



**ST NARSAI**  
ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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PROSPECTUS

# Welcome to Our College

**Education founded on faith, family and community.**

St. Narsai College is an independent, Christian co-educational secondary school (Years 7-12). Our school was established in 2006 by His Eminence Mar Meelis Zaia AM to cater for the needs of students from the local Assyrian community as well as students from other schools and backgrounds.

Our students contribute to a vibrant and inspiring campus that is filled with state-of-the-art facilities and boasts contemporary designed learning spaces. Our staff are skilled educators and leaders of learning, committed to improving learning outcomes for all students by engaging and motivating them to achieve their personal best.

We offer a rigorous academic program as well as a strong pastoral care program imbued with a focus on faith development and prayer. Our authentic welfare and well being programs, run by pastoral care teachers and year co-ordinators, ensure that students are always supported along their learning journey.

St. Narsai's curriculum is designed to develop our students into engaged and critical thinkers, well-equipped to deal

with the challenges of the 21st century. Our students and staff use contemporary digital technologies to enhance and broaden students' learning experiences.

We also offer an extensive range of extracurricular activities that encourage our students to explore new areas of interest, develop new friendships and extend their learning beyond the classroom.

By fostering a sense of family within St. Narsai we have created a safe and supportive environment for our students to flourish in, and by regularly engaging with the wider community we show our students the importance of compassion in life.

At St. Narsai, our goal is to empower our students to achieve academic and personal excellence, and inspire them through our commitment to faith, family and community.



Edwar Dinkha  
Principal









## Our Vision

We foster the heritage and Christian values of the Assyrian Church of the East, developing individuals who strive for excellence, are life-long learners and live their faith.

## Our Mission

We provide students of any background a unique education based on 21st century pedagogy in order to equip them with necessary skills so that they will be active Australian citizens, reflecting the faith, heritage, language and culture of the Assyrian Church of the East.



# Experience the St. Narsai Difference

**A robust framework for student success – supported by state-of-the-art facilities.**

**St. Narsai College is a community of self-motivated, goal-driven students.** Students are empowered to set their own personal learning goals through learning conferences with their respective subject teachers. These important goal-setting exercises help students work towards long and short-term goals, and students are responsible for monitoring their progress. This disciplined approach helps students develop organisational skills and a determination to succeed.

**Powerful, proven teaching methods ensure optimum learning.**

St. Narsai maintains a strong focus on dynamic, evidence-based teaching practices across the school, helping our students to become self-regulated and successful learners. These practices include using the Visible Learning approach to classroom learning, student goal setting, effective feedback practices, and improving teacher clarity and student outcomes using learning intentions and success criteria to guide learning.

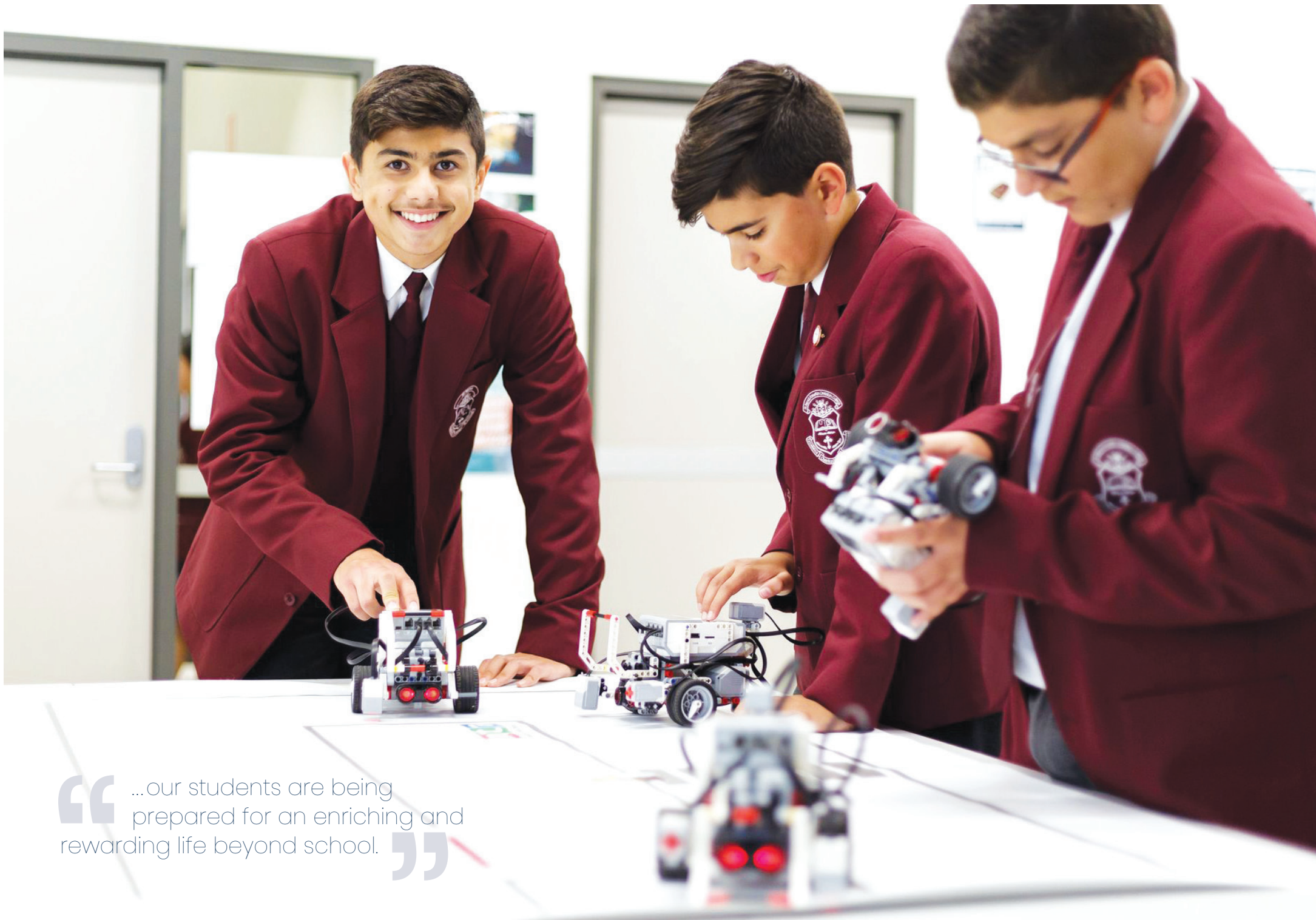
**21st century classroom technology empowers our students.**

