

# Prospectus





#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

St Stephen's School grew from a vision to nurture people. People of innovation, creativity, integrity and faith. People who value community, are equipped with a positive attitude, and above all, live to serve. The heart of our School is our people and what amazing people we have.

Engaging students in their learning is at the core of academic achievement. St Stephen's School consistently ranks in the top fifty schools for WACE and is the number one ranked vocational education and training school in the State, however, we are much more than buildings, books and tests; we are a community where smiles are shared and lifelong friendships forged.

All teaching and learning experiences at our School are relationship centred, inspiring staff and students to explore their place in the world. The partnership between parents and teachers is so important in setting the relational context in which our children may learn and grow. Life-long learning is encouraged and modelled at our School.

Our learning and working environment is based on five core values; faith, learning, service, care and community. These values form the foundation of the School's vision and culture. We believe that as children learn and grow they are empowered to imagine, to be curious, to question and to achieve.

Excellence is something that we encourage all our students to strive for within a safe fun filled environment.

Quite simply, a St Stephen's School education is Christ centred, student focused and community based.

Mrs Donella Beare Principal





## **HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL**

St Stephen's School is a co-educational school of the Uniting Church in Australia and is situated on three campuses in the northern Perth suburbs of Duncraig, Carramar and Hepburn Heights, Padbury. The School was established at the Duncraig campus in 1984 and the Carramar campus in 2001. In 2011, an Early Learning Centre for Kindergarten to Year 2 opened at Hepburn Heights, Padbury.

The Duncraig campus is located on the corner of the Mitchell Freeway and Hepburn Avenue (adjacent to the Greenwood Train Station) and houses a Primary School for Years 3 to 6 and a Secondary School for Years 7 to 12. The Early Learning Centre at Hepburn Heights, Padbury (a short five minute walk from the Duncraig campus) houses Pre-Kindergarten to Year 2.

The Carramar campus is located in St Stephen's Crescent, off Joondalup Drive and houses a Primary School for Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6, and a Secondary School for Years 7 to 12.

Buses run daily from the Duncraig campus to Carramar campus, stopping at various points including the Currambine Train Station.

Currently, the School has an enrolment of approximately 2300 students.

# **EXECUTIVE TEAM**



MRS DONELLA BEARE
Principal



MR ROBIN PARSONS
Director of Corporate
Development



MR STUART HOLLIDAY
Director of Finance
& Administration



**MR REUCHLIN TEO**Chief Knowledge Officer



MR BRUCE TITLESTAD Head of Secondary (Duncraig)



MRS TRACEY GRAY Head of Primary (Duncraig)



MR BRETT ROBERTS
Head of Secondary
(Carramar)



MRS DARNELLE PRETORIUS Head of Primary (Carramar)

## THE SCHOOL CREST

Incorporating the symbols of The Uniting Church in Australia, the School crest illustrates the commitment to be part of the witness of the Church in the community and to provide a caring Christian community.

The Flames of the Pentecostal fire indicate the active presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church and the School. The Dove speaks of peace and reconciliation with God. The Cross speaks of Christ's sacrifice that bears witness to the limitless love of God for each of us. The Bowl speaks of service to the world as part of the Church.

The Thorns of St Stephen, the thorns of our Lord, are the thorns of martyrdom, mockery and derision. "Let your bearing towards one another arise out of your life in Christ Jesus. For the divine nature was His from the first, yet He did not think to snatch at equality with God but made Himself nothing, assuming the nature of the slave. Bearing the human likeness, revealed in human shape, He humbled Himself, and in obedience accepted even death – death on a cross". (Phil 2:5-8).

The Sunrise speaks of the resurrection. "Therefore God raised Him to the heights that every tongue should confess "Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father". (Phil 2:9-11, parts).

#### **HOUSES**

The House system was established to assist students' welfare, pastoral care and discipline. All students are allocated to a house and each house is led by a Dean, Dean's Assistant and student House leaders.



Secondary students are allocated to a homeroom within their House,

which in this sense refers to both an allegience and a building. Primary students are also allocated to a House. Students are encouraged in many ways to identify with their House. Siblings are placed in the same House, and all students stay in their House throughout their time at the School.

The Deans are available to students, staff and parents to encourage, counsel, assist and discipline, as appropriate.

