I can. I will.
Perhaps the most valuable ‘lesson’ a student can learn at Korowa is confidence. From the very first day at Korowa, each student is encouraged, challenged and inspired to apply effort to her gifts to accomplish her goals, no matter the domain in which those goals sit: academics, arts, sports, leadership, anywhere.

Established in 1890, Korowa Anglican Girls’ School is located in the leafy inner eastern suburb of Glen Iris. It has a student population of around 700 and is a girls-only school beyond the Early Learning Centre years. At Korowa, we have created an environment where girls can feel confident to explore and express their talents and individuality. We recognise the value of having opportunities to take risks, make mistakes and start over.

Each year, Korowa graduates undertake tertiary programs as diverse as medicine, business and design. Some take up cadetships with top level companies, sharing their time between study and work; others gain a place at prestigious overseas or interstate institutions where they continue to succeed.

And even after a girl no longer comes to Korowa every day, she’ll still be part of our extended family.

The development of abiding friendships between girls is a key characteristic of Korowa – and it’s no surprise that many of our students are daughters or granddaughters of former students. The strong sense of community at Korowa means that, as Korowa students embrace their adult life, they take with them both confidence and companionship.

I’d love to study medicine or engineering. And run a marathon. I can. I will.
Korowa enjoys an exemplary record of academic performance across all levels of the School.

Our VCE results consistently place Korowa in the top band of schools across the State and external tests of literacy and numeracy standards in earlier years exceed national averages.

Korowa’s university entry levels are among the highest in the State. These outcomes are all the more impressive given Korowa is a non-selective school meaning that girls of varying academic abilities are welcome at Korowa and, in general, remain with us for their entire education.

However, we are equally proud of our students’ successes outside the formal classroom setting. Korowa students have an enviable record of success across a myriad of areas from the sporting field, to the design studio, to the stage.

Korowa is committed to excellence in learning; excellence in learning for our students and excellence in learning for our staff. This commitment takes the form of expectations for how learning will look both inside and outside our classrooms and the behaviours we believe will ensure this commitment to excellence is realised for all our learners. We accept that learning, at times, will be uncomfortable. In particular, we will view learning from the perspective of our students; our success will be gauged from the impact of teaching on our students’ growth.

Korowa is committed to excellence in teaching; teaching at Korowa is viewed as an invitation to learn. This invitation supports our Excellence in Learning propositions and is premised on promoting a growth mindset in all our learners: students and staff. Through the application of a common model of practice, we believe we will maximise the learning opportunities for our students.

Korowa is committed to excellence in leadership; excellence in leadership is a complex undertaking. An undertaking in which our students and teachers need to develop and demonstrate both leadership character and competence. Our students will do this by learning from outstanding role models as well as through experience in a range of formal and informal leadership opportunities at Korowa. Our teachers will do this by extending their professional expertise and contributing to the broader educational scene. We all must understand our shared responsibility to make a positive contribution to our community, our workplace and the world.

This approach, combined with experienced and dedicated teachers, an innovative curriculum and constant and careful monitoring of performance and wellbeing, creates a powerful catalyst for success. Of course, a successful education means getting it right from the start. The early years of education are vital in establishing sound literacy, numeracy and research skills. It can be hard to play ‘catch up’ with a child’s education if these milestones are not cemented from the beginning. We build this solid foundation in Junior School, which is further consolidated throughout the Middle and Senior School years.

It is our intent that all students are prepared to try something new and take some risks. This approach builds confidence and girls learn that, with effort, they can achieve success in areas they never imagined possible – and once they have a positive mindset, anything is achievable now and into the future.

I want to be a photographer.

Or, maybe a wildlife conservationist?

I can. I will.
At Korowa, we believe that students must feel safe, happy and supported at school to maximise their learning.

Our comprehensive student wellbeing program focuses on developing mutual respect and confidence among all members of our school community. It encompasses everything we do to meet the personal, social and emotional needs of our students in the curriculum and in all other aspects of school life. The wellbeing of students is a priority for all staff.

