Seeking Expressions of Interest for New Board Members

Discovery Christian College is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from people who are suitable and willing to be considered for appointment to our Executive Management Committee (Board).

Discovery Christian College is a co-educational Prep to Year 12 learning community located in Agnes Water, Queensland. The holistic College curriculum encompasses academics, vocational education, creative arts, music, sport, outdoor education, and Christian character development, to ensure a broad suite of opportunities for students to pursue their passions and experience success.

As a result of significant growth within the College community, the Board is seeking to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of its strategic capacity by adding additional members to the current Board.

Our Strategic Plan (which forms part of this document) contains more detailed information about Discovery Christian College.

If you share our passion for Christian education and can bring diverse perspectives to how we carry out our work, then please read on. If you know someone who may be interested, please share this information, and encourage them to consider this opportunity.

The Role of the Discovery Christian College Board

The DCC Board provides governance and strategic direction to the College and is comprised of people with a wide range of skills and backgrounds. Board positions are voluntary and there is no remuneration for your work. Board members terms are generally three (3) years.

The Board meets between 8 and 12 times per year. Board meetings are held via video conferencing with some face-to-face meetings occurring occasionally throughout the year. A comprehensive list of meetings will be provided to successful appointees.

Expectations of Board Members

- Attend and actively participate in meetings
- Stay informed about Board matters, prepare themselves for meetings, review and comment on minutes and reports
- Serve on sub-committees
- Build a relationship with other Board members that contributes to consensual approaches to decision making
- Utilise own skills, knowledge, and experience to support the growth and success of the College
- Become familiar with DCC's strategic direction, resources, finances, and market environment
- Provide strategic governance and oversight as a Director ensuring that the College continues to meet and uphold its legal duties and responsibilities.
- Have an active faith and actively support the tenets, values, and beliefs of the College in the wider community.

The EOI Process

All EOIs received will be confidentially presented to the DCC Board for consideration. The Board Chair and other members of the Executive Management Committee may wish to talk to people expressing interest, as well as their nominated referees to formulate recommendations and make decisions. The decision of the DCC Board will be final, and all people who express EOIs will be notified of outcomes.

Please complete the attached EOI form and send it along with an email or covering letter. Please include your current CV as well as the name and contact details of one or two referees in your covering letter and send to:

Mr Josh Counsel
Principal
Discovery Christian College
PO Box 198
Agnes Water QLD 4677
E: josh.counsel@discovery.qld.edu.au

Please ensure your EOI is submitted by no later than Friday 19 May. Any enquiries can be directed to Josh Counsel.

Expressions of Interest Form

For the appointment to the Discovery Christian College Board

Name _____

Email Address _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Why would you like to be on the Board of Discovery Christian College?
Please outline your previous Board experience, if any:
What is your current occupation?
Please provide a statement regarding your personal faith which supports the College's values and beliefs:
Do you have a current connection to Discovery Christian College? If so, please provide details:

Discovery
Christian College

Skills Matrix

	Description	Please identify your areas of key strengths
Education	Experience and connections with education sector	
Financial & Risk Management	Financial planning, accounting and/or risk management expertise	
Human Resources Management / WH&S	Experience, legislative knowledge and guidance in industry standards	
Arts & Cultural Development	Experience with arts and cultural program development and evaluation	
Media / PR / Marketing	Strong media connections and public relations knowledge	
Business Networks / Philanthropy	Strong business knowledge or corporate connections	

Declaration:

I declare that:

i. I have never been, nor am I currently insolvent
ii. I have not been disqualified from acting as a director or acting in the management of a company
iii. I have never had a conviction for crimes involving dishonesty
iv. I am not a prohibited person regarding child-related employment

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please submit your Expression of Interest with a copy of your CV and one or two references to:
Mr Josh Counsel
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Discovery Christian College
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Discovery
Christian College

Horizons

Our Future Reimagined

Strategic Plan
2021 - 2023

As a Christ-centred learning community, our mission is to foster the growth of young people through authentic, relevant and dynamic learning opportunities, centred on the development of Godly character, that equips and inspires them for life.

CHARACTER

The development of character is of paramount importance. Christian values such as love, respect, integrity, servitude and perseverance are an integral part of who we are and what we promote by valuing each child as a unique creation of God.

COMMUNITY

Community is at the heart of our mission. As a Prep - Year 12 College, the feeling of family is tangible in all that we do. Students have opportunities to build confidence with others, fostering a sense of belonging through authentic relationships.

EXCELLENCE

The pursuit of excellence is valued across all facets of College life. Staff actively encourage and support students to achieve their personal best through rigorous learning opportunities that excite and encourage our students to step out of their comfort zone.

Over the past year, the College's Board, leadership team, staff, students and parents have reflected on the journey of our College. We have celebrated the successes and endeavoured to reflect on the difficulties. We have sought to understand the tangible and intangible elements that make Discovery Christian College distinctive and explored ways that we can further enhance our College community. This Strategic Plan is the outcome of these reflections and discussions.

