



2023

Annual Report to the School Community



Sacred Heart School

111-115 Hansen Street, CORRYONG 3707

Principal: Justine Goonan

Web: www.shcorryong.catholic.edu.au

Registration: 1642, E Number: E3044

Principal's Attestation

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

- The minimum standards and other requirements for school registration and school boarding premises (if applicable) as specified in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic).
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2023 school year under the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth) and the Australian Education Regulations 2023 (Cth).
- The Child Safe Standards as prescribed in Ministerial Order 1359 – Implementing the Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises.

Attested on 20 Mar 2024

About this report

Sacred Heart School is registered by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA). The Annual Report to the School Community (ARSC), provides parents and the wider community with information about the school's activities and achievements throughout the year including information about various aspects of school performance. The Report is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the school community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students. Further information about the contents of this Report may be obtained by contacting the School directly or by visiting the School's website. Information can also be obtained from the [My School website](#).

Governing Authority Report

The 2023 Catholic Education Week theme “Let the Words You Speak Always Be Full of Grace” reminds us of Pope Francis’s call to be a synodal Church in which our understanding of others and respect for diversity is shaped by respectful dialogue borne from deep listening.

Catholic Education Sandhurst continues to be committed to providing contemporary and innovative learning environments that value diversity and promote care, respect and co-operation. In 2023 we launched the CES Ltd Strategic Plan 2023-2027 which sets out directions and priorities that will guide the way in which our Catholic schools pursue excellence in fostering the development of each person in all the dimensions of human existence: intellectual, spiritual, emotional, bodily, relational, environmental and cultural.

Schools have begun the process of developing School Improvement Plans aligning their local strategic planning to the CES Strategic Plan, under the direction of Principal Consultants and in response to schoolbased review findings.

Our governance structure continues to mature, with both CES Ltd and SCECEC Ltd committed to ensuring the highest quality student outcomes in a safe and nurturing environment.

Our learning data has identified pockets of excellence in school communities across the diocese but also highlighted greater scope for improvement in the future. The development of the CES Ltd Catholic Learning and Teaching Framework will promote greater collaboration and focus on student learning growth.

The nation-wide shortage of teachers continues to impact all schools demanding new and innovative ways to attract and retain high quality and committed Catholic educators. Strategic initiatives will prioritize workforce placements that are sustainable and ongoing with particular attention given to our remote and smaller communities.

CES Ltd has a small number of schools with low enrolments and personnel and the Catholic Education Office works closely with leadership in these schools to ensure continued viability. An incentive scheme to attract and retain educators has been initiated and the CES Ltd Board has taken a robust interest in the way small schools are promoted through the CES Ltd Marketing Strategy.

I am extremely grateful for the commitment and professionalism that is clearly identified by the efforts throughout 2023 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, true bearers of the Mission to which they have been called.

PAUL DESMOND

Executive Director, Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited

Vision and Mission

Our School Vision

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;
- Parents, students and staff work collaboratively to create a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment.

Graduate Outcomes

Sacred Heart students live life in Jesus' name by being:

- People of integrity with strong sense of justice;
- Responsible for their actions, knowing they make a difference;
- Flexible & resilient with respect for themselves, others and the environment;
- Creative problem solvers, critical and reflective thinkers who strive to achieve their best;
- Effective communicators who work collaboratively and safely in range of environments;
- Inquiring learners willing to take responsible risks, ask questions and support others.

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 offers a faith based and contemporary learning environment, for students from Foundation to Year 6.

At the rooftop of the country, Sacred Heart School 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. Sacred Heart School 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 and families, Sacred Heart School is a beacon of learning and community. Strengthened through their formative experience of inclusive education at Sacred Heart School, 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

Sacred Heart School continues to work together with families, Parish, Corryong Community and the North East Deanery to provide rich learning experiences and opportunities for our students.

In 2023 Sacred Heart School had 48 students enrolled. We welcomed many new teaching Staff who were inducted to Sacred Heart School and learnt about our way of teaching and learning. The addition of these new teachers and Learning Support Officers has significantly bolstered our school community. They have made strong relationships with all stakeholders in our community and have strengthened our already experienced and passionate staff.

Throughout 2023 I took an extended period of personal leave, with the Co-Principal position expertly filled by Joseph Quinn whom previously held the role as Principal in Wodonga for many years. Joe was a welcomed addition, with his knowledge, leadership and the local community. Thank you to Joe for taking on this opportunity and leading Sacred Heart.

Our Sacred Heart Staff and Students were again supported by our dedicated parent groups, the Parents & Friends Group and School Advisory Council. The P & F continued to raise funds for the school, giving up their time to volunteer at a variety of events to fundraise and to also support school events such as Sports and the Disco. Thank you to both of our Parent & Carer groups for your support, encouragement and engagement throughout 2023.