Student wellbeing is embedded in the core curriculum with specialised components forming part of the Personal Development Program. It is sequential in nature and addresses the learning and developmental needs of the students as they move through the school. In all year levels, there is a strong focus on healthy relationships and positive communication.

The program explores different learning styles to maximise student learning as well as study strategies and stress and time management techniques. Cyber-safety and citizenship, general health and wellbeing are important aspects of the program. The Middle and Senior School students also address drug and alcohol education, sexual health education and career pathways.

In the Junior School student wellbeing and personal development programs are delivered by class teachers. In the Middle and Senior Schools specialist external providers are also utilised. The program encompasses classroom workshops, seminar days as well as residential retreats at certain year levels.

At any time, students can access the support of specialist staff such as our School Counsellor, Health Carer or School Chaplains who can provide additional support for the student and their family, as required. In the event that inappropriate behaviours occur, our focus is on ensuring the emotional wellbeing of all students is maintained and those involved work together to resolve any conflict.
At Korowa our school size means we are able to offer all children a wide range of educational opportunities and activities. At the same time, we are small enough to know and value each student for their individual talents and personality. We intentionally limit our classes to a size that ensures every child has a voice and every child has a turn, but they are large enough for lasting friendships to develop. Our aim is to ensure that each student is fully engaged in the exchange of ideas. Classroom teachers are skilled in drawing out more hesitant girls without dampening the high spirits of others. Our students develop confidence, tolerance and team building skills as they are encouraged and challenged to discover their potential. Robust research clearly shows that girls achieve more in girls-only schools.

At Korowa girls don’t have to compete with boys to be heard in the classroom, so they are more likely to contribute to their own learning and to grow up confident with a high level of self-worth.

At Korowa, girls learn from a diverse range of positive role models. Here, the School Captains, the top maths student, the first violin and the best athletes are all girls. Leadership roles commence in the early years and leadership skills are fostered in all students.

We believe real leadership comes from within, is characterised by what we do, not just what we say, so we intentionally build leadership character and competence in our students.

Tolerance and valuing diversity are fundamental school values embraced by our students. All achievements are celebrated, no matter how big or how small. Here, each individual is respected in their own right.

I want to study medicine.
And, live in France.
I can. I will.

Part of the Action, Not Part of the Audience
A welcoming place; a warm place; an inviting place. When you spend most of your waking hours at school, it is important that you enjoy your surroundings.

Our pleasant campus provides a first-rate teaching and learning environment. Our facilities are purpose-built to meet the needs of each study area. Our playgrounds are large and leafy. Everyone can find a place to play a game, to kick a soccer ball or to chat with their friends under the trees.

There’s a place for everyone to participate at Korowa as well. All Junior School children have a role in the Junior School production. Similarly, there is a place in each Middle and Senior School production for those who wish to have one. We have enough music ensembles and orchestras to enable all aspiring musicians to perform.

Our size ensures that everyone can gain a place in a sporting team of their choice from netball, basketball and soccer through to our swimming, rowing and snow sports squads. And if there is not enough room, where we can, we just create a new team.

We are proud of the diversity of our student body and equally proud of our firmly established inclusive school culture which promotes tolerance, acceptance and open-mindedness across all year levels.

There is a place for everyone at Korowa.
Environmental Sustainability

As part of our strategic planning process, Korowa has identified and set clear goals for environmental sustainability and a number of green initiatives to help ensure our facilities are managed in an environmentally responsible way.

Passive cooling strategies and improved insulation have all contributed to reducing heating and energy costs, while still ensuring a comfortable learning environment. Korowa prides itself on its environmentally progressive ethos – we were one of the first schools in Australia to replace desktop computers with thin ‘Blade PCs’, which are highly energy efficient.

