



**Inspirational role models:
the stories of students who
attended Marden Senior College
in the past.**

*The Register of Achievers is
dedicated to all students who have
attended Marden Senior College
and achieved their goals.*

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Aditya

Coming to Marden

In 2015 I was offered a place to study a Bachelor of Dentistry at University of Adelaide, however, I deferred the course for a year in the hope of being accepted into my preferred course. That's when I decided to enrol at Marden Senior College to improve my ATAR, in the hope that it would improve my chances of being selected for my desired course.

Experience at Marden Senior College

I commenced study at Marden in 2016 and enrolled in 3 subjects: Biology, Nutrition and Maths Methods. Marden offered a whole new level of independence compared to what my high school had offered me.

I really enjoyed this experience and in hindsight it has really helped me with handling my work at university.

Year 13 study at Marden was a very enjoyable experience. The teachers were exceptionally helpful and always ready to support me and guide me during unfamiliar situations.



A favourite aspect of Marden was the fun sport competitions held throughout the year. I remember taking part in the paper plane throwing contest, which I won, and the Ultimate Frisbee and the annual soccer match against Thebarton Senior College. Playing basketball with friends every lunch time at the MARS Centre right next door was also an enjoyable aspect of my 2016 Marden experience. These activities provided a welcome break from the rigours of study.

Achievements to date

Since leaving Marden, I gained entry into The Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at University of Adelaide. Currently I am a first year student, and have loved every moment of the course so far. In the future, I hope to do a research honours and one day specialize in a surgical branch of medicine.



Ashleigh

Coming to Marden

I chose to move to Marden Senior College as my previous high school did not have an atmosphere that fostered my love of learning. As Marden is a place for people who actually want to be at school it provided me with the change in atmosphere that I needed.

Experience at Marden Senior College

I chose to study English Communications, Mathematical Methods, Biology, Nutrition, and Research Project in Year 12. The teachers at Marden Senior College were wonderful educators who supported me through all stages of my studies. One teacher stood out particularly for me. Prior to Marden I had never considered English Communications as a subject option for Year 12. However, after having this teacher in year 11 and with her constant encouragement and motivation, I enrolled in the subject in Year 12 and I had the same teacher and received my best result overall in English Communications.

At Marden I was Co-President of the Student Government Association (SGA).

“The world hates change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress.”

This allowed me the opportunity to attend monthly Governing Council meetings, speak at the Year 12 Graduation and attend a function at Government House where I met the Governor of South Australia. The SGA also held regular BBQs, a formal, and organised Year 12 jackets for the students. I loved my time as a part of the SGA and was inspired to take on numerous roles like this during my time at University.

The way Marden was structured, particularly the timetabling of subjects, made my transition to university easier than I expected. It was also especially easy to make friends at Marden as we all had a common interest and that was our education. When I first decided to change schools, it was quite daunting however it was one of the best decisions I made and I do not believe I would have received the results that I did in year 12 without this change.

Achievements to date Since leaving

Following my graduation from Marden Senior College I was successful in my application to study a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours). Whilst I enjoyed my first semester in this program I soon realised that this degree was not going to provide me with a career I would be passionate about. I have since transferred to a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) which I am six months from completing.

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Jess

Coming to Marden

Having already completed my SACE, I enrolled at Marden in 2014 with the goal of improving my knowledge of the sciences, while seeking another opportunity to enter an undergraduate medical course. Marden provided the flexibility that could accommodate my unique learning requirements and offered guidance from teachers with a wealth of experience.

Experience at Marden Senior College

Many students have described Marden as an institution built on independence and self-learning. Although, initially this seemed to be true, I eventually realised that the teachers and staff were undeniably supportive in assisting their students to achieve future goals. The teachers at Marden equipped students with skills required beyond secondary education. I began to reflect on their advice in the final years of tertiary study and realised that with great diligence, perseverance and patience, these goals could potentially become reality.

I was met with several challenges during my year at Marden, which ended in greater disappointment when I was unable to pursue medicine. At first, the reality was difficult to accept, as my heart was set on medicine. However, little did I know, this 'failure' would lead to other opportunities that commenced my future in research. Currently in my final year of the Bachelor of Medical Science, I have learnt to overcome more of these challenges, which has helped me to become more open-minded.



