



# Our Lady Help of Christians School Wendouree

## 2022 Annual Report to the School Community



Registered School Number: 1638

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E NUMBER	E2064

## Minimum Standards Attestation

I, Leigh Bradshaw, attest that Our Lady Help of Christians School is compliant with:

- All of the requirements for the minimum standards and other requirements for the registration of schools as specified in *the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)* and the *Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic)*, except where the school has been granted an exemption from any of these requirements by the VRQA
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2022 school year under the *Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth)* and the *Australian Education Regulations 2013 (Cth)*
- The Child Safe Standards as prescribed in both Ministerial Orders in effect in 2022:
  - Ministerial Order No.870 - Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools, in Semester 1, 2022;
  - Ministerial Order No.1359 - Implementing the Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises, in Semester 2, 2022.

09/03/2023

**NOTE:** The School's financial performance information has been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)

## Governing Authority Report

The Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL) is now in its second year of governance of schools. In 2022 two additional schools - Damascus College and St Francis Xavier transferred their governance to DOBCEL, a total 58 schools in the Diocese are governed by DOBCEL.

Across our diocese, schools governed by DOBCEL provide distinctive Catholic education from the Murray to the Sea. This support is operationalised by Catholic Education Ballarat and is responsible for the implementation of DOBCEL strategies, policies and procedures, and overseeing the day to day running of our schools.

The role of DOBCEL is to lead, provide service to, and partner with schools to enable every student to flourish and every student, staff member and family to experience the presence of the risen Christ in our schools.

We recognise the extraordinary servant leadership of all our school staff, leaders and Principals during 2022 as they supported their school communities through a myriad of challenges that included staff shortages, covid disruption, implications of widespread flooding and Enterprise Bargaining negotiations. We recognise the commitment and focus all school staff give to the students and families in their care in the spirit of the Gospels. Their commitment has been unwavering.

We thank families for their commitment to partnership with our schools in Catholic Education again in 2022 to support all our students to flourish.

Tom Sexton

Executive Director

Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited

# Vision and Mission



**Our Lady Help of Christians School enacts its Vision and Mission through:**  
curriculum support for students and families, and a commitment to ongoing improvement

**Vision Statement**

*Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full."  
John 10:10*

At Our Lady Help of Christians School, we work together with families, so each uniquely gifted child will continue to grow spiritually, socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually to achieve fullness of life.

**Mission Statement**

We will support families in the care and education of their children, within our Catholic School and our wider community, by:

- creating opportunities for prayer and celebration, to nurture our relationship with God, our world and with others
- maintaining a safe, happy, innovative and engaging learning environment
- affirming and celebrating contributions, efforts and achievements
- providing stimulating, challenging and contemporary teaching and learning experiences

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School WENDOUREE



## School Overview

### School Overview

Our Lady Help of Christians School has serviced the needs of Catholic families in the parish areas of Learmonth, Waubra, Miner's Rest and Wendouree for 60 years. The school has a rich tradition and a strong commitment to social justice, based on the wonderful contributions and charism of the Sisters of Mercy over many decades.

Our school is a School Wide Positive Behaviour School. Our focus is Respectful, Responsible and Resilient in our words, thoughts and actions. The diversity within our school definitely enriches our school community, and one of our inclusive maxims is "Every face has a place."

We focus on the spiritual, moral, social, emotional and intellectual development of each child. We provide an atmosphere in which each child's natural creativity can emerge and where each child is stimulated to an appreciation of life in all its rich diversity; in particular positive relationships. Parents feel welcome and experience a real sense of belonging. Contact with the staff and personal involvement is strongly encouraged.

Our school benefits from the expertise of the Catholic Education Office Student Services. We invite Educational Psychologists, Speech Therapists as well as other professionals such as child therapists, School Nurse, financial counsellor, disability advocates or case managers to best support the individual needs of those in our community.

We strive to foster mutual respect, responsibility and service within our school community. We treat each person as an individual in the image of God. We aim to promote justice and the dignity of everyone, building relationships of Faith, care and support, which characterise our school's vision.

2022 was our Year of HOPE, as chosen by our Year 6 Leaders. Together they wrote a prayer for our school focusing upon having hope in our future, each other and ourselves. This prayer was shared with our community and prayed each day in our classrooms. A badge was designed by the students and was worn by all members of our school community. It was also shared as a gift for visitors. Our students and their commitment to our school community certainly give us all hope.

## Principal's Report

### 2022 Graduation Speech

Today is a good day.

For all of your School life at Our Lady's you have lived our 3 Rs. This poem sits tight with me as I share this time with you today. I've just made a few little changes...