## DUNCRAIG HOUSES



## **ALETHEA**

House name means: Truth House colour: Red Dean: Mrs Nicola Resta



# **CARANA**

House name means: Joy House colour: Yellow Dean: Mr Richard Davies



## **TIMAE**

House name means: Honour House colour: Blue Dean: Mr Phil Timms

## CARRAMAR HOUSES



## **CHARIS**

House name means: Grace House colour: Maroon Dean: Mrs Sarah Stockton-Rice



## **MAKARIA**

House name means: Happiness House colour: Green Dean: Mr Mark Batten



## **PARRESIA**

House name means: Boldness House colour: Blue Dean: Mr Russell Gilchrist

#### **OUR VALUES**

Purpose Statement: A Christian community in the Uniting Church tradition, inspiring learning that transforms and empowers lives.

School Motto: Serve God, serve one another
Core Values: Learning, Faith, Care, Service, Community

## **LEARNING**

Changing the world, one mind at a time. As a Christian community we value and respect the importance and place of learning in growing people – intellectually, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.

At Stephen's School we hope to nurture students to be informed and empowered, and you can therefore expect your child to enjoy learning experiences from Kindergarten right through to Year 12 that are:

- Seamless
- Dynamic
- Challenging
- Diverse

Our curriculum is broad, yet balanced and is designed to:

- Develop the academic, artistic, musical and sporting intelligence of our students
- Enhance social and personal skills
- Cultivate sound values and attitudes
- Encourage technological competence and confidence

Our School recognises the differing needs and aspirations of students and we strive to provide for them appropriately.

- The Secondary education program caters for University bound students and has a history of excellent graduation results while offering a wide range of courses
- Vocational Education and Training is available for students directly pursuing a vocational training pathway
- The Gifted and Talented extension programs, learning support and special needs courses also cater for the diverse learning needs of our students
- Year 7 is the main intake year for the Secondary School



Our staff and students are regularly recognised for their achievements in education and we have been the recipients of:

- Curriculum Council Awards for our students' exceptional WACE results
- National Excellence in Teaching Awards
- · National Quality Schooling Award

We celebrate diversity, creativity and health, and seek to facilitate learning in a wide variety of contexts, including:

- Primary and Secondary year group camps and excursions
- Sporting, Music and Subject (campus specific)
- Annual tour of France and Canberra
- Academic competitions
- Art exhibitions
- Music and Drama performances

Within the St Stephen's School community, there is a strong culture of Arts, Music and Sport where students are provided with numerous opportunities to participate in community exhibitions, competitions, festivals and tours.

The St Stephen's School culture is widely supported by technology. We believe that by providing the latest technology requirements for students including interactive smartboards, digital projectors and platforms that enable interactive and experience-rich learning, we are meeting the needs of our 21st century learners. The use of technology facilitates parents, students and teachers to build relationships, whilst maximising the learning environment for our students.

# **FAITH**

The Christian faith lies at the very heart of our understanding of what it is to be human as well as our understanding of education.

St Stephen's School is fully integrated into the life of the Uniting Church in Australia and although it is not necessary to be a member of a church to attend the School, all students and parents must be willing to support our Christian culture. We aim to provide a spiritual environment in which:

- Christian faith may be unconditionally demonstrated
- · Other faiths are acknowledged and respected
- Families from different religious, ethnic and social backgrounds, including those with no church affiliation are welcomed

The Christian emphasis of St Stephen's School is reflected in a variety of ways including:

- Regular worship of God
- A curriculum with a Christian perspective
- All students' participation in Biblical Studies classes, which are interactive, stimulating and help to foster spiritual awareness and development.

At St Stephen's School we believe it is important that students know what they believe and why they believe it, whether or not they choose to be Christian. That is why we seek to develop and encourage critical thinking in all areas of teaching and learning.



#### **SERVICE**

St Stephen's School provides an environment in which students, staff and the wider school community understand service as being characterised by unselfish, altruistic acts which benefit others in our School and in local and global communities.

Our goal is for our students to become people who integrate service into their personal and professional lives, and to not expect recognition or reward in return.

This vision is reflected in:

- Our School motto: Serve God, serve one another.
- Our support of the service activities of the Uniting Church in Australia.
- Our unique Active Servanthood (ASH) program which involves students giving of their time, effort and resource in order to assist and support those less fortunate.

