

## SPECIAL CHARACTER

**VISION:** The school community reflects the qualities of Jesus the Good Shepherd and the teachings of the Catholic faith.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Maintain the school's caring culture.	(a) Promote the teachings of the Catholic faith through the religious education programme.
	(b) Support pastoral care within the school through the PTFA Caring Committee, the Principal's discretionary pastoral care budget and OSCA.
	(c) Continue to enact the requirements of the Behaviour Management policy and guidelines.
1.2 Foster active participation in the sacramental life of the Church.	(a) Redesign pre-enrolment form to reflect the commitment parents/caregivers undertake by seeking a Catholic education for their children.
	(b) Emphasise expectation of active participation during admission interviews.
	(c) Work with the Parish Priest towards offering a programme for baptism for school aged children.

<p>1.3 Continue to provide a family centred environment.</p>	<p>(a) Continue events that are family oriented, eg book week activities, family masses, grandparents' mass, blessing of new children, school assemblies.</p>
<p>1.4 Embrace differences and honour the diverse cultures in the school.</p>	<p>(b) Retain OSCA as a WINZ accredited after school care programme.</p>
<p>1.5 Continue to strengthen the relationship with the Parish Priest and Parish.</p>	<p>(a) Use the school's curriculum to promote the cultures of students within the school.</p>
	<p>(b) Utilise parent support from a range of groups within the school, eg through the Religious Education programme, school assemblies, and assistance with the Eden/Albert Cultural Festival.</p>
	<p>(c) Promote bi-cultural and multi-cultural aspects within the school.</p>
	<p>(a) Parish Priest to visit a class for prayers weekly.</p>
	<p>(b) Principal to attend Parish Council meetings.</p>
	<p>(c) Continue to inform the Parish Priest and Parish Council on the school calendar and events.</p>

1.6 Accommodate the growing demand for Catholic education by the wider community.

(a) Endeavour to increase the school roll following Ministry of Education and Catholic Schools Office procedures.

(b) Retain high visibility of Good Shepherd School within the wider community.

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# NAG 1: TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP

**VISION:** The new New Zealand curriculum is tailored to reflect the needs and special character of the Good Shepherd School Community.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Acquire a deeper understanding of the new New Zealand curriculum and its implications for our localised school curriculum.	(a) Senior Leadership Team undertakes professional development in relation to the new New Zealand curriculum.
	(b) Senior Leadership Team to plan and implement “Whole Staff” professional development strategy in relation to new New Zealand curriculum.
	(c) Tailor localised school curriculum based on acquired knowledge.
	(d) Implement localised school curriculum.
	(e) Refine localised curriculum through ongoing critique and evaluation.
	(f) Embed best practice of localised curriculum.

**VISION:**

Students are independent learners, willing to take risks, know where their current learning is, where their learning is going and how they are going to get there.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
2.1 Increase students' willingness to take risks.	(a) Equip teachers with knowledge and strategies of how to create a risk taking environment, that includes learning centres, extension zones, and thinking strategies.
2.2 Help students assess where their current learning is, where their learning is going and how they are going to get there.	(a) Integrate teachings developed through Ministry of Education Assessment to Learn Contract.  (b) Provide teachers with tools and strategies to implement reflective practice within their classroom teaching and learning programmes.
2.3 Reflective classroom practice is embedded.	(a) "Four Minute Walkthrough" tools and strategies will be used to provide feedback and feed forward in a peer coaching setting.  (b) Senior Leadership Team will undertake a regular, ongoing monitoring of classroom practice.  (c) Regularly review and evaluate the impact of "Four Minute Walkthroughs".

**VISION:** An effective partnership between home and school.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
3.1 To foster deeper understanding within the school community, of curriculum implementation and practice.	(a) Identify gaps in community knowledge of curriculum philosophy and content based on data gathered through the Good Shepherd School Charter and Strategic Plan Survey.
	(b) Hold parent information evenings to raise community awareness and understanding of curriculum philosophy and content.

