



Westside

Christian College

Achievement Belonging Care

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

This Annual Report meets both State and Australian Government reporting requirements.

In Thy Light

College Information

Westside Christian College, originally known as Goodna Christian School, opened its doors to fifty-six children in 1977. Classes were offered from Years 1-7. In 1985 the first class of Year 12 students graduated and in 1995 a second campus was opened just down the street from the original campus. Pre-school and Years 1-3 were moved to this new campus.

Today the two campuses accommodate the entire Primary School (Prep - Year 6) and Secondary School (Years 7 - 12) separately.

School Overview

School Sector:	Independent
Address:	Westside Christian College Secondary Campus 65 Stuart Street, Goodna Qld 4301 Primary Campus 110 Stuart Street, Goodna Qld 4301
Total Enrolments:	976
Year Levels Offered:	Prep to Year 12
Co-educational or Single Sex:	Co-educational
Student Body Characteristics:	48.98% boys 51.02% girls 1.74% Indigenous



Our Vision

Faith and learning together.

Westside Christian College is a distinctly Christian school where faith in God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and learning go together.

Our Mission

Westside Christian College exists to provide quality Christ-centred education, which prepares students to live as Christians in God's world.

The Mission of Westside Christian College is, with humble reliance upon the grace of Almighty God, to nurture our students in the fear and admonition of the Lord and to develop towards full potential, the gifts, skills, talents and creativity the Lord has given to each student, so that our students may:

- individually confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and determine to follow and obey Him all the days of their lives;
- be morally and socially responsible before the Lord;
- be self-disciplined and knowledgeable;
- be prepared for further learning;
- be employable; and
- be capable of enjoying life in God's kingdom

Our Core Values

Westside's **CLASS** values:

- **C**hristlikeness
- **L**earning
- **A**chievement
- **S**ocial Responsibility and
- **S**ervice

These values are embedded in everything we do at our school and they form the core of who we are. Our CLASS values provide cohesiveness in our planning and are an easy to understand reference for staff and students in the development of our College's culture. Even our youngest students are able to talk about our CLASS values.

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

Our curriculum recognises the distinct developmental stages of young people. Allowing students to progress from Prep to Year 12 in one school allows us to offer a seamless curriculum where each phase builds on what has gone before. All of this occurs in a safe and caring Christian environment where students are encouraged to achieve to the best of their ability in numerous different areas.

Prep to Year 3

Students are encouraged to develop as independent learners and to work collaboratively across a range of learning areas. A strong focus is on basic literacy and numeracy but students are also encouraged to pursue their interests in creative arts and physical activities. The teachers foster strong relationships with parents and carers as well as inculcating positive attitudes in the students upon which they should build as they progress through the school. These include always doing one's best, taking pride in oneself and one's school and caring for one another.



Year 4 to Year 6

Years 4 to 6 build on the foundations laid in Junior Primary. Students are introduced to enquiring thought processes by being encouraged to ask why things are so. Leadership abilities are nurtured and some Year 6 students are appointed to leadership positions in the Primary School.

Years 7 to 10

Much attention is paid to ensuring a smooth transition for all Year 6 students into Secondary School. Key Learning Areas are consolidated and students are encouraged to assume greater responsibility for their own learning. Students are given the opportunity to experience a wide variety of subjects across the entire curriculum. Besides the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science and Biblical Studies, students are exposed to subjects in the Creative Industries (Drama, Dance, Media Studies, Music and Visual Art), Technical Industries (ICT, Food Technology, Textile Technology, Graphics and Construction) as well as Chinese, Physical Education, Business Studies and Technology and Innovation. Critical thinking and problem solving skills are nurtured at this time.



Years 11 and 12

A wide range of Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority subjects are available to senior students. These contribute towards a student's OP (Overall Position), a score used to determine entry to tertiary study. In addition, numerous alternate pathways are offered. These include traineeships and apprenticeships as well as subjects offered by TAFE or universities.

Students are encouraged to connect emotionally, socially and spiritually and on leaving our College should be prepared with skills for tertiary study or the workforce, as well as a mature understanding of the world and their place in it.

SWAN (Students with Additional Needs) and SEE (Special Education Element)

Students with additional needs thrive at our College. Where necessary they receive additional help from qualified support personnel. A Special Education Element has been set up on each campus for those students who require a specialised, modified education program.



