



ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
GATESHEAD

Parents/Carers of Year 6 Students

February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

As parents of a Year 6 child, you are approaching an important milestone: choosing a secondary school for your child's education. This decision is one of the most significant you will make, and it deserves careful consideration based on reliable and thorough information.

It is my pleasure to invite you to our **Information Evening for prospective parents on Tuesday, 10 March 2026, at 6:00pm** in the **Josephite Centre (College Hall)**. Members of the College Leadership Team will provide key information to support your decision-making process. To confirm your attendance, please contact our Reception on **4944 4800** or email **admin@gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au** at your earliest convenience.

Families in the Eastlakes Macquarie region have a variety of secondary schools to consider, each with its own unique history, traditions, culture, and values. As responsible parents, your challenge is to select a school that aligns with your values, beliefs, and aspirations for your child's future—both academically and personally. At St Mary's Catholic College, we believe the educational environment you choose for your child truly matters.

Our Information Evening aims to introduce you to our College, an exceptional learning community with a rich tradition of nurturing and empowering students' to reach their full potential. Rooted in the finest traditions of the Sisters of St Joseph, we are committed to honouring their charism while drawing inspiration from our Catholic heritage.

For generations, St Mary's has been the school of choice for Catholic families in the Eastlakes Macquarie region. We are renowned as a safe, disciplined, and welcoming community that prioritises quality relationships, a strong sense of belonging, and mutual trust between students and staff. We maintain high standards and expectations across all aspects of College life, providing a solid spiritual framework for our students' personal and academic growth as lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

Our teachers are dedicated to excellence in teaching and learning, as evidenced by the outstanding achievements of our first six HSC cohorts (2019–2024). Notably, in 2021, our HSC results were described by the Diocesan Director of Catholic Education as “lighthouse results for our Diocese.” In 2022 and 2025, our Dux earned the highest ATAR in the Diocese (99.65 and 98.1 respectively), with 16 students for both these years named on the HSC Distinguished Achievers List.

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St Mary's students have a proud tradition of excellence across many fields, and our graduates continue to excel in various endeavours. As a community, we respect individuality and encourage every student to grow, both as compassionate individuals living a Christian life and as engaged learners striving for personal excellence.

If you are a current Year 6 parent/carer in one of our Diocesan schools, please use your Compass account to create an application for your child to move to year 7. Please ensure you have an electronic copy or photo of your child's birth certificate to upload to their profile.

If your child does not currently attend a Catholic Diocesan school, enrolment applications can now be submitted electronically via our College website: <https://www.gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/enrol-online-now/>

Completed applications, along with supporting documentation, must be submitted by **Friday, 22 May 2026** for full consideration. Our College Prospectus will be available at the Information Evening, and further details can be obtained by contacting the College directly.

I look forward to meeting you and sharing more about the wonderful opportunities awaiting your child at St Mary's Catholic College.

With warm regards,



Brett Donohoe
Principal

Enc. Enrolment and Orientation Timeline