Our Boarding Life
All I can be
www.johnpaulcollege.com.au
Welcome to John Paul College

The John Paul College Boarding Village offers a rich and rewarding educational experience which embraces diversity, practises values and invites challenge. Our students develop maturity, independence, self-confidence and resilience within a safe, caring and nurturing family environment.

We are one of the first schools to offer a unique boarding experience – housing all of our boarders in a village style environment. This is far removed from the traditional models of dormitories, boarding halls and houses, placing our Boarding Village as a ground-breaking boarding experience for the 21st century student.

Some young people may experience difficulty adapting to the communal living situation, especially relating to the number of other people continually surrounding them. Whilst we uphold the dignity and importance of a right to personal space and privacy, our boarders also learn to value acceptance and mutual respect, as they learn to share their living space with others.

Our boarders come from international, regional, remote and indigenous communities, creating a global village in the heart of John Paul College. Their diverse backgrounds and nationalities means that they enjoy and share their cultures and heritage through conversation, food, music and sport. During this time, they learn to overcome the barriers posed by language and instead, see many opportunities to understand the 21st century landscape - a world that is very different to generations past.

Their individual needs are addressed and learning opportunities maximised to enable them to take advantage of an educational environment which offers flexible curriculum pathways supported by the finest technological opportunities.

Students are also involved in a multitude of co-curricular activities including excellent sporting and performing arts programmes and our own hobby farm. Our recreation and dining halls are also part of the residential environment that embraces the very essence of boarding – spending time with family.

It is truly amazing to see our young people come together as a community of learners with one goal and purpose – to become global citizens who are proud to be part of the world they live in.

Jaye Beutel
Director of Boarding
John Paul College
John Paul College

John Paul College is set on 35 hectares of natural Australian bushland at Daisy Hill, south of Brisbane. With landscaped gardens and wireless networked, purpose-built contemporary buildings, every student feels very comfortable within our inclusive learning community.

Operating within a Christian ecumenical environment, our College welcomes students from over 50 nationalities and many religions, creating a learning environment which cuts across countries, cultures and language. Based on traditional values and mutual respect, our students are prepared for life in a world where acceptance is an essential value for living in a multi-cultural, multi-faith, international environment.

Students from Years 7 to 12 are housed in villas which accommodate eight students in twin share rooms with ensuites.

The village is managed by our Director of Boarding who lives onsite, along with four tutors. Our staff, who have boarding expertise at senior levels, ensures the highest level of residential care in a safe and nurturing learning environment.
Boarding Life – Our Programmes

At John Paul College, our residential life is underpinned by three essential programmes. These are:

- **Academic Enrichment Programme**
- **Pastoral and Leadership Development Programme**
- **Lifestyle Programme**

Each of these programmes provides a holistic approach to the development of each individual boarder and takes into account their pursuit of goals, aspirations and life-long learning.

These programmes are simplistic in design and aim to maximise enthusiasm, participation and positive outcomes for every boarder.
Academic Enrichment Programme

The pursuit of academic excellence is the essential reason for attending John Paul College and this is reflected through the Academic Enrichment Programme (AEP). This programme covers three key aspects of the academic welfare of boarders.

These include Academic Tracking, Academic Assistance in Boarding: Prep Time and Boarder Academic Enrichment.

1. **Academic Tracking**

The Director of Boarding takes responsibility for boarder academic progress and any associated support measures required. This occurs on a day-to-day basis, using informal and formal processes. It involves the investigation and tracking of classroom behaviour and participation, academic effort and level of achievement.

Boarders who are not passing in these areas will be provided with support during Prep Time and will receive further advice/consultation with their subject/s teacher. Parents will be informed of any measures taken by boarding to assist their child.

2. **Academic Assistance in Boarding: Prep Time**

It is important to consolidate the learning undertaken during the day through Prep Time. Boarders in Years 7 to 9 study in a classroom environment, while Years 10 to 12 use their own room or common areas to study. Boarders may also choose to visit the main campus and utilise other College facilities.

All doors of senior rooms are left ajar and any boarders wishing to engage in collaborative work may do so by negotiating with staff and moving into the common areas. Four staff members are available for academic support during Prep Time.

3. **Boarder Academic Enrichment**

Boarder Academic Enrichment is implemented to provide additional support to boarders in core learning areas including mathematics, science, English, humanities, PE and technology and design.

A boarding academic tutor from the specific learning area provides a classroom tutorial environment at our Learning Centre during week night Prep Time.
Pastoral and Leadership Development Programme

The Boarding Village is a large family unit and we want our boarders to enjoy a sense of belonging and know that they are part of the John Paul College Family.

The ‘belonging’ approach is directly supported by leadership and service from within the community and the boarding leadership framework aims to foster the values that underpin that focus.

The boarding leadership framework relies on the ‘Three Key Boarding Principles’ to achieve its aim—kindness, service and forgiveness.

**Kindness** – The quality of being friendly, generous and considerate

**Service** – The action of helping or doing work for someone or a community

**Forgiveness** – The action or process of forgiving or being forgiven

We hold great value in the ongoing pastoral development of each boarder. We appreciate that each student begins their journey as a John Paul College boarder with varying levels of self-leadership, and then learns to lead others.

Our Pastoral and Leadership Development Programme has three active components to ensure each and every boarder realises their individual potential to not only lead themselves, but to lead others.

These components are the Pastoral and Leadership Development Matrix, the Keep in Touch (KIT) Mentoring Programme and the Boarder Leadership and Committee Structure.

