Background

The Anglican School Googong commenced in 2015 with classes from ELC (Pre-school) to Year 2. As the Junior School (Kindergarten to Year 6) continues to grow we have Year 3 in 2016, Year 4 in 2017, Year 5 in 2018 and Year 6 in 2019. The Senior School (Years 7 – 12) will commence with Year 7 in 2018, rolling out a year at a time thereafter.

Improving educational outcomes for all students is central to what Australia as a nation believes and one that our School recognises across all facets of what we do. The Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians sets two goals so all young people are positioned to live fulfilling, productive and responsible lives. These goals are:

1. Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence
2. All young Australians become:
   - Successful learners
   - Confident and creative individuals
   - Active and informed citizens

As a new school, we have set our sights very clearly on preparing our students for a future which is quite different to that which we know now. Our vision is, that we prepare our students by equipping them with the capacity to be leaders and contributors in the 22nd century.

We call this #School22. This underpins all that we do as a school in the 21st century with a clear focus on equipping our students for the future. A future of lifelong learning well beyond their formal education at Googong.

#School22 is not just about learning or the classroom. This is a focus for the whole School, for teachers and students. One where we:

- Develop teachers as
  - Coaches and mentors
  - Collaborators and forward planners
- Provide students with:
  - Authentic, experiential learning where they need to create and innovate
  - A globally relevant school

WE CAN’T SOLVE PROBLEMS BY USING THE SAME KIND OF THINKING THAT WE USED WHEN CREATING THEM.

ALBERT EINSTEIN
Educational Context

The Anglican School Googong is a caring Christian educational community of excellence in the Anglican tradition where authentic learning is at the heart of the school – where students know how to learn and where personal effort and achievement is valued and celebrated. This is a school where the students:

- Know and discover – to find and explore the wonder in the world around them
- Understand and dream – to dare to make a difference for themselves, their community and their planet
- Grow in faith – to use God’s gifts to be the best they can be.

A rich and invigorating learning environment for learners of all ages is being created. This is built on strong relationships between staff, students and parents. This relationship is based upon a shared trust and love of learning. The school is designed to ensure that we provide an exciting and flexible environment at the forefront of learning as we prepare students for the 22nd century.

The learning spaces have been designed so the students can make the most of their learning opportunities. They are flexible, open, modern, practical and more importantly a reflection of the real world. There are no desks in rows, chalk boards on walls or teachers standing in front of classes. The teachers play an active role as guides, mentors and experts working with the children. At The Anglican School Googong, the students discover for themselves and make meaning of the world around them every single day.

Empowered Learners

As the students make meaning for themselves they understand how they learn and through this they will become more confident learners. Through wide project based learning, self-discovery, connections with community members, trips to places of interest, and the relationships with teachers we are creating a sense of purpose for our learning. In creating successful learners we use Professor Guy Claxton’s approach which he calls Building Learning Power. He defines the 4 Rs of Learning Power as:

- Resilience - being ready, willing and able to lock onto learning
- Resourcefulness - being ready, willing and able to learn in different ways
- Reflectiveness - being ready, willing and able to become more strategic about learning
- Reciprocity - being ready, willing and able to learn alone and with others

Learning is not isolated, rather it is integrated and relevant to the world in which our students live. In addition to this the students learn in real time and interact with the latest technology and have access to view and create on digital platforms.

The Anglican School Googong is a place where children know and discover, understand and dream, and grow in faith.
**Academic Care**

Academic Care is about enhancing student learning, well-being and resilience through pedagogies sympathetic to student needs, and embedded in learning experiences. Our teachers understand their pastoral role and its impact on student learning and well-being across all facets of school life.

Academic Care at The Anglican School Googong promotes our key aspirations that students will:

- Know and discover
- Understand and dream
- Grow in faith

Academic Care is underpinned by our teachers’ passion to the ongoing development of their professional learning, collegiality and collaborative practices, and their commitment to students at the centre of everything we do.

Our students are understood not just as learners but as part of a caring community of learners. Our teachers develop curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning that are authentic and enhance student learning, well-being and resilience.

Our teachers support the students with their personal growth. This enables our students to cope with challenges and struggle; to endure and persist; and to create and develop a range of strategies and skills which can be used in a flexible way to flourish.

Our academic care builds positive self-esteem, connectedness and self-worth through pedagogies and organisational structures, and through adults’ relationships with students across all facets of school life.

