Igniting Potential, Inspiring Passion & Purpose
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Welcome from the Principal

As Principal of Ravenswood, my vision is to ignite within our girls a passion for excellence, empowered by grit and resilience, so that they fulfill their potential, flourish and lead meaningful lives.

Since 1901, Ravenswood has embraced a strong tradition of educational excellence – developing young women of purpose who are empowered and inspired by the highest quality of teaching and learning experiences.

Christian Ethos and Guiding Principles
We are guided by our Christian ethos and our Guiding Principles of Excellence, Respect, Optimism, Courage and Compassion.

A Positive Education and Visible Wellbeing School
Ravenswood is the first school in New South Wales to adopt a Visible Wellbeing approach in the field of Positive Education.

World-Class Facilities
We are located in Sydney’s picturesque and leafy upper North Shore and our girls enjoy beautiful, idyllic grounds and world-class award winning facilities. Ravenswood is located 15 kilometers from Sydney’s city centre, within five minutes’ walk of the main train line.

Friendly Diverse Student Community
Our girls often refer to the keen sense of belonging they experience and the warmth of the atmosphere which, I believe, reflects the positive relationships and friendships made here.

Ravenswood welcomes girls from Kindergarten to Year 12, including day students, local, rural and international boarders. Approximately 1050 girls attend Ravenswood, making it an ideal size to provide individual care and support.

The opportunities are broadened even more through our close relationship with our brother school, Knox Grammar School.

Igniting Potential, Inspiring Passion and Purpose
At Ravenswood, we believe in igniting the potential of every girl, inspiring her passion and sense of purpose to lead the most meaningful life.

I encourage you to experience for yourself the spirit of this wonderful school and community.

Mrs Anne Johnstone
Principal, Ravenswood School for Girls
Our Christian Ethos and Guiding Principles
As a Uniting Church of Australia school, Ravenswood is built upon Christian foundations and the Guiding Principles of Excellence, Respect, Optimism, Courage and Compassion define our strengths and support us.

**Excellence**
We value excellence and the fulfilment of our potential in study and play, individually and in teams, at school and in our community and in local, national and international contexts.

**Courage**
We have courage of conviction, confidence to ask the hard questions, to be enquiring of the world and act independently with resilience in the face of adversity.

**Respect**
We are fair-minded in our thinking and actions and foster acceptance, tolerance and understanding. We acknowledge and celebrate diversity.

**Compassion**
We are giving of our time and our energy, our emotions and friendships and we foster caring thoughtful relationships.

**Optimism**
We are purposeful and positive in our outlook on life, believing in and understanding our unique capabilities as individuals to make a difference to contribute to humanity, to craft our own destiny.
Ravenswood is the first school in NSW and one of only 10 in Australia to be selected to implement a Visible Wellbeing approach to Positive Education under the guidance of Professor Lea Waters, Professor and Founding Director of the Centre for Positive Psychology, University of Melbourne.

Positive Education offers a range of evidence-based approaches that promote wellbeing and resilience within an educational setting. It not only helps develop character but also promotes learning and achievement.

Our aim is to help students establish optimistic habits of mind that are helpful in propelling them forward in their learning and development. We enable our students to discover their own strengths and how to harness these to find a greater sense of engagement and flow to optimise their learning and their experiences, both within and beyond the classroom.

Our Visible Wellbeing approach and Wellbeing Program is a multi-layered system of support and guidance provided by class teachers, Mentors, Year Coordinators, Assistant Year Coordinators and the Director of Positive Education and Wellbeing. The School Chaplain, Psychologists, Learning Enrichment team and Health Care Unit are also available to our girls for support, guidance and advice.

As an all-girls’ school, Ravenswood knows girls and how best to empower them to flourish. Research has shown an all-girls’ school enhances opportunities for girls to excel. Combined with Ravenswood’s Visible Wellbeing approach to Positive Education, students are equipped with the skills and confidence to pursue academic excellence in any area they choose, including the gender atypical subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).
The recognition of the uniqueness of each student as a learner underpins the Ravenswood Learning Framework from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Promoting a culture of inquiry and collaboration, the Ravenswood learning environment nurtures students to extend and challenge themselves to excel. A vibrant and multi-faceted curriculum combined with an extensive range of learning opportunities and enrichment programs, allows our girls to pursue their individual interests and realise their talents.

Our teachers develop each student’s potential in order to help them recognise their strengths, achieve their best and appreciate the world around them.

At Ravenswood, we strive to nurture the students by coming together in collaborative partnership between classroom teachers, subject specialists and Learning Enrichment staff, the Wellbeing team, parents and other specialists. By openly sharing and working together in the pursuit of successful learning, we build our collective capacity to make a profound difference in the girls’ ability to be the best they can possibly be.
The Ravenswood Junior and Secondary Schools are on one idyllic, convenient campus set in leafy grounds on Sydney's North Shore.

