



GENAZZANO
FCJ COLLEGE

Boarding Handbook

Ready to take
on tomorrow.

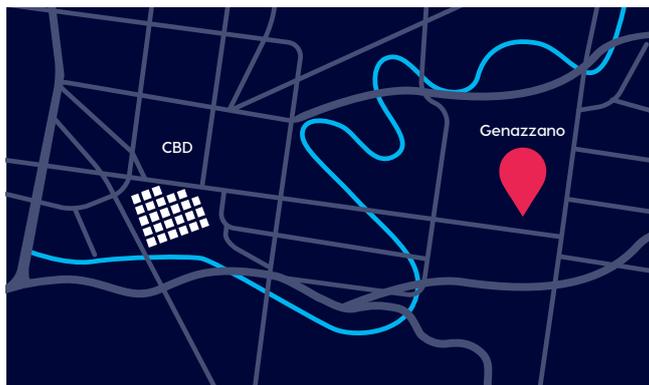
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The Genazzano FCJ College campus is situated on Cotham Road, Kew, just west of its junction with Burke Road, and is easily accessed from many suburbs. A private bus service operating for Genazzano students is now available for the northern and eastern suburbs.

The College is located within magnificent grounds surrounded by lush green trees and flourishing garden beds. This beautiful environment provides many spaces for students to explore and discover.

You can contact the College on **+61 3 8862 1000**.

We invite you to come and experience the Genazzano FCJ College difference. Book now for a Personal Tour or attend one of our Open Mornings. Visit genazzano.vic.edu.au/book-tour



301 Cotham Road, Kew VIC 3101
+61 3 8862 1000
genazzano.vic.edu.au

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Welcome to Genazzano.

Genazzano FCJ College was founded in 1889 by the Society of Faithful Companions of Jesus as a boarding school for country girls; and boarding is still a significant and important aspect of our offering at the College today.

The school community is very proud of our Boarding House, Hopetoun Hall, which caters for up to 40 boarders and is the only all-girls' Catholic boarding school in Victoria. We accept girls from Year 7; however, most of our boarders begin at Year 9.

There are many benefits to being a boarder, particularly when it comes to academic outcomes and independence. The boarding house has a strong learning culture that supports and encourages all learners. The girls quickly develop positive study routines and have access to specific educational programs including tutoring support. Boarders will often spend time studying in groups and encouraging and supporting each other.

As a result of living in the Boarding House and away from home, boarders are responsible for organising themselves and managing their own time. These responsibilities assist in the development of a range of independent life skills and prepare the girls for life beyond the College.

In addition to our experienced and caring staff, one of the most effective supports for new girls in the Boarding House is the older boarders. The House has a Boarding Prefect and Boarding Captain; and the senior students become part of a leadership team. They lead and guide the other students and organise many fun social activities that build positive and supportive relationships. They foster a sisterhood that is like no other and the friendships they form will last well beyond their time as a boarder.

It is an expectation that the Boarding House is an environment conducive to study; this is supported by routines and quiet, appropriate spaces to study.

Having time to relax and unwind is also very important and there are always places and opportunities for this within the House. Saturday nights are a time for fun and socialising. Senior boarders assist staff in planning these activities including cooking, art and outings.

Our boarders are heavily involved in a wide range of co-curricular activities, many of which take place at the College. They also participate in local community teams including Womens' AFL and netball, making use of excellent local parks and facilities close to the House.

Your daughter will enjoy many valuable experiences during her time as a boarder at Hopetoun Hall; and will leave as an independent and capable young woman equipped with important life skills and well prepared for the next stage of her life.

Lauren Kennedy
– Director of Boarding

Our vision

A sense of “going home”.



Our boarders leave as independent, confident and caring young women with an aspiration towards excellence. They are motivated to strive for greatness to reach their potential.

Genazzano remains Victoria’s only Catholic girls’ boarding school, with a long and proud history educating and nurturing the wellbeing of our students for well over a century.

