

PROSPECTUS

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

ST THOMAS AQUINAS PRIMARY HUNTLY



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*We acknowledge and pay respect to the original and ongoing custodians of the land upon which our offices are situated.
We commit to actively working alongside First Nations people for healing, reconciliation and justice.
May we all stand tall, stand firm, grounded in truth, together as one.*



KATE FOGARTY

A message from our Executive Director

As Executive Director, it is my privilege to invite you to consider the position of Principal within the Sandhurst Diocese.

This is more than a leadership opportunity, it is a vocation that asks you to lead with courage, serve with compassion and contribute to the growth of our Catholic school communities across Central and North East Victoria.

Catholic Education Sandhurst is built on a strong, spirit-filled culture that we actively celebrate and strengthen through our shared commitment to faith, learning and community.

Stretching from the alpine mountains to the river plains, you'll find a network of 51 schools in large regional centres like Bendigo, Shepparton, Wangaratta and Wodonga, and in smaller communities where welcome is second nature.

Our shared mission is simple and strong: *Every Student, Every Teacher, Every School, Every Day.*

At the heart of this mission is Magnify Sandhurst; our flagship learning and teaching strategy.

Through Magnify Sandhurst, we are transforming education in our schools by grounding our practice in the science of learning, strengthening behaviour and wellbeing frameworks, and investing in the professional growth of our educators. It is a bold and hopeful vision, ensuring that every child is supported to reach their potential.

We look forward to meeting a new leader who is ready to walk with us, teach with heart, lead with vision, and magnify the potential of every learner in our care.

Peace and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Fogarty'.

Kate Fogarty
Executive Director
Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd

Guiding Lights



At Catholic Education Sandhurst, our executive team is committed to bringing to life the organisation's strategic plan – the foundation for all we do in service of our Catholic schools and early learning centres across the Diocese.

Our Guiding Lights vision illuminates this work. It ensures we are focused on what matters most for our Catholic learning communities: nurturing every student, empowering every educator, and strengthening every school.

Our three Guiding Lights are:

AUTHENTICALLY SANDHURST CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Sandhurst Catholic Education is living the missionary call to respond to the needs of our young people and our world with an ongoing and Gospel infused synodal process of encounter, deep listening, discernment and courageous action. In doing so, we acknowledge that individually and collectively, we are being called by a Loving God into better versions of ourselves. We seek to live and work in synod, knowing that our journey is more life-giving as we encourage, challenge and hold each other to account for our mission that all may have 'life to the full' (John 10:10).

OUTSTANDING LEARNER GROWTH

The Magnify Sandhurst project officially rolled out in the beginning of 2025. Together, the 3000 adults of our enterprise will be focused to improve the learner growth of each and every child.

Each of us has much to contribute to ensure the success of this work, and by working in concert, with common goals, common programs and common language, we're building a new way of being Sandhurst, a new way of educating young people, and a new way of ensuring that in our schools, students are always at the very centre of all that we do.

SOLIDARITY AND SUBSIDIARITY

Catholic Education Sandhurst's commitment to the Common Good requires further consideration and action so that the integrity of our ecosystem of educational centres is developed and improved. In 2025, we will continue the work of ensuring that our resources are stewarded with diligence and care, utilizing the strength of the whole to support the needs of the individual.



Magnify Sandhurst

Catholic Education Sandhurst rolled out *Magnify Sandhurst*, an evidence-informed, science of learning school improvement initiative, to its 51 Catholic schools across the Sandhurst Diocese at the beginning of 2025.

Magnify Sandhurst focuses on how the brain learns, how literacy is effectively taught, uses a low variance, knowledge-rich curriculum and the creation of positive classrooms. Our practice is calm, predictable, and repeatable to maximise learning time in all classrooms.

Magnify Sandhurst is deliberately bold and wide-ranging, generating whole-of-system improvement.

We have partnered with world-class organisations including LME Global, Ochre Education, Knowledge Society, Steplab and MultiLit.

Magnify Sandhurst aims to enhance learning outcomes through several key components:

STRUCTURED AND EVIDENCE-BASED LEARNING

Using the latest neuroscience and a structured, knowledge-rich curriculum, we ensure students build deep understanding.

