

In 2017, we celebrated the thirtieth birthday of Overnewton Anglican Community College.

Although the College has grown and changed in many ways since it first opened in 1987, the strength and importance of its community is as important today as it was for our founders when imagining this community and what it could become.



2017 also saw the launch of our new Strategic Plan: **Taking the Alpha Generation to Excellence.** The plan contained our new Vision: **‘A Community of learners embracing the future’**

which we used as our College theme for the year so that everyone would know what our vision as a College is. The new vision highlights the ongoing central importance of our community.

Likewise, it acknowledges that, as still a quite young school, we relish the future - what it will bring for us and what we must do to prepare for it.

The new College Mission Statement was launched as part of the Strategic Plan too.

Overnewton Anglican Community College strives to be an inclusive learning community with a strong Christian foundation.

We value a respectful environment where students, staff and families, working together, aspire to excellence.

Broad educational opportunities prepare students to serve as empowered, thoughtful, community-minded citizens.

What is important about both the vision and mission statements is that they respect and maintain the founding values and direction of the College whilst providing the uniqueness about us that will guide us for the next stage in our history.

Coming from the strategic plan will be the new Master Plans for both of our campuses due for release in mid 2018. This is indeed an exciting time in the history of Overnewton and appropriate given our thirtieth year.

During the past thirty years, one thing that has not changed are the values that underpin our living and learning together as a community. These values are lived out every day in the ways we relate to each other and the ways in which we make sense of what we see and hear.

My faith in our students’ ability to embrace the digital present and future was affirmed when attending a Middle School assembly during 2017.

Year 8 students, Jordana Morton Scordo and Genevieve Falzon, were addressing the students about the College value of Learning. It was terrific to hear Genevieve say the following:



“My moral values are the backbone to the way I conduct my life. With my moral foundations firmly embedded, whatever I learn, I can extract, adapt and use in my everyday life, without compromising my values.

Valuable learning and my moral values are complementary to each other and I am able to handpick how I apply what I have learned to the way I live.”

It is incredibly impressive that a Year 8 student could share such wisdom with her peers.

Who knows what Overnewton and the world will be like in the next thirty years of its history. However, I do know, as I see our values brought to life within our student body and in our classroom practices, that there is an exciting future ahead for us.

My thanks go to all the members of our community, board members, parents, wider family members, old collegians, other supporters, my wonderful staff and, especially, our students; all of you have played your part in our thirty-year history.

In 2017, we farewell 104 families who leave us with the graduation of their last child from the College. This is two thirds of the Year 12 cohort and the largest proportion of families leaving we have ever had. 60% of Year 12 students this year have been at the College for the 13 years of their formal schooling. These are significant statistics.