyoongar woman from Perth. I used to live in Sydney and also in Roebourne, in the Pilbara region of WA. I am studying a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Anthropology and Indigenous Studies.

I saw a gap in Indigenous knowledge being implemented within schools and major companies and wanted to make a change, especially with the recent destruction of ancient Indigenous sacred sites.

My artwork is based on the beauty of eucalyptus trees, and how the power of family and being connected to the land that you are situated on, correlates with each other.





This painting is now up in Derby in the office of the Third Space Indigenous Corporation. My other three circle paintings are based on the landscape of Matilda Bay and the significance of this site. It was a birthing ground and was used as a meeting place.

I am loving my time at College, especially the mob at *Dandjoo Darbulung*. Some highlights include performing at the Indigenous Round for AFL and mentoring trips to Nowanup and Esperance.

Ammbi Muir

I am studying secondary education, majoring in Art and Physical Education at ECU in Mount Lawley. I went to boarding school at St Hilda's in Perth, but I always went home to Leonora in the Goldfields during the holidays.

My whole family are artists and we all work together on projects. My normal medium is ceramics and for most of my pieces my brother, who is also at St Cat's, helps me with the concept and my mum helps me with the technique. The story behind it comes from my grandmother.

A lot of my inspiration comes from my grandmother. She left behind all sorts of paintings and a big body of artwork for myself and my brothers to work on. Because these projects are so close to my grandmother they have a lot more significance to me and I enjoy them more. I get to engage with the story that goes with it and learn through what she has left behind.

One of my ceramic pieces was featured in Sculptures by the Sea in Cottesloe. In that piece, the top represents the seven sisters dreaming story and the bottom represents my family and our totems. I've also had my ceramics on display at the WA Museum Boola Bardip.







Patrick Morton:

Innovating with Engineering and Medicine

What are you studying?

I'm currently studying Engineering and Finance with a direct pathway to Medicine.

I've wanted to be a doctor since I was a little kid so that is why I applied for the direct pathway to Postgraduate Medicine. I also wanted to do something in my undergraduate degree that would give me a good plan B, so I thought of Engineering because I like mathematics and science. I thought if I paired that with Finance it would give me a solid entry into the corporate side of engineering work if I decided to go down that path.

I'm currently doing Mechanical
Engineering. I enjoy manual arts and I've
been a blacksmith for about eight years
now. I've also just received approval to do
the Bachelor of Engineering and Masters of
Engineering in four years.

In terms of medical pathways, I'm interested in cardiothoracic surgery at the moment but I'm keeping an open mind. I would like to take my engineering background and pair it with insights from being a doctor to possibly build prosthetics or something similar.

What is your current role at UWA?

I am working with the System Health Lab at UWA and the project I am running at the moment is called RAMI (Remote Asset Management Indicator). These are sensors designed to sit on a low-value asset and tell you whether it moves or not. For instance, this has good applications with power poles because currently, power companies rely on people to ring in and report fallen poles. However, these sensors will let them know straight away if there is an issue. It's basically using the Internet of Things technology to make much cheaper solutions to problems. An equivalent sensor might cost \$3000 each, but we can make this one for \$60. Other applications could be remote mining equipment out on-site and local government assets like skip bins. This way you can track where they are meant to be and whether they are moving.

Another thing I'm involved with at the lab is accelerated life testing. Companies come to us when they have a product that they need to test, to find out how long it will last under various conditions. Where it will normally take five years to fail, we speed that process up and do it in a couple of days. We come up with ways of testing equipment and making it fail, so we can then offer different specifications it can meet.

How did you get involved with this?

I spoke to one of my lecturers because I was looking for a work placement over the winter break. I asked him to recommend some people to me, and one of those was was Professor Melinda Hodkiewicz. So, I went in and I saw her and I thought I was interviewing her to be my supervisor for the placement, but she ended up interviewing me for a job.

How have you found your time at College so far?

This is my second year at College and I've really enjoyed it. I've made a lot more friends than I would have otherwise. It's so easy to spend an hour or more in the Dining Hall just chatting, so that's probably the best part. There is also a lot of support available here to help you achieve your academic and other goals.

College is an awesome opportunity to get involved in a lot of different things. It's all about having good balance, and good discipline, particularly if you're studying something quite rigorous.

I went to high school at Lumen Christi College and I lived 10 minutes away, so coming to St Catherine's was a big change, but it has been a wonderful experience.

