

**ST MARTIN DE PORRES
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**



*Children are
capable and their
possibilities are
endless*





*Children are
co-constructors of
knowledge, life
and living*

**ENCOURAGE MY FULL
PARTICIPATION**

AWE & WONDER

Marty's Garden



Early Years Courtyard

WELCOME

Welcome to our learning community. St Martin de Porres is a Catholic Primary School located in Sheidow Park, established in 1986.

Our school celebrates childhood, learning, faith and community and our Catholic traditions are expressed through Veritas – Truth and In Omnibus Caritas – In All Things Love.

Enrolling at St Martin de Porres enters your child into an educational pathway where they will graduate in Year 12 at Sacred Heart College, Somerton Park.

St Martin de Porres has a strong academic record and offers an extensive co-curricular program with a commitment to Positive Education that ensures every student is supported, nurtured and valued as an individual.

Our excellent resources include state of the art learning facilities and an extensive outdoor environment. With 21st Century information and communication technology, ongoing professional development of staff and individual learning programs, your child will receive the highest quality primary education. Our students enjoy and take pride in being members of such a vibrant school.

Craig Fosdike

Principal



*In the pursuit
of flourishing*



CHILDHOOD

POSITIVE EDUCATION

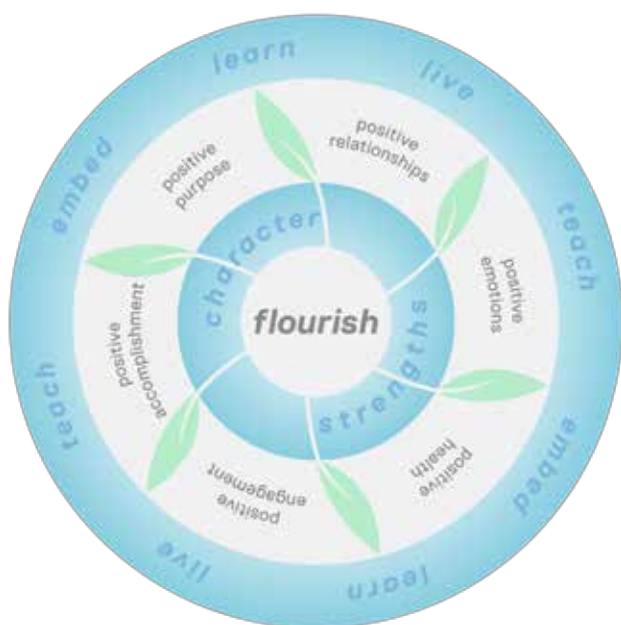
At St Martin de Porres we use the model of Positive Education to guide our practices in supporting your child's **wellbeing**.

Positive Education teaches children the strategies and dispositions they need to FLOURISH in today's world. We believe flourishing is Feeling Good by Doing Good.

Children are encouraged to use their strengths to develop resilience, grit and success.

There are six elements to our Positive Education approach. Each element is taught explicitly to all children throughout the year, with whole school Positive Education Days, bringing together the school in a fun and enjoyable way.

Positive Education supports your child to be a growth minded, life-long learner.



OUR VALUES

► IN ALL THINGS LOVE

Encouraging students to care about themselves, others and the environment.

► RESPECT

Encouraging students, teachers and parents to treat themselves, each other and the environment with respect.

► POSITIVITY

Encouraging all members of the School Community to approach life and learning with confidence, optimism and enthusiasm.

► PERSISTENCE

Encouraging students to strive for their personal best, accept challenges, work hard and not easily give up.

► RESPONSIBILITY

Students take ownership of their actions and emotions, reflecting on them and dealing with consequences of these actions with integrity.

► RESILIENCE

Students, parents and staff face challenges with determination and grit, to be independent problem solvers and have a positive mindset.

► ACHIEVEMENT

Understanding that achievement is not possible without effort, determination and persistence.



OUR CATHOLIC IDENTITY

St Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru in 1579. He spent his life in the service of others in the Dominican tradition whose passion was to educate others.

