

Mildura Christian College

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Annual Report 2017

Mildura Christian College is an independent co-educational Christian school of approximately 85 students from Prep to Year 10. The College is situated in a semi-rural area just outside the township of Irymple and approximately 10kms from the centre of Mildura. We are surrounded by grapevines and enjoy very comfortable facilities. The College is well supported by the wider Christian community and has developed a reputation for excellence.

Our school community is made up of families from different backgrounds including a number of families from South Pacific Islands as well as indigenous students and a number of other nationalities. Mildura Christian College is committed to making quality Christian education available to all who value Christian principles and training. It is a low fee school with the majority of students coming from low-income families.

The mission of Mildura Christian College is to partner with parents and the wider community to “tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, His power, and the wonders He has done.” (Psalm 78:4 NIV) Working together, we strive to develop the gifts and talents that God has given each individual. Students are encouraged to develop Godly character in their lives as well as a passion for Him whilst also pursuing excellence at an academic, practical, and creative level.

Teacher Standards & Qualifications

All of our teachers are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teachers having obtained the necessary qualifications and achieved the necessary standards of excellence for teacher registration.

The following is a list of the qualifications held by our teaching staff in 2017. Some qualifications are held by more than one teacher.

Doctor of Philosophy (Materials Engineering)	Post Graduate Diploma Secondary Education
Bachelor of Engineering	Graduate Diploma Technology Education
Bachelor of Teaching	Graduate Diploma of Teaching & Learning
Bachelor of Education	Diploma in Education
Diploma of Teaching	Bachelor of Arts
Graduate Diploma in Special Education	Bachelor of Legal Studies
Further Diploma in Education	Diploma of Journalism
Graduate Diploma in Education	

The great majority of staff hold current certification in First Aid Training Level 2 and most have completed accredited training in Asthma Management as well as the First Aid Management of Anaphylaxis. All staff complete the *Protecting Children - Mandatory Reporting and other Obligations* module every twelve months.

Workforce Composition

At different times in 2017, there were twelve female staff and five male staff employed at Mildura Christian College. No indigenous staff members were employed.

Student Attendance

The overall attendance rate of MCC students in 2017 was 91.7%

Attendance Rates Across Year Levels										
Prep	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10
70%	94.3%	93.5%	94.8%	94.6%	93.25%	92.75%	94.8%	95.3%	94%	95.6%

The overall attendance rate of MCC students dropped around 3% in 2017. In a small school like ours, the figures are subject to fluctuation due to the poor attendance of just one or a few. The great majority of the student body has an excellent attendance rate with some of the lower percentage figures shown above affected by a small number of families with low or very low attendance rates. Personal and family issues impacted the attendance rate of a number of families. These families received support from the College.

The College recognises the strong correlation between attendance rates and student performance with those who attend school most often clearly performing the best. MCC will continue to work with families in an effort to improve attendance rates.

Parents are encouraged not to take family holidays during the school term. If a student is going to be or has been absent, parents are asked to inform the College as soon as possible. This can be done over the telephone, or by a signed note in the student's diary. If a student has been absent from school for more than one day without explanation the college will call the student's home in order to determine the student's whereabouts and reason for absence as well as a likely return date.

Parent, Student, and Teacher Satisfaction

In 2016, Mildura Christian College participated in the Lead School Effectiveness Surveys conducted by Independent Schools Victoria. The College had previously participated in these surveys in 2013. The surveys are designed to measure school effectiveness. The survey's objective is to help schools gain a better understanding of key stakeholders' opinions of the school to assist in improving education outcomes. The results of each survey were very pleasing. Students, staff, and parents, all indicated very high levels of satisfaction with the school.

Parent Survey: On every question asked in 2016, parents indicated a higher level of satisfaction than the already high levels of satisfaction in 2013. Parents also indicated significantly higher levels of satisfaction than in other statistically similar schools as well as all ISV schools.

Student Survey: Very high levels of satisfaction were noted by the student surveys. Across every domain, our students indicated higher levels of satisfaction than statistically similar schools as well as all ISV schools. Large improvements in student satisfaction were noted compared to the 2013 LEAD results.

