



**LORETO COLLEGE MARRYATVILLE
PROSPECTUS**



A Catholic day and boarding school for girls

Mary Ward



Loreto College is an independent Catholic day and boarding School for girls. It is one of many schools throughout the world directed by the religious congregation known as the Institute of Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM) or the Loreto Sisters. The order was founded by an English woman, Mary Ward, in 1609. Her belief was that education could make a critical difference in her troubled world, especially an education centred upon the care and development of faith. Some 400 years later, the spirit of Mary Ward continues to inspire us to offer a Catholic education which liberates, empowers and motivates students to use their gifts with confidence, creativity and generosity in loving and responsible service.

The Australian foundation was made from Ireland in 1875 by Mother Gonzaga Barry whose influence on primary, secondary and tertiary education in Australia was both lively and profound. She established schools across the country which provided a wide range of students with a balanced, happy yet challenging education that prepared them to exert a lasting influence on the emerging nation. Today, this tradition continues as we meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Mother Gonzaga Barry



Loreto, Marryatville, South Australia, is one of seven IBVM schools across Australia. Our 'sister' Loreto schools can be found in four other states: New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia. These schools share strong ties, working together in a collaborative spirit of kinship.

Loreto, Marryatville, was established in 1905. Today it caters for some 1,000 students from Reception to Year 12 with an Early Learning Centre that meets the needs of over 100 families. Loreto is also 'home' to some 55 boarders.

About us

At Loreto, we have a vigorous belief in the capacity and responsibility of women to contribute significantly to society and to the church and this underpins the emphasis in our tradition on the education of girls. The qualities of freedom, justice and sincerity are at the core of our educational philosophy.



Freedom

'So that your hidden self may grow strong'

Ephesians 3:16

Justice

'This is what is asked of you, only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God'

Micah 6:3-5

Sincerity

'We should be such as we appear and appear such as we are' *Mary Ward*

But of all Mary Ward's words of wisdom passed down to us, her words on felicity speak most particularly to the young.

Felicity

'Joy is the Christian's gigantic secret'

G.K. Chesterton

Verity

'This is Verity - to do what we have to do well' *Mary Ward*

Our Philosophy

Felicity is an attitude of mind and a disposition of the heart. It manifests itself in cheerfulness, good humour, joy and optimism. Friendliness, courtesy, positive thinking, self-acceptance and courage all capture something of the nature of Felicity.

This **Felicity** is a natural gift and an essential element of the Loreto spirit. It springs directly from living out the values of **Freedom**, **Justice** and **Sincerity**. Closely linked to sincerity is Mary Ward's concept of **Verity**. For her it meant integrity and truth, particularly the profound truth of who we are and what gives meaning to our lives, a truth that centres fundamentally on the mystery of God.



'At Loreto, this is what makes us different. It is our commitment to keeping alive and relevant the richness of Mary Ward's educational philosophy. It underpins everything we do. In this way, our graduating students emerge as confident, articulate young women who are well-informed, self-directed and spiritually mature.'



Pastoral care at Loreto is very evident. In fact, despite our outstanding academic successes, parents continue to nominate this as Loreto's greatest strength. The care of each individual is paramount in the minds of teachers. We strongly believe in working together with parents to provide the best possible environment for your daughter's total care.

Here your daughter will be guided gently to discover her God given gifts and to value these gifts. She will be encouraged also to see and cherish God's gifts in others. In such a climate, the drive to succeed is based not upon competition and the need to win, but upon the desire to give of one's best and to acknowledge the achievements of all in giving of their best. This climate fosters acceptance, tolerance and an empathetic heart.

At Loreto, students genuinely care for and about each other. We have a strong house system, of four houses, which groups girls across year levels (R-12). The interhouse carnivals and competitions foster friendship, school spirit, teamwork and peer support. Our Year 11 Peer Support Leaders particularly focus on support for the Year 8s. New students quickly become part of 'the Loreto Family'. This sense of belonging is what allows them to be free: free to be themselves and so make the very best of their God given talents.

Our Pastoral Care



Community celebration is a very special aspect of life at Loreto. Our liturgies, Family Day, Mission Day, carnivals and Art Show all capture something unique about the depth of our Loreto spirit. Students, parents, friends, staff and old scholars all share a common bond: a bond which unites us. It is one of kinship where all are welcome and all belong.