Justine Goonan

Catholic Identity and Mission

Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goals & Intended Outcomes

At Sacred Heart School we committed to the following in 2023;

- Continue to build the connection between the parish and school communities.
- Engage students throughout Masses and Liturgies through responses and singing.
- Provide opportunities for staff to grow in Catholic Identity through professional development.
- Promote the Catholic Identity and visibility of the school within the wider community.

Achievements

Achievements

- A strong emphasis has been placed on the Catholic Identity of our school, with a strong focus on our faith, beliefs and actions within the classrooms and the school community.
- Staff participated in professional learning to enhance their understanding of Christian Praxis.
- Staff have continued to incorporate a range of resources to implement a rigorous Religious Education curriculum using the Source of Life units.
- We have had increased participation at Assemblies, Liturgies, School Masses and community events.
- During 2023 we celebrated 60 years as a school. This was celebrated with a Mass and activities which aimed to help students understand the opportunities Sacred Heart provides for our local community.
- At Sacred Heart we aim to develop the whole child ensuring that they have a strong sense of belonging to the Catholic Community. Christian values are seen as guiding principles where the school community is immersed in and engaged in an environment of lived faith.
- Source of Life planning support for primary teachers with staff from CES Ltd.

Value Added

In 2023 Sacred Heart:

- Successfully appointed Celeste Oliver as our Catholic Identity Leader.
- Source of Life planning support for primary teachers with staff from CES.

- Year 5/6 students and their parents participated in the Life Relationship unit and information night.
- Students engaged in the singing and responses at Liturgies and Masses by incorporating learning opportunities in Religious Education lessons.
- Successful Ash Wednesday Mass.
- Whole school Easter Liturgy and celebration conducted onsite.
- Successful whole school celebration for Shrove Tuesday and Caritas was supported throughout Lent with 'Zoooper Dooper' Fridays raising funds for Project Compassion.
- Each class leading Prayer for the school during Assemblies.
- Teaching Staff leading prayer during Meetings.
- Students and families participated in prayer during assemblies and also participated in Liturgies for special events, such as Mother's Day, ANZAC Day, Sacred Heart Feast Day, Mary MacKillop's Feast Day, Remembrance Day and our End of Year Mass celebrating our Year 6 graduates, farewelling staff and families, and welcoming 2024 Foundation students.
- Staff and CI leader worked to make links between our Social Justice actions and Catholic Social Teachings.
- Catholic Mission Month 'Socktober' event held during Mission month of October.
- Supported the Corryong Food Bank with a Christmas appeal with collection of donations for families in need.
- Catholic Identify was promoted through school tours, information nights and community events such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day.

Learning and Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes

At Sacred Heart School we committed to the following in 2023;

- Collaborate with Staff to enable a smooth induction for new teaching members to our approach to Learning and Teaching.
- Create processes and procedures to embed Learning and Teaching practices.
- Collaborate to develop an updated school curriculum that is responsive to the needs of our students,.
- Opportunities for students to engage in the Arts locally and within the diocese.
- Use data to drive effective Learning and Teaching.
- Collaborate and update the Assessment schedule to inform data collection for improving Learning and Teaching.

Achievements

We conducted a thorough review of our data practices, including our current assessment schedule. Subsequently, we enhanced the assessment schedule to more accurately align with our evolving teaching methods and to provide valuable insights for instructional improvement. To ensure transparency and accessibility, we developed a comprehensive whole-school data recording sheet, which was implemented, used, and regularly reflected upon by our team to ensure visibility and comprehension of the data across all levels of the school.

Students were offered expanded opportunities to engage with the Arts including a variety of excursions and incursions. STEAM units of work were integrated into Specialist classes and Performing Arts sessions, enriching students' interdisciplinary learning experiences. Senior students benefited from workshops conducted by the Australian School of Performing Arts and showcased their talents at the Festival of the Sacred in Wodonga. In Visual Arts, students crafted artworks for submission to the MacKillop art exhibition. In collaboration with the Upper Murray Performing Arts and Corryong College, students participated in a variety of Performing Arts experiences locally in Corryong.

Student Learning Outcomes

In 2023 Sacred Heart School continued to work on defining our Educational Philosophy. We continued to complete Professional Development for staff and further our knowledge in the Science of Learning and how we can utilise evidence based research to improve our teaching and student learning outcomes. This will again be our focus into 2024, as we have welcomed a new teaching staff in 2023 and require the opportunity to embed our Educational Philosophy at Sacred Heart School.

