



Coast

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Foundation for Life

www.coastcs.nsw.edu.au
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Welcome to Coast Christian School

Values – Who We Are...

Growth: Learning, Strength and Courage

Gratitude: Grateful, Happy and Satisfied

Genuineness: Truthful, Real and Humble

Generosity: Giving, Sharing and Helping

Genuineness: Truthful, Real and Humble



Mission What We Do...

Creating an Environment of
Discovery where God,
People and purpose
Connect.



A. Messages from Key School Bodies

Board Chair Report

The Board of Coast Christian School celebrate and acknowledge God's goodness in so many ways for 2023.

As a ministry of Coast Community Church, we are grateful for the oversight provided by the church, under new Senior Leader, Renier Van der Klashorst and the Elders. We join with them in pursuing a Vision of seeing "Coast Community, Healthy, Growing, Full of Love". We celebrate the lives of every child and family represented in our school, but particularly celebrate the baptisms of children in our school this year as an expression of their choice to follow Jesus. Our prayer is that everyone in our community would be encouraged in the ways of Jesus and the life He gives.

The school has continued to grow steadily in 2023, in terms of enrolment numbers, staff numbers and new classrooms. Our new classrooms were recently opened by local member Dr Gordon Reid. The Board is committed to seeing sustainable growth that supports our school vision of providing a 'Foundation for Life' for our students.

It is a privilege to step onto a passionate and gifted Board who faithfully serve our school community. We are particularly appreciative of the services of Andrew McInnes who steps off the Board after 6 years of service, Tamsin Spence who resigns after 4 years of service to accept a teacher's aide role in the school, and to Cass Pendlebury for her service as Board Chair – and who continues to serve as a Board member.

On behalf of the Board, our sincere appreciation and gratitude is offered to our Principal/CEO, Matthew Drennan, whose vision for Christian education and the discipleship of children drives his commitment and dedication to his role. Similarly, we acknowledge our staff members – it is their personal faith and commitment to leading our children that distinguishes Coast from other non-faith schools and provides the nurturing environment in which our children thrive.

We are excited to embark on 2024 and continue to seek God for His continued leadership and direction for Coast into the future and we invite you to pray alongside us for this important mission and ministry.

Tim Cornish
Board Chair



From the Principal

I am pleased to report another very positive year at Coast Christian School with further significant growth for the School over the last 12 months. For the third year in a row, we provided two kindergarten classes, as well as two full Preparatory classes (a 2-day and 3-day class) consisting of 40 students in total. Overall, the School now has more than 200 students in K-6, a record number since its inception.

The School's Naplan results were again excellent, demonstrating our strong commitment to quality teaching and learning on a daily basis. Families from the local community are continuing to respond to the School's fine reputation and enquiries about enrolment are consistent.

Our staffing cohort is steadily growing to resource the School appropriately, especially given the increase in enrolments. We identified the need for a Deputy Principal and Mrs Kristy Sammut was appointed after four years of already undertaking many of the key requirements of the role.

At the beginning of this year, we were pleased to finally open our new classrooms and covered walkways after the completion of our construction project. This was the culmination of three years of planning, preparation and problem-solving. We express our gratitude to North Construction for their support and co-operation as they worked with us to meet our design requirements cost-effectively notwithstanding the particularly challenging conditions for the construction industry post-COVID-19.

From a missional perspective, increased engagement in chapel has been noticeable as the students have responded to the messages presented, memorized scripture and worshipped enthusiastically as they are led by Mrs McInnes and her team. As a consequence, more children have been baptized as they respond to God's call on their lives. Our Christmas, Easter and two combined School/Church services were attended by very large numbers of School families hearing the good news of the gospel.

As a further positive sign, the School faces some opportunities for additional growth into the future and our School Board is currently considering the feasibility of a High School campus on site. Additionally, we are hopeful that Central Coast Preschools will open its Bensville campus which will assist parents with options for before and after School care.

