St Brendan-Shaw College is a Catholic, co-educational, secondary school welcoming students from the North West region centred on Devonport. As a school that caters for Year 7 through to Year 12 studies, we are able to provide a seamless academic transition across the full spectrum of secondary education while encouraging social and leadership development.

Together with Catholic Primary schools: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School, Sacred Heart Catholic School, St Patrick’s Catholic School and Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Primary School, we offer a K-12 Catholic education.

Our vision is to be a vibrant centre of learning, focused on the holistic development of the person, and our mission is encapsulated by the gospel message that ‘Christ has come so that we may have life and have it to the full’ (Jn 10:10).

Our core values of Caritas (Christian love), Community, Learning, Openness and Responsibility, together with our Catholic heritage, guide and direct us, and the pastoral care of our students is a high priority.

We are proud of our record of academic success, not only of those of our students who achieve excellent tertiary entrance scores, but also of those students who achieve above what one would expect, at whatever level this may be.

We have established strong industry partnerships as part of our Vocational Education and Training program and our offering of extra-curricular activities assists in achieving our vision and fulfilling our mission.

We look to work in partnership with families to achieve positive outcomes for our College community.

Mr Frank Pisano
PRINCIPAL
OUR VISION

Our vision for St Brendan-Shaw College is to be a vibrant centre of learning, as a Catholic community seeking justice, hope and truth through faith and deed.

Values Statement

Learning
Achievement
Accomplishment
Personal Best
Affirmation
Growth
Fulfilment

Caritas
Care
Value
Difference
Common Good
Justice
Equity
Compassion

Community
Church
Harmony
Identity
Choice
Inclusion
Belonging
Value
Diversity
Difference
Respect

Responsibility
Honesty
Resilience
Accountability
Caring for the Environment
Trust

Openness
Transparency
Choice
Communication
OUR BADGE AND MOTTO

The College badge combines some elements of the badges of St Brendan’s College and Shaw College. The barque of St Brendan symbolises missionary endeavour, while the 12 pointed star on the sail is taken from the Shaw badge where it represented ‘Light from Knowledge’. The red disc and book are the source of that illumination and learning and the open book is a symbol of both scripture and education.

On the book ‘Α’ and ‘Ω’ are alpha and omega - the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. They represent Christ, the Beginning and the End. The motto is: By Faith and Deed. As St James teaches us in his letter, faith without good deeds is no real faith at all. To be truly Christian our faith must be accompanied by action.

“By Faith and Deed”
OUR HISTORY

St Brendan-Shaw College is an amalgamation in 1981 of St Brendan’s College for boys (founded by the Christian Brothers in 1960) and Shaw College for girls (established in 1969 by the Sisters of St Joseph).

The College now offers full Catholic Secondary Education from Years 7 - 12. Together with the primary schools, K – 12 Catholic education is provided for all young people in the region.

From 2012 we are an associate school of Edmund Rice Education Australia and aspire to the four touchstones of its Charter: Liberating Education, Gospel Spirituality, Inclusive Community and Justice and Solidarity.
OUR COLLEGE STRUCTURE

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

All students are encouraged to be involved actively in the life of the College and aspire to be student leaders. The student leaders strive to strengthen and develop a positive, wholesome school spirit and to encourage all students to live out the ideals expressed in the College Vision Statement. Currently the structure consists of twelve Year 12 Prefects and four Year 11 Prefects.

Prefects

The prefects are expected to act as role models, display leadership qualities, organise and facilitate fundraising for charities and to organise and run assemblies, socials and school activities. They work under the supervision of the Senior School Coordinator.

Leadership Groups

Students from years 7-12 are also able to join a leadership group based around the four areas of Ministry, Community and the Arts, Environment and Sport. Students do not need to be voted into these groups and the college sees this as a way to encourage all members of our community to build their leadership capacity.

COLLEGE HOUSES

The College has four Houses:

MacKillop (Gold)

MacKillop takes its name from Blessed Mary MacKillop, co-founder of the Sisters of St Joseph.
Lyons (Red)
Lyons takes its name from Joseph Lyons, Australia’s only Tasmanian Prime Minister and his wife, Dame Enid Lyons, the first woman member of the Federal parliament.

Dillon (Green)
Dillon is named after Br Patrick Dillon, the first Principal of St Brendan’s College.

Griffin (Blue)
Griffin takes its name from Fr Griffin, Parish Priest of Devonport in 1960, the year Catholic Education began on the current James Street site.

