



St Mark's Anglican Community School
Strategic Plan
2015-2019

MISSION STATEMENT

St Mark's aims to foster growth in character and to develop a set of values and skills, by teaching and example in a Christian setting, through all aspects of School life. The School motto is *Seek Truth and Wisdom*.

VALUES

RESPECT WITH TRUST We actively listen to each other's thoughts and feelings, and trust that those thoughts will be respected and valued.

KNOWLEDGE We learn continuously by gathering new facts, principles and truths. Our knowledge and understanding grow when we put what we learn into practice.

CONFIDENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT By having a realistic confidence in ourselves and in our abilities, we are able to set goals that are both challenging and achievable, whether those goals are in education, in work or in society.

RESPONSIBILITY We take responsibility for our actions by making positive choices, learning from our mistakes, and by fulfilling our duties and honouring our commitments to one another and to our community.

COMMUNITY As a community, we work together to reach a shared goal, offering each other mutual support and encouragement. The skills and talents of individuals are recognised and acknowledged, allowing each individual to make a positive contribution to group efforts.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1: ACADEMICS

Raising the academic ethos and profile of the School

2. THE ARTS AND CREATIVITY

Increasing our focus on the Arts, Creativity and Innovation



3. GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Connecting meaningfully with the Indian Ocean Rim and becoming more international in our perspective



PRIORITY 1: ACADEMICS**Raising the academic ethos and profile of the School**

Objective	Action Plan	Timeline
1.1 To improve the quality of teaching and learning	1.1.1 Provide Heads of large Department with additional time-off-class to work with their teachers to improve classroom practice in their subject areas.	Implementation from February 2015.
	1.1.2 Build teacher-capacity by providing: (i) a well-resourced, targeted professional learning offering from outside providers; (ii) collaborative internal professional learning opportunities through the Learning Leadership Centre and the assistance of the Deans; and (iii) the support of key personnel in literacy, numeracy and creativity.	Commenced July 2013, ongoing.
	1.1.3 Implement an improved, robust teacher-appraisal system, conducted by the Assistant Principals with the assistance of the Heads of School.	February 2016 implementation.
1.2 To restructure for academic advantage	1.2.1 Reduce the number of students in Primary classes, with 'intake' years at Year 2 and Year 4, from 2017.	Construction of three new learning spaces during 2016 to accommodate additional class of Year 2, 3 and 4, ready for the beginning of 2017.
	1.2.2 Restructure the School Executive to include an Assistant Principal (Academic) and an Assistant Principal (Pastoral), and restructure Year 7, moving from a 'Primary School' generalist teacher model to a 'Middle School' model with specialist teachers in each subject.	Implementation of new Executive and Year 7 model from the commencement of 2015.
	1.2.3 Restructure the three sub-Schools to Senior School (Years 9-12), Middle School (Years 6-8) and Junior School (Years K-5) from 2018.	Implementation of the new structure from the commencement of 2018.

Objective	Action Plan	Timeline
1.3 To build an environment and a culture of academic excellence	1.3.1 Construct a new Senior Academic Centre to provide outstanding environments for excellent, modern teaching and learning.	Construction of the Senior Academic Centre, ready for occupation in 2018.
	1.3.2 Promote St Mark's as a School which values the pursuit of, and is seen by our community as a School of, academic excellence.	Ongoing.
	1.3.3 Continue to offer Academic Scholarships.	Commenced 2012, ongoing.

PRIORITY 2: ARTS AND CREATIVITY **Increasing our focus on The Arts, Creativity and Innovation**

Objective	Action Plan	Timeline
2.1 To build an outstanding environment and culture for the Arts as a priority in education and a signature strength of the School.	2.1.1 Restructure the Arts leadership team to include the new position of Head of the Arts and Creativity, overseeing all of 'The Arts' - Music, Drama, Visual Art and Media.	Implemented at the commencement of 2015.
	2.1.2 Design a new Arts Precinct to provide outstanding environments for excellent, modern teaching and learning in The Arts.	Commencement of the design of the Arts Precinct in 2019 for construction in 2022.
2.2 To embed creativity, alongside literacy and numeracy, as a vital element of learning across the curriculum in preparation for the future.	2.2.1 Through the appointment of the new Head of the Arts and Creativity, provide staff with the motivation, skills and ideas to promote students' creativity and innovation.	Commenced 2015, ongoing.

PRIORITY 3: GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**Connecting meaningfully with the Indian Ocean Rim and becoming more international in our perspective**

Objective	Action Plan	Timeline
3.1 To develop partnerships with a variety of School communities in the Indian Ocean region.	3.1.1 Establish agreements of cooperation with international partner-schools in China, Singapore, Tanzania and the Mascarene Islands.	Agreements and programs developed with partner schools commencing in 2015, ongoing.
	3.1.2 Provide opportunities for staff and students to engage with international partner-schools through virtual experiences (e.g. webinars, Skype) and real experiences (e.g. tours, exchanges).	Annual Year 11 service trip to Tanzania. Biennial China Tour and visits from partner schools in China. Senior School Japan Tour (2015) and Visit from Akashi Minami Senior High School (2016). Triennial Senior School Singapore Volleyball Tour (2015). E-learning and communication with partner schools evident in learning programs from 2016, ongoing.
3.2 To offer more opportunities for students to learn foreign languages.	3.2.1 Implement a trial of Chinese Mandarin as an Asian language at St Mark's, commencing in 2016 in the Early Learning Centre.	Commencing 2016.
	3.2.2 Facilitate opportunities for community language learning of Chinese Mandarin.	Commencing 2016.
	3.2.3 Develop relationships with French-speaking schools in Lyon and the Mascarene Islands.	Commencing 2016.