



# St Bede's College

9 September 2021

## ST BEDE'S COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

After an extensive selection process, the College Board, with the approval of Br David Hawke, De La Salle Provincial, is very pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Deborah Frizza as the next Principal of St Bede's College, commencing Term One of 2022. Deborah will be the first female Principal of St Bede's College, and our second lay Principal.

Deborah leaves Emmaus College, where she is currently the Executive Director – Strategic Outcomes. Prior to this, Deborah was in senior educational leadership roles in the independent, government and the Catholic sectors, including seven years as Deputy Principal of Mentone Grammar.

Deborah brings over 30 years' experience in teaching and educational leadership to the role and is delighted to take on the critical role of Principal for our College. She has brought a modern and global view to secondary education, built on foundations of trust, communication, evidence and the modelling of Catholic values. In Deborah's application she stated: "I truly believe that the key to developing a culture of continuous improvement is to provide an environment in which staff, students, alumni and parents alike feel valued and empowered to make suggestions and express their views".

Deborah's style of collaborative leadership and passion for providing a future focused faith-based education, has been inspired by her own faith, a strong belief in the holistic values of a Catholic education and an appreciation of the educational aspirations of families as commonly expressed in each of the educational sectors. Her strong personal educational philosophy centres on the development and success of the staff and students within her care.

These are exciting times for St Bede's College, as an amalgamated two-campus school at Bentleigh East and Mentone. Deborah will work closely with John Finn over coming months to assure a smooth transition occurs for St Bede's College students, staff and parents as we move to a new Principal.

We look forward also to opportunities, both formal and informal, in the coming months to acknowledge and thank John for being an outstanding leader and steward of St Bede's College during his time as Principal.

We will provide a further update during the year on Deborah's transition to St Bede's College Principal. In the meantime, the Board wishes to thank the Lasallian Mission Council, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools, St Bede's College staff and all involved in providing input to the appointment process.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Brinkley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anthony Brinkley

Board Chair