

School Community Annual Report for 2015

The following report has been prepared in response to the Australian Government requirement that schools report on specific issues to their stakeholders on an annual basis. This report relates to information from the operation of Christian Schools Tasmania in 2015.

Christian Schools Tasmania provides education for boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 12 at Calvin Christian School in Kingston, Emmanuel Christian School in Rokeby, Channel Christian School in Margate and Northern Christian School in Bridgewater. There are approximately 873 students enrolled across these schools.

Each of the schools seeks to provide highest quality Christ-centred education in their respective communities. A visit to any of the schools reveals students actively engaged in learning at levels appropriate to their age and development. Professional teachers care for students and provide instruction in creative and stimulating ways, unfolding God's Creation with their students and expressing God's love and wisdom through a variety of means. Parents in each school value the strong pastoral care that is demonstrated towards their students.

Student outcomes

Students are encouraged to achieve to their potential and typically continue their studies post-Year 12 at University or the Skills Institute or Polytechnic or move into the work force.

In 2015, 33 students completing Year 12 at Calvin Christian School received outstanding results across a range of subject areas. 100% of those students aiming to achieve a Tertiary Entrance Score (TES) were successful. Two of those students achieved a TES in excess of 97. Of those achieving a TES for the purpose of university entrance the median TES was 65.48.

Of those aiming for university, 25% of students achieved an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) over 90 and 45% achieved an ATAR over 80.

A summary of the 2015 post-school destinations for Calvin Christian School Year 12 students is shown in the following table:

School Year – 2015	Number of Students	Percentage of Students
Students who are studying at University	17	52%
Students who gained entrance to university now working (gap year)	1	3%
Students studying at TAFE, or undertaking a Traineeship or Apprenticeship	6	18%
Students working	4	12%
Other	5	15%
Total Year 12 students	33	100%

Other Student matters

Students in our schools are involved in a wide variety of learning opportunities.

Co-curricular activities include:

- intra and inter school sport;
- community service;
- peer mentoring;
- overseas mission trips;
- broad range of cultural pursuits including music, drama, dance and art;
- outdoor education and field trips;
- international student exchanges;
- interest clubs; and
- scholastic competitions.

The table below indicates Standardised Test results of Christian Schools Tasmania students in the areas of reading, writing, spelling, numeracy and punctuation and grammar for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The table shows the percentage of Christian Schools Tasmania students who achieved the national benchmark for the area indicated.

	Year level	% of students who achieved national benchmark in 2014
Reading	3	95.4%
	5	98.6%
	7	100%
	9	98.4%
Writing	3	98.5%
	5	94.4%
	7	88.9%
	9	87.1%
Spelling	3	98.5%
	5	98.6%
	7	96.8%
	9	91.9%

	Year level	% of students who achieved national benchmark in 2014
Grammar & Punctuation	3	96.9%
	5	98.6%
	7	98.4%
	9	98.4%
Numeracy	3	98.5%
	5	98.6%
	7	98.4%
	9	100%

Staffing and employment matters

Christian Schools Tasmania is staffed by dedicated Christian people from a variety of backgrounds and with wide-ranging experience. Currently, there are two staff members identified as indigenous.

It is a legal requirement that teachers employed in Tasmania are registered with the Tasmanian Teachers Registration Board. All teachers employed by Christian Schools Tasmania are registered and hold appropriate teacher qualifications.

During 2015, 100% of teaching staff were involved in professional development. Activities include participation in:

- Subject associations e.g. English, Science, Mathematics, LOTE teachers etc
- State and national conferences
- Studies with the National Institute of Christian Education
- Professional reading
- Seminars
- Onsite staff training
- Quality teacher program initiatives
- IT skills
- WHS training

Levels of involvement

Strong parental involvement is evident in school life, including voluntary service in classrooms, participation in School Councils and membership of the Board and committees of Christian Schools Tasmania. Other activities including school fairs and parent welcoming events also display high levels of parent satisfaction and engagement within each of our school communities.

Staff retention is very high and all staff display high levels of commitment to the school community.

Student participation in a wide range of activities in and outside school time is high although student attendance rates have been lower than previous years. The average student attendance rate in 2015 was 93.6%. Attendance is monitored daily with parents contacted in relation to any student absences. Attendance for each year level was as follows:

Year level	Attendance %
P	93.0%
1	93.2%
2	93.7%
3	94.2%
4	93.8%
5	93.3%
6	94.9%
7	93.3%
8	92.3%
9	92.1%
10	93.8%
11	93.6%
12	92.0%

Planning

The Board takes responsibility for setting strategic goals for Christian Schools Tasmania, as described in the Strategic Plan. At the local school level, members of our school communities have the opportunity to provide input into School Development Plans. These plans identify priorities for each school for the future. Aspects of the school that are valued as well as areas for improvement are taken into account in determining these priorities. Current School Development Plans for each of the schools are available from the respective school office.

There are other reports available on the Christian Schools Tasmania website (www.cst.tas.edu.au) that make information available to the public and our school communities, including:

- Financial Statements for 2015, indicating our sources of income and expenditure; and
- the Workplace Gender Equality Report 2015.

End of report

If you have any questions or comments related to this report, please address them to:

Mr Simon Matthews, Executive Director, Christian Schools Tasmania

Phone (03) 6224 8300