



THE SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
Redefining Co-Education

College Development Plan
2006–2009

1.0 Introduction

The next phase of development for The Springfield College represents a major commitment of the Uniting and Anglican churches to establish a strong, vibrant middle and senior school community on the Main Campus at The Springfield College. Now in its ninth year the College is ready to divide into two campuses. The first campus, a purpose built Prep to Year 3 site, now houses some 450 children and young people from Prep to Year 9. In 2007 senior school students from The Springfield College attend our sister school at Forest Lake College while the new campus is being developed. The planned relocation of middle and senior school students to the Main Campus commencing from 2008 is a critical and timely step in the history of the College. Ultimately the present site will become a Prep to Year 3 early childhood campus. The catalyst for this major development is the College Development Plan.

2.0 College Development Plan

The outcome of the strategic planning process undertaken in Semester 1 2006 with wide stakeholder and community consultation has been outlined in the College Development Plan. The strategic priorities outlined below will guide the College's further development in the next three to five years.

By 2011 we aim to be the school of choice (P-12) within Greater Springfield.

We will succeed by:

- positioning the College as the co-educational hub of the Greater Springfield community,
- developing the concept of 'true co-education' i.e. a College that strives for cooperation, collaboration, community and collegiality amongst stakeholders and relationship partners.

Those factors critical to the success of The Springfield College are:

- Professional, quality, committed staff
- Academic and co-curricular success
- Strong and collaborative leadership team
- Master planned middle and secondary school campus.

The values that underpin our attitudes and decision-making processes are:

- Respect and courtesy
- Compassion and tolerance
- Fairness and consistency
- Trust
- Integrity and honesty

2.1 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The strategic priorities for the College over the next five years are:

- Staff development and learning – our staff will be approachable, highly skilled in their subject discipline, Christian role models, who are engaged in the continuous improvement of their teaching practice, and who build good relationships with young people and their families.
- Enhancing educational achievement – we are committed to monitoring student progress against reliable benchmarks, striving for all students to enter tertiary programs of their first choice, and providing a strong focus on mathematics, science and technology.
- Building a strong and positive culture – that is aligned with our vision and values and fosters positive relationships between teachers, students and families, and supports students through pastoral care and leadership development programs.
- Christian life and faith development – an approach based on Christian values that brings students to an awareness of their spirituality and develops graduates who are resilient, creative, compassionate, respectful people of influence.
- Developing community linkages – building partnerships with universities and other tertiary providers to extend gifted children and develop flexible study pathways for senior students and developing the College profile within Greater Springfield through strong involvement in community building initiatives.
- Planned and sustainable campus growth – building the Main Campus to accommodate students from Years 4 to 12. The campus will house an ultimate capacity of 1050 students.

3.0 Curriculum

The holistic curriculum at The Springfield College is designed to meet the intellectual, spiritual, physical, social and emotional learning needs of students. The academic program is based on the Queensland Studies Authority syllabus documents and student achievement is regularly reviewed and benchmarked against national standards.

Teacher planning and classroom strategies incorporate the Dimensions of Learning framework where the learner is exposed to teaching strategies that:

- Shape attitudes and perceptions toward learning,
- Demonstrate how to acquire and integrate knowledge,
- Extend and refine that knowledge,
- Use knowledge meaningfully,
- Develop the learners' Habits of Mind for life long learning.

TSC is proudly co-educational which strongly reflects the society where students will continue to live, learn and work. Research proves that there is equal academic advantage for students in coeducational classrooms and that they are more optimistic,

able to build strong social relationships and have healthy self concepts. A coeducational environment develops confidence in young people and the highly desirable quality of being able to work effectively in teams.

The pastoral care framework working in harmony with the academic curriculum seeks to build resilience, optimism and compassion amongst our students. Underpinning all programs are Christian values and an understanding that we work in close partnership with families.

The TSC extra curricular program provides opportunities for students to engage in sporting competitions and carnivals, a strong and vibrant performing arts program and other cultural activities.

4.0 College Organization

The organization of the College will recognize four phases of learning and reflect the aim for our graduates to be well educated, resilient, creative, compassionate, respectful people of influence.

