

# School Strategic Plan 2018-2022

Northern College of the Arts and Technology (7300)



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# School Strategic Plan - 2018-2022

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<p><b>School vision</b></p>	<p>College Vision: To continue to be a leading provider of contemporary education that values both the conceptual and the practical with specialised high quality programs in the Arts and Technologies</p> <p>College Mission To provide a dynamic learning environment that engages students, embraces diversity and empowers young people to excel and pursue their passions and pathways.</p>
<p><b>School values</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect for each other and the environment</li> <li>• Originality of thought and action</li> <li>• Courage to embrace challenges</li> <li>• Knowledge to seek, question and achieve</li> <li>• Support through relationships and teamwork</li> </ul>
<p><b>Context challenges</b></p>	<p>The Northern College of the Arts &amp; Technology (NCAT) is located in Preston, approximately 13 kilometres north of the central business district of Melbourne. The college has a broad catchment area with students coming from across Melbourne because of its specialist programs and no zoning restrictions.</p> <p>NCAT caters for Year 10, VCE, VCAL and post Year 12 students seeking a specialised education in the Visual Arts, Design, Media, Photography, Performing Arts or Trades &amp; Technologies.</p> <p>At Year 10 students choose either an Arts or a Technology stream, with students also choosing a Year 11 VCE VET program from either stream. Year 11-12 students can go on to VCE, VCAL &amp; VET programs in their areas of specialisation or interest.</p> <p>In addition to the traditional VCE subjects and an extensive range of VCE Art and Music subjects NCAT runs unique VCAL programs including integrated VET/VCALs in the Arts, Performing Arts and the Trades. Entry to Music and Dance programs at any level including VCAL is via audition. Similarly, students wanting to do Visual Arts or the VCAL Art Immersion program or any of the VCAL Senior Extension programs must present a folio of work.</p> <p>NCAT is also a nationally registered training organisation delivering 25 VET programs from Certificate II to Diploma. NCAT offers the broadest range of VET programs of any school in Victoria including unique qualifications such as the Certificates III and IV in Musical Instrument Making &amp; Repair for which NCAT is the sole provider in Australia, attracting students from around Victoria.</p>

In addition to its own full time students, NCAT is also a regional VET provider running 12 VET programs for over 500 external students from other State, Catholic and Independent schools who come to the college one day per week.

Post Year 12 students can choose from a range of programs with a Certificate IV in Visual Arts, Design, Photography & Photo imaging, Music or Sound Production. They can also do the Certificate IV in Musical Instrument Making & Repair or the Diploma of Photography and Photo imaging.

The college has close ties with industry and tertiary institutions, and responds to regional training needs. Many of its programs have been established with the support of industry and in response to where industry is heading whether for the arts or technology. The NCAT Council includes representatives from industry.

NCAT has extensive specialist facilities. This includes state of the art technology facilities including a \$12 million trade training centre specialising in emerging industries as well as traditional trades: Drama, Drawing, Art, Design & Fashion studios; a dedicated Photoimaging centre with black & white and colour processing labs and three photographic studios as well as Mac labs and iPad & Multimedia suites. The College is currently in the last six months of an 18 month \$12 million building project. Stage one, comprising a new Administration, two new large dance studios and a number of classroom was completed in November 2018. Stage two comprising a 350 seat (retractable) Performing Arts Centre as well as new Music facilities including large Music room, a suspended, industry level recording studio, 10 Music practice rooms and Music technology rooms will be ready by September 2019.

The College continues to be designated by DET as an "Influence School," its rating for schools where performance is high or very high with the college acting as an influencer and system leader.

Students are highly engaged and love coming to NCAT. They enjoy being in an adult environment with peers who have the same interests. This is evidenced in the Student Attitudes to School survey responses which year after year, are well above regional and state benchmarks with students very connected to the college, happy, engaged and motivated. Similarly, the Parent Satisfaction survey results since the college's establishment have been well above that of the majority of other secondary schools.

The Staff School Survey results on School Climate, which demonstrates the extent to which staff are positive, actively involved in school activities and promote a culture conducive to learning, show that morale and staff being positive about the school climate continue to be well above the median for all government secondary schools. Staff work as a team to support students and enhance their learning.

