



**A CATHOLIC
COLLEGE
EDUCATING
GIRLS IN THE
DOMINICAN
TRADITION.**

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 - 2025



**ST DOMINIC'S
PRIORY COLLEGE**

EDUCATING GIRLS. INSPIRING CONFIDENCE



STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 - 2025

**EDUCATING
GIRLS,
INSPIRING
CONFIDENCE**

inspiring confidence

We acknowledge St Dominic's Priory College is situated on Kurna Land and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.



OUR MISSION

A Catholic College educating girls in the Dominican tradition.

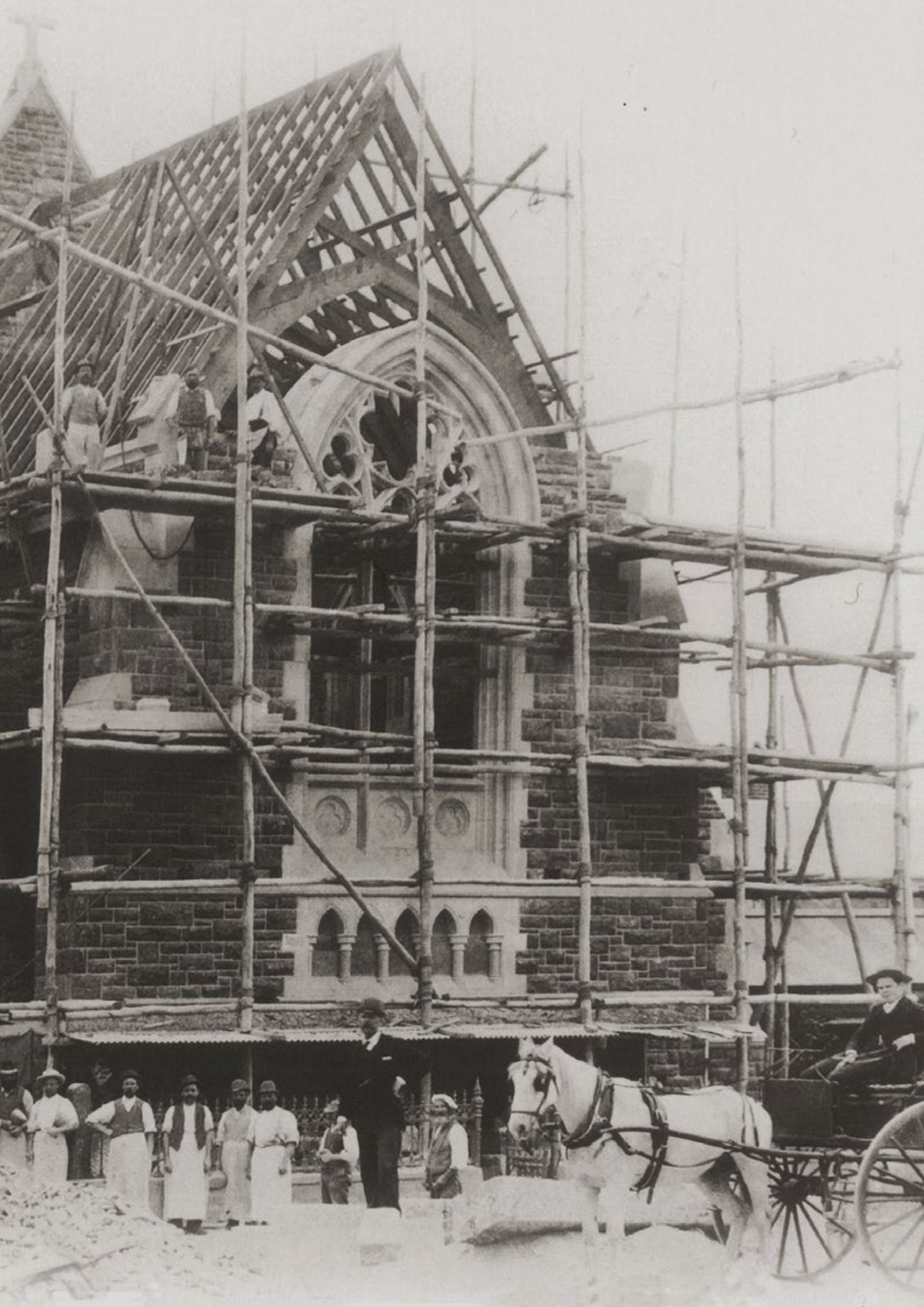
OUR VISION

Inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are a girls' College committed to truth and compassion. In the spirit of St Dominic, we contemplate the possibilities and honour the sacred dignity of each person through word and action. We aspire to provide an innovative, rigorous and inclusive education that leads girls and young women to achieve excellence in their studies and confidence in their future.

