

# Opportunities for All



**St Mark's**  
ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

## SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2020

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[stmarks.wa.edu.au](http://stmarks.wa.edu.au)

# School Performance Information

## About this Report

This Annual Report is intended to provide a picture of St Mark's Anglican Community School in terms of various indicators of performance including the composition and engagement of the staff, the attendance and outcomes for students, community satisfaction and funding for the **2020 calendar year**.

## Our School

With its foundation in 1986 by the Anglican Schools Commission, the clear vision of St Mark's Anglican Community School is to be a Christian school in which students are able to grow in character and ability, developing strong values and gaining skills through a wide range of educational experiences both within and outside of the curriculum.

Values of *Respect, Knowledge, Confidence, Responsibility and Community* are touchstones upon which the School continues to build a caring community for students, parents and staff.

The School's broad education emphasises literacy and numeracy skills, as well as encouraging flexible minds, a positive self-concept and resilience, together with helping students acquire the personal resources with which to lead a full life. The School endeavours to cater for children with a wide range of abilities through both academic extension and learning support.

## Our Students

Our students have opportunities to explore a wide variety of endeavours including academic, sporting, artistic and cultural activities, underpinned by a strong Pastoral Care system.

St Mark's is a Kindergarten to Year 12 coeducational school with a total student population of 1,724 enrolled at the August 2020 census date.

The Federal government funded 696 students in Primary, and 967 in Years 7 to 12. In addition to the 1,663 students eligible for Federal per capita funding, the School had 50 kindergarten students, seven full fee paying overseas students enrolled from Year 9 to Year 12 and two international immersion students in the Primary School. Four students have identified as Indigenous. 140 students were eligible to receive additional Federal funding for students with disabilities.

Student Composition	Male	Female	TOTAL
KG - Year 6	378	370	748
Year 7 to Year 12	483	493	976
TOTAL	861	863	1,724

## Our Staff

All teachers at St Mark's are appropriately qualified and registered with the Teacher Registration Board of Western Australia.

We have teachers who have over 30 years of teaching experience, as well as several who are new to the profession. St Mark's is an Equal Opportunity Employer. When appointing staff, we do not discriminate along gender, racial or religious lines. We are a Christian school, but we welcome people of all faiths, as well as people with no religious beliefs.

- The total staff of St Mark's in 2020 was comprised of 140 Teaching staff and 97 Administration and Support staff.
- No staff identified as indigenous.
- The average rate of attendance at School, by Teaching staff in 2020 was 93.4%.
- All Academic staff participated in relevant Professional Learning during 2020.
- The average expenditure per staff member for Professional Learning was \$775.
- A further \$359 was expended per staff member on teacher relief costs, where needed, to cover for staff who were out of School on Professional Learning activities.

The types of Professional Learning undertaken by staff during 2020 were varied. Many activities were focussed on specific areas of curriculum development across the Primary, Middle and Senior schools. Development of teachers' skills and knowledge in the broad area of information technology and its many applications in teaching and learning, was also a significant focus for professional learning. Professional Learning activities came in many forms, including in-house seminars and workshops for large and small groups, courses and conferences provided at external venues.

Staff Composition	Male	Female	TOTAL
Teaching Staff	42	98	140
Non-teaching Staff	21	76	97
TOTAL	63	174	237

## Community Satisfaction

Supportive relationships between staff, parents and students are seen as integral to the success of the School. We endeavour to communicate regularly with parents, for example, through the weekly newsletters, a regular magazine, Semester reporting, parent-teacher interviews and information evenings.

St Mark's believes that the ultimate indicator of community satisfaction is expressed by student and staff retention rates:

- The average student retention rate in 2020 was 95.32%.
- The percentage of teaching staff retained (2019 - 2020) was 95%.

In addition, satisfaction is also demonstrated through an active and involved community. One example of this is our growing Old Scholars' Association, which now has a database of more than 2,500 members. The thriving Parents & Friends' Association is one of many avenues through which parents can engage with staff and other School families and get involved in community activities.

