

**Star of the Sea Catholic
College
Annual Community Report
2020**

General Information

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this Annual School Community Report is to provide the community with a holistic overview of the work and operation of Star of the Sea Catholic College. It is by no means an all-inclusive report, but a generalized summary of a number of internal reports and documents that all Systemic schools are required to provide to the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office, the Federal Government and other regulatory authorities. Some of the information herein is taken from a number of other reports and documents. Every year is full of new experiences, opportunities and successes. We trust that the following report provides the reader with a good understanding of the work and achievements of Star of the Sea Catholic College for 2020.

School Name:	Star of the Sea Catholic College
School Type:	Kindergarten to Grade 10
Suburb/Town:	George Town
State:	Tasmania
Address:	Cnr Friend & William Streets, George Town, 7253
Telephone:	03 6382 1242
Email:	sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au
Principal:	Mr Richard Chapman

School Profile

History and Mission of Star of the Sea Catholic College

Founded in 1957 on the charism of the Presentation Sisters and boasting a strong, proud history, our K-10 co-educational Catholic College blends a proud tradition with current educational practices. We rejoice in, and build upon, the spirit of the Presentation Sisters under whose leadership the College was opened in 1957, then under the title of Stella Maris School.

The families of our College are drawn from the coastal, rural and industrial areas of the George Town municipality embraced by the George Town-Lilydale-Karoola parish boundaries. Our Parish Priest is Father Balasundaram Antonyraj, who works in partnership with the College and a dedicated Parish Pastoral Council. All families, parishioners and members of the wider community collaborate for the benefit of the students of the College.

Student enrolment throughout 2020: **Kinder-6: 100** **Years 7-10: 87** a total of **187**

Governance

Star of the Sea Catholic College is a systemic school in the Catholic Education System in Tasmania. All Systemic Parish Schools operate under the authority of the Archbishop of Hobart.

The Tasmanian Catholic Education Commission is a body commissioned by the Archbishop of Hobart to advise him on educational policy and issues of the Archdiocese.

Systemic Parish Schools are accountable to the Director of Catholic Education of Tasmania as an agent of the Archbishop.

Policy and curriculum development and application, employment and supervision of staff, and the general organisation of the school are the responsibility of the Principal. To provide assistance the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office allocates each school an Assistant Director.

The School Advisory Board provides advice to the Principal and is responsible for the financial management of the School. The School Advisory Board is responsible for providing an audited financial statement to the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office. The Principal is responsible for providing an annual school report to the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office and the school community. The Board meets once a month during school time.

The 2020 Board members were:

Mr Paul Thomas (Chair)

Mrs Jacquie Leslie (Secretary)

Fr Edward Zammit (Parish Priest)

Mr Richard Chapman (Principal)

Mrs Suzanne Painter

Mr Andrew Parkes

Mr Michael Doherty

Mr Brent Daire

Students

School sector	Non-government
School type	Primary and Secondary
Year range	K – 10
Total enrolments	187
Girls	92
Boys	95
Full-time equivalent enrolments	181.8
Indigenous students	5.34%
Location	Provincial
Student attendance rate	84.6%

Student background

Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA)

School ICSEA value: 946

Bottom quarter	Middle quarters		Top quarter
60%	23%	11%	6%

Student Outcomes

Each year, students in Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing. In May 2012, students in government, Catholic and independent schools across Australia received results in a common reporting format and published on the “My School” website. In 2020 NAPLAN was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Secondary Students

2020 saw the following destinations for our Year 10 students:

- 100% of students continued into Year 11 at various colleges.

Reporting Student Progress

Parents receive written reports twice each year and parent/teacher meetings are also held twice a year (start of year and beginning of Term 3). Written reports assess all the key learning areas using an “A to E” format, where A signifies that the student is achieving well above the expected Grade level and E signifies that the student is achieving well below the expected Grade level. Students with special learning needs who are working from a Learning Program (LP) receive a modified report, which does not use the A-E format.

Student Attendance

Our student attendance for 2020 was 84.6%. This was lower than most years which was to be expected due to the COVID-19 disruptions and requests by Government to keep students at home where possible. It is an expectation that parents notify the school should their child not be attending on any given day. Parents, who have not notified the school regarding non-attendance of their child are notified phone if their child is not at school.

Staffing

Leadership structure for 2020
Principal
Deputy Principal
Religious Education Coordinator
Curriculum (K-10) Coordinator
Learning Support Coordinator
Daily Planner

In 2020 Star of the Sea Catholic College employed 44 staff members, consisting of 23 Teaching staff and 21 non-teaching staff.