Education is currently in the midst of its greatest ever disruption. The world is marked by unprecedented rates of change, where our global interconnectedness has accelerated the sharing of ideas and shortened the timeframes of making the impossible possible. Yet it is this same world that is in the midst of a myriad of global crises that we are yet to find the answers for.

We live in a world that is volatile, complex, uncertain and desperate for truth. It is perhaps more important now than at any other time in human history, for our students to be equipped with the knowledge of who they are and the character to navigate these uncertainties, enabling them to influence their communities in a positive way.

Our challenge as a College is twofold. We must respond to these conditions in a way that honours the work of the College's pioneers and we must also prepare and equip students with the knowledge, skills and character, for a future that is yet to be imagined. We must recalibrate our focus on both the way that we do education and the culture through which that happens at Discovery Christian College.

The goals which are articulated in this document are bold but achievable and seek to reimagine the College's future, confidently stepping us into a new era at Discovery Christian College.

Josh Counsel
Principal

Introduction

This strategic plan focuses on the next stage of our College's journey. The plan is mapped out over nine years, focusing on three interconnected phases, Foundations, Growth and Expansion. These phases are supported by five strategic pillars which guide our operations and the broader direction of our learning community.

This plan honours the work of the past whilst simultaneously reimagining our future as a learning community, thus enabling us to equip and inspire our students for life.

Strategic Phase:
Foundations (2021 - 2023)

Strategic Phase:
Growth (2024 - 2026)

Strategic Phase:
Expansion (2027 - 2029)

The Strategic Pillars

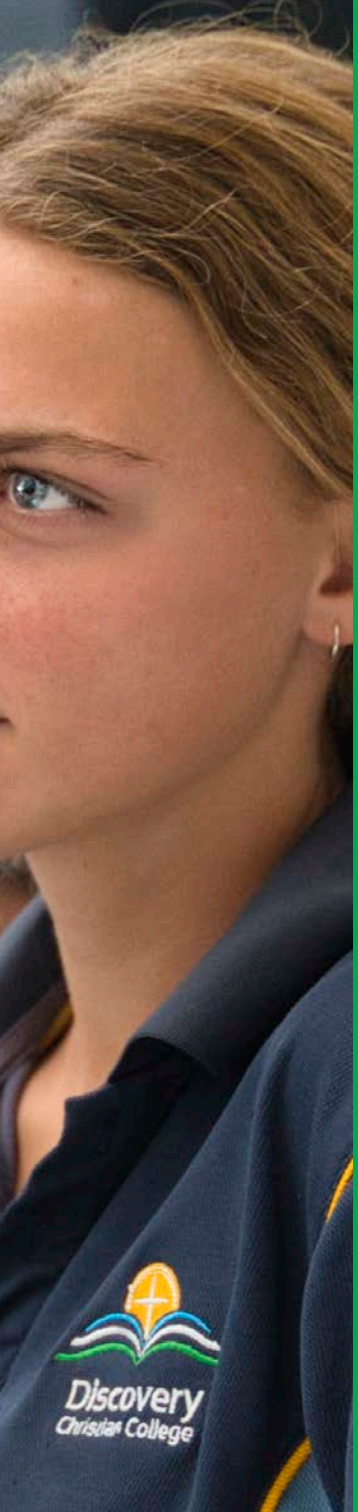
CHRISTIAN IDENTITY

Affirm the College's Christian distinctive through nurturing the holistic development of our learning community.

- Redevelop the College's vision, mission and values to provide a clearer articulation of our purpose as a Christ centred learning community.
- Actively cultivate, embed and celebrate the College values of character, community and excellence in all classrooms, College events and College communications.
- Identify opportunities for and establish short term mission and service learning trips.
- Investigate and develop whole-of-school programs to support student wellbeing and character development which build self-efficacy, empower individuals and enhance the College's Christian distinctive.
- Strengthen the College's local church partnerships and network of prayer intercession.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Create a vibrant and dynamic student centered learning community which equips students with a love for learning, a spirit to achieve their personal best and the character traits to enable them to be a positive change agent.



- Develop a high-quality school wide teaching and learning framework that is centred on meeting students where they are at, equipping them to both realise and fulfil their learning potential.

- Develop explicit pedagogical and assessment practices, that are data informed, founded on learning research and that equip students with the skills necessary to be active participants in a 21st century global society.

- Increase pathway diversity, including; increase on-campus subject offerings, vocational education opportunities and increased partnerships with tertiary institutions.

- Expand provisioning and training in learning enrichment, wellbeing and pastoral care to better equip staff to support all students with the skills needed to achieve their personal best.

- Increase participation in professional learning and development opportunities including professional associations and post graduate study.

CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Cultivate a connected and engaged community that shares the importance of the College's values and aspirations for student growth and development.

- Identify potential opportunities for and establish community partnerships which complement the College's vision and enhance our students' ability to be a positive change agent.

