

**PULTENEY**

**175**

**WHERE PASSIONS PROSPER**

**1847 – 2022**



# The Story of Pulteney

*Ngadlu Kurna miyurna tampinhi, Parnaku tapa purruna kuma,  
Ngadlu purrutyi kumangka padnitya.*

Independent education in Australia has its origins with colonial settlement and flourished throughout Adelaide prior to universal education in 1875. While most independent schools originated through endowment by a church body or the philanthropic ideals of a wealthy benefactor, the story of Pulteney Grammar School is quite different.

The School was founded in 1847 to 'offer the elements of a plain, useful education to all such

that are placed in circumstances that render economy indispensable'. The school was founded for the mercantile and working classes. This ideal was reflected in the School's name. Where many schools have sought to take names in deference to the feats of saints or in ode to the stature of monarchs, the Pulteney Street School drew its name from its modest location and was named in honour of the work and toil of a person: Sir Admiral Pulteney Malcolm.



*The South Australian* in December 1848 reported on the fledgling school's inaugural Speech Day: 'at 10 o'clock, the procession left the school led by banners on two poles. The first was blue and had the words "Pulteney Street Schools" and was followed by 180 boys walking in pairs. The second white banner was followed by 80 girls.' The school was co-educational from its commencement and in fact it was reported that in 1851, twelve full scholarships – six to boys and six to girls – were granted to 'children whose parents could not afford the fees'; egalitarian and philanthropic from the outset.

Pulteney has moved site on two occasions since its foundation, laying its current roots on South Terrace in 1921. Since then the School has grown by acquisition and amalgamation of adjacent properties rather than endowment and expansion. The School is a microcosm of the city in which it resides, an expression of

sustainable, urban renewal with a combination of colonial Victorian era grandeur, the scholastic gothic, a converted warehouse, an old pub, a mechanic's institute, a long forged partnership with the city of Adelaide and our beloved parklands, and contemporary purpose-designed educational buildings. All the while aware and respectful that we gather daily on Kurna land.

The School's birth was humble but purposeful. Pulteney's origins lie not in the desire to perpetuate privilege but to build and contribute to the growth of society; it is a story of inclusion rather than exclusion. It is an origin of altruism and opportunity; of pragmatic and egalitarian ideals. It is an origin that past Headmaster Rev Alexander Kerr captured in 1898 when he granted the School its emblem and its motto: *O prosper thou our handiwork.*



## Mission

To provide a meaningful and useful educational experience for each and every student that enables them to be their best self.

## Vision

To prosper.

# Strategic Intent

The strategic intention of Pulteney Grammar School is:

To provide a personalised educational experience defined by authentic relationships. This will be achieved through shared systems of teaching and learning that empower students to prosper.





# *The Pulteney DNA* Our lived values

Guiding our strategic direction is a unified sense of purpose and ambition crafted through our history. Pulteney's DNA captures its lived values: the aspects of culture that define the current School and which resonate as aspirations for the future. The DNA influences and informs our decision making and our actions; it establishes that to which the School holds fast.

## Authentic

Honesty,  
truth,  
integrity.

## Purposeful

Intentional,  
resolute and  
reflective.

## Personalised

Curated and  
distinctive  
experiences.

## Boundless

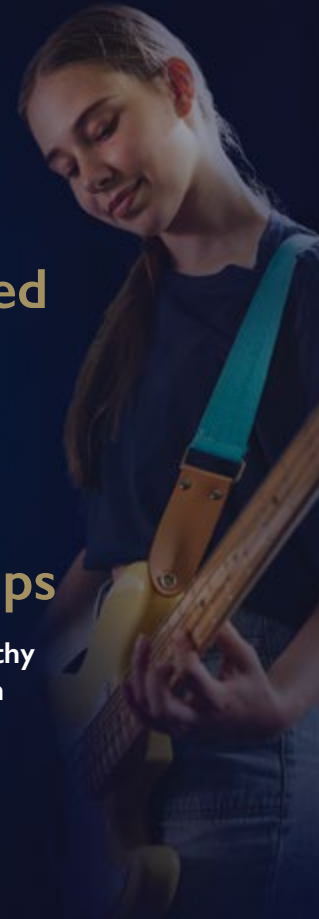
Limitless opportunities  
sought through  
passionate thought  
and deed.

## Enduring

Legacy etched through  
a community's  
tradition, innovation,  
service and faith.

## Relationships

Respect and empathy  
fostered through  
collaboration  
and care.



*At Pulteney, we have and always will  
prosper by our handiwork.*

**Pulteney Grammar School**

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