# Macquarie Grammar School



# Strategic Master Plan



2020 to 2024



# Strategic Master Plan 2020 to 2024

#### **Preamble**

Macquarie Grammar School has developed a Master Plan that takes into account the school's short-term and long-term requirements to accommodate the growing needs of the school's community. MGS has been operating as a school since its inception in 2004 but was a part of a larger educational institution where its priority was in tertiary programmes. As the school grew in 2013 it was separated from its parent company and stands independently as a not-for-profit institution led by a CEO/PEO under the guidance of the School's Governing Board with strong foundations of government compliance. It is a secondary school from Years 7 to 12 which is located in the Sydney CBD and is housed on two floors in a high-rise building. Our focus is on high academic standards with the majority of students matriculating to university after completing the Higher School Certificate and nearly all progress to tertiary study. Another arm of the school's curriculum is the specialised High School Preparation courses that are offered in situ and online. These courses are solely for international students in developing their English language proficiency, so they can progress to the mainstream classes. Extensive co-curricular and extra-curricular programmes are offered both on site and offsite using the rich and modern facilities that are available nearby.

To accommodate the changes in learning for our students through increased delivery options, the school will renovate the two existing floors, Levels 4 and 8 into modern facilities that will enhance learning and provide a positive conducive environment that stimulates learning, which engenders a positive mental health outlook.

John Rekouniotis

Headmaster CEO/PEO

1st January 2020



#### Our Vision

To provide an inspirational education where each student develops his/her personal best.

#### **Our Mission**

Is to provide an academic based curriculum and prepare students for the Higher School Certificate (HSC) that will lead to pre-vocational and University education, and the workplace, by providing quality education to its students and fostering an enjoyment of and respect for learning.

#### Our Motto

Truth and Virtue (Veritas et Virtus)

#### **Our Aims**

Educating for life

Always in pursuit of excellence

A spirit of enquiry and respect for the truth

High priority given to thinking, language, literacy, and numeracy skills

Students are encouraged to partake in the whole school curriculum

Provide personalised tuition by experienced, qualified, and dedicated staff

To keep abreast of improvements and advances in technology and offer programs relevant to current employment and market standards

Incorporate ICT (information and communications technology) across the curriculum

Provide an appropriate academic-based curriculum

Promote in students a love of learning and a desire to continue to learn



## Our Values

As a community of learners and in keeping with our proud heritage, Macquarie Grammar School practises the following values for Australian Schooling articulated in the National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools that underpin the activities, actions, and behaviours within its community, to be the foundation of our endeavours:



ANZAC Day Commemorative Service

# Care and Compassion

Care for self and others

#### Doing Your Best

Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable, try hard, and pursue excellence.

#### **Fairness**

Pursue and protect the common good where all people are treated fairly for a just society.

#### Freedom

Enjoy all the rights and privileges of Australian citizenship free from unnecessary interference or control, and stand up for the rights of others.

#### Honesty and Trustworthiness

#### Responsibility

Be accountable for one's own actions, resolve differences in constructive, non-violent and peaceful ways, contribute to society and to civic life, take care of the environment.

#### Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion

Be aware of others and their cultures, accept diversity within a democratic society, being included and including others.

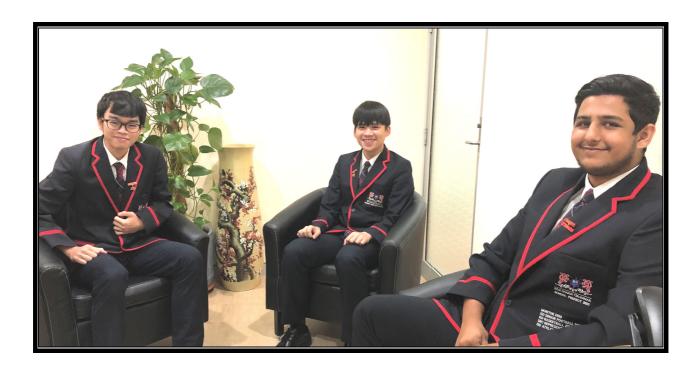


# Our Purpose

Macquarie Grammar School is uniquely positioned to be a 'School of the Future', providing quality teaching and learning that leads to academic excellence, adapt strategically and efficiently to the ever-changing world that our students are a part of.

Our constant purpose is to foster and maintain a tradition of developing students to be prepared for today's world and that of the future; who are balanced in intellectual, emotional, social, and physical skills; are in possession of knowledge and attributes and a love of leaning for life; and willing to serve their contemporaries and the wilder community.

Macquarie Grammar School is a not-for-profit school for all students from Years 7 to 12, located on one site which is coordinated, coherent and connected, and operates from shared vision, mission and established core values. Financially, the School Board and management are committed to improving resources and learning outcomes for our students.



# Our Strategic Initiatives and Focus

- 1. will attract, develop and retain the best teaching and support staff, to comply with its vision and values.
- 2. will develop an outstanding curriculum to enhance learning opportunity for our students
- 3. will enhance our relationships with the parent community and other stakeholders
- 4. will have the services, infrastructure and financial capacity to deliver our strategic goals
- 5. will maintain our inclusive traditions and enhance our position in the local, national, and international community



6. will use information and communications technologies to be the enabler of our strategy

#### Location



MGS is in an excellent location as it attracts both Domestic and International students and must continue to remain in the CBD and current building.

#### School Year Levels on Offer

The CBD provides an enriching learning environment for students across all courses offered from Years 7 to 12, but in particular for the Senior Years, 11 and 12.

