



About Blackfriars

Blackfriars is an independent Catholic school under the governance of the Dominican friars, committed to providing a well-rounded education – academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually – that caters specifically to the needs of boys. We develop young men who seek truth in life, walk with confidence and purpose and are inspired by the Four Pillars of Dominican life – Prayer, Study, Community and Service.

Blackfriars provides over 750 students from Reception to Year 12 with modern facilities, outstanding resources, world-class tuition and opportunities to explore and question, develop confidence in their abilities and identify and excel in their natural strengths.

The only school in Australia founded by the Dominican friars, Blackfriars remains faithful to the search for truth – *veritas* – as lived and taught by Dominicans across the world for the past 800 years. This search follows authentically in the footsteps and foundations described by St Dominic himself, and by the school's patron, St Albert the Great.

Since its establishment in 1953, Blackfriars has provided an inclusive and progressive educational environment where boys have every opportunity to find their way in the world.

Our Philosophy

The philosophy of Blackfriars is to educate in the pursuit of truth through a life of contemplation and action. We are a Christ-centred Eucharistic community, and this is reflected in all facets of our learning and teaching including an active prayer life and a passion for ministry, justice, peace, equality, religious education and pastoral care.

Our Dominican tradition commands us to recognise and accept the difference in ability and gifts of each student and differentiate learning and teaching appropriately. We synthesise faith and reason, recognising the signs of the times, so as to inspire boys to become fully human and reach their potential as balanced, humble men, who have a deep love for the world in which they live.

Our Mission

Blackfriars is a Catholic Dominican school for boys which promotes the spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development of each member of the school community. We aim, in co-operation with families, to engage students in an educational experience within the context of a Christian community which is fulfilling and rewarding.

Our Vision

To deliver excellence in boys' education through the provision of a transformative, vibrant and reflective learning community that equips and inspires students to confidently and successfully participate as men of integrity in a rapidly changing world.



Fr John Neill Scholarship

The Fr John Neill Scholarship is provided to assist with the tuition and school expenses for a Year 12 student attending Blackfriars. One scholarship is available annually.

Fr John Neill OP OAM was considered one of the founders of Catholic universities in Australia and was instrumental in Australian Catholic education for more than 50 years. He served the Blackfriars community for 25 years; 16 as the school's fifth Headmaster (1972 to 1988).

In 1978, Fr Neill was elected Chair of the Independent Headmasters Conference (South Australia), a significant and prestigious appointment in recognition by colleagues of his standing as an educator. He was the first Catholic to be appointed to this position.

In 2014, Fr Neill was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to education and to the Catholic Church in Australia.

Recipients of the Fr John Neill Scholarship receive a bursary covering the full tuition fee at Year 12 plus \$500 for approved in-school expenses (e.g. camps, excursions, uniform, stationery, etc.).

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Fr John Neill Scholarship in 2025, the applicant must be a domestic student, enrolled and attending Blackfriars in Year 11, 2024.

A student may hold only one scholarship at any one time at Blackfriars. Should a student holding a scholarship be awarded or offered another, his parents/guardians must select one between the two.

Selection criteria

Awarding of the Fr John Neill Scholarship is based on an applicant's:

1. commitment to exemplifying the Four Pillars of Dominican Life;
2. commitment to pursuing their studies with the mind of Christ; and
3. financial need and/or that of his parents/guardians.

Note: The responses given to selection criteria 1 and 2 in this application are to be completed by the student/applicant only - not the parents/guardians.



Closing date and submission details

Applications for the 2025 Fr John Neill Scholarship must be received by **4pm, Friday 12 April 2024**.

Applications can be submitted via post, emailed to registrar@bps.sa.edu.au or delivered in person to the Blackfriars Administration, marked for the attention of:

**The Scholarship Committee
Blackfriars Priory School
PO Box 86
PROSPECT SA 5082**

All application details will remain confidential to members of the Scholarship Committee.

Results

All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their scholarship application in due course.

Expectations of the scholarship recipient

Students receiving a Blackfriars scholarship will, along with their families, show a commitment towards making a positive contribution to the life of the school.

The Principal reserves the right to revoke a scholarship for appropriate reasons.

