



The Launceston Preparatory School Strategic Plan 2016-2020

The Launceston Preparatory School is a non-denominational and non-systemic school catering for students from Early Learning to Grade 6.

During 2015 strategic consultation was undertaken with The Launceston Preparatory School community. This provided our community with an opportunity to reflect on and develop the values and outcomes that are central to our continued delivery of a positive and meaningful learning environment for the education of the whole child. Students, parents, staff and Board members provided feedback that has been condensed to create a roadmap for 2016-2020 that is relevant, meaningful and important to our LPS community.

Our Mission

The Launceston Preparatory School exists to provide

CHILDREN with the guidance and the environment through which they can grow into capable, caring and concerned citizens with an enduring love of learning;

PARENTS with a smaller, more responsive and more effective school option; and

TEACHERS with the opportunity to excel.



Our Core Values

1. Education of the whole child.

The Launceston Preparatory School has at its very heart the education of the whole child addressing each individual's intellectual, artistic, emotional, physical and social needs.

2. Small by design.

The Launceston Preparatory School is small by design. A commitment to small classes encourages our family feel which, in turn, provides a nurturing, and caring environment where each student is known and supported. This is further enhanced through a curricular approach that encourages mentoring and interaction between grades, reflecting society where people naturally socialize with persons of varied ages and interests.

3. Socratic teaching – we encourage our students to think.

In ancient Athens Socrates asked his students probing questions which forced them to think hard about their ideas. We use Socratic teaching to encourage our students to think critically and support their opinions with facts, evidence of their own or wider experience or from literature. This broadens children's understanding of ideas and values, stimulates their imaginations and intellects and gives them critical insight into issues and ideas.

4. The Launceston Preparatory School students are active and constructive citizens.

Through rich and varied activities and themes our students, even our youngest early-learners, are active explorers of their community and make worthwhile contributions as young citizens. At The Launceston Preparatory School students practise good citizenship and are not simply learning the theory. We aim for our students to show themselves to be articulate, caring, aware, interested and knowledgeable members of our democratic society.

5. A democratic approach.

We believe that all students should share in the same opportunities and experiences and so our curriculum is delivered without prejudice. At The Launceston Preparatory School we understand that children chart different paths in their educational journeys. We therefore look beyond a "one size fits all" approach. Our mandate is to deliver the same high quality of schooling to each child whilst simultaneously accommodating the particular needs of each student during their primary school education.



Key Outcomes 2016-2020

Seven key outcomes have been identified that underpin this and all Strategic Plans of The Launceston Preparatory School.

1. Our students will continue to be the central focus of all decisions.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- Maintain small class sizes with appropriate levels of support to ensure the intellectual, social, artistic, physical and emotional development of our students.
- Support students by ensuring the school is suitably physically and financially equipped.

Key strategic focus for 2016-2020

- Promote and develop open channels of communication among the Board, staff and parents to encourage the sharing of ideas and knowledge.
- Develop the forthcoming School Registration renewal of registration documents as required by the Schools Registration Board of Tasmania.

2. The Launceston Preparatory School will always maintain our commitment to the educational philosophy of the school.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- Pursue balance between the use of technology and other educational tools to ensure the intellectual, artistic, emotional, physical and social needs of the child are met.
- Manage the human, physical and financial resources of The Launceston Preparatory School to ensure an appropriate framework exists to support fulfillment of the educational philosophy.

3. The Launceston Preparatory School will continue to support and maintain the high calibre of our staff.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- Provide meaningful and stimulating professional development for our staff.
- Provide opportunities for staff to improve professional practice through external networking with other educational practitioners.
- Encourage staff wellbeing through awareness at all levels of the importance of work-life balance.
- Remain alert to opportunities to foster balance within our staff composition.

Key strategic focus for 2016-2020

- Review policies and processes relating to staff recruitment and retention.
- Actively participate in the Multiple Enterprise Agreement review and negotiation.

4. The Board of Management will strive to work in a collaborative, respectful and inclusive manner to achieve inquisitive and supportive oversight and set strategic direction for The Launceston Preparatory School.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- The provision of strong financial and governance leadership to support the learning environment of its students now and into the future.
- Manage school finances to maintain an affordable fee structure that is the same for each grade from preparatory to grade six.
- Maintain a strong commitment towards the management of risk to ensure the wellbeing of staff, students and the future of the school.

Key strategic focus for 2016-2020

- Establish a succession committee and develop formal succession planning documents for Co-Principals and Board members to ensure the school's future leadership requirements will be met.
- Finalise review of Board's governance practices to ensure continued good management.
- Develop a cash budget in response to the identified strategic needs of The LPS.
- Investigate remote and secure access to a central and flexible data system.
- Finalise development of new risk management registers.

5. The Launceston Preparatory School will continue to foster a strong sense of community amongst students, parents and the broader Launceston environs.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- Encourage parents to be actively involved in communication with the school.
- Communicate to the school community the nature of staff professional development and its relevance to The Launceston Preparatory School learning environment.
- Encourage a diverse range of opportunities for people to utilise their skills and expertise within the school.
- Review current and potential community resources and facilities available within the Launceston area for educational purposes.
- Continue to provide opportunities for students to engage with the community.
- Continue development of The Launceston Preparatory School website capabilities and content.

Key strategic focus for 2016-2020

- Identify full user requirements of the website as a basis for further website development.

6. The Launceston Preparatory School will support the continued development and growth of its students and staff through its commitment to maintaining and improving the school's resources and facilities.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- Review and assess facilities to ensure they meet the current needs of the school.
- Maintain a website that is informative and easy to access.

Key strategic focus for 2016-2020

- Develop and finance an ICT strategy that is well-informed, consultative and practicable; one that will support the future and changing needs of all staff and students.
- Continue to investigate and work further towards the improvement of road and pedestrian infrastructure to maximize the safety of all within the school community.
- Investigate the viability of Before-School Care as a potential service to our school community.
- Determine the facility and resource requirements of the Early Learning, Kindergarten and After-School Care area so as to provide for future enrolments.

7. The Launceston Preparatory School will work to maintain the trusted and respected image we hold within the community.

Key strategies to ensure this outcome:

- Develop marketing and public relations strategies that reflect and support the ethos of the school.
- Optimize interest in new enrolments.

Key strategic focus for 2016-2020

- Define The Launceston Preparatory School brand to ensure that public perception is in line with the ideals and philosophy of the school.

