



St Peter's
Lutheran
School
Blackwood

Welcome to St Peter's Lutheran School

ELC - Year 6



A campus of
Concordia College
from January 2023





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Welcome

A very warm welcome to St Peters Lutheran School.

At St Peters Lutheran School, we believe that each child is specially and uniquely created. We are privileged to partner harmoniously with every family to nurture and grow each child to develop their God-given talents, enabling them to be young people who can live and love in community and serve those around them.

Established in 1999 on picturesque grounds in the Adelaide Hills, we are a Christ-centred, caring and inclusive learning community that aims to prepare all students for the joys and challenges that lie ahead. Our programs and facilities offer our students an exceptional range of options as they pursue their Early Learning to Year 6 journey. Our students, families, committed teaching professionals and caring staff love learning together and we hope you will too.

Bronwyn Wilson

Principal



Our Mission and Purpose

St Peters Lutheran School...

where the message of Jesus Christ is communicated and celebrated, is a caring, supportive, learning community that encourages global consciousness, responsible action and lifelong learning.

Our purpose is to lead in the development of an innovative learning community and culture where the message of God's saving grace and love provides the freedom and empowerment for every student to learn.



Our Lutheran Identity

St Peters is part of Lutheran Education Australia (LEA), which educates nearly 40,000 students across Australia. Our community is based on the Gospel of Christ's love, where love, grace and forgiveness inform all of our relationships. The uniqueness and dignity of everyone is respected as we work with parents to build within their child an awareness of God in all things.

As a Christian school, our students have many opportunities to develop and express their faith. Weekly chapel services and daily devotions provide a celebration of the Gospel and a chance for students (and parents/caregivers) to come together to hear and respond to God's Word.

Christian Studies is an important part of our curriculum where students can reflect on their experiences of the world, their own beliefs and spirituality.

St Peters Church, located on the school campus, is a congregation of the Lutheran Church of Australia and the supporting congregation of our school.



Our Core Values

As a Lutheran school, our values are that of all LEA schools, where love, compassion, forgiveness, hope, appreciation, justice, humility, courage, quality and service are integral to the way we live and learn together in community.

We have developed a culture with these values at our core, so that all of our students can develop empathy and grow into thoughtful, helpful, empowered and hopeful young people.

Alongside this we incorporate the International Baccalaureate (IB) Learner Profile, which shows that in our classrooms we care, ask questions, take risks, communicate well, think critically and creatively, are balanced, reflective, principled, knowledgeable and open-minded.

These shared values and attributes give our school's culture a unique blend where students can confidently immerse themselves in their learning and be constantly supported and encouraged as they go.

*Learning about
and sharing the
love of Christ
in all we do,
while preparing
students to thrive
and embrace
their futures.*

Living in Adelaide

Our home city of Adelaide is consistently rated as one of the world's most liveable cities for its reasonable living costs, natural beauty, safety and healthcare. It has also been rated as Australia's friendliest city. It offers a modest population of only 1.3 million people and is recognised as Australia's educational destination by many families from overseas.

They consider Adelaide to be the best environment for their children to start their study in another country.

It is also renowned as being one of Australia's cleanest cities and is surrounded by green parklands. Life in Adelaide offers:

- + a vibrant international and cosmopolitan community
- + three (3) world class universities:
 - The University of Adelaide**
(Group of Eight member)
 - University of South Australia**
 - Flinders University**
- + a low cost of living compared to most other states in Australia
- + a lifestyle that allows students to grow and find personal harmony with their study and relaxation
- + beautiful safe beaches and leafy Adelaide Hills, both within 20 minutes of the city
- + extensive walking and cycling trails to appreciate the clean fresh air
- + excellent public transport
- + wide open spaces with some of Australia's unique wildlife including koalas and kangaroos
- + the renowned Central Market adjacent to China Town, popular with international students as a place to meet friends and eat their favourite foods that remind them of home



StudyAdelaide is a South Australian government funded organisation that supports families from overseas to live, study and work in Adelaide, providing invaluable information about South Australia.

Families from overseas who are considering living and studying in Adelaide are encouraged to visit the StudyAdelaide website where information is readily available in printed and digital formats.