The ASH program encompasses a number of facets with both a local and global focus. Some of our ongoing ASH initiatives include:

- An annual visit to Bethany Home in Malaysia, a school and training centre for disabled children and adults, where a small group of students commit themselves to serving as teachers' helpers at the school.
- The collection of gifts and raising of funds for operation Christmas Child, which involves sending a message of hope to children in desperate situations in the form of Christian literature and a gift-filled shoe box at Christmas time.
- Annual support of national campaigns such as Red Nose Day, the 40-hour Famine, Relay for Life and Me No Hair Day.

All staff members aim to model servanthood through their:

- Active support of, and participation in, integral programs such as ASH.
- · Commitment to excursions, camps and tours.
- Considerate interaction with each other and the student community.

#### CARE

Care is what characterises our community – we care for our students, we care for our staff and we care for our families.

At St Stephen's School, every student is valued and supported so that they feel a sense of belonging within the School community.

The School provides a safe environment in which caring relationships can be modelled and encouraged. We strive to ensure your children will feel happy, safe and cared for, empowering them to be their personal best.

St Stephen's School is committed to providing significant care to each student in social, educational and personal matters. This is facilitated through our unique House structure where:

- Students and staff are allocated to one of three Houses on each campus, comprised of students from each year level.
- Each House in the Secondary School is guided by a Dean, whose primary role is to care for the students in his/her House.

Moreover, all staff and students are encouraged to care for one another through their daily conduct and interaction.

Also central to the successful care of our students is our leadership structure. Both campuses in the Secondary School comprise:

- A Head of Secondary
- A Deputy Head of Learning and Curriculum
- A Deputy Head of Care

This structure, combined with the Deans and Heads of Learning Areas at each campus, reflect the School's strong emphasis on care of students and on achieving academic excellence.

Two of our specialised programs that cultivate caring relationships between younger and older students are:

- Support and mentoring of lower school students by selected senior students.
- Pri-Mates program where Primary School students are supported by selected Secondary School students.

These programs also develop leadership skills in older students whilst fostering confidence and resilience.



## **COMMUNITY**

There is a strong sense of connectedness and community between St Stephen's School and the wider community. This is facilitated through:

- Active relationships
- Commitment
- Engagement with parents and the wider community

Our unique whole-school approach seeks to develop a sense of connectedness between all year levels; and regular aspects involving the whole school are:

- Worship
- Assemblies
- Significant celebratory events
- Regular online newsletters and other publications

Consistent expectations of students across the whole school, in addition to the House system operating from Kindergarten to Year 12, also aim to encourage continuity and connectedness across the age groups.

St Stephen's School values the inclusion of parents in the school community and they are encouraged to discuss the progress of their children on a regular basis directly with their teachers and, where appropriate, the Head of Primary, the Head of Secondary, Head of Learning Area or Dean.

The most common form of parental involvement is through the Parent Connect network, which can include involvement in;

- Public and community events
- Extra-curricular activities
- Camps and excursions
- Work experience
- The School Fete and sundowners
- Canteen services
- Library, book and clothing exchanges
- Fundraising



#### PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Stephen's recognises the importance of Primary School in establishing firm foundations, educationally, socially and spiritually, in your child's life. The Primary School is committed to developing students who are:

- Motivated
- Resilient
- Confident
- Caring

#### INTAKE

The intake years for the Primary School are Kindergarten and Year 5 (Duncraig campus) and Kindergarten (Carramar campus).

#### **CAMPS**

From Year 1 to Year 6, Primary School students are provided with active learning experiences in the form of sleep-overs, camps and tours, in order to foster flexibility and confidence. Both campuses conduct:

- A Year 1 and 2 overnight at the school
- A Year 3 overnight in tents at the school
- A Year 4 farm camp (3 days)
- A Year 5 and 6 camp (3 days)

## **SPORTS**

The Physical Education program focuses on the physical development of all students and includes the teaching of many skills and sports. In addition to standard sports, our specialised programs include:

- Swimming
- Surfing
- Bodyboarding
- Interhouse and interschool athletics, swimming and cross-country competitions

#### **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

Just some of the wide range of programs on offer that cater for the diverse learning needs and talents of our Primary School students are:

