

St Mark's Anglican Community School

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A School of the Anglican Schools Commission (Inc.)

Annual Report 2012

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 the curriculum.

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

The extended School family at St Mark's continues to grow with past students maintaining close links through regular reunions and a growing number of enrolments for their own children. 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. St Mark's students have opportunities to explore a wide variety of endeavours including extensive sporting, academic and cultural activities through which they can grow in their life skills, all of which are underpinned by a strong Pastoral Care system and a sense of being a valued and integral part of the School Community.

St Mark's is a Kindergarten to Year 12 coeducational school with a total student population of over 1500. In 2011, just under 1000 of these students were in Secondary School (Year 7 to Year 12). The School operates through three sub-schools, being Primary (Kindergarten to Year 6), Middle (Year 7 to Year 9) and Senior (Year 10 to Year 12). St Mark's students are drawn from the local suburbs with a mixed demographic composition.

This Annual Report is intended to give you a picture of St Mark's 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.

*Our Values: Respect with Trust . Knowledge
Confidence and Achievement . Responsibility . Community*

Staff Composition, Qualification and Professional Engagement

All of the teachers at St Mark's are appropriately qualified. A list of the formal qualifications held by staff is published annually in the Endeavour Magazine. Similarly, all teachers are registered with the Western Australian College of Teaching. We have teachers who have over 30 years of teaching experience, as well as several who are new to the profession. In 2011, the staff of St Mark's comprised 123 Teaching staff and 58 Administrative and Support staff. The total FTE for 2011 was 146.

- The average rate of Teaching staff attendance at School for 2011 was 96.%
- All academic staff participated in professional learning (PL) during 2011. The average expenditure per staff member for PL was \$1,288. A further \$1,039 was expended per staff member on teacher relief costs where needed to cover for staff who were out of School on PL activities.

The types of professional learning undertaken by staff during 2011 varied. Many activities were focussed on specific areas of curriculum development across both the primary and secondary schools. There was a particular emphasis on the implementation of the new Australian Curriculum. 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 groups and events at external venues. A number of staff travelled interstate and overseas for conferences, with many of those presenting at both national and international conferences.

St Mark's is an Equal Opportunity Employer. When appointing staff, we do not discriminate along gender, racial or religious lines. As an overtly Christian school, we do not exclude people of other faiths.

Community Satisfaction

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 2011 was 95%.
- The retention rate for students from Year 9 through to Year 12 was 86.9% (89.7% in 2010).
- The percentage of staff retained (2010 - 2011) was 96.4%.

In addition, satisfaction is also demonstrated through an active and involved community. One example of this is our growing Old Scholars Association. Many of our Old Scholars are now also choosing to enrol their children at St Mark's.

Student Outcomes - Student Attendance

In 2011 the attendance rates reported to DEEWR from Years 1 to 10 were 96.4% attendance for males and 94.9% attendance for females. In comparison, the 2010 rates were 95% for males and 93.5% for females.

Rolls are taken every morning in Form time. Absentee information is then transferred to an electronic database. An Absentee phone line, with Messagebank, provides parents the means to lodge information about student absences. SMS messages are sent to parents/guardians of students who are absent from school (where the absence is not explained by earlier contact or note). Students are required to provide a written explanation of their absence on their return to School. The return of notes and/ or medical certificates is recorded and hard copies kept and filed for archiving. If notes or medical certificates are not provided, parents are 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. It is important to note that the skills tested by NAPLAN develop over time through the school curriculum. More importantly, it provides the School and the School community with an overall snapshot of how the student body is progressing. As there are students of differing learning abilities in each cohort, results will vary each year.

The tables that follow give a broad snapshot of these year groups at this point in time. The School monitors the progress of individuals and year cohorts from Year 3 to Year 9 and uses this data along with other benchmarked data to assist us in identifying particular student needs at each end of the performance scale and general cohort capabilities. It is also useful in identifying changes in progress for individual students.