The following link provides information on living costs, transport, health and safety, food and culture:

www.studyadelaide.com/why-study-in-adelaide



Studying in Australia

School education is similar across all of Australia with only minor variations between the states and territories.

School education is divided into:

Primary School – Early Learning through to Year 6

Middle School – Years 7 - 10

Senior School – Years 11 - 12

Each year level is delivered over a 40-week period.

The school year commences in late January, runs through to December and is divided into 4 terms.



Safety in Australia

Australia is considered a very safe country compared to others around the world.

Adelaide is seen by many parents as an ideal location for their children to study providing a quiet and safe environment. Of course, no country is completely free of crime. So, it is still important to be aware of one's surroundings when out at night or alone in unfamiliar areas.

Staying safe in Australia's natural environments means knowing water safety, such as swimming between the flags at lifeguard-patrolled beaches, and bush safety, such as always carrying water and letting people know your plans before you set off on a hike.

Please visit www.studiesinaustralia.com/Blog/about-australia/safety-tips-for-studying-in-australia

Our Learning Program

Our approach to teaching and learning is based on the understanding that students learn best through experiences informed by social interaction and agency.

We believe that it is vital for students to have a sense of ownership over their learning. We emphasise key competencies, stimulate thinking skills and utilise technology to create a challenging, self-motivating and enjoyable learning environment.

Primary Years Programme (PYP)

Our curriculum, based on the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP), focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and the world outside. The PYP is a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using knowledge and skills with an emphasis on inquiry.

Inquiry

As an IBPYP school, the role of our educators is not to tell students what to think but to teach them how to think. The rigor of the PYP is connected to an environment where students are empowered to learn, explore, discover, and analyse. In conjunction with an extensive co-curricular program, skills for the future are developed with passion and interest.

The IB Learner Profile

The IB Learner Profile is a set of 10 attributes that we encourage throughout our learning program. Our IB Learners aim to be:

- + Inquirers
- + Caring
- + Risk-takers
- + Thinkers
- + Knowledgeable
- + Principled
- + Communicators
- + Balanced
- + Open-minded
- + Reflective





Specialist Lessons

Classroom teachers are supported by specialist teachers in Japanese, The Arts, Physical Education and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). School assistants, along with volunteer members of the community, help to deliver a comprehensive Learning Assistance Program, including a highly able learners program.

Digitally Enhanced Learning

Our students are motivated to take ownership of their learning and have access to a well-resourced library and a rich array of information technology tools such as BYOD (bring your own device), multi-media equipment, interactive whiteboards and educational software.

All of our students have access to portable devices – shared iPads for our younger students and Year 3 to 6 students can bring their own devices. These are important learning tools enabling them to create, connect and collaborate in an ever-expanding digital world. Cyber-safety and student-developed responsible usage agreements are critical components of our digital learning programs.



Learning Management System

Our school uses a learning management system called SEQTA. A leading online platform, SEQTA enables efficient curriculum planning, assessment and reporting, eliminating paperwork and enhancing our communication with students and parents.

Our Early Learning Centre (ELC)

Our Early Learning Centre (ELC) accepts children from three years of age and offers a fun, stimulating environment that develops children's social, emotional, physical, spiritual and cognitive potential. We are an accredited childcare provider, which allows eligible families to access the Child Care Subsidy.

We offer a Pre-Kindy (3-4 years) and Kindy program (4-5 years) and opportunities for children to spend time socialising together throughout the day.

Pre-Kindy Program

The Pre-Kindy room offers designated areas for dramatic play, construction, literacy, numeracy, arts, science, and a diverse range of outdoor activities.

Specialist staff take our youngest learners for:

- + Physical Education
- + Japanese
- + Library

Kindy Program

Our Kindy Program is designed to replicate aspects of our Reception classrooms. Children are encouraged to take more responsibility for their workspace, materials and equipment.

Specialist staff take our Kindy learners for:

- + Physical Education
- + Japanese
- + STEM
- + Library
- + Visual Art

Both programs are planned and implemented by a dedicated team of Early Childhood trained teachers and co-educators. All of these opportunities provide a brilliant education for our students and connection to the school community. We have a strong connection to the school as we share facilities, programs, staff and resources. All of our ELC learners enjoy weekly buddy time, school chapel and specialist lessons delivered by school staff.