A low-variance curriculum provides students with a consistent learning experience and reduces the amount of preparation and planning required by teachers, allowing teachers to focus on individual student needs.

MAGNIFYING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Providing targeted support and resources to improve reading, writing, and math skills at all levels. Special focus on structured literacy in F-2 and sequential programs from Years 3-10.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING FOR TEACHERS

Each teacher receives a dedicated coach and program to learn and practice the best techniques to meet students' learning needs. We are investing in our teachers to provide the best possible learning outcomes for students in our Catholic schools.

CALM CLASSROOMS AND POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Promoting calm, supportive, and positive learning environments through common practices, expectations, and social norms, our work includes a new program for student social and behavioural learning. Our classrooms will have a consistent approach throughout each Sandhurst school to support all students to learn in a calm, orderly learning environment.



Huntly, Victoria

Live, work, explore

Located just 12 kilometres north-east of Bendigo, Huntly offers the best of both worlds – a peaceful, semi-rural lifestyle with the convenience of a major regional city close by.

Set along the Midland Highway and steeped in history, Huntly is a growing township with a strong sense of community and a welcoming local spirit.

With an estimated population of just under 4,000, Huntly is one of Bendigo's fastest-growing suburbs. Families are drawn to its friendly atmosphere, affordable housing and modern amenities.

The town features a local IGA, post office and bakery alongside practical services like a newsagent, kindergarten, Pilates studio, and memorial hall.

The opening of Huntly Train Station in 2022 has further enhanced connectivity, providing direct rail access via the Bendigo and Echuca Line. Regular bus services also link Huntly to Bendigo, making commuting simple and convenient.

Huntly offers a range of outdoor and recreational facilities including multiple sports fields and hard courts for netball and tennis while nature lovers can explore the nearby streamside reserve.

The community's ongoing growth makes it an ideal setting for a new Catholic school, and a place where children can thrive, families can belong, and leaders can make a meaningful difference.



St Thomas Aquinas Primary *at a glance*

St Thomas Aquinas Primary School is a new Catholic school currently under development in Huntly, a rapidly growing community in the City of Greater Bendigo.

Opening in January 2027, the school will offer a contemporary, inclusive and faith-centred education for students from Foundation to Year Six, grounded in the values of Catholic Education Sandhurst.

Located within minutes of Huntly's town centre and local amenities, the school will support the increasing number of families in the region seeking a high-quality Catholic education.

As the first new Catholic primary school in the Bendigo region in over two decades, St Thomas Aquinas will be a cornerstone of the Huntly community, shaped by strong Catholic identity, a commitment to student wellbeing, and a whole-system approach to teaching and learning through *Magnify Sandhurst*.

Plans for construction of the school is underway, with the founding Principal appointed in 2026 to lead the visioning, planning and establishment phase in preparation for the 2027 school year.



Lead with purpose

The founding Principal of St Thomas Aquinas Primary School will play a defining role in shaping a new Catholic school from the ground up – creating a lasting legacy in one of Victoria’s fastest-growing regions.

Opening in January 2027, the school will serve the thriving Huntly community on the northern edge of Bendigo, where young families are seeking a values-driven, future-focused education.

As Principal, you will lead the visioning, planning and establishment of the school’s culture, facilities and programs in partnership with Catholic Education Sandhurst, parish and local stakeholders.

This is a rare opportunity for an experienced leader to bring to life a new school community where faith is lived, learning is inspired, and every child is known and supported from day one.

Key highlights of the role:

- Build and lead a new Catholic primary school from foundation to future.
- Shape a culture of welcome, learning and belonging in a growing community.
- Design contemporary learning spaces and lead staff recruitment and development.
- Work alongside a dedicated staff and supportive families.
- Be part of a system-wide educational transformation through *Magnify Sandhurst*.

APPLY

All enquiries and applications will be kept strictly confidential.

Applications close on Monday 4 August 2025. Please ensure your application includes a cover letter, resume and a document addressing the key responsibilities within the position description.

For more details and to view the position description, visit www.ceosand.catholic.edu.au/principal-roles

APPLICATIONS CLOSE MONDAY 4 AUGUST 2025