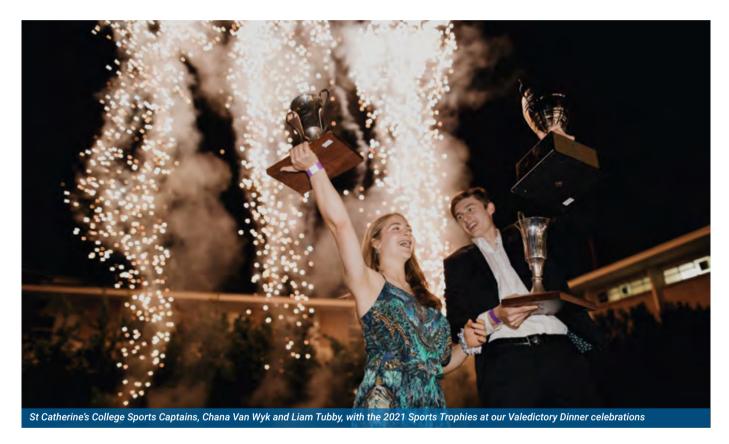
I am also a proud recipient of the Fogarty Foundation Scholarship at UWA and the matching Residential Scholarship at St Catherine's. There are so many opportunities here!



Sports Highlights

This year we've seen our residents compete against the other colleges in a whole range of sport, including ultimate frisbee, dodgeball and even badminton. Once again our teams brought home the mens, womens and overall trophies. What an amazing achievement!

For those who aren't playing, we always pack the sidelines with supporters and have a great time cheering on our teams. If sport just isn't your thing, you can always join in with our annual Wii Olympics, social clubs and everything from Fri-YAY crafts and boardgames nights.







Culture and Wellness Highlights

We have a range of activities that we either put on for our residents or contribute to as part of College Row. These include Relay for Life, Formal Halls, art classes, Battle of the Bands, College production, Lip Dub, Chinese New Year celebrations, roof-top yoga and meditation.













Networking, Mentoring and Leadership at College

At College, you can apply to be a leader within the community as a Residential Advisor (RA). There are multiple roles and positions within the RA Team structure, and you may even be eligible to earn credit points on your university transcript for your leadership work.

Throughout the year, you'll have the opportunity to invite your university tutors, lecturers, professors or an industry professional to one of our Undergraduate Faculty or Postgraduate Dinners. We also organise industry-specific lunches for networking with eminent academics and researchers in your field of study.





As a resident in your third year of study or above, we offer professional mentoring opportunities to help you secure internships, gain valuable work experience and advise you on the ever-evolving job market.











Amanda Meegan: From St Cat's to Walt Disney

How Amanda grew her career from a semester exchange in Perth to working at the Walt Disney Company in the United States.



How did you find your time at St Catherine's?

The friends I made at St Catherine's made my time there unforgettable. Even though I am back in America now, I still keep up with my close friends from St Cat's daily! I also met my partner Luke in 2018 while staying at St Catherine's on Park for a few weeks. As a guest at the short stay part of the College, I had so much fun being included in events hosted by the College RA's that I knew I had to return for a full semester on exchange. Every one of my friends at St Cat's showed me a different part of life in Australia.

What is your current role and where do you work?

I am currently an Associate Digital Analyst at the Walt Disney Company, working with data for products in our Disney, Marvel and Star Wars brands. I help our partners understand the "why" behind our performance numbers, and strategise ways to improve them.

What was the process like to get into your role?

An unexpected part of the hiring process for this role was having to complete 11 rounds of interviews. It seemed quite intimidating to have to complete that many interviews, but I quickly found that each interviewer I met was so kind and did such interesting work.

While it helped that my coursework prepared me to answer technical questions about coding and data analysis softwares, I found Disney values your attitude and who you are even more highly.

Disney's brand is all about building an incomparable experience across all of our television, movies, resorts and products, and they cultivate a workforce that is passionate about innovating the future of entertainment.

Do you have any advice for students looking for work after they graduate?

My advice is to pursue internships and work experience. No matter the industry, you will learn skills that you could not learn at university. Internship experience is a great way to find out what you do and don't like about a career path, which is invaluable to know early on. If you're struggling to get accepted to internship programs, I found that many local governments and small businesses are willing to bring on part-time and unpaid interns.

Every new work experience placement adds more credibility for your next job application, and often these environments are in great need of extra assistance! And if you're interested in Disney, we have an international internship program that has had many Australian Alumni!

What are some of your goals for the future?

My goals for the future are to establish myself as a leader for international business data strategy by continuing to learn new programming languages, work with industry professionals in various countries, speak at international events and conferences and eventually obtain my MBA.

Applying for St Catherine's? Here's what you need to do:

St Catherine's is the leading College for innovation, academic and cultural programs, and we have set a high bar. We are focused on helping you achieve your best and excellence is core to what we do.

