



2020-2023
Strategic Plan

Samford State School
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Foreward

From the Principal

Brad Clark

I am extremely proud of our 2020-2023 Strategic Plan. It encapsulates the way our school community work together to set our students up to be successful today and as they head toward a future yet to be imagined. Our plan takes a balanced approach of ensuring our students enjoy a memorable and enjoyable childhood while developing the skills, knowledge and values to be a confident global citizen.

We have deliberately framed our targets through student statements. Our priority must be to hold ourselves accountable to the outcomes of our students. This must be our single point of truth if we truly want to be a student-centred school.

I thank the staff, parents, community members and most importantly our students who contributed to create this plan which steers our school towards its 150th celebration.



From the School Council Chair

Amanda Holding

It is with great pleasure that the school council has been able to work closely with the broader school community to develop this Strategic Plan.

This Strategic Plan is the result of continuous collaboration and consultation with students, parents, caregivers, expert teaching staff and community members to ensure that we have captured the hopes and aspirations of our school community.

As a School Council, we will continue to work closely with the school leadership team to set and monitor the strategic direction of the school.

We look forward to continuing to engage the school and wider community in developing and implementing this strategic plan and will continue our focus on ensuring that Samford State School creates a positive and supportive environment in order for all students to achieve their individual 'year's worth of growth'.



From the P&C President

Claire Limbrick

Samford's P&C Association play an integral role in the community of Samford State School. Proudly working alongside the School Council and wider community, Samford's P&C Association helps make the vision come alive through supporting key initiatives identified in the School's Strategic Plan.

The OSHC Strategic Plan is formed around the school vision and values to ensure a cohesive message is lived every day with our staff and children.

The P&C also foster strong partnerships with the school and parent body, embodying the community spirit, and becoming role models for our students through volunteering and involvement in their school life.



School Context

Samford State School opened in 1872 and was founded on strong community partnerships. We celebrate a proud history of connectedness with the close-knit community that is nestled within the beautiful Samford Valley. Our students benefit from the best of both worlds as we offer a progressive, contemporary education delivered in a setting with large open spaces and abundant native flora and fauna.

Samford State School surrounds our students with opportunities in all areas including academia, sport, culture and community responsibility. Our exceptional teachers go the extra mile to ensure that students succeed both in and beyond the classroom. We embrace the opportunity to prepare young people to make their way in the world as confident, caring and responsible citizens. The happiness, security and progress of each child is central to our work.

Our experienced staff value knowing each child and accommodating their unique learning requirements. Inspirational teaching and quality learning are the cornerstones of our school and we are proud to engage our students in a well-rounded curriculum that prepares them for future opportunities. We delight in offering all students the opportunities to participate in highly successful

programs including, the upper school iPad program, the Choral and Instrumental Music Programs, an inclusive and successful Sport and Outdoor Program and our comprehensive Student Citizenship Program.

We believe in investing in 'people over programs' and provide outstanding professional learning and development for our school community. Our teachers are leaders of learning, working collaboratively to achieve outstanding results and drive our school culture. Staff and students benefit from the flexibility to deploy a range of research-informed, high-impact strategies to ensure our students progress, learn and grow beyond expectations.

In 2015, Samford State School became an Independent Public School. With greater input from parents, teachers and community members, we embrace the flexibility to shape our direction, build partnerships and make local decisions to benefit our students. Enhanced autonomy is a key ingredient in our approach to being creative, innovative and responsive to student learning needs.

For almost 150 years we have been creating an educational environment where all people are treated with care, respect and compassion and where learning is challenging, exciting and engaging. There is a strong emphasis on visible learning and improvement in our school and this is heard in our conversations and seen in our students' resilience, belonging and love of lifelong learning.



Our Vision

Samford State School is a student-centred community that is focussed on the development of the whole child.

Through deeply engaging learning experiences our students are supported to become confident lifelong learners who positively impact the world around them.