	<p>Key challenges over the next four years include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To cater for the different range of student abilities &amp; aspirations, within the context of being a specialist Arts &amp; Technology education provider</li> <li>• To improve staff capacity and consistent use of High Impact Teaching Strategies, particularly the areas of differentiated teaching &amp; learning, and metacognition.</li> <li>• To improve student resilience, both in terms of personal wellbeing, and in terms of workload management.</li> <li>• To continue to offer viable further education &amp; training pathways in the areas of Arts &amp; Technology for our student cohort, in changing economic and social external settings.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Intent, rationale and focus</b></p>	<p>NCAT intends to continue to develop as a specialist Arts &amp; Technology education provider in terms of the quality of education offered, the student outcomes achieved, the positive relationships evidenced by students, parents and staff towards the College to be maintained and improved.</p> <p>NCAT will continue to put into practice the college's vision of being a leading provider of contemporary education in the Arts and Technologies and its mission of providing a dynamic learning environment that engages students, embraces diversity and empowers young people to excel and pursue their passions and pathways.</p> <p>DET had designated the NCAT as an INFLUENCE school, meaning that performance is high or very high. It is important, however, that the College continues to strive for improvement, and continues to refine its practices in order to provide the best possible outcomes for students</p> <p>Priorities over the next four years are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A continued focus on the use of High Impact Teaching Strategies, particularly Differentiated teaching &amp; learning, followed by Metacognition in the latter part of Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Improving student resilience through a focus on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a) student voice &amp; leadership,</li> <li>- b) the introduction of targeted health &amp; wellbeing programs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A continued improvement in VCE study scores</li> <li>• The ongoing consolidation of staff Professional Learning Teams in order to effectively support students both academically and personally. This will be a particular focus from the second year onwards.</li> <li>• Taking advantage of flexible &amp; improved educational delivery methods as a consequence of the College building program being completed. For example, performance spaces and lecture / presentation spaces will be available to broaden and deepen student learning experiences, as well as offering the opportunity for flexible learning delivery.</li> <li>• Further investigating the establishment of a STEAM centre on site, in order to address pathway needs for Technology students, and broaden some Arts pathways options using new technologies</li> </ul>

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<b>Goal 1</b>	Improve student learning and achievement outcomes in all programs at the College
<b>Target 1.1</b>	Improve the College's VCE All Study Score to be at or above 29.
<b>Target 1.2</b>	Achieve VET (UOC) and VCAL completion rates of at or above 93 per cent.
<b>Target 1.3</b>	Achieve student opinion survey responses in the Teaching and learning, Differentiated learning challenge and Stimulating learning in the fourth quartile.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 1.a</b> Evaluating impact on learning	Establish a whole school approach to the generation, analysis and use of data for curriculum planning and to drive teaching and learning.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 1.b</b> Building practice excellence	Align evidence-based professional learning to build the capacity of all teachers to target learning at students' point of need.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 1.c</b> Building practice excellence	Establish structures and process to enhance Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).
<b>Goal 2</b>	Improve student engagement with learning.
<b>Target 2.1</b>	Achieve student opinion survey results for Student voice and agency, Effective teaching time, connectedness into the fourth quartile.
<b>Target 2.2</b>	Achieve the same or greater rates of student attendance Keep the percentage of students with 20 or more days absence under 20%. Maintain average absence days at under 16 days per year.

<b>Target 2.3</b>	Achieve Parent opinion survey measures of Stimulating learning environment, Effective teaching, High expectations for success, School connectedness at or above 90 per cent endorsement.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 2.a</b> Evidence-based high-impact teaching strategies	Establish and implement consistent use of the high impact teaching strategies by all teachers throughout the College.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 2.b</b> Empowering students and building school pride	Enhance opportunities for student voice and agency in their learning
<b>Goal 3</b>	Enhance student wellbeing to support student learning.
<b>Target 3.1</b>	Improve student attitudes to school survey results for teacher concern and resilience to be in the fourth quartile.
<b>Target 3.2</b>	Parent opinion achieve all factors in Safety domain and Student development domain to be at or above 90 per cent endorsement.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 3.a</b> Health and wellbeing	Establish, implement and continuously monitor a whole school approach to build student resilience.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 3.b</b> Empowering students and building school pride	Enhance opportunities for student leadership.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 3.c</b> Building practice excellence	Align evidence-based professional learning to build the capacity of the College community to support student wellbeing.