



Our Mission

Danebank is a Christian School which aims to provide quality, affordable education that will equip girls for all aspects of life.

Our Aims

As a Christian school, we give all students the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ, and we intend our teaching and learning, and the culture of the school, to reflect that good news. This includes the way we encourage the development of leadership and service across the whole school and in its connection with the wider community.

As a non-selective school, we aim to provide quality education to students across the spectrum of academic capability, and to provide a variety of opportunities for students to discover and develop their range of skills and interests.

As an Anglican Schools Corporation school, we aim to maintain school fees at a level of affordability relative to other independent schools, but which also enables us to maintain our quality of education, attract and retain good staff, and develop our facilities appropriately.



Purpose Of This Strategy

This Strategy sets out, in summary, the intended direction of Danebank over the next five years to 2020.

Danebank has been blessed with a long history of sound and godly leadership, and as a consequence has been able to contribute strongly and positively to girls' education in Sydney. This strategy is the distillation of much consideration, consultation and prayer as to how best to maintain this direction, and grow the school's contribution.

There are many challenges facing Danebank, and most other schools - a changing educational environment, changing community demographics and expectations, uncertainties about future funding, among others. We aim to address these challenges, and grasp the associated opportunities, all within the context of the Anglican Schools Corporation strategy, and our continuing desire to live and breathe the gospel of Jesus Christ in the educational process and the culture of the school.

This Strategy outlines our planning, under God, for where we believe we need to be in the future, and how we intend to get there.



Richard Sharp
Chairman, School Council



Maryanne Davis
Principal



Our Strategy 2016-2020

Our strategy is framed within this vision

We are a Christian school, and set our strategy and planning within the context of the good news of Jesus Christ. Our school culture aims to reflect that good news, in the way we care for each other, the way we teach, the way we learn, and the way we encourage students to develop their God-given abilities in the service of others. In doing this, we seek to maintain and strengthen connections within our community - students, parents, alumni, staff, and the wider community.

Our Students

Collaborate | Innovate | Teach | Learn



01

OUR GOAL
Within a caring environment, mature our Teaching and Learning to embrace collaborative, reflective and innovative approaches, within a Christian worldview, while maintaining our strong academic standing.

WHY IT MATTERS
To make a positive difference to our world, as a Christian school, requires our students to develop the ability to embrace challenge, reflect on learning, and work effectively with others. We need to equip our students with these abilities, while developing their health and well-being.

MEASURES OF PROGRESS

- Develop and implement measures to gauge improvement in academic performance
- Conduct independent review of Teaching & Learning program in 2017, identify lessons learned, and implement
- Develop and implement a mentoring program for staff with associated instrument to measure effectiveness
- Develop and implement a program for student feedback on teaching and learning across disciplines and stages of learning.

Our Leadership and Service

Equip | Build | Connect



02

Our Staff

Faithful | Creative | Supportive



03

Our Resources and Facilities

Sustainable | Wise | Interactive



04

OUR GOAL
Manage wisely and prudently our resources, so as to continue to provide quality and affordable education. Commence major renewal of facilities, creating dynamic and interactive teaching and learning spaces. Generate an annual financial operating surplus sufficient to contribute responsibly to the Anglican Schools Corporation's wider objectives.


WHY IT MATTERS
To provide quality education in a sustainable manner and in a competitive marketplace, we need to make the most efficient and effective use of our current resources, our fee income, and Government grants.

MEASURES OF PROGRESS

- Maintain affordability at 75% of comparator AHIGS, CAS and GPS schools, and maintain operating surplus to ASC budget
- Obtain student and parent feedback on quality of facilities and resources through regular survey
- Investigate options for "means tested" scholarships.

Guiding and Refreshing our Strategy

Review Progress | Fine-tune



05

OUR GOAL
Regularly review progress against our strategy, fine-tuning it as necessary, and undertake a major refresh towards the end of the current five-year outlook. Ensure strategy remains clearly linked to messaging and to operational planning.

WHY IT MATTERS
As we progress with implementation, we will learn what works well and what doesn't. External circumstances will also change. Our strategy needs to be able to be tuned progressively according to need.

OUR GOAL
Develop pathways and equip girls to grow in servant leadership in their areas of strength, so as to build a stronger school community across grades, and stronger connections to the wider community. Assist students to consider and apply their skills and energy to serve one another, and our local and global community. This will include strengthening connections with the St George and Sutherland Shire communities, identifying wider opportunities in Australia and overseas, including supporting Katoko school in Tanzania.

WHY IT MATTERS
Good education, and our Christian faith, carry with them a responsibility to contribute to the "common good". To do so, students need to be able to identify their strengths and identify how to apply those for the benefit of others. In this way we will help grow the next generation of citizens, with a holistic and service-focussed approach as they find and develop their place in the community.

MEASURES OF PROGRESS

- Monitor and assess student participation in and feedback on Service Learning
- Refine leadership structure and development for staff and students
- Identify further opportunities for service in local areas and further afield. Implement increased service opportunities and measure effectiveness.

OUR GOAL
Develop and equip the staff team, firmly grounded in the Christian faith, to deliver a quality of teaching and learning that is innovative, creative, and effective. Support all staff in modelling the kind of leadership, service and care which we aim to inspire in our students and in each other. Support all staff as they contribute to the wider development of Christian education.

WHY IT MATTERS
Danebank aims to be at the forefront of girls' education in Sydney. It will achieve this through the capabilities and character of the whole staff team, so building an effective team equipped with the appropriate skills is fundamental.

MEASURES OF PROGRESS

- Develop and implement staff engagement survey, conduct regularly, and prepare a summary of results and responses
- Increase in staff contribution to the educational discourse and associated community of practice beyond Danebank - locally, nationally and internationally.