Welcome to Boarding at St Gregory’s College Campbelltown. We are a family oriented community and a home away from home for your sons. This community is built on and held together by the Marist charism which has been developed and passed on by many Brothers and lay teachers walking in the footsteps of Saint Marcellin Champagnat.

This charism is based on characteristics such as Presence, Simplicity, Family Spirit, Love of Work and the Way of Mary. A good explanation of each of these characteristics can be found on our College website. As it states on that site, ‘at St Gregory’s we hope to shape, in partnership with parents, young men of strong mind and gentle hearts. The Marist Brothers and lay teachers the boys meet at St Gregory’s model these qualities and we hope that our young men will grow to live this also’. Within the boarding environment, care for each individual is our priority and all staff endeavour to know the boys personally.

One of our great strengths as a Boarding school is our idyllic rural setting within easy reach of city amenities. The boys enjoy the spacious surrounds which are the envy of many a visiting school. This sense of space is complemented by each boy having an individual room. The study routine is well established and boys are able to benefit from the assistance of staff and tutors.

Our boys are fine young men who are passionate about their school. The spiritually uplifting and well-renowned singing at Sunday Mass is great testament to this. Boys help look after the farm and partake in community service regularly, both in and outside the College. There is also an abundance of sporting opportunities on offer with boys travelling to and hosting schools from all over NSW.

This booklet is designed to answer all of your questions regarding boarding at St Gregory’s. I trust that you and your son will have an outstanding experience as part of this fine school.

Quae Seminaveris Metes – What you sow, so shall you reap

Mr Max Spencer
Director of Boarding
INTRODUCTION

Boarders at St Gregory’s College are members of a unique extended family. They can expect to receive a quality of care and attention that is surpassed only by that received in their loving family homes. Boarding staff are professional men and women who aim to facilitate a well-balanced College and home experience for your son.

There is certainly no place like home, but young people are good at adapting to new challenges. In their boarding house, the biggest challenge for the boys is to be aware of the needs of a number of other people around them, much as they would be expected to do in a larger family. To help them meet this challenge, our boarding staff demand a high level of conformity to routine and encourage the boys to develop a sense of community.

Though there are specific rules, consequences and rewards attached to many actions in the boarding College, boys are encouraged to be self-disciplined. The aim is to promote the initiative, growth and responsibility that is appropriate for young men.

Your son will be well cared for and treated with respect. At the same time, the College will challenge him to achieve his best in all areas so that he makes a valuable contribution to the College community and develops a healthy level of self-respect. He will be given many opportunities to use his skills and initiative in a supportive and structured environment.

OUR STORY

St Gregory’s College is a Catholic secondary College founded by the Marist Brothers. It has its origins in the vision of Marcellin Champagnat, a man dedicated to the education of children. The Mission of Marist Colleges is to lead young people in the way of Mary, to know and love God in the belief that they all can become good Christians and good citizens.
COMMUNICATION

Parents are encouraged to maintain regular contact with their son, as well as their son’s Boarding House Coordinator. The College website should also be a regular port-of-call for relevant, current information on events and issues in the boarding College. You can also download the St Gregory’s App from the App Store: stgregoryscollege

CONTACT NUMBERS FOR BOARDING

**Director of Boarding:** Mr Max Spencer  
Mobile: 0437 763 988  
Office Phone: (02) 4629 4134  
Email: max.spencer@stgregs.nsw.edu.au

**Senior Boarding Coordinator:** Mr Luke Morrissey  
**Senan House**  
Mobile: 0427 236 721  
Residence: (02) 4629 4113  
Email: luke.morrissey@stgregs.nsw.edu.au

**Junior Boarding Coordinator:** Mr Logan Hawkins  
**Valens, Edgar & Alfred House**  
Mobile: 0448 410 910  
Residence: (02) 4629 4115  
Email: logan.hawkins@stgregs.nsw.edu.au