NAPLAN

A limited number of students participated in NAPLAN this year, with 2 Year 3 students and 5 Year 5 students. Both Year 2 students have received additional support in Literacy through the MacqLit program. A majority of our Year 5 students achieved Strong and Exceeding proficiency levels for Grammar & Punctuation, Numeracy, Spelling, Writing and Reading. One Year 5 student continues to receive support in their Literacy development through the MacqLit program. The MacqLit program and data have shown growth in all students who have participated in small group Literacy intervention.

NAPLAN - Proportion of students meeting the proficient standards			
Domain	Year level	Mean Scale score	Proficient
Grammar & Punctuation	Year 3	*	*
	Year 5	*	*
Numeracy	Year 3	*	*
	Year 5	*	*
Reading	Year 3	*	*
	Year 5	*	*
Spelling	Year 3	*	*
	Year 5	*	*
Writing	Year 3	*	*
	Year 5	*	*

*A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate. Data not reported for 2023 due to participation not meeting these criteria or no students were assessed. Participants include students who were assessed, including non-attempt, or those exempted from the test.

Student Wellbeing

Goals & Intended Outcomes

Goals & Intended Outcomes

At Sacred Heart School we are committed to the following in 2023;

- To develop a consistent program for Social and Emotional Learning (SEL).
- Implement Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships program and Student Wellbeing Journal.

Achievements

As a school staff we worked closely with Tammy Smith (Project Liaison Officer Respectful Relationships) and Jacquelyn Martyn (Respectful Relationships Project Lead) to continue our Respectful Relationships Initiative journey which included a whole staff briefing, responding to disclosure of family violence professional development.

As a school we received continued funding through the Towong Shire and Bushfire Recovery to connect with the Resilience Project. Staff participated in professional development sessions and students participated in weekly Resilience Project sessions in classes.

Staff worked on embedding a consistent Social and Emotional Learning program, with an hour dedicated to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in the classroom. This time was used to implement both the Resilience Project and the Rights, Resilience, and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) program. Staff implemented RRRR lessons from all of the units, as well as using the student journals to support the learning from the Resilience Project program.

Our student buddy program continues to thrive. Our Year 6 students thoroughly enjoyed supporting their Foundation buddies throughout the year. They attended Mass, community events, Buddy Reading and completed many learning activities together.

All staff completed necessary updates for First Aid and Anaphylaxis training. All staff also completed the Mandatory Reporting e-Module.

Value Added

- We were again able to hold sporting events and welcome our community to attend. Including the Swimming Carnival, Cross Country and Athletics Carnival.

- Provide opportunities for our students to attend Zone (or next level) events for Swimming, Cross Country and a variety of athletics events.
- Year 5/6 school camp to Melbourne and Year 3/4 camp to Howman's Gap. Foundation to Year 2 students had a fun filled excursion to Wagga, followed by a Year 2 afternoon with cooking and swimming.
- Swimming lessons for all students with a Splash Day to celebrate our learning.
- Extra curricular Art activities including the senior students attending Festival of the Sacred, Corryong Christmas Carols, all students participated in the Regional Arts excursion.
- Enhancing Specialist classes with the inclusion of Performing Arts, STEM and regular harvesting and cooking in Sustainability.
- Hold regular Parent Teacher meetings and Parent Support Group meetings to discuss student learning.
- Community events including Sacred Heart School BBQs, Mother's Day and Father's Day events and celebrating 60 years of Sacred Heart School.

Student Satisfaction

Students participated in the ORIMA survey for the first time in 2023. Results identified that a high percentage of students feel physically and psychological safe at school, feel supported and encouraged by their teachers to do their best and that there is high expectations of students behaviour at Sacred Heart School.

Student Attendance

School attendance is important to Sacred Heart student success, and absenteeism results in missed learning. Sacred Heart School's classroom teachers are required to monitor and record attendance of all students at 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. Teachers are requested to follow up with regular non-attendance with families, should there be frequent absences with/without parent notification. Students attendance percentage is

also shared during Parent Teacher meetings with strategies being introduced to attend school on a more regular basis.

Average Student Attendance Rate by Year Level	
Y01	85.7%
Y02	87.7%
Y03	83.8%
Y04	88.1%
Y05	89.0%
Y06	84.7%
Overall average attendance	86.5%

Leadership

Goals & Intended Outcomes

At Sacred Heart School we committed to the following in 2023;

- To create opportunities for POL/s (Positions of Leadership) and implement a Leadership team.
- To implement effective Professional Learning Communities.
- To create a Student Leadership team to inform student feedback and initiatives.

