



2025 Annual Report



Foundation for Life!

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CONTEXT

A. Messages from Key School Bodies

From the Chair of the School Board

The Board of Coast Christian School acknowledge God's grace and goodness in so many ways throughout 2025 as we bring our board report.

As a ministry of Coast Community Church, we are excited by the many ministry opportunities that God has placed and continues to place before us.

We celebrate the lives of every child and family represented in our school and particularly celebrate the baptisms of children in our school this year as an expression of their choice to follow Jesus. Further, we celebrate the many families who are exploring and deepening their faith in Jesus, both at Coast Community Church, and at other churches on the Coast. Our prayer is that everyone in our community would be encouraged in the ways of Jesus and the life He gives.

Our school's growth over the past five years, along with population increase and rising demand, led the Board decision to commence a Secondary school in 2027. Much needs to be accomplished, but planning is progressing as expected, and we are looking forward to welcoming our inaugural Year 7.

We continue to be blessed by committed and experienced Board members, including David Barnett (Chair of Audit & Risk Committee), Bron Schoonbeek (Child Safety Champion), Carmen DeBruyn, Paul Campey and Tim Cornish. We are also fortunate to have the services of Lyndelle Taylor, as Company Secretary. It is a privilege to serve alongside these faithful and committed people, and I am grateful to them.

Finally, 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.

Tim Cornish
Board Chair



From the School Principal

In early 2025 we celebrated 25 years of Christian education at Coast. It was a moment to stop and reflect on God's faithfulness to the school since its inception and His myriad of blessings over the time of our operation.

The next twelve months, however, have involved a big transition, where our focus and attention has very much been drawn to what lies ahead. For some time, the Board had wrestled with the idea of beginning a secondary department on site, allowing students to continue their studies beyond Grade 6, and the exciting decision was prayerfully made to proceed.

Consequently, in 2026 there will be some significant developments, not the least of which being the engagement of a construction company to deliver eight classrooms for January 2027 in readiness for our first-ever class of Grade 7 students.

Therefore, we will expect the sound of machinery and workmen to be a reminder of the facilities being developed to ensure the ongoing provision of an excellent education occurs at Coast beyond the primary years and into high school.

One of our big challenges ahead will be maintaining our high standards across a wider group of staff and students. Our greatest aim will be securing additional quality staff to complement the fabulous existing team we have already.

Every day I am thankful for the teachers, teachers' aides and administrative/support staff who serve the children and parents at our school; our community is blessed by the character and skills they possess, as well as their hard work and love of the children in their care.

We are also blessed by the children in each of the classes and the families they represent. The friendship, kindness and support that exists across the school is a hallmark of Coast's unique community and a drawcard for many who enrol here.

Finally, I am thankful to God for His blessing over us; from the creation of the world to the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus, to the abundant and eternal life that is offered to everyone. As a response, may our community be one that walks humbly before Him in reverential awe, holding out the life-changing good news of God's great love for mankind while instilling within each child a *Foundation For Life*.

Matthew Drennan
Principal



B. Contextual Information

Contextual Information about the School

Coast Christian School (the 'School') is a vibrant Christian learning community in which parents, staff and students work in partnership to provide a strong *foundation for life*. Located in Bensville on the New South Wales Central Coast, the School has been serving families since its establishment in 2000.

The School is a multi-denominational, co-educational school currently offering education from Preparatory through to Year 6, with the intention to expand into High School in 2027. Our School is committed to fostering a purposeful environment of discovery in which faith, relationships and learning are deeply interconnected. The School's core values—Grace, Growth, Gratitude, Generosity and Genuineness—underpin all aspects of School life and guide interactions across the community.

These values are expressed through a commitment to nurturing each child's academic, spiritual and personal development. Central to this commitment is the provision of a safe, supportive and inclusive environment in which every student is valued and known. The School also prioritises strong community engagement, striving to build meaningful connections with families and maintaining open, transparent and effective lines of communication.

High expectations for student behaviour are upheld, with an emphasis on respect, responsibility and positive relationships. These expectations complement a strong focus on excellence in teaching and learning, ensuring that students are well-supported as they develop their potential.

The School offers a broad range of co-curricular opportunities that enrich student learning and engagement. Sporting programs include athletics, swimming, cross country, rugby, league tag, basketball, netball and soccer, with pathways available for students to compete at regional and national levels. The arts are also strongly represented through opportunities such as drama, choir and chess clubs, as well as instrumental tuition provided in partnership with the Coast Academy of Music.

The following outlines the School's Vision, Mission and Values set by the School's Board of Directors and Coast Community Church:

Vision: The School's vision articulates 'What We See':

A Foundation for Life.

Mission: The School's mission defines 'What We Do':

We create an environment of discovery where God, people and purpose connect.