**Senan House**  
**Year 11 and 12**  
Senan Office: (02) 4629 4274  
Senan Foyer: (02) 4629 4280

**Alfred House**  
**Year 10**  
Alfred Office: (02) 4629 4104  
Alfred Foyer: (02) 4629 4105

**Edgar House**  
**Year 9**  
Edgar Office: (02) 4629 4106  
Edgar Foyer: (02) 4629 4107

**Valens House**  
**Year 7 & 8**  
Valens Office: (02) 4629 4297  
Valens Foyer: (02) 4629 4111

**Boarder’s Clinic Nurse**  
Phone: (02) 4629 4215  
Phone: (02) 4629 4223 (Day)

**College Registrar/Boarder Travel Coordinator**  
Mrs Daniela Romeo  
Phone: (02) 4629 4130  
Fax: (02) 4628 1594  
Mobile: 0429 822 633  
Email: daniela.romeo@stgregs.nsw.edu.au

**College Reception**  
Phone: (02) 4629 4222  
Fax: (02) 4628 1594

**Address mail to Students:**

Student Name  
Student House  
St Gregory’s College Campbelltown  
100 Badgally Road  
GREGORY HILLS NSW 2557
STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director of Boarding

The Director of Boarding is responsible for the direction and oversight of the boarding College. The Director of Boarding reports to the College Headmaster. The Director lives on College grounds.

The House Coordinator

The House Coordinator assumes responsibility for the boys in his or her care. They are the primary contact point for parents. They monitor the day-to-day care of their boys. They live on College grounds.

Residential Supervisors

These staff members live in the same house as the boys in their care. They provide after-hours care and work on a normal supervision roster.

Casual Supervisors

When on duty, supervisors assume immediate responsibility for the boys in their care. In conjunction with the House Coordinator they contribute to the day-to-day care of the boys.
YOUR SON AND BOARDING

Boarding Options

St Gregory’s College offers a range of boarding options to suit the individual needs of families.

Full-time Boarding

This is the most common boarding option, in which boys live full-time at the College and participate in the whole range of boarding activities. A number of weekends through the year are designated ‘Free Weekends’, during which boys travel home for an extended weekend during the College term.

Weekly Boarding (Monday to Friday)

This option allows your son to board on weeknights and return home for the weekends. Your son will come into Boarding on the Sunday night and return home Friday afternoon.

Extended Boarding (Monday to Thursday)

Boys can participate in the boarding routine over a specified number of nights, or for parts of nights, after which they return home. Your son will come into Boarding on the Sunday night and return home on Thursday afternoon.

Preparation

Once you have made the decision to have your son board at St Gregory’s, consider taking a number of opportunities that may constitute useful preparation for the boarding life. For a start, your son should feel comfortable with the idea; talk about it as much as necessary.

It may be useful to have your son spend some time away from the family, perhaps by visiting friends or extended family, as a way of developing his sense of independence. He should be encouraged to develop those skills necessary for independent living; making his bed; caring for his clothing; being aware of personal hygiene requirements. A daily routine of chores at home will be carried through in boarding.

Homesickness

Boarding College can never replace home or the presence of the family unit, and a period of adjustment to this new situation is therefore normal. It should be noted that homesickness is absolutely normal and most boarders will experience this at some stage. It is best not to panic but to reassure your boy that everything will be ok and the feeling will settle in time. It is advisable in such instances to avoid excessive phone contact with your son; this can often exacerbate the homesickness. Rather, maintaining contact with your son’s House Coordinator is a more useful way of ensuring that all is well.

Encourage your whole family to maintain regular contact with your son. Telephone calls, letters, emails and care packages are all touches of home that will be appreciated. Also encourage your son to become quickly involved in the varying opportunities for work and recreation available in the boarding College. This enhances a feeling of belonging and also prevents prolonged periods of time alone.
HEALTH AND PASTORAL CARE

Boarding students are supported by a network of people who care for their emotional, spiritual and physical wellbeing at St Gregory’s.

