



St Mark's

ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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A School of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc.

Annual Report: *January to December 2017*

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 **2017 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 1,572. In 2017, there were 563 students in Primary, and 1,009 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 2017 was comprised of 133 Teaching staff and 84 Administration and Support staff.*
- *The average rate of attendance at School, by Teaching staff in 2016 was 95.6%.*
- *All Academic staff participated in relevant Professional Learning during 2017.*
- *The average expenditure per staff member for Professional Learning was \$1,241.*
- *A further \$1,081 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 2017 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

Respect. Knowledge. Confidence. Responsibility. Community

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 2016 was 92%.
- The percentage of staff retained (2016 - 2017) was 90%.

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 2017 the attendance rates reported to DEEWR from Years 1 to 10 was 93.8%.

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.

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 2017 showed:

NAPLAN RESULTS 2017	Year 3			Year 5			Year 7			Year 9		
	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Numeracy	Reading	Writing
Percentage in Top 20% of the nation (2016 in brackets)	29 (13)	23 (24)	58 (25)	35 (36)	35 (27)	21 (21)	32 (32)	34 (35)	23 (34)	24 (24)	30 (38)	27 (28)
Percentage in Bottom 20% of the nation (2016 in brackets)	8 (10)	12 (11)	1 (16)	1 (6)	8 (11)	5 (8)	3 (5)	5 (8)	5 (10)	3 (5)	7 (4)	5 (5)
Percentage meeting benchmark	100	99	100	100	97	100	100%	99%	99%	100%	98%	95%
Variation from 2016 results	0	-1	+7	+2	-1	0	0	-1	+1	0	-2	-1
Variation from 2015 results	+2	0	-7	-2	-1	+3	0	0	-1	0	0	-1
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

- **Year 3:** 100% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Spelling and 96% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Grammar and Punctuation.
- **Year 5:** 97% 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:** 99% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Spelling and 98% of students were at or exceeded the benchmark in Grammar and Punctuation.
- **Year 9:** 99% 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 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.

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 2017. The results were very pleasing, with a median ATAR of 83.10, an improvement over previous years, and our highest since 2008. As a comparison, the state average is 78.6. In another improvement over previous years, St Mark's rose 10 places in the rank of schools with the highest median ATAR. We had 12 students achieving an ATAR of above 95%, placing them in the top 5% of students in the State and give students achieved an ATAR of above 99+.

In the VET program, 38 students completed a Certificate II or higher, giving them a great stepping stone into further studies, an apprenticeship or into the workplace.

A number of St Mark's learning areas were recognised as having the top achieving students in WA. This included Biology, Business Management & Enterprise, Chemistry, Health Studies, Human Biology, Philosophy & Ethics and Physics.

Two students achieved Subject Certificates of Excellence in the areas of Human Biology and Mathematics Methods. Sixteen students achieved Certificates of Distinction (scored 190-200 points). Points are accrued from 20 Year 11 and Year 12 units. In addition, 17 students achieved Certificates of Merit (150-189 points).

ATAR Score	Male	Female	TOTAL
95 - 99.55	13	4	17
90 - 94.95	10	11	21
85 - 89.95	6	10	16
80 - 84.95	9	15	24
75 - 79.95	8	11	19
70 - 74.95	5	5	10
65 - 69.95	5	4	9
60 - 64.95	1	3	4
55 - 59.95	0	1	1
50 - 54.95	0	0	0
Other	1	2	3
Exams & No ATAR	2	5	7

University Offers (compared to State figures)

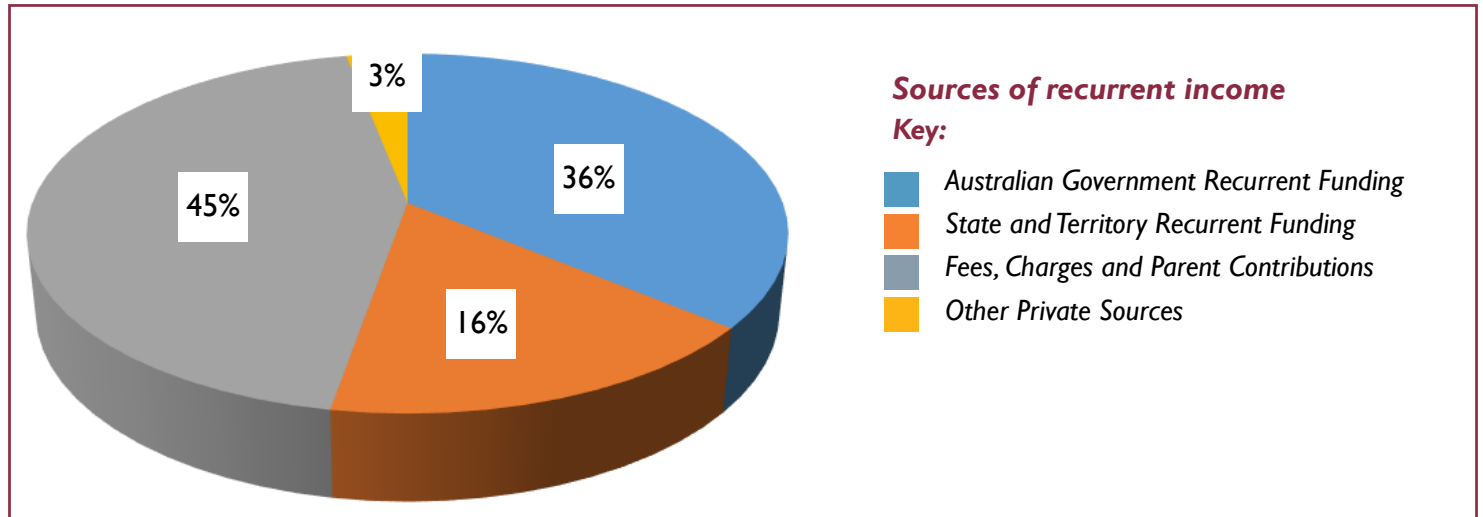
Over the last five years, St Mark's has consistently seen the majority of its students head to university after completing Year 12 at the School. 113 students applied for university, with a median ATAR of 83.35.

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				
	Number of students					Number of students				
	Total	Curtin	ECU	Murdoch	UWA	Total	Curtin	ECU	Murdoch	UWA
No of students with a 1st preference	119	41	29	5	44	12,411	5,679	1,652	1,923	3,157
Offered 1st preference	76	25	16	3	32	8,483	3,862	1,141	1,371	2,109
Offered any preference	115	39	30	6	40	11,516	4,971	1,696	1,899	2,950
Enrolled	88	26	24	2	40	8,245	3,643	1,106	1,245	2,251
Deferred	17	8	4	3	2	1,630	693	239	369	369

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 \$28.6 million or \$18,238 per student. The sources of that income are shown below:



The majority of the capital expenditure of \$8.4m in 2017 was invested in the Alan Cadby Senior Academic Centre, which was completed in 2017.

The modern, spacious, three storey structure has flexible, glass enclosed learning areas, giving teaching staff the ability to easily adapt the space to a variety of learning styles. The building, which replaced some of the School's oldest facilities, features 22 learning spaces, two Home Economics facilities, a staff room, a new Cafeteria and dining area, a presentation space with flexible seating for up to 200, prep rooms and offices. A bridge connects the building with the upper floor of the Library, providing a direct link to the Secondary School Library resources.

All Capital Expenditure in 2017 was funded by fees, as no Australian Government funds were received for capital projects.

ENDS