



Star of the Sea Catholic College

Annual Community Report

2024

Introduction

Principal Message

At Star of the Sea Catholic College, in the spirit of Nano Nagle, our vision is to be a Christ-centred, welcoming and compassionate community, providing quality education so we can embrace the future as people of hope. We support all our students to uphold our Values of attentiveness, hospitality and compassion. Our Catholic values as outlined in [The Archbishop's Charter for Catholic Schools](#) guide everything we do, and we thank all students and families for their active participation in both our school and Parish celebrations.

This year, the school has been working closely with families, students and teachers to learn more about trauma-informed practice, as well as working to improve student outcomes with a more explicit teaching approach in the school.

Entering our second year as an *Insight into Learning* School, teachers and students are commenting on the benefits of our Daily Reviews and we are seeing the results through positive outcomes for our students. As we recognize that parents/guardians are the first educators of their children, we thank all families for their support in continuing their child's learning at home.

Message from our Our Student Representative Council (SRC)

Our SRC is made up of students from Years 2 to Year 10. The SRC regularly meets to raise important issues to the student body. This year the Student Leaders undertook fundraising efforts through a Trivia Night. They also helped to run College sporting carnivals and Assemblies, as well as supporting St Vincent de Paul.

Message from our School Advisory Board

The School Advisory Board consists of 6 members and met six times in 2024. A major task undertaken this year was advising the Principal around topics such as WHS, book packs, trauma and mental health.

Redevelopments of the secondary staff area, staff toilets and staff room, along with the secondary playground, were started at the end of 2024 and we look forward to their completion by halfway through 2025.

Contextual Information

Star of the Sea Catholic College provides a Catholic education to students from Kinder to Year 10. Star of the Sea Catholic College is a Catholic School and is part of the Catholic Education Tasmania System of Schools.

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 on 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. We are blessed to have Father Bala as our Parish Priest. He works in partnership with the College and with a dedicated Parish Pastoral Council. All families, parishioners and members of the wider community collaborate for the benefit of the students of the College.

During 2024, there were 184 students enrolled. The table below includes the breakdown of our students:

Year level/s	Total Students	%Female	%Male	% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Early Years Kinder – Year 2	56	32%	68%	7%
Primary Year 3-6	55	53%	47%	13%
Secondary Year 7-10	73	51%	49%	15%

Star of the Sea Catholic College provides an excellent faith-based educational experience for its students, along with maintaining a clear focus on supporting students' development in English/Literacy and Maths/Numeracy. The outstanding team of educators and staff at Star of the Sea Catholic College live and promote our Catholic ethos and the values of the School. Star of the Sea Catholic College employs a team of highly-skilled professionals who are dedicated to providing the best pastoral and learning support to enable each student to achieve their fullest potential.

Further information on our school can be found on our website www.starsea.tas.edu.au or contacting our office on 03 6382 1242 during school hours.

Teacher Standards and Qualifications

All teachers at Star of the Sea Catholic College are registered to teach in accordance with the requirements of the Teachers Registration Board Tasmania. In 2024 we had 22 teachers working at Star of the Sea Catholic College. In 2024, we had 19 holding full registration. Provisionally registered teachers are supported through CET's Early Careers Program and are given the opportunity and support to progress to full registration.

A breakdown of teachers and qualifications are tabled below:

