

Perth Modern School  
**Business  
Plan**

*Kadadjiny Dandjoo*

Listening, Thinking and  
Learning Together

2025-2029





## *Kadadjiny Dandjoo*

The title of Perth Modern School's Business Plan, *Kadadjiny Dandjoo*, comes from the Noongar language and speaks to the power of a connected community through **listening, thinking and learning together**.

These principles shape the foundation of the plan and represent a collective journey focused on the future — one driven by collaboration and continuous improvement, where every member of our community is a learner and a leader.

# Foreword

**Perth Modern School is a unique, academically selective public school for gifted students, with over a century of excellence.**

*Kadadjiny Dandjoo* reflects our commitment to honouring tradition, empowering those present and shaping the future. We pledge to uphold academic excellence, foster strong relationships and provide an inclusive, innovative environment that nurtures personal growth, inspires leadership and ensures lasting success for all members of our community.

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**PRINCIPAL**

The clear strategic direction set by *Kadadjiny Dandjoo* frames an exceptional education for gifted and talented learners, while fostering a culture that celebrates both academic achievement and wellbeing. The Perth Modern School Board is committed to supporting the school in achieving its vision of excellence, inclusion and innovation. Developed through meaningful collaboration, this plan reflects a shared vision for the future.

The Board will continue to listen, support and work alongside the school community to shape a future where students thrive.

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**PERTH MODERN SCHOOL BOARD**

## Acknowledgements

The Perth Modernian Society is an association of former students and staff dedicated to fostering connections among Modernians, preserving the history and traditions of Perth Modern School, and supporting current students and staff in achieving their personal best.

As an integral part of the school community, the Society is innovative and actively engaged in providing valuable services through the Museum Association, the Sphinx Foundation and the Annual Oration.

The Sphinx Foundation offers support to students from families facing financial hardship, ensuring they have the resources needed to succeed. By investing in students, the Foundation not only enhances individual outcomes but also fosters a future generation of leaders.

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**PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY**

The Parents and Citizens Association provides a vital platform for bringing the community together. It contributes to the school's resources through fundraising and events that support the key focus areas of this Business Plan, reinforcing the shared commitment to student success and school improvement.

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**PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

## Continuing a Tradition of Learning

Perth Modern School acknowledges the Whadjuk Noongar people as the traditional custodians of Boodja (country) and pays respect to their Elders past and present. We honour their enduring educational legacy, which continues to inspire our pursuit of knowledge.

Long before our school's founding, this land was a place of learning, where generations of Noongar people shared profound knowledge of country, seasons and ecosystems. As we continue this tradition, we recognise the original educators — Noongar people — whose wisdom enriches our modern educational endeavours.

## A Legacy of Learning and Inclusion

Founded in 1911 as the state's first government high school, Perth Modern School focused on co-educational, academically rigorous education, preparing students for study at The University of Western Australia. A scholarship program ensured access for high-achieving students, regardless of financial background. Alumni have since achieved great success across diverse fields.

Our learning is enriched by honouring the diverse cultural backgrounds of students and families from over 40 countries. We acknowledge the privilege of pursuing knowledge on this land and support initiatives fostering truth-telling, reconciliation and inclusion.



“Knowledge is Power” highlights the importance of knowledge in our school and the transformative impact of education.

## Mission and Vision

Perth Modern School is Western Australia's only fully selective school for **academically gifted and talented students** in Years 7 to 12.

The differentiated curriculum focuses on acceleration, extension and enrichment. Professional staff offer a broad range of services, subjects and activities tailored to the needs and talents of gifted learners.

Our teachers' deep knowledge and passion ensure students are challenged and engaged in their learning.



Perth Modern School honours the past, empowers those present and shapes the future. We are the learners and leaders in gifted and talented education.

As a proud public co-educational secondary school for academically select students, we educate young people from across Western Australia through challenging and inclusive experiences, enabling them to learn, lead and change the world.

