



St Mark's

ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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A School of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc.

Annual Report: *January to December 2015*

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 **2015 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 extended School family at St Mark's continues to grow with past students maintaining close links through the Old Scholars' Association, the Study with Old Scholars program (SOS), and returning to the School as guest speakers. A growing number of Old Scholars are now seeking 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. The School endeavours to cater for children with a wide range of abilities through both academic extension and learning support.

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 1,580 across three sub-schools: Primary (Kindergarten to Year 6), Middle (Year 7 to Year 9) and Senior (Year 10 to Year 12). In 2015, there were 550 students in Primary, and 1,030 in Years 7 to 12.

Strategic Plan

The School Council confirmed that the three strategic priorities for St Mark's during the 2015 to 2019 period will be to:

1. *Raise our academic ethos and profile;*
2. *Increase our focus on the Arts, creativity and innovation;*
3. *Connect meaningfully with the Indian Ocean Rim, becoming more international in our perspective.*

Staff Composition, Qualification and Professional Engagement

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

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 2015 was comprised of 132 Teaching staff and 75 Administration and Support staff.*
- *The average rate of attendance at School, by Teaching staff in 2015 was 95.6%.*
- *All Academic staff participated in relevant Professional Learning during 2015.*
- *The average expenditure per staff member for Professional Learning was \$1,341.*
- *A further \$890 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 2015 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.

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 2015 was 95%.
- The percentage of staff retained (2014 - 2015) was 90.6%

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 1,600 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 2015, the attendance rates reported to DEEWR from Years 1 to 10 was 92.4%.

Attendance rolls are taken every morning in pastoral care time. 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 required 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 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 School's NAPLAN results in 2015 showed:

- **Year 3:** 98% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Spelling and 100% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Grammar and Punctuation.
- **Year 5:** 100% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Spelling and 99% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Grammar and Punctuation.
- **Year 7:** 100% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Spelling and 99% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Grammar and Punctuation.
- **Year 9:** 98% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Spelling and 99% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Grammar and Punctuation.

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 monitoring changes in progress for individual students.

NAPLAN RESULTS 2015	Year 3 Numeracy	Year 3 Reading	Year 3 Writing	Year 5 Numeracy	Year 5 Reading	Year 5 Writing	Year 7 Numeracy	Year 7 Reading	Year 7 Writing	Year 9 Numeracy	Year 9 Reading	Year 9 Writing
Percentage in Top 20% of the nation (2014 in brackets)	30 (38)	31 (37)	42 (37)	32 (29)	30 (28)	33 (24)	29 (36)	26 (31)	24 (37)	43 (36)	37 (35)	38 (37)
Percentage in Bottom 20% of the nation (2014 in brackets)	17 (10)	11 (10)	2 (3)	7 (14)	6 (7)	6 (11)	3 (4)	5 (6)	2 (2)	3 (4)	2 (4)	3 (2)
Percentage meeting benchmark	98	100	100	100	99	97	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%
Variation from 2014 results	+1	+5	+3	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Variation from 2013 results	-3	-5	-3	0	0	-1	-4	+4	-2	+18	+17	-1
Variation from 2012 results	+2	0	+2	+1	+2	0	+1	+1	+1	-2	0	+2

Student Outcomes: Year 12 Results

The charts below illustrates the performance of those St Mark's students who sat at least four WACE examinations in 2015. The results were very pleasing, with 31 students achieving an ATAR of above 90%, placing them in the top 10% of students in the State. In addition, 65 students (45% of the Year 12 cohort) achieved an ATAR greater than or equal to 80, placing them in the top 20% of the State.

There were five subjects in which St Mark's was listed as amongst the highest performing schools, including Stage 3 Economics, Stage 3 Health Studies, Stage 3 Philosophy and Ethics, Stage 3 Physical Education Studies and Stage 2 Food Science and Technology. Five students were awarded a Certificate of Commendation, three students received a Certificate of Distinction (Human Biological Science and Physical Education Studies), with one student achieving a Course Exhibition (Physical Education Studies).

