



SAINT MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE ALBURY

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Truth – Beauty - Goodness

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1. Message from key school bodies

School Board

We recognise that parents are the primary educators of their children, with a right to choose schools for their children.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury aims to provide a choice of schooling to all those seeking an independent school providing instruction in the Catholic faith. We aim to prepare students both academically and spiritually to become people of virtue and strong character.

This is an exciting time for the school as we celebrate the eleventh year of the school. It is pleasing to see excellent academic results across all year levels due to the dedication and hard work of the staff and students. The school has come a long way since those first days and we embrace the challenges as it grows and develops.

Principal

We began the 2018 school year growing from 130 students at the end of 2017 to 150, which is a huge increase from 100 students at the end of 2016. It is great to see the faithful and committed families who are joining our community as we all work together to live out our ethos *Verum, Pulchrum et Bonum* - Truth, Beauty and Goodness.

It was a busy start to the year with the school applying for funding in order to build more classrooms to cater for the growing student population. We have been successful in this application and are very excited to be proceeding with a major building project in 2018 with new classrooms, a science laboratory and an administration block.

The completion of the much anticipated sports court was a very exciting development for our school earlier this year. It has been a wonderful addition to our school, being thoroughly enjoyed by the students and broadening the scope of what can be offered during Physical Education lessons. The school has actively sought Sporting Schools Government Grants throughout 2018 and has been able to offer many sporting opportunities to the students including tennis, hockey and cricket as well as increasing its supply of sporting equipment.

The P&F were as active as ever in their fundraising efforts this year and I thank them for their constant support of the school. The school fete was another huge success this year, raising much needed funds to put towards school improvement projects.

There were once again a number of extracurricular activities undertaken for the benefit of students and their families. The MacKillop Cup was held against Saint Mary Mackillop College Wagga and SMMC Albury again during the year with a fun, competitive spirit being enjoyed by all staff and students. The much anticipated Yr.9-12 Snow Trip saw us enjoy a stunning day at Falls Creek and the Mother/Daughter

Camp at Howmans Gap was another success - all of this in amongst the terrific learning and teaching happening across the school.

I was very proud of our small group of three Year Twelve students who graduated this year. They set an excellent example to their fellow students and enjoyed some great academic achievements as reward for their efforts. We wish them all the very best for their future adventures. I am confident they will all make a positive difference in their chosen paths.

Our dedicated staff have worked extremely hard again this year to provide the best support and opportunities for our students. We farewelled the incredible team of Kevin and Christine Tingle who have served the school and its ethos so diligently and beautifully over the last 10 years. We wish them all the best for the future and thank them for their enormous contribution to our school, their work ethic, loyalty and role modelling of a life of service to God. They will be greatly missed.

We pray and have faith that God will continue to bless the school and help us to always hold fast to our original purpose - to help families grow closer to Christ and his teachings.

Kathleen Horsfall
Acting Principal

2. Contextual Information about the school

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury is a small, caring school in a rural setting. It is an independent school providing instruction in the Catholic faith for students from Kinder to Year 12, with a strong emphasis on character formation through the virtues. The lives of the saints feature in the day-to-day life of the school, as does the celebration of special feast days from the Catholic calendar.

The educational aim of the school is the critical communication of Catholic culture and the total development of the individual. The School motto is Verum, Pulchrum et Bonum (Truth, Beauty and Goodness). As Catholics we believe that we live in a universe created by a loving God. Everything in the cosmos bears the stamp of the Creator – it is true, beautiful and good. Education is about encouraging our students to develop by seeking out truth, beauty and goodness in all that they do.

Saint Mary MacKillop College was founded in the small rural community of Jindera in 2009 and year levels were gradually added on until the first Year 12 Class graduated in 2014. Saint Mary MacKillop College currently has students in all year levels from Kinder to Year 12.

The school recognises parents as the first educators of their children and works to support them in their vital role. We provide weekly parenting tips and guest speakers each term on a variety of topics. Saint Mary MacKillop College also takes an active part in ANZAC Day, Australia Day and Christmas celebrations in the local community.

Senior students visit the Greater Hume Aged Care Facility on a weekly basis as part of community service and fundraising for a worthwhile charity is held annually.

Our Parent and Friends Committee hold raffles and cake stalls throughout the year. We have two major fundraisers each year, namely the Saint Mary MacKillop Gala Dinner and our annual school fete.

3. Student performance in national and statewide tests and examinations

The College participated in the National Assessment Plan, Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9. In the table below it is showing the percentage of our students at proficiency compared to schools across the state.