- Research Visit our website to find out more about life at St Catherine's, our programs, services and range of scholarships. You can also visit us for a tour (anytime!) to see life at St Catherine's or you can watch our Virtual Tour online.
- Apply for our UWA campus submit your application submit your application at livingoncampus.uwa.edu.au and select St Catherine's as your first preference. For our Curtin campus visit stcatherines.curtin.edu.au for more information on how to apply.
- Offer Once we receive your application we will contact you for an interview. Residency positions at St Catherine's College are highly competitive, so our interview process is designed for you to learn more about us and for us to learn more about you.
- Acceptance Within two weeks of your interview we will notify you if you have secured your place at St Catherine's.

We look forward to you joining our community!

What are our Presidents up to now?

Every year our College Presidents are elected to organise events, represent our residents and be leaders for our community. Hear about our past Presidents' experiences in leadership, their career journeys, how their College experience helped them and their goals for the future.



Evie Ward 2018 (Law)

The biggest takeaway I got from my time as Co-President is everything I learnt about leadership and teamwork. It is very rewarding to work with so many fun and passionate people on the RA team. Being a leader isn't about being the loudest and bossiest person in the room but rather someone who residents can feel comfortable talking to and trusting if they need help or advice.

In June, I was offered a full-time position as a Court Usher at the District Court of Western Australia. It is like being an assistant to a Judge and involves helping them both in and out of the Court with several tasks. In Court, I have a number of responsibilities including assisting to empanel juries, bringing witnesses into the courtroom and handling any exhibits that are tendered. Outside of court, I help my Judge with legal research for both criminal and civil matters, and amongst other things, prepare files for upcoming trials.

Although it has been tough balancing a full-time job and study, the experience I am receiving is invaluable and will help me with my career in the future.

Throughout my time at the College, I really developed and improved my time management and organisational skills. These are skills that are crucial to my job now and will be very important when I am a lawyer.



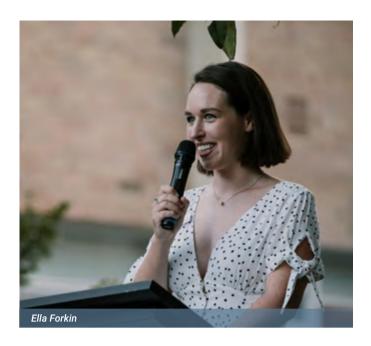
Chris Collins 2018 (Sports Science)

One of my favourite moments of being Co-President was being able to stand in front of the newest group of freshers and show them what the St Catherine's spirit is about. I took pride in what I was doing and remember the faces of the freshers as they took the St Cat's pride and spirit and made it their own.

Since leaving the College I was awarded the Golden Key Asia-Pacific Academic Scholarship, which helped me with my current Master's program at Loughborough University in the UK. Loughborough is the best sports science university in the world, and I was so happy to be accepted to study for an MSc in Sports Biomechanics. While completing my Masters I received the Post-Graduate Student of the Year Award, all of which would not be possible without my time at St Catherine's and the support and growth that being at College provided.

One of the most relevant poignant sayings I have found over the years is: "It's not what you know, it's who you know" – however, I have developed my own version. "It's not what you know, it's who knows YOU". Try and be the person people think of when an opportunity arises!

This year, I am aiming to achieve the top grades in my cohort and finish with a First-Class Master's degree. I have just signed a full-time role with a Sports and Entertainment Data Consultancy company and hope to cement my place within that business over the next few months.



Ella Forkin 2019 (Medicine)

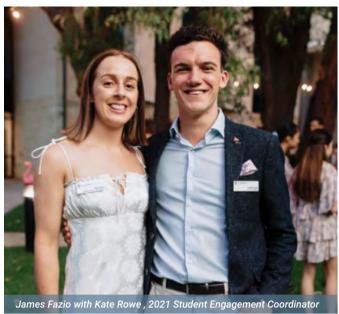
During my time at St Catherine's, I was involved in the leadership team as both a Cultural Officer in 2018 and Co-President in 2019. Taking on these roles was so enjoyable as I was able to bring fun and creative opportunities for students to get involved in, where they could share their talents and enjoy each other's company in a variety of ways.

From the artistic events and social gatherings I organised, I learnt the importance of providing people with a safe and welcoming environment, where without fear they can express themselves and share their knowledge and quirks with others.

Since leaving College I have started my Postgraduate Medicine degree at UWA, where I am now in my second year and learning many pathologies on the wards as I interact with patients and doctors. Next year, I will be one of four lucky students to complete my third year studying with the Rural Clinical School in Kununurra an amazing rural experience I am very much looking forward to!

