



## St Stephen's School

<i>Moderator, as Visitor</i>	Rev Steve Francis
<i>Chair</i>	Kevin Smout
<i>Principal</i>	Donella Beare
<i>Council Secretary</i>	Rob Gotti
<i>Members elected by Synod</i>	Tim Brewer
	Michael Lynn
	Jenine Owen
	Anneke Klopper
	Riaan Piek
	Michael Schrick

Teaching and Learning at St Stephen's School is a relational adventure, where traditional learning is defined to enhance student outcomes. Our 2018-2020 Strategic Plan *Staying True & Moving Forward* reflects this statement.

Three strategic themes were identified to guide our endeavours – **Our Purpose, Our People** and **Our Place**. They provide a framework for organising our strategic goals, actions and directions. The Strategic Plan 2018-2020 has set targets and measures of success which, we have for the first time, attempted to quantify. These are set against a three-year timeline and are reported to the School Council regularly with biannual update against the set targets and measures.

Each theme is driven by a strategic intent:

- Excellence in academic performance and well-being (ST1)
- Strong community involvement, heart for service (ST2)
- Organisational sustainability, financial stability and inviting contemporary campuses (ST3)

The focus of many projects across the School in the first 18 months have been around ST1 and ST2. This report will specifically give an update on ST1, goals 1 through to 5 and to ST2 goal 10.

### **ST1 Goals 1 – 5:**

- A strong learning culture
- Expert teaching teams that inspire learning
- Professional teaching team
- Delivery of a relevant curriculum
- Maintain a culture of care and support

Review of classroom pedagogy, increased rigour of assessments, exposure to more outside competitions and opportunities for extension, a renewed effort at differentiation of the curriculum, primary reading and problem-solving were the significant foci of 2018 and continue to be so.



A renewed vigilance surrounding senior student pathways to optimise school and student results has been another priority and is a cross campus strategic project. The revisiting of student choices in the senior years, accompanied with an explicit ongoing interrogation into the data surrounding the academic performance of our senior students showed that a percentage of students selecting a direct entry pathway (ATAR) were not in an appropriate course. The School through the course of the last twelve months has actively worked with students, staff and parents to understand the multiple pathways on offer for students and to get students onto the pathway that would set them up for immediate success after Year 12.

It is important to note that this has helped students in alleviating undue stress and anxiety which was being caused by doing courses they were either not able to be successful at or that they did not want to do but were expected to do so. Early indications moving into 2019 subject counselling is that the communication and language around pathways is becoming embedded across the School by the feedback of parents and students.

### **ST2 Goal 10**

The increase in student opportunities for service learning reflects the intent of goal 10 which states *Strong service orientation and opportunities to serve others.*

The School continues to provide all students and staff opportunities for service through active involvement in local, regional and international tours and programs as well as opportunities for students to engage in a broad range of cultural trips and exchanges. The School's local and global service learning runs nine service tours for students from Years 6 to 12. These tours are within Western Australia and internationally. The tours all include a focus on service, for example, working in South Africa with the JJ Haven orphanage to help build required infrastructure to Cambodia with RAW Impact to build houses for the local community.

The tours provide staff with opportunities to serve and in the last two years we have seen an increasing number of staff wishing to be part of these tours. Service learning is a central tenant of both the School's Strategic Plan as well as a direct reflection of the School's core values of service and community. Despite being embedded service learning will continue to be prioritised by the School.

The mark of success of the Strategic Plan is not only in the meeting of set targets and measures, it is in the quality of our graduates.

**Mr Kevin Smout**  
Chair  
[ksmout@kpmg.com.au](mailto:ksmout@kpmg.com.au)

**Mrs Donella Beare**  
Principal  
[donella.beare@ststephens.wa.edu.au](mailto:donella.beare@ststephens.wa.edu.au)