The St Martin de Porres philosophy is expressed through the school's motto "In Omnibus Caritas" – In all things love and Veritas – Truth.

In the words of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop we "never see a need without doing something about it".

Every facet of life at St Martin de Porres provides opportunity for students to experience the graciousness of God in their lives. Each child is encouraged to grow spiritually and to be the very best person they can be.

At St Martin de Porres, our mission is a Catholic learning community that:

- ▶ recognises the image of every child as competent, inventive and full of possibilities and ideas;
- ▶ nurtures and recognises the potential of each child;
- ▶ embraces the diversity and potential of families within our community;
- ▶ is inspired by the work and values of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop and her love of God; and
- ▶ is committed to supporting our students in reaching their highest developmental, social and academic potential.

This holistic approach to education empowers families to participate and enhance their child's learning.

The religious dimension is one which enriches our Dominican heritage. This dimension is experienced through:

- ▶ *Crossways* – the religious education curriculum of Catholic Education SA;
- ▶ *Made in the Image of God* – Human Development Program;
- ▶ daily prayer and reflections;
- ▶ class liturgies;
- ▶ St Martin and St Mary of the Cross Mackillop, Feast Day celebrations;
- ▶ support for Caritas; and
- ▶ sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist through the Hallett Cove Parish.

**Children have
a voice that needs
to be respected and
understood**

**HEAR MY VOICE WITH RESPECT
AND UNDERSTANDING**



COMMUNITY

Sports Day

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Through hosting a variety of community events we plan to strengthen the relationship and continuity between the child, the school and the home.

All our special events involve parents and children in a community of relationship, learning, sharing and our partnership with parents and the wider community provides many highlights throughout the school year.

- ▶ Family Fun Sports Day
- ▶ Caritas Kilometres
- ▶ Book Week Parade
- ▶ Quiz Night
- ▶ Italian Day
- ▶ Mothers & Grandmother’s Morning Tea
- ▶ Fathers & Grandfather's Breakfast
- ▶ Parent Year Level Dinners and Get Together
- ▶ Student Instrumental Concert
- ▶ Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea



ENJOYMENT



CREATIVE



CONNECTION



Parent Engagement

PARTNERSHIP

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

Parent partnerships are highly valued at St Martin de Porres School. Our aim is to engage with parents to work together to maximise student learning outcomes. The education of all our students includes a shared responsibility which benefits all. Parents are invited to join the Parents & Friends Committee, Parent Organised Sport

Program Committee or become a School Board Member. Information nights for each year level are held at the start of the year. Parent participation is welcomed in class activities such as, working with small groups, art and craft and class excursions.

Parent Forums

A variety of parents learning forums are held throughout the year:

- ▶ Early Years Numeracy
- ▶ Primary Years Numeracy
- ▶ Literacy – Reading and Comprehension
- ▶ Becoming a Writer
- ▶ Children and Nutrition
- ▶ Reception Transition to School
- ▶ Transition to Middle School
- ▶ Cyber Safety
- ▶ Positive Education

***A child's family, culture
and other people are
integral to who they are.***

VALUE MY RELATIONSHIPS & MY HERITAGE



LEARNING

Explicit teaching in small groups

HOW REGGIO EMILIA INSPIRES LEARNING AT OUR SCHOOL

At St Martin de Porres School our programs and teaching practice are inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach. The following is an overview of how this philosophy and its guiding principles apply to your child's learning:

The Learning Environment

We believe children learn through interacting with elements in the environment. The classroom, school grounds and outside-of-school locations are a powerful third educator. Our aim is to provide rich and engaging learning spaces, enriched with real world tasks and natural materials with multi-sensory potential to inspire the minds of our children.

Theory and Practice

Our programs allow for children to explore in-depth thinking and to ask questions in order to see the connections of their learning through their real world experiences. Different types of observations and activities are designed for further thinking strategies within each age group. We recognise and value the theories and hypothesis of children and provide time for the collaboration with others to test their theories and co-construct knowledge.