Our Celebration

The Montessori philosophy offers a powerful understanding of how precious the early years of a child's life are. A parent is given only one opportunity to provide their child with the best possible foundation for life.

It is with this in mind that **Babthorpe Montessori Pre-school** presents an outstanding early learning environment for little children. A deep sense of respect for the child is the inspiration for our highly qualified teachers to prepare nurturing programmes that will enhance each child's unfolding pattern of learning. In addition, our environment aims to help parents feel valued and supported. We offer ideas, encouragement and information to assist parents in their immeasurably important role of shaping the lives of their children.

Our Early Learning Centre



**Babthorpe Montessori
Pre-school at Loreto College**
phone 83312509 or www.montessori.net.au



'Joy is the Christian's gigantic secret.' G.K. Chesterton

Our teachers embrace the challenge of discovering and developing each student's talents and skills in communication and critical thinking in order to build each student's confidence and competence so that she can emerge with a sure sense of her abilities, rights and responsibilities.

During these critical formative years of learning we provide the vital foundations towards building the confident, articulate and informed young women of tomorrow.

Our primary years' programmes emphasize skill development in both literacy and numeracy where an extensive and stimulating range of learning opportunities ensures learning is fun and meaningful.

Highly qualified and experienced teachers work together with numerous specialist support staff to ensure the academic, emotional and social needs of each individual student are met. In this safe, secure and loving environment, your daughter will thrive so that her creative, physical and spiritual talents can develop freely and fully.

Our Primary Years (R-5)

Loreto: a place to live, learn, love and laugh



'So that your hidden self may grow strong.' Ephesians 3:16

At Loreto, we have the exciting task of accompanying students in their search for truth and the growing awareness of mystery in their lives.

Loreto staff acknowledge that the middle years of schooling form a unique stage in the R-12 continuum. We recognize that adolescent girls experience significant physical, cognitive, social and moral developments. As such we provide carefully designed Pastoral Care and leadership programmes that constructively and conscientiously work towards understanding and supporting students as they grow through these years.

As a school we are committed to an inclusive curriculum, which supports our students as they become active and confident learners in an environment which values them as individuals and as members of a supportive learning community.

The curriculum in the middle years is based on the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP). Through this programme students are provided with challenging, rigorous and relevant learning experiences so that they become actively engaged and thoroughly involved participants in the learning process.

The emphasis of the MYP is on 'learning how to learn.' Students are encouraged to reflect on their own learning and to develop international mindedness with an appreciation and acceptance of cultural diversity.

Our Middle Years (6-9)

'Women in time to come will do much.' **Mary Ward 1585-1645**

The consistently impressive academic results of Loreto, Marryatville reflect the interaction of several factors – positive partnerships with parents, highly qualified, experienced and dedicated teaching staff, the commitment of the students and a love of learning which pervades the school.

Our Senior students are recognized as young emerging adult women and as such are given increased responsibility and independence. This is manifested across a wide range of activities and includes an active role in the leadership of the school student community.

The Senior provision of a study room acknowledges the needs of our senior students to private study time and the provision of a common room equally acknowledges the need of our senior students to interact socially with each other in a comfortable setting to help them keep a healthy balance between academic rigour and relaxation. Students are encouraged to maintain this balance through continued involvement in the school's many co-curricular activities.

An extensive course conferencing process involving parents, staff and students ensures that each individual student's academic and career aspirations are explored so that her future pathway is based upon an informed choice. The school provides multiple pathways for students and caters for individual needs including university, TAFE and vocational programmes.

At Loreto, opportunities are provided for every student to develop to her full potential: spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically. Christian principles, particularly those of justice, integrity, compassion, generosity and respect, underpin our entire senior years curriculum.

Our Senior Years (10-12)





'to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with their God'. Micah 6: 3-5

Successful leadership centres on the belief that we are all loved by God and we are called to use our gifts freely, in loving and responsible service always. At Loreto, students are brought to an acceptance of the inherent dignity of every person. In this context, stereotypes, prevailing social structures and uses of power which might conflict with this belief are closely scrutinized. Students are invited to challenge injustices where they are seen to exist and to rise above the limitations that others might impose upon them, so that they might work towards just outcomes in all that they do.