Furthermore, our supervisory staff members are professional adults who oversee the care of the boys and provide ready advice or just ready shoulders. The College has two Counsellors who are also available to the boys by referral or appointment.

Medical care is provided to the boys whenever the need arises. During College hours boys have access to the College Sick Bay which is operated by Mrs Jaime Underwood, Registered Nurse. Mrs Underwood is positioned in student services from 8.30am to 3pm. Mrs Underwood can be contacted on (02) 4628 4223. Mrs Underwood also arranges for any off-campus medical care, including x-ray, physiotherapy and dental appointments.

The Boarding Clinic is staffed by Mavis Morris, Registered Nurse between 3:00pm and 5:00pm every weekday. The Nurse arranges for any off-campus medical care, including x-ray, physiotherapy and dental appointments. Mavis can be contacted on Telephone: (02) 4629 4215

At all other times staff with First Aid qualifications are available and out-of-hours trips to the local hospital are undertaken if necessary.

Dr Goyal visits the clinic for the boarders at 3.15pm Tuesdays and 3pm Thursdays. If your boy requires a specialist medical appointment and transport please give as much notice as possible as arrangements will need to be made. Where possible appointments should be scheduled outside school operating hours.
BOARDING ACCOMODATION

Each boy has his own space within the boarding house with his bed, desk, storage cupboard and drawer space, which allows privacy at the same time as encouraging community within the house.

ROUTINE

Each boarding house and age group alters times to suit their particular needs, but below is an outline of the general daily routine.

**Weekdays**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.50am</td>
<td>Wake up, shower, preparation, clean room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.45am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.15am</td>
<td>College day begins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Afternoon and Evening**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.00pm</td>
<td>House opens for ½ hour afternoon tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Recreation – sport training or free time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>STUDY SESSION 1 – in classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>staggered dinner times begin, free time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>STUDY SESSION 2 – in house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.15pm</td>
<td>Study ends for younger students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staggered end times from now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Free time, Supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.45-10.15pm</td>
<td>Lights-out, time dependent on age</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Saturday**

Day varies according to sport timetable

Wakeup between 6:45 and 7:45am

Sport – either at St Gregory’s or travel to venue

Houses open at conclusion of sport for free time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Free time/ organised activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00/10.00pm</td>
<td>Lights-out, time dependent on age</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sunday**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Wakeup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Visiting Day/ Free Time/ Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>All students returned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Free Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.15/10.00pm</td>
<td>Lights-out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mass

The Mass is regarded as the most significant event in the weekly timetable of the boarding College. The entire boarding community joins to celebrate Mass and build a sense of family spirit. The significance of the event should be reflected in the boarders’ attire. The boys need to have at least one good set of clothes to wear to Mass; a collared shirt, trousers and closed shoes.

Parents visiting the College on Sunday are most welcome to join us at Mass. Boys are expected to miss no more than two Sunday night Masses per term, so we encourage any parents who have requested overnight leave for their son to keep this in mind when making arrangements.

Meals

Boys take their meals in the Boarder’s Refectory (The ‘Ref’). Meals are provided by ‘Alliance Catering’ and the menu is designed according to the likes of the boys, the allocated budget and achieving a nutritional balance.

Boys receive breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner and supper. The weekly menu can be accessed on the College website. Dining should be a relaxed yet respectful affair. Boys must be punctual to each meal, respectful to kitchen staff and dressed tidily; singlets, pyjamas or a lack of shoes are not acceptable.

Recreation

Boys have many opportunities to undertake recreational activities, both formal and informal. The boys have access to extensive grounds; a swimming pool, a gym, tennis courts, volleyball court, basketball courts, football and soccer fields, cricket nets, and the farm. Boys access activities on weekday afternoons, evenings and on weekends.

Saturday Sport

Boys are involved in full seasons of sporting fixtures. Saturday sports include rugby, football, cricket, basketball and fitness sessions. Some sport involves travel as far a-field as Orange and Bathurst, but most is local metropolitan or at St Greg’s itself. The College is involved in the ISA Rugby and Basketball competitions. Families are invited to enjoy carnival days when sporting fixtures are held at St Greg’s. It is an expectation that all full-time boarders be involved in Saturday Sport.

Student Leadership

There are many opportunities for boys to become involved in leadership. Informally boys demonstrate their leadership through involvement in fundraising, working bees, College functions, undertaking altar-serving or reading roles at Mass, and more. Formally, boys may be recognised as leaders through their appointment to the Boarders’ Council, including roles as Boarding Captain and Vice-Captain.

Study

Boarders are fortunate to be able to avail themselves of study resources that may be less easily accessed by students outside the boarding setting. Tutors and study supervisors actively assist the boys in their learning. Boys can benefit from peer assistance, as both learners and teachers. The environment is one where silent, independent study is encouraged for significant amounts of time most nights, but where boys can also explore other study options that may be of benefit, under guidance from staff. Learning Support staff is available for students along with a dedicated Indigenous Liaison Officer.

All boarders have access to computers and to the College computer network. As with study time in general, time spent on computers is monitored and managed by staff.

By having study time built into the daily boarding routine boarders should be well-placed to undertake a relevant quantity and quality of academic work. We believe that one way we show our care for our boys is through challenging them to achieve their best in their studies.
POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

In a Boarding College the establishment of an atmosphere of trust and respect is essential. This enables staff and boarders alike to live together harmoniously. It facilitates the smooth running of the College and ultimately ensures the security and safety of your son. It is for this purpose that rules and regulations exist; the boys are aware of their boundaries and may exercise their initiative within them. They must abide by these regulations, yet they are also protected by them.

The Golden Rules of St Greg’s Boarding:

1. No smoking
2. No alcohol consumption. Suspension automatically follows.
3. No illegal drugs. Any involvement with illegal drugs will result in
   a. the student being asked to leave the College immediately.
4. Students are not to venture out of bounds. Each student in the boarding Houses knows where he should be at any time of the day. If a student is out of bounds, particularly after lights-out, we view this as very serious and the consequences will match.

General Conduct

● There are set times for every activity undertaken by the boarders. All boys are to be punctual as per their House timetable.
● Staff, visitors and other boys are to be treated with courtesy and respect.
● Study is an area of priority. At the beginning of the year the study routine of each House will be outlined to the boarders.
● The Boarding House Coordinator is to be made aware of the whereabouts of boarders at all times.
● The houses are living areas for a large number of people. Each house has a set of rules which exist to ensure the comfort and wellbeing of all.
● After the official “lights-out” time, boarders are to remain in their rooms. One basic presumption about remaining in Boarding College is that when you go to bed you stay there.
● There are a number of daily responsibilities which boarders must fulfil in order to contribute to the effective running of the boarding College; these will be made clear by each Boarding House Coordinator.

Grooming

After each College holiday boys are expected to return to the College ready to begin the College term. This means they arrive at their boarding house well-groomed and with an appropriate haircut. Boys do not need to wear jewellery while they are on the College property. A watch and a simple cross on a chain suffice. Further clarification of these policies can be found in the Student Diary.
Mobile Phones

There are significant privacy and security challenges associated with the use of mobile phones, particularly those which have image, video and sound recording capabilities. Students using a camera phone to record and/or share material that could be considered intrusive and a form of harassment will face serious consequences bringing the involvement of the College Headmaster. Boarding students have no reason to take a mobile phone to College; as a result, all mobile phones of boys in Years 7-11 are collected before bed and returned at the end of the College day.

Information Technologies

The way the internet is used in the boarding College is under perpetual review. Generally the same rules apply as for mobile phone use. Each time the boys log on to the College network they click a user agreement; failure to adhere to this brings severe consequences.

The full range of College policies can be viewed on the College website and/or in the Student Diary. Other key policies which impact particularly on the boarding College include:

- Bullying and Harassment Policy
- College Rights and Responsibilities Document
- Enrolment and Attendance Policy

Driving

Full, Weekly and Extended boarders that satisfy all requirements under the Driving Policy are not permitted to keep any vehicle on site for any extended period. This period of time includes any overnight parking within the College grounds. Students are to refer to the Driving Policy on the College Website.
LEAVE

In an effort to have the boys see as much of their families as possible the College calendar allows for a number of ‘Free Weekends’ when the boarders return home for an extended weekend visit. All boarders leave the College at these times. As all other weekends tend to be busy with sporting commitments and organised activities, it is expected that leave from the boarding College on other occasions would only be for exceptional family circumstances.

The Headmaster delegates to the Boarding House Coordinators the responsibility of knowing the whereabouts of each of their charges. As a result, boarders leave the College grounds only when permission has been granted by their House Coordinator or the Director of Boarding.

Requests for overnight, weekend or extended leave from the boarding College must be made via the College website. Visit the “Boarding” tab where you will find the Application for Leave Form. This form is filled in electronically and it is submitted and emailed directly to the Boarding House Coordinator. All forms must be submitted by midnight on the Wednesday prior to the requested weekend leave. Leave that involves missing College days will be assessed in consultation with the day-College. The Board of Studies indicates mandatory hours of class time required to fulfil the course demands for each subject; hence requests for leave must also consider this factor.

Year 11 and 12 students are granted the privilege of unsupervised leave on Sundays to venues made known to their House Coordinator. This leave is granted at the discretion of the House Coordinator and the Director of Boarding for those boys willing and able to exercise responsibility and abide by strict conditions.

Requests for Leave During School Hours

Requests for leave during school hours of 5 days or more must be submitted to the Headmaster. Parents seeking approval for leave are required to fill in the Application for Extended Leave Form which is available through Student Services, and on the College website under “Our Students” and “Student Forms”.

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TRAVEL

Travel to and from home is arranged automatically by the College Registrar, Daniela Romeo, for Free Weekends and College Holiday travel only. Parents receive notification of the deadlines for submitting bookings and amendments to bookings approximately 2-4 weeks prior to the travel date.

This travel is provided by NSW Transport and is a free rail or coach service when travelling between the College and home in NSW. Free travel applies only at the times indicated above. Therefore, travel outside of Free Weekends and College holidays needs to be organised by parents. All bookings are made at the beginning of the year and confirmed approximately one month before the travel. Hence changes to travel can only be made as follows:

- **Changes** to destinations or adding another traveller (for example inviting a day-boy home) – the College Travel Coordinator must be contacted no later than 2 weeks prior to departure.
- **Cancellations** to travel – the College Travel Coordinator must be contacted no later than 1 week prior to departure.
- Late changes and cancellations can incur a fine.
- Any travel to a destination other than the home address which is stated on the travel pass will incur a cost from NSW Transport which will be charged to the College and then allocated to College fees at the end of the Year.

Non NSW Transport travel (for example travel by plane) is arranged by parents. Parents also need to arrange transfers to and from travel departure and disembarkation points. A train service runs directly between Campbelltown Station and Sydney Airport for those students travelling by plane. Alternately, parents may wish to book a transfer service; ‘Ace Shuttle Service” is a local company offering direct trips between St Gregory’s and the Airport. They can be contacted on (02) 4653 1150.

Parents can contact NSW Trainlink Call Centre during the school holidays/leave weekends if they have any enquiries to their son’s travel on: 132 232.

