

# ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE



## VERITAS

“You will learn the truth and the truth will make you free.”  
(John 8.32)

Nau mai, haere mai. Welcome to St Dominic's Catholic College.

St Dominic's Catholic College is a Year 7-13 Catholic College for young women, formed within the Dominican tradition. We support our students to aim for personal excellence in all things, to develop a broad range of interests and talents, to develop strong leadership skills, to challenge themselves and their thinking, and to engage in critical reflection of the world. Students are supported to grow as confident, resilient, connected young women who will make a difference to their world, and that of the community in which they live.

As a College we are committed to ensuring all students experience a sense of belonging in an environment founded on manaakitanga, where each student feels special, cared for, heard and respected. We encourage our students to live justly, with compassion and respect for others.

St Dominic's is a learning community based on whānau and Christian values. Our St Dominic's culture is built upon values and expectations relating to academic excellence, personal well-being, uniform, behaviour and participation in sport, cultural and spiritual activities. Many opportunities are given for student leadership and we foster the spirit of service to each other and the wider community.

We are confident that each young person will leave our College as an individual of integrity, equipped with the skills and values to enable them to contribute positively to society and find success in all that they do.

Mrs Anna Swann M,Ed., B.Ed., Dip. Tchg  
TUMUAKI/PRINCIPAL



### HERITAGE

St Dominic's Catholic College was founded by the Dominican Sisters at Northcote in 1952 and later transferred to our present Henderson site in 1967. It continues the Dominicans' proud 800+ year old tradition of service to education. Our Catholic Christian outlook on life and belief in the Gospel values underpin the spirit of our school, reflected in the caring attitudes of members of our community as they live their faith and in the religious and educational experiences offered.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Our Religious Education classes emphasise the ethos of the Dominican Order and while being fun and informative, also ensure that our girls will make informed decisions in their future lives and become mature, thoughtful Catholic women whose lives reflect their faith. Weekly Eucharistic

celebrations and regular Retreats for all levels involve everyone in the school, and students are welcome to use the Chapel before and after school.



### PASTORAL CARE AND GUIDANCE

Our College guidance network provides the best possible support for our students and their families, with help for personal matters, educational issues, and career planning. Each student has a Form Teacher and Dean, who will guide her from Year 7 through to Year 13 and who will be primarily responsible for her development and well-being. Students also have access to a School Nurse, Careers Advisor, an Academic Coach and School Counsellors who can provide vocational, emotional, and academic advice. In addition, we have mentors and student support groups who will be able to help her with any personal concerns.

### LEADERSHIP

St Dominic's aims to provide a solid foundation of leadership training, including understanding the attributes of a good leader, and teaching a range of skills to prepare students for leadership roles in the future. Leadership opportunities exist in a wide variety of areas. Our Year 13 Student Executive is led by our Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, with executive leaders of Special Character, Academic, Environment, Sports, College Houses, the Arts, Waiora (student wellbeing) Maori, Pasifika, and International Leaders. Each form class in Year 7-13 has a representative for Sports, Arts, Environment, and the School Council. Peer Mentoring and Tutoring programmes are also offered through the College. Many past students have gone on to become leaders in their respective fields in New Zealand and around the world.



## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

St Dominic's Catholic College offers a holistic curriculum which ensures that there is opportunity for students to develop their academic, spiritual, cultural, and physical potential based on Te Whare Tapa Whā. All students are supported to strive for personal excellence in all dimensions. Our students consistently achieve a high level of success in National Certificate of Education Achievement (NCEA) assessments. Students leave the College and go on to continued learning at tertiary level, apprenticeships, or gainful employment.

Our commitment to achievement is demonstrated through a broad curriculum at all levels including, learning support, English Language and learning enrichment opportunities and a wide range of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities that support learning and holistic development. An education at St Dominic's encourages growth of personal responsibility and an appreciation of culture, the arts, and the place of science and technology in our world.