Providing our girls with a sense of ‘going home’ at the end of each school day is the foundation upon which our Boarding House, Hopetoun Hall, is based. Just three kilometres from the College, the off-campus location is a happy and nurturing home that encourages the growth of faith, independence and social responsibility for students from various social and geographic backgrounds.

Hopetoun Hall is a safe and welcoming place where all girls enjoy a friendly community life in an environment conducive to study. The relatively small number of boarders at the House ensures that students know one another well, share a close bond with each other and unlike school, when girls return ‘home’ to Hopetoun Hall, the concept of year levels are forgotten, and the boarders are drawn together.

Supported by a dedicated and professional team of staff committed to providing quality care, the girls are provided with an environment that guides them along their educational journey, while being encouraged to embrace the many opportunities available to them through the College’s extensive Co-Curricular program. Hopetoun Hall boarders are well represented within the College in leadership roles and as recipients of academic honours, sports and performance awards.

The academic benefits of boarding include the strong and close support of teachers and peers. Within Hopetoun Hall, boarders are involved in social activities, study routines and specific educational programs, including tutoring support. There is a very strong learning culture that supports all boarders, with older boarders providing support for younger girls, enhancing the community culture within the House.

Faith & mission

Our source of inspiration.

The particular emphasis on faith and mission at Genazzano flows from a strong sense of Catholic identity and the FCJ Charism (spiritual gift). Faith education at Genazzano is informed by three core values: a passion for life, a love of learning, and the courage and confidence to lead and serve others.

“Our graduates will be seen as women of contemplation, competence, compassion, and commitment”

The inspirational foundress of the Sisters FCJ, the Venerable Marie Madeleine d’Houet, was a woman for our time. Her great faith gifted her with the courage and confidence that was the basis of her life’s work, and the work of all the Sisters - past, present and future - who continue to respond as women to the call of those in need.

In the spirit of Marie Madeleine, the College seeks to create a caring atmosphere where all can find a place and feel at home. Ever mindful of our Ignatian intellectual and spiritual heritage, Genazzano encourages students to view the world with kindness and curiosity. With a real and meaningful commitment to sharing the importance of social

justice, Genazzano prepares students for the world beyond the College gates where they can be valuable members of the community; both local and global.

Companionship is central to the FCJ philosophy of education, being expressed through faithfulness, gentleness and respect. In the Ignatian tradition, the College encourages students to look to find God in all things - teaching an active attentiveness together with a prompt responsiveness to God, who is constantly active in our lives.

Genazzano seeks to be a nurturer of life and a joyful messenger of hope and love, preparing our students for a life of leadership in the wider community.



Boarding information.

Situated in leafy Camberwell 3kms from the College, the House is made up to two buildings one of which is double storey.

Boarders mostly come from country areas of New South Wales and Victoria, with indigenous students from further away and some international students. The Boarding House is managed by professional and experienced staff including the resident Director of Boarding.

Day in the life of a boarder

6.00am

Girls involved in co-curricular that requires early start – woken and travel to activity

7.00am

Girls woken for school, get dressed and attend breakfast.

7.30am

Organise for the day and tidy bedroom.

7.50am

Travel to school.

8.15am

Arrive at school.

8.30am

School starts - For the balance of the school day the boarders participate in the life of the school like all students. Recess and lunch supplies are collected at these times from the Café.

3.25pm

School ends and girls generally return to the Boarding House. Some boarders may participate in co-curricular activities or spend time in the College library.

4.00pm

Boarders arrive at the house and enjoy afternoon tea – they have free time and may choose to socialise with one another, study, go to the local shops, go for a walk or use the gym at the Boarding House.

6.00pm

Dinner – this is an important time for all as it is the time all come together, share a meal and important messages are shared.

6.30pm

Duty teams do dishes and clean up.

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Study time.

9.00pm – 9.15pm

A light supper is provided.

9.30pm

Bedtime for Year 7, 8 & 9 boarders.

10.00pm

Bedtime for Year 10 boarders.
Year 11 & 12 boarders to be in rooms.

10.30pm

Bedtime for Year 12 boarders.

