Towards 150 years
2019–2023 Strategic Plan
OUR VISION

To develop aspiring young people with confidence and character.

At Toorak College
You can learn, without limitations or ceilings
You can stumble, understanding that we are behind you
You can be brave, pushing yourself outside of your comfort zone
You can be bold, knowing that anything is possible
You can be yourself, proud of who you are
At Toorak College, we create the future.

We are proud of our heritage, attuned to our changing world, and focused on ensuring an exceptional education for future generations.

We put what is best for our students at the centre of every decision we make and are committed to making an impact in and out of the classroom as well as within the wider community.

Our 2019-2023 Strategic Plan has been developed to provide clear guidance to the School as we endeavour to empower young people through academic and personal growth so they will thrive in their future.

Building on the success of previous plans, this plan is a future-focused, student-centred, growth-driven plan that, through the strengthening of our programs, teaching practices and facilities will allow us to deliver a forward thinking educational experience for generations of Toorak College students.

This five year Strategic Plan is a reflection of the shared passion of the Toorak College Board of Directors, staff, parents, students, Collegians and wider community. We are excited by the opportunities and direction that this plan presents for all of us, and we look forward to working with the school community to guide Toorak College to its 150th year and beyond.

Join us as we empower, grow and thrive.

Mrs Kristy Kendall
Principal

Mr Peter Wickenden
Chairman of the Board

OUR MISSION

We will empower our students through academic and personal growth so they thrive in their future.

This ethos is represented by our school emblem, the daisy, which reminds our students to hold their head to the sun and be proud and confident of the person they are becoming.
OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. **Emphasis on the individual**
   Empower each student through academic and personal growth

2. **Curriculum expertise and innovation**
   Implement future-forward teaching and learning

3. **Culture of connectedness**
   Unite as one Toorak College community

4. **Opportunities for now and beyond**
   Develop skilled and connected global citizens and future leaders

5. **Responsible and sustainable governance**
   Ensure a strong and vibrant future for generations to come
"Everyone shines, given the right lighting."

— Susan Cain, writer

Emphasis on the individual

At the heart of the Toorak College community are our students. Toorak College nurtures and empowers students to be bold and creative, independent and resilient, and most importantly their authentic self. Every student is encouraged to dream big and is celebrated for what they achieve.
Dedicated to the development of each individual, we place importance on understanding our students as people and as learners.

Through individualised academic plans and a broad range of non-academic programs, we ensure that our students develop the passions, skills and knowledge that will allow them to thrive in their future.

Over the next 5 years, Toorak College will:

Continue to improve tracking and reporting processes

Introduce a holistic reporting program that tracks skill development and personal characteristics

Strengthen each student’s knowledge and academic growth through individualised learning journeys and timetables

Maintain a maximum of 22 students per class in every subject and every year level

Promote the health and wellbeing of our students

Launch an all-encompassing health and wellbeing program that harnesses latest research and global best practice

Introduce a daily wellbeing tutorial as part of the school timetable that prioritises the development of authentic connections

Prepare students for successful transitions

Introduce an individualised ‘Early Start’ program to ensure smooth transitions between each and every year level

Establish a transition program and networks to enhance the transition of our students through school, to university and to the workforce

Enhance leadership development

Expand opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and experience what it is like to be a leader

Empower past and present students to have a voice in the direction of the school
“Feet, what do I need them for if I have wings to fly.”
— Frida Kahlo, artist

2 Curriculum expertise and innovation

Our academic program will continue to be widely recognised for its breadth, innovation and quality.

Toorak College provides an outstanding educational program based on contemporary curriculum, academic rigour and quality teaching. Our teachers guide, challenge and inspire students to achieve.
Toorak College delivers a world-class learning experience through the employment of exceptional staff and rigorous professional development programs.

Our teachers are passionate about developing within our students a diverse range of skills and knowledge. They continuously strive for improvement to their educational practice and content knowledge with the aim to inspire curiosity, creativity and critical thinking.