Staff Survey: Similar to the parent and student surveys, staff indicated a very high level of satisfaction with the school. Again, satisfaction levels across all domains exceeded those of statistically similar schools as well as all ISV schools. Some domains saw a small decrease on the satisfaction levels of 2013 and other domains saw a small increase. Overall, satisfaction levels increased on the already high levels of 2013.



Anecdotal evidence observed in and around the College in 2017 support the results of the LEAD surveys and suggest that our students, staff and parents continue to be proud of their school and are pleased to be a part of the school community.

Much positive feedback has been received from parents at various functions as well as at parent teacher interviews. The high level of satisfaction was evidenced by a very strong reenrolment rate for the 2018 school year.

There is good school spirit amongst the student group with a generally very positive atmosphere enjoyed on a daily basis. Past students often speak fondly of their time at MCC and are pleased with how MCC prepared them for future study and/or the workforce. Many have expressed their wish that they could remain at MCC for the senior secondary years.

At various times in staff meetings as well as private meetings with the principal, the teaching staff of MCC have indicated a high level of satisfaction with the College. Staff have spoken of strongly believing in the aims and goals of the school and have indicated their pleasure in being part of a team that holds common beliefs and purposes. This has been evidenced by the fact that all 2017 staff members returned for the 2018 school year.

Standardised Test Results

The following table shows the proportion of Year 3, 5, 7, & 9 students meeting the national reading, writing, spelling, grammar & punctuation, and numeracy benchmarks as determined by the 2017 NAPLAN Tests. Results from previous years are given for comparison.

Area Assessed	Percentage of Students At or Above National Benchmarks											
	Yr 3			Yr 5			Yr 7			Yr 9		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Reading	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Writing	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	88%	100%	67%	100%	100%	100%	88%
Spelling	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	80%	100%
Grammar & Punctuation	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Numeracy	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In general, Mildura Christian College students perform very well on the annual NAPLAN tests. It must be noted that for a small school such as ours percentage results can be misleading. For example, in a group of 3 students, if only one student fails to meet the national standard (perhaps due to a learning disability) this will yield a percentage result of 67% in the table above. For students with learning disabilities, participation in the NAPLAN tests is particularly challenging and their results are not indicative of the school's overall performance, however they are included in the table above.

Despite the limited usefulness of the percentage results shown above, the NAPLAN test results do provide useful information that informs the College's curriculum development. Trends in student



performance across different assessment areas as well as from one year level to the next, help the school identify strengths and weakness in its educational program.

Post School Destinations

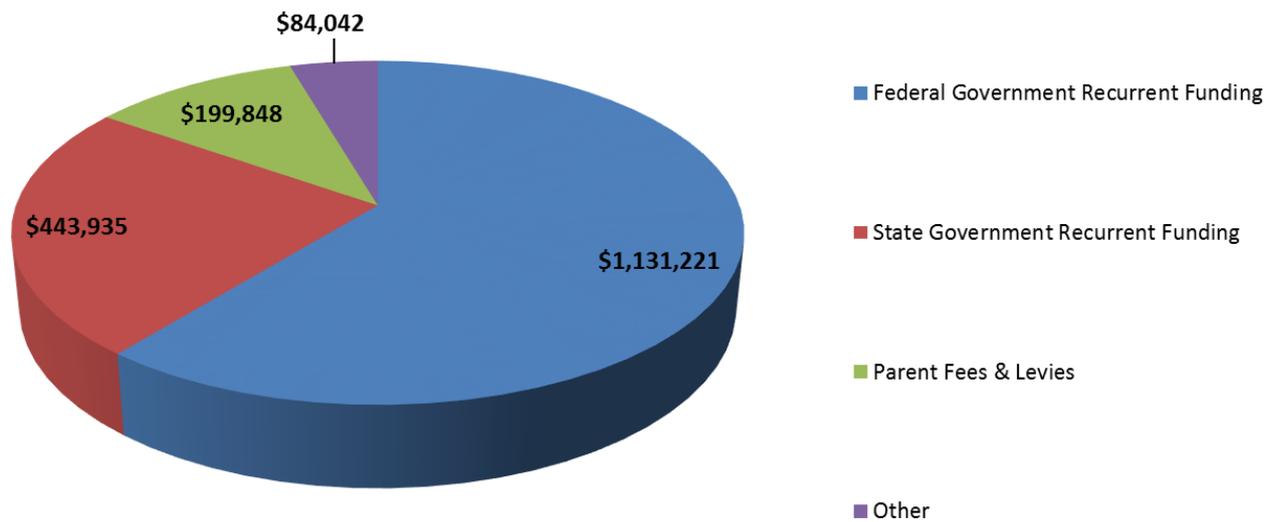
Three students left Mildura Christian College as Year 10 school leavers at the end of the 2017. All three have enrolled in a senior secondary school and are completing the VCE.



