

School Strategic Plan 2023-2027

Casterton Secondary College (7695)



Submitted for review by Meridith Walker (School Principal) on 22 February, 2024 at 08:59 AM Endorsed by Joanne Amott (Senior Education Improvement Leader) on 23 February, 2024 at 07:37 AM Endorsed by Leanne Munro (School Council President) on 26 February, 2024 at 10:10 AM



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School vision	Casterton Secondary College's vision is to achieve the best outcomes for all students, with a focus on promoting responsibility for the acquisition of skills, knowledge and positive personal qualities. This is achieved through a dynamic learning environment that engages students and prepares them to contend with the 21st century in which creativity, cooperative work, connectedness to the world and adaptability are key features. The school aims to provide a contemporary approach to teaching and learning with students at the heart of curriculum design and policy construction.
School values	Respect – for self, consideration for others, consideration for the environment, consideration for other's views and cultural differences and empathy Accountability – taking responsibility for all our actions, learning and decisions. Persistence – Pursuing excellence through focus and concentration, curiosity, tenacity and endurance. – Underpins internal motivation and life- long learning.
Context challenges	Casterton Secondary College is located approximately 353 kilometres west of Melbourne and approximately 70 kilometres from Hamilton and Mt. Gambier. The school was opened on its present site in 1955. Casterton Secondary College provides opportunities for the young people of Strathdownie, Dergholm, Coleraine, Merino and Casterton. Casterton Secondary College is a single campus, Year 7 - 12 school. The 2024 enrolment is 116 students. The school provides an approved curriculum framework differentiated to meet student needs. Students at Years 7 to 10 study a core curriculum of English, Maths, Humanities, Science, PE/ Health, Science and Agriculture/ Horticulture. Additionally, students 7-10 participate a range of Science, Technology and Arts based subjects. In addition to a large offering of Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) subjects, a VM (Vocational Major)/VPC (Victorian Pathways Certificate) program also operates along with School Based Apprenticeships and Structured Workplace Learning student pathways. A number of students have participated in the Victorian High-Ability Program and selected year 8 students can fast-track to Year 10. Students participate in educational experiences on the adjacent 16-hectare school farm and the Applied Science Centre, including aquaculture, aquaponics, viticulture, and oenology programs.

All students in Years 7-10 have an ES in their Maths and English classes, to provide support. Identified Year 7 and 8 students also participate in Quick Smart Literacy and Numeracy.

Year 7-10 students participate in a daily writing and silent reading program.

The school also runs a daily lunchtime class for students who don't complete classwork and homework.

Every student, Year 7-12, participates in a careers program underpinned by the school's Career Action Plan.

All Koorie students have Individual Education Plans. They have access to the wellbeing and learning supports available to all students within the school as well as additional input where required from the regional Koorie Education Support Officers (KESOs) and external service providers.

Koorie students and their families are assisted with scholarship applications and cultural or educational immersion opportunities. Attendance data and the Staying in Education platform are monitored to ensure early intervention for any student at risk.

The College offers a wide range of extension and enrichment programs including an instrumental music program, sport and public speaking. It enters students into a range of competitions including subject competitions and Lions Youth of the Year.

The College has two rooms of computers and a ratio of one computer to one student which includes a combination of netbooks, i-pads and desk top computers. The school Intranet provides storage and pick up facilities for all students and staff. Wireless connectivity enables all staff to access the network and the internet from anywhere in the school. Smart Televisions are installed in all classrooms.

The school delivers Indonesian via a virtual classroom, which is blended with the delivery of Humanities. The course is the first ever DET/VSL (Victorian School of Languages) Indonesian Blended class.

Key Challenges:

- -Maintaining/increasing enrolment so that we can continue to provide a guaranteed and viable senior school program.
- -Attracting and keeping quality staff
- -The school's location impacts educational programs, camps etc. due to travelling time/cost and covering classes (CRT availability is limited).

Intent, rationale and focus

CSC's intent and rationale are best described as the Theory of Action outlined below.

If we continue to:

- -Prioritise the personalisation of student learning, enhanced co-operation and collegiality in curriculum delivery and pedagogical practices,
- -Implement and monitor strategies that increase levels of student engagement with their learning,
- -Implement and monitor school wide practices, programs and resources that build a healthy balance of academic, social and emotional capacity,

- -Communicate with parents, carers and local/wider communities,
- -Provide a context for student learning by linking their learning to the world in which they live,

Then we will:

- -Continue to improve the outcomes of every student,
- -Improve student aspirations, connections and pathways,
- -Achieve a higher level of parental/carer and community interaction with student learning, well-being and engagement,
- -Build the capacity of the college to improve productivity, sustainability and achieve our continuous improvement agenda,

Thereby:

Ensuring the college is a dynamic learning community which provides opportunity, support and individualised pathways for students to acquire the skills, knowledge and qualities to thrive in the 21st century.

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Goal 1	Improve literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students.
Target 1.1	By 2027, maintain the proportion of students in Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing and Numeracy, achieving <i>strong or exceeding</i> proficiency levels compared to when the cohort was in Year 7 in 2025.
Target 1.2	Maintain the VCE All Study score at or above the 3-year average (2020-2022) of 32.
Key Improvement Strategy 1.a The strategic direction and deployment of resources to create and reflect shared goals and values; high expectations; and a positive, safe and orderly learning environment	Build and embed structures and roles that support staff collaboration, professional learning and collective efficacy.
Key Improvement Strategy 1.a Documented teaching and learning program based on the Victorian Curriculum and senior secondary pathways, incorporating extra-curricula programs	
Key Improvement Strategy 1.b Activation of student voice and agency, including in leadership and learning, to strengthen students' participation and engagement in school	Implement a rigorous and consistent approach to co-developing individual student goals.

Key Improvement Strategy 1.b Systematic use of assessment strategies and measurement practices to obtain and provide feedback on student learning growth, attainment and wellbeing capabilities	
Goal 2	Improve engagement in learning for all students.
Target 2.1	By 2027 increase the percentage of Year 7-12 students indicating positive endorsement on the Attitudes to School Survey for: • Teacher concern from 47% in 2023 to 55% • Student voice and agency from 51% in 2023 to 65% • Sense of connectedness from 53% in 2023 to 65% • Self-regulation and goal setting from 66% in 2023 to 75% • Motivation and interest from 60% in 2023 to 70%
Target 2.2	By 2027, increase the percentage of staff indicating positive endorsement on the School Staff Survey for: • Academic emphasis from 69% in 2023 to 75% • Teacher collaboration from 55% in 2023 to 70%
Key Improvement Strategy 2.a Activation of student voice and agency, including in leadership and learning, to strengthen students' participation and engagement in school	Embed student voice and agency and leadership to further strengthen student participation and engagement in learning.

Key Improvement Strategy 2.a Documented teaching and learning program based on the Victorian Curriculum and senior secondary pathways, incorporating extra-curricula programs	
Key Improvement Strategy 2.b Responsive, tiered and contextualised approaches and strong relationships to support student learning, wellbeing and inclusion	Strengthen links with community to explore, promote and improve student aspirations, connections and pathways.
Key Improvement Strategy 2.b Activation of student voice and agency, including in leadership and learning, to strengthen students' participation and engagement in school	