## Student Outcomes: Student Attendance

In 2020, the attendance rates reported to Federal Government's Department of Education, Skills and Employment from Years 1 to 10 was 94.3%. In Primary, attendance rolls are taken twice daily, in the morning and after lunch. In Secondary, attendance rolls are taken continuously during every class during the day. Absentee information is then transferred to an electronic database.

An absentee phone line, with voice mail facilities, provides parents with the means to lodge information about student absences, and a dedicated email address gives parents the means to provide written notification of absentees. Text messages are sent to parents/guardians of students who are absent from School, where the absence is not explained by earlier contact or a note. Parents are requested to provide a written explanation of their child's absence on their return to School. The return of notes and/or medical certificates is recorded, hard copies kept and archived. If notes or medical certificates are not provided, parents can be formally requested (in writing) to supply the supporting documents.

## Student Outcomes: NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia. NAPLAN tests four areas of learning, including Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. In 2020, the NAPLAN assessments were cancelled due to COVID-19.

## Student Outcomes: Year 12 Results

Last year's Year 12 students faced some challenging circumstances through the year as a result of some uncertainty created by COVID-19 restrictions in our community. Despite that uncertainty, our students committed themselves to their study and were successful in achieving pleasing academic results across a number of measures.

In 2020, 154 of 155 (99.36%) full time eligible students achieved their Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). The median ATAR score achieved by St Mark's students was 80.83. This figure was an improvement on 2019, and more reflective of the School's upward trend in this measure over the five years prior to 2019. In 2020, two students achieved an ATAR of 99.00 or higher, while six students achieved an ATAR of 95.00 or higher.

St Mark's aligns with the view of AHISA, the Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia, in WA that believes the 'league table' of median ATAR scores is but one, narrow measure of student achievement when there are so many other characteristics of our students that we value and of which we are very proud.

ATAR Score	Male	Female	TOTAL
90 - 99.95	11	11	22
80 - 89.95	20	19	39
70 - 79.95	8	14	22
60 - 69.95	6	9	15
55 - 59.95	3	3	6
Less than or equal to 54.95	5	3	8
Total	53	59	112

While all students in the General Pathway completed at least one Certificate II or higher, 41 students in the 2020 cohort completed 143 VET certificates over their Years 10-12, which is a significant achievement. In many cases, achievement of a VET certificate will lead directly to further study or training at TAFE, an apprenticeship or traineeship, employment, or to university entrance and study.

In five of the WACE courses taught at St Mark's, the School was named as having the highest performing students in ATAR courses, based on the percentage of students who had Year 12 ATAR course combined scores in the top 15% of all students in that course. These courses are:

- Business Management and Enterprise
- Food Science and Technology
- Health Studies
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Physical Education Studies

One of our students was awarded a Subject Certificate of Excellence (top 0.5% of candidates based on the examination mark) for Mathematics Applications, ten students were awarded a Certificate of Distinction and 22 students were awarded a Certificate of Merit for their Year 12 studies.

Our congratulations also go to Tayla Burton for her documentary on fellow Old Scholar, Nikau Davidson's, transition. The documentary received an A grade, and was selected for the 2020 Pulse Perspectives exhibition, and was also screened at the Geelong Pride Festival.

100% of our 2020 Year 12 students achieved the required standard in OLNA in each of the three components (Reading, Writing, Numeracy) by the end of their Year 12.

### University Offers (compared to State figures)

Over the last few years, St Mark's has consistently seen the majority of its students head to university after completing Year 12 at the School. 71 students applied for university, with a median ATAR of 80.85.

The table below provides information on the number of students offered places at the universities in WA (excluding Notre Dame). There are also a number of students who have headed interstate and overseas for various courses and/or gap years and may not be accounted for in these statistics.

