

Strategic Plan 2016-2022



OAKLEIGH GRAMMAR
EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS





WELCOME

Oakleigh Grammar is a co-educational school in Victoria offering a traditional values based education in a Christian Orthodox environment. As a School committed to excellence we focus on the full and balanced development of each child in an environment that is supportive of their aspirations and potential. We are a community school dedicated to the principles of inclusion and belonging. The prime objective of the school is to provide a dynamic, rigorous and values based education.

Oakleigh Grammar is dedicated to providing a superior education by offering quality learning programs in a dynamic environment. We believe that education is an engaging and enriching experience where all students are deserving of success. We strive to develop confident, wise and adventurous students who display a sophistication of critical thought and analysis as developed intellectual qualities. Oakleigh Grammar values diversity, inclusivity and critical thinkers with the view that all students aspire to be life long learners.

Beyond intellectual rigour, excellent academic standards and maximising one's effort the holistic development of our students as moral and ethical human beings is central to our education purpose. We develop in our student's empathy and respect for the peoples of the world and our natural environments. Oakleigh Grammar students learn to respect and value the richness of diversity and appreciate the power of the qualities inherent in tolerance and compassion. The pursuit of wisdom through strong faith is therefore a prime value promoted by our School.

We trust in the futures of our students and the direction and leadership that they will role model to future generations.

“Oakleigh Grammar is dedicated to providing a superior education”



**Five
strategic
priorities
2016 - 2022**



VALUES - PAST,
PRESENT AND
FUTURE

COMMUNICATION
FOSTERING
COMMUNITY

STUDENT
CENTRED
LEARNING

PERFORMANCE
AND
STANDARDS

SUSTAINABILITY
AND
RESOURCES



STUDENT CENTRED LEARNING

Objectives

1. To achieve high levels of intellectual rigor through the implementation and maintenance of effective and quality curriculum programs.
2. To provide a curriculum of study that promotes a challenging learning environment at the school through the development of appropriate teaching practices and methodologies.
3. To deliver a curriculum that is imbedded in contemporary learning theory and a conscious focus on critical thinking and learning skills.
4. To ensure that the learning environment at the School facilitates a deep understanding of student needs, student learning styles and effective methodologies of curriculum delivery.



“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.”

- Brad Henry



VALUES - PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Beliefs that drive the educational values of our School

Excellence

Oakleigh Grammar is committed to creating for itself an environment of excellence. Such an environment is demanding on all who are members of the Oakleigh Grammar community. To excel to the best of their abilities in all activities they are required to undertake. The pursuit of excellence is central to the ethos of the School and as such values a learning environment in which all individuals are given opportunities to excel. Oakleigh Grammar recognises that achievement and self-esteem impacts positively on all aspects of a person's development.

Educational rigor and high standards

Oakleigh Grammar sets high standards of achievements for its students and staff. High standards are achieved through a rigorous approach to educational activity and commitment. Learning is regarded to be a serious and demanding endeavour and underpins the core aspirations of the School and its commitment to succeed.

Structured Inquiry

At the centre of education rigor and critical thought lies the act of inquiry. Through a process of structured inquiry Oakleigh Grammar students are developed to achieve in-depth understandings and analysis of demanding and challenging issues. Structured inquiry favours a knowledgeable and critical approach to information and challenges superficial and cosmetic learning outcomes.

Critical Thinking

Through the inculcation of higher order thinking skills and skills of analysis Oakleigh Grammar aims to instil in all its students a sophisticated and critical appreciation of information. Thinking skills also empower students with imagination and creativity – vital tools for divergent and new ideas to be fostered and developed. Oakleigh Grammar believes that knowledge is power and that power tempered with moral wisdom is strength.





