



# Sacred Heart School Corryong

## 2021 Annual Report to the School Community



Registered School Number: 1642

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## Minimum Standards Attestation

I, Justine Goonan, attest that Sacred Heart School is compliant with:

- All of the requirements for the minimum standards and other requirements for the registration of schools as specified in *the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)* and the *Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic)*, except where the school has been granted an exemption from any of these requirements by the VRQA
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2021 school year under the *Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth)* and the *Australian Education Regulations 2013 (Cth)*
- The Child Safe Standards prescribed in Ministerial Order No.870 - Child Safe Standards, Managing Risk of Child Abuse in Schools.

30/03/2022

**NOTE:** The School's financial performance information has been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)

## Governing Authority Report

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd identifies learning and teaching as two parts of the same action designed to ignite the 'spark of the divine' in every child. We seek to provide safe, supportive and secure environments that value diversity, promote care, respect and co-operation. In 2021 our schools went into overdrive once again to plan and prepare for a learning model that would respond to the continuing impact and uncertainty of Covid-19.

Bishop Shane established Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd in 2021 to assume the ownership and operation of Catholic schools which previously operated as an unincorporated body. This change in our governance structure coincides with a time of increasing challenges that call us to imagine new and inspiring structures that will meet the needs of a changing Church.

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd governance requirements meant that schools would now develop School Advisory Councils to support the principal and school Leadership Teams to ensure the smooth running of our schools and continue the life-giving relationship between our schools and parish communities.

During extremely challenging times our schools were able to maintain their focus on each child, implementing the Victorian Curriculum and the Sandhurst Source of Life Religious Education Curriculum while providing outstanding pastoral support both on-site and through remote learning.

Significant investment in new learning facilities and school infrastructure through the Catholic Capital Grants Program and the hard work of our school communities have ensured the provision of high-quality learning and teaching facilities for both staff and students.

I continue to be extremely grateful for the commitment and professionalism that is clearly identified by the efforts throughout 2021 of Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd- our schools and personnel in the Catholic Education Office. They continue to work tirelessly for the students and families in our schools, bringing the 'spark of the divine' into focus every day.

Paul Desmond

Executive Director

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd

## Our School Identity and Vision Statements

### Identity Statement

Sacred Heart is an inclusive school united in Jesus and committed through action to live the Josephite story as we learn, love and grow.

### Vision Statement

Sacred Heart School:

- Nurtures the dignity and value of each person;
- Develops a relationship with Jesus as central to how we live and love;
- Our choices and actions reflect awareness, compassion and commitment to others;
- Creates learning that is purposeful and innovative; and
- Parents, students and staff work collaboratively to create a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment.



## School Overview

Sacred Heart School is a Catholic School within the Sandhurst Diocese. Established in 1953 by the Sisters of St. Joseph and expanded to include Years 7 and 8 in 2009, due to lack of numbers the secondary component finished in 2015. Sacred Heart School (SHS) offers a faith based and contemporary learning environment, for students from Foundation to Year 6. For 2021 the enrolment was 52 students.

At the rooftop of the country, SHS is well placed to inspire students with the horizon of vastness and possibility, while being grounded in the daily realities demanded by the natural environment. SHS is committed to offering a Catholic education that liberates, empowers and motivates students to use their gifts with confidence, creativity and generosity as encapsulated in our motto, together in faith, hope and charity we grow.

As a small school each student and family shapes the learning experience. Everyone is valued. Our diversity contributes to the vibrant and inclusive learning environment that defines Sacred Heart School, demanding responsiveness and flexibility in teaching and learning programs where the uniqueness of the individual is celebrated.

In partnership with parents, SHS is a beacon of learning and community. Strengthened through their formative experience of inclusive education at SHS, flexible, contemporary, global learning, students are skilled to both thrive in this place of great beauty, or to step out onto the many roads that lead from this deep centre.