Extension

Students are encouraged to enter national competitions in English, Mathematics, Science, Chemistry, Business Studies, Digital Technologies and Geography. All Year 10 students enter the Australian Brain Bee Competition while the College enters a team in the Science and Engineering Challenge each year. An opportunity is available to motivated Year 9 students to pursue an Independent Learning Project during one semester.



Co-curricular and Extra-curricular Activities

The College prides itself on providing opportunities for everyone. Students can represent their House at the annual inter-house Athletics, Cross-country and Swimming Carnivals. Students in the Secondary School can also participate in the inter-house table tennis, volleyball, basketball, indoor cricket, debating, spelling bee, theatre sports and street art competitions.

College teams participate in the Central Ipswich District sports competitions in touch football, futsal, volleyball, basketball, netball and football.

Our teams compete in the Christian Schools Sports Association of Queensland's Athletics, Cross-country and Swimming carnivals while individual teams also compete in the CSSAQ or Brisbane Christian Schools one day carnivals in various sports.

An annual drama production is performed each year in the Secondary School while the Primary School produces a musical every two years. Opportunities exist for students to join various musical groups such as the Funk Jazz Rock Band, Symphonic Band, String Ensemble, Flute Ensemble and Choir while our Junior Primary perform every two years at the Ipswich Dance Eisteddfod.



Social Climate

There is a special spirit awaiting students at Westside. It is a spirit of belonging, of security, of humility, of love and of happiness. It is a spirit of rising in the morning and wanting to go to school. It is a spirit of striving for personal enrichment and achievement but also of reaching out in assistance to others. This is because Westside has always been, first and foremost, about relationships - strong, respectful relationships between staff and students, between senior students and junior students and between students in the same year levels.

Special occasions such as Anzac Day ceremonies and Grandparents' Day provide students with the opportunity to show their respect and gratitude to those in our community who have given above and beyond. This caring spirit extends into our Pastoral Care Program. A chaplain on each campus works with Year Level Co-ordinators, classroom teachers and TAG teachers to ensure that each student feels cared for and loved.

In turn, the students are encouraged to care for others through community work such as the Helping Hands Program and various fundraising opportunities such as participation in the Queensland Cancer Council's Relay for Life, World Vision's 40 Hour Famine and many others. The R.A.K Group (Radical Acts of Kindness) aims to give students the opportunity to support the local community through various service activities. Generation Justice is a group of senior secondary students who organise and run the calendar of social justice activities within the College each year.

The College has some programs which are unique. In Junior Primary a wellbeing and resilience program called Bounce Back aims to create the building blocks and personal skills used to foster resilience and the ability to handle adversity.

In the Secondary School FIT (Fitness-Integrity-Tenacity) Chicks endeavours to equip girls with the skills, abilities and determination to overcome the obstacles that life may present and presents a model of Christian living for young women today. BOBs (Building Outstanding Blokes) is a boys mentoring program aimed at restoring boys' enjoyment and confidence in learning. Both of these programs are voluntary and happen outside of normal school hours.



The College's Outdoor Education Program is aimed at building students confidence by exposing them to new experiences and challenges. Leaders are officially appointed for the first time in Year 6 and aspiring young leaders can attend a Junior Leaders Camp in Years 8 and 9. All Year 11 students undergo an intensive leadership course and the Year 11 Camp is focused on leadership.

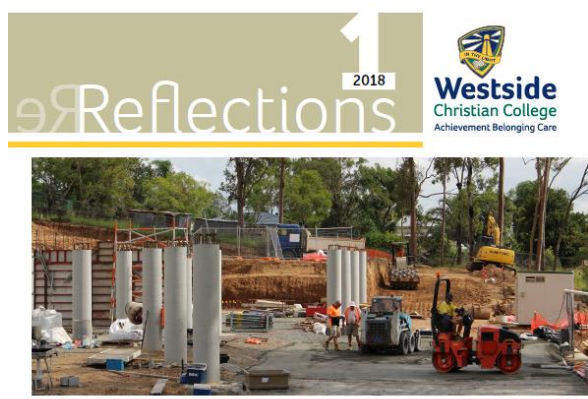
As part of its commitment to providing a safe environment all staff undertake relevant training in the implementation of the College's Child Protection Policy and Anti-Bullying Policies. Brief outlines of these policies can be found on the College website.

