

Strategic Plan 2021-2025

Forward together

CABRA
DOMINICAN COLLEGE



Cabra Dominican College is an educational ministry of Dominican Education Australia

Our History and our Future

Our story truly began in 1206, when St Dominic established a convent for women in Prouille. From that foundation stem the many Dominican establishments – schools, colleges and universities – that, all over the world today, are centres of learning for youth.

In 1886 a group of young Dominican nuns from Cabra in Ireland founded our college in an area then regarded as rural land, and which we now know as the land of the Kaurna people. The convent the founding sisters built, and the chapel that followed in 1917, form the heart of our college grounds. Today as one of the education ministries of Dominican Education Australia (DEA), Cabra Dominican College takes its vision from the inspiration of Jesus Christ and the spirit of St Dominic. We are continually inspired and shaped by our heritage and the Dominican sisters' values, faith and courage.





Vision

Cabra Dominican College, as a Christian community in the Catholic tradition, strives to nurture and develop the unique gifts of individuals, to liberate them in the search for truth, and to empower them to create a better world.

Mission and Identity

As a Catholic community, we are inspired by the life of Jesus and endeavour to reflect the spirit of the Gospel in our attitudes, policies and practice. Guided by St Dominic, who was always attentive to the Word of God, our college strives to be a vibrant place of welcome for all people, nurturing the dignity of each one as a unique individual. With an inherent love for the good, the beautiful and the true, Cabra supports our young people to become faith-filled, creative and critical learners as well as discerning and engaged community members.



Strategic Plan

The strategic plan is the culmination of much dialogue and input from the Board of Directors, Executive Leadership, staff, students, parents, old scholars and Dominican Education Australia. It is guided by our college's Vision and Mission and provides direction in the best interests of the college, and consistent with the Board's obligations. This plan aims to leverage from our current strong position and set a bold agenda as we move **'forward together.'**

Grounded in our mission and with students at the heart of everything we do, the Board seeks to explore a new horizon, to ensure Cabra Dominican College thrives.



We are part of an extraordinary story, which began with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and then is taken up through St Dominic sending his friars out in pairs to study and preach, and encompasses the extraordinary chapter of young Irish nuns travelling across the world from Ireland to become the founders of our school. A tradition of love and contemplation, of preachers, thinkers, and truth seekers, now calls us to action. The 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, invites us to dream boldly and set high targets in everything we do.

The four domains of our strategic plan provide the touchstones for our future direction and enables the college to fulfil its vision, mission, and legal and statutory obligations. The domains are interconnected and demand that our strategic work adopts an integrated approach, to enable the whole community to flourish.





Consciously **Catholic**, mindfully Dominican

Together we will...

- Deepen our understanding, knowledge and lived experience of our Catholic Identity and Dominican tradition.
- Invite all to be in relationship with God and creation.
- Provide opportunities to encounter and grow in faith, through engaging, life-giving experiences.
- Be a just community where positive relationships flourish, the dignity and rights of all are respected and joy and hope are hallmarks.
- Create conditions to live a full and purposeful life; nurturing and nourishing our spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional selves.
- Be a community that celebrates and honours goodness, beauty and the unique giftedness of each individual.



Our central domain: **Consciously Catholic, mindfully Dominican** shapes who we are and what we do. We recognise the central importance of the Sacramental life of our work. We are called to be attentive to the Word of God, bringing our lived experiences and the religious and social systems of our world into genuine dialogue with the sacred scripture and the Church's tradition. As stewards of the Dominican charism, we cherish a spirituality that prioritises the search for truth; celebrates reason, intelligence and responsible human freedom; seeks excellence; values beauty and joy, and sees justice-making as an intrinsic part of the Dominican way of being in the world. This central domain informs all the work we do, provides a rhythm of life and way of being that permeates through the other three domains.





Lead for an **inclusive** community

Together we will...

- Be a welcoming, safe and inclusive environment.
- Strive to ensure that each person is known, valued and cared for and the sacred dignity of each individual is honoured.
- Create and nurture conditions to enable each individual to thrive.
- Provide a rich, dynamic learning program for each individual that is challenging, holistic, future-pathway focussed.



Lead for an inclusive community represents our steadfast commitment to shape a connected community of welcome, that is inclusive, caring, just and equitable. We aim to liberate and empower all individuals, inspiring them to be capable and confident co-constructors of their world. This domain recognises the giftedness of each individual, the importance of agency and empathy, the interdependence of all, and our role and responsibility to help co-create a better world. This domain sets a focus to nurture a community that enables all individuals to develop a deep sense of self, other and God, and their place within the world.





Strengthen and innovate for the **future**

Together we will...

- Astutely monitor the ongoing accumulation and application of the college's operations and resources.
- Embed excellent systems and structures to support an efficient, compliant, safe and positive educational environment for all.
- Embed prudent and ethical stewardship of our human, financial and environmental resources.
- Be responsible custodians of the earth and its resources.
- Commit to the preservation and cultivation of beauty, whilst remaining mindful of our legacy, tradition and heritage.
- Evolve with the needs of community.