## Principal's Report

The Annual School Report for Sacred Heart School represents a snapshot of the life of the school in 2021.

2021 was another challenging year for Sacred Heart School, and the Upper Murray community. It was a year when staff, parents and students proved their resilience time and time again.

The community has seen 5 youth suicides in the past 18 months and as a result there has been a united front under the community organisation suicide prevention group titled, Thrive. Wellbeing again being the main focus of the school, supporting our families and our community to the best of our ability.

Seeing the students and our families through the challenges of 2021 and the continued lockdowns are moments of pride for Sacred Heart School in 2021.

The ever changing landscape of staffing proved to be a challenge, enticing staff to a rural and remote area without financial incentives, has been impossible. After a long recruitment process; with the Principal and the short term appointment of previous Sandhurst employees covering one of our composite classes; we were extremely fortunate to reappoint a past staff member who had left in 2019 in an ongoing capacity.

Sacred Heart School also saw a changing of the Administration guard with after 46 Years of service to Catholic Education, Mary Smith farewelled our school to care for her mother. We cannot thank Mary enough for putting her heart and soul into our school community. Her commitment to Catholic Education has been immeasurable.

Sacred Heart School was awarded the Denis JB Higgins Scholarship for our research project titled: Learning Success through STEAM. This will see the Development of STEAM Spaces within each classroom, upgrade of technologies to enhance learning opportunities through Science, Technologies, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics curriculum, by upskilling staff and students. This scholarship will be an ongoing vision into 2022 and I thank David Williams, Maureen Cann and Catholic Education Sandhurst for their continued guidance.

The refurbishment of the Lacey Centre to house a Maker Space and Art room was another highlight. Furniture for the final fit out is due in February 2022 and I look forward to the official opening of the building and the additional learning opportunities that it will provide for our school and space for our community.

Sacred Heart Parents and Friends were not hampered in their fundraising efforts in 2021. Having learnt from 2021 the P&F threw their support behind local community businesses and continued to change the way that fundraising has been traditionally done including; can and bottle recycling and online fund-raisers. The P & F were able to fundraise a great deal of money in 2021 that has been used to support our students. A large portion of the fundraising was used to purchase decodable readers for our school.

### Highlights of 2021

- Denis Higgins Scholarship awarded to our school.
- Participation in Dogs Connect wellbeing program, with Basil the Wellbeing Dog (Thank you to Corryong Community Health for their support).
- Refurbishment of the Lacey Centre building into an Art and Maker Space.
- School Camps: Melbourne Urban Camp.
- Employment of new administration staff and roll over to ICON business administration portal.
- Commencement of the decodable book Library for junior students.
- Sporting events; swimming carnival, cross country.
- Sacred Heart Parish Reconciliation of six students (one who was a past student of the school).
- ICT roll over to new devices across the school.
- Continued successful Remote Learning Program.
- Build staff understanding, capacity to manage students with trauma through continued work with Seasons of Growth program and work with Headspace.
- Continued engagement with parent community.
- Reinvigorating the staff's catholic knowledge with increased Religious Education Professional Learning Teams (PLTs) and introduction of HeartSpace at SHS.
- Build staff knowledge and capacity with Science of Learning and Reading and the PEN Principles, through participating in a Latrobe University course and work with CES consultants.

This report reflects Sacred Heart's ongoing commitment to building students and staff capacity.

I take this opportunity to thank Fr. Junjun for his leadership of our school and parish and a special thanks to the Parents and Carers for their absolute dedication to our beautiful school and their support of our Online Remote Learning Programs. The trust you placed in the school was phenomenal and genuinely appreciated.

Mrs Zoe Nugent

Principal (2021)



## School Advisory Council Report

We started the year with changes to staff, Mrs Mez Moffat and Miss Emily Kuzeff. Mrs Moffat has continued to stay at Sacred heart, and we are truly blessed to have her remain within the Sacred Heart Community. Tina Keyzer joined SHS again in Term 3 and Celeste Oliver went on maternity leave, during Term 2.