Values: The School's values express 'Who We Are':

- **Grace:** Kindness, forgiveness and respect.
- **Growth:** Learning, strength and courage.
- **Gratitude:** Grateful, happy and satisfied.
- **Generosity:** Giving, sharing and helping.
- **Genuineness:** Truthful, real and humble.

Characteristics of the Student Body

Coast Christian School, a member of Christian Schools Australia (CSA) and Independent Schools NSW (ISNSW), had a total enrolment of 235 students from Kindergarten to Year 6 ending the 2025 School year. This included 117 boys and 118 girls. In addition, the School continues to offer a Preparatory class designed to support children in their transition to formal schooling.

The student population largely reflects the demographic profile of the Central Coast region, with many students of Anglo-Saxon heritage. However, the School continues to experience increasing cultural diversity, with a growing number of students from Asian, African and South American backgrounds. This diversity enriches the School community and contributes to a broader and more inclusive learning environment.

Students are drawn from a wide catchment area. While many families reside locally in Bensville, Empire Bay and Kincumber, enrolments are increasingly being received from surrounding Peninsula suburbs such as Ettalong, Woy Woy and Umina, from northern areas including Terrigal, Wamberal, Tumby Umbi and Bateau Bay and west to Narara and Wyoming. This broad geographic representation reflects the School's strong reputation and the value placed by families on its educational and community ethos.



OUTCOMES AND RESULTS

C. Standardised National Literacy & Numeracy Testing

National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results

Coast Christian School students in Year 3 and Year 5 participated in the annual NAPLAN assessments, which measure achievement in numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, and grammar and punctuation domains. These assessments are designed to reflect the expected level of student performance at the time of testing and provide a snapshot of achievement at a particular point in time.

Since 2023, NAPLAN results have been reported against four proficiency standards: *Exceeding (E)*, *Strong (S)*, *Developing (D)*, and *Needs Additional Support (NAS)*. The *Strong* standard represents a broad range of satisfactory achievement.

In 2025, students at the School continued to demonstrate strong academic performance, achieving an average proficiency standard in the *Strong* range across all assessment areas. Consistent with previous years, the School’s results were significantly higher than the national average in nearly all tested domains.

Table 1 presents the School’s average NAPLAN scores (CCS) for each assessment area, alongside the average scores of students from similar schools (SIM) and all Australian schools (ALL) for the corresponding year levels. Comparative data is published by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) later in the year of testing or early in the following year via the *My School* website (www.myschool.edu.au). Accordingly, the 2025 year of complete comparative data is reported below.

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

Student Cohort	CCS 2025 NAPLAN Tests and Student Results									
CCS Year 3	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar and Punctuation		Numeracy	
	CCS - 466		CCS - 465		CCS - 465		CCS - 508		CCS - 473	
	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL
	440	402	439	414	439	405	458	408	439	405
CCS Year 5	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar and Punctuation		Numeracy	
	CCS - 529		CCS - 500		CCS - 524		CCS - 533		CCS - 547	
	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL	SIM	ALL
	507	492	490	480	503	487	513	497	507	492

Table 1 Key Code: Coast Christian School’s average when compared to students with a similar background and all Australian students (shaded on the SIM and ALL box for direct comparison to green CCS scores):

 = Well above  = Above  = Close to  = Below  = Well below

 = No comparison available - A test must have a minimum 11 student participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison colour to be available (*Adapted from My Schools website, ACARA*).

A comprehensive breakdown of the School’s NAPLAN results can be accessed by visiting the ‘Coast Christian School’ page on the My School website (www.myschool.edu.au).

STAFFING

D. Teacher Qualifications and Accreditation

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 Worldview across the curriculum.

All teaching staff at the School hold recognised teaching qualifications from accredited Higher Education Institutions within Australia, as well as formal teacher education qualifications. The School does not employ any teachers who lack appropriate professional teaching qualifications.

In addition, all teachers maintain current accreditation with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) at the Proficient Teacher level or are actively working towards Proficient status or achieving/maintaining voluntary higher levels of accreditation.

E. Workforce Composition

In 2025, the School employed a total of twenty-three full-time and part-time teaching staff including a Principal, a Deputy Principal, a Learning Support Coordinator and three specialist Release from Face-to-Face (RFF) teachers.

In addition, and not reflected in the ‘Teaching Staff’ data row presented in the table below (in accordance with the *NSW Christian Schools General Staff Multi-Enterprise Agreement*), the School employed eleven teacher/learning support aides, representing a combined full-time equivalent (FTE) of 5.5. Collectively, this direct support for student learning comprised thirty-four staff members with a total FTE of 21.8. Of these, twenty-nine were female and five were male.