Teaching Staff 2020

Denise Armstrong	<i>BTeach; Dip. Art, Craft and Design</i>	Kerrin Edwards	<i>BEd</i>
Rose Briscoe	<i>BA; DipEd</i>	Gary Goodall	<i>BA; DipEd</i>
Rebecca Britton	<i>BA (Music Education)</i>	Trudy Hoffman	<i>BEd</i>
James Britton	<i>BA; Grad Dip Ed</i>	Chris Jones	<i>BA; DipEd</i>
Anna Broughton	<i>BA; Cert.Ed</i>	Melissa McGillivray	<i>BEd</i>
Richard Chapman	<i>BSc; MTh; Grad Cert RE; Grad Dip Ed; Grad Cert Leadership</i>	Melitta O'Toole	<i>BEd (Primary)</i>
William Claessens	<i>LAT</i>	Suzi Romein	<i>BEd; MSpecial Ed.</i>
Claire Honeychurch	<i>BEd (Primary)</i>	Louise Sikkens	<i>BEd; MEd; DipTeach</i>
Oliver Cook	<i>BEd</i>	Karen Stewart	<i>BEd</i>
Lynelle Davis	<i>BA; BSW; Grad Cert RE; MTeach</i>	Karen Tame	<i>BSc; DipEd</i>
Craig Duncan	<i>BEd</i>	Damien Taylor	<i>BTeach; Grad Dip Ed; Grad Cert Theology and Leadership</i>
		Sally Walters	<i>Cert.Ed; Grad Cert Teaching Mathematics</i>

Average Attendance Rate of Teachers

The average attendance of staff was 93.1%. This was calculated by subtracting the sick days/personal leave taken from the total number of days expected at school.

Professional Learning

Our staff were provided with professional learning opportunities, both within and outside of the Catholic Education system. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, most professional learning was done within the College or via Zoom. Significant time was spent on professional learning in preparation for *Learning at Home*. Primary staff engaged in multiple professional learning around Maths teaching.

Capital Works

Redevelopments to the secondary area were completed in early 2020. These redevelopments saw new learning spaces for the students, an upgrade of student toilets and renewal of corridor spaces.

Catholic Culture and ethos

The College is known for its outstanding pastoral care program, its family atmosphere, its commitment to community connections and for its daily, whole-school operation as a Positive Behaviour community of “Safe, Respectful, Engaged Learners”. The full implementation of the Whole School Positive Behaviour Support process has further confirmed this positive environment and will continue to have impact in 2021 and beyond.

Spirituality

Existing within the tradition of Nano Nagle and the Presentation sisters, the school promotes the ideals of Nano Nagle; Attentiveness, Hospitality and Compassion. Our Primary and Secondary assemblies begin with a Presentation prayer and we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation with Mass and an afternoon of fun activities. Our staff meetings begin in prayer and we look to use different styles of prayer to deepen staff and student understanding of prayer.

Liturgy

Liturgies were celebrated in the form of whole school Masses on the Feast of the Assumption and Feast of the Presentation, whilst classes also participated in class Masses. The school also recognized Ash Wednesday with Primary and Secondary liturgies. There were also chances for prayer for the Blessing and Induction of College Leaders and our Awards evening. Classes also participated in class prayer. Most of our whole-school liturgies and prayers were attended by our Parish Priest. A number of our usual prayers and liturgies were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sacramental Programs

The Sacraments of Initiation and Reconciliation are Family based, Parish centred and School supported. Along with all other Catholic Primary Schools our students through discernment within their family, choose when their children will celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. There is a program that helps support students in preparing for these Sacraments facilitated by the Parish. Our school and classroom teachers celebrate and support students in their preparation along this journey to becoming adult members within the Catholic Church. In 2019 Sacramental preparation was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Outreach

The students have given generously to many charities throughout the year. Some of these include Project Compassion, the Archbishop's Samaritan Project and for St. Vincent de Paul. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Primary students took the opportunity to make gifts and send letters of support to the elderly at the Ainslie House Aged Care Facility, which were very well received by the residents. The College will continue to focus on opportunities for outreach in 2021.

Curriculum and Future Planning

As a learning community, we endeavour to provide a holistic educational experience which encompasses the core curriculum areas of Mathematics, English, Science, Humanities, Health/Well-being and Physical Education as well as the Visual and Performing Arts and LOTE. We nurture the spiritual dimension through our Religious Education program which permeates our values education, our grounds, our social-emotional education, supports our pastoral care and guides us in our day-to-day interactions within our school community.