Having Mary retire was a sad loss, but we welcomed Kasie Jarvis. We still need to organise a farewell for Mary for her extensive and unwavering support of Sacred Heart School and finalise the award for possessing the Sacred Heart Spirit.

With the changing of governance structure, we saw many changes to the School Advisory Council and the P&F, which has taken some getting used to. Zoe worked hard in consultation with the School Advisory Council to attempt to bring the budget back into surplus.

The Covid-19 restrictions and rules posed many hurdles for the school with many of the normal school events being cancelled or changed to fit. Students were forced to move between remote learning and school, but this was implemented wonderfully by the school team and supported by the amazing parent community.

The School Advisory Council's efforts in advertising and promoting the school helped to get a good intake of Foundation enrolments for 2022.

2021 saw several challenges but also many things to celebrate, with successful funding grants for the new Art room, which looks fabulous! As well as the amazing fund-raising from the P & F as always, but in significantly challenging circumstances.

The end of year school Mass saw a number of families move on from the Sacred Heart school community who were all acknowledged with gifts. While this looked a little different in 2021, we also welcomed new families of our foundation students who received gifts of school bags. Foundation students also got to dance and walk through the school body, receiving high fives from the school community, which they all loved.

Also, on the last day of 2021 we said farewell to Mrs Nugent and her family, I know the Sacred Heart community was sad to see Zoe leave and this was easily seen by the signs and hugs Zoe received, and the tears shed at the end of the day.

However, I am excited to have Justine take on the principalship of Sacred Heart and look forward to seeing all the wonderful things that are planned for 2022. Thank you for giving our little school a go and helping to guide our children into the future.

Finally, I would like to commend the school staff on the management of the small number of Covid-19 cases that had been identified as a part of the school community, as the clear hygiene and management practices that have been in place have helped to keep our community safe.

- Jenni Wood

School Advisory Council Chairperson 2021

## Catholic Mission and Identity and Education in Faith

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Provide opportunities for families to witness and participate in faith experiences.
- Promote the Catholic Identity and visibility of the school within the wider community.
- Review the school Graduate Outcomes in light of the development of the Educational Philosophy.

### Achievements

Students became active participants in Masses, as well as preparing and taking on roles during celebrations. They also participated in prayer, Liturgies, Feast Days and the Sacramental program.

The Josephite Feast Days were celebrated (Feast of the Sacred Heart and St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop) with students and staff, keeping the faith accessible to all of our student and staff cohort.

HeartSpace was introduced into the school community as a prayer resource and program. It increased staff participation and knowledge of Catholic faith processes. This initiative was recognised on Andrew Chinn's Butterfly music resource page.

### VALUE ADDED

- Displays were maintained in the Church foyer and local shops.
- The Sacramental program for Reconciliation was well attended by 6 participants.
- HeartSpace and the Golden Gnome for Sustainability initiatives were implemented.
- Participation by students in local ANZAC and Remembrance Day commemorative services.
- Teachers participated in Religious Education Accreditation through further study.
- The ECSI survey was completed to gather data to assess the community's understanding of Catholic Identity within our school.

## Learning & Teaching

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Expand opportunities for student to engage in the Arts.
- Collaborate to develop an updated school curriculum that is responsive to the needs of our students.
- Use data to drive effective Learning and Teaching.

### Achievements

Staff worked with Catholic Education Sandhurst Consultant, Craig Simpson to build staff understanding of the Science of Learning (SOL) and Reading (SOR), as well as the PEN Principles.

PBIS continued to be a focus for our students and staff, with all students and staff actively using common language in the playground.

Students participated in a variety of programs and initiatives including the 'Festival of Healthy Living' and dancing and singing with ASPA (Australian School of Performing Arts) online.

