

The strategic plan to

# SUSTAINABILITY

St. George's School's

to adapt, grow & thrive



## Since 1930

From day one, St. George's School has remained steadfastly grounded in our founding ideas and ideals: putting students at the centre of every decision, delivering the most engaging and thoughtfully crafted curriculum possible, ensuring that we graduate young people who are as well-prepared as they are well-rounded. Those things will never change.

The world around us is changing faster than at any period of human history. So how will we ensure that St. George's remains relevant, vibrant, and healthy—the very best version of ourselves, helping our students grow into the very best versions of themselves—now and long into the future?

This strategic plan represents our timely response to that timeless question. St. George's School exists because we believe deeply in kids—their ideas, their hopes, their questions, and their possibilities. This plan exists because we believe our kids deserve an education as amazing as they are.

More online at [strategicplan.wpedudev.com](http://strategicplan.wpedudev.com)

## LEARNING

Certain qualities have always defined a St. George's education: a profound respect for the individual learner, an approach designed to meet each student where he or she is at, learning scenarios that are personally meaningful and engaging, a curriculum that encourages wide exploration and deep investigation, and a commitment to educating the complete person, not just the academic mind.

More recently, St. George's has focused on developing expertise in modern best practices, such as responsive teaching, concept-based curriculum design, ongoing faculty development through Professional Learning Communities, student-to-student discussion, and the use of visible learning.

St. George's is not content to sit still, though. The strategic plan ensures that our school will not simply maintain our exceptional educational program, but will invest significant resources in continuing to pioneer and model the most innovative teaching practices.

While the topics, technology, and instructional methodologies have evolved through the years, St. George's has always offered a learning experience that emphasizes what we see as the essentials of a complete education: deep understanding, broad experience, full character development, and formation of individual perspective and creative self-expression. Through this strategic plan, we will increase our focus on developing our students to their fullest potential.

## CULTURE

The majority of this plan's culture-sustaining strategies are centered around themes that we intend to live out school-wide (which should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with our interconnected, interdependent "extended family!").

Over the next five to ten years, St. George's commits to developing a shared appreciation of, and school-wide emphasis on the following priorities:

- Wellness, well-being, and living a balanced life
- Environmental and financial sustainability
- Collaboration and appreciation for the synergistic effects of teamwork
- Societal engagement and a focus on giving back
- Engaging every member of the St. George's community in meaningful, future-shaping ways
- Deepening our culture of mutual trust and respect, openness, belonging, authenticity, appreciation of individual difference, and joy
- Acknowledging, celebrating, and communicating successes

The above priorities will live out in some audience-specific new initiatives (such as strengthening elementary homeroom and high school advisory programming). But in practice, we intend these ideas and ideals to become so fully baked into our culture that they'll feel more like "the way we do things around here" than distinct new programs.

## SPACE

St. George's flexible, dynamic, innovative, and inspiring teachers and curriculum demand learning environments that are equally flexible, dynamic, innovative, and inspiring. We have already launched the initial stages of a holistic, school-wide effort to better align our facilities with our educational philosophy and strategic vision. Some notable accomplishments from the past several years include:

- Classrooms
- Gathering area
- Outdoor learning spaces
- Athletic field
- Flex space
- Fitness centre
- Technology

The planned redesign of our school buildings, classrooms, and outdoor spaces will make optimal use of our space while creatively encompassing the myriad design requirements school leaders have identified as imperative.

To fully support this plan's strategic priorities, all new and redesigned spaces must support established practice for innovative teaching and embody sustainable design so as to foster student well-being and a healthy connection to the environment. These spaces must be adaptable and re-configurable to accommodate various programs and projects types, flexible pace and schedules, and be aligned with St. George's interdisciplinary curriculum and strategic vision.

## RESOURCES

Realizing our bold vision for St. George's requires that we steward and align our precious resources with our shared priorities around learning, culture, and space.

### Human resources

The essential St. George's experience is defined by the relationships between teachers and learners. This school will always prioritize investing in the people who create those human connections.

### Physical resources

Nobody would ever describe St. George's School as a place where things matter more than people. That said, the constant assessment, maintenance, and further development of our physical resources is of paramount importance to our school and to this plan.

### Natural resources

St. George's stands firm in our commitment to preserving our natural environment because it's the right thing to do as members of the global community, as citizen leaders in Montreal, and as role models for our students.

### Financial resources

In many respects, St. George's School is stronger than ever today. Our current financial resources, however, need to continue to be strategically monitored and developed to ensure that we can sustain and grow the quality of our educational experience for future generations.