Table 2: School Staffing for 2025

Teaching Staff	23
Full-time equivalent (FTE) Teaching Staff	16.3
Non-teaching Staff	27
Full-time equivalent (FTE) Non-teaching Staff	12.6

The remaining non-teaching employed totalled sixteen part-time and full-time staff, equating to a total FTE of 7.1 and included the Preparatory class teacher and associated aides, operational staff and the team of bus-drivers responsible for the daily transportation of students to and from the School.

There were no identified Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander staff members employed during the reporting period.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

F. Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for the School in 2025 was 92%. The average student attendance rates for each year level in 2025 are summarised in the following bar graphs:



G. Managing 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 School aims to create a positive and engaging environment by implementing a range of school-wide principles, practices and strategies to promote consistent and regular School attendance and student engagement by considering interconnected and related factors such as academic performance, social, behavioural and emotional wellbeing, psychological safety and mental health concerns.

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

- Class rolls are taken at the commencement of every School day.
- Parents must notify the School by phone or in writing if their child is absent from School.
- If the School has not been notified of a child's absence, the School office staff send a written message, on the same morning, to the parent/carer advising of the absence and requesting an explanation.
- A follow up phone call on the same morning is then made by a member of the office staff should no parent/carer response be received.
- Unexplained absences are followed up by the School's office staff.
- Upon parents/caregivers reporting to the School office, relevant office staff record the late arrival and/or early departure of School students.
- Class teachers and executive staff monitor unsatisfactory attendance of students in their care and contact parents/caregivers
- 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 progress the monitoring and support strategies from the School's Whole School approach to the 'Targeted Support' and/or 'Individualised, Intensive Support' tiers as applicable for each student. Strategies may include:

- 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;
- Continued engagement with parents/caregivers;
- Referring to the School's learning support team and/or student welfare team;
- Referring to external counselling services and/or
- Seeking the support of a range of regional student services personnel and other relevant community agencies, where relevant.

SCHOOL POLICIES

H. School Policies

The following policies are publicly available on the School's website via the policy page:

<https://coastcs.nsw.edu.au/policies/> with individual policy links also available on this web page:

- Anti-Bullying & Cyber Policy
- Child Safe Code of Conduct
- Child Safe Policy and Procedures
- Complaints and Grievances Policy
- Complaints Handling Procedures regarding allegations of Staff Misconduct or Reportable Conduct
- Enrolment Policy
- Student Discipline and Behaviour Management Policy



STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION

I. Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

During 2025, parents, senior primary students and staff 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.

The following responses in each of the parent, student and staff surveys display the highest rating average for satisfaction:

Parent Survey

- *Teachers at Coast are interested in my child's wellbeing.*
- *My child likes being at Coast Christian School.*
- *The Principal at Coast is approachable and listens.*

Student Survey

- *I feel like I could ask my teacher for help.*
- *I get on well with other students.*
- *I feel safe at School.*

Staff Survey

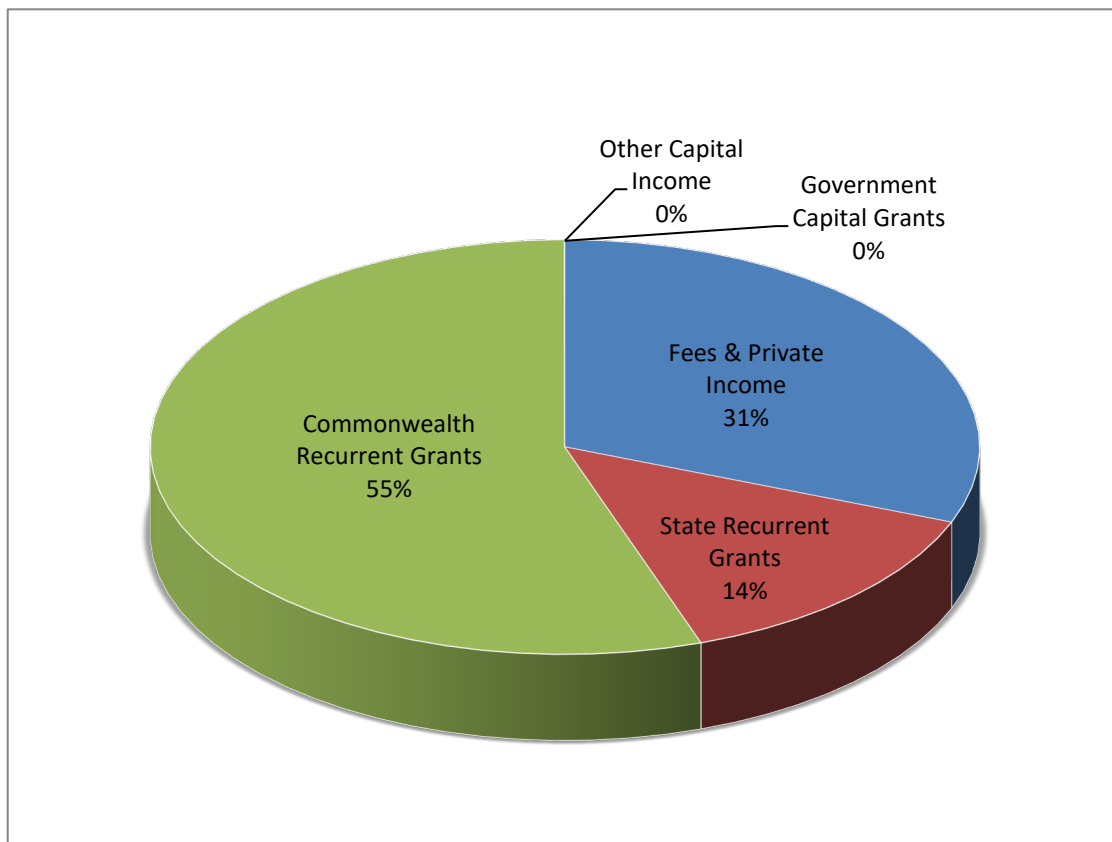
- *The School is characterised by its hard-working and committed staff.*
- *My view is that the School is a successful School.*
- *I feel pleased to be a member of staff.*