Achievements to date

The research driven nature of my course has provided many opportunities to work with research fellows, lecturers and professors. I was fortunate enough to gain research skills during my summer and winter research scholarships through Flinders Medical Centre, the Heart Research Institute, and the University of Sydney.

These opportunities have lead me to realise the importance of a research background in clinical practise and how a clinical background could also assist researchers in finding better treatment for patients. My ultimate goal is pursue a career in medicine as a clinician, with a focus on research in my field of interest.

“Never give up, great things take time.”



Matthew

Coming to Marden

Marden allowed me to pursue a Year 12 course that was not available at my own school.

Experience at Marden Senior College

I studied in the evening class to complete Stage 2 Geology. It was an excellent learning environment and the course was well structured, I found that it made my first year of university Geology much easier. In my class, many students came from different schools and it was interesting to see friendships develop. I met different people I wouldn't have, had I not chosen to study at Marden. Some even continued to university with me.

The most important thing I learnt at Marden, apart from the knowledge, was skills in self-directed learning. Marden treats students like an adult. I very much appreciated this environment. It allowed me to really have control over my learning.

At Marden I was taught how to think critically, something that I've used in every aspect of my life. Being a scientist truly changes how you see the world.

"If everybody is thinking alike then somebody isn't thinking."

Achievements to date

I was able to enter my first preference university degree due in part to my academic achievements at Marden. I studied a Bachelor of Science at University of Adelaide and specialized in Geophysics and Environmental Biology. I finished my bachelor degree and completed my post graduate honours year in Geophysics, where I wrote my thesis on gravity anomalies associated with mineral bearing faults. Since graduating I have done contract work for a geophysical consultancy, performing magnetic surveys in the exploration of minerals in the south east of the state.

I'm currently applying for graduate positions at large companies and in addition I volunteer with the Australian Society of Explorational Geophysicists (ASEG), planning events and networking.

My goal for the future is to be in an occupation where I can apply my knowledge and skill set in order to somehow better society, the state or the country.

Message to students

There's a quote I like from General George S. Patton. "If everybody is thinking alike then somebody isn't thinking." With science this is increasingly true; always question what you see and always look for different ways in which something can be explained.

Michael

Coming to Marden

I wanted to return to school because I knew I was capable of more after receiving my first ATAR result of 50.85 in 2011. The first time I attempted year 12 I had little direction, motivation and determination to do well. Therefore, it took me a year out of school to really appreciate the benefits behind doing well in school while finding some direction in my life.

This is why I chose to repeat Year 12 at Marden. It was, and still is a flexible and friendly work environment where you are treated like an adult with regards to achieving your own goals whilst always offering you the help to achieve them.

Experience at Marden Senior College

When I first arrived at Marden I was terribly nervous about repeating Year 12 and often wondered if I had bitten off more than I could chew. However, it became obvious that your potential to succeed was unbound if you were willing to dedicate yourself towards achieving your goals. With the fantastic assistance I received from my teachers, I was able to pursue my ambitions in a mature and independent manner but was always able to find assistance along the way. What I loved about Marden were all the individuals I met along the way who were all there to further their education. This made making friends easy and created strong bonds which I still share with my friends from Marden today.

When I graduated I received the 'Best All Rounder' award and a new ATAR of 97.80.



The year I spent at Marden was one of the greatest investments of my life and I would strongly encourage anyone to pursue the same path. Marden represented a life changing step for which I will always be grateful.

Achievements to date

Since then I have gone on to complete a Bachelor of Medical Science (IBMS) at the University of South Australia and have just received an offer to undertake an honours program at Flinders University studying viral metabolomics at the new Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer Research (FCIC). Looking forward, I'm hoping to gain entry into postgraduate medicine.

"Whilst at Marden I would encourage patience and a dedicated work ethic. However, don't consume yourself in your studies as you will eventually burn out. Enjoying a healthy social life while prudently working through individual assessments in a dedicated manner is your greatest chance for success."



Parwana

Coming to Marden

I wanted to complete my SACE and enter university to continue my dream goal which was to move forward and build a bright future for myself through education.

I chose Marden Senior College because my friend told me most teachers are specialists in their subjects and also it prepares you for university. Students learn and study independently which is the best preparation for university.