Our Little Saints Transition Program ensures a smooth transition to our Reception classrooms either at the beginning of the year or our mid-year intake.



Little Saints Transition Program

Starting school is a significant milestone for children and families. Our Little Saints Transition Program supports children to feel confident and positive about school and prepares children for change and future learning ahead.

Our Little Saints Transition Program begins six months (two terms) before children start in our Reception class. Each week they are invited to spend a morning in the Reception classroom with the Reception teacher, to learn and grow together in confidence and skills.

Little Saints takes place on Wednesday mornings and runs from 9.30am-11.30am.



Our Leadership Program

By the time each child reaches their final years at St Peters Lutheran School, they will be ready for their next stage of learning at secondary school, and ready to lead others with collaboration and creativity.

As school leaders, our Year 6 students have many real and relevant opportunities to contribute to the life of the school through service, academic and leadership positions.

During weekly Whole School Meetings, Year 6 students chair a consultative process that encourages student voice and action. Similar to a Student Representative Council, students review current school rules and suggest improvements, discuss concerns and celebrate successes.

Learning about these democratic values is enhanced by touring significant sites in Australia's capital, Canberra in either Year 5 or Year 6.

Service to others is intrinsic to the philosophy of our school and students are encouraged to be 'givers to society' rather than just be 'receivers'. From Year 4 through to Year 6, all students get to be 'Big Buddies' to younger students. Our students also have the opportunity to lead peer tutoring programs, organise Sports Days and take the lead in the much-anticipated whole school musical.

During Year 6, the final year of PYP at our school, our students participate in a culminating project, the PYP Exhibition. Each student must demonstrate engagement with the essential elements of the programs. This is a significant event in the school year and is celebrated by the whole community.

Our students graduate at the end of Year 6 and we hold a special service where students and staff join with families in grateful worship. Together, we celebrate their rite of passage through primary school and their readiness for what awaits them.





Our Environment

We want our students to be able to take safe risks; to enjoy experiences that connect them with their physical environment and help to develop their emotional wellbeing and physical health.

Our physical space is the result of thoughtful and expert planning. Facilities include an Early Learning Centre, OSHC/Vacation Care, Resource Centre, STEM room, water course, play area, supervised access to public grounds and ovals, two playing courts, indoor multipurpose facility, large well-appointed classrooms, an art room, language centre and outdoor learning area.

Many of us have fond memories of outdoor exploration – climbing trees, building a cubby house or playing hide and seek with friends. Our school has a nature play space on the grounds and ready access to the Blackwood Reserve and the Blackwood Football Oval. Our students are encouraged to explore their local environment, to build a love for, and connection with, the natural world.



Wellbeing

Our students live and learn in a culture that seeks to respect and build the wellbeing of everyone. We have a positive and inclusive community where diversity is valued and welcomed.

Our teachers involve their students in developing a safe and positive learning environment so they can all confidently learn and grow together. Our daily school life is embedded with many programs and practices that improve student wellbeing, such as our buddy program, where older students are mentors to younger ones; weekly class and whole school meetings, where students voices are heard and acted upon; and restorative practices that allow for healthy relationships and the dignity of all students to be respected.