#### **It Couldn't Be Done**

BY EDGAR ALBERT GUEST

Somebody said that it couldn't be done

But Tristan, Will and Paige with a chuckle replied

That "maybe it couldn't," but they would be ones

Who wouldn't say so till they'd tried.

So Zali, Amber-Rose and Saraya buckled right in with the trace of a grin

On their faces. If Amber, Alexander or Thomas worried they hid it.

Brandon, Kaylah and Kevin started to sing as they tackled the thing

That couldn't be done, and they did it!

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;

At least no one ever has done it;"

But Abbey, Maya and Lexie took off their coats and took off their hats

And the first thing we knew they'd begun it.

With a lift of Jackson, Cooper and Zara's chins and a bit of a grin,

Without any doubting or quiddit,

Jonty, Issac and Alexa started to sing as they tackled the thing

That couldn't be done, and Grace, Tom and Darcy did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,

There are thousands to prophesy failure,

There are thousands to point out to you one by one,

The dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,  
Just take off your coat and go to it;  
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing  
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

Today is a celebration of all that is good about our School.

It is wonderful to see among you the positive energy that comes on Graduation Day.

I am excited about the future for each of our students graduating today. You have the potential to be all you want to be. Seeing all of you here today is a testament to the achievements of our graduates and to the love and support they have received over the years from their parents and families, the staff and the whole school community.

I feel so much pride today as I stand here, pride for our school and pride for our graduates of 2022. Your resilience is inspirational and your drive to succeed delights me. Each one of you has worked very hard to realise your full potential. You have worked towards achieving your goals in a very determined way. Each of you have grown in a way that you should be so proud of and are now ready to transition to a new exciting chapter in your lives.

I take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for your tremendous support and willingness to encourage your child's education in our school. We value and acknowledge the support and the contribution of our parent community in making our school a better place for everyone. Thank you.

Thanks to our staff. Like any production behind the scenes there is a huge commitment going into each day and an eagerness to be the very best educators they can be. It is a privilege for me to work with this staff who have such a skill-set and expertise in education. Their dedication to educating the students in our school is enormous.

Similar to our graduates Mrs Atwood is preparing for a new adventure in 2023. After many roles across our school we are looking forward to hearing about her adventures in retirement. Lisa Kennedy is preparing for a new professional adventure. We are all grateful for the contribution she has shared with our school, and we know Siena will be better for having her join their staff. Bec Ferguson leaves us for the adventure of parenthood. In the short time Bec has journeyed with us, she has shown her commitment to our school and families and I cannot wait for her to visit us next year. Tessa Marshall's Our Lady's journey has been filled with camps, music and building relationships in our school. Her quiet and caring manner will be missed by us all.

To our families leaving us this year after their time at Our Lady Help of Christians, thank you for the contribution you have made to make our school what it is today.



We send you with much love from your Our Lady Help of Christians family, we will always carry you with us and are always here if you need us.

**Follow your dreams**

**Follow your passion**

**Believe in yourself.**

**Life is an endless process of self-discovery**

## Catholic Identity and Mission

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goal:

To engage in the mission of the Church reflected in our teaching and witnessing to justice and peace.

**“An authentic faith – which is never comfortable or completely personal – always involves a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave this earth somehow better than we found it.” (Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium)**

Intended Outcomes:

Teachers will build a safe, encouraging place where students can speak about their experiences and beliefs.

Create a community of conscience. This environment ensures that students’ voices, opinions and ideas are valued and respected by their instructor and peers. Teachers can establish a community of conscience by creating rules that teach fairness in classroom discussions and behavior.

### Achievements

Our Lady Help of Christians School strives to be a shining example of a school that demonstrates and celebrates a positive Catholic School culture. We are rightly proud of our Catholic heritage, our commitment to educating our students in their understanding of our faith using a normative stance and helping them connect their faith to daily life. We work hard to promote the Catholic identity of our school and support the work of the parish of Our Lady Help of Christians because recognising this as a critical aspect of who we are as a school community.

Throughout this year we have worked hard to develop and build on the Catholic identity of the school. Within our review year, this has been a major area of focus and we celebrate the dedication and commitment of our staff in working to improve the teaching of RE in the classroom, create a faith-centred learning environment and reflect on their own faith journey in order to become ever more effective Catholic educators.