	Percentage within Top 20% of nation	Percentage in bottom 20% of nation	Percentage at or above the benchmark
Spelling			
Year 3	21	11	95
Year 5	38	3	98
Year 7	29	7	99
Year 9	24	10	97

Student Outcomes - NAPLAN *continued*

	Percentage within Top 20% of nation	Percentage in bottom 20% of nation	Percentage at or above the benchmark
Grammar and Punctuation			
Year 3	22	22	90
Year 5	41	9	98
Year 7	25	7	100
Year 9	34	6	99

	Percentage within Top 20% of nation	Percentage in bottom 20% of nation	Percentage at or above the benchmark
Numeracy			
Year 3	30	8	95
Year 5	52	1	100
Year 7	44	6	99
Year 9	29	7	99

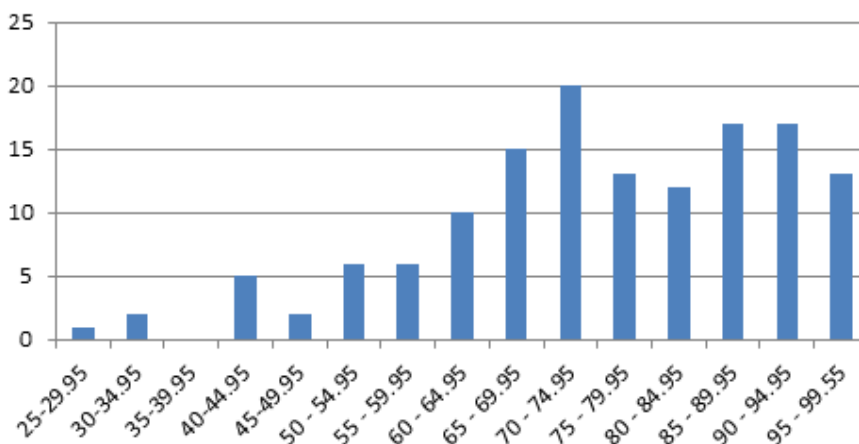
	Percentage within Top 20% of nation	Percentage in bottom 20% of nation	Percentage at or above the benchmark
Reading			
Year 3	32	8	95
Year 5	32	14	95
Year 7	38	7	100
Year 9	30	6	99

	Percentage within top 20% of nation	Percentage in bottom 20% of nation	Percentage at or above the benchmark
Writing			
Year 3	21	25	95
Year 5	30	13	97
Year 7	43	5	99
Year 9	36	4	99

Student Outcomes - Year 12 Results

The chart below illustrates the performance of those St Mark's students who sat at least four WACE examinations in 2011. It is pleasing to note that 59 students (38% of the entire Year 12 cohort) achieved an ATAR greater than or equal to 80, placing them in the top 20% of the state cohort. One student achieved a Certificate of Distinction in English (placing them in the top 0.5% of students in that course) and five students achieved a Certificate of Excellence based on the number of A grades received in their School assessments.

2011 ATAR



Student Outcomes - Year 12 Results *continued*

Vocational Education and Training (VET) Qualifications

A total of 17 students completed VET certificates in 2011. A further 25 students completed partial certificates, some of which will be completed in 2012. One student completed a partial Diploma of Nursing.

Certificate	Number of Students
I	0
II	13
III	4
Partial certificates	24

University

The tables below give information about the percentage of students who were offered places at the various Universities by first or other preference:

	St Mark's	State
Percentage of applicants offered first choice	71%	64%
Percentage of applicants offered any choice	96%	90%

St Mark's had 122 students apply to University from a cohort of 157. The 117 who were offered places represents 75% of the Year 12 cohort - a very pleasing figure, and one which is consistent with previous years. The breakdown by University is as follows:

	Curtin	ECU	Murdoch	UWA	Total
Number of students with a first preference (includes students without an ATAR)	35	41	6	40	122
Number of students offered their first preference	22	31	4	30	87
Number of students offered any of their preferences	29	43*	9	36	117

* Note: ECU final offers include students offered portfolio entry.

We have not been provided with information about student entry to Notre Dame University.

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 almost \$22 million or around \$14,200 per student.

St Mark's is continuing with a substantial investment programme, with Capital Expenditure of approximately \$3 million during 2011 and increasing during 2012 with the construction of a new Library and refurbishment of the Barbara Godwin Performing Arts Centre.

In the two charts below, the source of School funding and the source of Capital Expenditure funding is shown. The majority of Capital Expenditure is funded by fees.