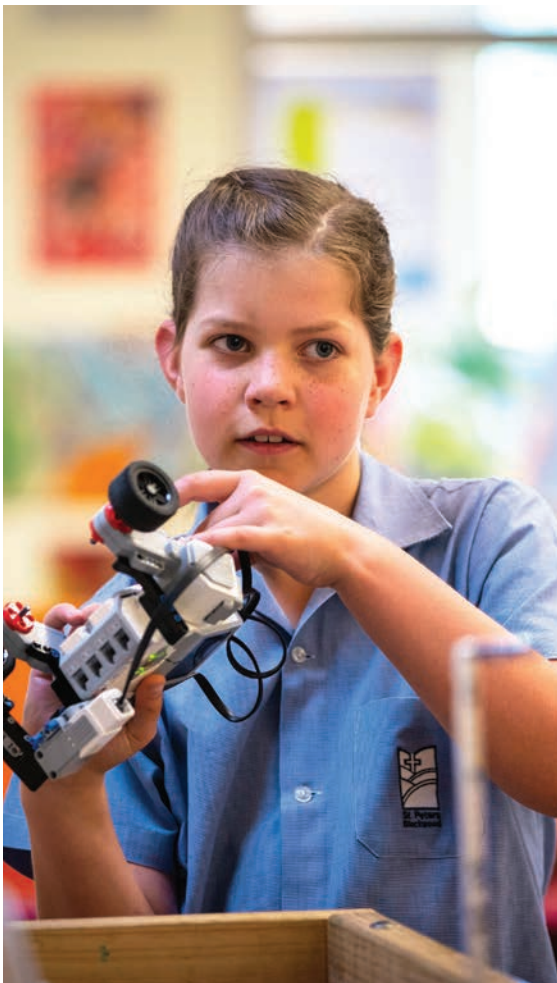
Learning Support

We offer a range of learning support to cater for the learning needs of all our students. Individualised or group tuition is available for students with diagnosed needs or high academic ability.

Teachers and learning support staff work closely with parents and caregivers to develop programs and support that includes a balance of mainstream integration and individualised tuition.

We provide meaningful updates and feedback to parents and caregivers, as part of our regular communications. Our experienced and highly skilled staff work hard so that all of our children have the opportunity to grow and thrive.

Learning Assistance Programmes (LAP), dyslexia support, Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU) and social and emotional development are just a few of the dedicated learning support initiatives we offer.



Student Support

Our school offers a well established student support program that is free and easy to access.

English as an Additional Language

English as an Additional Language (EAL) support is critical to students from overseas where English is not their first language. We offer additional access outside of scheduled EAL classes at no additional charge.

Equally, students can engage additional support through our tutoring and homework programs.

Our Head of International Student Programs is responsible for the wellbeing and integration of students from overseas including additional support from the Bilingual Support Officer and College pastoral care leaders.

Bilingual Support

A dedicated Bilingual Support Officer assists students and their families to build links into our school community. They provide translation support to teachers and parents.

Behaviour Management

We value positive relationships with students and their parents or guardians and believe that this partnership will enable students to learn in a safe and supportive environment.

Our students are expected to follow and respect our school's code of behaviour. We ask for support from parents and guardians in making this happen.

Our school will not tolerate any form of bullying or harassment and has implemented policies and procedures to ensure students feel safe at all times.

Pastoral Care

Our exceptional pastoral care supports students' academic achievement and personal growth. To support this our school offers a structured Pastoral Care Program that provides learning and growth opportunities across each year level.



Our Extra Curricular Opportunities

At St Peters Lutheran School every child will have many exciting new things to try – inside and outside the classroom. We help them uncover what they are good at and guide them to become better at it. With a variety of extra-curricular options on offer, from:

- + Visual Arts
- + Science
- + Music
- + Sport
- + Pedal Prix
- + Social Justice
- + Coding
- + Robotics

...we're confident every child will discover their passion.

Our camp program begins with a 'stay late at school night' in Reception and progresses to overnight and longer camps as students move through their primary school years, culminating in either a tour of Canberra or an adventure camp.

Along the way, we help students develop important skills – collaboration, critical thinking, teamwork and respect for others. We provide them with support to face their fears, discover hidden strengths and develop the capabilities to approach unfamiliar situations with courage and forethought.





Our Community

Learning happens best in a community. Our close-knit campus offers a community feel, where we pride ourselves on the care and support given to our students, parents, caregivers, staff, grandparents, members of the congregation and the wider community.

Our onsite Early Learning Centre makes life that little bit easier for parents and caregivers, with one school drop off for siblings from ELC to Year 6.

When a child joins St Peters Lutheran School, we welcome their family into our community, and warmly invite the active participation of parents, caregivers and grandparents. Our parents and caregivers join with school staff to provide a quality Christian education in an Australian setting with freedom to roam, play and learn within safe boundaries.



Parents and Friends

We have a dynamic Parents and Friends Association (PFA) that connects all parents and caregivers via an active social program. The PFA provides fun events for students and focused fundraising events each year. There are plenty of opportunities to join in with school life with events like Twilight Tea, a welcome dinner, movie nights, the biennial Fete, the whole school musical, plus events such as Pedal Prix, sports days and swimming carnivals.