The current assessment schedule and assessment practices were reviewed and updated.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

There are no NAPLAN results to report in 2020 as the Australian Government decided that due to the COVID-19 pandemic NAPLAN Assessments would not take place. Therefore the NAPLAN data that is used to explain Student Learning Outcomes is demonstrating the growth from 2019 to 2021.

Students who were in Year 3 in 2019, again completed NAPLAN in 2021 as Year 5 students.

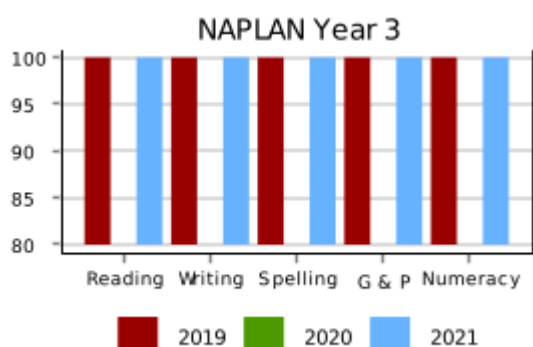
Across all of the NAPLAN Assessments (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy) the Sacred Heart Year 5 students on average made 'medium' relative growth between testing periods.

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS MEETING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS					
NAPLAN TESTS	2019 %	2020 *	2019 – 2020 Changes *	2021 %	2020 – 2021 Changes *
YR 03 Grammar & Punctuation	100.0	-	-	100.0	-
YR 03 Numeracy	100.0	-	-	100.0	-
YR 03 Reading	100.0	-	-	100.0	-
YR 03 Spelling	100.0	-	-	100.0	-
YR 03 Writing	100.0	-	-	100.0	-
YR 05 Grammar & Punctuation	100.0	-	-	83.3	-
YR 05 Numeracy	100.0	-	-	83.3	-
YR 05 Reading	100.0	-	-	83.3	-
YR 05 Spelling	85.7	-	-	100.0	-
YR 05 Writing	100.0	-	-	100.0	-

\* There are no NAPLAN results to report in 2020 as the Australian Government decided that due to the COVID-19 pandemic NAPLAN Assessments would not take place.

\*\* Data cannot be reported for this year as the number of students that sat the test was below 5 and the data has been suppressed for privacy reasons in accordance with the ACARA NAPLAN data reporting provisions.

\*\*\* No students sat the NAPLAN tests in this year level and in one or both of the relevant years.



## Pastoral Wellbeing

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

- To develop consistent programming and teaching of Social and Emotional Learning across the school.
- Implement Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) program and Student Wellbeing Journals.
- Create a safe work environment for all stakeholders.

### Achievements

Sacred Heart School continued to build the capacity of new staff in regard to Positive Behaviour Intervention and Support programs and the use of shared language across the school.

Sacred Heart joined the Respectful Relationships Cluster headed by St Monica's Primary School. It will be a continued goal to work on further embedding this program.

Building a culture of self-help and Growth Mindset in the school and community through resilience building programs and learning was a focus. This will be continued into 2022 with a partnership with The Resilience Project.

#### VALUE ADDED

- Continued growth in the implementation and use of PBIS across the school.
- Beginning to implement the Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationship program.
- Use of Student Wellbeing Journals across all grades to connect learning and behaviour.
- Continued focus on student and family well-being during Remote Learning programs.

#### STUDENT SATISFACTION

While no formal student surveys were completed (such as Insight SRC) during the 2021 school year, informal student feedback was sought. Students shared some of their many highlights of 2021 -

- Students were engaged throughout Remote Learning and enjoyed the variety of lessons and interactions that were created by their teachers.
- Swimming Carnival.
- Splash/Fun day as an end of year event.
- Cross Country.
- Learning during Music and Art lessons that incorporated learning new skills such as learning to play musical instruments and learning dance routines.

- Hands on activities such as cooking and Sustainability.
- Year 5/6 camp.
- Exploring learning through Inquiry (e.g. creating Arcade games).