SMMC NAPLAN Results – Percentages in Skills Bands

2018 Test Year 3

NAPLAN Test	Band 6 or above	Band 5	Band 4	Band 3	Band 2	Band 1
Reading						
School %	27	27	36	0	0	0
All Schools %	29	24	23	14	6	3
Writing						
School %	0	9	36	45	9	0
All Schools %	13	29	30	17	6	4
Spelling						
School %	18	27	45	0	0	0
All Schools %	24	23	23	16	8	4
Grammar and Punctuation						
School %	18	36	27	0	9	9
All Schools %	30	24	20	14	8	3
Numeracy						
School %	27	27	27	18	0	0
All Schools %	16	23	28	20	9	2

2018 Test Year 5

NAPLAN Test	Band 8 or above	Band 7	Band 6	Band 5	Band 4	Band 3 or below
Reading						
School %	15	46	15	23	0	0
All Schools %	16	23	27	20	9	3
Writing						
School %	0	0	15	54	23	8
All Schools %	2	13	30	31	15	9
Spelling						
School %	8	15	54	8	15	0
All Schools %	12	22	29	21	10	4
Grammar and Punctuation						
School %	38	23	23	15	0	0
All Schools %	14	22	29	20	10	4
Numeracy						
School %	23	38	23	15	0	6
All Schools %	9	18	30	27	11	3

2018 Test Year 7

NAPLAN Test	Band 9 or above	Band 8	Band 7	Band 6	Band 5	Band 4 or below
Reading						
School %	8	33	33	25	0	0
All Schools %	9	18	30	26	12	4
Writing						
School %	0	0	8	58	25	8
All Schools %	3	10	22	31	21	4
Spelling						
School %	8	42	17	17	8	8
All Schools %	10	20	28	23	11	6
Grammar and Punctuation						
School %	17	25	25	25	8	0
All Schools %	10	19	29	23	12	5
Numeracy						
School %	17	17	17	50	0	0
All Schools %	11	18	29	26	12	3

2018 Test Year 9

NAPLAN Test	Band 10	Band 9	Band 8	Band 7	Band 6	Band 5 or below
Reading						
School %	22	44	22	11	0	0
All Schools %	5	16	30	28	14	5
Writing						
School %	0	11	33	44	0	0
All Schools %	3	9	20	26	23	19
Spelling						
School %	33	0	56	11	0	0
All Schools %	7	17	28	25	14	8
Grammar and Punctuation						
School %	33	11	33	22	0	0
All Schools %	5	15	29	29	15	6
Numeracy						
School %	22	11	22	44	0	0
All Schools %	9	17	30	28	12	3

4. **Senior secondary outcomes (student achievement)**

In 2018 Saint Mary MacKillop College had three Year 12 Students successfully complete their studies and graduate.

5. **Professional Learning and Teacher Standards**

All teachers at Saint Mary MacKillop College in 2017 meet the standards required by the NSW Institute of Teachers.

Category	Number of Teachers
Staff who have teacher education qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines.	17
Staff who have a bachelor degree from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lack formal teacher education qualifications.	0

Professional Learning Activities

- Sue Larkey Autism Training in Albury
- LEM Phonics Course and follow up support with instructor
- Critical Incident Policy
- Religious Education Programme Review including Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Training
- Programming & Planning Consultancy
- Human Developmental Stages and how this links with classroom practice
- ICT Training – Google Docs, Spreadsheets and Presentations
- Special Education Needs workshops
- CPR Update
- NAPLAN results interpretation session
- NCCD workshops

6. **Workforce Composition including Indigenous**

The staff at Saint Mary MacKillop College is made up of five male and twelve female teaching staff, two classroom support staff- one male, one female, two female administration officers and one female cleaner.

School Staff 2017	
Teaching Staff	17
Full Time equivalent teaching staff	11.3
Non-teaching staff	5
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	2.8

7. **Student Attendance and retention rates in secondary school**

Average attendance for each school grade during 2018.

All students	95.2%
Kinder	87%
Year 1	93.8%
Year 2	93.8%
Year 3	93.2%
Year 4	95.0%
Year 5	93.9%
Year 6	93.2%
Year 7	93.1%
Year 8	95.9%
Year 9	94.3%
Year 10	92.1%
Year 11	93.6%
Year 12	96.1%

School Attendance Policy and Procedure

Attendance at school is compulsory. All absences should be explained by a written note which is dated and signed by the parent/guardian. If the child is likely to be absent for more than one week the school is to be advised as to the extent of the reason for the prolonged absence. Student's punctuality is expected, as late arrivals are treated as partial absences and also require a signed note from parent/caregiver.

8. Post school destinations (secondary schools only)

In 2018 Saint Mary MacKillop College had three Year 12 Students graduate. One student has enrolled in tertiary studies. Two are working part-time.