Religious Education lessons are conducted in class groups and the Sacramental program is conducted under the model: parish-led, family-centred and school supported. We support students in developing the spirit and practice of reflection and prayer through meditative practices, class and individual prayer, and class and College liturgies.

With learning as the core business of the College, we are committed to ongoing professional learning and effective teaching to achieve ever-improving outcomes for students. The focus for 2020 was on Mathematics teaching and learning in the Primary school and remote learning across the whole school.

In 2020, students had access to devices (Laptops, Macbooks, Chromebooks and iPads) which were supplied by the College. This helped to enable our students to become ICT capable, as did the *Digital Technologies* subject that was included formally for the first time in our curriculum. Our Kinder to Grade 4 students were also able to regularly access iPads and Macbooks to aid their learning, and a number of desktops were also used around the College.

We maintain clear focus on supporting students' development in English/Literacy and Maths/Numeracy. The dedicated teaching blocks for both of these parts of the curriculum hold priority status at all levels of the College and staffing is allocated to ensure the highest level of support for these areas. Students in secondary were also able to access Maths tutoring after school and a lesson every fortnight was set aside for secondary students to focus on areas of their learning (in all subjects) they were having trouble with.

A skilled Learning Support team continues to operate for the support of the range of students in need of both intervention and extension. The Learning Support Coordinator, who liaises closely with TCEO personnel and with the range of agencies enlisted for student and family support, ensures that parent partnership operates for all students in focus. CatholicCare supplied a counsellor to the College for four days per fortnight.

The College provides for students the full range of curriculum offerings and all staff are using the Australian Curriculum as their foundational document. In support of quality teaching and learning all staff are committed to ongoing professional learning at group and individual level.

Student leadership was nurtured through structures and practices that operate across the College: elected Student Captains and Leaders, appointed House Captains, and involvement in groups like Mini Vinnies.

School Improvement Goals and Progress for 2020

Following is a condensed version of the College's School Improvement Goals for 2020 and the progress made on these goals at the time of writing.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND EVANGELISATION

Links to 1.3 School Climate, 1.4 Community, 1.5 Spiritual and Professional Formation, 1.6 Religious Education

GOALS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	PROGRESS
To have students play a greater role in our prayers and liturgies, specifically through involvement in music.	Singing in liturgies, etc.	Completed and ongoing: There has been a marked improvement in the participation of students in the liturgies. It is always ongoing as we look for more opportunities for students to be involved.
To give students the opportunity to be involved in outreach and service in the local community.	All students will have completed some type of outreach or service by the end of the year.	Ongoing: Our opportunities for Outreach were effected by the COVID-19 pandemic, but it also provided other opportunities such as Outreach to Ainslie.
To find ways of advertising the availability of the sacraments to families within the community, especially Baptism.	We have some interest in the Sacraments.	Ongoing: Sacramental program was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FOSTERING LEARNING

Links to 2.1 Quality Teaching, 2.2 Learning and Teaching Programs, 2.4 Staff Professional Learning, 2.5 Student Achievement, 2.7 Equity

GOALS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	
To have consistent approaches to learning, especially in Primary literacy and numeracy.	Students feel more comfortable year-to-year with expectations. Textbooks being used.	Ongoing: Difficult to assess success after two years, but it will continue into 2021. PL was focused around Numeracy teaching and learning.
To have dedicated literacy and numeracy blocks in the Primary school.	Feedback from staff indicating that they are not being interrupted.	Completed: This was timetabled and will continue to be timetabled for 2021.
To use data to better monitor and review the progress of students.	Staff will have seen the data and be able to work with it.	Ongoing: The data has been collected and collated, but the next step is for staff to be more comfortable in using it. Looking at using Data Walls in 2021.
To promote high standards and aspirations among students.	Consistent messaging across the school about importance of learning. An operational working party.	Ongoing: This will need to be addressed again in 2021.
To give staff the opportunity for Professional Learning that is suitable for them.	All staff will have at least one thing ticked off their Professional Learning wishes.	Ongoing: PL opportunities continue to be offered. Opportunities were limited due to COVID-19, but Maths and remote learning took priority.
To promote Visible Learning within the staff and have this implemented in classes.	Staff have an understanding of Visible Learning and are implementing elements of it in the classroom.	Completed and Ongoing: This was addressed in multiple staff meetings and will continue to be addressed in 2021.

