



ST PETERS
GIRLS

A group of six young girls in blue school uniforms are standing in a line on a paved path, smiling at the camera. A teacher in a black dress stands behind them. The background shows a school building and trees.

Our Pathway to School

Our *Pathway to School*

Across our Early Learners' Centre and Junior School, we are committed to providing a vibrant and holistic education for all children, building foundations for lifelong learning.

Our youngest learners enter our ELC as 2 year olds, embarking upon a carefully-crafted and consistent educational and developmental journey through our Centre as they grow in age, personality and ability. As that journey enters its final phases, the smooth transition for students from ELC to Reception is key as it empowers children to feel confident and comfortable as they begin school, whilst also building competency and courage for future transitions.

At St Peter's Girls, we provide our bespoke ***Pathway to School***, a targeted ELC-to-school experience for all ELC children during the six months prior to their commencement as Receptions at the start of a new school year or in the mid-year intake.

Based in a new flexible and dynamic learning space within our Early Learners' Centre, our ***Pathway to School*** is led by a qualified Early Childhood Teacher. To complement the globally-recognised learning experiences that already take place across our Centre, children are engaged in an extended range of focused learning opportunities aimed at setting them up for a successful and positive start to school.

Fundamental capabilities that are accelerated through our ***Pathway to School*** include social, emotional and self-management skills to further develop independence, organisation and resilience. Literacy, numeracy and STEM explorations are amplified daily during rich inquiries and interwoven play activities, guided by problem-solving and creativity. Crucially, our ***Pathway to School*** places children's wellbeing at the centre as we focus on their individual growth.

Naturally, it's pivotal that parents also feel comfortable with the expectations and processes of starting school, including familiarising themselves with the people who will become such important figures in their child's life. As such, parent orientation sessions are an integral aspect of this six-month period.

Features of our ***Pathway to School***

- Targeted and extended opportunities for children to develop literacy and numeracy skills, embedded in daily practice.
- A robust early literacy program focusing on early development of phonics and phonemic awareness, speech and language development, and exposure to a broad range of literacy experiences.
- Deep dives into mathematical concepts within the strands of number, geometry, data, measurement and algebra through hands-on and play-based experiences and exploration of mathematical language.
- Opportunities to embrace artistic languages and creativity through music, drama, dance and visual art.
- Consistent and continual focus on developing the 'approaches to learning' that children will need throughout their schooling and beyond such as self-management, problem-solving, independence, empathy, emotional intelligence, creativity and teamwork.
- Collaborations with specialist teachers including Languages, Music and Sport educators, the School's Scientist in Residence and the Junior School Librarian.

Benefits for children progressing from our ELC to Reception at St Peter's Girls' School

- A strong sense of belonging in our School community from a young age as girls become familiar with School staff and the wider School environment.
- Close communication and handover of information shared between our ELC and Reception teachers.
- The power of all-girls' education delivered by a world-class provider of single-sex schooling.
- A consistent approach to the teaching of literacy and numeracy across ELC to Year 6.
- The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP) spanning ELC to Year 6, incrementally embedding core language, concepts and approaches to learning.
- Buddy programs with girls in other year levels that create connections across our ELC - 12 School.
- A high sense of aspiration as younger girls see and engage with older girls daily.
- Involvement in our ELC to Reception *Hat and Bag Ceremony* – an exciting rite of passage celebrating our girls' ***Pathway to School***.





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