As a mission of Coast Community Church, we are thankful for their ongoing support and encouragement as we continue our daily effects to provide a Foundation for Life for each of our students, while also seeking to demonstrate the love of Jesus to their families and those in our wider community.

Matthew Drennan
Principal



B. Contextual Information about the School & Characteristics of the Student Body

Coast Christian School is an active Christian community in which parents, staff and students work in partnership to build a Foundation for Life for our children. Situated in Bensville NSW, Coast has been serving the Central Coast region since 2000. It is a multi-denominational Prep-6 co-ed primary school in which we work together to create an environment of discovery where God, people and purpose connect. Our School values are Grace; Growth; Gratitude; Generosity and Genuineness. We strive to demonstrate these values in every aspect of the daily life of the school. As well as our Christian faith which is of central and foundational importance, the school places a very high value on provision of a safe and happy environment for every child, development of our community where all families are welcomed and known, maintaining open and clear communication channels with parents. Requires high standards of behaviour, respect and manners from all children and a focus on quality teaching and learning.

The school provides a number of extra-curricular activities including sport, where various opportunities are available to represent through to a national level, as well as the arts including a partnership with the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music.

Coast Christian School (a member of CSA) had an enrolment of 161 students (August 2022 Census data) from Kindergarten through to Year 6. This included 92 boys and 69 girls. The school also runs a Preparatory class.

Many of our student body are of Anglo-Saxon descent, as is the case for much of the Central Coast. However, we are enrolling an increasing number of boys and girls from Asia, the United Kingdom and South America. Many students live in Bensville, Empire Bay and Kincumber while others travel from as far south as Umina and as far north as Blue Bay.



C. Student outcomes in standardised National Literacy & Numeracy testing

National Assessment Program Literacy And Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Further analysis of NAPLAN results can be found by looking at the Coast Christian School page on the Myschool website (www.myschool.com.au)

Table 1: NAPLAN Results by Average Score: Comparisons against Similar Schools (SIM) and All Australian Schools (ALL)

Student Cohort	CCS 2023 NAPLAN Tests and Student Results									
	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar and Punctuation		Numeracy	
CCS Year 3	466		460		445		467		468	
	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL
	432	405	436	416	426	404	438	411	434	407
CCS Year 5	565		529		540		581		574	
	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL
	544	496	515	483	525	489	547	497	537	488

Tables 2A and 2B: Coast Christian School 2023 NAPLAN Results by ACARA interpretation:

Table 2A: Comparison to Students with a Similar Background

Test	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar and Punctuation	Numeracy
CCS					
Year 3	466	460	445	467	468
Year 5	565	529	540	581	574

Table 2B: Comparison to All Australian Students

Test	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar and Punctuation	Numeracy
CCS					
Year 3	466	460	445	467	468
Year 5	565	529	540	581	574

Interpreting Tables 2A & 2B	
CCS average when compared to students as per Table 2A and 2B.	
	Well above
	Above
	Close to
	Below
	Well below
	No comparison available

D. Teacher Qualifications & Professional Learning

Coast Christian School employs teaching staff who are committed Christians and accept the School's Statement of doctrine and Beliefs. All staff teach from a Christian World View across the curriculum.

Each of the teaching staff at Coast Christian School has teacher qualifications from a Higher Education Institution within Australia, as well as formal teacher education qualifications. There are NO teachers employed lacking formal teacher education qualifications. All teachers maintain proficient Teacher or higher levels of Teacher Accreditation with NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)

E. Workforce Composition

In 2023 the school employed a total of 25 full-time and part-time teaching staff including a Principal, Teaching & Learning Leader and two separate RFF Music & sports teachers. Twenty-two were female and 3 were male. There were no indigenous staff members.

School Staff 2023

Teaching Staff	25
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	10
Non-teaching staff	15
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	1

F. Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for the school in 2023 was 86% The average student attendance rates for each year level in 2023 were:



Management of Student Non-Attendance

Coast Christian School is committed to ensuring every child has the opportunity to learn. In partnership with our parent community, it is our expectation that students attend school and participate in learning and activities that support their growth and development.

