



Santa Maria College
Strategic Plan 2018–2022

Dare to Imagine

We are pleased to present the Santa Maria College Strategic Plan 2018–2022

As Educators governed by Good Samaritan Education, in the Order of St Benedict, we at Santa Maria College are a community of learners committed to professional dialogue and capacity building for all. We are charged with the responsibility to lead in matters of Faith, Learning and Wellbeing through the framework of the *One Community, Three Villages* model.

As a College committed to holistic learning, we aim to foster respectful relationships for all by nurturing an optimal learning environment. This occurs within partnerships where every student can flourish within the context of our Catholic community and imagine her life and those around her in new ways.

Recognised as a global school authorised to teach the *International Baccalaureate: Middle Years Program* (Year 7–10), we commit ourselves to best contemporary practice within a framework of inquiry and collaboration. The offering of senior pathways through the delivery of VCE/VET/VCAL programs encourages students to reach their aspirational goals becoming young women who strive to live a balanced, informed holistic and full life with a strong commitment and energy to care for the needs of the other and the world they live in.

In developing our strategy, we consider 5 key pillars for growth within our rich heritage and tradition as an all-girls Catholic school here in Northcote. These pillars reflect our long tradition of educating young women to do and be more, as inspired by our College motto: *Dare to do as much as you are able*.

Pillars

1. Our Catholic community invites us to be people who live in life-giving relationships built on Scriptural values. We are called to:

- Build respectful relationships, underpinned by dignity and respect which are key to our partnerships between students, staff, families and all those with whom we work.

- Be an authentic Christ-centred community in word and action, philosophical framework and identity.
- Nurture opportunities for all members of our community to find their voice as a means to enter into respectful dialogue.

2. We aim to provide a flourishing learning environment for all as we actively participate in a global educational platform. We are called to:

- Know our students' stories so all can learn and grow.
- Embed a culture of inquiry, curiosity and imagination.
- Make use of digital platform to enhance engagement and prepare students for a dynamic and changing world.
- Promote contemporary pedagogy that facilitates student learning.

3. Our Benedictine heritage encourages us to listen, adapt and mentor the students to become just, compassionate, discerning learners and reflective young women for today and tomorrow. We are called to:

- Develop the *One community, Three Villages* model of living in a learning community.
- Encourage guardianship of all and by all.
- Foster restorative practice by taking responsibility, forgiving, healing, learning and moving forward.
- Promote student voice.
- Value resilience as a core personal trait.

4. We aim to build individual and communal capacity through the call to:

- Promote leadership opportunities for individuals to grow and thereby transform the community.
- Practise the principle of subsidiarity allowing decisions to be made at the appropriate levels within the organisation.
- Engage with partners including students, staff, parents, carers and educational and community stakeholders.
- Promote and maintain connections with the Alumni.
- Strive for continuous improvement to flourish.

5. We ensure good governance, environmental responsibility, sustainability and financial strength within a framework open to innovation. We are called to:

- Establish a rigorous governance structure.
- Govern ethically and in accordance with our legal obligations.
- To be responsible Stewards of all resources, inclusive of the environment.