



**Striving for
excellence.**

**STRATEGIC PLAN
2023-2025**



TENISON WOODS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

68 Brooker Terrace
Richmond SA 5033

T. 8131 7900
info@twcs.catholic.edu.au
twcs.catholic.edu.au



Register for a
Principal's Tour
of our campus



Our representation of Acknowledgment of Country

We emphasise the Boomerang because it symbolises the enduring strength of Aboriginal people and culture and the importance of 'returning'.

For non-Aboriginal people it's about 'returning' the country through acknowledgement and the importance of sharing the truth about Aboriginal history, culture and heritage. 'Returning' to country with Aboriginal people.

For Aboriginal people, returning to country is about going home to learn about culture, to reconnect and reaffirm your place of belonging. The hands inside the boomerang symbolise belonging, an acknowledgment for space of belonging for Aboriginal people.

Our country, Kokatha, we can't practice dot painting, we do landscapes. The landscape you see is our country - trees, animals; kangaroos, snakes, lizards, and our warriors/ancestors who empower us.

The people represent a community/family and togetherness. This is what being Aboriginal is all about.

Where are we from?

Founded by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1933, St Joseph's School Richmond amalgamated with Kilmara School in 1997 and became Tenison Woods Catholic School.

We are named after Father Julian Tenison Woods, a Priest who worked in the South-East of South Australia with Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop. Together they established the Sisters of St Joseph and set about making Catholic Education in South Australia an option for all children. Their compassion and work with underprivileged and those members of society on the edges is what inspires our community.

We are guided by *"In omnibus caritas"* - *In all things Love.*

What guides us?

We follow a strong tradition of Josephite education, but also the footsteps of our founder. These traditions are present in our school today and drive the way we develop our students to be stewards of their world, and their environment.

As a school community we celebrate the Josephite charism and Julian Tenison Woods by:

- » Living his love for the environment and nature.
- » Celebrating and encouraging a diverse community.
- » Engaging in prayer experiences every day, celebrating God's everlasting love for us.
- » Helping those in need through social justice and active outreach.
- » Fostering a sense of enquiry and curiosity about our world, celebrating the gifts of wonder and awe.
- » Creating enabling conditions in our school so that learners, educators and families thrive through focused wellbeing practices.

Where are we going?

We are formed by the founding visionaries, protectors, explorers and innovators that are Saint Mary Mackillop and Father Julian Tenison Woods.

The cooperative and collaborative work of students, staff, parents and friends of the School in developing this strategic plan illustrates the shared desire to amplify the wellbeing and learning outcomes of the young people in our community.

Our approach celebrates children and their childhood, we cultivate a place where every child matters, absolutely. We are an excellent educational environment where each child is valued and challenged to reach their full potential.

We are a community that strives for wellbeing for all, *all the time.*

Through our strategic focus, Tenison Woods School will be seen as a school of first choice for families seeking an outstanding education for their child.

We will be a school of first choice for educators seeking to be a part of a connected community driven towards excellence.

Living our charism, we are inspired by Jesus as a community of learners committed to quality outcomes in authentic relationships, seeking goodness and fullness of life. Most importantly, we continue to be inspired and guided by *"In omnibus caritas"* - *In all things Love.*

Ben Catalano
Principal



Who do we need to be?

visionaries...



protectors...



innovators...



explorers...



connectors...



How will we get there?

By being bold in our endeavours to provide all with the capacity to be **visionaries** for self, for others, for faith and for the world God desires.

We are a community that inspires learners in a faith filled and inclusive world belief. We are future-focused driven by continual improvement, building on the foundations of those who came before us, providing a platform to challenge the status quo.

- » Acknowledge our call to engage those on the peripheries of our community.
- » Increased understanding, accessibility and engagement for all learners (diversity and inclusion).
- » Develop positive practices to enhance student agency and capabilities.

By being bold in our endeavours to provide all with the capacity to be **protectors** of self, of others, of faith and of the world God desires.

We are called to be protectors of each child and their childhood, where every child matters, absolutely. Pope Francis recognises in each of us, the role we play in ensuring creation is cared for, nurtured for and given the opportunity to flourish. We are stewards for a sustainable ecology. Saint Mary Mackillop guides us in protecting the Tradition that brings us together, In all things love.

- » Provide a rich and authentic Religious Education program respecting diversity.
- » Ecological Education – to foster in learner an appreciation of creation as a gift from God.
- » Ensure an inclusive faith community with a strong connection with the wider Parish.

By being bold in our endeavours to provide all with the capacity to be **innovators** for self, for others, for faith and for the world God desires.

We are learners who are challenged to realise a new future. Innovation does not lie solely with technology, we are creators of something unimagined, that results from study and experimentation. We are a community committed to creating the unimagined in teaching and learning, in developing well beings and in realising God's mission.

- » Pursuing excellence in teaching and learning for all through utilising contemporary and researched practices to meet the needs of all learners.
- » Strengthen the connection between our Catholic Identity and wellbeing.
- » Wellbeing for all, all the time – embed Positive Education practices.

By being bold in our endeavours to provide all with the capacity to be **explorers** for self, for others, for faith and for the world God desires.

We are guided by those around us to understand ourselves as learners, as global citizens and as people of faith. Through this inward perspective, we are grounded to challenge those within and beyond our community through the exploration of the unknown.

- » Collaborative and responsive to individual needs for all learners.
- » Engage in meaningful dialogue and collaboration with families from diverse backgrounds and First Nations families.
- » Provide functional, purpose-built environments that meet the needs of all children, families and learning programs in a growing community.

By being bold in our endeavours to provide all with the capacity to be **connectors** for self, for others, for faith and for the world God desires.

Central to our humanness, is our deep need to be connected. To be in commune with our God, with each other and with all. Saint Mary Mackillop guides this action through a deep sense of social justice and preferential treatment for those on the peripheries. To be human means to be in relationship with each other authentically.

- » We will invest in our presence in the local community.
- » Strengthen the communication between families and our school to support parents and caregivers.
- » Ensure meaningful and collaborative processes are developed to strengthen the pathway in to and beyond our school.