Our girls enjoy the benefits of award-winning world-class facilities including the Mabel Fidler Building, state-of-the-art Learning Resources Centre and SciTech Centre. The Centenary Centre features a performing arts Auditorium, Music Centre and open exhibition space.

Girls also enjoy dance studios, our large grassed sports oval, athletics field, tennis, outdoor basketball and netball courts.

The large indoor sports and recreation centre features a multi-purpose space for indoor basketball, netball and badminton, a Strength and Conditioning Centre and 25-metre heated indoor swimming pool and diving facility.
Ravenswood is an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School that, as a candidate school for the implementation of the Primary Years Programme, is implementing the framework of the Primary Years Programme (PYP) in Junior School to deliver the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) curriculum requirements.

In the Secondary School, girls are offered the choice of studying the New South Wales Higher School Certificate (HSC) or the IB Diploma in Years 11–12. This choice recognises that students in this phase of their development require programs that provide flexibility and choice, and cater for individual preference.

Both the IB Diploma and HSC are recognised tertiary entry qualifications for Australian and overseas universities. The IB Diploma is a two-year rigorous course, which provides a liberal educational experience giving students the opportunity to develop excellent independent learning skills, become critical thinkers and extend their international and intercultural understanding.

Ravenswood has a proud tradition of academic excellence with girls consistently achieving outstanding academic results in the NSW Higher School Certificate and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme, well above the Australian and world averages.

Ravenswood graduates gain entry to many prestigious Australian and international university courses.
Global Engagement, Cultural Diversity and Social Justice

Our school community is comprised of girls from local, national and global communities, covering a diverse range of nationalities. We welcome and celebrate the diverse cultures at Ravenswood and the significant contribution each girl brings to the life of the school.

Our Global Experience and Social Justice Programs provide inter-cultural and service learning through overseas and interstate educational visits, study of languages and exchange programs. These programs are conducted in Europe, the USA, Asia and the Pacific region, combining the cultural experience of international travels with an outreach component, allowing girls to see beyond their own world and truly understand their place in a global society.

Learning about and advocating for social justice is integral to the Ravenswood curriculum, with local and global social justice initiatives embraced by students across all Year Groups.

Immersion programs are also offered for students to experience the daily life of communities including Cambodia and Fiji, enabling students to undertake service learning projects.

Students are also offered a range of subject-related and co-curricular tours including the Years 7-9 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) tour to the USA and the biennial tour to Nouméa for students of French.

Ravenswood has also established partnerships with a number of overseas schools in Asia, Europe, Canada, the USA and New Zealand, providing the opportunity for language and cultural exchange programs.
Always towards better things

semper ad meliora
Sports on offer at Ravenswood include:

- Athletics
- Badminton (Secondary School)
- Basketball
- Cricket (Secondary School)
- Cross Country
- Diving
- Equestrian
- Football (Soccer)
- Golf
- Gymnastics (Artistic and Rhythmic)
- Hockey (Secondary School)
- House sport
- Kanga Cricket (Junior School)
- Minkey Hockey (Junior School)
- Netball
- Rowing (Secondary School)
- Snowsports
- Softball/Modball/Teeball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Touch Football
- Water Polo (Secondary School)

Sport for All

Our ‘sport for all’ philosophy at Ravenswood provides opportunities for all girls to participate at all skill levels, promoting both inclusiveness and the physical and mental wellbeing aspects of sport.

Being involved in sport builds confidence, encourages teamwork and helps facilitate friendships outside of the classroom. At Ravenswood, we believe that sport should be fun, as well as competitive and teach girls how to enjoy success and accept disappointment.

Programs for beginners to elite training opportunities are offered across a broad range of sports. Whether students are competing in state or national competitions or having fun in a social team, they are encouraged to strive for their best.

Across the Junior and Secondary Schools, Ravenswood is represented in the Independent Schools associations of the Independent Primary School Heads of Australia (IPSHA) and the Association of Independent Girls’ School Sporting Association (IGSSA) in a range of sports.

The famous ‘Ravo’ spirit abounds whenever there are House carnivals or interschool competitions.
Performing and Visual Arts

PERFORMING ARTS

At Ravenswood, students can participate in an extensive and dynamic performing arts curricular and co-curricular program across Music, Drama, Dance, Speech and Technical Theatre, that encompasses students from all Year Groups. We believe that all students should have the opportunity to be creative and enjoy learning new skills. Students showcase their outstanding talents at performances and productions.

Music

With a wide selection of bands, strings, ensembles and vocal groups that cater to all musical abilities and experiences, students from Kindergarten to Year 12 have the option to explore and extend their musical talents. Private music tuition can be arranged through the school.

Drama

Our Drama program provides wonderful outlets for creative expression and imagination with girls involved in productions, both on stage and behind the scenes, in set production, lighting, sound and special effects.