#### VALUE ADDED

- CARITAS fundraising to engage and educate the student community.
- Whole School Social Justice focus in RE during Term Four.
- Whole School Liturgies: Grandparents Mass, Ash Wednesday, celebrating our Feast Day
- Targeted RE instruction using the Awakenings with staff PL, supported by Catholic Education Ballarat

- Weekly School Community Prayer in our church led by staff and students.
- Support of and participation in Our Lady Help of Christians Parish sacramental programs.
- Staff focus on the use of prayer focus tables in each learning space. Each area was provided with a box of material to use for these, relevant to each colour of the liturgical year.
- Religious Education Leader attendance at REL Conference in Halls Gap.
- Whole Staff closure days led by CEOB advisors to analyse ECSI survey data
- In school visit to Senior School students from Soup Bus as part of our Social Justice focus.
- Focus on developing the Godly Play Approach within the school.
- Staff Retreat focusing on prayer, formation and renewal

## Learning and Teaching

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goal:

To build teacher capacity through an aligned learning and teaching program that delivers a consistent, clearly documented sequenced plan.

Intended Outcomes:

To further teachers' content knowledge in literacy learning, particularly grammar.

To review Literacy Block structures to align with current best practice and pedagogy, from our Professional Learning.

To increase the quality of writing endurance

To enrich and extend the learning from OLSAL already in place in our school

### Achievements

#### 2022 Junior Unit Learning

The year began just as any other year would - we welcomed a group of wonderful Foundation children to our unit, and the new Grade 1 and 2 children were ready to jump back into their learning.

It was wonderful to be back at school together full time after the last couple of years of remote learning. We were able to participate fully in our Numeracy, Literacy and specialist subjects without any interruptions.

In term one, we celebrated the family picnic and really enjoyed seeing all our friends and families again. Kelly Sports also visited each Friday and taught us how to play T ball, we learned how to catch, throw, hit a ball and run to a base. We finished the term with a very special visit from Bishop Paul Bird, who spent some time with us in group prayer.



In term two, we celebrated another full term together and each Friday we worked with the Western Bulldogs AFL Program. We learned how to work in a team, and the rules around AFL.

We were seeing some amazing results in our reading and writing with stamina writing becoming a key goal for many students within the Junior Unit.

In terms three and four, students in the Junior Unit engaged in exciting and challenging activities as part of our school program that gets students ready for school camp. The Foundation children had a wonderful time at the teddy bear picnic.

The Grade One children had an absolutely amazing time with Ballarat Gym Sports, teaching us gymnastics at school, and the Grade two children enjoyed a night sleeping over at school in the Library. The children bravely embraced the challenge of being at school late without all of the other classes.

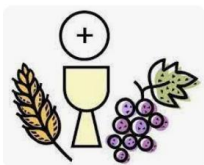
We are grateful for the brilliant children in the Junior Unit, we are thankful for the families who have worked with us to support their children, and we are blessed with the wonderful teachers and educational support staff at our school.

Elise Hankin, Morgan Knaggs, Rebecca Ferguson, Ena Bruty

## **2022 Middle Unit Learning**

The Middle Unit students have consistently demonstrated our three values, Respectful, Responsible and Resilient as they have moved through their learning this year. All of our lovely students have been kind and generous to each other and are working through ups and downs in a resilient way. We have been blessed with new students joining our school family throughout the year.

This year we have been very fortunate to be able to attend school each day and work and play with each other, by making and building friendships. Coming to school each day has meant that we have been able to get into a good routine and move into a steady rhythm in our learning. This has ensured that everyone strives to be safe, comfortable and happy.



During Term 3, a number of our students participated in our Sacramental program, preparing and making their Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Eucharist. It was such a gift to celebrate with our students and families during these special times.



In Term 4, we have been blessed to go to Log Cabin Camp, staying in the new Homestead and participating in the range of new outdoor activities. Our students were challenged to face their F.E.A.R. (False Reality Appearing Real) by having an open mind and having a red hot go at new activities. We enjoyed Bush Damper for afternoon tea, Archery, Canoeing, Zipline, Clip and Climb, Milk Crate Stacking and the Possum Glide. We also got to use the awesome Games Room that had lots to occupy our time! Our Middle Unit camp was a BIG adventure where we strengthened old and new friendships.



In Term 4 all our students participated in our Swimming program at Swim and Survival one day a week for eight weeks. During this outdoor program, our students learned about water safety and familiarisation, while working on their swimming skills in small targeted groups. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to swim in a well organised program and increase their swimming potential.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of our students, parents, grandparents, families, teachers, support staff and our principal for such an amazing year! We are full of gratitude to be connected as a family in our school and parish community embraced in God's eternal love.

## **2022 Senior Unit Learning**

The senior unit experienced many new opportunities in 2022 while enjoying staying onsite at school for the entire year. A year that fostered friendships, challenged us in our learning and learnt problem solving skills. 2022 allowed us to show gratitude for being at school and become respectful, responsible and resilient learners and senior leaders.