Through my time at College, I was able to learn and interact with people from all across the globe with different ethnicities, cultures and beliefs. Talking to and learning from these people during my time at College, I have gained a more holistic perspective on the world which has definitely assisted me in my current degree.

At the moment the big goal for me is to complete my medical degree in 2023. Once I achieve this, I would love to continue my trajectory in Medicine to practice rurally, learn from the community to one day become an Obstetrician, bringing people into the world, so they too can achieve their dreams.



James Fazio 2020 (Commerce)

O'Week is one of my favourite memories from St Catherine's. I forgot to call my family that week because I was too busy meeting 400 new friends. I came from going to high school in Ballajura, which is in itself a pretty diverse community, so I was surprised when I came to the College and found so many amazing people from even more diverse backgrounds.

My time as President during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic has really helped me in my career and was something that I was able to talk about in the job interview process for my current role.

It was really helpful to be able to talk about being agile in such an unprecedented time, coming together as a team and figuring out what to do next in such an uncertain world.

I am currently working at UWA Sport as the Graduate Officer of Inclusion. One part of my work is to enable participation from underrepresented groups, which includes Indigenous Australians, people with a disability, people from regional and remote communities, women in sport, LGBTQIA+ people and international students. We look at ways we can use sport as a tool to create community and make people feel safe and welcomed. We do this through policy, programs and relationships as well as best-practice guidance for the many facets of sport at UWA. Another important part of this job is embedding Indigenous knowledge and culture into everything that we do. Whether it be a design on a document or uniform, or training and development opportunities I learnt alot about this through the *Dandjoo Darbalung* program at College.

I knew that I wanted to work in a role with people and for the betterment of underrepresented groups too. Doing that in the sports industry was something I did not expect. Sport, like attending a college, is such an important way to build community. I didn't even realise that until I started doing this role.

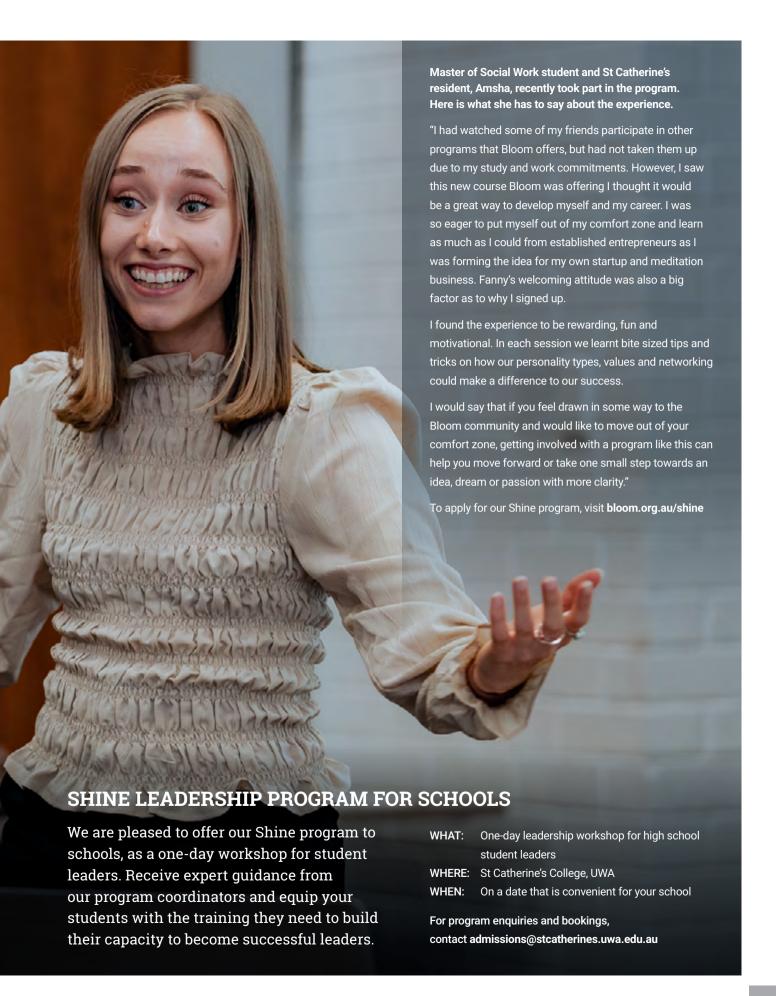
Shine: Achieving Your Goals

Shine is a ten-week, five-session program run from Bloom, in our Centre for Youth Innovation. The program provides you with personal and career development to equip you with advanced knowledge, foundational life skills and confidence to achieve higher personal, academic and professional goals at any stage in the future!