Our Values

A strong set of shared values is the foundation for developing successful global citizens of tomorrow. Our role as a school community is to embed these values in our everyday lives. Our school values can be demonstrated in many ways including:

Respect

- › Responsibility
- › Integrity
- › Self, Learning, Others, Property, Environment

Citizenship

- › Connectedness
- › Sustainability
- › Collaboration

Growth Mindset

- › Perseverance
- › Adaptability
- › Stretch over easy
- › Personal best

Curiosity

- › Fun
- › Inquiry
- › Engaging
- › Lifelong learning
- › Critical thinking

Kindness

- › Empathy
- › Inclusivity
- › Generosity
- › Forgiveness



**Targeted teaching is
the key to increase
student progress.**

**At its heart,
targeted teaching
is based on the
collection and use
of evidence of each
student's learning
to identify how best
to advance each
student.**

Goss, P., Hunter, J., Romanes, D.,
Parsonage, H., 2015, *Targeted
teaching: how better use of data
can improve student learning*,
Grattan Institute



Targeted Teaching

Key Concepts

A year's worth of growth for every student, every year

Differentiated teaching and learning

Targets

- › All students from Prep - Year 6 to demonstrate at least a year of academic growth as defined in the school year level benchmarks in Literacy and Numeracy
- › Year 3 and 5 students to be similar to 'like schools' in NAPLAN, reading, writing, spelling and numeracy
- › Percentage of students achieving A, B & C's on report cards similar to 'like schools' for Mathematics and English across all year levels

Student Aspirations

- › I am engaged in a broad range of differentiated, rigorous learning opportunities.
- › I have a growth mindset towards my learning and seek out opportunities to be challenged, act on feedback and to make progress.
- › I continue to grow my literacy and numeracy skills as a lifelong learner.
- › I have opportunities to follow my curiosity and learn about things that deeply interest me.



Overview of Actions- Targeted Teaching

Key Actions	2020	2021	2022	2023
Staff design engaging, differentiated, rigorous learning opportunities for all learners.	I	R	E	R
Staff engage in collaborative professional learning, focussing on core learning principles, maximising student outcomes.	R	I	E	R
Staff develop a deep understanding of literacy and numeracy progressions to inform and target learning.	I	E	R	E
Reshape pedagogy through STEM and digital technologies to engage students in authentic inquiry and design opportunities.	I	R	E	R

Key

A- Awareness

I- Implement

E- Embed

R- Review and Refine



It takes each
of us to make a
difference for all
of us.

*Jackie Mutcheson,
Teacher*

Connected Learning

Key Concepts

Student agency

A culture of learning

Creativity and innovation

Targets

- › School opinion surveys reflect high levels of satisfaction with targets identified in each annual plan
- › Percentage of students achieving A's on report cards similar to 'like schools' for English, Mathematics and Science
- › Parents, students and staff report that student behaviour is well-managed (School opinion survey - > 95% satisfaction)

Student Aspirations

- › I demonstrate kindness, respect, a growth mindset, curiosity and citizenship.
- › I enhance my learning through effective use of access to resources, including digital technologies.
- › I am a global citizen who is empowered to actively shape, influence and impact the community around me.
- › My learning experiences are authentic, purposeful and provide me with an opportunity to apply my knowledge and skills to real life contexts.
- › I belong to a community of learners who strive to grow, learn and improve everyday.



Overview of Actions- Connected Learning

Key Actions	2020	2021	2022	2023
As a school community, we model and teach our five core values.	A	I	E	R
Staff use a range of resources, including digital technologies, to remove barriers and enhance learning outcomes for all students.	R	E	E	E
Students are supported to engage in real-life opportunities to lead and be active in local and global communities.	E	E	R	I
Staff engage in collaborative professional learning, focussing on core learning principles, maximising student outcomes.	R	I	E	R

Key

A- Awareness

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Metropolitan Region
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