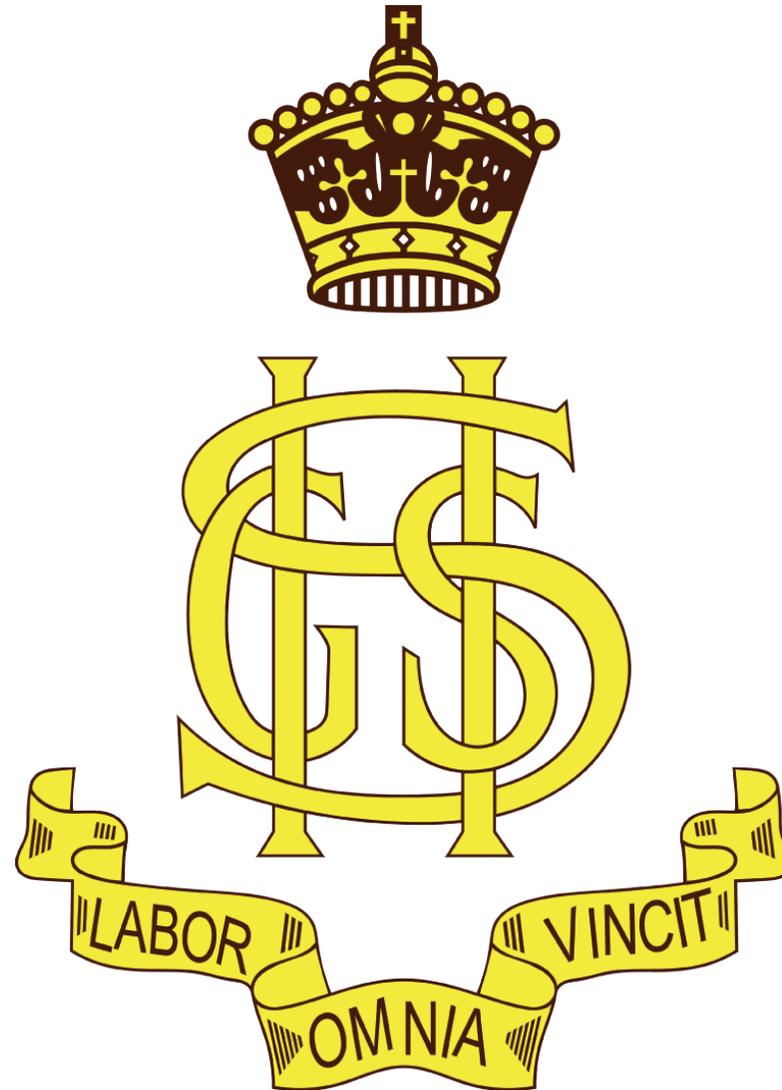


# School plan 2018-2020

## Sydney Girls High School 8138



# School background 2018–2020

## School vision statement

At Sydney Girls High our philosophy and purpose is to provide all students with the opportunities to achieve their individual potential across the domains of giftedness: intellectual, creative, sporting and social, within a culture of collaboration.

The school community is committed to the pursuit of excellence for all students while fostering socially responsible young women who are encouraged through student voice and leadership, to make a difference in society and to care for and respect others. An appreciation of the history and heritage of the school, valuing the contributions of those women who have gone before, is an important feature linking the past, present and future.

The ideals of life-long learning, valuing difference and diversity, while meeting the future challenges of a global community are the foundations of the ethos of the school.

## School context

Sydney Girls High School, enrolment 950 students, is an academically selective secondary school with a record of outstanding academic achievement. The school fosters the capacity of young women across the domains of giftedness and students are actively involved in an extensive and highly valued co-curricular program.

Situated in the heart of Sydney adjacent to the Centennial Parklands, students travel from all parts of the greater Sydney area to attend. As a partner school, Sydney Boys High is located in the same parcel of land, sharing a common history in NSW public education.

Traditions and connections between the two schools are maintained through student leadership, social and co-curricular programs and experiences.

With a long and proud history, the school reflects the recognition of the value of education in the state and the nation. George Reid declared the school's establishment in 1883 for the purpose of nurturing the academic talents of young women who could go on to take their places at university beside their male counterparts.

Many prominent and successful women are graduates of Sydney Girls High across many varied walks of life. The examples of the achievements of the alumni over more than 130 years serve as inspiration for the current students who strive for leadership and recognition in the full knowledge of the privilege of their education and the responsibility for making a difference in the lives of others.

## School planning process

Initial broad planning originated at the annual Executive Conference in 2017 followed by more detailed planning in early 2018.

The findings of the executive were presented at staff and P&C meetings in 2018. Discussion and focus groups from the school communities then formulated detailed feedback which was incorporated into the draft planning documents.

Writing parties were then established to develop details for each of the strategic directions.

# School strategic directions 2018–2020

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

Inspire gifted students through quality teaching programs to achieve excellence and thrive as confident, creative learners and leaders.