In 2018 we had nine Year 11 students. One student went on to continue studying at TAFE and eight students continued with Year 12 studies at SMMC.

In 2018 we had fifteen Year 10 students; two who changed schools due to family relocation, two who changed schools locally and one who left school to commence an apprenticeship. The remaining 10 students all continued their studies with SMMC.

9. Enrolment policies and characteristics of the student body

As a private school with a Catholic ethos, Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury has an evangelising mission. A distinguishing feature of Catholic education is that it is open to all, especially to the poor and weakest in society. The School exists primarily to assist parents in their duty to instil the Catholic faith in their children.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury aims to provide a choice of schooling to all those seeking a Catholic education for their children. However, enrolment of a student into the school cannot be guaranteed.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury has a particular responsibility to welcome, accept and support those who are poor, marginalised and in most need. Our conviction is that no student will be refused enrolment or be disadvantaged because of an inability on the part of parents/guardians to meet financial requirements.

Enrolment Policy

Preamble:

As a private school with a Catholic ethos, Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury has an evangelising mission. A distinguishing feature of Catholic education is that it is open to all, especially to the poor and weakest in society. The School exists primarily to assist parents in their duty to instil the Catholic faith in their children.

Policy:

1.0 Principles

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury aims to provide a choice of schooling to all those seeking a Catholic education for their children. However, enrolment of a

student into the school cannot be guaranteed. Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury has a particular responsibility to welcome, accept and support those who are poor, marginalised and in most need. Our conviction is that no student will be refused enrolment or be disadvantaged because of an inability on the part of parents/guardians to meet financial requirements.

1.1 Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury strives to be authentically Catholic and faithful to the Church, its traditions and teachings.

1.2 The school is a community whose mission is to provide its members with an holistic education which takes place in an environment formed by the authentic teachings and values of the Catholic Church.

1.3 The school community strives for strong partnerships with the parishes it serves. These partnerships must be demonstrated and strengthened by the enrolment procedure and practice.

1.4 Those who choose this school for their children do so on the understanding that they respect and agree to support the Catholic identity of the school and acknowledge the importance of religious education for their children. As a minimum requirement, parents accept a commitment to observe the precepts of the Church regarding the obligation to attend Mass every Sunday.

1.5 Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury are open to all who are willing to commit to support the philosophy, values and aims of Catholic schooling.

2.0 Responsibility

2.1 The Directors, in collaboration with the Pastor, Principal, staff and School Council have responsibility for ensuring that the authentic vision of Catholic education in the community remains the guiding principle in the application of the enrolment policy.

2.2 The Principal is responsible for enrolments. The Principal may form an enrolment committee to provide advice. Ordinarily, the Committee will comprise the Priest/Chaplain (or his representative) and a representative of the School Council as members. The Principal will chair the Committee.

3.0 Enrolment Policies

3.1 General

3.1.1 At initial enrolment, all parents must give a firm undertaking that they will accept and support during the period of their child's enrolment the life, nature and identity of the Catholic school, including the appropriate participation of their children in the approved religious education programs, and their own participation in key parent events.

3.1.2 No child is to be denied Catholic schooling simply because of an inability (as opposed to an unwillingness) of a parent/guardian, to meet financial requirements.

3.1.3 The attention of parents/guardians is drawn to the fact that acceptance of their children into the school does not confer an automatic entitlement to re-enrolment for the following year.

3.1.4 Enrolment applications received after the due date will only be considered if vacancies still exist, irrespective of where they might otherwise be placed in the priority order.

3.1.5 The Directors may authorise the refusal of an enrolment into the school if such enrolment would adversely impact on the provision of Catholic education

3.2 Enrolment Categories

3.2.1 Kindergarten Enrolments.

It is generally desirable for schools to adopt a cut-off enrolment date whereby children commencing in Kindergarten should be five (5) years of age by 30 April of the year of enrolment.

3.2.2 Early Age Enrolments

3.2.2.1 The Principal has the discretion to process an early age enrolment (Primary or accelerated Secondary school entry) if special circumstances exist.

3.2.2.2 Before agreeing to the early enrolment of the child the Principal must seek written approval from the Director.

3.2.2.3 The Principal must inform the child's parents of this consultation process at the time of the enrolment application.

3.2.3 Students with Disabilities

3.2.3.1 Principals must refer to the Disability Discrimination Act (1992) which can be located at <http://ceo.cg.catholic.edu.au/policies/disability.htm>

3.2.3.2 When processing enrolment applications from parents/guardians of students with disabilities who seek to be included in regular classes within the school, Principals must seek advice from relevant staff at AISNSW for Special Needs Education. Each application is to be handled individually.