- Develop a College communications and marketing plan that enables effective dissemination and sharing of information, enhancing stakeholder engagement throughout the College community.

- Provision of an environment where staff and students feel a deep sense of belonging and connectedness, where they feel valued and can flourish.

- Enhance connections and partnerships with other organisations and institutions at a local, state and national level.

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

Build a high performance, collaborative culture through the development of staff, which is focused on continual improvement and evidence-based best practice.

- Identify, attract and retain high quality Christian staff.

- Further develop distributed leadership across the College, including the identification and mentoring of aspiring leaders.

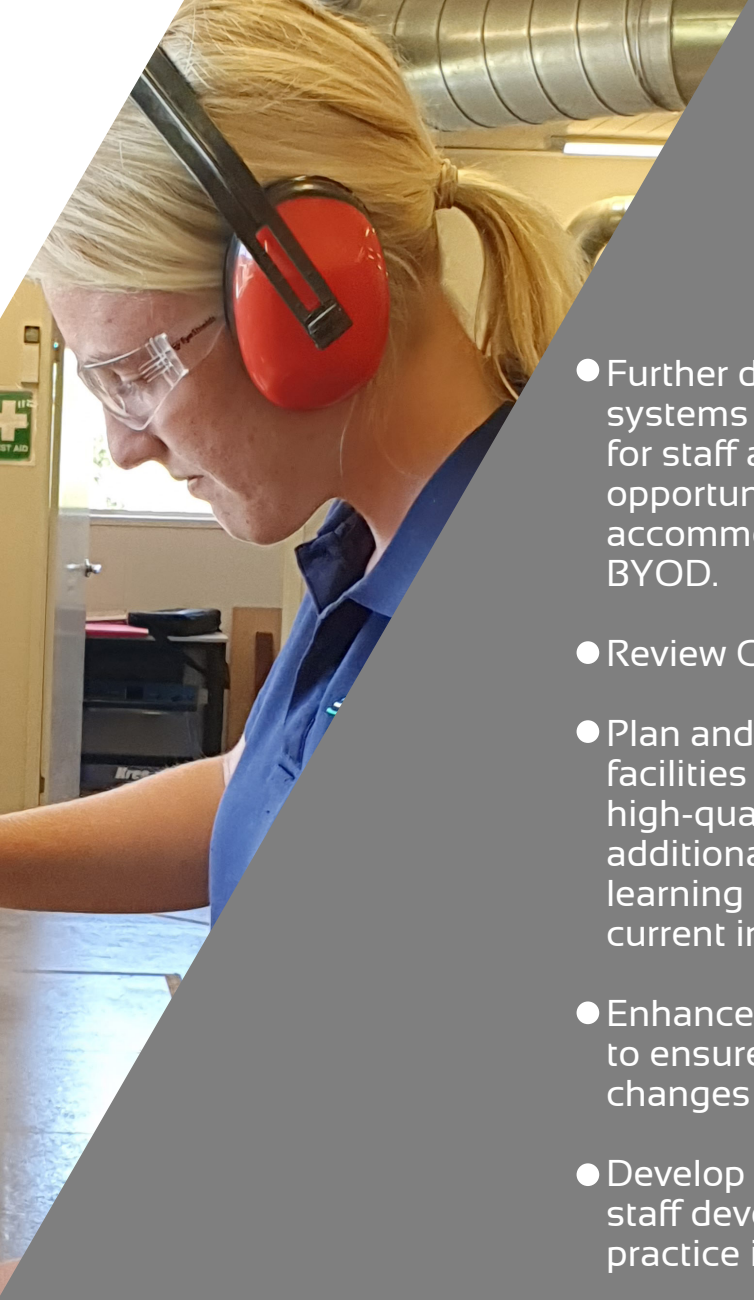
- Develop an induction program for new staff and a beginning teacher development program that reflect the College's philosophy of teaching and learning and practice of effective teaching.

- Review, evaluate and improve school management systems and processes, through the development of a robust risk and compliance framework, including a suite of best practice polices, which further enhance the successful, safe and effective operation and management of the College.

- Explore avenues to strengthen and enhance the connection between the College Board, Principal, leadership team and staff.

RESOURCES & FACILITIES

Foster a culture of sustainable operations that are future focused, where resources are optimised to ensure the College provides facilities and resources that enable it to fulfil its educational objectives.



- Further develop ICT infrastructure and systems that improve the user experience for staff and students, which provide opportunities for digital innovation, and accommodate cloud-based technologies and BYOD.

- Review College transport infrastructure.

- Plan and develop a range of functional facilities that support the effective delivery of high-quality teaching and learning, including additional playground infrastructure, outdoor learning spaces and the refurbishment of current infrastructure where required.

- Enhance the College's financial position to ensure it is able to withstand potential changes in the external environment.

- Develop a professional library which supports staff development and further enhances best practice in teaching and learning.

Discover the Difference

Discovery
Christian College

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