The year began with our MAPPEN unit expo - Museums in Motion, this showcased the hard work and dedication our senior unit showed as they presented their presentations to the school and families. We were lucky enough to experience a two day Sovereign Hill Excursion, experiencing life in the 1850's. The senior unit stayed in character and were immersed in the entire experience. We were congratulated on our behaviour and represented OLHC with honor.

This year, selected senior students represented Our Lady Help of Christians in a variety of sporting activities. We showed resilience, teamwork and perseverance as we were challenged physically. Teams represented our school in cross country, netball, soccer, basketball and



football. All students were proud of their accomplishments and have built memories of their primary school years.

Police in schools was a valuable experience as students learnt life lessons and showed a curiosity about the many different topics that were covered. Students experienced creating personal dossiers, completed a challenging police physical fitness test and increased our knowledge of the police force.

We congratulate our Year 6 students on graduating from Our Lady Help of Christians School and wish them all the very best for their future. Our year 5 students are displaying leadership qualities and we wish them all the best for their final year in 2023.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

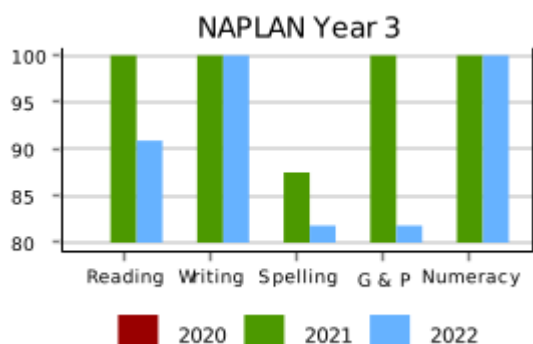
Our NAPLAN data indicates a downward trend in most areas post pandemic. In order to support our students, in response to this data we have worked with staff to provide Quality Differentiated Teaching Practice, at Tier One level to ensure teachers are providing the best quality instruction possible. Working with Misty Adonious to improve writing outcomes and monitoring this data across the school through Whole School Writing moderation has been a key part of this response. In addition, we provide individual and small group support to students through Mini and MultiLit, ERIK and one on one Literacy support with our Reading Recovery Tutor. Students are identified through beginning and end of year assessments, as well as classroom observations during professional conversations in teams and in consultation with the Learning Diversity Leader if necessary. Essential Assessment provides another point of reference and triangulation of the data that informs teachers about where they sit. Classroom adjustments and programs are then selected to best suit the needs of the individual student.

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS MEETING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS					
NAPLAN TESTS	2020	2021	2020 – 2021 Changes	2022	2021 – 2022 Changes
	%			%	
	*		*		
YR 03 Grammar & Punctuation	-	100.0	-	81.8	-18.2
YR 03 Numeracy	-	100.0	-	100.0	0.0
YR 03 Reading	-	100.0	-	90.9	-9.1
YR 03 Spelling	-	87.5	-	81.8	-5.7
YR 03 Writing	-	100.0	-	100.0	0.0
YR 05 Grammar & Punctuation	-	95.2	-	95.5	0.3
YR 05 Numeracy	-	91.3	-	100.0	8.7
YR 05 Reading	-	95.2	-	95.5	0.3
YR 05 Spelling	-	90.5	-	90.9	0.4
YR 05 Writing	-	100.0	-	95.5	-4.5

\* There are no NAPLAN results to report in 2020 as the Australian Government decided that due to the COVID-19 pandemic NAPLAN Assessments would not take place.

\*\* Data cannot be reported for this year as the number of students that sat the test was below 5 and the data has been suppressed for privacy reasons in accordance with the ACARA NAPLAN data reporting provisions.

\*\*\* No students sat the NAPLAN tests in this year level and in one or both of the relevant years.



## Student Wellbeing

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goal:

To sustainably incorporate student voice into all areas of our school, where student voice is respected and valued.

Intended Outcomes:

Increase the level of Student Voice in personal learning

Students articulate their learning goals they have created with their teachers

Provide opportunities for Student voice in the school and local community

### Achievements

- Student wellbeing is an integral part of child development and the learning experience. We use the Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Schools (SWPBS) framework to help us develop a positive school community with integrated Social and Emotional Learning for our students. Our school mantra of Respectful, Responsible and Resilient is at the foundation of all we do; students, staff and community.
- We continued with our fortnightly Blitz and feelings focus with the children sharing ideas for these. We provide weekly Social and Emotional Learning lessons to teach about emotions, and target the social and personal behaviours that will help all our students be successful in regulating their own behaviour and getting along with others.
- We continued our work with Respectful Relationships across the school
- Peaceful Kids programs ran each term with 4 groups of 4 children participating. A total over 60 children taking part.
- Drumbeat continued with a concert each term to share and demonstrate their achievements.
- The Stop Walk Talk program as part of our bullying prevention strategy. We know that the development of positive relationships is an important factor in addressing the learning needs of all children.

