



St. Mary's Anglican Girls' School, Karrinyup, Western Australia and Saint Mary's School, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

Five weeks away can't be measured in days alone. You'll only be gone for a short time, but the experience will enrich the rest of your life. Living in another country while attending high school is something most people never have the opportunity to do. You'll return with new knowledge, cultural understanding, maturity and lifelong Australian friends. The hardest part will be leaving your exchange partner! She will have shared in your adventure and learned from you, as you will have from her and her family.

Welcome to Saint Mary's School exchange program with St. Mary's Anglican Girls' School, Karrinyup, Western Australia (Perth). This exciting opportunity is available to Saint Mary's rising tenth grade students. Two students will be selected through an application process to spend 5-6 weeks in Australia living with and going to school with an exchange partner and then hosting the exchange partner in Raleigh for an equal amount of time.

This exchange program offers a unique opportunity to learn about the culture and the life of those living in Western Australia and experience the day-to-day life of a student at St. Mary's Anglican Girls' School. The information below is an excerpt from St. Mary's welcome guide for exchange students.

About St. Mary's of Perth, Australia

St Mary's Anglican Girls' School was founded in West Perth in 1921 and relocated to Karrinyup some forty years later. The school's well-appointed, air-conditioned buildings and modern facilities set on secure, landscaped grounds enhance the school's academic and co-curricular programmes.

St Mary's is approximately twelve kilometres north of the Perth city centre. It is close to a major shopping centre and to some of the city's best beaches, with the many restaurants and beachside cafés of Scarborough close by. St Mary's is a well-established school with great facilities, including a 50m swimming pool, a diving pool, tennis courts, dance studio, a performing arts centre, two large gymnasiums and much more. St Mary's staff members are very friendly and helpful and are willing to assist exchange students in any way they can.

The school enrolment consists of approximately 1460 students from Kindergarten to Year 12, 180 of whom are boarding students from rural Western Australia and overseas. The school enjoys an enviable reputation for academic excellence as well as achievement at the highest level in music, drama, art, debating, sport and outdoor education. It is also renowned for encouraging participation by students of all levels of expertise in a wide range of extracurricular activities.

St Mary's at Metricup: A Centre for Learning and Leadership is the school's beautiful outdoor education facility, which opened in 2008. Set in natural bushland in the heart of the Margaret River wine region, the Centre is the first of its kind for an all girls' school in Western Australia. Students in Years 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11, as well as surfing, music and language groups, enjoy school camps at this wonderful facility.

School Address and Website

St Mary's is located at 75 Elliott Road, Karrinyup, Western Australia, 6018. Our postal address is PO Box 105, Karrinyup, Western Australia, 6921.

The school's website address is: www.stmary's.wa.edu.au. We encourage you to take a look at our website as it will give you much more information about the school.

Expectations of Exchange Students

Whilst you are on exchange you will be acting as an ambassador for your school and the exchange will undoubtedly leave you with deep and long-lasting memories. If you take advantage of the many opportunities presented to you during your exchange, your time with us will be more rewarding.

You will be expected to abide by the St Mary's code of conduct. A copy of the school's code of conduct will be sent to you in the forms package and is also printed in the student diary for easy reference.

You must attend school every day unless prior arrangements have been made with your home school and St Mary's, and complete the required homework and assignments. You should participate actively in class, in the school community, and, if boarding, in events and activities planned for boarders.

There may be work from your own school that you need to complete. It is important that you keep in contact with your school in this regard and ask for help from your St Mary's teachers should you need it.

We encourage you to follow your passions and interests and involve yourself in the school's co-curricular programme. There are many clubs and teams that you can join and your host student will assist you with this.

Living with your host family

Whether you board at St Mary's and stay with your host family on weekends, or live with your host family throughout your exchange, it is important that you try to develop a positive relationship with them and they with you. You have come on exchange to see and do new things and they will be keen to show you around and give you a taste of life in Western Australia.

Whether it's a trip to Rottnest Island to see the native quokkas, to a nature park to see kangaroos and koalas or an Aussie barbecue on the beach, it is hoped that you will embrace these experiences with cheerfulness and enthusiasm. You will discover the similarities and differences in our culture and lifestyle from your own and understand more about the Australian lifestyle the more you involve yourself in the family's activities, outings and celebrations.

SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL

Exchange Trip Application St. Mary's Anglican Girls' School, Karrinyup, Western Australia July-October 2020

Term Dates

1. Saint Mary's School Raleigh to St. Mary's Anglican Girls' School Australia- **July 11 - August 16, 2020**: <https://www.stmarys.wa.edu.au/>
2. St. Mary's Anglican Girls' School Australia to Saint Mary's School Raleigh – **September 3 – October 7, 2020**

Eligibility

- Students will be chosen by a committee of Saint Mary's School faculty and staff based on the following criteria:
- Applicant must be in good academic standing and without any documented behavioral issues and must agree to follow all rules of the program and submit required forms and information in a timely manner.
- Applicant must be a rising Saint Mary's School sophomore (between Grade 9 and 10) at the time of the exchange.
- A current passport is required to travel to Australia.
- Individual members of the selection committee will interview applicants.
- Applicant will be required to sponsor and host a student from St Mary's Anglican Girls' School for five weeks in September-October 2019.
- The cost of the program is approximately \$3,000* and does not include personal expenses while in Perth. (*if the airlines drastically change their taxes or fees, there may be a price adjustment to reflect the new cost.)
- The application deadline is **Friday, January 18**, with students notified of selection by Friday, January 31. Please submit an electronic application to Lois Utt, Executive Assistant to the Head of School, lutt@sms.edu.

PERTH EXCHANGE APPLICATION 2020

Personal Information:

(To ensure correct processing, this form must be typed or printed clearly.)

Last Name: _____ Class Year: _____

First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Birth date: _____

Email: _____ Advisor: _____

Parent/Guardian Names:

Parent/Guardian e-mail:

Telephone: (home) _____ (work/cell) _____

Best way to reach parent/guardian: _____

I have a current passport (good through 1/2021) and have attached a copy of the passport photo page

Passport number: _____ Place issued: _____

I do not have a current passport and plan to submit my passport application by the end of January 2020.

Please provide the names of two Saint Mary's faculty or staff members who know you well and who would be willing to support your application for the exchange program.

ESSAY:

Please **write** and **attach** to this application an essay which addresses the following questions:

- How could you benefit from participation in an international exchange during your high school career? Why Australia? What do you hope to learn from going to Australia and visiting St Mary's Anglican Girls' School?
- What qualifies you to be a good candidate for this exchange program?
- There are always difficulties and challenges that one faces when away from home and in a new environment. What challenges do you anticipate and how will you overcome them?
- Briefly list your major interests and the activities in which you are involved.
- If your application is successful, would your family be prepared to host/sponsor the exchange student who will come to Saint Mary's from Australia? What sorts of things would you plan to do with her?

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____