HOMEROOMS

Each of our students is under the specific care of a homeroom teacher. There are seven homerooms in each of the four College Houses and each homeroom group consists of students from Years 7 to 12. As far as is possible, we endeavour to keep a student in the same homeroom, with the same homeroom teacher, for the duration of their time at the College.

Within this structure we believe that students can be better ministered to.

We are attempting to facilitate an atmosphere in which every student:
• is known very well by at least two adults, the homeroom teacher and the Head of House
• relates more closely with students of all age groups
• feels secure in the wider school community
• knows that they are valued for who they are, rather than for what they do
• can have minor concerns in everyday school life addressed in a realistic and constructive way.
Deputy Principals
The College has two Deputy Principals. The Deputy Principal of Pastoral Care assumes responsibility for the wellbeing of the students and works closely with the Heads of House and the College Counsellors. The Deputy Principal of Learning and Teaching assumes responsibility for the academic program that the College offers and works closely with the Heads of Faculty.

Head of Faculty
A Head of Faculty coordinates the subject areas, and works closely with the Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching).

Senior School Coordinator
A Senior Secondary Coordinator compliments the work of the Heads of House, but has the specific care of Year 10 to 12 students as a focus.

Transition Coordinator
The Transition Coordinator’s role is to enable the smooth transition of students from primary to secondary school.

Head of House
A Head of House coordinates the activities of the whole House and works closely with teachers and students within the respective Houses. They are always available to both parents and students.
LEARNING AND TEACHING

Curriculum Framework
St Brendan-Shaw College provides a safe, supportive learning and working environment centred on the dignity and integral growth of the whole person. Subjects under the eight Key Learning Areas (KLAs) will continue to be maintained, according to a curriculum that is tailored towards the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians (MCEECDYA, 2008). This declaration sets the direction for Australian schooling for the next ten years. From 2011, the Australian Curriculum is being phased in, beginning with Year 7 and Year 8 English, Mathematics, Science and History. The Tasmanian Curriculum is the framework for other subjects during the transition period.

Religious Education
Religious Education is studied at all year levels. The Religious Education program in a Catholic school does more than just provide knowledge about the Catholic Faith. It provides a forum for discussion of issues that are part of day-to-day living and in this way helps our students to be able to exercise judgement and responsibility in matters of morality, ethics and social justice. Formal religion lessons are complemented by Faith Development programmes which provide opportunities for students and staff to participate in liturgy, prayer, Reflection Days or Retreats.

Literacy and Numeracy
Literacy and numeracy are prioritised by a two-pronged approach: a greater proportion of dedicated teaching time is allocated to English and Mathematics in Years 7 and 8, while at the same time, these skills are further developed as part of the process of teaching and learning in all other subjects and year levels.
IT Support
The College has well equipped computer laboratories, and laptops in classrooms to meet the challenge of helping our students become “confident, creative and productive users of new technologies” Melbourne Declaration (2008). There are additional computers available for general student use in the College library, dedicated laptops for senior students, plus a music computer facility housing specially equipped machines complete with music keyboards. There is high speed wireless internet access throughout the College which greatly increases the ability of students and staff to access current information for use in the whole range of subjects. The college is looking to expand computer access and ownership. The College also has a well resourced library with both print and e-resources and qualified staff to support the learning and teaching program.

Pathways
A Pathways program runs from Years 8 to 12. In Year 8, Year 9, and Year 10, Pathways is a core subject and explores students’ opportunities and focuses on their well-being. Two one week blocks are used in year 9. Pathways is available for senior students on their study line.
Courses
In each year there is a core of subjects studied by all students. The Curriculum in Year 7 is designed to provide a smooth transition into secondary education. The core teachers instruct students in English (literacy), Mathematics (numeracy), Society and History, Science, and Religious Studies. Year 7 students have taster subjects including Design Technology, Art, French, Japanese, Music, Food and Textiles Technology and Drama.

The curriculum in Year 8 involves many subjects and covers all eight Key Learning Areas of the Melbourne Declaration (2008). This is so that students can have a broad general background before having to choose which areas to develop further through elective subjects in later years.

Health and Physical Education is offered to all students in Years 7 – 10 and is optional for senior students.

Years 11 and 12
Approximately fifty subjects are offered at Years 11 and 12. Students are required to plan their two year course of study at the end of Year 10. To supplement the more traditional course of study St Brendan-Shaw College also offers the opportunity for students to study Vocational Education and Training (VET). VET is a well-defined vocational training program that has direct links to traineeships and apprenticeships and is nationally recognised.