Parental Involvement

At Westside we believe that education works best when the school and the home work together. This relationship is of paramount importance and the College actively promotes open communication between the home and the school. This includes regular targeted information delivered to parents through *Schoolbox*, the College's Learning Management System, email updates, *Reflections*, the College newsletter, the College website and social media. All families receive a copy of the annual College magazine, *Koinonia* while alumni receive an annual publication, *Catch Up*, which aims to keep them informed of developments at the College.

Parents are encouraged to join the College's parent body, the Association for Parent Controlled Christian Schools at Brisbane as well as the Parents and Friends Association (PFA) which focuses on organising fundraising events for the College community. Parent volunteers are active in all areas of the College including the library, uniform shop, Primary and Secondary canteens, reading groups and special interest groups.

The College provides regular parent education evenings with high profile guest speakers presenting forums on topical parenting or educational subjects.



Off to a great start!

Welcome to a new school year and welcome to our new look Reflections.

There will be fewer editions of Reflections this year but each edition will be full of useful reports and educational information which will keep you abreast of what has been happening in our school and, more broadly, in the educational sector. There will also be helpful pointers and parenting tips as together we approach the increasingly challenging task of preparing your children for the future. This year Reflections will be published every three weeks at the end of Weeks 1, 4 and 7 each term. This publication will be an important point of connection between the school and the home and I encourage every parent to read it.

I extend a special word of welcome to all the new families starting at our College this year. I'm sure I speak for all our staff when I say that we are looking forward to getting to know you. I hope that your time with us will be a positive experience and that you will develop the same affection for our College as so many who have gone before you.

Much has happened since the end of last year. Our College has continued to grow and our total K-12 enrolment now sits in the vicinity of 1050 students. We have expanded our Prep to four classes and those of you with students in the Junior Primary would already have experienced the inconvenience of limited access to that section of the school because of the construction of the new Prep and Year 1 classrooms. I apologise for this but it is, of course, unavoidable and

is an example of us having to endure some short term pain for long term gain. Construction is also progressing at a rapid pace on our secondary campus where the first stage of our Creative Industries Precinct is taking shape. Much work has been done refreshing parts of both campuses in preparation for what is shaping as an exciting year. I look forward to journeying through the year with you.



Parent, Teacher & Student Satisfaction

"Our boys started at Westside mid-way through their secondary schooling, and from the very first day were made to feel thoroughly welcome by both students and staff. Within a short period of time, the boys made many new friends and became involved in a number of programs on offer.

We have been incredibly impressed by the College. The staff genuinely care and are passionate to see students learn and grow. We have also been amazed at the continuous extent of encouragement provided to our boys by various teachers and staff. Directly connected with this, we have seen a marked improvement in the boys' academic results, personal work ethic, confidence and motivation to try their hardest. They enjoy going to school every day. What more could you want for your child from a secondary school? Westside Christian College has exceeded our expectations at every level.

Westside has had a very positive impact on our family and we are so thankful to be part of this wonderfully caring school community. Our only regret is that we didn't start our boys at Westside earlier. We would unequivocally recommend the College to anyone who wants a well-rounded schooling experience for their child, under the guidance of caring, motivated and talented teachers and support staff."

Phil and Tash Nickerson, Parents

"Today many things have become disposable (get it, use it, get another one); electrical appliances, cars, even houses; here today gone tomorrow. Most disturbingly friendship seems to be on its way to becoming a disposable item - hang with the friends that are trendy today and move on to the next group when the fashion has changed.

Westside Christian College has provided my boys with a strong dependable friendship base - friends that are always there despite the latest fad, friends that are there for each other in the hard times and the good times. These friendships go beyond the things of the world and into a deep place of spiritual care and understanding. We're up to nine years since my boys have left school and those friendships are still as solid as the rock they were built on.

With my youngest boy now in Year 9 I can see the same comradeship developing for him through his school life. I have seen 12-year-old boys care for each other in times of great sorrow with more maturity than I would expect from most adults. This friendship is not due to extraordinary individuals but is the personification of Christ's love radiated from a truly unique and Godly school. Westside Christian College builds great friendships forever in the name of Christ."

Clyde Lewis, Parent

"Westside Christian College is a great school for our children. It provides a safe learning environment where kids are inspired and where the teachers and staff are approachable and genuinely care.

The staff really encourage children to be involved, and celebrate their achievements, whether in sports, the arts, or academically. We love the sense of community Westside promotes, and the opportunities our children have to participate in all areas of school life."