Further information

For further information, please contact Blackfriars Registrar, Linda Gavranic, at registrar@bps.sa.edu.au or during office hours on 08 8169 3954.



Student/Applicant details

Surname:			
Given name(s):			
Date of birth:			
Street address:			
Suburb:		Postcode:	
Year started at Blackfriars:			
Current year level:		Teacher / Home Group:	
Parish:			
Parish priest:			
Is the student currently receiving a scholarship or other financial assistance (e.g. School Card, Youth Allowance, etc.)? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If Yes, please specify:			

Parent/Guardian 1

Title:	<input type="radio"/> Mr <input type="radio"/> Mrs <input type="radio"/> Ms <input type="radio"/> Miss <input type="radio"/> Dr
Surname:	
Given name:	
Relationship to student:	
Occupation:	
Mobile phone:	
Email:	

Parent/Guardian 2

Title:	<input type="radio"/> Mr <input type="radio"/> Mrs <input type="radio"/> Ms <input type="radio"/> Miss <input type="radio"/> Dr
Surname:	
Given name:	
Relationship to student:	
Occupation:	
Mobile phone:	
Email:	



Family information

Names and ages of
applicant's siblings
(if applicable):

Acceptance of scholarship conditions

- ☐ I / We accept that the recipient of the scholarship will, along with their family, show a commitment towards making a positive contribution to the life of Blackfriars.
- ☐ I / We understand that the Principal reserves the right to revoke a scholarship for appropriate reasons.
- ☐ I / We understand that a student may hold only one scholarship at any one time at Blackfriars.
- ☐ I / We understand that if the recipient of the scholarship were to subsequently transfer to another school prior to graduation, the family is liable to repay the full value of the scholarship to Blackfriars.
- ☐ The responses provided to selection criteria 1 and 2 are the work of the student/applicant.

Signatures

Student/Applicant:		Date:	
Parent/Guardian 1:		Date:	
Parent/Guardian 2:		Date:	



Responses to selection criteria

1. Four Pillars of Dominican Life

Blackfriars is built upon the Four Pillars of Dominican Life - Prayer, Study, Community and Service. Please provide an explanation of how you embody the values of the Four Pillars in your life either at school, home or in the wider community.