Strengthen and innovate for the future

represents our commitment to remain future focussed, meeting the current and anticipating the future requirements of our community. We aim to be bold, forward thinking, wise and innovative, whilst astutely reading the signs of the times. From resource management to curriculum development, this domain sets a focus of sustainability across all aspects of the college.





Pursue **excellence** and growth

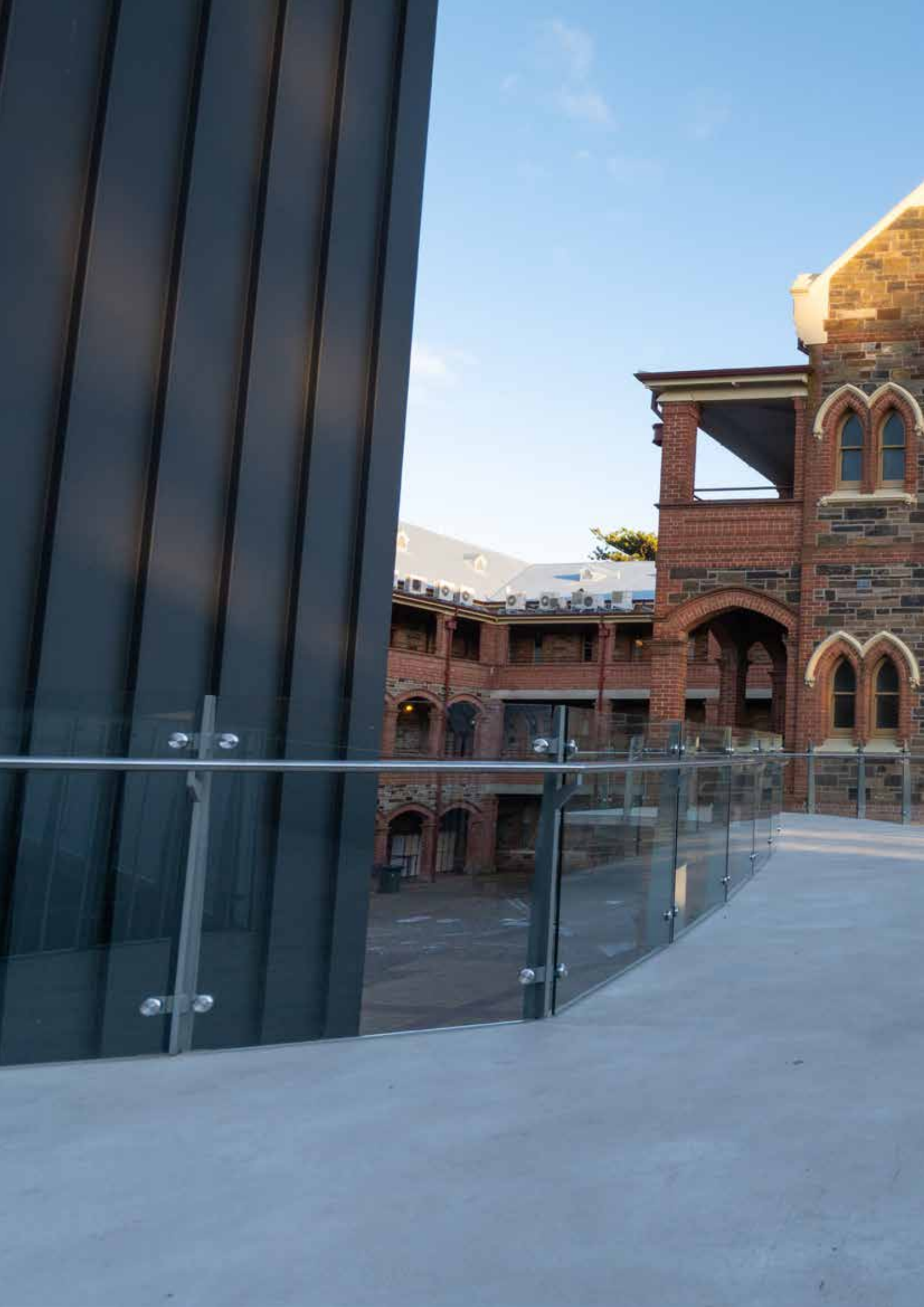
Together we will...

- Create a supportive and engaging space, fostering enquiry and appreciation of beauty, nurturing scholarship, excellence and a love of learning.
- Embed an innovative, future focused, inclusive curriculum that inspires curious, engaged, confident and independent learners.
- Enable all young people to be capable, confident, resilient, just and kind.
- Optimise learner (student) outcomes – spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional and social.
- Motivate students and staff to aspire and strive for personal excellence.
- Develop learners' capabilities and employability skills for an everchanging world.



Pursue excellence and growth is bold and purposeful and represents our commitment to growth and improvement across all areas of the college. From our learning and teaching, right through to our governance work, we aim to pursue and embed best practice that enables excellence, growth and a thriving community. This domain presupposes that well supported and resourced individuals and groups within the college will meet the high expectations that we have of each other.









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