Boarding at St Hilda’s School

St Hilda’s School has been offering a caring community life for boarders for over a century. Boarders at St Hilda’s develop life-long friendships, enjoy the support and good humour of those around them, develop skills that will equip them for independent living when they leave the security of the School environment and enjoy the many cultural and recreational opportunities that are available on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.

We aim to develop:

- a supportive, enjoyable and stimulating environment where all are inspired and encouraged to achieve
- a nurturing partnership between parents/guardians, girls and the Boarding House
- boarders who are competent, independent learners with high self-esteem and who assume responsibility confidently
- an atmosphere where boarders accept that making mistakes is a natural part of developing and maturing
- boarders who contribute with good manners, grace and dignity, and who respect and show tolerance for the beliefs and values of others
- a respectful and caring approach for the environment in which they live
- a spiritual awareness, learn Christian values and moral values

Our Boarding Family

Boarders come to us from rural Queensland and Northern New South Wales. Around twenty international students from countries as diverse as New Caledonia, Germany, Macedonia, Japan, Papua New Guinea and Spain add to the cultural mix of the Boarding House, and some local students also move to the Boarding House for a term or longer to assist with their sports training schedule.

Boarders are cared for by staff including academic staff from the Day School, Old Girls, qualified registered nurses, Chaplains and experienced Boarding Staff, many of whom have teenage daughters of their own.

The Director and Deputy Director of Boarding live on campus and they, and the Duty Managers of each House, become well acquainted with the academic and pastoral needs of each girl and liaise with other staff and with Year co-ordinators.

Family and Friends

We understand that boarders would like to see their family as often as possible and we are happy to allow Weekend Leave with parents, friends or relatives from Friday 3.30pm to Monday morning by 7.30am.

Boarder’s Leave is available on any weekend with a host who has been approved by parents. Boarders may take Tea Leave with family members from 3.45pm to 8.00pm, weekdays, however boarders are expected to attend Chapel on Thursday evenings.

Weekend Life

A weekend recreation program provides a balanced environment in which our Boarders can grow and be challenged to extend themselves academically, culturally and physically.
Boarders are able to pursue their personal, sporting or cultural commitments, or participate in organised outings to shopping centres, the beach, the movies, ice skating, theme parks, local markets and other activities. Optional study, rest, relaxed activities with fellow boarders at the Sports Centre, the Gym, the Pool, Music Rooms, Computer Rooms and Library are also available to boarders over the weekend.

**Care when Boarders are sick**

Registered nurses are on site in our Health Centre from 7.30 am to 8.30 pm. In addition, our School Doctor holds clinics twice a week in the Boarding House which boarders are able to access. In the case of emergencies, students will be taken to Almamanda Private Hospital in Southport or Pindarra Private Hospital in Benowa. Both hospitals have a 24 hour Accident and Emergency Department.

**Food and Facilities**

Our talented Chef and catering staff provide a wide choice of food at each meal and at snack times. Special meals can usually be organized for students who have dietary requirements, including, low fat, vegetarian options, those with allergies or have had recent dental work that requires special food.

A more detailed explanation of the day-to-day functioning of the Boarding School is included in the Boarders’ Handbook which is provided with an offer of a boarding place.

**Clothes List for Boarders**

**Day School requirements**

1 Panama Hat  
1 Winter Hat  
3 Navy Senior Tunics  
5 White short-sleeved blouses  
5 Pairs White Socks with Navy Trim  
1 Pair black lace-up shoes  
2 Pairs Navy sports shorts or sports skirts with gym shorts  
2 White Sports polo shirts  
1 White/white sole sandshoes (Only soles that will not mark the floor are permitted on the courts and in the gymnasium)  
1 School jumper  
1 Blazer  
1 St Hilda's School swimsuit  
1 Swimming towel  
1 School Backpack  
1 School Sports bag

**Boarding School requirements for day-to-day needs**

1 Pair casual enclosed shoes  
1 Pair casual shoes (sneaker-style)  
1 Pair scuffs/slippers (to wear in the House)  
2 Sets winter weight nightwear  
2 Sets summer weight nightwear  
1 Dressing gown (flame retardant)  
1 Surf towel  
1 Swimsuit  
Underwear as required (please be generous as girls do not always do laundry promptly!)  
1 Raincoat/umbrella

**For Chapel/Theatre Occasions**

2-3 Dresses or skirts (minimum knee length) and blouses, dress pants (not jeans) and blouses (backless, strapless, singlet tops with thin straps or low cut tops are unacceptable)  
1 Pair closed dress shoes

**Miscellaneous Items**

1 doona and quilt cover  
1 raincoat or umbrella  
1 dozen coat hangers  
2 hats/caps/sun visors  
1 mug  
1 sewing kit  
1 washing basket  
1 mesh washing bag (purchased through Whitby House Shop)  
Front loader washing powder

**Camp Items**

1 sleeping bag  
1 waterproof jacket  
1 set cup, plate and utensils

**For Week Nights and Weekends**

Normal casual clothes may be worn. They may include dresses, skirts, jeans, T-shirts, blouses, tailored shorts, sun tops and other swim wear. Pullovers and cardigans should be included.