OUR VALUES

As a Dominican community we value:

- + A sense of the sacred; joyful, eucharistic and reflective.
- + A love of learning through creative and critical thinking.
- + Modelling a eucharistic community as the basis for transformation.
- + Teaching the truth, by word and example.





OUR HISTORY

We acknowledge the land on which St Dominic's Priory College sits is the traditional lands for the Kurna people. We respect their spiritual relationship with this land. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

Founded by St Dominic de Guzman in 1216, the Order of Preachers (OP) has proclaimed the Gospel to every corner of the world so that all people may come to know and love Jesus Christ. In 1883, it was this faith that inspired Mother Rose Columba to say 'yes' to an invitation to bring a group of six Dominican Sisters from Stone, England to settle in North Adelaide. Although their arrival initially posed many challenges, these women maintained a commitment to their faith, prayer and service and in 1884 St Dominic's Priory College was established.

Steeped in the courage and resilience of these pioneering Sisters, the College has a history of educating students to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This tradition lives on in our students, through their daily pursuit of truth. Such conviction beckons Dominican girls of today to be women of faith, truth and hope. In the spirit of St Dominic and with the Gospel values in our hearts, we encourage each girl to embrace her future with the same principles as our founders.

GOVERNANCE

St Dominic's Priory College is governed by a Board of Directors and is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cwlth). The College is a member of Dominican Education Australia (DEA).

2021 - 2025 EDUCATING GIRLS, INSPIRING CONFIDENCE

Beginning with the Vision, Mission and Values statements, the St Dominic's Priory College Strategic Plan is designed to provide the College with a clear set of achievable goals in the areas of:

1. Our Religious Identity
2. Our Wellbeing
3. Our Teaching & Learning
4. Our Future
5. Our Community
6. Our Resources

A statement of belief is provided for each of the above areas, followed by a broad goal. This is then referenced by the specific developments the College expects to achieve by 2025. It reflects our current work and describes the future of the College as we work to educate girls and inspire confidence.



OUR PRIORITIES

PRIORITY 1

Promote our story of faith

PRIORITY 2

**Celebrate a positive,
inclusive environment**

PRIORITY 3

**Provide rich, relevant and
diverse teaching and learning**

PRIORITY 4


**Embrace today,
whilst preparing for tomorrow**

PRIORITY 5

Lead as one who serves

PRIORITY 6

Protect, prepare, provide



**WE WHO TASTE
IN PRAYER &
STUDY THE
FIRE OF GOD'S
TRUTH & LOVE
FOR US ARE
INESCAPABLY
CALLED TO RISE
UP IMPASSIONED
FOR THE WORLD'S
HEALING.**

CATHERINE OF SIENA



OUR RELIGIOUS IDENTITY

St Dominic's Priory College is inspired by the teaching of Jesus in the Gospel and explores how this teaching is expressed through the lens of the Dominican tradition. The College aspires to nurture and enrich the religious and spiritual development of all students by engaging in rich dialogue with faith, culture, and student life.

PRIORITY 1 PROMOTE OUR STORY OF FAITH

St Dominic's Priory College will:

- 1.1 Invite students to diverse experiences of prayer
- 1.2 Further develop the existing suite of Retreats and Reflection Days for students and staff
- 1.3 Develop ecological stewardship
- 1.4 Connect with diverse spiritualities through Indigenous traditions and other cultures
- 1.5 Design and host an annual Staff Reflection Day.



**WE ARE ALL CALLED
TO BEAR A WORD OF
HOPE, TO OVERCOME
THE BOUNDARIES THAT
DIVIDE US AND TO BUILD
COMMUNION.**

TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE OP



OUR WELLBEING

We are committed to creating and maintaining a child safe community. We encourage individuals to contribute to forming a positive and inclusive environment for all. We adopt strategies and educational programs that act to inspire confidence in each girl. We endeavour to assist young people and community members to thrive, through developing a sense of identity, self-worth and wellbeing.

PRIORITY 2

CELEBRATE A POSITIVE, INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

St Dominic's Priory College will:

- 2.1 Generate a shared understanding of wellbeing that is systematically engrained
- 2.2 Celebrate girls' education as a significant contributor to positive wellbeing and sense of identity
- 2.3 Build a growth mindset culture of resilience, independence and grit whilst protecting and supporting those who are vulnerable
- 2.4 Educate in digital citizenship, so that students 'boldly become citizens of the digital world' (Pope Francis, 2019-2020)
- 2.5 Design opportunities for student voice, leadership and mentoring.