Senior School Curriculum Years 10 to 12 (from 2008)

The Senior School Curriculum at TSC is designed to provide a balanced experience which caters for students' individual aspirations. Our highly skilled teachers seek to create:

- A focused learning environment which fosters independent scholarship, academic achievement and rigour;
- Opportunities to link with universities, TAFE and businesses during and after senior schooling;
- An environment which promotes self-confidence, compassion and healthy social relationships;
- Opportunities to engage in a wide variety of leadership, sporting and cultural activities;
- Senior Schooling Subjects Years 10 – 12
 - A range of subjects in the areas of English, LOTE, Humanities, Physics, Chemistry and Biology, Mathematics A, B and C, Business Organization and Management, Physical Education, Information Processing Technology (IPT), Graphics and Technology Studies; Music, Drama and Visual Arts will be offered.

Middle School Curriculum Years 7 to 9

The Middle School curriculum focuses on the diverse range of learning and emotional needs of students during this stage of development. Our programs are designed to foster:

- Purposeful, intellectually challenging learning environments;
- Comprehensive monitoring of students so that early intervention can take place where necessary;
- The development of positive relationships between teachers and students and students and their peers;

- The involvement of students in a wide range of leadership, sporting and cultural activities;
- Middle Schooling Subject Areas Years 7-9
 - Key Learning Areas in English, Mathematics, Science, SOSE and Australian History, The Arts, LOTE (Chinese), Health and Physical Education will be studied with the introduction of Industrial Technology and Design and specialist Visual Art lessons.

Primary School Curriculum - Prep to Year 6

The Primary Schooling years are Prep to Year 6. The curriculum in Years 1 to 6 emphasizes experiences that foster innovation, imagination, creativity and problem solving skills. Our programs are designed to foster:

- The development of literacy and numeracy skills and early academic success in these areas is fundamental to this stage of schooling;
- Close monitoring of student progress allows for early intervention particularly in reading;
- Teachers focus on developing a love of learning and building basic skills;
- Growing integration of technology to enhance learning;
- Key Learning Areas
 - Key Learning Areas in English, Mathematics, Science, SOSE, LOTE (Mandarin Chinese), Health and Physical Education, Technology and The Arts. All classes have specialist HPE, Instrumental Music and Classroom Music.

In Prep the Early Learning Curriculum focuses on individualized learning. The Prep program is play-based and designed to provide a foundation for more formal schooling.

- Early Childhood Education Prep
 - All Prep classes teach the Queensland Early Learning Curriculum and have full-time teacher aides;
 - Teachers focus on developing a love of learning and building basic skills;
 - Activities undertaken promote social and personal learning, literacy and numeracy, language and communication, creativity and curiosity, health and physical learning and establishing positive relationships;
 - Prep children also have specialist Violin and Mandarin Chinese Lessons.

5.0 Campus Development

5.1 The Springfield College Main Campus

The Main Campus of the Springfield College, a 12 hectare site on Springfield Greenbank Arterial Road, purchased in 2003, will be developed to accommodate a population of around 1050 students. The school is in an ideal location, next to the

Centenary Highway and within walking distance from the nearby Orion Town centre and Education City. The site offers a unique opportunity to build a quality coeducational College on a large property in what will become the centre of the city of around 75,000 people. The railway link to the main Ipswich line will be available within the next five years with the station less than five minutes walk from the College.

In addition the 3.9 hectare Main Oval across the road from the new campus, will provide a key foundation for the College sporting program and weekly sporting carnivals with TAS competition schools.

As you will appreciate it will take some time to accomplish this transition. A Master Plan for development has been prepared by the College architects together with early concept plans for the first buildings. These include a two storey purpose built Science, Technology and Mathematics building, an Industrial Technology and Design facility and eight or more general classrooms. Two of the modular buildings on the first campus will be transported to the new site for use by the Visual and Performing Arts faculty. Current plans are to have the Main Campus operating at the commencement of 2008.

5.2 The Springfield College Early Learning Campus

The first campus has been purpose built to provide early years education, from Prep to Year 3, for 500 children. While the middle and senior school campus was being planned, students from all year levels have been accommodated on this campus. Moving the middle and senior secondary students to the Main Campus will allow younger students to fully utilize the play ground and library areas. In the not too distant future, it is proposed to develop a Child Care Centre on this campus.