

Woven Strong

Our 2027 Strategy



mits

Confident Learners.
Proud Communities.
Strong Futures.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Every weaving begins with a gathering of the strands: the colours, the textures and strength of the fibres determining the beauty and utility of the product. And so it was also for MITS:

- The voices of young people in remote Australia who dreamed of schooling in Melbourne
- The clear desire and aspiration of their parents and community Elders seeking a “good education” for their children in Melbourne; their hope that the talents and cultural strengths of their young people might be celebrated and nurtured in a safe home as they explore the world beyond their community, and
- The response of a remarkable community of supporters, who heard their voices and enabled MITS.

These are the gathered strands that ten years ago formed the “core bundle” of MITS, the foundation upon which all our growth and development has been built.

And they are the same fibres that have guided every step in our growth over the past ten years. As our students weave their own stories in Melbourne, MITS too, with your support, has been weaving its story.

From a single boarding house with 22 students attending our Year 7 school in 2016, we are now an organisation with 4 boarding houses, our own school building, family accommodation, a Year 7 and 8 school program, 80 employees and almost 90 students living and learning with us every day on Richmond Hill.

MITS, in partnership with you and our generous Melbourne community, is providing students with choice and self-determination. You are part of our weave and of every MITS student’s weaving. Your support has allowed MITS not only to exist and grow, but to continue to learn, improve and respond to our students’ needs.

Demand for positions at MITS has never been higher. Currently, we can accept only one in every five students who applies for a Year 7 position. So, as we launch our 2027 Strategy, we are committing to grow our Year 7 intake from 22 to 30 students, ultimately resulting in a 50% increase in MITS students from Year 7 to 12.

To enable this growth, we must expand our boarding houses, requiring capital investment of up to \$19 million. Additionally, we forecast that to run an expanded operation, we must raise an additional \$250,000 each year.

Raising these funds, and implementing our strategic growth plans, is an enormous task. But we must face into that challenge, and meet it, to ensure that more students – and more families – can benefit from what MITS offers.

We are immensely grateful for the support that has brought us to this point, and we invite you to walk with us as we weave together the next strands of MITS.

Elizabeth Tudor AM
Chair

VALUES



Respect



Courage



Culture



Care



OUR GUIDING BELIEFS



Students' families play a vital role in every step of their children's journey in Melbourne.

Our base in Richmond provides community and belonging and is key to the opportunities MITS provides for its students.

Maintaining a strong connection to Country, and a sense of cultural strength in Melbourne, are vital to MITS students' wellbeing.

Students' wellbeing should inform every decision made at MITS.

MITS students living and learning together in our boarding houses leads to the best student outcomes.

All members of the MITS community, including students, should aspire to excellence and have high expectations of themselves and of each other.

The MITS model leads students towards transitioning to Pathways Schools as gateways to broad academic and extra-curricular opportunities and the formation of beneficial social connections.

Every student has a unique version of success. It is MITS's job to enable that success.

OUR NEXT 5 YEARS

Woven Strong

OUR PURPOSE

Confident Learners. Proud Communities.
Strong Futures.

OUR STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS



Gathering the Strands

Years 7–8

More MITS Students

Increase Year 7 student enrolment to 30 students each year (18 girls and 12 fellas)

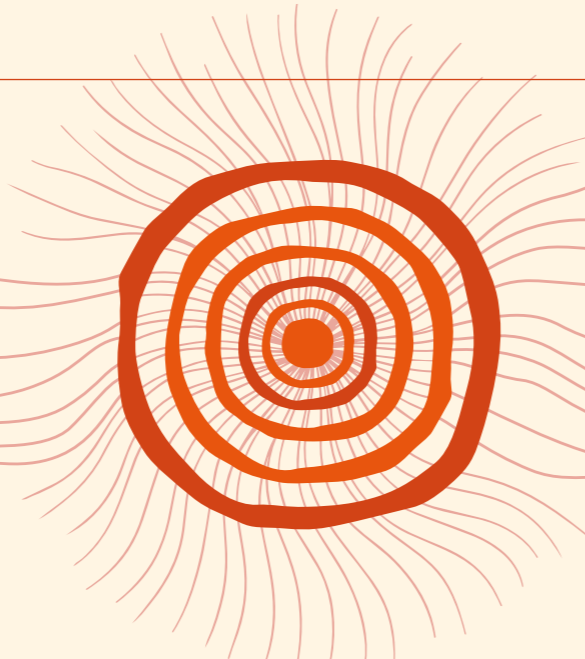
Fill Year 7–12 beds that become available