**IN HIS FIRST FALTERING
STEPS TOWARDS
MAKING THE SEEMINGLY
IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE,
DOMINIC GATHERED A
BAND OF COMPANIONS
WHOSE EYES WERE GIVEN
A NEW VISION.**

MARY O'DRISCOLL OP



OUR TEACHING AND LEARNING


St Dominic's Priory College is a place of high-quality teaching and learning. Learning experiences are accessible and responsive to students' needs so that each student can realise her full potential. Pedagogy will be evidence based, student-centred and supported by innovative technologies.

PRIORITY 3

PROVIDE RICH, RELEVANT AND DIVERSE TEACHING AND LEARNING

St Dominic's Priory College will:

- 3.1 Continue to use data and evidence to drive best teaching practice at every year level
- 3.2 Maintain a collaborative, flexible and rigorous approach to learning in the Middle Years (6-9) under the ACARA framework
- 3.3 Invest in significant experiences for girls in the areas of science, engineering, design and mathematics
- 3.4 Demonstrate a commitment to the SACE Board's strategic plan
- 3.5 Undertake pertinent, future-focused teacher professional learning in emerging fields.

A young girl with dark hair in a school uniform is holding a magnifying glass over her right eye. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is blurred, showing other people in a crowd.

**DOMINIC GAVE
THOSE WHO
CAME AFTER
HIM A COMPASS,
NOT A MAP AND
REQUIRED THAT
WE BE ON THE
EDGE, ALWAYS
LOOKING FOR
THE LATEST
OPPORTUNITY
TO SPEAK A
GOSPEL WORD.**