3.2.5 Conditional Enrolment

The Principal may, in discussion with the student, parents, pastor, and staff, enrol a student on a conditional basis in light of the student's particular situation and/or needs at the time of or during the student's enrolment.

4.0 PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 All parents enrolling their children in the school must complete the official enrolment form and return it by the due date. The family of these children MUST provide an up to date reference from their Parish Priest indicating that they are practising Catholics in that Parish. Such action, however, does not guarantee enrolment in the school.

4.2 Applications, irrespective of their priority listing, received after the due date will only be considered if vacancies still exist.

4.3 Parents must be prepared to abide by the provisions specified in the enrolment form especially as regards the support they will give the school in the Catholic education of their children and the attendance of scheduled key parent events.

4.4 The child's parents/guardians must recognise and be prepared to meet their financial responsibilities for the ongoing enrolment of the child subject to section 3.1.2. of this policy document.

4.5 The child's parent/guardian must advise the Principal of any Court Order(s) that may exist in regard to the child and MUST provide a certified copy of the Order(s) for the child's school file.

5.0 ENROLMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

5.1 The School Council will monitor enrolment information submitted by the school and action taken by the school to ensure the Catholicity of the school and the basic aims of Catholic education are maintained.

Description of the Student Population

Student Body 2018	
Male	73
Female	78
LOTE	0
TOTAL	151

For further details visit the myschool website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

10. School Policies

Student Welfare

In accord with the principles of the Gospel and of the teachings of the Catholic Church, our school regards the safety of its students – not just physically and emotionally, but spiritually and morally – as integral to their full development as children of God and members of Christ’s body.

Student Discipline

The College does not sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons, including parents, to enforce discipline at the school.

Saint Mary MacKillop College recognises that self-discipline is intrinsic to the Christian life, and that the true order willed for us by God can only be achieved when our lives are ruled by reason and enlightened by Faith. To this end, we guide and assist our students to understand the meaning of true freedom and goodness and to strive for it individually and collectively.

Complaints and Grievances

The School aims to provide an environment for student and parents conducive to open and honest communication. It is our desire to facilitate an atmosphere of trust and co-operation.

There is a formal process for handling complaints and grievances. The school policy for handling complaints and grievances is on our website.

A person is not to be disadvantaged or discriminated against in any way for filing a complaint. As a matter of principle, anonymously filed complaints will not be processed.

11. **School determined improvement targets**

- To consolidate academic programmes in place across all stages of the curriculum.
- To get relevant professional development to assist with implementation of new syllabuses for the NSW Curriculum.
- The improvement of literacy outcomes for students identified as needing additional learning support. Indicators of success in literacy outcomes for these students are gauged by NAPLAN literacy results and standardized tests.
- Targeting students with additional learning needs to ensure they get the necessary support.
- The improvement of teaching expertise through individualised professional development. Professional Development was provided in house, in local area schools and in Sydney through the AIS (Association of Independent Schools).

12. **Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility**

The school promoted respect and responsibility amongst students by their participation in:

- Regular visits to The Jindera Aged Care facility.
- Students assigned specific duties for school garden.
- Students assigned individual roles & responsibilities for the College and Parish fetes.
- Student presentations for regular whole school assemblies.
- Weekly School Mass.
- ANZAC Day Commemoration Service held locally.
- Attendance at College Presentation Nights.
- Representing the School in sporting event competitions such as Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country.
- Eisteddfod choir participation
- Implementation of school rules that have as their overarching areas Respect Ourselves, Respect Others and Respect our Environment.

13. Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

At the conclusion of 2018 the Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury had 151 full time students enrolled.

Our school community consisted of 50 families and 17 teaching staff including part-time and full-time.

In 2018 an online survey was made available to students, parents and staff to give some feedback on the year at SMMC. Specific questions were formulated for each of the areas and opportunities given for general feedback also.

The **students** were asked to rate their school in the following 2 categories:

- Learning and Teaching
- Wellbeing

Overall students were positive about their experiences at the College.

Parents were asked to rate their satisfaction of the school in 3 areas:

- Learning and Teaching
- Student Wellbeing
- Communication

Survey results showed that overall our parent community is satisfied with what is happening in all of these areas.

Teaching staff were asked to rate their work environment in the following 6 areas:

- School Culture
- Leadership
- Learning and Teaching
- Student Wellbeing
- Communication
- Professional Development

Survey results showed that the majority of teachers were positive about their work environment in each of the categories.

14. Summary 2018 Financial Information

Financial data available on www.myschool.edu.nsw.au