Achievements

- In 2023 the Leadership team consisted of the Principal and Catholic Identity Leader.
- Induct new teaching members and learning support staff to understand the vision, mission and practices of Sacred Heart School.
- Reviewing the current assessment schedule and enhancing current processes to include assessments that better reflect evidence based practice.
- Creating and recording whole school data for tracking, growth and moderation purposes.
- Reviewing and improving the collection of data for NCCD. By enhancing staff knowledge of additional learning needs of students and how to better document student goals.
- Implement the teaching of AUSLAN as co-teacher in a new approach to teaching languages at Sacred Heart School.
- Invite and work with a variety of Catholic Education Sandhurst staff to expand knowledge of Sacred Heart Staff.
- Participating and achieving in the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority review.
- Creation of a senior student leadership team, with termly feedback sessions.
- Administration PD - ICON, FBT, Budget, School Fees.
- Co-Principalship, while Justine was on leave, welcoming Joe Quinn to Sacred Heart School and Leadership.
- Beginning a Student Leadership team with regular termly meetings for discussion and planning for future events and initiatives.

Expenditure And Teacher Participation in Professional Learning	
List Professional Learning undertaken in 2023	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Goal Setting • Professional Learning Communities • A variety of Staff Professional Development sessions lead with Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd Staff (e.g. Religious Education planning, Auslan training, learning about students additional learning needs, etc). • Delving into data with Andrea O'Connor. • Writing traits with Matt Barlee • PBIS as a Framework with Jenny Griffiths • Mandatory Reporting • VIT Code of Conduct • Aboriginal education and FIRE Carrier Covenant 	
Number of teachers who participated in PL in 2023	7
Average expenditure per teacher for PL	\$500.00

Teacher Satisfaction

Teaching and Education Support Staff participated in the ORIMA survey for the first time in 2023.

Highest areas of achievement with results over 90 % in the following domains and areas;

School climate - Perceptions of the overall social and learning climate of the school.

Staff-leadership relationships - Perceptions of the quality of relationships between staff and members of the leadership team.

Collective efficacy - Teachers' perceptions that staff at the school have what it takes to improve instruction.

Teacher Qualifications	
Doctorate	0.0%
Masters	25.0%
Graduate	0.0%
Graduate Certificate	0.0%
Bachelor Degree	50.0%
Advanced Diploma	0.0%
No Qualifications Listed	25.0%

Staff Composition	
Principal Class (Headcount)	2
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	9
Teaching Staff (FTE)	7.0
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	10
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	4.4
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	0

Community Engagement

Goals & Intended Outcomes

To develop community partnerships which foster authentic relationships within our local and global communities.

- That stronger connections between school families and the parish continue to be developed.
- Students have opportunity to participate in activities outside of the local area and connect to more global communities.

Achievements

- Clear and timely communication with parents and families.
- Welcome back to school BBQ for Sacred Heart students, families and staff.
- Mother's Day morning tea, Father's Day breakfast and Liturgies.
- Connecting with Corryong Preschool with staff visits and inviting Preschool students to Sacred Heart School.
- School tours and parent information evening for 2024 prospective families.
- Sacred Heart School students participated in locally organised events and excursions to the Memorial Hall and at Corryong College.
- Ongoing involvement in the Parish through school liturgies, CARITAS, Family and community invitations to school Masses and celebrations, Mother's and Father's Day breakfast to name a few.
- AFL Primary Play sessions with facilitators from AFL North East Border visiting Sacred Heart School as well as Golf sessions.
- Parent Teacher meetings and Parent Support Group meetings.
- Sacred Heart School 60 years celebration.
- End of year Mass celebrating the graduation of the Year Six students and welcoming the new Foundation students, which was well attended by Sacred Heart families and the wider community including Towong Shire and Snowy Hydro representatives.
- Year Six graduation lunch at Black Sheep with staff.
- Sacred Heart School held a Swimming Carnival, Cross Country and Athletics Carnival in conjunction with Walwa Primary School, all well supported and attended by our parent community.
- Our Parents and Friends Committee continued to meet monthly with great enthusiasm to fundraise for Sacred Heart School, raising thousands of dollars towards resources and initiatives for our students, including the sponsorship and purchasing of Year 6 shirts for the first time.

- Our School Advisory Council continued to support the school's goals, discuss feedback and future opportunities.

Parent Satisfaction

Parents and Families participated in the ORIMA survey for the first time in 2023. Results indicated that Families give the school a 81% overall school positive endorsement. With results over 80 % in the following domains and areas;

Family Engagement - The degree to which families are partners with their child's school.

School fit - Families' perceptions of how well a school matches their child's developmental needs.

School climate - Families' perceptions of the social and learning climate of the school.

Communication - The timeliness, frequency and quality of communication between the school and families.

Financial Performance

The school's financial performance information and a report of the financial activities of the school's boarding premises (if applicable) have 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.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at www.shcorryong.catholic.edu.au