Freedom, empathy, personal integrity, compassion, courage and the capacity to reflect upon one's actions are seen as critical skills to nurture and develop in our students as they grow to become the leaders of tomorrow. To develop in them an ability to discriminate amongst conflicting claims and perceptions in the world and to discern the deeper truths in their lives is essential. There is no glory in leadership but rather leadership is seen as an opportunity to serve the needs of others.

We have a vigorous belief in the capacity and responsibility of women to contribute significantly to society and to the church. Therefore, opportunities for leadership development at Loreto are boundless. Not only are they intrinsic to our entire educational programme but they exist in all our extracurricular endeavours as well. Our commitment to Social Justice and Community Service programmes is seen as being critical in the formation of women who are both just and generous in their service of others.

Our Justice Mission

Developing leadership for life

'Refer all things to God: Finding God in the ordinary and extraordinary.' Mary Ward

Through the expressive arts students are invited to explore who and what they are, their gifts and their limitations, to discover their true selves and so begin the process of self-knowledge which leads to self-acceptance. From self-acceptance comes true personal freedom so that they might '...be such as they appear and appear such as they are' (Mary Ward).

So that they might find and see God in the ordinary and the extraordinary, we challenge the students to use their creative freedom; for whatever nourishes the spirit enhances the opportunity to find God and whatever invites us to appreciate the beauty in our world allows us to see God.

Our Freedom Through Expression





'Let your light shine in the sight of all.' **Matthew 5:16**

At Loreto, our students are encouraged to develop their physical talents so that they might become strong, confident, and free: free from self-doubt and inhibition. This freedom includes the capacity to face challenges and to learn from mistakes and failures that are such a natural part of all human experience.

Through participation in team events and competitions the ideals of mutual respect, tolerance and the acceptance of difference prevail. The achievements of all are celebrated. Students are helped to develop skills in self-discipline, teamwork and collaboration. Whilst having fun they develop not only their physical talents but also the skills so necessary for an optimistic and resilient outlook on life.

Our Freedom Through Challenge

'An inner freedom, accepting of self, open to others and trusting of life'.

Loreto Mission Statement

We develop each student to her full potential because we tailor our teaching to the ways that girls learn best. Our belief is that girls do so in secure relational settings where they feel safe: safe to take intellectual risks and safe to explore their own physical, spiritual and emotional identities. Loreto purposefully creates such an environment: a place where girls can live, learn, love and laugh together; a place free from the not unwelcome but sometimes too close scrutiny of boys; a place for women. In such a setting, co-operative discovery and collaborative learning take place naturally. Here girls reach their full potential, whether that be on computers, sporting fields or the stage, because they are in an 'all-girls' environment, where girls set the agenda and their voices are heard.

At Loreto, we equip our students with skills to make them confident lifelong learners, discerning decision-makers and perceptive problem solvers. With a view to their future we emphasize the importance of developing in them a reflective disposition for life. In this way we hope to encourage a consistency between words and actions, an awareness of the need for both strength and gentleness, an empathetic heart and an acceptance of their responsibilities so that they might each go forward with courage to make a difference for good in our world.

Our Mission for Women





'Do good, and do it well.' **Mary Ward**

Within Loreto College, the term Information and Communication Technology (ICT) refers to powerful tools, processes and applications. Using this in an informed way, information can be accessed, created, stored, communicated, organised, analysed and published. Learning Technology (LT) is the name we give to the learning that takes place using technology, enabling access to new resources across all areas of the curriculum.

Our Loreto girls, embarking on their educational journey, are able to enhance their learning by fully exploiting the potential offered by technology resources. Students in our Early Years become adept at accessing network drives, creating simple publications, and designing slide shows and photo stories based on a theme. Our Primary Years students further develop their presentation skills, explore storyboarding ideas through clay animation and short movie making, and refine critical literacy skills when safely searching the Internet. Skills of effective digital communication, ethical use of technology, interactive presentations, and website design and cyber safety are features of Learning Technology in the Middle Years. The young women of our Senior Years have become proficient in applying learning technologies within many of the subjects they choose to explore, building a sound foundation for working in a world in which ICT is increasingly pervasive.