Work with partners to deliver educational and leadership holiday programs using MITS facilities

Broaden and Enhance Living and Learning Programs

Broaden our education program to incorporate greater visual and performing arts, science, design and technology, cooking, physical education

Identify and acquire physical recreational space on or near Richmond Hill



Finding the Pattern

Years 9–12

Enable Our Students to Meet their Aspirations

Better support MITS students to successfully transition at Year 9 into the next stage of their education

Work with Pathways Schools to ensure supportive, culturally strong, engaging and welcoming environments for senior MITS students

Establish clear pathways to employment or tertiary education, starting in Year 10 – structured and fully documented process, including mapping employment opportunities in our students' communities

Woven for Purpose

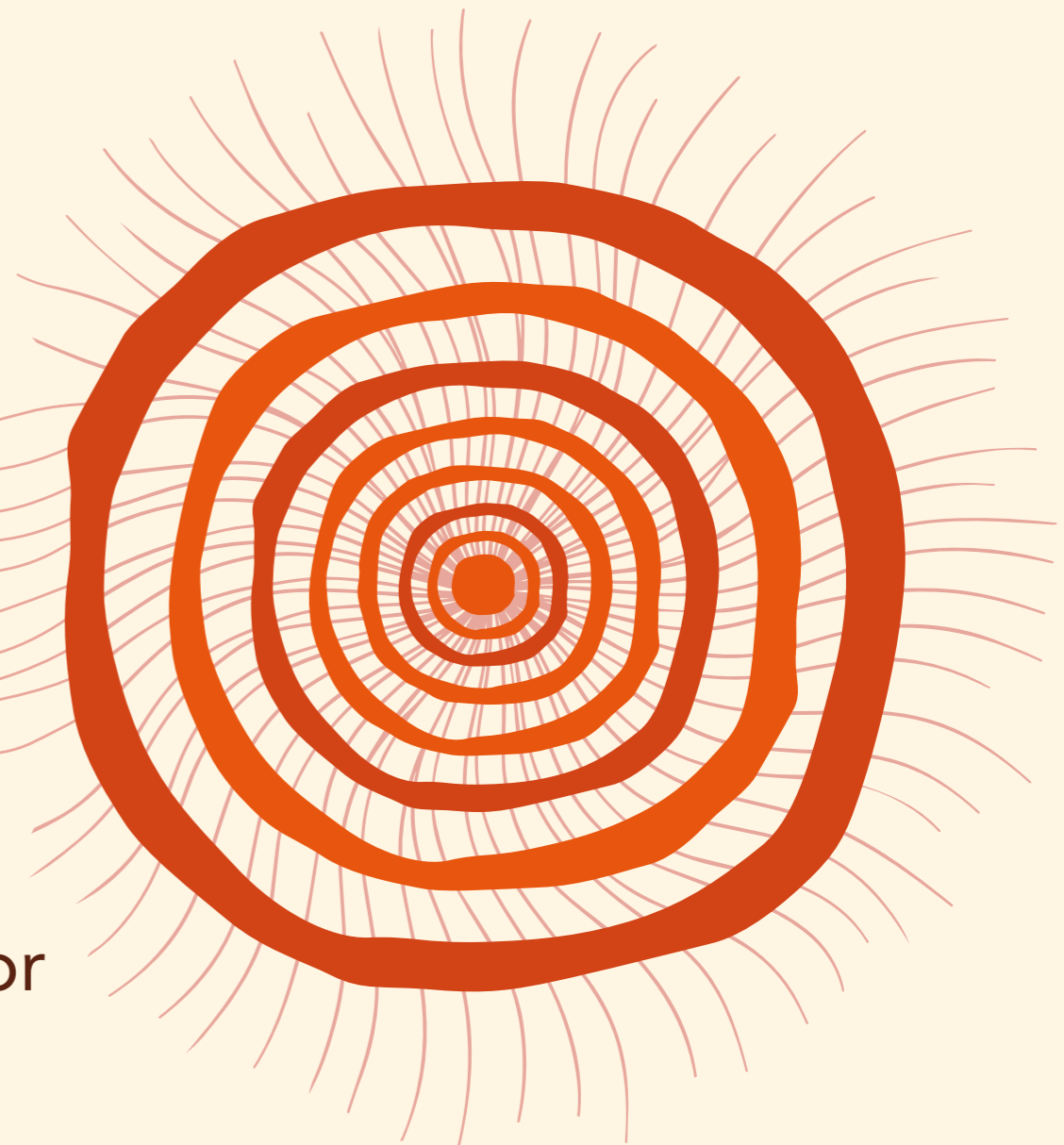
Alumni

Confident Alumni Ready for The Big Dance

Partner with accommodation providers for MITS school leavers

Partner with vocational employment providers in Melbourne and Darwin to provide supported vocational options