1. **Pastoral and Leadership Development Matrix**

The matrix is a guide to how boarders grow and develop, leading themselves into a new academic and home life here at John Paul College. It outlines an incremental process of how boarders acquire the skills and ability to lead by example and achieve success in their individual pursuits.
2. Keep in Touch (KIT) Mentoring Programme

The Keep in Touch (KIT) Mentoring Programme aims to provide a wholesome and inclusive approach to boarding life which involves boarders caring for boarders, new and continuing.

The focus of KIT is to welcome new boarders in a similar way to a buddy programme. This programme allocates a student from Years 10, 11 or 12 to a group of younger boarders. KIT allows boarders to connect with their boarding family siblings through small activities that are negotiated through each member’s interests and likes. They are guided by a staff mentor, who is allocated to each KIT Group. Their role is to guide their KIT Group through the year by being an active pastoral care agent.

3. Boarder Leadership and Committee Structure

The aims of this committee are to:

- Embed the three key focuses of boarding – service, kindness and forgiveness
- Create and foster a sense of belonging and ownership through service and leadership within the boarding community
- Structure responsibilities for all boarders
- Involve younger boarders on the journey of acquiring the skills of servant leadership
Lifestyle Programme

Our Boarding Lifestyle Programme incorporates the many facets of day-to-day boarding life to ensure our Village is a happy, healthy and vibrant residential setting for all boarders. This aspect of Boarding Life is the largest programme and has many different functions.

The main focuses of the Lifestyle Programme are:
- Routines
- Term activities, events and outings (Lifestyle Calendar)
- Weekend planning
- Boarders’ meeting, chapel and church
- Term room allocation

Routines

It is important for a boarding environment to use routines to maintain a consistent level of expectations and provide boarders with a solid foundation to manage their own circumstances. This practice certainly enables for much easier management of the activities of our Village.

Our Village organises its operations around specific routines and rituals through two main routines. These are the weekday routine (Monday – Friday AM) and the weekend routine (Friday PM – Sunday).

Lifestyle Calendar

The Director and Assistant Director of Boarding ensure that there is a calendar of events, activities and outings published for boarders, boarder parents/families and boarding staff to use as a guide of what is happening in our Village.

These events are organised and planned to encourage boarders to embrace diversity and new experiences, all while identifying with key elements of the John Paul College Positive Education model – the SOARING Tree.

Term Lifestyle Calendars are published on the College website, student and parent portals, along with hard copies placed in prominent locations throughout the Village.

Weekend Planner

Our weekend routine is much more relaxed than that of the weekly routines. We determine weekends as the period of time between Friday 3.20pm and Sunday 5.30pm. The weekend routines are guided by a number of influences including:
- Major College events
- TAS and other sporting commitments
- Academic timing (exams and assessment time)
- Boarding calendars (published every term on the College’s website)
- Planned Village events and outings: formal dinners and end of term outings
- Weather
- Boarder negotiation
- Risk management
These are outlined in the term Lifestyle Calendar. However each week, boarding staff prepare a definitive plan of activities and outings that are coordinated for that coming weekend.

Weekend Planners are published on the student and parent portals, along with hard copies posted in prominent places throughout the Village.

**Boarders’ Meeting, Chapel and Church**

At 7.45 pm each Sunday all boarders are expected to attend our weekly boarders’ meeting and chapel service. These are held in the boarders’ recreation room.

The boarders’ meeting is an extremely important part of the boarding routine. It provides an opportunity to discuss relevant matters of operation, to recognise excellence within the boarding and College community and, most importantly, to set the tone for the week ahead.

Boarders attend St Mark’s Anglican Church at Daisy Hill, three times a term. During these services, boarders are asked to engage with the Christian Ecumenical values of the College and reflect upon the significance that Christ has in our lives, the College and the community. These services are scheduled on the Boarding Lifestyle Calendar.

**Room Allocation**

Our Village is a collection of fifteen buildings, six of which are four bedroom villas that house our 48 boarders. Typically, there are three villas designated for girls’ boarding and three for boys’ boarding.

The population of each villa is allocated using a vertical boarding model, meaning that it houses boarders from year levels 7 to 12.

Boarders share a room with someone of a similar age. At the end of each term, all boarders move rooms and enjoy the next term with a new roommate. In our experience, this enables boarders to build strong relationships with other boarders who share different backgrounds and interests.

These moves are negotiated through a preference system overseen by the Director of Boarding and other key boarding staff.
Leave Process

Boarders lead active lives and frequently attend social, cultural and co-curricular activities. It is important that these details are recorded on our leave system and are up to date so that we can assist in providing these leave opportunities.

At John Paul College we use a Boarding Management System called REACH, which enables boarders, parents and residential staff to manage leave arrangements and permissions at any given time. REACH is available through the student portal, but is also available as an Android or Apple app. Boarders and their families receive a password and username to access their leave request account on arrival at John Paul College.

Boarders may only leave the boarding community with the approval of the Director of Boarding. Permission is granted through the leave process.

Join the John Paul College Family

We want the very best for each of our boarders and our priority is to provide them with a happy, safe and supportive home environment. If you are seeking a small, welcoming and family-focused home for your child’s education, where they’ll make friends for life, we invite you to visit us to experience our family.

We celebrate our differences and our students develop independence, confidence and close-knit friendships that will be with them for life.

As a school and a boarding village, we play our part in connecting and accepting the rich diversity of the tapestry of cultures within the John Paul College community.

For further information, phone (07) 3826 3333 or email boarding@jpc.qld.edu.au