**VALUE ADDED**



families

Celebrating Mother's and Father's Day with our



Sharing all of our abilities with each other



Staff Wellbeing



**PÄWGUST**  
This August, join the pack and walk or run everyday to raise funds for Guide Dogs.

Our Lady Help of Christians School  
Gilles Street, Wendouree  
Ph: 5339 4726  
www.olhc.wendouree.catholic.edu.au  
Respectful • Responsible • Resilient

Our Lady Help of Christians  
Primary School  
WENDOUREE

Let's support Amber-Rose, Ziggy and Bailey as they walk together this month to support Guide Dogs and their training.

**Casual Clothes Day**  
**Thursday August 11**  
**Gold Coin Donation**

The poster features a central illustration of a diverse group of dogs and a young girl. Below the illustration is a small photo of a girl sitting with two dogs. The background is a soft-focus green field.

Fundraising for our community



**SAVE THE DATE**

**END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9  
9AM MERCY CENTRE  
ALL WELCOME

YEAR 6 GRADUATION PUPS  
END OF YEAR AWARDS  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
TIME TO SAY THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

The poster has a dark blue background with yellow stars and green Christmas trees at the bottom. The text is in white and yellow.

School community



Celebrating the Sacraments



Our Feast Day



 Our Lady Help of Christians School,  
Wendouree  
408a Gillies Street, Wendouree 3355  
[www.ohlw Wendouree.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ohlw Wendouree.catholic.edu.au)  
03 53394726

## Annual General Meeting and Celebration of Learning Night

### 2021 Our Lady Help of Christians School Annual General Meeting

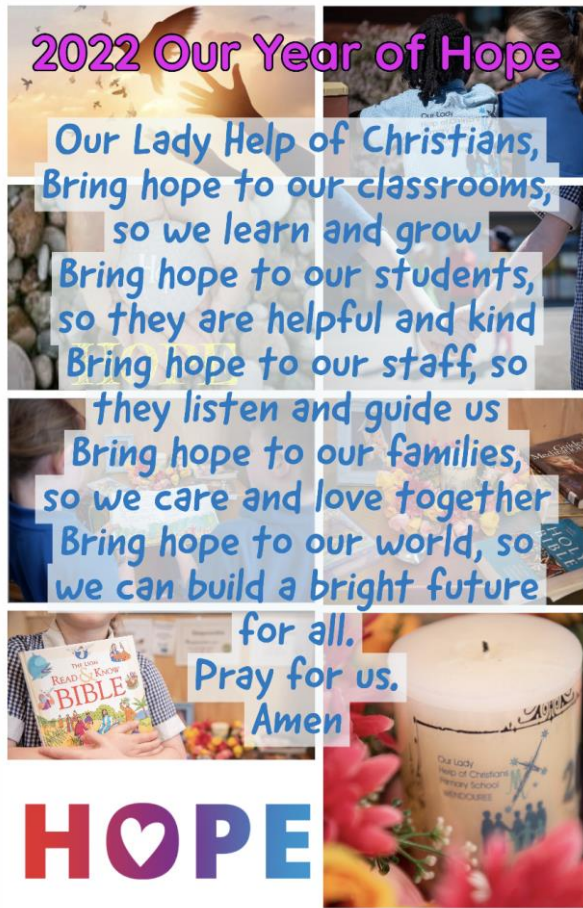
Tuesday April 5, 5:00-5:30pm,  
School Library  
All welcome



### Term 1 Celebration of Learning 5:30-6:30pm Tuesday April 5

Come and visit all of our learning spaces  
with the children acting as tour guides as  
they walk you through their learning this  
term.

Sharing our skills



**2022 Our Year of Hope**

Our Lady Help of Christians,  
Bring hope to our classrooms,  
so we learn and grow  
Bring hope to our students,  
so they are helpful and kind  
Bring hope to our staff, so  
they listen and guide us  
Bring hope to our families,  
so we care and love together  
Bring hope to our world, so  
we can build a bright future  
for all.  
Pray for us.  
Amen

**HOPE**

2022, Our Year of Hope

**School Community Team Meeting**  
Friday February 25, 2:30pm

Join us in the school Conference Room (at the office) this Friday at 2:30pm to meet, catch up and talk about how we can support our school. All ideas are welcome! If you would like to find out more information or would like to be included for updates please contact Bianca [bianca2610@hotmail.com](mailto:bianca2610@hotmail.com)

Please show your evidence of double vaccination when joining the meeting.