Over the next 5 years, Toorak College will:

- Institute a culture of curriculum innovation
- Establish an integrated specialists program throughout the Early Learning Centre and Junior School that promotes a breadth of learning experiences
- Provide extension and support opportunities in and out of the classroom that enable students of all abilities to achieve success
- Design and implement our own curriculum that is relevant, meaningful and engaging
- Ensure students develop the necessary skills of the future
- Increase our emphasis on STEM, ensuring all students from Early Learning to Year 12 develop robust technological skills and understanding
- Launch a multi-disciplinary Year 7-9 curriculum that focuses on research, collaboration and design thinking
- Launch a comprehensive career education program throughout the Senior School

Maintain our high academic standard

- Increase time dedicated to the explicit teaching of literacy, numeracy, science and technology in the Junior School
- Strengthen our VCE program through a broad offering and tailored courses and pathways for each student

Recruit, develop and retain outstanding staff

- Expand our professional development programs and resources so all staff can extend their skills and learn from external sources of best practice
- Encourage and enable staff to be industry leaders in their area of expertise and showcase the exceptional work done at Toorak College

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“Together, we can do so much.”
— Helen Keller, author

Culture of connectedness

We have spirit, we have pride.

At Toorak College, we unite our community and foster an all-inclusive culture of belonging.

We strive to effectively engage with our students, staff, parents, alumni and the wider community to develop connections and partnerships that will in turn enhance opportunities for our students.
The Toorak College community will be a place where each and every person feels a sense of belonging and support.

We are a proud Mornington Peninsula school and will seek and provide opportunities and meaningful connections for our students, staff, parents and alumni.

Over the next 5 years, Toorak College will:

- Strengthen student connections
  Establish a whole school student mentoring program that unites students across all year levels
  Enhance the integration of international students through a revised language program and the expansion of short stay boarding opportunities
  Introduce a Young Internationals program for Year 5 and 6 students

- Enhance engagement among parents and alumni
  Foster a whole school approach to parent engagement and participation in partnership with our Parents & Friends Association and Auxiliaries
  Collaborate with Toorak Collegians to create and enhance life-long connections with the School

- Develop a spirit of service and giving
  Establish a whole school approach to community service
  Encourage a culture of philanthropy and giving to support the ongoing development and opportunities for Toorak College students

- Build a stronger profile and reputation within the wider community
  Be an active member of the Mornington Peninsula community, giving back in knowledge and expertise to groups and associations related to childhood, adolescence and future pathways
  Implement a comprehensive marketing and communications plan to effectively attract, engage and inform members of the community
"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."
— Jane Goodall, anthropologist

Opportunities for now and beyond

Toorak College graduates are socially aware global citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

As a leader in girls’ education, we provide an exceptional and balanced educational experience to ensure students are intellectually and emotionally prepared to live out their dreams and thrive within and beyond the school gates.
Toorak College graduates are recognised as well-rounded citizens who have the ability to embrace, adapt to, and lead change in this increasingly complex world.

Our programs and ‘real world’ experiences provide extensive opportunities for students to build their networks and develop a strong sense of confidence and citizenship.

Over the next 5 years, Toorak College will:

Foster opportunity for career progression
Create the capacity for students to graduate with additional qualifications to the VCE and participate in university extension programs
Partner with industry and educational institutions to unlock internship opportunities and non-traditional entry to the workforce
Establish a career progression program for students and Collegians that incorporates work experience, mentoring, networking and financial support

Strengthen learning experiences out of the school grounds
Expand on the challenge nature of our camp program with an emphasis on developing resilience in every student
Broaden opportunities for involvement in student exchange and study tour experiences
Encourage participation in a wide range of extra-curricular activities
Maintain a broad range of extra-curricular opportunities across sport, the arts, leadership, technology, culture, community and other areas of interest
Integrate extra-curricular commitments into the academic timetable
Develop participation and elite pathway programs in sport and the arts
“Nothing is impossible; the word itself says ‘I’m possible’!”
— Audrey Hepburn, actress

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Responsible and sustainable governance

Toorak College will continue to build on our rich history by maintaining our traditions and innovative edge.

Through the sound management of finances and resources, we will build a strong and vibrant future that can withstand and adapt to change.
The outstanding facilities at Toorak College underpin the educational needs of the School. We are committed to continually advancing our facilities, resources and programs in a responsible manner to ensure a progressive and relevant learning environment for generations to come.

Over the next 5 years, Toorak College will:

- Continue to strengthen enrolments
- Grow towards an ideal enrolment size of 900 students (Early Learning to Year 12)
- Provide opportunity for students all over the world to live and study at Toorak College
- Investigate expansion opportunities such as an online educational platform so our students can learn anywhere, anytime
- Continue to improve our facilities and campus
- Maintain rigorous long-term strategic and financial planning
- Implement Phase II of the Toorak College Master Facilities Plan to enhance our learning environments and the beauty of our campus (Marjorie Williams Centre, Long Walk, Mary Herring Hall, Wardle House outdoor spaces)
- Integrate essential systems and technology across the school to ensure a user-friendly, integrated and responsible experience for all