Families are welcome to visit Simonds and see our boys working during a normal school day.

A guided tour is available on request.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Simonds Catholic College is a unique two-campus Catholic Secondary School for boys. Our small size (500 boys in Years 7-12) means that each boy can be individually known, valued and have a sense of belonging. The excellent facilities mean that we are able to offer a broad and exciting curriculum within the setting of a small school. Our close proximity to the beautiful St Mary’s Church at West Melbourne, and St Brigid’s Church in Fitzroy North, means that boys are provided with frequent opportunities to reflect, pray and celebrate the Sacraments in an inspiring and historical religious setting.

VCE (Year 11 & 12) classes were introduced in 2010. A separate VCE campus has been established on the site of St Brigid’s Primary School, Fitzroy North, which closed at the end of 2009. This site is located at the corner of Nicholson Street and Alexandra Parade, and is well served by public transport. The VCE Campus site has been completely renovated and re-furbished to provide excellent learning facilities for senior students.

The students at Simonds come from a wide variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds. One of the great things about the school is the way the boys accept each others’ differences and relate to each other in a friendly and supportive manner. They are an excellent example of all that is good in our multi-cultural Australian society.

To increase the learning opportunities of our students we deliberately limit the number of students in each class. In 2013 we have a maximum class size of 22 students in Year 7. The average VCE class size is 14 students. The maximum VCE class size is 20 students. These small numbers facilitate the development of a culture of learning. Years 7, 8 & 9 students are issued with an iPad so as to provide students with opportunities to access the curriculum through 21st century technologies. The school’s excellent classroom facilities have been enhanced with the redevelopment of the Library, which is now a spacious and colourful learning area with numerous books and eighteen computers, the Science Laboratories and the Technology and Arts areas. The VCE campus was completely redeveloped during 2010 to provide modern learning facilities within a beautiful, traditional building.

Over several years we have been developing a staff that has excellent professional qualifications and is committed to providing a high standard of education in an environment of mutual support. They are most generous in their commitment of time and share a concern for the pastoral needs of the students entrusted to their care. Parents should be well pleased with the excellent role models that staff present to their sons.

Simonds Catholic College is an excellent school that provides high quality programs to students with a spiritual, academic, social, sporting and cultural dimension. I commend it to you for your consideration as a school that will provide a quality education within a caring environment. If you would like further information about the school and its suitability for your son, or if you would like to have a tour of our school’s facilities, please contact the College on 9321 9200.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr P Riordan
Principal
**Our Vision & Values**

**Educating for Fullness of Life**

I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.

*John 10:10*

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**Learning**

Teaching and Learning proceed from the belief that education is a shared responsibility involving the whole school community. The curriculum, which has both a present and a future focus, attends to all dimensions of our humanity: spiritual, social, emotional, aesthetic, intellectual, physical and moral. We therefore provide a broad education that invites, challenges and enables students to discover their particular talents and encourages them to pursue excellence.

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**Family**

Education is a shared responsibility between the family and the school. This partnership is enhanced through mutual support and open communication.

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**Growth in Faith**

Christian values underpin our teaching and school structures. Our faith inspires our prayer life, is expressed in the daily interactions of people within our school community and is taught in our curriculum. In these ways we aim to provide the foundation for ongoing growth.

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**Community**

We strive to develop a place where people feel a responsibility for helping and looking after each other. Respect, support and appreciation of others and their achievements are encouraged. We promote restorative practices in building strong, healthy and cooperative relationships. As a community we have a social responsibility towards those in need both within and beyond our school community.

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**The Individual**

We provide a safe and supportive environment in which each boy is individually known and is challenged to be all he can be. We promote the ability to recognise and manage one’s own emotions and understand the emotions of others. The development of self esteem, self discipline and leadership skills are fostered. We encourage ethical and constructive decision making.

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**Cultural Diversity**

Our school community is enriched by and celebrates the diverse cultural identities of our students. We strive to grow in understanding and respect for others, their beliefs and traditions. We encourage each student to be proud of his family’s cultural heritage while becoming a responsible Australian and world citizen.

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**Stewardship**

We respect and embrace our environment and heritage. We acknowledge the gift and fragility of all creation and our responsibility to care for it for present and future generations.

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PASTORAL CARE

The small size of Simonds helps boys to be individually known and appreciated for the unique persons they are. A wide variety of structures and processes have been established to promote a sense of belonging and well being amongst the boys especially those who are new to the college.

In Years 7-10, each student is placed in a Homeroom with a Homeroom Teacher who normally takes that class for several different subjects. The Homeroom Teacher is responsible for the welfare of each student in his/her Homeroom. In Years 11-12, students are placed in Homeroom Pastoral Groups.

SRC

In each class in Years 7-10, one boy is elected to the Student Representative Council. In Years 11-12, Student Leaders are chosen from the whole student group. This group of students provides leadership for all students at Simonds.

Pastoral Classes

Boys in Years 7-10 have a Pastoral Class each week. The aims of this class are to support each boy's social and emotional learning and to promote the wellbeing of all students. VCE students participate in a fortnightly Pastoral session.

OUR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

As members of a Christian community we acknowledge the sacredness of our personal and communal lives. The expectations listed here aim to ensure that the rights of both students and members of staff are respected. They remind students of their responsibilities towards the development of a college environment in which excellence in teaching and learning are encouraged and supported.

RESPECT FOR SELF  Respecting my own person enables me to grow in dignity and to achieve all that I am capable of achieving.

RESPECT FOR OTHERS  By respecting others I enhance their self-esteem, help them to recognise their personal abilities, and support them in their learning.

RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  By respecting the environment I acknowledge the sacredness of God's creation and my responsibility for its development.

GOOD MANNERS  Good manners are small habitual ways of showing the consideration one would wish for oneself and of making social life more pleasant.
TEACHING & LEARNING

Our teaching and learning promotes and encourages excellence. The curriculum is designed to provide students with a broad range of knowledge and social, personal and thinking skills. Our aim is that our students become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens.

Years 7-10

Skills in literacy, numeracy and the use of technology are fundamental requirements of students’ lives and futures, and they are accordingly given particular emphasis in our curriculum. The St Mary’s 7-10 campus has two fully equipped computer laboratories, two smaller computer suites, a well resourced library with computer facilities, computers and digital projectors in every classroom. Several interactive whiteboards, notebook computers enhance and support studies across all learning areas.

Our Technology Centre provides excellent facilities in which students study:
- Design & Technology using wood, metal and plastic
- Systems Technology (with an adjoining computer suite)
- Food Technology

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be provided with an iPad in 2013.

VCE studies

A broad range of VCE subjects are provided at Year 11 and 12. Facilities include new science laboratories, and interactive whiteboards, digital projectors and computers in every classroom.

VCE studies offered include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Religion &amp; Society</th>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Further Mathematics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Specialist Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Business Management</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Design &amp; Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Food &amp; Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
<td>General Mathematics</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Mathematical Methods (CAS)</td>
<td>Visual Communication &amp; Design</td>
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Students may undertake a VET study offered through the Inner Melbourne VET Cluster (IMVC) as part of their VCE, including Building & Construction, Information Technology, Community Recreation, Engineering, Hospitality (Kitchen Operations) and Electrotechnology. These studies allow for the completion of the VCE and a vocational certificate course normally provided to school leavers at TAFE.

We work closely with the Academy of Mary Immaculate (Nicholson St), which educates girls in years 7-12, to broaden the learning opportunities for the VCE students at both colleges.

VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) will be offered in 2013.
### CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

**Students study the following subjects in Years 7-10**

#### YEAR 7 & 8
- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Italian or Japanese
  - Students study both languages in Semester 1 Yr 7, before choosing one
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- SPORT

**Semester length subjects**
- Visual Art
- Visual Communication (Yr 8)
- ICT (Yr 7)
- Design & Technology
- Food Technology
- Systems Technology (Yr 8)

**Literacy Support classes are provided for students in place of LOTE where required.**

#### YEAR 9
- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Italian or Japanese
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- SPORT

**Electives selected from**
- Art, Visual Art, Visual Communication, Design & Technology, Food Technology & Systems Technology

#### YEAR 10
- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics (sem 1)
  - Choice between General Maths or Maths Methods (sem 2)
- Core Science (sem 1)
  - Choice between Chemistry & Physics or Biology & Psychology (sem 2)
- Italian or Japanese or spLIT
- Humanities
- Health & Physical Education
- SPORT

**Electives selected from**

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### SCHOOL AWARDS

**Certificates of Commendation** are awarded at the end of each semester to high achieving students across all subjects. Teachers nominate the top two students in each of their classes for these awards. At the end of the year an **Excellence Award** (in the form of a medal) is given to the student who has gained the best result in a particular subject in the year level. Several academic **scholarships** are available to Year 10 students to undertake their VCE studies at Simonds.

Excellence Awards at each year level are presented for **Student Leadership**.

The **Archbishop Justin Simonds Awards** are given to a student and an adult in the school community who fulfills the following criteria:
- Lives the values of the Gospels
- Values education
- Promotes community
**ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM FEATURES**

**Literacy Enhancement Program**

In 2011 we implemented a comprehensive literacy program involving all boys in Year 7, 8 & 9 and this has been extended to include Year 10 students who opt out of LOTE. Students will be placed to work in same ability groups for 3 sessions each week. The program covers all aspects of literacy from basic skills in reading and writing to using sophisticated strategies to conceptualise information in text and critical analysis of text.

**Competitions**

Students are encouraged to take part in the Australian Mathematics Competition, Maths Challenge and Science competitions. Students are invited to participate in Maths Games Days where they compete in teams against students from other schools.

**Chess Club**

Chess at Simonds has been actively going on for many years. It can be played most lunch times and many students also meet after school to train and prepare for competitions. In 2012 Simonds came second in Division 1 of the Associated Catholic Colleges (ACC) Chess Carnival.

**Debating Team**

We are fast developing a reputation for excellence in debating. Students are taught the fundamentals of formal debating which enable them to greatly improve their public speaking, critical thinking and argumentative skills. In 2012 Simonds won Division 2 of the ACC Speaking Competition.