VALUES - PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Beliefs that drive the educational values of our School

Flexible and Adaptable Life Long Learning

Oakleigh Grammar believes that learning is for life and that only life-long learners are adequately skilled to adapt to future changes which do and will occur at an ever increasing rate. Oakleigh Grammar aims to prepare its students for the challenges of life in a rapidly changing and developed world. Fear of the future and its unknown demands are best challenged by equipping students with relevant and vast learning skills that would give them the tools to deal with future change and adapt to new demands and competencies in a confident manner. A love for learning and the development of the art of independent learning supports our students in the quest to become life-long learners.

Faith and Community

Objectives

1. Enhance student connection to the School, Church and wider community
2. Enhance student and community appreciation of the Greek Orthodox Christian tradition and heritage
3. Raise the School's visibility and reputation locally, nationally and internationally
4. Encourage past students to form an active alumni that engages with the School in a meaningful way

Reflection

Oakleigh Grammar values the centrality of reflection as a means through which to bring about change, enhance the quality of one's learning and develop a serious and in-depth attitude towards knowledge and its function. Reflection allows the School and its members to make mistakes and learn in a productive manner from one's own individual and group experiences.





PERFORMANCE & STANDARDS

Professional Development

- Setting up comprehensive teacher in-service programs and professional development seminars on a regular and consistent manner.
- Entering into an agreement with the IB to provide targeted professional development in the school to ensure the successful implementation of the MYP Program.
- Introducing and developing teacher expectations with regard to incorporating critical thinking skills across the curriculum.
- Providing in-service training to ensure that teachers make full and effective use of all ICT capabilities that are introduced to assist student learning in the school.
- In-servicing teachers and those with Positions of Responsibility in the process and criteria that make for a successful appraisal experience.
- Creating an exciting learning environment for staff and prospective staff that makes Oakleigh Grammar an attractive school in which to work through innovative programs and partnerships with recognised world leaders in different aspects of educational development.
- Highlighting accomplished and leading teachers within the School to coach, mentor and share professional knowledge and skills.



PERFORMANCE & STANDARDS

ICT and Resources

- Establishing data recording programs that are specifically designed to track the longitudinal development of our students.
- Develop online communication links between school and home with regard to student records, assessment tasks and development.
- Develop online communication links between school and home to facilitate access to additional school resources information and software for home usage.
- Apply electronic and digital technologies to enrich the classroom environment.

“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.”
- James Cash Penney







COMMUNICATION FOSTERING COMMUNITY

Objectives

1. To increase digital interaction and communications with current students and parents, ensuring they remain up to date with all school news, events, achievements and other important notices.
2. To raise awareness of the school in broader South Eastern suburbs, and in turn increase enrolments throughout the entire school and develop a waiting list for students.
3. Establish a strong connection with Prospective Parents that have made contact to ensure they stay up to date with our best achievements and announcements.
4. Increase multiculturalism at Oakleigh Grammar, supporting our commitment to diversity and inclusivity, and raise awareness of the school in broader South Eastern suburbs.



“Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.”
- Rollo May



SUSTAINABILITY & RESOURCES

Objectives:

1. Ensure Oakleigh Grammar is financially sound
2. Adopt efficient and streamlined financial practices
3. Maintain facilities and grounds that support the educational practice of our school
4. Develop environmentally sustainable resources
5. Support ICT literacy and contemporary e-learning practices
6. Strengthen Brand Awareness in order to promote our unique school culture and environment
7. Proactive approach to financial management of the School

“Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.”
- Rollo May





AT
OUR SCHOOL
Tall Poppies
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BEHAVIOURAL QUALITIES VALUED AT OUR SCHOOL

An Oakleigh Grammar graduate leaves the School with infinitely more than excellence in academic and vocational development. An Oakleigh Grammar student is also nurtured in the development of the key behavioural beliefs.

Community
Virtue
Inclusion
Leadership
Respect
Diversity

Compassion
Dignity
Responsibility
Tolerance
Resilience



Community

Oakleigh Grammar values its status as a community school and those values that are inherent in the function of community as a system of support, shared responsibility and identity.

Virtue

Oakleigh Grammar values an education that promotes virtue and questions convictions with the intent of discovering a higher purpose in life. Virtues develop in our students a broader understanding of ethical and moral issues relevant to their lives. Within such a framework they are then able to develop shared values and ethics which provide for a positive basis of human conduct.