Perth Modern School aims to be a community where everyone belongs.

We provide exceptional education for gifted and talented learners. In the middle years we nurture each student's unique potential. These self-motivated learners are supported in the senior years, to achieve academic excellence, positive wellbeing and a commitment to community service.

EMPOWER THOSE PRESENT

## Values

The core of *Kadadjiny Dandjoo* is guided by the values that shape our thinking, the choices we make, and the actions we take every day.



With **COURAGE**, we forge paths beyond conventional expectations and seek meaningful change. We practise gratitude and a willingness to take risks, embracing vulnerability. We foster a learning environment where courage is celebrated and nurtured, supporting one another in navigating uncertainty with confidence.



With **CURIOSITY**, we are inquisitive learners and leaders, confident problem solvers who embrace a love of learning. We are inspired to think critically and creatively, to innovate and to actively pursue knowledge.



With **COMPASSION**, we are kind and empathetic learners and leaders who value each person's unique talents and support the wellbeing of others. Through understanding and care, we foster resilience and commit to making a positive impact in shaping a better future.



Through **COMMITMENT**, we promote choice and agency in learning. We support learners in developing organisational habits and dispositions that encourage commitment to effort and excellence.



We are a **COLLABORATIVE** community that embraces diversity and fosters a culturally safe environment for all learners and leaders. Through mutual respect and shared responsibility, we cultivate meaningful connections and motivation for learning. Collaboration is valued and encouraged in every experience, within and beyond the classroom.

## Key Focus Areas

The Key Focus Areas are grounded in our Mission, Vision and Values, and our commitment to connection, learning and leadership.

They align with:

- the Department of Education strategies and priorities
- effective evidence-based strategies to improve student outcomes
- the resources and opportunities available
- the identified needs and capabilities of Perth Modern School.



**SHAPE THE FUTURE**

## Excellence in Teaching

### Overarching Outcome

We are committed to ensuring every student benefits from high-impact gifted education. This encompasses quality teaching, enrichment and extension opportunities, and a strong values-driven learning environment.

### Strategies

#### Exceptional Schooling

Implement a consistent, evidence-informed approach to teaching in every classroom to maximise student potential.

#### Exceptional Students

Offer diverse programs that challenge and extend gifted and talented learners while nurturing courage, curiosity, compassion, commitment and collaboration.

### Measuring Our Success

#### Exceptional Schooling

- **Evidence-based teaching:** Teaching practices consistently align with the whole-school approach to gifted and talented education, as evidenced through classroom observations and feedback.
- **Culturally responsive teaching:** Teaching practices reflect and respect diverse cultural perspectives, contributing to a culturally responsive learning environment.
- **Teacher professional learning:** Staff consistently engage in mentoring, peer coaching, collaborative planning and professional learning opportunities.
- **Achievement:** Internal and external data show positive trends in academic achievement, reflecting a learning environment that is both challenging and supportive.

#### Exceptional Students

- **Student engagement:** Students demonstrate increased responsibility for their learning through active engagement with challenging tasks, collaboration and leadership in classroom activities.
- **Development of values:** Growth in courage, curiosity, compassion, commitment and collaboration is evident across classroom learning, extracurricular activities and community engagement.
- **Differentiated learning success:** Student achievement improves across diverse learning levels, demonstrating the effectiveness of tailored instruction.

# Inclusive Learning Environment

## Overarching Outcome

We nurture a strong sense of belonging by fostering a safe, supportive and inclusive environment. Through shared responsibility and meaningful partnerships, learners are encouraged to challenge themselves, advocate for their learning and embrace opportunities to thrive — academically and personally. Our programs celebrate and support each learner's unique background, talents and identity, ensuring they feel valued, respected and empowered to fully engage in their education.

## Strategies

### Wellbeing and Engagement

Embed wellbeing strategies in all interactions to nurture the whole child. Foster a shared understanding that academic, social and emotional success is strengthened by a culture of courage, compassion and commitment.