Within each Year level in the Senior School there will be advisory groups. These advisory groups will be made up of approximately eighteen students with a teacher. Over time, as the school grows, the advisory groups will form the core of a House system from Years 7 – 12. These groups and the House system will form the basis for academic care outside of the normal class environment.
The teacher in the advisory group will be the key adult with whom each student can develop a close relationship and who will be an advocate for them. Our Academic Care program is designed to provide:

- Support for each student in the areas of learning, well-being and resilience
- Personal links between teachers, students and families
- Consistent communication between teachers, students and families
- Consistent support for discipline concerns

The advisory groups will meet once each day to assist in developing the necessary rapport with each student and their families.
Teaching and Learning

Educational Accountability

As a school within NSW, The Anglican School Googong is registered by The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES). Registration is the process by which non-government schools are accredited and monitored for compliance under the requirements of the Education Act 1990. Registration is a non-government school's licence to operate under the Act.

In Years 7 – 10 students will undertake BOSTES approved courses so as to meet all requirements in order to receive the Record of School Achievement. In Years 11 – 12 students will not be eligible for the awarding of a Higher School Certificate but will instead receive certification under the ACT BSSS Senior Secondary Curriculum to use for access to educational opportunities post Year 12.

Accreditation authorises a non-government school to present candidates for the award of the Record of School Achievement at the end of Year 10 and will also allow The Anglican School Googong to award certification under the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (ACT BSSS) to eligible students in Years 11 and 12. The School will also be accredited by the ACT BSSS to ensure compliance in order for students to be eligible for the various ACT Senior Secondary qualifications including obtaining an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank for university entrance or vocational education qualifications.

Project Based Learning

In the Junior School at The Anglican School Googong we have a strong inquiry based approach to learning across all classes and curriculum areas. In our Senior School, we believe it is important for students to understand the importance and the skills associated with each of the curriculum areas whilst also being taught by specialist teachers.

Our approach across each year level though is not to have students learn in isolation. Instead, we will adopt a project-based learning approach. This dynamic classroom approach will provide students with the opportunity to actively explore real-world problems and challenges and acquire a deeper knowledge. This approach will see teachers operate as:

- Coaches and mentors
- Collaborators and forward planners
- Project designers and subject specialists

Project-based learning will allow for a variety of approaches across curriculum areas. This will involve the integration in curriculum areas such as:

- STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics
- STEAM - science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics
- HASS – humanities and social sciences
Curriculum Structure

For students in Years 7 – 10 the curriculum requirements are set out by The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards and lead to the awarding of a Record of School Achievement at the end of Year 10.

In Years 7 – 8 students will undertake studies across all curriculum areas over the two years. As students move into Years 9 – 10 they will be offered a range of elective subjects on top of the core subjects which all students will undertake. The final offering of electives will be determined by the student’s preferences at the end of Year 8.

Years 11 – 12 will see students studying a range of courses under the ACT BSSS Senior Secondary Curriculum. This will provide students with access to a range of vocational subjects or subjects which will gain them access to universities throughout Australia.
Sport and Co-curricular Program

All of our students from Year 3 and above are involved in our Sport and Co-curricular Program.

Sport and co-curricular involvement will enrich the learning of our students by providing an educational experience beyond the classroom – an opportunity to experience success and expand an understanding of personal worth in a variety of settings.

The Sport and Co-curricular Program is about providing our students with a wide variety of opportunities. Opportunities that will allow them to develop life-long skills and build passions in a range of activities. They will learn about service, team-work, commitment, fair-play, winning, losing and developing what could become life-long interests. Most importantly, the program is about relationships – learning to relate with others within and beyond the School community.

Through participation in the Sport and Co-curricular Program, students will grow in character, confidence and esteem and their personalities will be further nurtured, shaped and formed.

Expectations

Our Sport and Co-Curricular Program requires all students in Year 3 and above to participate in a number of activities over the course of a year. These will involve sport and co-curricular activities such as music, drama and outdoor education. Each of these activities will be recorded on their school reports as it is an integral part of their education at the School.

All students from Year 3 and above are required to participate in the following way each year.

- Play a season of sport for a local club which involves training and competition
- Participate in their school camp and one other outdoor activity that will be offered by the school
- Participate in a co-curricular activity such as music, drama, dance, scouts or chess etc.

As a school, we will assist the students in selecting a sport by connecting them with the local sporting clubs as well as providing a number of co-curricular opportunities offered by our staff.

Sport

Many schools like ours offer students a number of sporting teams at the school. Rather than doing this we want our students to engage with the many opportunities available through the local sporting clubs in the Queanbeyan district. To this end, we work with many of the local sporting clubs and have briefed them on our Sport and Co-curricular Program. We then assist families connect with the opportunities available through each of these sport clubs.

Co-curricular

As part of a broad educational base we believe it is important for all students to participate in a range of activities. Students can select from activities offered by the school such as our choir or private music lessons. In addition to this, they may select something outside of the school such as scouts, drama or dance classes, chess club or learn another language other than Indonesian.

Outdoor Education

As well as attending their year level camp all students will participate in at least one Saturday outdoor adventure activity offered by the school. There will be a range of these offered each year for students to select from. In Years 9 –10 this may also include the Duke of Edinburgh Award which is likely to be offered as an elective subject.