Communication

Nurturing personal relationships is central to our ethos and we encourage our students, parents and teachers to connect collaboratively at each stage of the learning journey. We keep parents and caregivers informed with regular, detailed newsletters, parent education evenings, and an open-door policy.

We also use a number of eCommunications and social media platforms to engage, inform and educate, delivering a special and unique view into the daily happenings of classroom learning and school life.

Enrolment

St Peters Lutheran School offers enrolment to International students (visa 500) in Years 1-6. Students must live with a parent, guardian or approved relative.

Parents or guardians of students are required to complete the International Student Enrolment Application Form.

Visa - Department of Home Affairs

The Australian Government Department of Home Affairs provides comprehensive information to students about visa requirements and the application process. It also provides an application document checklist.

Please visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/stud for current information.

Education Agents

We will require the full details of the education agent who is supporting the Application for Enrolment. We are required by law to have a written agreement with the education agent and upload all the agents' details into the Australian Department of Education and Training Student Management System called PRISMS.

We have a list of education agents that we can share with families.

Migration Advice & Education Outcome

Please note that our school cannot provide any advice on migration, or guarantee any migration or education outcome as a result of attending our school.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Academic Requirements

Students enrolling at St Peters Lutheran School must have successfully completed the year level immediately below the one in which they plan to enrol. This means, a student seeking enrolment into Year 4 must have successfully completed a Year 3 curriculum.

Parents or guardians of students must provide evidence of satisfactory attendance and course progression at their current school in their Enrolment Application Form. It must include satisfactory effort and academic achievement (minimum C grade or 73-76% or better) reflected across all subjects.

English Language Proficiency

Parents or guardians of students must provide an English language proficiency assessment for the student for both enrolment at our school and for visa purposes.

Parents or guardians of students seeking direct entry into mainstream study at our school need to provide evidence of sufficient English language skills to successfully meet the curriculum demands of their year level.. This is a requirement under the ESOS 2018 National Code of Practice, Section D Standard 2.

For example, for direct entry into Year 4, students need proof of an AEAS score of minimum 80 or other English Proficiency as equivalent.



English Language School (ELICOS)

The English Language Proficiency assessment will show how long the student needs to enrol at an English language school before starting school with us.

We use several local English language school providers including Adelaide International School (AIS).

They provide English language learning to students seeking enrolment into primary, middle or senior school year levels. As a local English language school, their teaching also includes cultural awareness and integration into life in Adelaide, South Australia.

Students will not be able to commence mainstream study until they have successfully completed their English language studies that includes designated immersion days at our school.

The Application Process

Complete the St Peters Lutheran School International Student Enrolment Application Form.

Attach:

- + Copy of the student's Passport
- + Academic school reports from the previous two (2) years
- + English language proficiency assessment. This may include IELTS, AEAS or other recognised assessment

For more information please visit the international student pages on the school website :

www.concordia.sa.edu.au/enrolment/international-students

or contact:

Mr Steve Eden

**Head of International Student Programs
St Peters Lutheran School & Concordia College
international@concordia.sa.edu.au**

Subject Selection

As part of the enrolment process international students and their parents/ legal guardian will meet with the PYP Coordinator to discuss subjects.

ESOS Framework

The Australian Government wants for International students in Australia to have a safe, enjoyable and rewarding place to study.

Australia has developed a national code that promotes quality education and consumer protection for international students. Known as the ESOS framework, it includes the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000 and the National Code 2018.

A comprehensive fact sheet is available at International Education.gov.au





Thank you

**For considering St Peters Lutheran School
for your child's education.**

We invite you to visit our school. A personalised Principal's Tour provides a wonderful opportunity to see our school and surrounds, and to talk with students and staff.

Our primary entry points are ELC and Reception, including a mid-year intake. Families are encouraged to register their interest as soon as possible to ensure places are available.



ELC - Year 6

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www.stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au



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DISCLAIMER: The information in this publication is current as at the date of printing and is subject to change. You can find updated information on our website at www.stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au

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