ATAR Score	Male	Female	TOTAL
95 - 99.55	7	7	14
90 - 94.95	11	6	17
85 - 89.95	7	7	14
80 - 84.95	12	8	20
75 - 79.95	15	10	25
70 - 74.95	6	3	9
65 - 69.95	9	5	14
60 - 64.95	8	3	11
55 - 59.95	2	7	9
50 - 54.95	3	0	3
Other	1	6	7
Exams & No ATAR	0	1	1

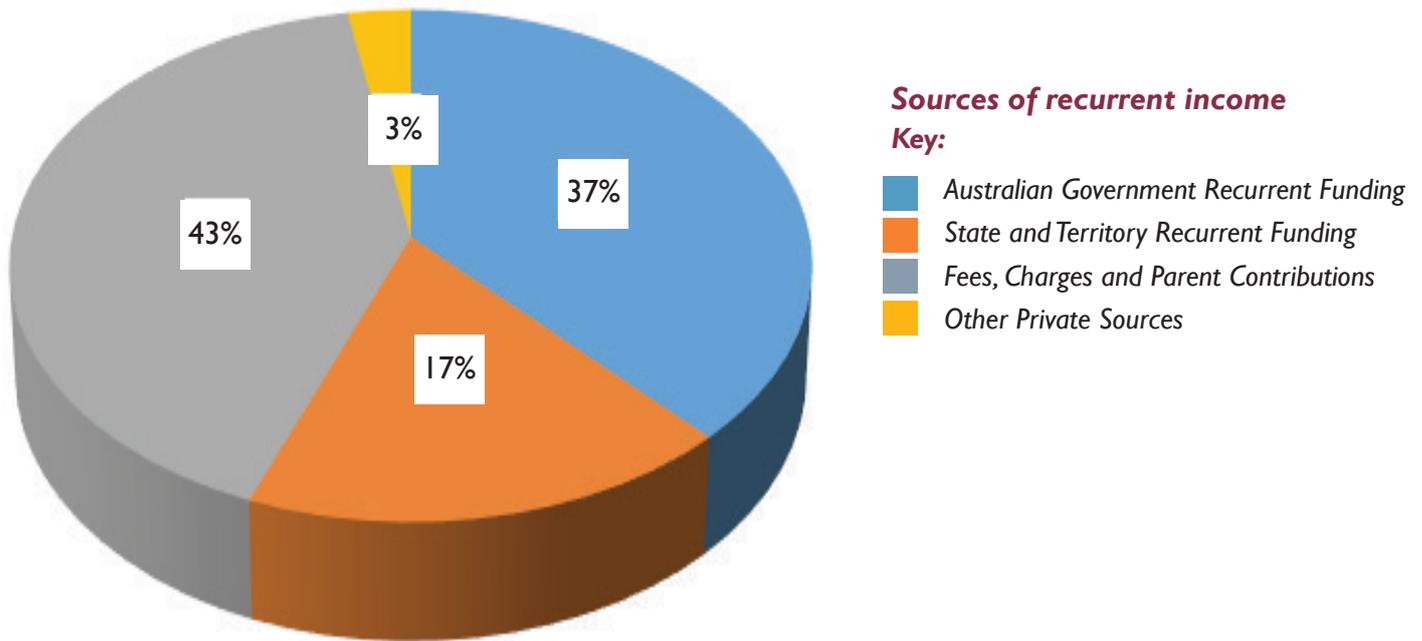
University Offers

Over the last five years, St Mark's has consistently seen the majority of its students head to university after completing Year 12 at the School. In 2015, 93% of the entire cohort were offered a position at university which is higher than in both 2014 and 2013. Please note that at this point, we do not have any information about students who may have gone to Notre Dame University, or to university in another State.

	St Mark's		State	
	Number of students	Percentage of cohort	Number of students	Percentage of cohort
Total cohort	159		24895	
Applied	135	84.9%	12597	50.6%
Offered 1st preference	102	70.3 (applied) 59.7 (cohort)	8871	70.4 (applied) 35.6 (cohort)
Offered any preference	126	93.3 (applied) 79.2 (cohort)	11818	93.8 (applied) 47.4 (cohort)
Enrolled	96	71.1 (applied) 60.3 (cohort)	8327	66.1 (applied) 33.4 (cohort)
Deferred	18	11%	1668	6%

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 \$26.4 million or \$17,288 per student. The sources of that income are shown in the pie chart below.



The majority of Capital Expenditure in 2015 of \$2.4 million (an increase of \$1 million from 2014) related to the building project design and pre-contract works for the reconstruction of the state of the art Senior Academic Centre, as well as continued investment in the upgrade of computers and technical equipment.

All Capital Expenditure in 2015 was funded by fees, as no Australian Government funds were received for capital projects.

Capital Expenditure is expected to increase significantly in 2016 as construction of the Senior Academic Centre and additional Primary classrooms commences. Roadworks to create a supplementary entrance to the School will also be undertaken in 2016.

ENDS