Experience at Marden Senior College

I successfully completed Year 12 at MSC. I studied Biology, English as a Second Language, Maths Studies and Persian. I really liked the learning environment and the welcoming nature that the College embraces.

"I highly recommend MSC to future students who want to achieve great outcomes and reach their dream goals. Marden Senior College prepares you to enter university and open many doors to success."

It was so quiet and any kind of help was easily available for students. Everything was very difficult for me, especially writing essays and reports, as English is my second language. However, the teachers were so generous with their time, encouraging and friendly. Studying at MSC helped deepen my understanding of the importance of questioning and communicating to achieve good outcomes.

Even though I found it very challenging, it was one of the greatest experiences of my life. I will forever cherish my teachers as they were amazing and I was so confident I could get help to improve if I asked.

Achievements to date

I had a one year break after graduating from Year 12. I am currently completing a Bachelor of Nursing at the University of South Australia. My future goal is to work as a registered nurse and professional interpreter, and to possibly study optometry or medicine.

Saba

Coming to Marden

As I had already completed Year 12, my ultimate reason for coming to Marden Senior College was to improve my ATAR in order to get into my desired course in the health field at university. I chose Marden Senior College because of the flexible, independent learning environment that it offered.

Experience at Marden Senior College

Although I was hesitant at first about commencing Stage 2 subjects at school again, my experience at Marden turned out to be very pleasant. Marden's teaching staff definitely had a great impact during my time there. The staff were approachable and understanding of the students' needs and their goals. I was fortunate enough to have teachers, some of whom I am still in contact with today, who were always encouraging and willing to go out of their way to assist me in working at my highest potential.

During my time at Marden, I studied five subjects: Chemistry, Biology, Mathematical Methods, Nutrition and Accounting. The invaluable support and feedback from my teachers, along with the independent studying habits that I developed, greatly contributed to my success in those subjects. As a result, I was able to achieve an ATAR of 99.65.



Achievements to date

After graduating from Marden Senior College, I commenced studying a Bachelor of Health Sciences in Dentistry and Masters in Dentistry at La Trobe University in Victoria and I am currently in my second year.

In the future, I hope to utilise my knowledge and skills in a way that benefits the wider community, especially the disadvantaged, both in Australia and overseas. In conjunction with this, one of my goals is also to further specialize in a specific area of dentistry.

"You might not always succeed in what you want straightaway. However in the end, anything is achievable when there is determination and persistence."



“Students with any obstacles, kudos to you for still learning, growing, and investing in your future.”

Susannah

Coming to Marden

I was recovering from health issues, and looking to invest in new passions. I decided to do a research project on “How amateur writers become published authors”.

Experience at Marden Senior College

At Marden, it was wonderful to be encouraged in my pursuit of health and education. My passion for writing grew as I researched publishing and spoke to authors.

I am now in my third year of an Advanced Diploma in Professional Writing (Journalism). My Research Project teacher recommended this course when I left Marden in part because it was external, allowing me to continue my recovery. I thoroughly enjoy it!

Achievements to date

When I regained my health, studying externally allowed me to travel, submitting assignments from throughout Australia.

I also invest time in activism, especially around indigenous and animal rights.

The experiences I gain through travel and activism sometimes push me outside of my comfort zone, but constantly expose me to fascinating minds and inspire me to write.

I don’t know what the future holds, but I hope to use my new writing skills. I would love to publish articles. I am also becoming intrigued by philosophical fiction, debating, and radio. As long as I’m learning and writing, I’m happy.

Tam

Coming to Marden

I wasn't sure what to do when I left school during Year 12. I didn't have any ambition at the time which was probably due to some personal issues. I completed Certificate III in Commercial Cooking and became an apprentice chef. Then I changed my mind and decided there was more opportunity pursuing a university education.

Experience at Marden Senior College

The subjects I studied were: Economics, Biology, Legal Studies, English Communications and Maths Applications. It was very refreshing to return to school. Everyone was very kind. It was a great environment for returning and continuing students. At Marden, students were interested in self-development and learning. The teachers and staff were very supportive and nurturing. They really helped me, especially when personal issues were escalating. Marden had a very positive impact on my life. I wasn't confident in my ability to study. My time at Marden helped me build that confidence, which helped me succeed at university. In future, I hope that I can inspire others with the same kindness and wisdom that I received at Marden.