**Study Skills Seminars**

Seminars assist with the development of effective study habits and in the preparation for exams in Years 9 to 12.

**Maths Extension**

More able students may study VCE General Mathematics Units 1 & 2 in Yr 10. Some students study VCE Further Mathematics Units 3 & 4 while in Year 11.

**Speakers, Excursions, Incursions**

Guest speakers, including authors, and drama groups regularly visit the school and students visit many cultural centres in Melbourne.

**Personal Development**

Student wellbeing is a focus in all classes. Students in Years 7-11 participate in a Personal Development Program. Senior classes also participate in Reflection Days.

**International Study Tours**

There is an optional 12 day tour of Japan and 18 day tour to Italy each alternate year; open to Year 10 and 11 students.

**Yr 7 & 9 Camps**

The emphasis in Yr 7 is to get to know fellow students and teachers and to experience life in a bush environment. In Yr 9 the emphasis is on experiencing outdoor living and a variety of outdoor adventure.

**Year 9 City Experience**

Working out of the typical school environment, students experience learning in the city for one week. They engage with contemporary issues in Melbourne by exploring the city as a resource to investigate a 'big question'. Visits are made to many cultural institutions.

**Yr 10 Snow Trip**

Optional one day trip to the snowfields for skiing or snow play.
SPORT

‘We promote participation and enjoyment’

The sport program at Simonds aims to foster and develop a wide range of experiences for all our students. Emphasis is based on participation and enjoyment.

**Inter school Sport**

The school is a member of the ACC (Associated Catholic Colleges) sporting association. Being a member enables our students to compete in a multitude of sports ranging from athletics, swimming and cross country carnivals to football, soccer, basketball, volleyball and table tennis competitions. During terms 2 and 3 boys may compete in the Year 8 and Year 10 ACC weekly interschool sport competition.

All students are able to try out for various teams with scheduled training sessions held either before, during or after school.

**Intra school Sport**

Students participate in a fortnightly sport competition competing in several sports across year levels. The school utilises some of Melbourne’s finest sporting facilities such as:

- Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre: Basketball, Badminton, Squash, Table Tennis
- State Hockey and Netball Centre: Soccer
- Altona Leisure Sports Centre: Indoor Soccer, Indoor Tennis
- Princess Park: Soccer, Football
- Royal Park Tennis Club: 14 En tout cas Tennis Courts
- Kensington YMCA: Indoor Swimming Pool, Olympic Handball, Dodge Ball
- Moonee Valley and Collingwood Athletics Tracks

**House Competitions**

Every student is placed in one of four sporting houses when they commence at the College. Throughout the year the four houses compete in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals. These competitions enable students to develop team spirit and build camaraderie across year levels.
SCHOOL FEES

At Simonds, we aim to provide quality education and facilities at an affordable price.

Annual Fees for Years 7-10 in 2013 will be $1920. Fees pay for tuition costs, materials in practical subjects, transport to and from Sport, entrance fees to Sport venues, a camp at Years 7 and 9, Christian Living Days in Year 10, all compulsory school excursions and the cost of visiting speakers and performers. Plus to support the iPad program a computer levy of $120 will be charged to families of students in Years 7, 8 and 9. The college is looking at ways to reduce the cost of the booklist.

In summary, total fees for Year 7 are

- Annual Fee $1920
- Computer Levy $120
- $2040

Boys can receive tuition scholarships of $430/year for becoming altar servers at St Patrick’s Cathedral.

Families eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance will be charged reduced Fees as follows:

- Annual Fees reduced to $1470
- Computer Levy $120
- + Education Maintenance Allowance $300
- $1890

Annual Fees for Year 11 & 12 in 2013 are estimated to be $2760

Fee Payments are made in equal instalments in Terms 1, 2 and 3. Arrangements can be made with the Finance Manager, Mr Alan Watts, to make monthly payments or to pay fees as a lump sum.

CREDIT CARD OR EFTPOS FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school uniform supplier is Noone Imagewear
541 Keilor Rd, Niddrie
Tel: 9379 5037

Compulsory School Uniform items to be purchased from Noone Imagewear include:
Blazer, Jumper, Tie, Summer Shirt with school logo, Sport Shirt, Sport Shorts (price lists available from the school office)

Other necessary items of clothing include: white shirt, college grey trousers, (these items may be purchased from Noone Imagewear), black leather lace up shoes, dark socks. White socks and runners are to be worn for sport.

An optional school tracksuit, scarf and beanie are available for purchase through the school offices.
Simonds Catholic College is located on 2 sites.

The **West Melbourne** campus caters for **Years 7-10** and is built around St Mary's Church. The main entrance and office are located at the corner of Victoria St and Chetwynd St.

The **Fitzroy North** campus, located on the corner of Nicholson St and Alexandra Pde with the entrance in York Street, is the site for our **VCE classes**.

Both sites are well served by all forms of transport including trams, trains and buses. Our close proximity to many excellent cultural and sporting facilities supports students’ learning.
Tel: 9321 9200 (Year 7-10 Campus)
9403 6800 (VCE Campus)
www.sccmelb.catholic.edu.au