



Sandringham College

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Findings on Resourcing and Provision Issues at Sandringham College

- 1.1. The college council was correct to determine last year that the college's long term financial position is untenable and associated with this, the college's long term curriculum provision based on the long term enrolment patterns, is equally untenable.
- 1.2. The issues of student enrolments and curriculum provision at Sandringham are long standing in nature and require long term solutions. As such they are not susceptible to short term or quick solutions such as the one attempted last year. They will require a carefully worked through set of proposals which deal with the different issues facing each of the campuses and both the Sandringham and Beaumaris communities.
- 1.3. In its approach to curriculum provision issues, the college appears to lack a coherent and proactive approach. The problem has been characterised as one focussed on the Beaumaris campus and its future rather than the college as a whole and its future.
- 1.4. Instead of an essentially defensive strategy to contain the existing enrolment situation, there is a need for a more vigorous approach based on the principles of long term growth and success for each of the existing college campuses.
- 1.5. In considering the college as a whole and its future, the existing structural arrangements must also be considered. The evidence from this review strongly suggests that the existing arrangements have not assisted in the development of long term solutions to the different challenges faced by the different parts of the college.
- 1.6. This report suggests that an appropriate response to the current situation is for the college to adopt a short term response and a long term solution.
- 1.7. **Short term:** the short term response would be designed to stabilise the situation after last years' public discussion around the enrolment and provision issues, and prepare the ground for a long term solution.

- 1.8. The short term response would include guarantees to parents to ensure there is no further erosion of support or student intake at any of the campuses. The response would also involve using the resources available to the college as a whole, including teaching resources, to provide a more equitable curriculum across all campuses. The more effective use of teacher time and the greater use of cross campus teaching should be part of this response.
- 1.9. The response should also include a strategy to retain a class in Specialist Mathematics at year 12 if at all possible so as not to undermine long term options in the Maths – Science area for the college as a whole and its constituent campuses.
- 1.10. **Long term:** a long term proposal needs to be developed which will form the basis of a long term and pro-active solution to the issues outlined in this report; a solution that will allow each of the components of the college to grow and flourish and realise their potential. This means that the outcome should ensure that there is accessible and successful educational provision in both the Sandringham and Beaumaris areas and that all students at these sites are able to undertake a full and comprehensive school curriculum which will give them the access to the widest range of occupational pathways.
- 1.11. This proposal needs to take into account the different needs and issues of each of the campuses and of both the Sandringham and Beaumaris communities. It also needs to take into account the range of issues identified in this report; the different cohorts of students attending each of the campuses and the perceptions resulting from this; the need to avoid a gross under representation of girls in any campus or particular classroom; the need to grow and develop each of the campuses so that all campuses are seen as successful and meeting the needs of their local communities as well as any broader student community; the need to satisfy particular provision requirements such as LOTE provision and Specialist Mathematics provision; the need to ensure that year 10 students have adequate access to VCE studies if they wish to access them.
- 1.12. In developing such a proposal it is important to ensure that different structural arrangements can be considered, if they will help facilitate the success of such a long term proposal.

Graham Marshall

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For a full copy of the report please contact the College directly.