### Purpose:

Students at SGHS require support to realise their potential and develop as self-directed lifelong learners and active citizens. School programs build academic resilience and inspire confidence to take intellectual risks.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2

Foster quality leadership and learning in a culture of innovation and collaboration. Promote teaching expertise and excellence which engage all staff.

### Purpose:

SGHS seeks to support teachers in continued professional growth to achieve a learning environment which builds student capacity. Teachers are confident to meet professional standards and those aspiring to higher levels of accreditation and leadership are supported.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3

Create a culture of collaboration and effective communication between parents, teachers, students, alumni and the community.

### Purpose:

To maintain optimal outreach and connections within the school and broader education community for the benefit of students' learning and future pathways, and to further the unique and privileged place of the school.

# Strategic Direction 1: Inspire gifted students through quality teaching programs to achieve excellence and thrive as confident, creative learners and leaders.

## Purpose

Students at SGHS require support to realise their potential and develop as self-directed lifelong learners and active citizens. School programs build academic resilience and inspire confidence to take intellectual risks.

## Improvement Measures

Increased numbers of students indicate in 'end-of-Stage' surveys that they have scope: to direct their own learning; access to one-on-one teacher feedback; and engaging classroom experiences

Increased numbers of students are active in leadership roles

All students engage in one or more significant extracurricular activity

## People

### Students

Develop a growth mindset that enables students to self regulate and embrace and pursue their learning goals

### Staff

Build leadership capacity to respond to student feedback in order to provide a quality learning environment in the classroom

### Leaders

Adopt a collaborative approach to the construction and review of innovative teaching and learning programs

## Processes

Quality programs and effective, innovative teaching practices are implemented within and across faculties, shaped by the systematic collection and evaluation of student data

## Evaluation Plan

Annual 'end-of-Stage' student surveys, analysis of participation data of extracurricular programs

## Practices and Products

### Practices

Design programs in Years 7 to 10 which provide scope for: students to take risks with their learning; make real world connections; and develop critical and creative thinking skills

Establish the practice of surveying students across many contexts and points on the learning continuum

### Products

Students become critical thinkers and confident leaders who take risks with their learning

Student voice is valued and utilised to shape teaching and learning experiences

# Strategic Direction 2: Foster quality leadership and learning in a culture of innovation and collaboration. Promote teaching expertise and excellence which

## Purpose

SGHS seeks to support teachers in continued professional growth to achieve a learning environment which builds student capacity. Teachers are confident to meet professional standards and those aspiring to higher levels of accreditation and leadership are supported.

## Improvement Measures

Increased numbers of staff presenting at professional learning events for colleagues

Increased numbers of staff acting in Year Project key roles

Increased numbers of staff engaged in higher accreditation goals

The majority of SGHS professional learning events are registered with the QTC

## People

### Staff

Teachers adopt a mindset of personal professional growth in the context of their own learning goals and in response to feedback from students and colleagues

### Leaders

Leaders adopt a coordinated approach to providing teachers with sustained differentiated professional learning

## Processes

The school implements a professional learning framework that encourages teachers to aspire to best practice

### Evaluation Plan

Annual staff survey; Analysis of PL events; SGHS Hub data; Progress of teacher's accreditation

## Practices and Products

### Practices

Teachers identify and employ innovative evidence based pedagogy to respond to the learning needs of gifted students

All teachers develop, lead and participate in collaborative professional learning activities and events within and beyond the school

Early career teachers participate in a formal mentoring program

### Products

Classroom practice is differentiated and negotiated to meet the needs of all gifted learners

Teachers establish their practice as proficient and extend to higher standards

Early career teachers achieve accreditation within AITSL standards in a timely and supported manner

## Strategic Direction 3: Create a culture of collaboration and effective communication between parents, teachers, students, alumni and the community.

### Purpose

To maintain optimal outreach and connections within the school and broader education community for the benefit of students' learning and future pathways, and to further the unique and privileged place of the school.

### Improvement Measures

Increased levels of parent satisfaction with the communication and collaboration opportunities within the school

Increased participation and levels of satisfaction by students with SGHS online resources & communication

### People

#### Staff

Teachers are responsive to developments in contemporary modes of communication across the entire school community as well as building their technology capacity

#### Parents/Carers

Parents are willing to engage, use and develop effective modes of communication within and across the school community, utilising the expertise which exists in the parent body

### Processes

An evaluation of information and communication pathways leads to a fully integrated communication environment for the school community

#### Evaluation Plan

Annual 'End-of-Stage' student surveys, Biennial parent survey.

### Practices and Products

#### Practices

Parents regularly access and utilise relevant and timely information in support of their child's education

Teachers publish and share units of work and programs as open online resources for the benefit of colleagues

All students access and utilise high quality, relevant online learning materials

Members of the SGHS community articulate consistent messaging about the school's culture and values

#### Products

Point of need online communication tools are integrated into the school's daily administration for such things as attendance, finance, calendar, uniform

The integrated online portal to staff resources is enhanced and streamlined

Relevant learning resources are available to all students via a state of the art platform

The school presents a consistent and clear representation of its values and priorities to the global community