11.00pm

Bedtime for Year 12 boarders, or girls may study further within reason.

On the weekend, the Boarding House is a hive of activity with boarders involved in a wide variety of sports and music commitments, social justice activities, personal social events, attending church together, excursions, as well as craft and activity nights.

Opportunities for boarders.

The experience of boarding and living in a community enables the development of a range of life skills that prepare our boarders for later life.

- Study skills are taught and enhanced within the House.
- The opportunity to develop a wide range of friendships and networks from within Australia and overseas
- Association with Xavier College boarders and families including attendance at various social events.
- Many opportunities to participate in house activities, excursions and events as a group.
- Access to the facilities of the College.
- Leadership within the House for all seniors is arranged through leadership programs and experience.
- Boarders have access to over 130 co-curricular opportunities that the College has to offer.
- Be part of a culture of academic excellence which ranks Genazzano in the top 5% of the state for VCE results.
- The College's GenSTAR program supports students to develop resilience, think for peak performance, and develop skills for a safe, healthy and positive approach to life.
- Students can attend the Performance Psychology Centre for counselling, education and skill development. Professional assistance is available to help with personal issues and wellbeing, as well as strategies for performance enhancement in areas such as sports, exam technique, public speaking and music performance.



Friends of Hopetoun Hall.



Friends of Hopetoun Hall was established in 2013 to help provide a network of support for Genazzano boarders. This parent led community is an important component in the life of a boarder, enabling families from across the country, and indeed the globe, to connect.

The highlight of the boarding calendar is the Friends of Hopetoun Hall Annual Mass and Luncheon which is a wonderful opportunity to reflect and give thanks, and to celebrate the achievements of the boarding students. This is an especially lovely occasion to welcome new families to the boarding community, providing them with a network of connections to ensure they feel welcome and supported. Friends of Hopetoun Hall hold regular gatherings throughout the year, keep families up to date with activities and many other opportunities to share their experiences.

Additionally, the College Enrolments Team host events in rural Victoria and New South Wales which provide an opportunity for prospective families to meet current and past families and to obtain a valuable insight into the Genazzano Boarding Program. The Genazzano boarders feel part of a wider network of supporters through Friends of Hopetoun Hall and this community is a natural extension of the welcoming and engaged environment at Gen.





“We look forward to welcoming you as a boarding family and a Friend of Hopetoun Hall.”

Boarding student profile.



“My advice to any new boarder would be to put your hand up for everything, there’s always an opportunity to include yourself, and a team environment creates friendships so quickly. Boarding has shown me that the challenges that I’m faced with aren’t so difficult after all.”

Micaela Kennedy
Mulwala, NSW
Class of 2020

My dad was a boarder when he went to school and so I began my boarding experience with dad always saying, ‘the people you meet [whilst Boarding] are the friendships that will last a lifetime,’ and he was right. In less than two terms, I feel I’ve known these girls for a lifetime.

Because of the nature of boarding, I get to know the ins and outs of people’s lives and personalities so quickly and naturally, that friendships form effortlessly. The hard nights where you just need to be under the roof of your home is easily fixed by a hug or a laugh by the friend sleeping across from you. I love when I get to say, “I’m going to put a load on...” or “Just going to bring in the washing...” it’s as if, even though these things are little, you’ve become an independent grown up within a month.

In the first days of boarding I was challenged from left to right, up and down and put to a self-test as I was exposed to new people, new procedures, new everything and I was to learn all these unfamiliar ways in such a short time. But then, with so much support from all the supervisors, everyone forms connections and gets to know everyone really well. Staff are always there even when any of us need a talk, all we do is call their name, literally.