Martin and Leisa Bird, Parents

“Westside Christian College has been a blessing to our family ever since our oldest child commenced there eight years ago. The Christian and caring ethos at Westside means that students feel both accepted and valued. As a result, the students feel secure, they enjoy their schooling experience and they blossom both academically and personally. We are thrilled to recommend this school to other families seeking a positive education environment for their children.”

Peter and Bethany Kelly, Parents

“Westside has a very strong culture of loving others. I love being able to teach at a college that not only focuses on the achievement of students but on students’ social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. I feel encouraged that I can come to work and have colleagues that will support me not only through my teaching but through the ups and downs of life as well. Being able to teach at Westside is a privilege that I am very thankful for.”

Year 3 Teacher

“I have enjoyed working at Westside Christian College for over a decade now. It is a delight to work with children in a Christ centred environment, within a caring community. I have had the privilege of seeing many students grow in both their spiritual understanding and academic knowledge over the years.”

ICT Teacher



Funding

A breakdown of school income by funding source is available from the My School website at www.myschool.com.au.

Staffing Information

Staff Composition and Qualifications

Staff Composition, including Indigenous staff:

Type	Number
Teaching	78
Non-teaching	64
TOTAL	142

Two permanent, one full-time staff and one supply teacher identify as Indigenous.

Qualifications of all Teachers:

Qualification	% of teachers and school leaders
Doctorate or higher	0
Masters	15.8
Bachelor Degree	82
Diploma	5.6
Certificate	0

Teacher participation in Professional Development:

Description of Professional Development Activity	Number of teachers participating in activity
Differentiation – Strategies for Teaching Students with ASD Part 1	All teachers
Differentiation – Strategies for Teaching Students with ASD Part 2	All teachers
Sexuality & Gender	All teachers
Mental Health & Wellbeing	All teachers
Whole School Curriculum	All teachers
Student Protection	All teachers
Internet Safe Education	All Primary teachers
Becoming Mentally & Physically Energised	All Primary teachers
Healthy Eating in a Fast Paced Life	All Primary teachers

Expenditure on Professional Development:

Total Number of Teachers	Total expenditure on teacher PD(as recorded in Financial Questionnaire)	Average expenditure on PD per teacher
78	\$44,031.34	\$564.50
The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2017		\$44,031.34
The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2017		100 %

Average Staff Attendance Rate:

For permanent and temporary classroom teachers and school leaders the average staff attendance rate was 98.6% in 2017.

Number of staff	78
Number of school days	179
Total days of staff absences	195
Average staff attendance rate	98.6 %

Teaching Staff Retention Rate from 2016:

From the end of 2016, 96% of staff were retained for the entire 2017 school year.

Number of permanent teaching staff at end of previous year	76
Number of these staff retained in the following year	73
Retention Rate as a %	96

Of these staff who left at the end of 2016, two retired and one left for personal reasons.

Key Student Outcomes

Student attendance:

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2017 was 96.76%.

Average attendance rates for each year level as a percentage in 2017

Year Level	%
Kindergarten	99.33
Prep	98.73
Year 1	98.74
Year 2	96.43
Year 3	94.42
Year 4	96.68
Year 5	97.17
Year 6	96.01
Year 7	97.56
Year 8	97.45
Year 9	94.99
Year 10	94.77
Year 11	97.90
Year 12	93.54

Non-attendance management:

Student attendance is managed through the software program in TASS. Parents phone absences through to the College's Absentee Line early on the morning of the student's absence. Any unexplained or unexpected student absences are investigated by the College Receptionist on a daily basis. Extended student absence is followed up by the relevant Year Level Co-ordinator.

Apparent Retention Rate Years 10-12:

The Years 10-12 Apparent Retention Rate is defined as the number of full-time students in Year 12 in any given year expressed as the percentage of those students who were in Year 10 two years previously (this may be greater than 100%).

Apparent Retention Rate

Year	Year 10	Year 12	Retention
2017	84	85	101%



NAPLAN 2017 Benchmark Data

All students at Westside Christian College are encouraged to sit the annual NAPLAN tests in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This test is seen as part of our regular calendar and receives no extra emphasis. Data collected from these results are closely examined to identify strengths and weaknesses so that delivery of the curriculum can be improved. Results are also used to identify students who would benefit from targeted intervention in particular areas.