#### Resources

The resources in the CBD that the school draws from is broad but extremely beneficial and is something that other schools cannot provide. Everything that is available is within a short walking distance. The NSW State Library, Australian



Stock Exchange, NSW Museum, Powerhouse Museum, Botanical Gardens, The Rocks, University of Technology and Sydney, swimming complexes, indoor and outdoor sporting facilities and most of the large domestic and multi-national companies are just a stone's throw away. This is a strong advantage that allows our school to enrich the teaching and learning of our students.

#### **Transport**

All forms of transport converge to the CBD from all points on the compass; train, bus, ferry, light rail and taxi. This is an enormous marketing advantage that cannot be underestimated.



#### **Eateries**





The students and staff have an international smorgasbord of culinary choices at various pricing levels. Even within the current building. With an international enrolment base this is a significant marketing advantage.

# Staffing

Attracting quality staff in the areas of education, administration and student learning support is easy as the city is a central education hub and popular with potential candidates. The convenience of access to public transport is a strong reason for maintaining our current location.





#### **Current Resources**

The school has changed over the past seventeen years of operation and in the past six years has settled on an education strategy that is solely on secondary education, linked with the English Language programme with the Higher School Certificate as the main goal of student attainment, for progression to tertiary study. The resources have been building slowly over this time but a new strategy or plan needs to be created to allow the school to continue to grow and have a clear marketing goal that will allow the school to expand its curriculum long-term and its enrolments, through better utilisation of space on levels 4 and 8. This can only be achieved through building physical resources.

#### The Future

Levels 4 and 8 have a student capacity of 175 students but by engaging an architect with educational knowledge of student needs, resource development and enhanced utilisation of space, future enrolments can continue to accommodate this growth over the next five (5) years.

#### The MGS Online Learning System

To enhance the capacity of the MGS campus, an innovative online learning platform will further development of its business, as a new opportunity for MGS. Therefore, it has decided to develop and maintain an effective MGS Online Learning System including the course trail, live online class, online class archives, assessment and payment with security.

# Formulating thoughts of Student Enrolments

MGS will need to accommodate student numbers up to 230 by 2024.

# Facilities Required Short-Term 2020

In 2020 a functional Science Laboratory with a Preparatory Room and a Visual Arts Workshop to be created on Level 8.

Additional storage space to be located on Level 8.

Upgrade WiFi and internet technology on Level 8

# Facilities Required Long-Term 2022

Relocating Computer Laboratory for STEM to Level 4. Upgrade equipment and infrastructure.

Redesign the footprint of Level 4 to increase student capacity.

Redesign Level 4 to increase the open space for learning and private study.

Enhance the environment to improve student wellbeing.

Create a modern technological hub with fast speed internet access for staff and students.

Provide internet technology that enables each classroom to be a media centre.

# Consult Staff for Ideas

Staff sessions to be utilised to brainstorm ideas for how MGS can be transformed as a school both in the areas of curriculum and provision of facilities. Formulating these ideas and suggestions into recommendations.

# Engaging An Architect

The school will engage an architect in late 2020 to discuss and explore usage options for Levels 4 and 8 and to consider the recommendations made by staff and management.

# First Quarter of 2021



Develop a number of design drafts of levels 4 and 8 for further discussion.

By April 2021 concept drawings completed for financial planning.

Secure a quantity surveyor to cost the renovation of levels 4 and 8.

Offer new scholarship programmes targeting both the domestic and international markets.

#### Second Quarter of 2021

Apply for a government grant to redesign Level 4 and acquisition of all of Level 4, currently own 46%. Diversifying our marketing strategy both domestically and internationally.

#### Third Quarter of 2021

The school will secure financial support for the renovation through surplus funds or a loan.

Secure financial support to acquire the remaining 54% of Level 4 by securing a loan to complement a possible capital grant.

#### Fourth Quarter of 2021

Response from the AIS on grant application.

The school will ramp up our marketing both domestically and abroad.

The school will manage its finances prudently to allow for savings to be generated for the renovation of levels 4 and 8 and to acquire another level.

## First Quarter of 2022

Commence the tender process and select builder.

Commence the renovation at the end of term 1 and over the break.

Broaden the scholarship programmes both in the domestic and international markets.

#### Second Quarter 2022

Renovation of Level 4 complete.

# Throughout 2023

In 2023 the School Board will grasp an opportunity to acquire another level within our existing building. The school will continue to explore changes to the curriculum and needs of the students.

Management will implement changes to curriculum through marketing analysis.

Management will review the school's operations and implement efficiency strategies.

# Throughout 2024

In 2024 the School Board to grasp an opportunity to acquire another level within our existing building.

The school will continue to explore changes to the curriculum and needs of the students.

Management will implement changes to curriculum through marketing analysis.

Management will review the school's operations and implement efficiency strategies.

#### In Conclusion

School Management will need to be creative and flexible and highly intuitive in the changing education market to attain the goals as set out in this plan. The current team has changed operations and met compliance requirements head on which has revitalised the school in all facets of the business. It is now a market leader in educating domestic and international students within a cohesive inclusive environment. It has rebuilt its reputation in the education sector both domestically and internationally due to the school's unique student welfare programmes and targeting student leaning needs.



The school is prepared to adjust this Master Plan in the future if any significant issues arise that may impact upon its implementation. These impacts maybe staffing requirements, enrolment downturn, financial shocks, etc. These will be determined at the time and the School Board with Management will implement appropriate adjustment strategies.

A contingency will be in place to accommodate the successful implementation of this Master Plan and will transform Macquarie Grammar School into a modern educational facility.