The following procedures are used to manage student non-attendance:

- Class rolls are taken at the commencement of every day.
- Parents must notify the school by phone or email if their child is absent from school.
- If the school has not been notified of a child's absence the school office sends a text message to the parent/carer advising of the absence and requesting an explanation.
- A note of explanation is to be given to the school upon return from absence.
- Unexplained absences are followed up by the school office staff.
- Parents may be called to meet with the Principal to discuss ongoing concerns because of habitual student absences.

If student non-attendance concerns are identified, the Principal will consider a range of strategies, including:

- determining whether concerns about poor school attendance raise safety, welfare or wellbeing concerns requiring a report to Community Services
- ensuring that identified students are connected with student welfare programs that support regular attendance and punctuality
- reviewing curriculum content to maximise student engagement
- initiating the prompt follow-up of absences
- liaising with parents
- referring to the school's learning support team or student welfare team
- referring to external counselling services
- seeking the support of a range of regional student services personnel and passing on relevant information related to reports to Community Services or Home School Liaison Program
- liaising (which can include exchanging information and/or coordinating services) with NSW Police Force, Department of Health, Department of Human Services NSW (including Community Services, Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Housing NSW and Juvenile Justice) and other relevant community agencies where appropriate.



G. Policy

Child Safe Policy -

[Child Safe Policy](#)

Anti-Bullying & Cyber Policy -

[Anti-Bullying & Cyber-Bullying Policy \(coastcs.nsw.edu.au\)](https://coastcs.nsw.edu.au)

Student Discipline & & Behaviour Management Policy -

[Student-Discipline-and-Behaviour-Management-Policy.pdf \(coastcs.nsw.edu.au\)](#)

Complaints Handling Policy-

[Complaints and Grievances Policy](#)

Enrolment Policy -

[Enrolment-Policy.pdf \(coastcs.nsw.edu.au\)](#)

H. Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

The School models and teaches students about respect and responsibility in a number of ways:

School values:

The Values of Grace; Growth; Gratitude; Genuineness and Generosity are modelled and taught in our School.

VALUES awards are presented to staff and students at weekly Chapel services.

School rules:

The principles of WORK HARD; BE KIND; SHOW RESPECT are modelled, taught and encouraged at our School through regular awards at Assemblies and events.

Student leaders:

Year 6 students receive training from their teacher and Principal to support them to perform Student Leader duties appropriately and in accordance with the values of Respect and Responsibility. They participate in a service to school program, designed to develop their understanding of and capacity for servant leadership.

Staff training and Staff devotions:

Staff participate in regular PD sessions to deepen their understanding of Respect and Responsibility within the school and wider community context. Daily staff devotions promote these same values as a normal demonstration of our Christian living.

Anti-Bullying and Cyber Bullying:

Our students participate in Anti-Bullying and Personal Development lessons in the first term of each year to promote the values of Respect and Responsibility. Our staff and students participate annually in the National Day of Action against Bullying (NDA) and are encouraged to Be a Buddy; Not a Bully. The school has adopted the Peacewise program which is implemented across all classes.

Buddy program:

Each Stage 3 student is paired with a Kindergarten student in a buddy program. This buddy program is designed to support the Kindergarten students in their transition to school. This buddy partnership is commenced at Kindergarten Orientation Day and continues throughout the year. Similarly, each Stage 2 student supports the transition of Preparatory students during orientation and throughout the year. This program is designed to encourage older students to help and support younger students.

Respect for family:

Annual events to promote respect within our families are held. Mothers' Day lunches, Fathers' Day breakfasts and Grandparents' Day events are powerful and positive occasions within which our students can both give and receive respect and display responsibility.





I. Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

During 2023 parents, staff and our Stage 2 & 3 students participated in a comprehensive survey. The following excerpts from each survey represented a high level of satisfaction in the School.

The School also continues to offer "Exit Interviews" to families and staff who leave the School. These are conducted in person, with an option to complete an exit form.