### Inclusion

Foster an inclusive environment by addressing diverse learning needs through a differentiated and tiered approach. Encourage learners to express their needs, co-create solutions and actively participate in shaping their education.

## Measuring Our Success

### Wellbeing and Engagement

- **Wellbeing data:** Mental health and resilience trends show positive growth, as assessed through surveys and participation in wellbeing programs.
- **Engagement in school:** Students actively participate in extracurricular activities, leadership initiatives and school events.
- **Social and emotional growth:** Growth in interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence and self-awareness is measured through reflections and feedback.
- **Support systems in action:** Students utilise school-provided wellbeing services, such as counselling, peer mentoring and social support networks.

### Inclusion

- **Tiered intervention impact:** Additional supports, including individualised learning plans and intervention programs, are effectively implemented and show measurable impact.
- **Sense of belonging data:** Student perceptions show improvements in feeling valued, respected and included within the school community.
- **Academic outcomes:** Students who feel academically supported demonstrate growth in social confidence and personal development.



# Inspirational Leadership

## Overarching Outcome

We empower individuals and teams to demonstrate leadership capability and a commitment to lifelong learning. This fosters a collaborative culture shaped by high expectations, inclusion and community engagement. Through inspirational leadership, we aim to ignite passion, drive innovation and promote a sense of purpose among all members of our school community.

## Strategies

### Leadership Development

Recognise and encourage the careers of high-potential leaders and develop the leadership capacity of emerging and team leaders.

### Professional Learning

Encourage staff to collaborate, evaluate and discuss insights gained from professional learning to enhance school practices.

### Inclusive Leadership

Promote inclusive leadership by engaging the school community in consultation processes and fostering a sense of shared responsibility.

### Student Leadership

Provide students with leadership opportunities that empower them to advocate for their peers, engage in meaningful consultation and drive positive change within their communities.

## Measuring Our Success

### Leadership Development

- High-potential leaders demonstrate increased progression within the school and system.
- Leadership strategies are continually refined to align with the school's vision and values.

### Professional Learning

- Professional learning initiatives result in measurable improvements in staff effectiveness and innovation.
- Staff engage in reflective discussions and collaborative knowledge-sharing at a high level.
- Continuous professional growth is evident through active contributions to school improvement.

### Inclusive Leadership

- Inclusive leadership practices are strengthened through expanded opportunities for students, staff and the community to participate in consultation processes.
- Leadership roles reflect expanded representation, actively supporting diverse voices in shaping school culture, strategy and development.

### Student Leadership

- Student participation in leadership roles — including school councils, committees and peer advocacy groups — continues to expand.
- Student-led initiatives, community projects and school improvement efforts demonstrate impactful leadership.
- Student confidence in consultation and advocacy increases, as assessed through feedback and real-world application.

# Connected Learning Community

## Overarching Outcome

We foster meaningful partnerships between staff, students, families and the broader community to build an inclusive educational experience that honours our heritage, embraces diversity and enhances student success.

## Strategies

### Future-Focused Learning

Empower future-focused learning through strong community partnerships that provide students with real-world opportunities to apply knowledge, develop critical thinking and engage with innovative practices to enhance academic experiences.

### Inclusive Community

Foster an inclusive community of belonging through effective communication that strengthens connections between alumni, students, families and educators.

## Measuring Our Success

### Future-Focused Learning

- **External partnerships and industry collaboration:** Strengthened relationships with universities, research institutions and industry professionals provide mentorship and career pathway opportunities for students.
- **Learning through experience:** Students actively engage in advanced coursework, extracurricular activities, community projects and real-world applications.

### Inclusive Community

- **Transparent and responsive communication:** Effective communication channels support active family and community involvement.
- **Enhanced engagement in school events:** School events bring together alumni, students, families and the broader community through inclusive opportunities.
- **Programs that celebrate diversity:** Activities and opportunities reinforce a shared commitment to student success and inclusivity.





## Perth Modern School

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