SCT supporting Student Wellbeing

**Family Picnic and Information Night**

Friday Feb 11 from 5pm

Join us with your picnic tea from 5pm  
Junior Information Session 5:40pm  
Middle Information Session 6pm  
Senior Information Session 6:20pm



Time to share wellbeing with families

**STUDENT SATISFACTION**

Students have a strong sense of belonging within the Our Lady Help of Christians community. Our feedback from students through playground surveys and data suggest that our focus on

Social and Emotional Learning enables Students feel supported, safe and secure while attending Our Lady Help of Christians. Insight SRC data demonstrates the wellbeing of students and their relationships within our school community.

**STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

Following the challenges of the pandemic and teachers having more regular contact with families, classroom teachers continued to weekly contact with each family to put in place the best support for regular attendance at school.

The roll is taken electronically through SIMON twice daily by the class or specialist teacher. An SMS is sent automatically to parents and guardians of children who are absent before 9:15 each day. School Office staff monitor daily attendance along with the Well Being Leader and Principal. Parents and Guardians are able to add their child's absence to SIMON via the Parent Access Module linked to SIMON.

Regular contact is made with families with irregular attendance to create plans to support their child's regular attendance at school.

AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE BY YEAR LEVEL	
Y01	83.5%
Y02	87.2%
Y03	81.0%
Y04	86.2%
Y05	85.9%
Y06	83.5%
Overall average attendance	84.5%

## Child Safe Standards

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

To embed New Child Safe Standards across our school community.

### Achievements

Our Lady Help of Christians has worked tirelessly in the implementation of New Child Safe Standards across our school community. Our Child Safe Team, alongside our Leadership team, have methodically followed the policies and procedures that form the inclusion of Child Safe in our school. Our Updated Child Safe Policy is shared, discussed included as an agenda item at Staff and School Advisory Council Meetings. This parent representative council includes Child Safe as an agenda item at each meeting and has supported the school in educating the community in the importance of adherence to the standards, policies and procedures. All school volunteers and contractors participate in a non-negotiable Child Safe induction with our CPO and all staff have completed online modules in Mandatory Reporting including a Child Safe Code of Conduct for our school. Child Safe Standards are included in all agendas for Staff and Leadership Meetings. All staff and School Advisory Council members have an induction pack with Child Safe resources including our Policy, PROTECT website materials and Diocesan procedures. The school is working on and Action Plan for embedding the Standards in our daily practice, this will continue into 2023.

## Leadership

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

#### From our 2022 External Review Final Report September 2022

##### **Achievements:**

##### Shared Leadership

- CHECS survey results (4.71) indicate respondents believe effective practices are evident
- All staff are positive, passionate, collaborative and willing to engage in ongoing professional learning
- All staff are well supported by leadership including induction processes for new staff

##### Building Staff Capability

- CHECS survey results (4.76) indicate respondents believe effective practices are evident
- Staff are more willing to share in their classroom practice with the intent of continuous improvement
- A greater willingness by teachers to engage in professional conversations around the improvement of student data and learning outcomes

##### A Culture of Continuous Improvement

- CHECS survey results (4.76) indicate respondents believe effective practices are evident
- Willingness to revisit the school's improvement plan and annual action plan through strong reflection and proactive engagement
- Effective leadership supporting teaching staff with documentation of individual learning plans that are coherent and comprehensive
- Improved goal setting and evaluation with staff
- An elevated social media presence has positively impacted on reconnecting to the broader community

##### Stewardship of Resources

- CHECS survey results (4.94) indicate respondents believe effective practices are evident
- Staff and student safety and wellbeing needs are well-supported
- The school's financial budget is visible and transparent
- The flexibility of staff has maximised the ongoing support for its students
- Financial budgets are shared on the school's website
- Systematic practices reviewing policies and processes to meet the needs of all students
- Learning diversity leaders and leadership maintain ongoing review to provide maximum support for all students
- Well-resourced library and Technologies centres

- The school has support from the school officers to maintain policies to meet legislative compliance

#### Report from the Resources Leader - Mrs Helen Matthews

This year we began the year with a return to our beginning of the year roll out of technology and books to our classrooms in readiness for learning.

The year 5 students were very excited to receive their one to one devices for learning in 2022 and year 6 students were able to support them as they learnt how to use a Chromebook.

The year began with staff working with the students to ensure they had established agreed norms for online safe behaviours and safe use of the allocated technologies in the classrooms.

Our school technician supported both staff and students with any technical issues they have had during 2022 twice a week. This year we also began an electronic check in system at the front office for staff and visitors to our school. We thank Dean for his ongoing support.