Our Learning Technologies

Unpacking a schoolbag today would reveal few surprises and take little time; unpacking a 'virtual schoolbag' in the near future could be limitless in both capacity and timeframes.

Our students will have access to information wherever they are; e-learning will merge into m-learning (learning using mobile devices). They will carry tools that will enable them to collaborate, communicate and challenge, worldwide, in real time. Wireless handhelds that allow students to SMS, listen to podcasts via RSS feeds, download MP3s, read e-books, add to blogs and wikis, participate in video conferences and webinars, update e-portfolios, and discuss assignment concerns using VoIP are in various stages of development now.

The 'lifeworlds' of our students already incorporate some of this technology. The 'schoolworld' needs to keep pace with technological developments that enhance student learning whilst keeping them safe as they explore new worlds in cyberspace. Professional development of staff in their use of learning technologies and constant review of best practice are central to the delivery of relevant curriculum. Our educational responsibility is to ensure that we develop multiliteracies that empower our students to be ethical and responsible users of technology, so that when they leave Loreto, they are well equipped to take their place with integrity, as confident managers of information and lifelong learners in society.

Developing skills to enable others





Enrichment Education At Loreto we understand that students are individuals and that each learns in her own way. We recognise that some students can require special individualised programmes and/or support to maximize their learning. Our enrichment programmes provide support or extension for individuals or small groups of students, that are designed to focus on and build their specific skills and so ensure success. All programmes (including LAP – Learning Assistance Programme) support students in a wide range of areas, both academic and nonacademic. Specialist staff, parent, student and community volunteers provide invaluable aid in this area.



Outside School Hours Care The time children spend in Outside School Hours Care needs to be meaningful – an important and secure bridge. Our fundamental aim for Outside School Hours Care at Loreto College is to provide an involving, nurturing and safe environment in which children are able to experience characteristics of both school and home. Outside School Hours Care offers a range of activities...the chance to relax, let off steam, play, review and prepare. Moreover, there is a need to balance a strong sense of the child's 'own time' and individuality, opportunities for new focus, and the comfort of routine and group identity.

Children are closely supervised at all times by a team of dedicated and responsive care providers. Staff/child ratios are in direct accordance with Loreto's commitment to the provision of individual attention and the Children's Services Office guidelines. In a demanding and contemporary world, families are increasingly looking to such services to provide quality care. This care plays an integral part in enhancing positive self-concept and growth of the whole child.

Our Support Programmes

Developing confidence, courage and creativity



'Boarding at Loreto has given our daughters benefits of an excellent education, a broad range of extra-curricular activities and wonderful friendships in a caring and supportive environment.'

Libby and John Heyward (Penola, SA)

'I have never regretted my decision to board at Loreto. Loreto College provided me with the comfort, independence, flexibility, support and encouragement I needed to pursue my diverse curriculum and study schedule. My years at Loreto Boarding School have been an experience I will never forget.' **Danika Heath (Kyancutta, SA) Head Boarder 2005.**

**SACE Merit Awards in Biology, Geography Studies and Physical Education.
Recipient of The Bert Apps Physical Education Award.**

The boarding houses provide a home for Years 7 to 12 students from country South Australia, interstate and overseas. The students are cared for and supported by trained staff who have empathy with and understanding of the special needs of young people. High priority is given to maintaining the delicate balance between respect for individual privacy and the benefits gained from the experience of communal living.

Integral to the life of the boarding house is a commitment to provide a spiritual environment encouraging personal faith development. Students are encouraged to develop initiative and self-reliance and to act both independently and responsibly. Boarding life provides the opportunity to establish life-long friendships and enables each student to develop qualities of resourcefulness, leadership and maturity.

Parents have the opportunity for regular communication with both the boarding and academic staff. Their involvement through the Boarder Parent Support Group is also invaluable. Additionally, they enjoy opportunities to get to know many other parents in the wider Loreto community.

Our Boarding

'Diversity is celebrated.' 'Sincere, honest and respectable dialogue among these different cultures and faiths leads to greater understanding and acceptance, which in turn help promote world peace.'