Through the program you develop vital life and career skills, including:

- Effective communication
- ✓ Goal setting
- Core values
- Time management
- Networking
- Confidence

Program coordinator and entrepreneur Fanny Westlund



St Catherine's social events

St Catherine's College has a calendar of unique, exciting events throughout the year that you can't experience at any other college. Our Annual Ball and End of Semester Valedictories are just some of the amazing events that our dedicated Student Engagement Team organises for our residents.

ANNUAL BALL

This year the St Catherine's Ball saw our residents get whisked away for a night of magic on the stage of the Heath Ledger Theatre at the WA State Theatre. With fantastic decorations, delicious food and drinks, roving performers and a DJ turning the stage into a dancefloor, everyone certainly lived happily ever after for the night.









VALEDICTORY DINNERS

Our Semester 1 and 2 Valedictory Dinners are impressive to say the least. From Bridgerton to a to a haunting Enchanted Hallows theme. We know how to celebrate our graduating residents in style!

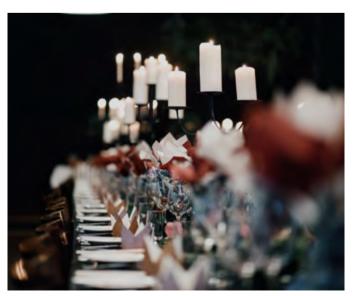












Advice for High Schoolers



How do I know if living at a college is right for me?

"I didn't know it was right for me until halfway through Year 12 when I came for a tour of St Catherine's and talked to people living here. So the best way to know if it's right is just to come and see how you feel when walking through the campus."

- Sam Lanagan, 18 (Bunbury)

"Only you know what is best for you! My best advice would be to tour all the colleges to get a feel of what college life is like and see if it is a space you see yourself being comfortable in as your home-away-from-home. I have found St Catherine's to be a really good stepping stone from high school to university for both metro and regional students."

- Bradley Carter, 18 (Capel)



How do I make friends after high school?

"Take risks, go to that event you've seen, join that new club, but most importantly don't be afraid to talk to someone new!"

- Sam

"Just start a conversation with people, whether it be the people on your floor, or people in your lectures."

- Mick Oxley, 18 (Esperance)

What is something that surprised you living at St Catherine's?

"How friendly everybody is, and how much of a community spirit there is here!"

- Mick

"The best and possibly most surprising part is how easy it is to make friends with people that you probably never would have met otherwise."

- Georgia Gould, 19 (Perth)





"How many people there are from different areas of Australia and the world and the way we always manage to find something in common!"

- Hope Sortras, 19 (Augusta)

How do I cope with stress while studying?

"Make sure you have a good support system of friends and family that you can reach out to, or they can recognise when you're stressed so you can take a break and unwind."

- Georgia

If you could give any advice about university or college to your younger self, what would it be?

"Make the most of it! Don't stress about things you simply cannot control. You will find your feet and you will succeed. For anyone considering living at College, I could not recommend it enough! It has been the best thing I have ever done."

- Bradley

"I moved into St Catherine's in Semester 2. So if anything, move into College sooner!"

- Georgia

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

St Catherine's College fosters a thriving academic and intellectual culture, spearheaded by our comprehensive tutorial program that complements our residents' university studies.

As part of our fees, we offer all residents an in-house academic service, with with almost 100 unit-specific tutorials every semester, across all disciplines and year levels, led by experienced academic tutors who have completed the unit with a distinction grade or above.

STUDY SKILLS PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS

We are delighted to launch our new study skills program, *CATapult*, designed for Year 11 ATAR students.

This flexible, one-day program is designed to help young people build a strong foundation as they negotiate a path through their final years of secondary school by setting a positive and determined start to the academic year!

Sessions are run by our experienced academic tutors and can be tailored to your school's needs based on your ATAR offerings.

WHAT: Tailored study skills program for Year 11 ATAR students.

WHERE: St Catherine's College, UWA.

WHEN: Our one-day program* runs from 9.00AM - 4.00PM and includes lunch and afternoon tea.

Overnight accommodation can be arranged at the College for an additional fee.

Places are limited, please contact admissions@stcatherines.uwa.edu.au for availability and pricing.

*We can alter the timing to suit your school's schedule.



UWA Campus 2 Park Road Crawley WA 6009

stcatherines.uwa.edu.au



@stcatscollege #stcatscollege

Curtin Campus Building 433 Kent Street Bentley WA 6102

stcatherines.curtin.edu.au



@stcatscollegecurtin #stcatscollegecurtin

+61 8 9442 0400 enquiries@stcatherines.uwa.edu.au