During the year we evaluated our school technology resources and put forward a proposal to upgrade these in the coming years. Many of our devices are 10 years old and are at the point where ongoing upgrades of operating systems are no longer possible and new apps do not work on the older devices. We are currently undertaking a process to see what will be possible to purchase in 2023. We are also about to undergo an upgrade to our internet speed which will be a welcome addition.





The students were very excited to return to the library space in 2022. During 2022 we prioritised purchasing books identified by the students as books they would like to add to our current collection. This has kept the library staff on our toes, purchasing and processing books as quickly as we can to respond to their requests. Karen and Adele have once again been a wonderful support in helping to maintain the library and the resources we provide for our school community.

In May we held a very successful Book Fair and students were very excited to purchase a book to take home and enjoy. We also celebrated Book Week with our annual parade of costumes which caused a lot of excitement for both staff and students.



Lunchtime library sessions have been well supported by students coming in to read, play indoor games and also to return and borrow books to read in their classroom. Our library continues to be a space that is enjoyed by all members of the community, with meetings being held regularly in the space.

We thank our school community for their support to ensure we are able to provide the best possible resources for the teaching and learning at OLHC.

### Achievements

- Fundraising for additional resourcing in our School Library
- The introduction of Essential Assessment to ensure consistency of assessment and data collection across the school
- School Validation and Planning

### EXPENDITURE AND TEACHER PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

#### Description of Professional Learning undertaken in 2022

Misty Adenou - English Writing

Japanese language

Sisters of Mercy Professional Learning

ReLATE - Mackillop Family Services

In School Staff Led Professional Learning based upon expertise, Maths, English, SWPBS

Fundamentals of Writing - all teaching staff

OH&S Training

Respectful Relationships Training

EMU Ongoing	
Number of teachers who participated in PL in 2022	13
Average expenditure per teacher for PL	\$1600

**TEACHER SATISFACTION**

Feedback works in a continuous cycle at Our Lady Help of Christians School. Feedback is sought from staff on a number of occasions through a number of different forums. Overall our Staff was positive at Our Lady Help of Christians and the changes occurring in alignment of our school goals. Another method to measure teacher satisfaction is through the Annual Review Meeting process where staff indicated they felt supported by Leadership and were clear on the expectations of their roles in addition to articulating how Leadership could support their future goals. Altered meeting structures and whole teaching team planning time during the school day has further developed the strong culture of collegiality and collaboration amongst staff. The continuation of ReLATE through MacKillop Family Services and School Wide Positive Behaviour in Schools (SWPBS) has ensured Staff Well-being as well as Student Well-being is at the forefront of school decision-making.

**TEACHING STAFF ATTENDANCE RATE**

Teaching Staff Attendance Rate	74.2%
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**ALL STAFF RETENTION RATE**

Staff Retention Rate	84.0%
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<b>TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS</b>	
Doctorate	0.0%
Masters	16.7%
Graduate	16.7%
Graduate Certificate	8.3%
Bachelor Degree	75.0%
Advanced Diploma	33.3%
No Qualifications Listed	8.3%

<b>STAFF COMPOSITION</b>	
Principal Class (Headcount)	1.0
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	14.0
Teaching Staff (FTE)	12.2
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	11.0
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	7.9
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	0.0

## Community Engagement

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goal: Provide opportunities for Student voice in the school and local community (within our Well-being Goal)

Intended Outcomes:

To foster a leadership culture within all Year 6 students and provide them with both the support and opportunities to experience and develop their leadership skills and potential. In this way, students will recognise that leadership is an ongoing learning process and one which is developed through attitude, education and experience.

The rationale for this type of leadership includes:

1. Every student in the Senior School has the shared responsibility to lead the student population
2. Every student in the Senior Area has the right to develop his or her own leadership qualities
3. Leadership is based on service to others.

### Achievements

PEACEFUL KIDS PROGRAM: The year began with six children carried over from an interrupted 2021 to allow them to complete the program's eight sessions. Small groups met weekly to experience and develop mindfulness and positive psychology strategies, designed to promote strong healthy minds that could in turn better manage challenging emotions and the stresses life brings. Emails to families following each session allowed common language and strategies to be used across school and home settings. 2022 saw 12 Junior Unit children, 14 Middle Unit students and 11 Seniors participate in the Peaceful Kids program. Overwhelmingly, post survey data attested to the enjoyment and benefits of being involved in the program. Mrs Helen Atwood



**Garma  
2022**

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUPPORT: A group of five students from across the school participated in activities each Monday morning to develop a celebratory sense of Indigenous or First Nations identity. They explored significant events such as National Sorry Day, NAIDOC Week, Garma Festival and culturally relevant sentiments via Indigenous generated literature and video creations. Mrs Helen Atwood