Dance

An extensive selection of dance styles and classes are available for students of all abilities and ages, from beginners through to our elite dance companies, accommodated in our purpose built dance studios.

Speech

Ravenswood provides extensive opportunities for girls to develop their skills in public speaking. Through our debating and public speaking programs, our girls are able to develop confidence and learn the skills to effectively articulate their voice.

VISUAL ARTS

Ravenswood has a proud tradition of excellence in Visual Arts, with many students being selected each year for ARTEXPRESS, the prestigious HSC Major Works exhibition that showcases the most outstanding works across the State each year in Visual Arts.

Girls are supported by a Visual Arts curriculum which focuses on strong technical skill development and critical investigation.

Students are extended on an individual basis and also have the option of after school specialist classes or working in studios with their teachers. Our Visual Arts teachers have a deep understanding of traditional and contemporary practice, many of whom are outstanding practitioners in their own right.
Inspiring Passion Beyond the Classroom

With more than 100 exciting and diverse co-curricular choices available, our girls have endless opportunities to explore their passions outside the classroom.

Co-curricular activities promote friendships in addition to the students’ regular class groups, strengthening their social network. Everything from dance to languages and swimming to woodwork is on offer, allowing the girls’ creative, physical and social talents to flourish.

In 2011, Ravenswood became the first girls’ school on Sydney’s North Shore to conduct cadets through the Knox Grammar School Army Cadet Unit. Cadets is an exceptional opportunity for girls to develop leadership skills, discipline and self-reliance in collaboration with their male peers. Other programs conducted in conjunction with Knox include Imagine, 4 the Future and Australian Business Week.

At Ravenswood, students are encouraged to participate, lead, compete and take risks; skills that prepare them for the challenges they face during their schooling years and beyond the school gates.
Girls enjoy a lively curriculum that embraces diversity and focuses on the key foundation skills of literacy, numeracy, personal spirit and citizenship.

The benefits of small classes enable us to assess individual differences in abilities and learning styles, with a clear understanding of each girl’s strengths.

Junior School is the platform for girls to grow and develop, being the best they can be, respected as individuals and innovative contributors.

Ravenswood offers an After School Care Program for Junior School girls and a Holiday Care Program for Junior School girls and their siblings in a safe, happy and caring environment, located at the school.
Our Secondary School

Our Secondary School for girls from Years 7-12, is a thriving community of learners where students receive the highest quality education delivered through a rich curriculum where girls can choose to undertake either the HSC or IB Diploma in the senior years. Progressing through to their senior years, girls are encouraged to become independent and self-directed learners, with a life-long appreciation for learning.

With a diverse range of co-curricular activities on offer, girls have ample opportunities to develop leadership skills and build lifelong friendships both within the Ravenswood community and beyond.

We prepare young women to go out into the world with passion, purpose and the confidence to realise their potential.
Ravenswood offers a boutique boarding experience for girls from Years 7-12 in the stylish Ravenswood Residential College (RRC) just a short walk from the school campus. We welcome students from metropolitan and country NSW, interstate and international destinations.

Boarding offers our Boarders a tight-knit, mature, safe community where lifelong friendships and bonds can be made.

The RRC was refurbished in 2017 and is a modern, stylish, warm and comfortable home-away-from-home for our community of 50 Boarders. Nurturing boarders within a ‘family’ community encourages girls to share their experiences while developing a sense of connection within the RRC.

Ravenswood also offers short-stay boarding and on occasions, Global Exchange students stay in the RRC as either Weekly or Full Boarders. These cultural exchanges provide a wonderful opportunity for our Boarders to learn about cultures from across the world.
Strength in Community

When you enrol your daughter at Ravenswood, your family is joining a warm and welcoming community. The strength of our community spans generations and transcends boundaries in its celebration of diversity, inclusiveness, generosity and connectedness.

Community is at the heart of our school and the link between parents, past students and staff forms an important partnership in the support of our girls’ academic success and personal wellbeing.

The Ravenswood Parents’ Association (RPA) plays an active role in our community through the organisation of parent activities and social events. All current parents are automatically members of the RPA.

Our thriving alumni network and the Ravenswood Old Girls’ Union (ROGU) are an integral part of the Ravenswood community. ROGU was established in 1908 by founding Principal, Mabel Fidler and membership is open to all past students.

Our Fidler Fellowship program enables initiatives and opportunities to be embraced by our students today and in the future.

Community is at the heart of our school
How to Apply

You’re invited to visit our school

We invite you to visit us and to experience for yourself the warm spirit of this wonderful school and community.

Please contact our Enrolments Office on enrol@ravenswood.nsw.edu.au or telephone +61 2 9498 9908 for more information or to book a tour. Tours may also be booked online at ravenswood.nsw.edu.au.

An Application Form, Terms and Conditions and details of the current Fee Structure are detailed in the ‘How to Apply to Ravenswood’ booklet.
Always towards better things