And so the whole universe was completed. By the seventh day God finished what he had been doing and stopped working. He blessed the seventh day and set it apart as a special day, because by that day he had completed his creation and stopped working. And that is how the universe was created.

(Genesis 2:1-4)
The number seven in our Judeo-Christian biblical tradition represents perfection in the eyes of God. The Oakhill student, indeed none of us, will ever be perfect. A graduate of Oakhill however, seeks **excellence and righteousness** in all of their endeavours; excellence and righteousness not in purely human terms, but in the eyes of God. To be perfect in God is their quest in life. The path to perfection for the Oakhill student can be found in the following seven dimensions.
God, the Creator of Life and the Lord of history is always present in the world. Today, as in former times, God continues to call men and women to participate in building the kingdom.

Circular 461 Associated for the Lasallian Mission … an act of Hope.

1. The Call

They walk up the Oakhill Drive dependent very much on their parents and their teachers; they depart as independent, responsible and reflective young men and women – citizens of the world. There is a perception that the Oakhill student is cocooned in the Hills. The challenge then is for them to see beyond that into the broader world. They are global citizens – citizens who actively contribute to their communities, based on the recognition that we are responsible for each other. They are called to possess a global conscience that will motivate and inform their commitment to the service of others. Their destiny is, as St John Baptist de La Salle foretold, to be good Christians and good citizens.
However apart, we are together...
2. Living in the Presence of God

An Oakhill graduate knows in the depths of their heart that they are made in the image and likeness of God. They honour the Presence of God in themselves, in others, and all of God’s creation. They seek a relationship with God particularly through prayer and the sacraments. They develop a reflective capacity. They engage life consciously and acquire a world-view inspired by the Gospel, the teachings of the Church and the mission of St John Baptist de La Salle. They contribute to Church and society cognisant that God’s love is a love to be shared with all humanity, and indeed all of creation. They participate positively in a community of faith.

Remember that God is with you and will help and inspire you in all that you do.

John Baptist de La Salle – Letter 2 – to a Brother, 15 May 1701
3. Living in the Shelter of each other

The Oakhill Graduate participates positively and actively in the communities to which they belong. They pursue the common good, not just their own. They seek out ways to make lasting and significant contributions to the service of society, including politics, the Church, the judiciary and education. Their personal integrity is of utmost importance and they value the opportunities and privileges offered to them. They are proud to be graduates of Oakhill College and are very aware and appreciative of being a part of the Oakhill tradition – a tradition from which they benefit and to which they contribute.
4. Living as People of Soul

At the heart of the Oakhill graduate is a love for God and a deep sense of respect for themselves and others as demonstrated through their recognition of the dignity of all persons and cultures and their commitment to the common good. They nurture positive relationships with others and value the little things like good manners and grooming. They have a sense of occasion and know how to behave accordingly. They put faith into action by recognising and responding proactively through service and advocacy to the needs of others, especially the vulnerable and the poor. They stand up for what they know to be right. They are always willing to forgive. They are unpretentious. Their strength comes from an understanding of what it means to be a good person with a love, respect and appreciation for all God’s people regardless of gender, race, creed, sexual preference or social status, viewing diversity as a source of enrichment.
5. Living with our feet on the ground and our eyes on the stars

An Oakhill Graduate reaches for the stars and gives of their best in all that they attempt. They have a winning attitude, one that is not arrogant but instead, humble. An approach to life that has a sense of self-assuredness and confidence in knowing that if the work has been done well, then the possibilities are endless. Mediocrity is not an option. They embrace the quest for knowledge. An Oakhill Graduate knows they don’t necessarily have to be the best, but they should always try their best. They value discipline and by adhering to good habits they develop into self-disciplined men and women. They possess the academic, social and technical skills to successfully meet challenges. They are life-long learners, demonstrating intellectual curiosity and the ongoing appreciation of learning for the sake of learning. They look to the future with optimism and a belief that dreams can be attained.

Surely you know that many runners take part in a race, but only one of them wins the prize. Run, then, in such a way as to win the prize. Every athlete in training submits to strict discipline, in order to be crowned with a wreath that will not last; but we do it for one that will last forever.

1 Corinthians 9: 24, 25
6. Living on the Move

There is a wonderful life-giving spirit about the Oakhill Graduate and they readily share this spirit with others. They are confident in their abilities and they are genuinely enthused about life. They enjoy being a part of the Oakhill community and they know the value of a sense of humour. They are able to face the ups and downs of life with a joyful spirit. They are men and women of resilience and hope. They are self-possessed, confident in their abilities, aware of areas for personal growth, and prepared and willing to serve in positions of leadership. They enjoy seeking out new experiences and will not let disappointments curb their preparedness to ‘have a go’. They are independent and resourceful thinkers; they do not bow to peer pressure. They set high expectations for themselves. They carry within them St John Baptist de La Salle’s steely determination to make each day, each moment, matter.

*I have come in order that you might have life – life in all its fullness.*

John 10:10
Life-long friendships are a well-known characteristic of the Oakhill Graduate. The young men and women of Oakhill are authentic and trustworthy. They are loyal to their mates and they keep one another grounded and honest. They grow up together, learn together, share experiences and develop lasting bonds. For the Oakhill graduate the friendships and relationships developed are eternal and will nourish them throughout life. An Oakhill graduate learns from friends how to celebrate success and how to rise above life’s disappointments. They have a commitment to those enduring values that have made this country what it is – fairness, decency, justice, tolerance and comradeship – they are no better than anyone else and no-one is better than them.
I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith

Over the past 80 years, the Oakhill student has focussed on their destiny, with their feet firmly on the ground and their eyes looking toward heaven. They know that their life’s journey will not always be clearly defined or straight and predictable, that they may well traverse the road less travelled. But they possess within them a strength of spirit that enables them to rise above the fleeting things, to engage life consciously, to keep their eyes on the prize. The Oakhill student strives for what really matters – to finish the race, to keep the faith, knowing that in their life they have played their part in bringing about the reign of God in the world.
I have fought the good fight,  
I have finished the race,  
I have kept the faith;  
all there is to come for me  
now is the victory prize,  
which the Lord will give  
to me on that Day –  
and not only to me,  
but to all those who wait  
with love for him to appear.

(2 Timothy 4: 7–8)