**NOTE:** EFTPOS FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR BOARDERS. THIS CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH THE COLLEGE FINANCE OFFICE ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS ONLY.
CLOTHING AND LINEN

All clothing and linen is washed in the Boarders’ Laundry on a set day of the week. It is therefore essential that your son’s name and laundry number is marked obviously on every item he owns.

ESSENTIAL: NAME TAGS ON EVERYTHING! Tags can be ordered through the College Shop but it will take approximately 4 weeks for your order to be supplied – get in early!

Additionally, each house has its own washing machine, dryer and clothesline that the boys may access when desired.

WHAT TO BRING TO BOARDING

The College provides bed sheets, but each student must provide their own:

All items must be labelled with NAME AND LAUNDRY NUMBER.

- Pillow/s and Pillow slips – two each to allow turn around washing time
- Blankets, quilt and quilt covers – to be taken home or sent to the laundry for regular washing
- Mattress-Protector
- Coat hangers
- Shoe Cleaning Kit
- Towels – at least 4 for full time boarders as well as beach towels for the swimming pool/beach outings
- Water bottle.
- Small sports bag to carry sports gear
- NO SPRAY CAN DEODORANTS PERMITTED – ONLY ROLLON DEODORANT

*Please note that due to Work, Health and Safety regulations boarders are not allowed to use double adaptors within the College for any electrical equipment. Only power boards are permitted within the College and Boarding Houses. *

Boarders require the normal College uniform items as well as clothing for:

- Saturday sport
- Mass/ Formal occasions – collared shirt, pants, closed in tidy shoes
- Evening and Weekend Wear
- Clothing for recreation and work
- Boys like to bring a skateboard or scooter and this is allowed however, the boys can only ride the equipment if a safety helmet is worn.

Other handy items are: Shower caddy, laundry basket, alarm clock, desk lamp, underbid storage bins, disinfectant wipes, desk supplies, snacks – and a favourite mug/cup, memories from home – family photos or items for your desk – Snacks and Tupperware containers.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I apply for leave for my son?
   a. Please visit the College Website – under Boarding Tab you will find a tab to the left hand side of screen called Application for Leave. Complete this form and press ‘SUBMIT’.

2. If my son has a medical/dental appointment who do I notify?
   a. Please email all information to your Boarding House Coordinator – email addresses at the front of this booklet.

3. Where do I find the Year Coordinator’s contact details?
   a. At the front of this booklet and also on the College website and calendar.

4. Where are the details about weekend sport?
   a. All details regarding the venues for Weekend Sport are on the College calendar.

5. How does my son access additional money if needed?
   a. The College has its own ATM machine in the finance department and the students are able to access the machine during lunch time.

6. When is the best time to contact my son?
   a. You will see the Routine page within this booklet. The boys can be contacted after College and at any time out of the allocated study times and before lights out.

7. Where can I stay when I come to visit my son other than at Badgally House? (always mention you are a St Greg’s Parent!!)
   a. The Colonial Motor Inn - 02 4625 2345
   b. The Hermitage – 02 4628 1144 Rydges Campbelltown – 02 4645 0500
   c. Maclin Lodge – 02 4628 3788
   d. The Quest Apartments – 02 4622 4900
PARENT ACCOMMODATION

Badgally House

Limited accommodation at the College is available to boarding parents and can be booked for a short stay. The rooms are comfortable. The toilet and shower facilities are shared, and there is a common lounge room with TV. You are invited to share a meal with your son at ‘The Ref’ during your stay.

A donation for this accommodation would be greatly appreciated – this would cover our expenses. An envelope for this purpose will be left in your room. Reservations need to be made with:

Br Andrew Moraghan
0427 829 957
moraghan@yahoo.com
WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

The House Coordinators take the boys on “Day Trips” throughout each year. There have been trips to Jamberoo Action Park, visits to Darling Harbour and fun times at Luna Park as well as Go Karting and Bowling experiences.

The boys go on regular weekend trips and enjoy special “Theme Nights” in the ref where they get to experience all different types of cuisine.