Reading, Writing and Numeracy

Reading			
Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (National)	% at or above National minimum standard
Year 3 (2017)	453	431	98.1
Year 5 (2017)	523	506	92.4
Year 7 (2017)	552	545	91.9
Year 9 (2017)	597	581	85.9

Grammar and Punctuation			
Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (National)	% at or above National minimum standard
Year 3 (2017)	487	439	96.3
Year 5 (2017)	531	499	92.4
Year 7 (2017)	563	542	95.9
Year 9 (2017)	588	574	96.1

Writing			
Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (National)	% at or above National minimum standard
Year 3 (2017)	438	414	100
Year 5 (2017)	492	473	92.4
Year 7 (2017)	518	513	80.6
Year 9 (2017)	576	552	84.6

Numeracy			
Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (National)	% at or above National minimum standard
Year 3 (2017)	443	409	100
Year 5 (2017)	501	494	92.4
Year 7 (2017)	562	554	96.9
Year 9 (2017)	596	592	85.9

Spelling			
Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (National)	% at or above National minimum standard
Year 3 (2017)	460	416	96.3
Year 5 (2017)	521	501	92.4
Year 7 (2017)	555	550	94.9
Year 9 (2017)	583	581	91



Year 12 Outcomes

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2017	
Number of students awarded a Senior Education Profile	85
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement	1
Number of students who received an Overall Position (OP)	62
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT)	2
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications	14
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12	66
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)	n/a
Percentage of Year 12 students who received an OP1-15 or an IBD	67.7 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification	84.7 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer	98.1 %



Post-school Destination

(Information from the current Next Steps Survey)

Collection Procedure:

The Next Step survey, undertaken by the Queensland Government, targeted all students who completed Year 12 and gained a Senior Statement in 2017, whether they attended a state, Catholic or independent school, or a TAFE secondary college.

The QLD Government Statistician's Office conducted the survey between March and June 2018, approximately six months after the young people left school. Responses were collected online and via computer-assisted telephone interviewing.

The following analysis generated by the QLD Government Statistician's Office captures the destination of the 2017 Westside Christian College leavers.

School Response Rate to the 2017 Survey:

Number of Year 12 students in 2017 (a)	Number of responses received from students (b)	Percentage response rate (b/a x100)
85	72	84.7%



Summary of findings in relation to main destinations of students in 2017

School Year 2017	Number of Students in each category	Percentage of Students in each category
University (degree)	30	41.7%
VET total (Cert IV+ III, I-II, apprenticeship, traineeship)	19	26.4%
Working full-time	5	6.9%
Working part-time/casual	11	15.3%
Seeking work	7	9.7%
Not studying or in the labour force	0	0%
Total Year 12 students	72	100%

Value Added

Facilities

Westside Christian College Primary Campus is modern and stimulating. The Secondary campus has state-of-the-art Science laboratories and five subject-specific computer laboratories, in addition to the College's BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program. All classrooms are air-conditioned providing a comfortable learning environment.



Curriculum

The curriculum is broad and the education is holistic, encompassing academic, cultural, physiological, social, emotional and spiritual dimensions.

SWAN/SEE

Students with additional needs thrive at our College. Where necessary they receive additional help from qualified support personnel. A Special Education Element has been set up on each campus for those students who require a specialised, modified education program.

Co-curricular Program

The College has an extensive co-curricular program which is growing by the year. More sporting teams, bands, choirs and ensembles ensure that there are opportunities for everyone.

Programs Exclusive to Westside Christian College

Various programs, which are exclusive to the College, run each year. The Bounce Back Program in our Junior Primary School has been specifically created by our own teachers while FITChicks and BOBs are extra-curricular programs unique to our Secondary School.

Care

Care is at the very heart of Westside Christian College. Students are encouraged to look beyond themselves and to care for others. Students and staff assume responsibility for supporting one another.

Faith

Westside Christian College takes its commitment to lifelong learning and growing in faith seriously. The Pastoral Care and Christian Studies programs are significant pillars in a Westside education and growing in faith and developing Christlike qualities are valued.



A Dedicated Staff

The College has many long term staff members and this has resulted in the development of a very distinct caring, Christian ethos.

Proven Track Record

After 41 years the College has established itself as a respected institution in the Ipswich area that punches well above its weight. Students do not just have the opportunity to achieve well academically or in the cultural or sporting areas, they also learn the importance of always doing one's best, taking pride in oneself and one's school and the importance of displaying sound moral fibre and values.