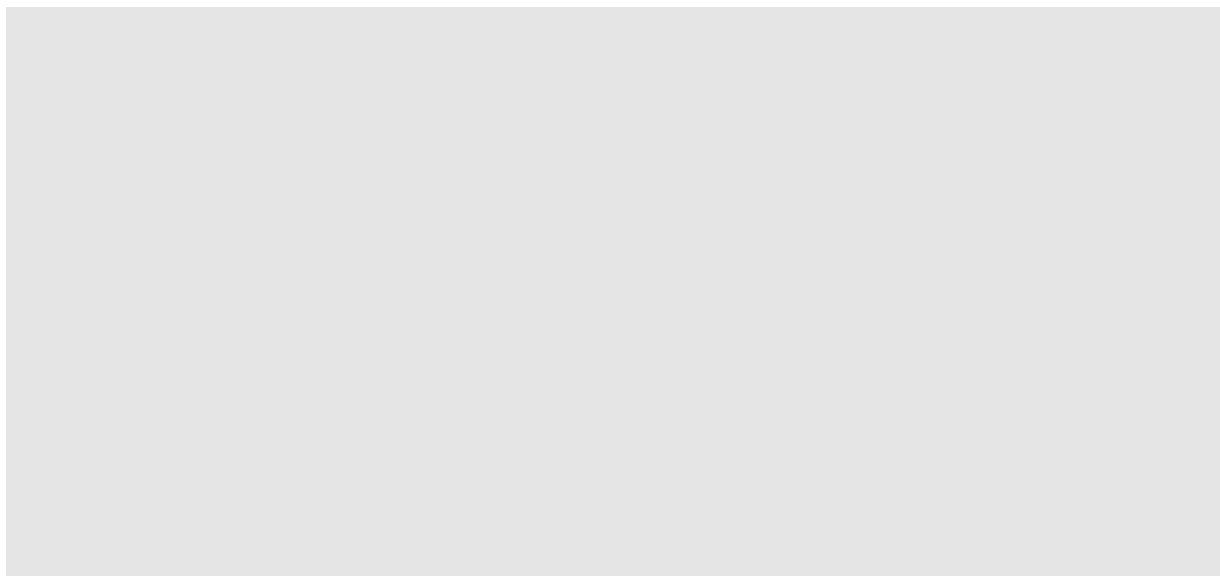
Prayer

Study

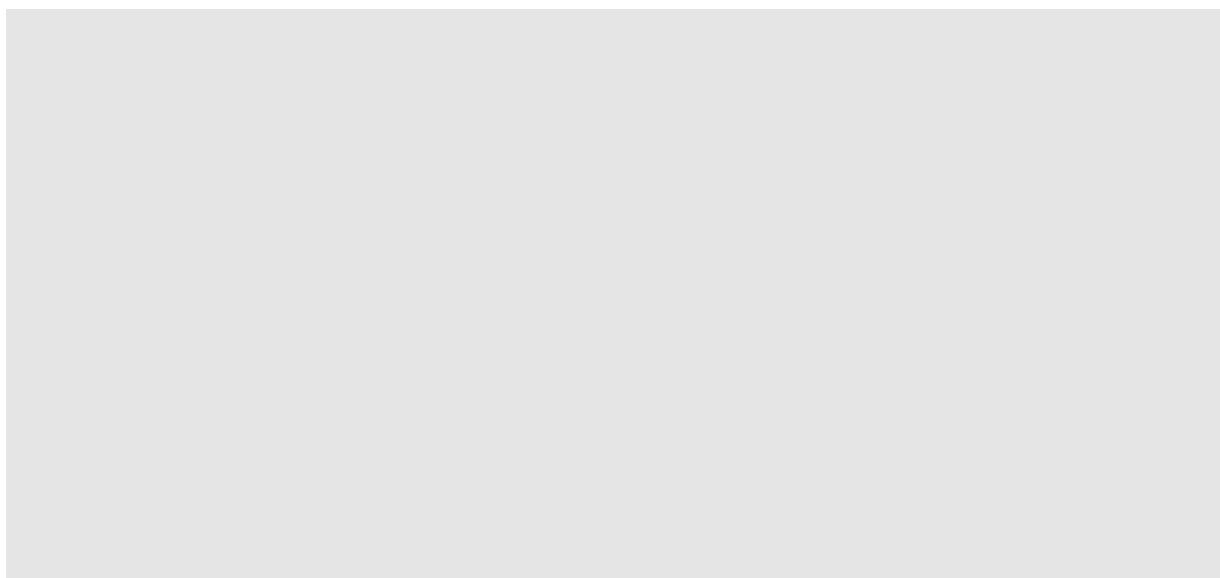




Community



Service





2. Mind of Christ

In 1 Corinthians 2:16, Paul makes a statement concerning all believers: '...we have the mind of Christ.' Having the mind of Christ means understanding God's plan in the world and sharing in the plan, purpose, and perspective of Christ.

This scholarship is named in recognition of Fr John Neill OP, the fifth Headmaster of Blackfriars. Fr Neill valued the importance of being both thoroughly professional in one's own discipline, as well as bringing a Catholic mind to that discipline. For example:

- physical scientists see that they are discovering God's world and God's laws;
- physical education teachers see the human person as an essential union of body and soul with an innate dignity and a destiny beyond the corruption of the body; and
- economists see systems as existing for the human person and not vice-versa.

Fr Neill strived for students to appreciate 'the specific body of knowledge and its associated skills with the mind of Christ.' He wanted students to consider their intention in studying the subjects, for what purpose they propose to use their skills, and how the subjects relate to other human values.

In your studies at Blackfriars, how will you bring the mind of Christ to one or more of the subjects that you plan to study in Year 12?



3. Financial need and/or that of your parents/guardians

Please provide any information pertaining to financial need that you feel comfortable sharing.

Supporting Documentation

Applicants are invited to attach up to ten (10) pages of supporting documentation relevant to demonstrating the selection criteria. This may include, but is not limited to, school reports, NAPLAN results, academic awards/certificates, sports, music or community group awards/citations and referee statements by teachers, coaches, mentors or religious ministers.