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**VISION:** Senior students are effective leaders.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
4.1 Encourage and support students to undertake leadership roles within the School and Parish.	(a) The school structure and organisation will allow for the development of current and future school leaders.
	(b) Encourage and support students to undertake leadership roles within the Catholic faith.
	(c) Year 6 camp is held each year and focuses on the development of leadership skills.
	(d) The School Council will be an effective student voice.
	(e) Use school houses to provide leadership opportunities for senior students in sporting and cultural arenas.
	(f) Student Librarians will provide support and leadership in literacy.

## NAG 2: POLICY AND SELF-REVIEW

**VISION:** Board of Trustees continually reflects on the goals and development of the school.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Implement Board of Trustees self-review programme.	(a) Distribute and implement updated Board of Trustees self-review programme. (b) Provide written report on self-reviews to Board of Trustees.
1.2 Implement policy review programme.	(a) Sub-committee meetings held to review policy.

## **NAG 2: COMMUNICATION**

**VISION:** Parents and stakeholders feel informed and engaged in the school.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Students have input into school development.	(a) Build and develop the school's Student Council.
	(b) Regular communication links between the school Student Council and the Board of Trustees.
	(c) Year 5 and 6 students on the Student Council attend leadership training.
1.2 Increase Board of Trustees communication with the school community.	(a) Regular feedback to the community following Board of Trustees meetings via the school newsletter or a Board newsletter.
	(b) Annual Report to the school community on progress against the Strategic Plan.
1.3 Utilise electronic communication to convey information to the school community.	(a) Redevelop the school website.

	(b) Utilise email communication wherever possible.
	(c) Provide an additional communication channel between parents and teachers via email.

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## NAG 3: PERSONNEL

**VISION:** Have a high calibre of staff.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Provide ongoing development opportunities for staff.	(a) Ensure that professional development relating to the Special Character of the school is provided for all staff.
	(b) Review the continuous development of groups and individuals in line with the “Whole School” professional development programme.
	(c) Identify specific development needs in each individual’s performance appraisal and provide as required.
1.2 Maintain team morale.	(a) Provide opportunities to engage the staff in discussion on the school’s direction.
	(b) Provide opportunities for staff to socialise outside the school environment.
1.3 Recruit the best staff for the right positions.	(a) Utilise current best practice recruitment procedures.

## **NAG 4: FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENT**

**VISION:** School grounds and facilities exceed the requirements of the school community.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Develop the physical appearance of the school grounds.	(a) Formulate a general plan of landscaping needs with the input of the school caretaker.
	(b) Enlist the help of the school community to implement the landscaping plan.
1.2 Provide increased facilities for physical activity.	(a) Receive input from the school's Student Council and teachers on ideas for new physical structures.
	(b) Source funding for new physical structures for children's play.
1.3 Meet the physical needs of the school at current maximum roll.	(a) Work with Catholic Schools Office to provide a new administration building including adequate staffroom space.
	(b) New administration building to include Catholic symbols and art.
	(c) Work with Catholic Schools Office to provide further teaching space(s) to meet MOE teacher to student ratios.

	(d) Create a multi-purpose small group teaching space.
1.4 Increase the available funding for the school.	(a) Make greater use of external funding through grants and donations.

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## NAG 6: GOVERNANCE

**VISION:** The School has a strong strategic direction.

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>STRATEGIES</b>
1.1 Board members will nourish their own spiritual life in order to govern in the spirit of the Good Shepherd.	(a) Biannual Board of Trustees retreat.
	(b) Identify Board member needs in relation to Special Character and offer opportunities to meet those needs.
1.2 Ensure implementation of the Strategic Plan.	(a) Sub-committee chairs provide an annual report to the Chairperson in October of each year on their progress against the Strategic Plan.
1.3 Sub-committees are proactive in undertaking their roles and responsibilities.	(a) Sub-committees meet as required.
	(b) Sub-committee chairs are responsible for organising meetings.
1.4 Ensure a smooth succession for the Board in 2010.	(a) Ensure continuity of membership.

	(b) Ensure Board members have the appropriate skills to meet the needs of the school.
	(c) Provide comprehensive training and support for the new Board.

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