Explore the development of a formal alumni community/program



ENABLERS Ensuring a Sustainable MITS into the Future

Develop a strategy and series of actions to allow MITS to positively contribute to the key objectives of Treaty for Victoria

Continuously improve and enhance MITS's recruitment, retention and commitment to the professional development of MITS's employees, in particular First Nations employees

Continuously improve and enhance MITS's long term financial sustainability and resilience

Ensure that MITS's boarding and teaching programs are sector leading

MASTER PLAN



CHURCH ST WEST
 Junior (Year 7-8) Precinct
 Year 7 & 8 fellas at Poorneet (16 The Vaocluse) and Year 7 & 8 girls at Garrawang (364 Church St). They will be in close proximity to learning spaces at Richmond Football Club and Buarth Gurru

CHURCH ST EAST
 Senior (Year 9-12) Precinct
 Senior girls at Biderap (371 Church St) and senior fellas at Guling (283 Church St). Tram stops are in front of both locations, well suited to senior students commuting to Pathways Schools

A
GARRAWANG BOARDING HOUSE
 364 CHURCH STREET
 Demolish former function room at rear of property. Expand to provide accommodation for 36 MITS students and two staff members, with associated dining and recreation spaces

B
GULING BOARDING HOUSE
 283 CHURCH STREET
 Remove two general learning teaching spaces to provide accommodation for 36 MITS students and two staff members, with associated dining, recreation and outdoor play spaces

C
BUARTH GURRU LEARNING SPACES
 139 RICHMOND TERRACE
 Remove accommodation for 18 students and one staff member, and introduce specialist education spaces for design tech, food tech, music, drama and media, for curricula and co-curricula programmes (Subject to demand for student spaces)

D
POORNEET BOARDING HOUSE
 16 THE VAOCLOSE

E
WARING FAMILY ACCOMMODATION

F
BIDERAP SENIOR GIRLS BOARDING HOUSE
 371 CHURCH STREET



OUR WEAVING

2029

GULING BOARDING HOUSE OPENS, PROVIDING 36 NEW BEDS

2031

MIT'S PROVIDES 50% MORE POSITIONS THAN IN 2026, GROWING OUR CONNECTED COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE FOR OVER 150 STUDENTS

2028

GARRAWANG BOARDING HOUSE GROWS FROM 20 TO 36 BEDS. MIT'S INCREASES YEAR 7 INTAKE FROM 22 TO 30 STUDENTS

2025

MIT'S ACQUIRES GULING SCHOOL BUILDING, AND PROVIDES SCHOOLING ACROSS YEAR 7 AND 8 FOR 46 STUDENTS, BOARDING ACROSS FOUR BOARDING HOUSES FOR 87 STUDENTS

2027

NEW CLASSROOMS IN RICHMOND FOOTBALL CLUB'S WILLIAM COOPER CENTRE OPEN

2023

MIT'S EXPANDS TO YEAR 8 SCHOOLING AND OPENS BIDERAP SENIOR BOARDING HOUSE

2016

MIT'S OPENS TO ITS FIRST 22 STUDENTS

2020

MIT'S OPENS FIRST SENIOR BOARDING HOUSE - BUARTH GURRU - FOLLOWED BY GARRAWANG IN 2022

OUR NEEDS

Forecast Capital Expenses

Garrawang

Boarding House – 364 Church Street, Richmond

\$6.0m

IMPACT

Increase boarding from 20 to 36 students, allowing MIT'S to grow Year 7 enrolment from 22 to 30 students per year

Guling

Boarding House – 283 Church Street, Richmond

\$9.1m

IMPACT

Create up to 36 new beds for Year 9 to 12 fellas, providing up to 154 beds across Richmond Hill

Buarth Gurru

Boarding & Learning Spaces – 139 Richmond Terrace, Richmond

\$3.7m

IMPACT

Provide rich learning spaces across hands-on making, hospitality, music, art, human movement and broadcasting

Forecast Operational Expenses

Eight more students in Year 7

to be funded by additional donations

\$250k

IMPACT

MIT'S enrolls more students each year, providing greater opportunity to more students, families and communities

As a MITS supporter, you are a valued advocate for MITS in our Melbourne community. Please take this document and share it with a friend who may be interested to learn more about MITS.



SUPPORT US



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