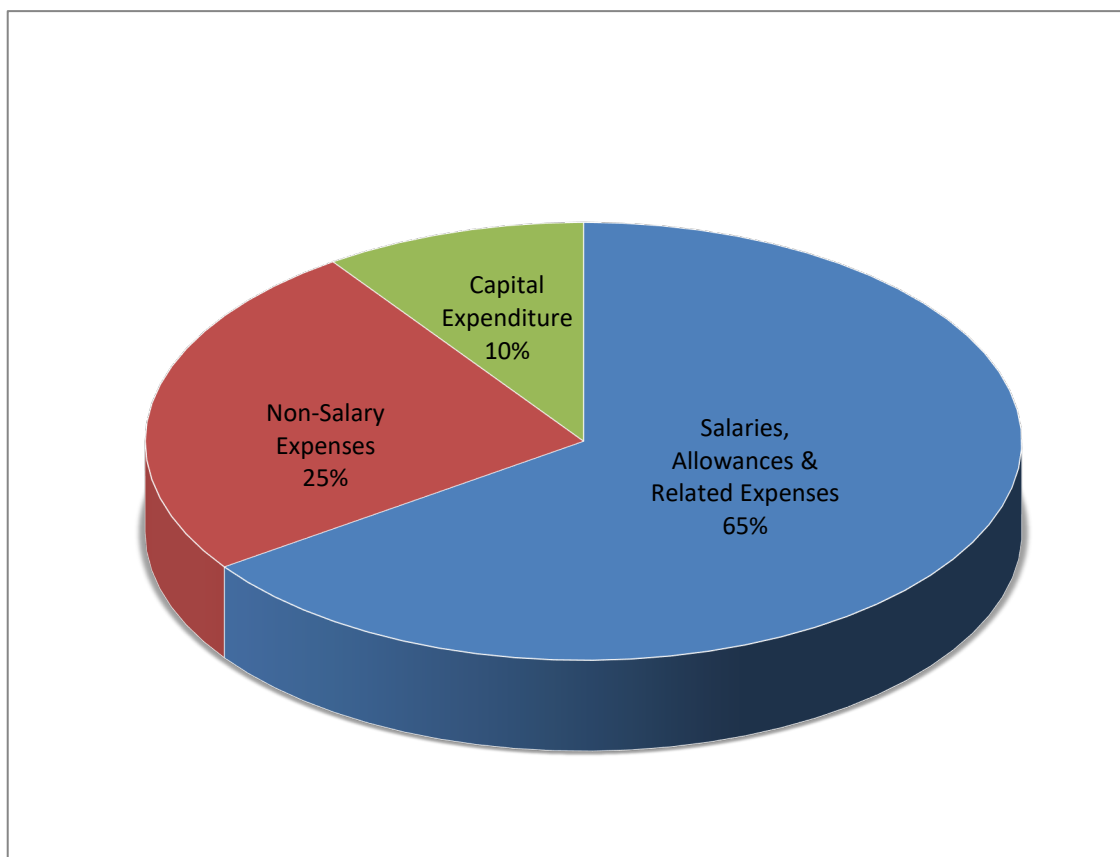
SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

J. Income and Expenditure

Recurrent and Capital Income - 2025



Recurrent and Capital Expenditure – 2025





Coast

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL