

PROSPECTUS

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

**ST FRANCIS OF THE FIELDS SCHOOL
STRATHFIELDSAYE**

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*We acknowledge and pay respect to the original and ongoing custodians of the land upon which our offices are situated.
We commit to actively working alongside First Nations people for healing, reconciliation and justice.
May we all stand tall, stand firm, grounded in truth, together as one.*



KATE FOGARTY

A message from our Executive Director

As Executive Director, it is my privilege to invite you to consider the position of Principal within the Sandhurst Diocese.

This is more than a leadership opportunity, it is a vocation that asks you to lead with courage, serve with compassion and contribute to the growth of our Catholic school communities across Central and North East Victoria.

Catholic Education Sandhurst is built on a strong, spirit-filled culture that we actively celebrate and strengthen through our shared commitment to faith, learning and community.

Stretching from the alpine mountains to the river plains, you'll find a network of 51 schools in large regional centres like Bendigo, Shepparton, Wangaratta and Wodonga, and in smaller communities where welcome is second nature.

Catholic Education Sandhurst exists to empower regional young people, their families, our staff and communities to have '*life to the full*' (John 10:10).

At the heart of learning in our schools is *Magnify Sandhurst*, our system-wide approach to teaching and learning.

Through *Magnify Sandhurst*, we are transforming education in our schools by grounding our practice in the science of learning, strengthening behaviour and wellbeing frameworks, and investing in the professional growth of our educators. It is a bold and hopeful vision, ensuring that every child is supported to reach their potential.

We look forward to meeting a new leader who is ready to walk with us, teach with heart, lead with vision, and magnify the potential of every learner in our care.

Peace and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Fogarty'.

Kate Fogarty
Executive Director
Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd

Cultural Covenant

Our Cultural Covenant draws inspiration from biblical tradition and speaks to our shared mission today. It is a heartfelt pledge to uphold values that nurture dignity, respect and flourishing.

This Covenant binds us as colleagues, and extends to our students and their families, affirming that every interaction reflects our commitment to serve and to lead with integrity.

WHY DO WE EXIST?

Catholic Education Sandhurst empowers regional young people, their families, our staff and communities to have *'life to the full'* (John 10:10)

WHAT DO WE DO?

- We champion *Authentically Sandhurst* Catholic Education
- We prioritise *Outstanding Learner Growth*
- We honour *Solidarity and Subsidiarity*

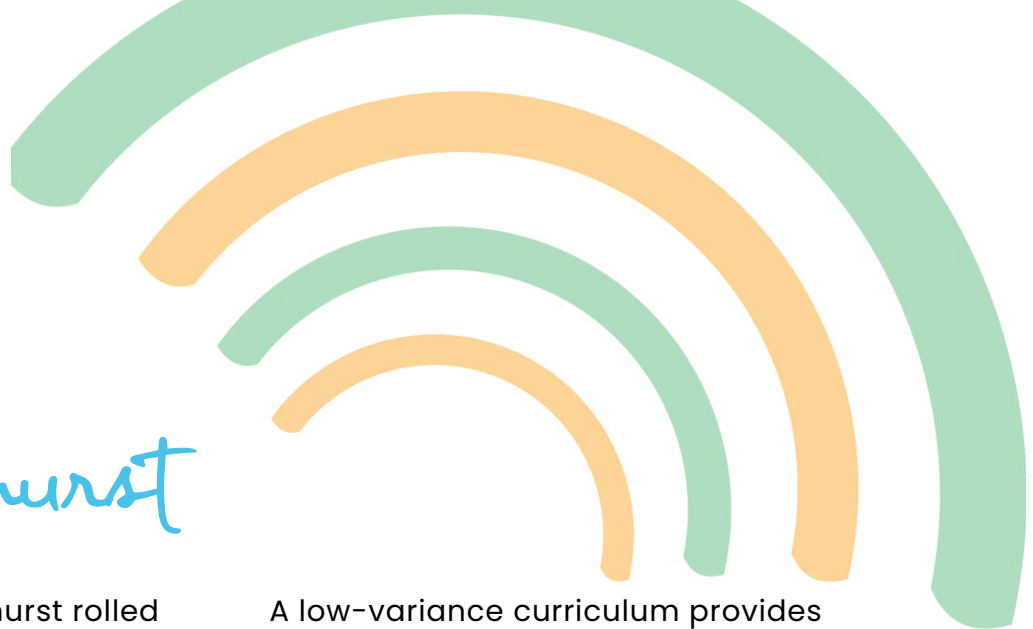
HOW WILL WE BEHAVE?

- We are hope-filled and joyful
- We have a passion to 'know better and do better'
- We are synodal; we welcome, we listen, we discern and we act
- We celebrate the sacred in all things

HOW WILL WE SUCCEED?

- Ambitious expectations
- Stable core, disruptive edge
- Formation to inspire and empower
- Challenge regional disadvantage in all its forms





Magnify Sandhurst

Catholic Education Sandhurst rolled out *Magnify Sandhurst*, an evidence-informed, science of learning school improvement initiative, to its 51 Catholic schools across the Sandhurst Diocese at the beginning of 2025.

Magnify Sandhurst focuses on how the brain learns, how literacy is effectively taught, uses a low variance, knowledge-rich curriculum and the creation of positive classrooms. Our practice is calm, predictable, and repeatable to maximise learning time in all classrooms.

Magnify Sandhurst is deliberately bold and wide-ranging, generating whole-of-system improvement.

We have partnered with world-class organisations including LME Global, Ochre Education, Knowledge Society, Steplab and MultiLit.

Magnify Sandhurst aims to enhance learning outcomes through several key components:

STRUCTURED AND EVIDENCE-BASED LEARNING

Using the latest neuroscience and a structured, knowledge-rich curriculum, we ensure students build deep understanding.

A low-variance curriculum provides students with a consistent learning experience and reduces the amount of preparation and planning required by teachers, allowing teachers to focus on individual student needs.

MAGNIFYING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Providing targeted support and resources to improve reading, writing, and math skills at all levels. Special focus on structured literacy in F-2 and sequential programs from Years 3-10.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING FOR TEACHERS

Each teacher receives a dedicated coach and program to learn and practice the best techniques to meet students' learning needs. We are investing in our teachers to provide the best possible learning outcomes for students in our Catholic schools.

CALM CLASSROOMS AND POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Promoting calm, supportive, and positive learning environments through common practices, expectations, and social norms, our work includes a new program for student social and behavioural learning. Our classrooms will have a consistent approach throughout each Sandhurst school to support all students to learn in a calm, orderly learning environment.



Bendigo, Victoria

Live, work, explore

Located in the thriving community of Strathfieldsaye, just minutes from Bendigo's city centre, St Francis of the Fields School offers the best of both worlds – a close-knit family community with all the opportunities of one of regional Victoria's largest cities.

Just 90 minutes from Melbourne by road or rail, Bendigo combines the energy of a growing regional city with the connection and ease of country living.

Spend your weekends exploring world-class galleries, discovering local markets and boutique shopping, or enjoying Bendigo's vibrant food and café scene. Rich in history, the city's gold rush heritage is reflected in its stunning architecture, cultural landmarks and strong sense of community.

Closer to home, Strathfieldsaye offers leafy neighbourhoods, excellent sporting facilities, walking and cycling trails, local cafés and a welcoming community that continues to attract young families seeking space, connection and opportunity.

Bendigo is also a leading regional centre for education, health and professional services, making it an ideal place to build a rewarding career while enjoying an exceptional quality of life.

Whether you're raising a family or looking for your next leadership opportunity, Bendigo and Strathfieldsaye offer a lifestyle where professional growth, community connection and work-life balance come together.



St Francis of the Fields School

at a glance

St Francis of the Fields School is a welcoming and inclusive Catholic learning community where every child is encouraged to grow academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally.

Guided by Gospel values, the school nurtures curiosity, confidence and compassion through high-quality teaching, meaningful relationships and a strong sense of belonging.

Staff work in partnership with families to create a learning environment where every student is challenged to achieve their personal best while developing a lifelong love of learning.

As a well-established school in the suburb of Strathfieldsaye, just minutes from Bendigo's city centre, St Francis of the Fields School combines contemporary learning environments with a strong community spirit, making it an exciting place to lead and learn.

There are 617 children across Foundation through to Year Six, with a team of staff including teachers, education support officers and administration officers.





Lead with purpose

St Francis of the Fields is a Catholic primary school where students are encouraged to live, learn and grow in God's love. The school's size, diversity and community confidence create a leadership opportunity of genuine scale.

As principal of St Francis of the Fields School, you'll lead one of Catholic Education Sandhurst's largest primary schools, building on strong foundations while shaping the next chapter of growth, innovation and learner success.

Working alongside dedicated staff, engaged families and Catholic Education Sandhurst, you'll foster a culture where every student is known, valued and supported to flourish through evidence-informed practice, strong relationships and continuous improvement.

Whether you're an experienced principal seeking your next leadership opportunity or an aspiring leader ready to step into principalship, you'll benefit from leadership formation, professional learning and a collaborative network of school leaders.

Key highlights:

- Lead a thriving Catholic primary school in the growing community of Strathfieldsaye.
- Strengthen partnerships with staff, families, parish and the wider community.
- Build on strong foundations while shaping the next chapter of school improvement.
- Be part of a system-wide educational transformation through *Magnify Sandhurst*.



How to apply

As a principal with Catholic Education Sandhurst, you'll join a connected network of leaders supported through professional learning, leadership development, generous leave provisions and a collaborative system committed to your success.

We look forward to meeting a leader who is ready to lead with purpose, inspire learning and help every student flourish.

Please submit your application through the Catholic Education Sandhurst Careers Portal.

Your application should include:

- Cover letter
- Current resume
- Response addressing the key responsibilities outlined in the position description

All enquiries and applications will be treated in strict confidence.

For more information, to view the position description and apply online, visit

www.ceosand.catholic.edu.au/careers

Applications close Monday 24 August 2026 at 5.00pm.

Catholic Education Sandhurst embraces diversity and social inclusion and encourages people from diverse backgrounds to apply.