GenConnect

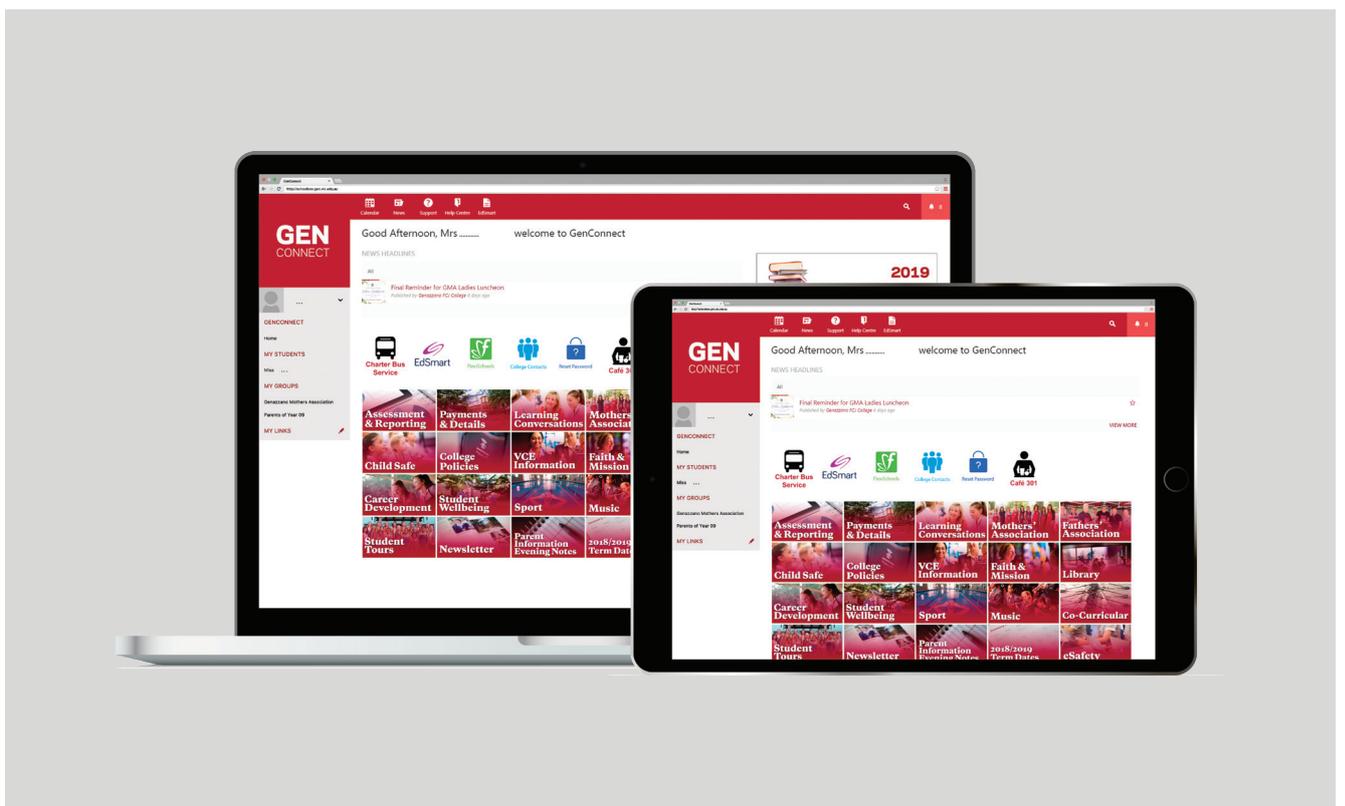
Supporting excellence.

GenConnect has been developed as the central learning platform for the Genazzano FCJ College community. It provides an online environment that enables communication, learning opportunities and collaboration.

A major feature of the platform is its sophisticated notification system, enabling the delivery of crucial information such as student assessment, College news and events delivered via email and mobile push notifications. Parents can customise these notifications to their preferred options, from delivery types to the receiving of messages.

GenConnect provides the connection necessary for families in the daily organisation; this includes online payments, managing personal details, the College calendar, policies and electronic forms.

The platform also connects the community to many other groups within the College including the Mothers' and Fathers' Associations, co-curricular programs, sporting and music groups. Through this platform these groups will keep you informed via news and notifications.





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Genazzano FCJ College
301 Cotham Road
Kew 3101, Victoria

+613 8862 1000
enquiries@genazzano.vic.edu.au
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CRICOS Provider
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