Children, Teachers and Parents as Learners

We believe in a powerful learning community. Our teachers lead learning alongside the children. They review children's work and continually apply research into understanding the learning process of the children. Parent forums are offered to the school community on a variety of topics so that a reciprocal partnership through learning is encouraged and maintained.

Listening to Children

We value active listening as a powerful tool which respects each child as an individual constructor of knowledge. The teachers encourage children to express what they already know about the world and help them to attain new knowledge and learning, listening carefully to how they relate to the world around them.

Image of the Child


We embrace the image of the child as a competent, confident, creative and active learner. We believe that each child is a constructor of knowledge actively seeking to inquire and understand the world.

Documentation

Children's work is documented and displayed through photos, drawings and digital displays. This provides a visible account of the children's journey of development and learning.

The Hundred Languages of Children

Our inspiration from the Reggio Emilia approach fosters our belief that children use many different ways to show their understanding and express their thoughts and creativity. We value each child's hundred languages, in thinking discovery and learning.



Children have their own different ways of thinking, creating, doing and being

HONOUR AND ACKNOWLEDGE MY RIGHT TO DREAM, TO SEEK MEANING, TO LOVE, TO BE HEARD AND TO BE UNDERSTOOD.

CURIOSITY

iPad Program from Year 3

QUALITY TEACHING

- ▶ Classroom pedagogy
 - ▶ Visible Learning
- ▶ Year level collaborations for positive improvement
 - ▶ Academic focus
- ▶ Professional learning for all staff is ongoing

CURRICULUM

- ▶ Australian Curriculum www.australiancurriculum.edu.au
- ▶ Early Years learning framework
 - ▶ Mathematics ▶ English
 - ▶ Science ▶ Technology
 - ▶ Italian ▶ Music
 - ▶ Visual & Expressive Arts
 - ▶ History ▶ Geography

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

- ▶ Continual analysis of student data
 - ▶ Early Years assessment
- ▶ Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) testing
- ▶ Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT) in Reading and Mathematics
 - ▶ Scorelink program (running records, eight words)

**Children have
thoughts & theories
which are valid**

GIVE ME HEARING



Music for every student

PROGRAMS / FACILITIES

- ▶ Before and After School Care
- ▶ Vacation Care
- ▶ Playgroup (Birth to 4 Years)
- ▶ Long Transition Program (4 and 5 Years)
- ▶ Multi-device technologies including; iPads, laptops, Smartboards, Smart TVs, Apple TVs
- ▶ iPad Program from Year 3 (all students)
- ▶ Language other than English – Italian
- ▶ Camps
- ▶ Student Leadership development and opportunities
- ▶ Parent Learning Forums and participation
- ▶ Modern Library
- ▶ Music Suite
- ▶ Community Garden
- ▶ Multi-sensory Room
- ▶ Church
- ▶ Oval

Extra-Curricular

- ▶ Instrumental Music Program
- ▶ Catholic Schools Music Festival
- ▶ Chess
- ▶ Italian
- ▶ Ukulele Band



Chess Club



Grounds to play

A MOVING SCHOOL

Specialist Teachers

- ▶ Physical Education
- ▶ Italian
- ▶ Music

Sports Programs

- ▶ Football, Netball, Soccer, Basketball, Cricket, Kanga Cricket, Tee-Ball, AusKick
- ▶ Athletics, Swimming, Touch Football, Netball and Cross Country Catholic Sports Carnivals



To every child in a Catholic School

We are committed to
knowing you deeply.
We value you as a **capable**
and **competent** learner
and will support your
active engagement in
the learning process.
In **partnership** with you
and your family we commit
to **high expectations**
for your learning progress,
wellbeing and achievement.
You matter to us.

1 Berrima Road | Sheidow Park | South Australia | 08 8321 8300 | www.smdps.catholic.edu.au | enrol@smdps.catholic.edu.au

St Martin de Porres