**PLAYGROUP STORYTIME:** Each Monday morning I was excited to be part of the families and children gathered in the Mercy Centre for Playgroup. We shared texts from our school library collection with a focus on building oral language. Enjoyment of reading was encouraged using books that were created by reputable authors and illustrators. Mrs Helen Atwood

**STAFF RE RETREAT:** A session designed to enhance personal wellbeing was offered by myself as part of the staff retreat. Accommodating adult wellbeing supports the premise that “you cannot pour from an empty cup”. Self care is not selfish and indeed needs to be modelled in a positive light for all in our school community to benefit from prioritising this behaviour. Mrs Helen Atwood

### **PARENT SATISFACTION**

Parents are encouraged to meet with teachers and the Leadership team to share feedback on their school experience. We are focused upon every staff member knowing every child and this is evident when observing our school playground and at the end of the school day.

A School Involvement Survey is distributed each March for families to become involved in school life. The re-introduction of regular Working Bees has involved more families with planning school grounds developments. During our Validation and Planning this year families took the opportunity to speak with our Review team to share their school experiences.



## Future Directions

### From our 2022 External Review Report

"Our Lady Help of Christians School should celebrate their achievements since the last review and look forward with confidence to greater growth during the next phase of its journey, with renewed focus and vision. Conversations with parents and survey data indicate strong support for the school which has put in place several strategies to support student wellbeing, empowering students and support their learning across all key learning areas.

Discussions with parents indicate that the school is welcoming, supportive and they acknowledge the hard work of leaders and teachers. The parents hold the school in high regard and welcome the vision to promote it more widely in the community.

The External Review Panel endorses Our Lady Help of Christians School Reflection Report (SRR), identifying the school's strengths, achievements and challenges, while acknowledging the school is aware of the need to address areas which need improvement.

The leadership and staff provide quality learning and teaching experiences for the students despite the impact of COVID-19 and external community influences. With some success, the initiatives, programs and practices adopted over the last five years have translated into improved outcomes, with the Vision and Mission Statement underpinning everything the school does. **The strength of the school lies with its Catholic identity and connections with school members and the community.** The school provides a solid foundation to continue to enhance its Catholic identity, as it invites all members to enter into an authentic partnership in the development and formation of the young people in their care.

All survey responses and focus group discussions confirm that the school is succeeding in creating a stronger sense of community. Parents and students acknowledge that teachers are approachable and supportive, providing a welcoming, caring and safe environment. Although some community members are non-practising, they acknowledge the pastoral care, school values and range of activities and programs which offer prayer, faith formation and faith in action, are important to their child's overall development. Students participate in a number of social justice and sustainability activities. Student voice and agency could be further enhanced in this area, as with student leaders.

Since the last review, Our Lady Help of Christians School has pursued the learning and teaching goals with commitment and purpose. The school is encouraged to develop more

enriching and challenging programs to further improve student learning outcomes and has prioritised Writing as a focus for improvement. A shift has been more consultative in developing consistent and collaborative practices in learning and teaching, specifically in planning, pedagogy and collecting and triangulating data. Staff are supported in developing intervention strategies and targeted learning for individual students. A focus on the timely and effective use of data is used to facilitate differentiation and teaching at the point of need. Students with additional needs are well catered for with the school operating a suite of wellbeing programs and practices. It was reported to the panel, students are mostly calm and respectful. The school recognises the need to continue to develop strategies, teacher support and programs to cater for the more able students as well as for those with special needs. It is evident that teachers genuinely care for their students and work hard to assist them to improve.

It is encouraged that students become more actively involved in goal setting through learning intentions and success criteria, and a whole, schoolwide approach is developed to embed this practice into daily lessons. Additionally, an opportunity exists for the leadership to work with teachers to design an instructional model in developing a consistent schoolwide approach to the art of teaching. Consolidating and supporting collaborative planning teams where teachers plan together could further enable a consistent approach to be implemented and one where cycles of inquiry, mentoring and coaching and peer observations could be introduced.

Leadership is commended for its commitment to improving collective and individual efficacy, building positive relationships with its staff, establishing a shared vision for staff, students and families and creating a safe environment for all members to learn, grow and thrive. The teachers are well-supported. Opportunities exist to further develop the leadership capabilities of leaders and aspiring leaders with ongoing professional learning, self-reflection processes, coaching and mentoring and peer observations.

The Review Panel endorses the school's clarified priorities as it develops its School Improvement

Plan:

- To strengthen the ability of all learners and our school community to make connections to the Catholic faith tradition through a culture of dialogue.
- To empower all learners to strengthen their voice and agency, recognising a connection between learning and their sense of wellbeing.
- To align pedagogical practices across the school using evidence based, instructional approaches."