

# St Joseph's Home for Children, Croydon

1925 – 1981

**Other Names:** • St Joseph's Home, Croydon

## Details

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St Joseph's Home, Croydon, run by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, was established in 1925. It was intended for the care of boys and girls (including siblings) aged three to seven years who were defined as orphans, neglected and destitute. St Joseph's Home amalgamated with St Anthony's Croydon at the end of 1979 and the remaining children were moved into foster care in St Joseph's Cottages.

St Joseph's Home, Croydon, run by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, was established in 1926, in a building on Liverpool Road called 'Roslyn House'. The house was a donation from Mr and Mrs Stuart Patterson, who bought it from Maurice J Savage and presented it to the Sisters of St Joseph in 1925. Initially, it accommodated 150 children. A new wing was added in 1927, a dormitory was added in 1945, and the building was renovated and further expanded between 1951 and 1953. In the years 1959-1963 the Home took in 356 children.

Children in St Joseph's were generally from single parent families, or households stricken by illness or disadvantage. Many children returned to their families, but some remained in the Home throughout their early childhood.

St Joseph's was founded specifically to keep siblings from the same family together, so took boys and girls. Ordinarily boys who reached the age of seven were sent on to [Westmead Boys Home](#), while girls were sent to [Lane Cove](#). However, siblings could be retained, finishing their schooling locally.

[A pamphlet from 1979](#) gave a "mini pictorial tour" of St Joseph's, with accompanying text stating that the institution offered "a normal life for every child ... St Joseph's approaches, as nearly as an institution possibly can, a normal family home. In their dealings with the children, the sisters are much the same as a mother".

## Gallery

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**St Joseph's Convent - Croydon**

**Description:** This is an photo of the building that housed St Joseph's Home for Children at Liverpool Road, Croydon. The photo shows a large, grey-rendered stone building with a central turret directly above the entrance. A small copper plaque can be see on the front of the building which, as shown in another photograph published by the photographer, reads "St Joseph's Home for Children. Donors Mr & Mrs Stuart Patterson, November 1925". At the time that this photograph was taken the building had been recently renovated as the central campus building for the Sisters of St Joseph Convent.

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# More info

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## Chronology

- **St Joseph's Home for Children, Croydon (1925 – 1981)**
  - St Anthony's and St Joseph's Centre of Care (1980 - 2003)

## Related Entries

### Run by

- [Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart \(1866 - current\)](#)

### Related Organisations

- [St Vincent's Boys' Home \(1891 - 1985\)](#)  
Older boys were transferred from St Joseph's Home Croydon to St Vincent's Westmead
- [St Anthony's Home Croydon \(1925 - 1980\)](#)  
From 1952 St Anthony's Home and St Joseph's Home for Children were both operated by the Sisters of St Joseph. St Anthony's Home absorbed St Joseph's Home for Children in 1979.  
Date: 1926 - 1979
- [St Joseph's Girls' Home \(1900 - 1979\)](#)  
Older girls were transferred from St Joseph's Home Croydon to St Joseph's Home Lane Cove
- [St Joseph's Orphanage, Kincumber \(1887 - 1979\)](#)  
Older boys were transferred from St Joseph's Home Croydon to St Joseph's Kincumber

## Resources

- Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission and the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, *A piece of the story : national directory of records of Catholic organisations caring for children separated from families*, November 1999
- Ewens, Alison, [Submission no 386 to the Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), May 2004

## Other Resources

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**Title:** A Mini Pictorial Tour of St Josephs Home for Children: 34 Liverpool Road, Croydon

**Type:** Image

**Date:** c. 1979

[Details](#)

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## Records

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For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

### Records

- [Admission Registers, St Joseph's Home for Children, Croydon \(November 1940 - September 1969\)](#)
- [Notification of Reception \(incomplete\), St Joseph's Home for Children, Croydon \(May 1928 - January 1970\)](#)
- [Notifications of Discharge \(incomplete\), St Joseph's Home, Croydon \(March 1931 - 1979\)](#)
- [Personal Record Cards \(dates uncertain\), St Joseph's Home for Children, Croydon \(1925? - 1979?\)](#)
- [Correspondence files, single number series with 'B' \[Child Endowment\] prefix \(1904 - 1974\)](#)

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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/st-josephs-home-for-children-croydon/>