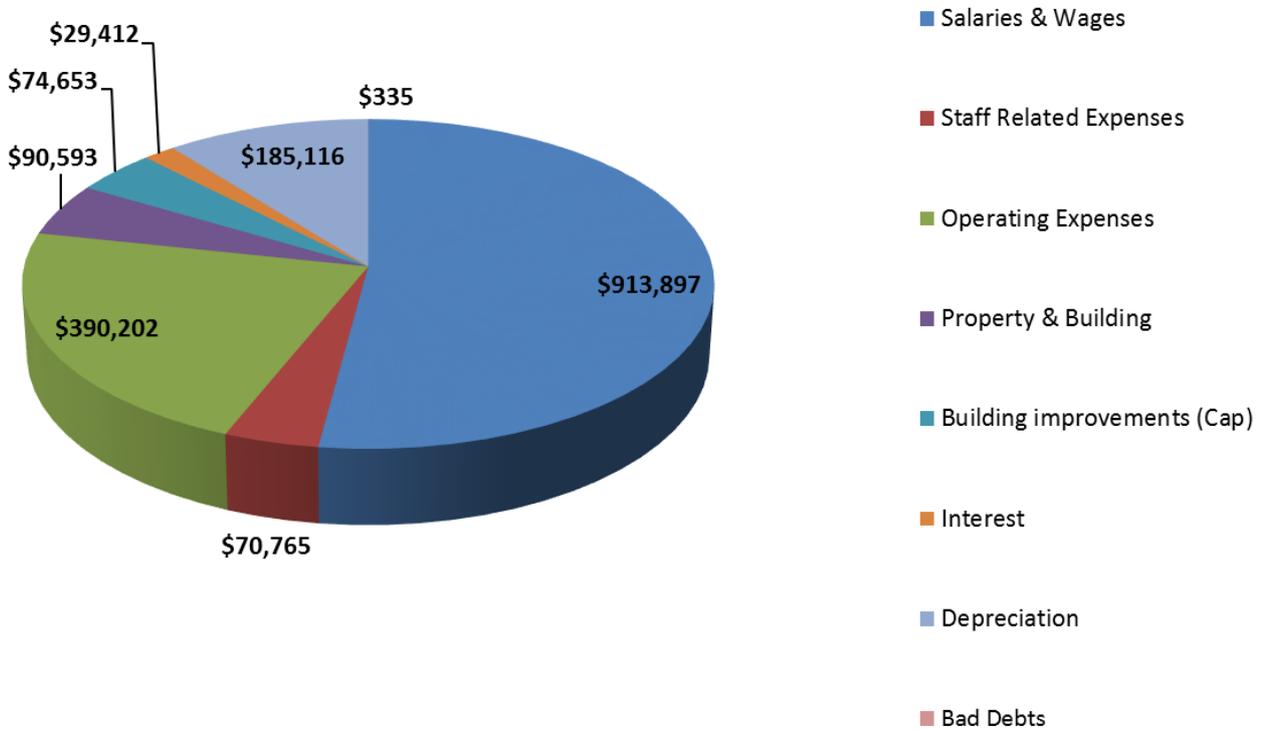
Financial Activities

Mildura Christian College is a low fee school. Many of our families have limited income and make significant sacrifices in order for their children to attend the college. MCC relies heavily on recurrent funding from both the Federal and State Governments. The charts below gives a breakdown of 2017 school income and operating expenditure.

2017 College Income



2017 College Expenditure



Overall, the College remains in a sound financial position. In 2017 (as in previous years) the College's total operating expenditure did not exceed its total recurrent income. All surplus funds are invested into the improvement of facilities or the repayment of loans.