	St Mark's					State				
<i>Number of students with an ATAR who applied</i>	71					6664				
<i>Median ATAR of students who applied</i>	80.85					83.05				
	Total	Curfin	ECU	Murdoch	UWA	Total	Curfin	ECU	Murdoch	UWA
No of students with a 1st preference*	76	38	28	1	9	8045	5249	763	503	1530
Offered 1st preference	53	28	18	0	7	5502	3715	480	338	969
Offered any preference	70	34	27	1	9	7324	4720	680	508	1416
Enrolled	52	28	19	0	5	4361	3319	360	113	549
Deferred	2	2	0	0	0	530	395	48	30	57

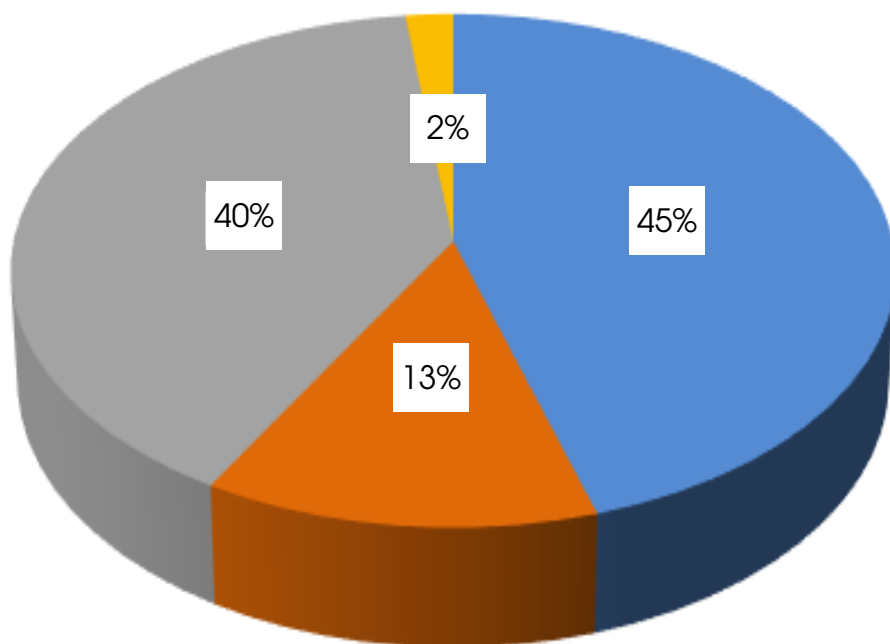
## School Funding

Information on the School's finances, which will be provided on the My School website later in the year, indicates total income of \$37.5 million or \$22,515 per student (\$18,549 per student in 2019). The increase in total income per student from last year is mainly due to unforeseen grants received from the Australian Government, expected only to be relevant in 2020. Without these unforeseen grants, the total income per student would be \$245 less than in 2019.

The percentage of total income by source without the unforeseen grants would be Australian Government recurrent funding (33%), State Government recurrent funding (16%), fees, charges and parent contributions (49%) and other private sources (2%), which is consistent with 2019.

Total per capita recurrent funding received from State and Federal Governments increased by \$112 per student year on year. Income from fees and charges decreased by \$232 per student since 2019, and income from other sources decreased by \$126 per student from 2019. These decreases are in part due to the financial impact of COVID-19.

## Sources of Recurrent Income



### Key:

- Australian Government Recurrent Funding
- State and Territory Recurrent Funding
- Fees, Charges and Parent Contributions
- Other Private Sources

Capital expenditure in 2020 was \$0.9m. Key capital projects during the year focused on:

- completing refurbishments of the Busselton building and Early Learning Centre,
- procurement of a Toyota Coaster bus and front loader,
- construction of shelters for the Secondary School oval and car park,
- construction of additional bike racks, and
- ongoing upgrades of computer and technical equipment.

No major building projects were undertaken and the School's Strategic Plan for 2021 to 2025, will assist in determining the nature and timing of future strategic capital projects.

The majority of capital expenditure in 2020 was fully funded by fees. The Australian Government contributed a capital grant of \$20,000 towards the shelters for the Secondary School oval and car park.

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*A School of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc.*

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