The full range of subjects and electives offered are outlined in the Student Subject Handbook which is published annually.

The Deputy Principal of Learning and Teaching with the Heads of Faculties, constantly reviews the range of subjects offered and new subjects are introduced as the need arises. Information evenings for parents are held during the year.
CO-CURRICULUM

Students at the College have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of co-curricular activities including debating and public speaking, chess, eisteddfods, a bi-annual college production and other performing arts activities.

A variety of activities are organised by the prefects. Lunchtime activities include various interhouse sports. Activities are also organised for the afternoon on Founders’ Day.

Socials for all students are held twice yearly, and a senior secondary Ball is a popular evening. An annual event is the Talent Quest where students can demonstrate their multiple talents to the whole college community.

The College has offered trips to destinations such as the Northern Territory, the ski slopes of Victoria and New Zealand, Singapore, New Caledonia and Europe. Exploring our global village is seen as a worthwhile pursuit.
SPORT

The College recognises and values the role of sport and recreation and how it contributes to students’ lifestyle, fitness, health, social development and self esteem. It also acknowledges how this compliments students’ academic development.

All students are encouraged to participate in at least one of the many sports offered at St Brendan-Shaw College. Students have the right to participate safely and equitably but need to balance this with the responsibilities of sportsmanship, commitment and ensuring the safety of others.

As well as participating in competitions with schools across all sectors in the local area, St Brendan-Shaw College is a member of SATIS (The Sports Association of Tasmanian Independent Schools) which conducts sporting competitions for member schools in Tasmania. Featured carnivals in these associations are Swimming, Athletics, Head of the River Rowing and Cross Country.
PASTORAL CARE

St Brendan-Shaw College endeavours to educate students in accordance with such Gospel values as community, faith, hope, reconciliation, courage, service, commitment, justice, forgiveness and love.

In practice, at St Brendan-Shaw College:

- Pastoral Care refers to the total expression of community care for one another.
- Our school community seeks to provide a holistic understanding of the growth of the human person and is committed to the values of learning, community, openness, caritas, and responsibility.
- Pastoral Care aims to provide effective networks of care: everyone in the school community has the right to be safe in the school environment and has the responsibility to be involved in pastoral care.
- Pastoral Care involves a partnership with parents and fosters trust and communication between home and school. It provides a forum of parental input into many aspects of College life and provides opportunities for parental involvement.
- Pastoral Care aims to develop self-discipline and individual responsibility.

From 2012 the College has formally adopted a Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) process to nurture a happy community where each person is valued and encouraged to do their best.
OUR PARISH LINKS
- THE MERSEY LEVEN CATHOLIC PARISH

St Brendan-Shaw College is very much part of the Mersey Leven Catholic Parish community, with strong links continually being developed between the College and the life of our parish. These links mean that the College can regularly celebrate as a prayerful community and you can be assured that we all work together to bring alive the Vision and Mission of the College.

As a Parish, we provide a family-centred, parish-based and school-supported preparation program for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. St Brendan-Shaw College students and families can certainly be part of this program should they so desire. We are also supportive of families who are considering Baptism for their children and a Christian Initiation process is offered as an opportunity for adults to learn about, and share in, the Catholic faith.

We commend you on your desire to enrol your child at St Brendan-Shaw College and invite you to contact us if you want further information on any area of our parish community life.

mlcathparish-dsl@keypoint.com.au
COLLEGE UNIFORM

The uniform is essential in being true to our values. It gives a sense of belonging to a group that is held in high regard. It is a constant reminder of our individual responsibility to respect the rights of others and not become self-focused. Wearing the uniform well is:

- a visible symbol of pride
- an expression of a willingness to support a community over self
- a means to increase security – trespassers are easily identified
- satisfies Occupational Health and Safety requirements in some areas
- is cost effective
- reduces the incidence of humiliation of students for not wearing “fashionable” clothing. No person should be made to feel inferior or superior to another, regardless of background.
MORE INFORMATION

Please visit our college website to find more detailed information about the college at http://www.sbsc.tas.edu.au/ including the following:

- Newsletters to Parents
- Calendar
- Uniform
- Lesson times
- Fees and levies
- Photo gallery of facilities and events
- Bus links
- Library resources
A leading centre of education - Years 7-12

A caring community, proud of its Catholic heritage, working with the Mersey Leven Parish

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