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

School attendance is paramount to Sacred Heart student success, and absenteeism results in missed learning. Families at Sacred Heart are well known to the school and non-attendance is managed through personal contact with parents. Sacred Heart School's classroom teachers are required to monitor and record attendance of all students at least twice a day as well as during school excursions. School attendance is recorded by the classroom teacher during the first session of the day (9am) and after Recess (1.30 pm) using the School's SIMON electronic attendance register (roll). If a student is absent on a particular day and the school has not been previously notified by a parent, guardian and/or carer, the school administration officer will contact parents by phone or email. The administration officer will attempt to contact the parent, guardian and/or carer as soon as practicable on the same day of the unexplained absence, allowing time for the parent, guardian and/or carer to respond. If contact cannot be made with the parent, guardian and/or carer, the school will attempt to make contact with the emergency contact/s nominated on the student's file held by the school, where possible, on the day of the unexplained absence. The school will keep a record of the reason given for each absence.

During Remote Learning a similar process was implemented, where teachers marked the roll during online teacher sessions as well as during on-site supervision. The administration officer contacted any families who had students who were absent.

## AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE BY YEAR LEVEL

Y01	83.6%
Y02	86.4%
Y03	88.7%
Y04	89.7%
Y05	85.6%
Y06	86.9%
Overall average attendance	86.8%



## Child Safe Standards

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

During 2021, Sacred Heart School continued to diligently implement the Child Safe Standards. We are committed to ensuring all staff understand their responsibilities regarding child connected work and the protocols around reporting and identification.

### Achievements

- The embedding of policies and commitments into every day practice.
- Professional learning of teachers, non-teaching staff and volunteers.
- Implementation of 'PROTECT, Identifying and Responding to all Forms of Abuse in Victorian Schools'.
- Learning for new teaching and administration staff and revision of FISS and CISS processes.
- Engagement of Families and communities in promoting child safety within the school newsletter.
- Student participation and empowerment strategies with ongoing commitment to SRC within Sacred Heart School.
- Child safety - Risk Management practices with continued focus in weekly staff meetings.

## Leadership & Management

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

- To implement effective Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

### Achievements

The Leadership team changed during 2021 as a result of changes in staffing throughout the school year.

Some of the many achievements that the Leadership team were able to lead included;

- Creating and implementing an assessment schedule.
- Working with staff to learn and use Google Suite programs.
- Use of the Inquiry spiral to analyse data and engage in change initiatives.
- Exploring opportunities to integrate all curriculum areas to ensure learning connections are made.
- Invite and work with a variety of Catholic Education Sandhurst staff (inclusive of John Mitchell, Craig Simpson, Lee Pethybridge and Bernadette Pearce) during Professional Learning Communities to expand knowledge of Sacred Heart Staff in regard to Learning and Teaching, Religious Education and Pastoral Wellbeing.

### PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

#### Description of Professional Learning undertaken in 2021

List a range of the Professional Learning activities that staff have undertaken.

- Science of Learning and Reading: Latrobe University (beginner and intermediate).
- PEN principles with CES Consultants.
- Spirituality and Laudato Si focus within Religious Education.
- Victorian Curriculum overview and deep dive into Sacred Heart Scope and Sequence remodel.
- Data and importance of shared moderation.
- ICON training for key personnel.
- Seasons of Growth training.
- First Aid: CPR St John's.
- Infectious Disease Control.
- MultiLit.
- LaTrobe Solar PD.

Total cost of expenditure for Professional Learning: \$7673.64

**TEACHER SATISFACTION**

In 2021 no formal feedback was gathered from staff (e.g. Insight SRC), but opportunities for informal feedback were offered through weekly meetings and discussions with the Principal.

Several new members of staff were welcomed into Sacred Heart School during the 2021 school year.