MALACHY O'DWYER OP



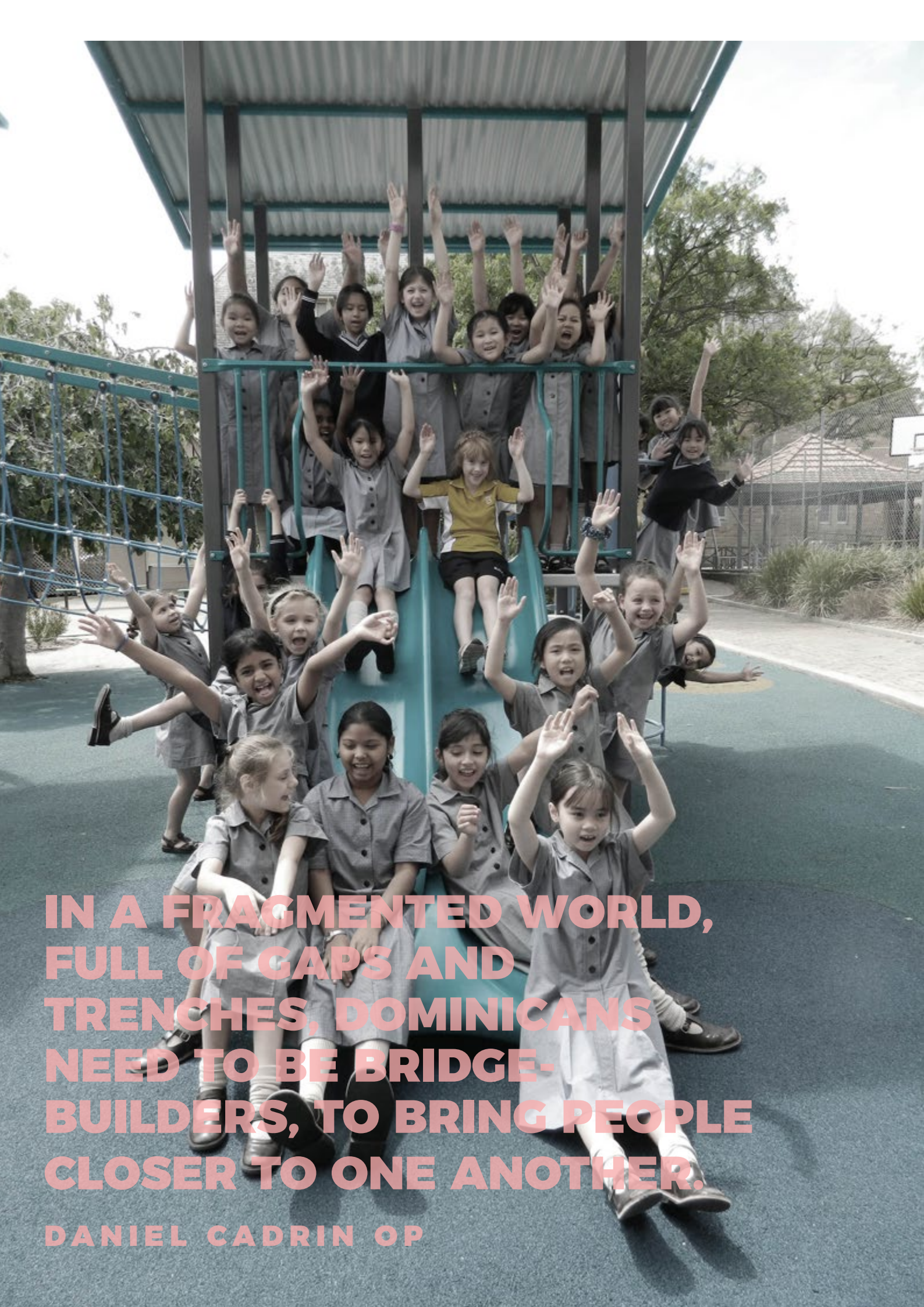
OUR FUTURE

Inspired by the Alice Springs 2019 (Mparntwe) Education Declaration, the SACE Strategic Plan and the ACARA review, St Dominic's Priory College embraces today and plans for the future. We endeavour to educate the whole child, where each girl, finds her rightful place in the world, forging ahead to be an engaged, active and responsible citizen with a bright future.

PRIORITY 4 EMBRACE TODAY, WHILST PREPARING FOR TOMORROW

St Dominic's Priory College will:

- 4.1 Develop the Learner Profile for graduating students
- 4.2 Define and develop a digital literacy skills framework across Reception – Year 12
- 4.3 Develop connections with a variety of working adults to better prepare students for life beyond the College
- 4.4 Cultivate an understanding and dialogue of 'Futures Thinking', where each girl can articulate her career and educational aspirations
- 4.5 Investigate future focused learning environments and their impact on student engagement.



**IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD,
FULL OF GAPS AND
TRENCHES, DOMINICANS
NEED TO BE BRIDGE-
BUILDERS, TO BRING PEOPLE
CLOSER TO ONE ANOTHER.**

DANIEL CADRIN OP



OUR COMMUNITY

We actively encourage our students and their families to engage in service and community involvement by immersing themselves in our local, wider and global community. This will enable the development of empathetic scholars, future leaders and role models responding to the needs of others with compassion and integrity.

PRIORITY 5 LEAD AS ONE WHO SERVES

St Dominic's Priory College will:

- 5.1 Create global connections to improve the lives of girls across the world
- 5.2 Create local opportunities for students to connect with old scholars
- 5.3 Maintain and build upon the College's commitment to community events, such as the Fete
- 5.4 Provide excellent communication processes beyond the College community
- 5.5 Maintain a strong connection with the wider Catholic Community.

A young woman with dark hair tied back in a ponytail with a black bow, wearing a white collared shirt and a black and white striped tie, is seated at a desk in a classroom. She is looking down at an open book on her lap. In the background, other students are blurred, and the classroom environment is visible with bright lighting and a window.

**DOMINICANS ARE
TRUTH SEEKERS
AND COMPASSION
BEARERS.**

MARY O'DRISCOLL OP



OUR RESOURCES


The effective management of the College's resources underpins our aspirations and ensures long term sustainability. We will ensure the continued prosperity of St Dominic's Priory College as a leading Little Dom's – Year 12 girls' College and commit to continuing to work with staff, students and the wider school community to support the sustainability of our College.

PRIORITY 6 PROTECT, PREPARE, PROVIDE

St Dominic's Priory College will:

- 6.1 Incorporate environmentally sustainable initiatives
- 6.2 Implement a plan to ensure the preservation and protection of all heritage buildings
- 6.3 Review and Implement the Capital Master Plan, with a view to provide spaces that reflect a modern learning environment
- 6.4 Develop a clear and renewed Dominican identity that remains recognisable to the wider community
- 6.5 Develop a culture of philanthropy and establish a School Foundation to support the College in the long term.





**BE WHO GOD
MEANT YOU
TO BE AND
YOU WILL
SET THE WORLD
ON FIRE!**

St Catherine of Siena



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PRIORY COLLEGE**

EDUCATING GIRLS.
INSPIRING CONFIDENCE

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