



EDUCATING MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS SINCE 1842

AMDG

MOUNT SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE STATEMENT OF BOARDING PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

Boarding at Mount Saint Mary's College is characterised by the Jesuit principles of companionship and reflection and at the heart of the community lie the values and ideals illustrated in the Jesuit Pupil Profile. Boarders (and day students alike) are encouraged to develop the qualities necessary for them to become mature, caring and responsible adults. Through life in our boarding community, our aim is that pupils develop the ability to see God in all things, the desire to care for those less fortunate and the understanding that all people should be treated equally.

Boarding at Mount Saint Mary's provides an outstanding quality of pastoral care, where the pupils undertake formal classroom-based learning within horizontal Lines but live in a family environment which is structured in vertical houses. This allows for pupils to share pastoral and academic challenges with pupils of the same age but also allows them to appreciate the experience and care of our older pupils, as well as encouraging them to aspire to leadership within the boarding community as House Seniors. As a group, pupils learn to respect one another's differences, face challenges together and delight in one another's success. As individuals they give their very best in all that they do, *to the greater glory of God* (AMDG). They receive the support to grow in personal and academic confidence, to step beyond their comfort zone without fear and to contribute to the community, both within and beyond Mount Saint Mary's College itself with openness, generosity of spirit and enthusiasm.

Boarding at Mount Saint Mary's develops a firm sense of community amongst all pupils and helps to develop friendships that will be sustained and sustaining in life beyond the College. Pupils learn to treat each other and all members of the community with kindness, sensitivity and respect and appreciate that the opportunity to live and work alongside people from varied backgrounds and countries is a genuine privilege. Pupils work with teachers, other members of the adult community and each other in a way that is caring, supportive and prayerful, with the Ignatian ideal of *Men and Women for Others* at its heart.

Life in the Boarding Houses is led by the Head of Boarding and Houseparents'. They work closely with a dedicated team of resident Deputy Houseparents' whose responsibility it is to make sure that pupils settle into our community, make friends, find happiness and personal and academic fulfilment at Mount Saint Mary's; as Boarding staff our aim is to create and maintain a relaxed, warm, homely and positive atmosphere. Non-resident teaching staff also play a part in the Boarding community, participating in the hugely varied Activities Programme which is offered after school each day and on Saturday mornings, as well as Boarders' Outings most weekends; which provide opportunities for recreation, broadening of cultural horizons and personal growth; although life is busy as a Boarder at Mount Saint Mary's there are always opportunities for quiet reflection, either in one of our Chapels, guided by a member of staff, or more independently in our beautiful grounds. We foster partnership with parents, based upon our ethos, which enhances the well-being and prospects of our pupils, encouraging parents to attend at key whole school events as well as Boarding family mass.