Teaching Staff 2024

Denise Armstrong	<i>BTeach; Dip. Art, Craft and Design</i>	Helen Halley	<i>BEd; BApp Social Science</i>
Rose Briscoe	<i>BA; DipEd</i>	Fiona Harmer	<i>BA; Grad Dip Ed; Grad Cert Education</i>
Anna Broughton	<i>BA; Cert.Ed</i>	Claire Honeychurch	<i>BEd (Primary)</i>
Stephanie Cavanough	<i>BA, GDipEd., GCertSteinerEd, CELTA</i>	Chris Jones	<i>BA; DipEd</i>
Richard Chapman	<i>BSc; MTh; Grad Cert RE; Grad Dip Ed</i>	Melissa McGillivray	<i>BEd</i>
Oliver Cook	<i>BEd</i>	Carmen Robotham	<i>BEd</i>
Lynelle Davis	<i>BA; BSW; Grad Cert RE; MTeach</i>	Suzi Romein	<i>BEd; MSpecial Ed</i>
Kerri Gay	<i>BEd</i>	Louise Sikkens	<i>BEd; MEd; DipTeach</i>
Gary Goodall	<i>BA; DipEd</i>	Karen Stewart	<i>BEd</i>
Zachary Griffiths	<i>BEd</i>	Karen Tame	<i>BSc; DipEd</i>
		Selina Taylor	<i>BEd</i>
		Sally Walters	<i>Cert.Ed; Grad Cert Teaching Mathematics</i>

Professional Learning

Professional learning is a key focus at Star of the Sea Catholic College. All staff attended CET's System Insight Days on 2nd February, 22nd July and 14th October. Further information on our school specific [Insight into Learning](#) program is available by contacting Mr Richard Chapman (Principal).

Other professional learning undertaken at Star of the Sea Catholic College in 2024 included *The Writing Revolution*, Primary Religious Education, and Child Safety.

Workforce Composition

Star of the Sea Catholic College staff 2024	
Full time teaching staff	17
Part time teaching staff	5
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	19
Full time non-teaching staff	9
Part time non-teaching staff	10
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	5
Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Staff	0

(This table does not include casual or relief teachers)

Student Attendance

Attendance at Star of the Sea Catholic College

Parents/guardians/independent students are responsible for notifying Star of the Sea Catholic College to explain the absence of their child on any school day or for any school activity. Notification is made via Compass, sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au or phone 03 6382 1242 by 10am each school day.

Primary students are marked as present at the commencement of each day by their teacher. Secondary students are marked as present at the commencement of each lesson by their teacher. Any non-attendance is cross checked by the Administration Office.

Year level	Average Attendance rate
pre-Year 1	89%
Year 1	89%
Year 2	87%
Year 3	91%
Year 4	88%
Year 5	80%
Year 6	80%
Year 7	87%
Year 8	81%
Year 9	84%
Year 10	82%

For whole school student attendance rates, please refer to the school's data on [My School](#)

Unauthorised Absences at Star of the Sea Catholic College

The Principal, Deputy Principal and permitted Administration staff are authorized to follow up unauthorized absences at Star of the Sea Catholic College. Where the school has not been notified of a student absence by 10am, parents/guardians will be notified by SMS requesting they follow up with the school. Where an absence remains unexplained, the student will be marked as an unauthorized absence. The process for following up unauthorised absences with parents/guardians/independent students is outlined in the [CET Attendance Policy](#).

Student results in NAP annual assessments

The following table demonstrates that Star of the Sea Catholic College student achievement in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy is generally at the same level as similar schools. This information is also available for Star of the Sea Catholic College via [My School](#).

	2023	2024			
Compare to	☒	Students with similar background	☐	All Australian students	
	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	347	377	327	324	365
Year 5	455	444	424	435	447
Year 7	485	477	515	515	525
Year 9	499	532	514	505	513

NAPLAN participation for this school is 90%
NAPLAN participation for all Australian students is 95%

^{NB} A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison colour to be available. Grey shading indicates participation did not meet these thresholds.

Interpreting the table

Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

Well above

Above

Close to

Below

Well below

No comparison available

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Star of the Sea Catholic College is committed to listening to the views and expectations of our community and is utilizing the School Effectiveness Survey's to obtain feedback on a wide range of related educational and wellbeing topics. The feedback from these surveys supports Star of the Sea Catholic College with both its annual and strategic planning and its commitment to continually improve the educational and wellbeing outcomes for our students.

The Aggregate scores for Organisational Climate, Teaching Climate, Student Wellbeing and Community Engagement are as follows:

Climate or Outcome	Actual Score
Organisational Climate	59.16
Teaching Climate	59.96
Student Behaviour	57.55
Student Wellbeing	55.08

Finance