"No matter how difficult life becomes, as long as you persevere you can survive and succeed. The pursuit of happiness is never too far off."

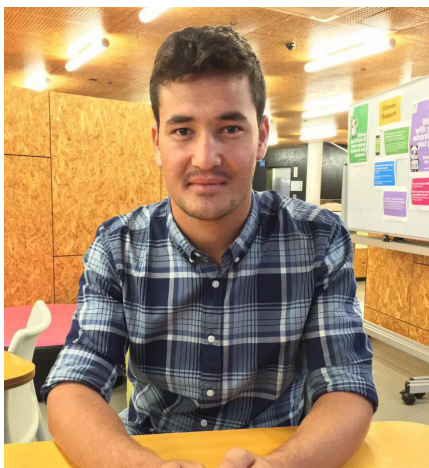


Achievements to date

My achievements at Marden included, outstanding achievement awards in Economics, Legal Studies and Maths Applications, an ATAR of 97.95, a Principal's Scholarship and an Economics Merit. My achievements to date include Excellence Awards in: Microeconomics I, International Financial Institutions I, Business and Economics Statistics and the Commercial Law I prize.

Thankfully, I have become more humble and I understand that failure and mistakes are part of the learning process. Today I am completing my final semester of a Bachelor of Economics (Adv.) majoring in Finance and commenced work at The Department of Treasury and Finance SA.

My future goals include graduating, developing SA's economy, owning a home, losing weight and winning judo and kudo competitions.



Yasin

Coming to Marden

I decided to return to school in order to complete Year 12 and obtain an ATAR for university entry. The reason I came to Marden was because it is a senior secondary college while providing all my preferred subjects which were related to my further study at university.

Experience at Marden Senior College

My experience at Marden was a life changing one that I will treasure for the rest of my further study and career. I was fortunate enough to meet and study under the guidance of academic teachers who were always available to provide support and give their valuable extra time to help students.

Before coming to Marden I had attempted to enrol in a number of other schools. Due to personal experiences I stopped thinking about study and obtained a full time job. A year later, I decided to try one more time.

“An individual’s greatest weakness is giving up. To succeed at things in life, you may have to try it one more time.”

Enrolling at Marden was the best decision I made. Marden gave me a new life, direction and encouragement. It also gave me a reason to work hard and achieve a goal that I never thought possible. The help I received from my teachers and the counsellors with overcoming my negative mindset and managing my life was the key driving force and it turned my whole life around.

The most significant part of my time at Marden was the support from teachers, their willingness to help and their encouragement to achieve my potential. I also really liked the catch up classes created to help students who needed further help with their study and I am glad that I used those classes appropriately.

Achievements to date

After graduating from Marden in 2014 with an outstanding achievement for my subjects, I received an offer for my first preference (electrical and electronic engineering) from the University of Adelaide. I was also lucky enough and truly honoured to be the recipient of Marden Senior College’s Principals’ Scholarship from the University of Adelaide. The scholarship was worth \$5000, which went toward my study.

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Ashleigh

Achievements to date **Since leaving**

During the last two and half years of studying Commerce I have had the opportunity to complete a Vacationer Program at Ernst & Young, and I am currently a student representative for the Chartered Accountants ANZ as well as a Student Ambassador for my university's Business School. These opportunities have allowed me to network with accountants at all different stages in their careers and other passionate business students.

Today and the future

I have recently started applying for Graduate Accounting positions that will commence in early 2018. Right now, I am focusing on receiving a graduate job offer however my long-term goal is to become a Chartered Accountant which will require another three years' study whilst I work full time.

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Yasin

Achievements to date

Recently, I gained an internship at a small electronics company which specialises in micro-controller toolkit packages for electronics, electrical and educational applications.

Message to students:

As a young refugee separated from my parents at a very early age and facing an uncertain life, I was challenged at every stage of my life which could have easily changed my direction and affected my future path. The best thing I would say is that an individual's greatest weakness is giving up. To succeed at things in life, you may have to try it one more time. Marden is definitely the place where people like me can dream big and try to achieve great things.