COURAGEOUS WOMEN OF ACTION

Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020
On behalf of the St Vincent’s College Board, we are delighted to share with our community the College Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2020.

This plan has been developed in consultation with a broad stakeholder group, comprising our staff, students, parents, ex-students, the Executive group and the Board. Their collaboration in our consultation process has been both generous and challenging, and we are grateful to everyone who has contributed, as well as inspired by their commitment to the College.

Underlying the plan are the College values of Generosity of Spirit, Hope, Justice, Respect and Service of the Poor, which are at the heart of the charism of the Sisters of Charity who founded the College in 1858. We have been guided by the Educational Philosophy of Mary Aikenhead Ministries and have drawn on data gained through a comprehensive information-gathering process.

St Vincent’s College is a Catholic School with a proud tradition of excellence in the education of young women. Located in the heart of Sydney, we endeavour to give our students, who are both boarders and day girls, every opportunity and encouragement to develop their faith.

We strive to achieve high academic standards, and our pastoral care system is designed to support our students in becoming young women of independent spirit and compassion, within an environment that promotes creative learning.

The next six years will see the College build on the developments of the recent past, during which time there have been significant upgrading and enhancement of facilities, changes in the technologies available to students and staff, and increasing awareness of the importance of our Mary Aikenhead heritage in the way we equip our students to face the challenges of the future.

The key priorities of the Strategic Plan are set out in this document. At the very heart of the Plan are our students. The welfare, growth and intellectual engagement of each girl is at the centre of the work of the College.

Our activities over the next six years will be guided by the strategic framework in this Plan and by the underlying action plans we have developed. Progress against priority areas will be monitored and reported to our community, and at all times we will be open to their feedback as we strive to achieve our vision for the College and its students.

We thank our community for their help in developing this Plan, and look forward to implementing it in accordance with our mission and our vision.

ST VINCENT’S MISSION STATEMENT

St Vincent’s College is a Catholic educational community dedicated to developing confident, independent women. We are inspired by the tradition of the Sisters of Charity and the values of Mary Aikenhead Ministries including:

- Generosity of Spirit
- Hope
- Justice
- Respect
- Service of the Poor

STUDENT

At the heart of our mission are the students in our care who are empowered to flourish in new and progressive ways responding to the challenges of their times.

BOARDING

St Vincent’s College is committed to serving the needs of students from regional and metropolitan areas by providing flexible, innovative and caring boarding school options to support 21st century learners and their families.

LEARNING

St Vincent’s College is a dynamic learning community that promotes resilience, confidence, independence and diversity for the purpose of transforming the world.

RELATIONSHIPS

St Vincent’s College is an open and welcoming community that fosters and values a broad range of relationships built on respect, mutuality and inclusivity.

COURAGEOUS WOMEN OF ACTION

"MAY WE ALWAYS TRY TO ACT WITH JUSTICE AND TRUTH" MARY AIKENHEAD

2020 VISION

St Vincent’s College is a dynamic learning community which cherishes its Catholic heritage. The College fosters creativity, discernment and leadership in the development of students to be courageous women of action.
CATHOLIC IDENTITY

As part of the mission of the Catholic Church we encounter Jesus through the values of the Gospel, the story of Mary Aikenhead, the spirituality of Ignatius and service of the poor as inspired by the Sisters of Charity.

GOALS:
Contribute to formation of students, staff, parents and College Board.
Promote and facilitate involvement and engagement within the Universal Church.
Bear witness to Gospel and St Vincent’s College values.
Foster an appreciation of Ignatian spirituality.
Enable the College community to engage in experiences that demonstrate our commitment to the preferential option for the poor.

PRIORITY AREAS

STUDENTS

At the heart of our mission are the students in our care who are empowered to flourish in new and progressive ways responding to the challenges of their times.

GOALS:
Know students and nurture them to be their best.
Support vulnerable and disadvantaged students.
Develop the whole person within a wellbeing framework.
Promote and celebrate diversity.

COURAGEOUS WOMEN OF ACTION
**LEARNING**

St Vincent’s College is a dynamic learning community that promotes resilience, confidence, independence and diversity for the purpose of transforming the world.

**GOALS:**
- Articulate the unique learning framework offered at St Vincent’s College.
- Acknowledge, value and respond to the needs of each student.
- Foster a learning culture that supports collaboration and continuous improvement.
- Promote a learning paradigm that is reflective and evaluative.
- Engage in creative learning processes.
- Develop processes to facilitate effective transition for all students to new learning contexts.

**RELATIONSHIPS**

St Vincent’s is an open and welcoming community that fosters and values a broad range of relationships built on respect, mutuality and inclusivity.

**GOALS:**
- Promote a spirit of hospitality and welcome.
- Provide opportunities to engage and support parents in their role as key collaborators in their daughters’ learning.
- Enhance communication with our community.
- Foster a culture based on right relationships.
- Nurture existing and develop new relationships with external stakeholders.

**BOARDING**

St Vincent’s College is committed to serving the needs of students from regional and metropolitan areas, providing flexible, innovative, and caring boarding school options to support 21st century learners and their families.

**GOALS:**
- Offer a rich and integrated experience of boarding education, aligning the boarding experience with the ‘whole College’ values and experiences.
- Develop creative, flexible and innovative models of boarding to meet current and future needs.
- Build and strengthen connections between boarding families and the College community, engaging with families in diverse ways.
- Support the welfare of boarders through appropriate policies and procedures, displaying a culture of care that values diversity.
- Ensure the ongoing sustainability of boarding through targeted marketing to achieve optimum enrolments.

**STEWARDSHIP**

St Vincent’s College collaborates with all members of the community to preserve, celebrate and be inspired by our history and tradition. We engage in prudent and ethical stewardship of our resources.

**GOALS:**
- Exercise responsible governance, including responsible fiscal management and effective risk assessment and management.
- Plan for sustainability.
- Plan for optimum enrolments.
- Plan for effective social responsibility.
- Align the Master Plan with the strategic vision.