



**Good Shepherd**  
*Lutheran School*  
**A N G A S T O N**

# Hopes and Dreams

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Strategic Plan  
2015 - 2018



## Good Shepherd – Mission, Vision and Values

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### Our Mission ....

Good Shepherd welcomes with open hearts all students to provide a quality education for inquiring minds in a value enriched environment which is informed by God's Word, the Bible.

### Our Strategic Vision ....

Our strategic vision is to be:

***'An engaging learning community where partnerships are fostered and relationships flourish'.***

- Engaging - engagement is meaningful, immersed in; there is ownership and active involvement.
- Learning Community - we are all a part of the learning community; we consider how we learn best. We focus on living and learning as a community.
- Relationships Flourish - flourishing relationships are a distinct strength of GSLS. Relationship is core to who we are.

### Our Values ....

Lutheran Schools across Australia celebrate and share common values. These values build and contribute towards the ethos of each Lutheran School. The following values reflect characteristics of God and His will for all people and underpin the life of Good Shepherd Lutheran School:

***Love - Justice - Compassion - Forgiveness - Service - Courage - Humility - Hope - Quality - Appreciation***

### Our Future ....

Good Shepherd's strategic initiatives are built on 5 essential pillars:

- Enhancing Curriculum
- Sustainable Environment – Vibrant Buildings and Facilities
- Wellbeing – People are at the Heart of Our Success
- Promotion and Presence and
- Ensuring Our Financial Security

The goals underpinning these identified areas are our inspiration and the basis for moving Good Shepherd forward into a bright and exciting future. Our School is committed to these strategic initiatives and will endeavour to keep improving and developing in new directions to enhance student opportunities and learning.

## Enhancing Curriculum



- Good Shepherd is committed to delivering a world class education in the Barossa through the academically rigorous International Baccalaureate curriculum. The school recruits experienced IB teachers and all aspects of the programme are consistently monitored and reviewed to ensure our students receive a first class education.
- Sustainability is integral to all aspects of our curriculum. Good Shepherd enjoys an extraordinary outdoor learning and play space (EDEN) where all students are able to explore and inquire whilst learning about their world in a natural and authentic context.
- Digital learning is a significant focus throughout the school. All students have the opportunity to use digital devices to individualise student learning, improve engagement and enhance learning outcomes. Coding, 3D printing and web based tools are integrated into units of inquiry across the school.
- A sound understanding of Literacy and Numeracy skills is fundamental for our students. Good Shepherd invests heavily in ongoing professional development for all staff in these core areas. NAPLAN data and in school testing is rigorously interrogated to track and improve student outcomes. 'At risk' students are identified in the early years and assisted with targeted intervention.
- Good Shepherd caters for differences in student learning. Negotiated Education Plans are established for every student with a diagnosis. The school has made significant financial resources available to ensure that student needs are met. An equipped learning support/sensory room, room surround sound systems, licenced learning programmes and specially modified furniture ensure equal access to the curriculum. Gifted students are able to enjoy a variety of additional enrichment programmes.
- Specialised subject areas enhance student learning across the curriculum. The school employs a specialist Language Teacher, Sport Teacher and Arts Teacher.

## Sustainable Environment – Vibrant Building & Facilities

- In recent years the school has undergone a significant building and renewal programme. Good Shepherd is committed to a plan of strategic and timely replacement of aging assets across the school.
- In order to provide our students with the very best teaching and learning environment, each classroom will undergo a staged maintenance and replacement of furnishings.
- EDEN, our nature play and learning space, is a valuable resource and is a priority development through budget, grants and voluntary support.
- The school supports current educational pedagogy in the use of flexible and collaborative learning spaces to improve student outcomes. To this end the Learning Street will be equipped with innovative, flexible furnishings.
- The school Master Plan is under review in order to meet the current and future needs of the school. This includes the provision of additional parking and paving throughout the grounds.



# Wellbeing – People are at the Heart of Our Success!

- We take very seriously the mental and spiritual health of our community and recognise the links between good emotional health and improved student outcomes. Resilience is promoted and taught in every class. In addition, special programmes are available for students deemed 'at risk.'
- Good Shepherd is developing a Positive Education framework that encompasses Martin Seligman's PERMA model, the IB Learner Profile, our House system and Christian values.
- School culture is enhanced through House events, student leadership initiatives, clubs and special days. We love who we are and we take the time to celebrate it!
- We are committed to strengthening our community through class carers, fellowship opportunities, workshops and a school Chaplain who supports students, parents and staff.
- As a Christian community we embrace opportunities to enrich our worship and spiritual life.



## Promotion and Presence

- We are developing a promotional plan that will increase public awareness of our amazing school.
- Promotion and marketing is critical to maintaining student enrolments. This is acknowledged in increased financial resourcing and the employment of specialist staff and agencies.
- Because we recognise the benefits of increased community engagement we are building warm partnerships with local schools, kindergartens, churches and other community organisations.
- We also actively look for opportunities to connect with businesses to develop relationships that will benefit our school and its students.



## Ensuring Our Financial Security

- Good Shepherd is committed to a fee structure that enables all students to access an exceptional education. This will include flexible payment options and a tiered fee model.
- Enrolments are crucial to our ongoing viability and as such the school is determined to build enrolments with a focus on establishing and maintaining small, single grade classes at each year level.
- We are actively pursuing opportunities to develop sponsorship partnerships that support our school and are aligned with our ethos.
- Many of the resources and facilities, which our students enjoy, are directly supported by grants. Staff and the wider school community make the sourcing and preparation of grants a critical priority.
- The Parents and Friends Association play a crucial role in providing financial support through 'signature' and other fundraisers.
- The school realises its long term financial goals through a detailed five year financial forecast.

