Southern Cross Program
Achieving More with Less in your School

Key Points
The Southern Cross Program helps empower staff to introduce change at their school through providing them with tools to assist them to:
■ Maximise limited resources
■ Improve productivity
■ Define and clarify the problem
■ Engage with stakeholders.
The aim of this program is to improve efficiency and effectiveness at schools.

Southern Cross Program
Are you facing the challenge of trying to do more with less, or want to introduce change but are facing resistance? Have you tried to put in school processes that don’t seem to work? The Southern Cross Program can help you to empower your staff to introduce changes at your school and achieve more with less.
The program focuses on Process and Performance Management to align a school’s vision with operations to improve efficiency, effectiveness and student achievement. The Southern Cross program is practical – these principles have been applied by other sectors and have been introduced to schools in Australia to assist to:
■ improve productivity
■ maximise limited resources
■ engage with local communities
■ ensure smooth implementation of initiatives.
The program has been successful for over four years, in more than 250 school districts in 41 states in American schools. Independent Schools Victoria has engaged the American Productivity and Quality Center (APQC) to introduce the program to Australia to support education.
The Southern Cross Program can help schools enhance the quality of educational outcomes by empowering schools to improve efficiencies and effectiveness by redesigning inefficient processes, eliminating waste and using cross-functional process methodologies to break down functional silos.

The Southern Cross program can help schools to:
- manage continuous improvement
- empower staff to instigate change
- equip Member Schools to be globally competitive
- demonstrate that Member Schools are prudent with government funding
- improve student results and achievements.

Over 40 Victorian Independent schools have been involved in the Southern Cross Program so far with very positive results.

The training was a valuable experience, equipping us with principles and skills that we can apply to other projects for successful outcomes and effective utilisation of funding and resources.

– Avril Howard, Assistant Principal
Lighthouse Christian College

The training provided by Carolyn and Evans (Southern Cross Project trainers) has enabled our project team to apply a disciplined, structured and coordinated approach to dealing with all stakeholders involved with the project. Initial results are having a major impact on the secondary division of the College.

– Father Tadros Sharobeam,
College Director / Principal
St Mary’s Coptic Orthodox College

The Program

The Southern Cross Program has four phases:

Phase 1: Project Selection
Identify the project, scope & team selection

Phase 2: Professional Learning/Training
Preparatory reading material followed by four days of workshop-based training

Phase 3: Coaching & Mentoring
Coaching the team for 6 months to assist with implementing solutions and plans

Phase 4: Wrap-up
A one on one meeting with Facilitator to wrap up projects and highlight progress and results

For More Information
For more information on the Southern Cross Program and how it can help you to improve efficiency and effectiveness at your school, please contact:
Peter Roberts
Director, School Services
Independent Schools Victoria
T 03 9825 7211
E peter.roberts@independentschools.vic.edu.au

www.independentschools.vic.edu.au

It was helpful to have such breadth of project management tools and strategies made available.
– Lorraine Hook, Principal
Bayside Christian College

APQC Education
Independent Schools Victoria has engaged the American Productivity and Quality Center (APQC) to empower Australian schools to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. APQC is a non-profit organisation based in Houston, Texas. APQC has been working with leading organisations to assess and improve their performance for over 30 years. The APQC Education program is named the ‘North Star’ as it represents a guiding star in the United States of America. In Australia, the Southern Cross is the best known and brightest star group, so Independent Schools Victoria has adopted this name.