Loreto Education Guidelines

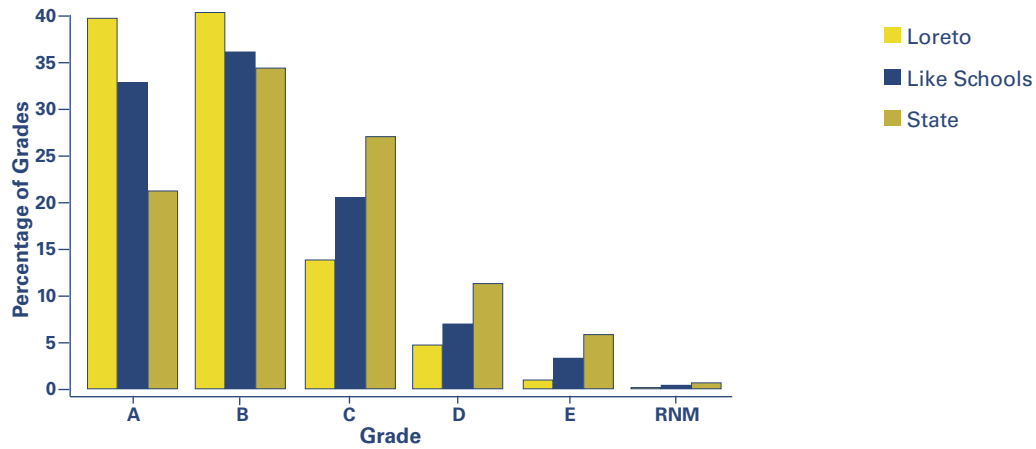
Students at Loreto are offered many opportunities to engage with the world. Our students are encouraged to take part in foreign language learning, overseas trips, community development projects and many other enriching experiences. Education at Loreto develops students' intercultural awareness, leading them towards a deeper understanding of the world and of themselves.

The International Students' Programme at Loreto is an important feature of our International Education programme. This programme caters for students from various places around the world, including Hong Kong and France. Our international students include both long-term overseas students and students on short-term exchanges. These students adjust well to life at the college, they enjoy their time here and take valuable knowledge and experiences back home to their friends and families. Our international students are actively involved in all aspects of college life and willingly share their cultures and experiences to benefit the learning of all students at Loreto.

Our International Students



School Average Grade Distributions (2005)



Whilst we could readily point to the significant number of our graduating students each year who receive state academic merits and prizes in a wide range of subjects, the greater measure of our success can be seen in the depth of our academic results. For example, since the introduction of the Tertiary Entrance Ranking in 1997, close to 40 per cent of our students each year have been ranked amongst the top 10 per cent of the state and close to 85 percent of them receive grades in the A and B range each year. As a non-academically selective school, the recent comparison with 'like schools', compiled by the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia, shown above, further confirms our outstanding achievement.

Our Long Tradition of Academic Success



Our academic success though is not limited to Year 12 achievements alone. For example, over 3 consecutive years, three different Loreto Tournament of the Minds teams (years 8-10) each won the state competition and we twice won the national competition: once with a Language Literature team and once with a Maths Engineering team. Individual students, too, are frequent winners in other prominent state and national academic competitions in which our students regularly participate.