In a world of increasing climate change, we actively encourage Korowa students and staff to take responsibility for their environmental impact through minimising paper usage and monitoring energy and water usage. Similarly, from a curriculum perspective, environmental sustainability issues are regularly explored by students in both Junior and Middle School through research projects. Sustainability is also an integral aspect of our Food Technology program, with Korowa becoming one of the first independent schools to join the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, where students grow their own vegetables and herbs.

School Facilities

Korowa enjoys a pleasant and compact campus which contains the full range of facilities necessary to cater for all areas of study and interests. Our buildings all contain modern, open light-filled spaces designed to be conducive to an student-centred learning environment. Junior and Middle School students enjoy dedicated buildings. All students access our modern Science Wing and our new Food Technology Centre. Our new Music School and Drama studios provide flexible spaces ideal for many performing arts activities. The Beatrice K Guyett Assembly Hall caters for many school plays, productions, assemblies and major school events.

Both our Senior and Junior Libraries house an extensive collection of fiction, non-fiction and diverse electronic and printed educational resources. All students have access to excellent recording and editing facilities to facilitate the development of multimedia productions.

Ongoing ICT technical support is delivered by Korowa’s Computer Service Centre which is open to students on a daily basis. Our Visual Art Centre caters for the full spectrum of Art subjects and houses a photographic dark room, a graphic design studio, a ceramics studio and kiln, and general purpose art studios. In addition, the school has its own commercial art gallery, Gallery Ranfurlie, located on campus. As well as showcasing student work in a contemporary art space, the gallery regularly holds exhibitions of professional artists throughout the year, further deepening our students’ exposure to art beyond the classroom.

A first-rate grass oval, eight tennis courts, two gymnasia, netball and basketball courts and a heated swimming pool complete the setting.
Korowa students look to their future with optimism and energy. Our aim is for Korowa girls to complete their schooling with a strong sense of self and the confidence to go forward successfully in their life beyond Year 12.

We do not emphasise any area of study over another, preferring to maintain flexibility in individual programming and access, in line with the varied and differing needs of our students.

Our experience also shows that, if girls are to be well prepared for their life beyond Korowa, then academic study should not be their sole focus.

For this reason we offer a vast array of co-curricular programs and encourage all girls to participate in a wide variety of activities on a regular basis. Teachers see it as their responsibility to work with girls to help them develop interests and ambitions, and discover new passions.

We offer experiences that can have a lasting impact on lives including public speaking, debating, choirs, orchestras and music ensembles, camping, musical productions and competitions. The school produces its own dramas and musicals, and invites neighbouring boys’ schools to join in certain productions.

Our Academic Support Department supports the school’s commitment to nurture each student’s individual talents and capabilities. Dedicated staff seek to extend and challenge very able students as well as to support those requiring extra academic assistance.

Korowa has a strong reputation in traditional sports such as swimming, athletics and netball as well as more contemporary sports such as surf lifesaving, snowsports, diving and rowing. From the early years, girls are taught about their responsibility to the community beyond Korowa. Social Service is an important expression of our lifelong obligation to our wider community. Whether it is performing at an aged care facility or raising money for our school in Bangladesh, Korowa girls have an active social conscience.

As Korowa is an Anglican school, Christianity is the primary religious study, but all major religious traditions are explored over the years. Students are encouraged to respect all religious beliefs and practices. Religious education and the belief that spirituality is an essential part of a full life are just two of the pillars on which Korowa values are built.

International mindedness permeates virtually all curriculum areas at Korowa. Regardless of the subject being studied, a global perspective is encouraged. Mandatory studies in Asian and European languages allow students to develop cultural awareness and to see themselves as global citizens.

Overseas student exchanges also increase their awareness and understanding. With new and interesting challenges every year, we seek to draw out that confident, empowered young woman of the future.

We make every effort to ensure that students’ unique talents are given every opportunity to flourish.

I would like to be a professional musician.
Travel the world.
I can. I will.
The thread represents the journey of a Korowa student from their first day to becoming a Korovian, a member of the School’s alumni.