Our school embraces leading technology to support our students' learning objectives. Wireless presentation tools

such as VIVI, and our BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) policy and practices ensure that our students are abreast of the best educational technologies. A variety of information and communication technology (ICT) platforms are used by students to improve their learning outcomes and enable teachers to efficiently stimulate and engage students in their learning.

**St. Narsai provides world-class facilities for all students, in all faculties.** Our impressive facilities significantly enhance student learning. The Creative and Performing Arts faculty has specialised facilities and provides access to music practice rooms where students can rehearse. Dance and Drama students can use the upcoming auditorium and practice rooms to refine their skills. All students benefit from the latest machinery such as laser cutters and 3D printers.

**The St. Narsai Difference!** St. Narsai's College community of engaged learners are well on their way to becoming the leaders of tomorrow. Through our unique combination of advanced teaching methods, contemporary classroom technology and new facilities, our students are being prepared for an enriching and rewarding life beyond school.



“ ...our students are being  
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rewarding life beyond school. ”





# Love of Learning

Striving for excellence through a supportive and stimulating learning environment.

**Our aim as teachers at St. Narsai is to instil a love of learning in our students.** In all subject areas, students are exposed to a variety of texts and reading strategies to develop their literacy skills and a desire for quality literature.

**The right book can ignite a passion for reading.** Through our fortnightly book club, we encourage our students to read together and share their ideas, explore differences of opinion and find common interests.

**Selective stream classes.** High performing students are offered an appropriate and challenging curriculum to ensure that they can extend their learning beyond the traditional classroom learning modes.

**Literacy and numeracy are an important part of daily life.** All teachers embed the learning of literacy and numeracy in their lessons, so collectively we aim to develop each student's way of thinking (creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem-solving, decision-making, and metacognition), way of working (communication and collaboration) and to develop each student's tools for working (information and ICT literacy).

**Science empowers students to learn about themselves and the world around them,** through practical investigations and discovery, facilitated by our state-of-the-art laboratories.

**Visual Arts is also highly valued at St. Narsai.** Practical work includes drawing, lithographic printing, ceramics and photography, digital design and sculptures. One-on-one in-class tutorials support student learning processes and skill development. In Art History, students embark on a deep analysis of world events and the way art expresses the world's history.

**Assyrian Art** (music and sculpting), language, culture and heritage are also an important part of our curriculum.

**A drop-in study centre operates every morning before school.** Teachers from many different learning areas are available to help students with their individual homework, assignments or study work.

**A Homework Club operates after school** under the supervision of our expert educators supporting students in completing tasks to the best of their ability.





















# Care and Welfare

Empowering and connecting students through a holistic approach to education.

**St. Narsai's Pastoral Care** program caters to every stage in the life of our students. At every year level, a special program is fully integrated throughout the school to ensure holistic and complete support for each student.

**Our students set goals for their learning, as well as for their mental, spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing.**

St. Narsai's year co-ordinators, together with our pastoral carers, strive to ensure that all students feel safe and supported as they work towards their educational and personal goals.

**During times of assessment, pastoral carers guide and nurture our students.** They help students develop their self-awareness and self-regulation skills, improving their ability to actively engage in their learning processes and better manage the normal stresses of life.