## JUNIOR COLLEGE CURRICULUM

The Junior College curriculum, for Years 7 to 10 (ages 11 to 14), is broad, giving the opportunity to study a wide range of subjects. The core subjects of the curriculum are Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Physical Education and Health, Coding, Science, Social Studies, Technology, Art, Dance, Drama and Music with additional preliminary study in languages other than English, such as Te Reo Māori, French, and Japanese. In addition, students have the option of taking part in a specialist Music programme from Years 7 to 10.

Staff are skilled in providing differentiated learning for all their students. The College also offers learning support for students who require extra help, particularly in literacy and numeracy. High achieving students are extended, and many begin the external NCEA Level 1 qualifications in Year 10 in selected subjects.

## SENIOR COLLEGE CURRICULUM

The Senior College curriculum option choices for Year 11 to 13 are broad. Students are encouraged to take a balanced course at Year 11 and then to further refine their interests and strengths as they move through the College. The curriculum adheres to nationally prescribed course statements leading to New Zealand National Qualifications at each level. The qualifications include NCEA Level 1, 2, 3, and Scholarship Level 4.

## CULTURE AND THE ARTS

In a world that recognises creative thinking as a valuable part of learning, St Dominic's provides excellent opportunities in many creative arts. Celebration of the arts is an integral part of our school curriculum. Skilled teachers support students at all levels to develop their artistic potential in a variety of areas, such as Painting, Art Design, Photography, Design and Visual Communications (DVC) Graphics, Dance, Drama and Music.

Musicians can enhance and refine their skills through individual tuition – from highly qualified tutors in violin, flute, clarinet, trumpet, cello, drums, guitar, keyboard as well as singing. Student talent in music, dance and drama is showcased at our cultural events, productions, celebrations, and competitions, as well as being incorporated in our Special Character through liturgical celebrations.



We have an active Kapa Haka group which leads us in Powhiri, Whakatau and school wide occasions. Many other cultural groups perform as ambassadors for the school and in the wider community. Cultural groups have an opportunity to perform at Auckland's Polyfest every two years.

All students are encouraged to build on their oral communication skills through drama, and public speaking. Debating and spoken word poetry is a great strength of the College where students have

represented and achieved in competition across the Auckland area. Opportunities to represent the College in several performances and inter-school competitions gives students confidence in the public performance arena and have led to great success for many teams and individuals.

The College provides a range of opportunities including: Choir, Cultural performance, Dance, Debating, Drama, Multicultural performances, Music, Orchestra, Public speaking, Design, and visual communications (Graphics), and Visual art.



## SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

The College provides an excellent sports programme with high levels of participation in numerous sporting codes. Physical Education is available in the curriculum at all levels to encourage the development of each student's physical well-being, team skills, competitiveness, self-discipline, commitment to training and fair play.



The College has a 25metre swimming pool, tennis and netball courts, a gymnasium, sports field, and fitness circuit for training and for Physical Education classes.

St Dominic's Catholic College encourages students to participate in extracurricular sporting activities both at competitive and recreation levels. Teams play in regular and annual inter-school competitions and successful teams and individuals have gone on to represent St Dominic's Catholic College at zone, national and international competitions.



Parents and caregivers are influential in managing and coaching sports teams and their involvement is warmly welcomed. Co-operation and social interaction amongst our students are also fostered through the outdoor education curriculum which includes school camps and excursions at various levels. The College provides participation opportunities in numerous sporting codes. Students are encouraged to speak with our Sports department regarding any sport they would like to see grown in the College.



## EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM (EOTC)

Many curriculum areas offer experiences outside the classroom to enhance student learning. This includes a variety of trips and activities that are planned throughout the year. In addition to curriculum based experiences, there are also many opportunities offered for students wishing to participate in other outdoor activities, including Camps, Beach Education, Field Trips, The Spirit of New Zealand, and The Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

Enrolments are currently being taken for 2022. Close off is Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2021. Any enrolment queries please contact Principal's PA Tina Allingham [principalspa@stdoms.ac.nz](mailto:principalspa@stdoms.ac.nz).

*Be firm in your faith. Be courageous. Be brave.  
Kia tū pono i roto i tōu whakapono, kia tū kaha, kia māia!*

*1 Corinthians 16:13*