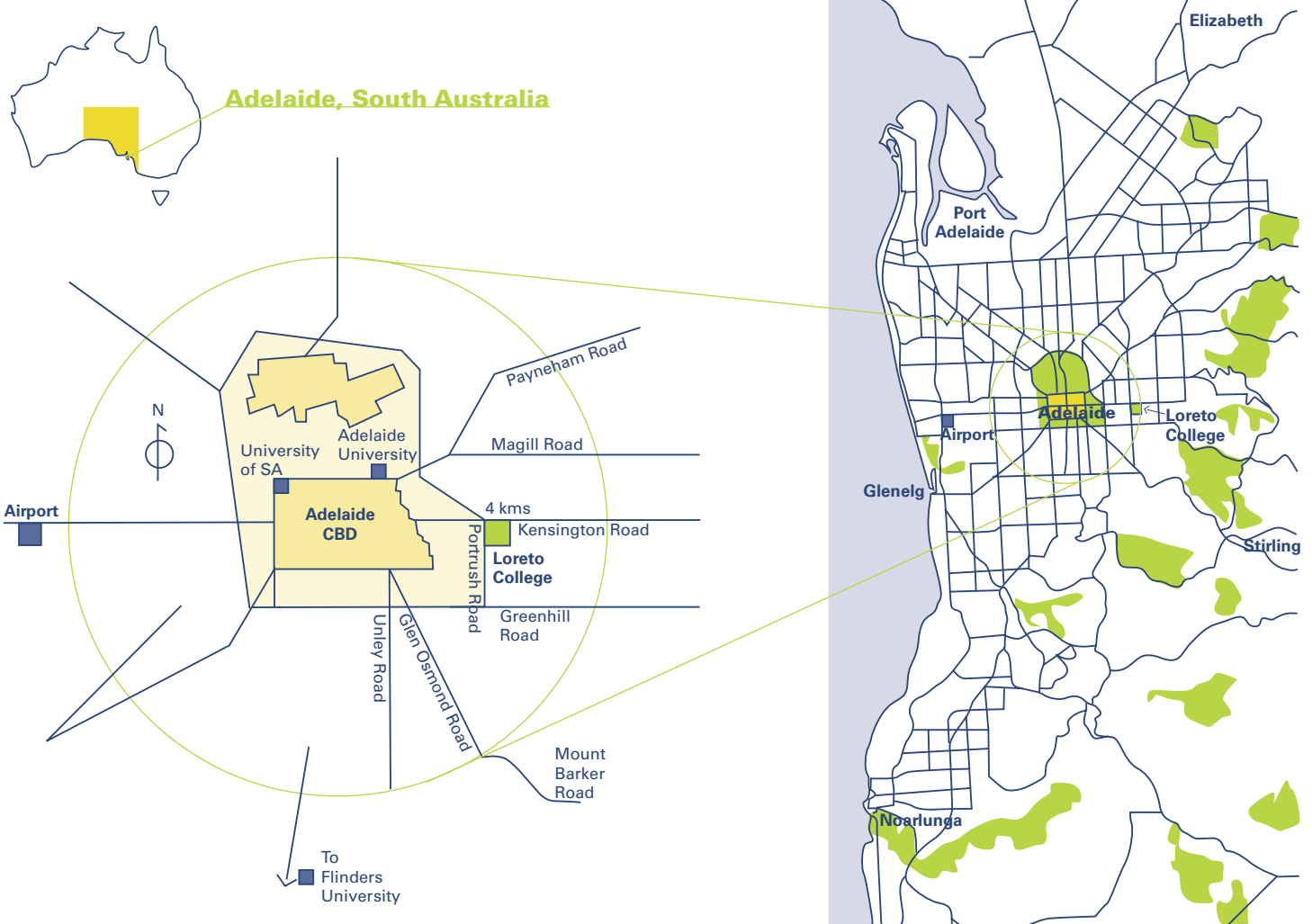
Our consistently impressive academic achievements though, do not flow from any blind competitive ambition to succeed, but rather from an honest commitment to the educational philosophy of Mary Ward. Each and every student is encouraged to develop her God given talents to the full and to use them in the generous and loving service of others. Our success, then, is a blessing that comes from the richly distinctive inheritance of our long tradition.



If we work together successfully, your daughter will become a woman of integrity and purpose. She will be cheerful, honest and fair in her dealings with people, showing empathy and respect for others always. Her confidence, care and compassion will enable her to be an active and generous contributor in her community, wherever that might be. Additionally, she will have a well developed sense of the need to be reflective in daily life. She will seek to find God in the ordinary and the extraordinary and her sense of hope will allow her to sustain a lively awareness of local and global issues. Her courage will move her to be strong and articulate on behalf of those who have no power or voice, and her sense of justice will help her to remain passionately committed to the sacredness of creation and to peace and reconciliation in our world. For those 'to whom much is given, much is expected'.

(St Ignatius Loyola)

Our Success is in the person she will become.



Loreto College is situated on the corner of Portrush and Kensington Roads, in Marryatville, Adelaide, South Australia.

The college is conveniently located, being 5 minutes from the heart of the city, in the leafy, green eastern suburbs of Adelaide. The college is well served by private and government transport operators.

Our Location



Loreto College

316 Portrush Road

Marryatville

South Australia 5068

T +61 8 8334 4200

F +61 8 8364 3153

E registrar@loreto.sa.edu.au

W www.loreto.sa.edu.au

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