

SAINT MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE ALBURY LTD

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



CONTACT DETAILS:

Principal: Mr Kevin Tingle

Address: 197 Urana Street
P O Box 310
Jindera, NSW 2640

Phone: 0260 263733

Website: www.smmc.nsw.edu.au

Email: office@smmc.nsw.edu.au

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1. Message from key school bodies

School Board.

We recognise that parents are the primary educators of their children, with a right to choose schools for their children.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury aims to provide a choice of schooling to all those seeking a Catholic Education for their children. The school is a community whose mission is to provide holistic education that takes place in an environment formed by the authentic teachings and values of the Catholic Church.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury is open to all who are willing to commit to supporting the philosophy, values and aims of Catholic schooling.

Principal.

This year we have welcomed new families to our school community from as far afield as South Australia and the NSW North Coast. It is a great blessing to have these families at our school and to see the smiles on the children's faces each day as they hurry through the school gate.

The Gallipoli Tour has been a real highlight of the year. It was a great experience for our students Bede McLaurin, Catherine Bell, Therese Horsfall and Kate Whitehead. Mr Ross Miller, a teacher at SMMC, accompanied them on the week-long trip which allowed them to attend the Dawn Service at Gallipoli on the 100th Anniversary of Anzac Day. They also visited many significant sights in Turkey. The students described their tour as 'more than just a journey of a lifetime'.

The Year 12 students who completed the HSC in 2014 have begun a new phase in their lives and taken on new challenges, anywhere from studying Liberal Arts at Campion College to working on a prawn trawler as part of a 'gap year'.

As I prepare to move on as Principal of Saint Mary MacKillop College at year's end, it has given me time to reflect on the College's journey so far. It has been a privilege to serve in this position over the past seven years and I remember well the first day when there were only ten students to come through the gate. We had to have faith that the school would become viable, work hard to write programmes and successfully progress through a series of inspections for the next six years straight. Finally we were accredited to provide courses of study from Kindergarten to Year 12.

In 2015 it seems amazing that the school has grown so quickly to ninety-six students, twelve teachers and three non-teaching staff in such a short period of time. Our facilities had to be expanded to cope with the numbers. Portable classrooms and permanent buildings were constructed and fitted out.

We have had a dedicated staff, an active P&F and of course the trust and support from a growing number of faith-filled parents. God has certainly blessed our efforts and provided a school which supports parents in their endeavours to educate their children academically and teach them how to know, love and serve God in their Catholic Faith.

I will continue my association with the school in other capacities as I transition to retirement.

This year we say farewell to two valued staff members in Miss Vieira and Mr Miller who have been teaching at SMMC since 2009. They have made considerable contributions to the setting up of Saint Mary MacKillop College and will be sadly missed.

I am pleased to welcome Mr Luke Burton as Principal from 2016 and wish him and Saint Mary MacKillop College ongoing success.

Kevin Tingle
Principal of SMMC
2009 to 2015

2. Contextual Information about the school

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury is a small, caring school in a rural setting. It is an independent school providing instruction in the Catholic faith, for students from K to 12.

The educational aim of the school is the critical communication of Catholic culture and the total development of the individual. In order to achieve this mission, the school promotes character formation through the Christian virtues, academic excellence with a focus on Christian classics and an intensive phonics approach to reading. The lives of the saints feature in the day-to-day life of the school, as does the celebration of special feast days from the Catholic calendar.

Students from SMMC Albury achieved outstanding results in the 2015 ICAS Writing, English, Spelling, Science and Mathematics assessments with Credits, Distinctions and High Distinctions being awarded. A special aspect of the school is the emphasis on drama and singing as children have developed their skills under expert tuition. Students compete in the Albury Eisteddfod each year and a major drama production is performed bi-annually.

As part of its role in the community, the school works with parents providing weekly parenting tips and guest speakers each term on a variety of topics. SMMC also takes an active part in ANZAC Day, Australia Day and Christmas celebrations in the local community.

Senior students visit the Greater Hume Aged Care Facility on a weekly basis as part of community service and fund raising for a worthwhile charity is held annually.

Our Parent and Friends Committee hold raffles and cake stalls during the year and our annual school fete is the main fundraiser for the year.

3. Student performance in national and state-wide tests and examinations

<http://www.myschool.edu.au>

4. **Senior Secondary Outcomes**

Our second group of Year 12 students completed their studies with SMMC with the following results:

Student	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5	Band 6	E2	E3	E4
A	2	1	2						
B				4	1				
C			3	2					
D				1	3		1	1	1
E			3	2					
F			1	2	2				
G					4	1		1	

Our small student body of seven completing HSC does not provide sufficient data to compare with State Averages.

5. **Professional learning and teacher standards**

A) The school has 12 teaching staff with teacher education qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia.

B) The school has no teachers who have bachelor degrees from higher education institutions within Australia and are currently completing a formal teacher education qualification.

C) The school has no teachers who do not have qualifications described in (a) and (b) above.

A	B	C
12	0	0

<http://www.myschool.edu.com>

Professional Learning Activities

- Stage 6 Science Syllabi
- Critical Incident Policy
- Discipline Policy
- Reading Evaluation Strategies
- Religious Education Review
- Programming & Planning Consultancy
- ICT Training – Google Docs, Spreadsheets and Presentations using Prezi
- Special Education Needs workshops
- Chemical Safety Management and Storage
- CPR Update
- NAPLAN results interpretation seminar
- NCCD training

6. Workforce Composition including Indigenous

The staff at Saint Mary MacKillop College is made up of 4 male and 8 female teaching staff, 2 female administration officers and 1 female cleaner.