- Mary (Mez) Moffat became the Year 5/6 teacher.
- Julie Cotter joined staff as a Specialist Teacher and soon became the Catholic Identity leader, joining the SHS Leadership team.
- Christina (Tina) Keyzer rejoined the staff as a Year 3/4 teacher, after relocating back to Corryong.
- Kasie Jarvis began the Administration and Finance Officer role as Mary Smith went on long service leave.

**TEACHING STAFF ATTENDANCE RATE**

Teaching Staff Attendance Rate	67.5%
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**ALL STAFF RETENTION RATE**

Staff Retention Rate	64.3%
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<b>TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS</b>	
Doctorate	0.0%
Masters	16.7%
Graduate	16.7%
Graduate Certificate	0.0%
Bachelor Degree	66.7%
Advanced Diploma	16.7%
No Qualifications Listed	33.3%

<b>STAFF COMPOSITION</b>	
Principal Class (Headcount)	1.0
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	13.0
Teaching Staff (FTE)	10.6
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	8.0
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	6.9
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	0.0

## School Community

### Goals & Intended Outcomes

The goal for Sacred Heart School was to maintain connection with our School Community to support our parent and carers through the bushfire trauma response and the additional challenges of Covid-19.

In 2021, Sacred Heart School and the Corryong community were still on the journey of recovery from the bushfires that occurred at the beginning of 2020

### Achievements

- Communication with School Community through phone calls, messenger contact and emails - these were paramount to maintaining and building our connection with our school community.
- Remote Learning Program - Student and family engagement was high. Regular surveys and consultation with families of SHS were used to create a Remote Learning program that would be positive for all participants.
- Families were linked with external support services such as Red Cross Australia, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Albury-Wodonga Health, children's support services within the local area.
- Opportunities were sought where possible for community connection initiatives, where parents and carers were able to attend on-site when Covid-19 restrictions allowed.
- SHS Family BBQ event at the beginning of the 2021 school year.
- Parent information sessions, for new enrolments for the 2022 school year.
- Connecting with the Bushfire Recovery Scheme.

### PARENT SATISFACTION

While no formal parent surveys were completed (such as Insight SRC) during the 2021 school year, informal parent feedback was sought during Parent/Teacher meetings, emails, conversations, etc. The following testimonials were supplied by some of our parent community to become a part of the enrolment package for the 2022 school year.

#### 2021 Parent Testimonials

"I made the right decision sending my children to Sacred Heart School. The Principal, teachers, parents and staff work together to create a unified community, working in harmony to help our kids be the best they can be mentally, physically and educationally. The school is a calming environment, which targets each child's needs. I would not hesitate to choose this school when deciding on your child's education."

- Nicole

"I have 3 children attending Sacred Heart School. From the very beginning I have loved the nurturing environment, the ethos and the community of this school. My children are all very different and yet their individual needs are so well looked after.

Although we are not a religious family, my most favourite thing about the school is the way everything they do or teach is done through the Catholic lens. This doesn't mean in a religious way, but by putting the values of family, community, kindness, responsibility and understanding first and foremost. These values are important to me, and I love that the school really embodies them. It is a small school with a big heart."

- Charlie

"I love the Sacred Heart School Community, the inclusiveness, level of academic support from Teachers and Support staff and the welcoming atmosphere. Even though I am not a practising Catholic, one of the reasons I chose to send my child to Sacred Heart School is because of the values that are taught and are the core foundations for the school. I have seen the small school environment provide a number of opportunities to support my child and other students and families."

- Jenni

"I have four children who have all gone to Sacred Heart School, Corryong from Foundation. My three eldest are now at Corryong College and had no problem making new friends and being confident with their new peers. The Godly values that are instilled in the students at Sacred Heart School are what set them apart. There is a strong commitment to character development on top of high-quality education. My daughter has a learning difficulty and she has thrived at Sacred Heart School. Because she is loved, valued and the school has worked to meet her individual learning needs.

- Elisse