Girls at Our Lady’s College develop a sense of social responsibility through respect and consideration for others and the environment.

Community service projects are supported by each year group as a focus of pastoral care groups. Community services groups such as St Vincent de Paul and Amnesty International also operate within the college, meeting at lunchtime. The Student Representative Council also supports other groups through its fundraising.

The college environment club meets regularly overseeing the care of the college grounds, through encouraging recycling of rubbish and by participating in national events such as Clean Up Schools Day and Arbor Day.

Communication is the keystone of relationships. We form strong links between students, staff, families, Parish and the wider community.

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews are held at the beginning of terms 2 and 3 and provide the opportunity for a formal discussion of your daughter’s progress.

Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their daughter’s education through involvement in the Parents and Friends Association, assisting in the tuckshop, helping at working bees, attending our New Parent barbecue, awards presentations, cultural nights and other social events.
Our **MISSION STATEMENT** states that we provide a Catholic education for young women in a caring environment that values tradition, excellence and community.

Under the priority of **COMMUNITY**
Our aim is to:

- Encourage in students a willingness to be responsible for their own actions and decisions
- Nurture the growth of relationships so that all members experience a sense of belonging in a supportive and inclusive community.
- Develop an appreciation of our connectedness with the past and our responsibility as custodians of our school environment for the future.

**PASTORAL CARE** expresses this ethos and philosophy of the college. It is experienced whenever the people within our community interact to make positive choices about life.

**PASTORAL CARE PROGRAMS**
As well as the day to day care of the girls there are also aspects of personal and social development education that are included in Pastoral Care lessons.

In Year 8 the focus is on settling our girls into the rhythms of high school life: belonging, setting goals, study habits, learning styles, personal hygiene, rights and responsibilities, bullying, and health related issues.

Years 9 and 10 focus on building healthy relationships and working towards a career plan for the future.

Years 11 and 12 focus on issues facing young adults—drugs, sexuality, violence against women, personal health, driver education and leadership.

**CAMPS**
There are camps held each year.

In Year 8 the focus is on "Belonging", in Year 9 it is "Relationships". Year 10 focuses on setting goals for the future. Year 11 is preparation for leadership and finally Year 12 reflects where the girls have come from, what the future may hold and how to deal with it.

All camps provide time for challenge and reassessment and meeting one’s responsibilities to be good custodians of this earth.

**BIG SISTER PROGRAM**
The Big Sister Program involves the weekly interaction between our Year 11 Big Sisters and their Year 8 Little Sisters.

Activities are conducted by the Big Sisters, under the supervision of teachers, in an attempt to reduce feelings of disorientation, to help Year 8’s cope with the organizational structures of high school, to make new friends quickly and to develop decision making and problem solving skills. All of this in an atmosphere of fun and friendship.

**SPORTING AND CULTURAL GROUPS**
Belonging to a club or group assists in the development of the individual as well as identity with a group.

Girls are provided with a range of opportunities to develop their special skills and gifts. This includes: debating; singing; dance—Polynesian, Latin, modern; musical tuition, choir; orchestra; basketball; soccer; volleyball; netball; swimming; athletics; tennis; drama club; art club; Japanese club. We also celebrate cultural events such as Harmony Day, NAIDOC Day and multicultural week.