- 'You Can Do It!' education program
- Specialised learning support and extension
- Think.com
- Mathletics
- Access to a referral program that uses outside consultants for assessments, therapy and advice
- Year 6 leadership training and public speaking training

#### **SPECIAL INTEREST**

Other aspects of the curriculum that seek to complement and facilitate a comprehensive learning experience for your child are:

- · A rich excursion program
- · Extensive IT access
- An annual Visitor in Residence (e.g. a writer, speaker, sportsperson)
- Chess, drama, and science clubs for interested students
- Participation in choirs, bands, orchestra and chamber ensembles
- Individual music tuition
- Access to an onsite school nurse who provides aid, care and advice when required
- Primary Musical

#### **SECONDARY SCHOOL**

The growth of students in Secondary School is supported by a range of curricular aid, extra curricular choices and opportunities.

## **SUBJECTS**

The wide variety of subjects on offer throughout the Secondary School is designed to meet the range of students, strengths, interests and ambitions.

- In Years 7 10, students follow the Australian Curriculum. All students study English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Physical Education and Biblical Studies.
- In Year 7 and 8 students are provided with opportunities to experience a diverse range of subjects including Indonesian, French, Music, Visual Art, Drama, Computing, Cooking, Sewing and iSkills.
- In Year 9 and 10 a range of elective subjects compliment the "core" subjects listed above.
- Our upper school program endeavours to meet the career objectives of all our students by offering ATAR university directed WACE courses; Workplace Learning; embedded Vocational Education and Training competencies and courses for those students pursuing a direct vocational pathway.

#### **SPORTS**

We offer a dynamic Sports program including opportunities to participate in:

 Australian Rules football, soccer, basketball, netball, volleyball, tennis, rugby and cricket at a competitive level.

- Specialised Physical Education programs including archery, golf, surfing, bronze medallion, bronze star and triathlon.
- Our annual swimming carnival.
- Outdoor Education, field sports (e.g. discus, shot-put, long jump, high jump and javelin), an athletics program, athletics carnival, triathlon and cross-country.
- A variety of recreational sports and mental health activities.
- A Health program which is integrated into the Physical Education program in order to provide training and teaching in matters of personal health and wellbeing.

#### **CAMPS AND TOURS**

St Stephen's School recognises the value of the learning experience outside the classroom and for this reason we offer:

- A Year 7 camp
- A Year 8 camp
- A Year 9 camp
- Year 10 work experience, service opportunities and/or camp
- · Year 11 and Year 12 retreats

Other highlights for selected students include:

- · Canberra tour
- · Sports camp to Albany
- Swimming camp
- Year 9 Lou Morrison Kimberley Experience
- · Year 11 French tours (France/Reunion)

- Year 11 tour to Bethany Home in Malaysia
- · International Music Tour every three years
- · ASH Service tours

## **COURSES/PROGRAMS & CLUBS OF INTEREST**

Extensive extra-curricular opportunities include:

- Individual music tuition and instrument hire, choirs, bands, orchestras and chamber ensembles.
- Regular Drama performances for both lower school and secondary students to help harness performance and showcase talent.
- The Year 11 River Cruise and Year 12 Ball which are highlights of most secondary students' social calendars.
- Study seminars, Life Skills classes and participation in many competitions relating to all learning areas.

Participation in clubs of special interest is also encouraged:

- Mathematics
- · Visual Arts and language clubs
- Debating league
- Environment Club
- Year 7 Music Performance Program specialised classes for talented musicians selected by audition (Duncraig).

# **ENROLLING YOUR CHILD**

#### **FEES AND CHARGES**

Please refer to the 2017 fee schedule on the Admissions page of the school website.

#### **UNIFORM**

St Stephen's School uniform consists of a summer, winter, and sports uniform in the School's colours of navy blue, red, and white. Uniforms can be purchased from the School Uniform Shop on either campus.

## **APPLICATION**

If you wish to know more please direct all enquiries to:

## **Admissions Department**

Phone (+61 8) 9243 2108

Email enrol@ststephens.wa.edu.au

Although particular vacancies occur from time to time, the main intake years are Kindergarten, Year 5 and Year 7 at the Duncraig campus, and Kindergarten and Year 7 at the Carramar campus. We urge you to register your child as soon as possible to enhance your opportunity to be selected.