<http://myschool.edu.au>

7. Student Attendance and retention rates in secondary school

Average attendance for each school grade during 2015.

Whole School	94%
Kinder	90%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	93%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	93%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	95%
Year 7	95%
Year 8	94%
Year 9	96%
Year 10	95%
Year 11	No Yr11 students
Year 12	95%

School Attendance Policy and Procedure

Attendance at school is compulsory. All absences should be explained by a written note which is dated and signed by the parent/guardian. If the child is likely to be absent for more than one week the school is to be advised as to the extent of the reason for the prolonged absence. Student's punctuality is expected, as late arrivals are treated as partial absences and also require a signed note from parent/caregiver.

8. Post school destinations (secondary schools only)

At the end of 2015, 8 of our nine students in Year 10 went on to Year 11 with SMMC. One student went onto Year 11 at Albury High School.

In 2015 we had no students enrolled in Year 11.

Our seven students completing HSC in 2015 have gone on to further studies including a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and studies in Architecture. Three graduates have deferred their studies and are in full time work and one is taking a gap year and has found part time work.

9. Enrolment policies and characteristics of the student body

Enrolment Policy

As a private school with a Catholic ethos, Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury has an evangelising mission. A distinguishing feature of Catholic education is that it is open to all, especially to the poor and weakest in society. The School exists primarily to assist parents in their duty to instil the Catholic faith in their children.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury aims to provide a choice of schooling to all those seeking a Catholic education for their children. However, enrolment of a student into the school cannot be guaranteed.

Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury has a particular responsibility to welcome, accept and support those who are poor, marginalised and in most need. Our conviction is that no student will be refused enrolment or be disadvantaged because of an inability on the part of parents/guardians to meet financial requirements.

Description of the Student Population

In 2015 the Student Body was:

Boys:	48
Girls:	48
LOTE:	0
Total:	96.

For further details see the school's website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

10. School policies

Student Welfare

In accord with the principles of the Gospel and of the teachings of the Catholic Church, our school regards the safety of its students – not just physically and emotionally, but spiritually and morally – as integral to their full development as children of God and members of Christ’s body.

Student Discipline

The College does not sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons, including parents, to enforce discipline at the school.

Saint Mary MacKillop College recognises that self-discipline is intrinsic to the Christian life, and that the true order willed for us by God can only be achieved when our lives are ruled by reason and enlightened by Faith. To this end, we guide and assist our students to understand the meaning of true freedom and goodness and to strive for it individually and collectively.

Complaints and Grievances

The School aims to provide an environment for student and parents conducive to open and honest communication. It is our desire to facilitate an atmosphere of trust and co-operation.

Nonetheless, sometimes it is inevitable that conflicts arise. In order to prevent escalation, the parties concerned are encouraged to approach the persons involved directly in order to resolve the problem informally, speedily and constructively on a low level.

A person is not to be disadvantaged or discriminated against in any way for filing a complaint. All complaints will be treated confidentially. All parties are expected to respect this. As a matter of principle, anonymously filed complaints will not be processed.

www.smmc.nsw.edu.au for full text of school policies.

11. School determined improvement targets

The improvement of literacy outcomes for students identified as needing additional learning support.

Indicators of success in literacy outcomes for these students are gauged by NAPLAN literacy results and standardized tests.

The improvement of teaching expertise in individualised learning needs through teacher in-servicing was a goal of the school during 2015.

Teacher in-servicing was addressed according to each teacher’s individual professional development needs.

In-servicing was provided in house, in local area schools and in Sydney through the AIS (Association of Independent Schools).

12. Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility

The school promoted respect and responsibility amongst students by their participation in:

- Regular visits to The Jindera Aged Care facility.
- Students assigned specific duties for school garden.
- Students assigned individual roles & responsibilities for the College and Parish fetes.
- Student presentations for regular whole school assemblies.
- Weekly School Mass.
- ANZAC Day Commemoration Service held locally.
- 4 Students and one teacher attending Gallipoli 100th Anniversary Commemoration services in Turkey.
- Attendance at College Presentation Nights.
- Representing the School in BIPSA (Independent Schools, Regional Level) competition Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country events.
- Eisteddfod choir participation

13. Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

At the conclusion of 2015 the Saint Mary MacKillop College Albury had 96 full time students enrolled.

Our school community was made up of 34 families and 12 teaching staff including part-time and full-time.

The **students** were asked to rate their school in the following 5 categories:

- Educational experience at school
- Social enjoyment at school
- Support of teaching staff
- Educational progress at school
- School facilities

All students responded with Satisfied, Very Satisfied or Extremely Satisfied to all categories.

Parents were asked to rate their satisfaction of the school in 5 categories:

- Rating the experience of enrolling your child at our school
- Their child's educational development
- Approachability of teaching staff
- Their child's emotional enjoyment at school
- Rating the facilities of the school.

All parents rated these categories as Satisfied or Very Satisfied.

Teaching staff were asked to rate their work environment in the following 5 categories:

- Experience of working at the school
- Staff morale
- Approachability of the teaching staff
- Professional development available
- School facilities

All teachers rated these categories as Extremely Satisfied, Very Satisfied or Satisfied.

14. Summary financial information

Financial data entered onto SSP and available on www.myschool.edu.nsw.au

