

CURR 009 St Peter's Girls' School Educational Philosophy

At St Peter's Girls' School, our students are encouraged to challenge their thinking by being bold, robust and inquiring learners. Through our teachings and our culture, we inspire women of character and influence, fostering the next generation of leaders. They follow in the footsteps of our Founding Sisters, who sailed all the way from England with a vision for quality girls' education; it is a vision we continue to uphold almost 130 years on.

Offering both the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), we pride ourselves on our academic results which are consistently among the best in the country. Our teaching and learning platform is led by specialist educators and signature programs, and we ensure connections in pedagogy from the very beginning in our Early Learners' Centre, all the way through our Sub-Schools to Year 12.

In the ELC, our education practice is underpinned by the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP) and influenced by the Reggio Emilia Philosophy which values each child as strong, capable and resilient.

Our educators build on those foundations in our Junior School, where the IBPYP strengthens inquiry-based learning. We also follow the Australian Curriculum (AC), further supporting our students to strive for excellence through initiatives including our Intensive Languages Program, comprehensive Mathematics platform which provides remediation and extension and a consistent approach to building literacy skills across Reception to Year 6.

As students progress into the Middle and Senior Schools, the knowledge, skills and experience of subject-specialist teachers comes to the fore, with a learning continuum across Years 7 to 12. Our Extended, Differentiated and Gifted Education program (EDGE) infuses differentiation within mainstream classrooms as well as targeted withdrawal sessions. The School has a strong focus on STEM, delivering subject expertise and learning programs that integrate the disciplines. One such example is the introduction of Engineering for Global Change (E4GC), a cross-disciplinary subject that explores how different strands of engineering, and cutting-edge technology, will be used alongside collaborative problem-solving skills to tackle complex global issues in the coming decades.

In addition to academics, St Peter's Girls fosters a love of The Arts and a passion for sport, encouraging every girl to play to her strengths and reach her potential in everything she does.

At the heart of it all, our philosophy is inspired by our core values: *courage, compassion and creativity*.

Our students become empowered with the *courage* to take risks in their learning journeys; it is also fostered through activities such as our Outdoor Education program, which develops resilience and tenacity in our girls, while also instilling the value of teamwork.

Compassion is embodied in both the academic and the wellbeing curricula. Our girls grow their sense of identity, community and responsibility in a rapidly changing world. Students develop empathy through the Humanities curriculum, during Religion and Philosophy lessons, Home Group sessions, and through House Charities and service learning projects.

Creativity is founded upon a commitment to the practices of inquiry and reflection. This is palpable in our unique Futures program. With a spotlight on entrepreneurship, students in Years 7 and 8 navigate real-life issues and find compelling solutions; skills that will remain with them well beyond their schooling years.

All of this takes place on a campus that emphasises open and transparent learning spaces that capture the inspiring beauty of our natural surrounds.

Our students enter the School as girls and leave as sophisticated and caring young women keen to make their mark on the world.

Policy Certification

Policy authorised by:	Principal
Responsibility of updating Policy/Procedure:	Director of Teaching and Learning
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