LEADERSHIP

Links to 3.1 Leading the Catholic School Community

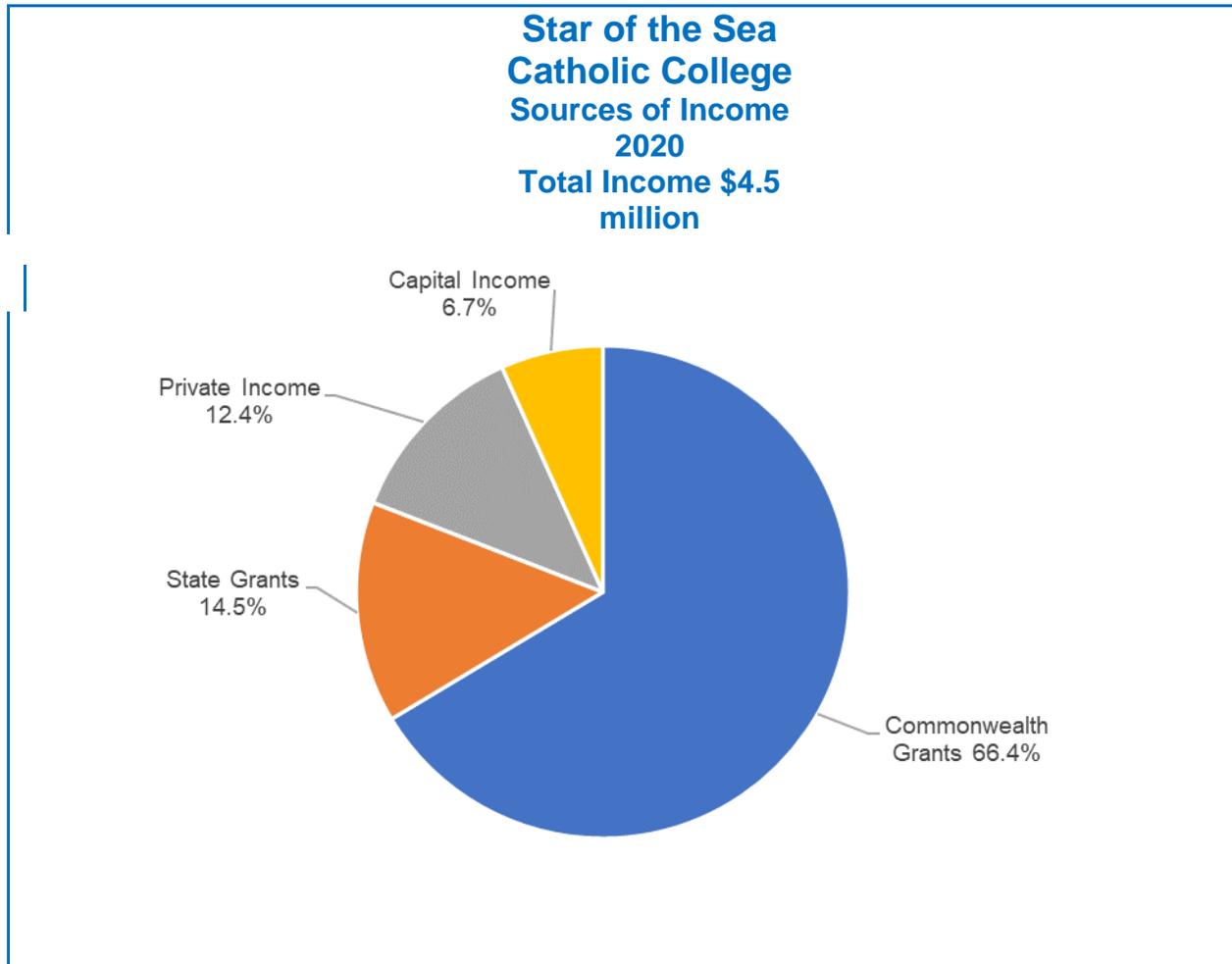
GOALS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	
To look for ways to bring in more student leadership opportunities into the College.	SRC model up and running. Student Leadership group doing some more tasks.	Ongoing: Because the year was disrupted it gave us the opportunity to re-look at our Student Leadership structures. More emphasis will be given to Primary leadership in 2021.

SUPPORT FOR MISSION

Links to 4.3 Positive Behaviours, 4.4 Equity

GOALS	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	
To make inroads in becoming “autism friendly,” to make the school a safe and inviting environment for everyone.	Greater awareness of autism around the school community. Better practices in classes.	Ongoing: Although staff have a greater awareness of students with autism, we will still continue to focus on this in 2021 and beyond.

Income and Expenditure



**Star of the Sea
Catholic College
Expenditure 2020
Total Expenditure
\$4.8 million**