Staff Survey: The following responses scored the highest rating average for satisfaction:

- The School is characterised by its hard-working and committed staff
- I feel pleased to be a member of staff
- I would recommend friends and acquaintances send their sons/daughters to the School

Student Survey: The following responses scored the highest rating average for satisfaction:

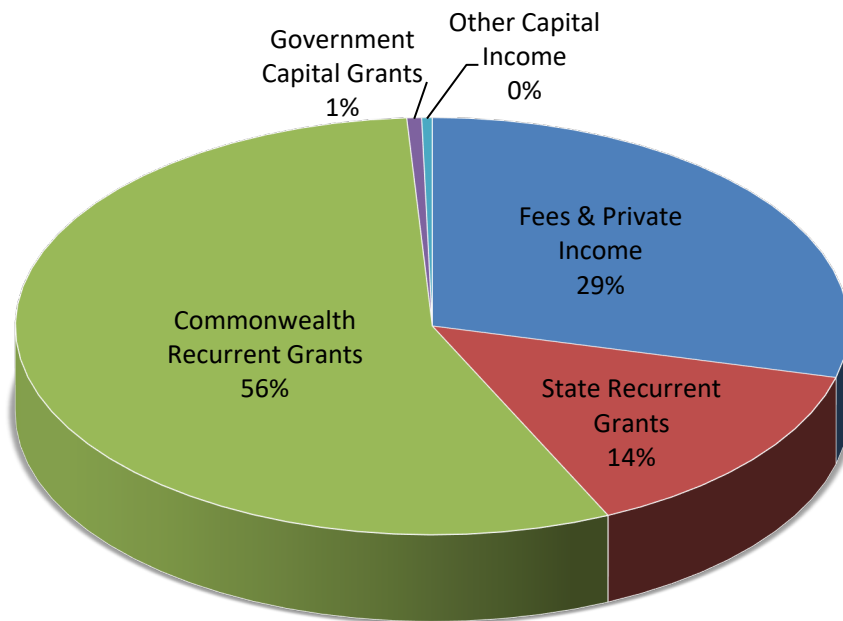
- My teacher listens to me
- My teacher expects me to work hard
- I have good friends at school

Parent Survey: The following responses scored the highest rating average for satisfaction:

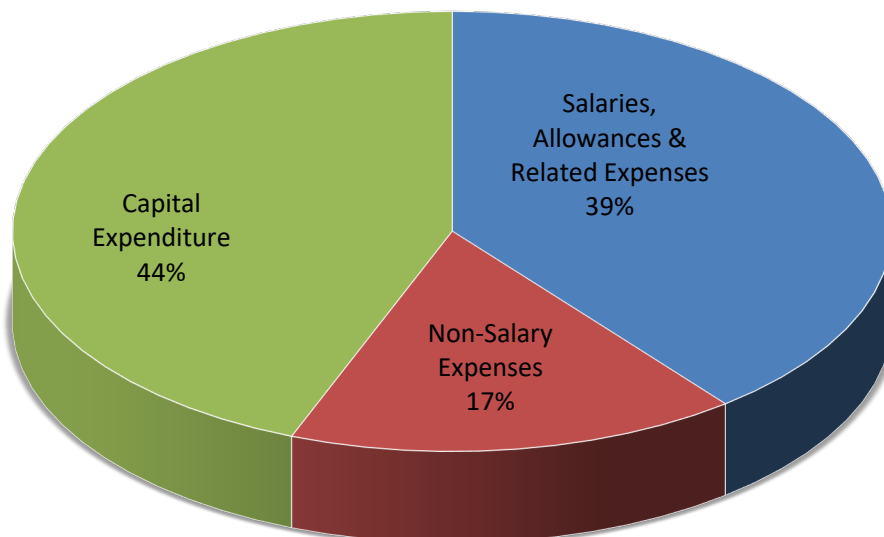
- Coast is a good school
- My child is getting a good education at Coast
- I would recommend Coast to others

K. Summary of Financial Information

Recurrent / Capital Income - 2023



Recurrent / Capital Expenditure - 2023





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