**Pastoral care also teaches students how to build respectful and meaningful relationships.** Initiatives such as our Restorative Justice program enable students to restore broken friendships and mature into respected and respectful young citizens.

We are renowned for being welcoming and inclusive to all students. We compassionately support the needs of new

arrivals students – emotionally, academically, spiritually and often financially – providing them with extensive opportunities to flourish and contribute to our Australian community.

**A full-time school counsellor** is available to support students with any difficult situations they may be facing at home or at school.

**Our school's Learning Support Unit** offers support programs and learning plans targeted to the individual learning needs of all students.

**The Gifted and Talented program** aims to challenge a selected group of students, maximising their learning through a variety of teaching strategies to cater for their unique needs.

**To encourage and reward team work, positive behaviour, and sporting achievements** at carnivals, students are allocated to one of four houses – Nisibis, Nineveh, Edessa or Seleucia – reflecting St. Narsai's commitment to lifelong learning and understanding of our ancient and deep cultural roots.

“...our aim as teachers at St Narsai is to instil a love of learning in our students.”

# Faith, Family and Community

Cultivating personal excellence through a Christian faith-filled learning environment.

**St. Narsai provides a continuum of education founded on rich traditions** of faith, family and community values, as well as commitment to academic excellence. Our Christian values are reflected in our actions, manners and quality of life and reflect our college motto of *Excellence, Christian Values, Commitment*.

**The St. Narsai school curriculum is taught from a Biblical worldview based on the teachings of the Assyrian Church of the East.** All students in years 7-12 receive religious instruction in their Christian faith as part of our Christian Studies programs. HSC students can choose to further explore the importance of religion in society by undertaking the Studies of Religion course.

**Students at St. Narsai celebrate Mass and other significant events on the Christian religious calendar.** Students participate in daily prayer in the morning, at lunch time and in the afternoon, as well as daily reflection on a Bible verse. Staff and students observe spiritual days, and our year advisors organise camps and spiritual retreats for their respective year groups.

**Our school chaplain offers spiritual guidance and support to students and their families during difficult times.** Uniting and strengthening our wider school community, he also delivers weekly Christian lectures to parents and other family members.

**Students benefit from the continuous presence and support of religious leaders,** and as part of the Christian Studies program, lectures are delivered by the bishop and college chaplain.

**St. Narsai takes deep pride in fundraising and building connections** with communities outside of our school, living and espousing the Christian values of charity and helping those in need.















# Beyond the Classroom

Supporting our students to extend their growth by creating new opportunities.

**Extracurricular activities encourage students to fulfil their potential.** St. Narsai offers an expansive suite of activities to support our students outside of the classroom. These opportunities help students make new friends, develop new interests, and deepen their social and intellectual growth.

**STEM workshops help students solve real-world issues.** The rapidly growing fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) come together in this interdisciplinary subject. The focus is on developing critical thinking and entrepreneurial skills to solve real-world issues and provide connections between school and community.

**Musical extension and performance builds confidence.** As well as extracurricular classes and the opportunity to rehearse in purpose-built practice rooms, students can showcase their talents in the Whole School Performance evening. The school choir performs for Church Mass and at community events such as Carols by the Cathedral, and our dance group also meets after school, encouraging students to explore and develop their physicality and sense of self.

**A wide range of sports enhance physical development.** St. Narsai hosts activities such as the Premier National League partnership, with qualified coaches; touch football for boys and girls, including interschool competitions; and other sporting activities such as soccer, futsal, dance, athletics, swimming and cross country.

**Academic extension programs challenge students to succeed.** Students in our Gifted and Talented classes are required to demonstrate a high level of commitment to their studies and continually strive to achieve their personal best.

**Senior students are prepared for life beyond school.** Year 10 students gain valuable experience in potential employment fields through work experience, and our Year 11 and 12 students attend the Careers and Study Expo to extend their network and opportunities. The school also hosts in-house careers days where guest speakers from universities, as well as former students, visit the school to share their knowledge and experiences of different fields of study and employment.











## Joining Us

**If you would like to know more about St. Narsai, our staff, our facilities, and our approach to education, please contact our enrolment officer who will be pleased to answer your questions.**

We encourage you to visit our school to see what opportunities await your child. An individual tour can be arranged, or you can choose to attend one of our guided group tours which happen throughout the year. Our enrolments officer can arrange these tours for you.

To register your child, please download the Application for Admission Form available on our website and return it completed to the school for processing. A non-refundable fee is payable upon application.

We accept children for all years from 7-12, both at the beginning of the school year and throughout, depending on availability of places.

For all queries regarding enrolment, please contact our enrolment officer:

**Phone:** (02) 8818 1300

**Email:** [info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au)

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More information is available on our website which can be found at **[www.stnarsai.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stnarsai.nsw.edu.au)**.

Thank you for your interest in our school and we look forward to answering any further queries you may have.

To find out more about  
St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College  
Visit us online at: [www.stnarsai.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stnarsai.nsw.edu.au)

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