Representations by local people and groups, including the Chelsea Progress Association as early as 1919, led to the Borough of Carrum and Borough of Mentone-Mordialloc taking joint action to the Government to have a High School established to serve both Districts. The site selected was five acres in Attenborough Park, a public reserve divided by the rail line to Frankston. The parkland was bordered by farms of the Brown family, early settlers in the district.

The school opened on 18 February 1924 under the name of Mordialloc District High School, and the pupils were accommodated temporarily in the Mechanics Institute. The enrolment was 148 with 76 in Grade VI, 48 in Grade VII and 24 in Grade VIII.

The name of the school was changed to Mordialloc-Carrum High School in August 1924. The Borough of Carrum later became the City of Chelsea and the name of the school was again changed to Mordialloc-Chelsea High School.

By 1927, a new school building in Attenborough Park was under construction. The foundation stone was laid on 29 July 1927. With an enrolment of 407 students, the main school building was first occupied on 15 February 1928, having cost thirty thousand pounds. It consisted of eight classrooms plus facilities for commercial, domestic science, woodwork, sheet-metal work and blacksmithing. The staff numbered about fifteen.

Over the years, additions to the original two buildings around the quadrangle have included the caretaker’s cottage in 1929; prefabricated classrooms, the canteen and Le Page Hall in 1956, the Domestic Science and Manual Arts blocks in 1961 and the Science block in 1967. In 1968, the multi-purpose Assembly Hall was built.

Playing fields have been added to the original school property, with some of this land, seven acres, being purchased in 1939.

During the war years, 1939–45, the staff and pupils took part in regular air raid drills in trenches that were dug in the quadrangle and on the oval.

In the 1950s, it was common for cows and horses to be grazing on the sports fields, as much of the surrounding area was still farmland. The students’ chief delight then was watching the staff cleaning the oval before sport could commence.

In this period, the Welfare Association built and equipped Le Page Hall. And, in the 1960s, extensive beautification of school surroundings took place, with the planting of a large number of trees. In 1977, a Commonwealth Library was commenced and completed in 1978.

An extensive maintenance program was carried out between 1977 and 1980 including the landscaping of the quadrangle and the renovation and alteration to some classrooms. Two multi-purpose courts were also developed to include basketball, volleyball and tennis courts.

Beautification of the garden and grounds continued during 1984–85 and an outdoor theatre was developed for use by drama and music groups. Another maintenance program occurred in 1988 including an upgrading of the science rooms. On 1 January 1990, the school became known as Mordialloc Chelsea Secondary College, in line with government policy.
Since 1995, over $3 million has been expended on major maintenance and refurbishment of the entire Arts/Technology facility. Further improvements included the building of a new canteen and foyers and entrance way to the Administration area in 1998. In 2000, the College received approval to change its name from Mordialloc-Chelsea Secondary College to Mordialloc College.

In 2003, a building project was undertaken to develop a more user-friendly entrance to the school office. This included a mosaic of the school crest under the entrance portico.

In 2005, the large flexible Year 7 Learning Centre was built. This was followed by the Year 8 flexible learning ‘Enquiry Zone’ at the end of 2006. At the same time, the library was transformed into the Year 12 Study Centre — ‘The Forum’.

As a result of the ‘Building the Education Revolution’ program, Mordialloc College received $1.97 million in 2009 to construct new Science facilities. The project was completed in 2011 and formally opened by the Honourable Mark Dreyfus, Federal Member for Isaacs.

This facility is a high tech flexible ‘Smart Building’ that allows the College to expand our Science program and fully develop student scientific skills and knowledge.

In 2011, the College began the planning and design for the building of a state-of-the-art multi-media Student Resource Centre as a central learning hub for all students. This building was successfully completed and opened for student and staff use from February 2013.

‘Veho Spes Juventutis’
‘I Carry the Hopes of Youth’