Inclusion

Oakleigh Grammar values its students and staff involvement in all the school has to offer for the individual and for the community. Participation and inclusion are integral to the provision of an education that is reflective of opportunity and challenge. Oakleigh Grammar ensures that all students and employees of the school are treated in a fair and equitable manner. Inclusion is an important attribute of a healthy society and a quality that be developed in all.

Leadership

Oakleigh Grammar views all its students and staff as leaders. Leaders have an obligation placed upon them to lead by example and to role model the qualities of virtue and talent that make for good leadership. All members of the Oakleigh Grammar community are called upon to demonstrate leadership in progressing the better good of our school, our community and our society. Oakleigh Grammar is committed to developing the unique leadership abilities that lie in all who are part of our community.

Respect

Oakleigh Grammar values the notion of universal respect and this mode of behaviour is reflected in all dealings with members of the school and the broader community. All relationships in the school are prefaced by a behavioural expectation of respect – Respect for humanity, our environment, other cultures, our resources and our possessions.

Compassion

Compassion lies at the heart of all social interaction and action. The development of a social conscience in all Oakleigh Grammar members is very important. Social justice is an altruistic value that adds quality to life and as individuals and as a community we can do no greater good that behave in a compassionate manner towards all – in our daily contacts and in the manner we react to the needs of others.

Dignity

Oakleigh Grammar is dedicated to the creation of a society and school environment where all can live with dignity and are inspired to reach their individual potentials unhindered by fear, discrimination or harassment. At the centre of Orthodox Christian morality is the notion of dignity: “do unto others as you would have them do unto you”. Students of Oakleigh Grammar will consistently be exposed to the centrality of dignity as a moral and ethical imperative of behaviour and a right of all individuals.

Responsibility

Oakleigh Grammar lays a critical stress on the notion of personal responsibility. For education to be a successful and satisfying experience personal responsibility needs to be accepted by all players. Responsibility is not shared in as much that it is regarded as a crucial quality to be developed in all persons undertaking an activity. Teachers and learners all take into the school environment their own responsibilities if they are to be successful in their endeavours. Oakleigh Grammar aims to develop students who view learning as a personal responsibility in order that they are able to reach their potential and succeed into their futures.



Tolerance

Tolerance is a behaviour valued in all Oakleigh Grammar members. Tolerance of others leads towards a more compassionate, supportive and cooperative society and school environment. All members of the Oakleigh Grammar community are expected to demonstrate tolerance in the interpersonal relationships with others and their approach to the unique differences that all individuals demonstrate. Through tolerance Oakleigh Grammar develops a healthy and productive learning environment for all its community.

Resilience

Future success is born out of resilience to today's failures and challenges. An Oakleigh Grammar education is designed to recognise and help students confront the many challenges they will need to face as both individuals and members of the community. Resilience is about knowing where you stand on issues and being able to re-engage after unsuccessful experiences. Resilience is fostered through accepting personal responsibility and reflection. Knowing how to deal with one's own issues and responsibilities develops strength in adverse times and is a quality that needs to be developed in our students if they are to develop into emotionally healthy, secure, productive and successful members of society and the community.

Acceptance

Oakleigh Grammar values the notion that all individuals and groups display unique differences and it is such differences that enrich our community and society. Valuing diversity leads to greater levels of understanding the complexity of human relationships and the inherent good that is found in all individuals and cultures.



“Resilience is about knowing where you stand on issues and being able to re-engage after unsuccessful experiences.”



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77 - 81 Willesden Road, Oakleigh Vic 3166
Email: Enrolments@oakeighgrammar.vic.edu.au
Phone: (03) 9569 6128
Website: www.oakeighgrammar.vic.edu.au
Facebook: [facebook.com/OakleighGrammar](https://www.facebook.com/OakleighGrammar)
Operating Hours: 8:30am to 4:30pm
Monday to Friday

