

Annual Report

2024

This Annual Report meets both State and Australian Government Reporting Requirements



Westside
Christian College
Achievement Belonging Care



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About Westside

Westside Christian College, originally known as Goodna Christian School, is situated in the Brisbane-Western corridor at 65 and 110 Stuart Street, Goodna and is an independent, co-educational school catering for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. Westside 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.

In 2024, Westside's total enrolment was 1257 students, consisting of 637 (50.67%) females and 620 (49.32%) males.

Of the student population, there were 25 (1.98%) Aboriginal students; 2 (0.15%) Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students and 2 (0.15%) Torres Strait Islander student.



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

The Mission of Westside Christian College is, with humble reliance upon the grace of God, to prepare and equip our young people for an abundant life of learning, faith and service, for the common good and the glory of God.

Our Motto - In Thy Light

'For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light.' Psalm 36:9

As a Christian school, Westside believes that the best way to live all of life is in the light of the love of God expressed through the life and person of Jesus Christ.

Our Core 'CLASS' Values

- Christlikeness
- Learning
- Achievement
- Social Responsibility and
- Service

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.

Our Tagline

Achievement Belonging Care

An invitational declaration that Achievement, Belonging and Care are fundamental distinctives of the Westside Christian College experience.

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

Our curriculum recognises the distinct developmental stages of young people. Having students' 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 various fields of endeavour.



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 ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank), a score used for entrance to tertiary study. In addition, numerous alternate pathways are offered including traineeships, apprenticeships and TAFE and university subjects.

Students are encouraged to connect emotionally, socially and spiritually and our graduates should be prepared with skills for tertiary study or the workforce and 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

A range of pedagogical approaches are employed to personalise extension for highly capable students including in-class differentiation, small group extension, enrichment opportunities, academic competitions, acceleration and Year 12 extension subjects. The College employs an Enrichment Teacher specifically to support academic extension in the Primary School.

Co- curricular & 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 a range of sporting developmental nights and the inter-house table tennis, volleyball, basketball, 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 volleyball, touch football, netball, basketball and football.



An annual drama production, music soiree and musical revue/dance showcase are performed each year in the Secondary school and the Senior Primary school presents a creative production every two years.

Our Junior Primary perform each year at our Celebration Evening and regularly at eisteddfods.

Opportunities also exist for students to join various musical groups such as the Funk Jazz Rock Bands, Symphonic Band, String, Flute, Brass and Vocal Ensembles and to participate in the Secondary Battle of the Bands.



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. Chaplains on each campus work 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 and many others. The Year 12 Student Executive are 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 Primary a well-being and resilience program called URSTRONG is all about empowering students with friendship skills and is a proven, skills-based strategy that teaches kid-friendly concepts, skills and language to help them build and maintain healthy friendships. UR Strong uses a common language for conflict management and promotes a culture of kindness and respect within the school.

In Secondary, 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 boy's 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 commences in Year 4 and is aimed at building confidence by exposing students to new experiences and challenges, and all Year 11 students undergo an intensive leadership course, with the Year 11 Camp focusing 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 and Anti-Bullying Policies.



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 with families. 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*.

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

Formal parent-teacher interviews are held twice annually.

Parents are encouraged to be involved in the College's Parents and Friends Association (PFA).



The PFA is a voluntary group of Parents and Friends, led by an elected Executive, who serve and support the College by:

1. working closely with the College to achieve common goals aligned with the College's Vision, Mission and Values,
2. maintaining open, two-way communication between the parent body and the College,
3. fostering a positive community spirit amongst parents, staff and friends of the College,
4. raising funds to support mutually agreed projects and resource acquisitions, and
5. encouraging and supporting the involvement of parents in their children's education.

Parent volunteers are welcome and invited to support the College through service in such areas as the library, Primary and Secondary canteens, reading groups and special interest groups.

Parent, Teacher & Student Satisfaction

Parents

In a recent "What Parents Want" survey conducted by Independent Schools Queensland, 96% of parents said they were happy with their child attending Westside.

"Our child has been at WCC for 11 years, we have never regretted our decision."

"We are very proud to be a part of the WCC community."

"It really is a wonderful school. The staff do an incredible job. Beyond blessed to have my children enrolled."

"At Westside students are not just a number. Teachers take an interest in the students and build trusting relationships. I'm very proud to say that I am a Westside parent."

"The school's vision and values are what I love!"

Staff

In this year's Staff Climate survey, **88%** said they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their job. When asked – *My own values are closely aligned to those of the College* – **97%** of staff indicated that they either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement.

"I enjoy working with an incredible team, who care and support each other and our students".

"A positive work environment – physically, mentally and spiritually."

"I'm not just a number in a system, I know I am cared about and valued".

Students

94% of Year 12 Students agree, *"I am glad I went to school at WCC"* and 94% of Year 12 Students agree, *"I have received a good education at WCC".*

"What I value are the strong connections with students and staff, these relationships are very special and you feel as if you really belong and are cared for."

Staffing Information

Westside Christian College has 61 full time and 43 part time teachers and 30 full time and 69 part time non-teaching staff. Westside has been blessed by its diversity of staff and cultural backgrounds and there are currently 5 Indigenous staff.

Qualifications of all Teachers

Qualification	Number of teachers and school leaders
Doctorate or higher	1
Masters	22
Bachelor Degree	127
Diploma	50
Certificate	9

Non- Attendance Management

Student attendance is managed through the software program in TASS. Parents can either email, phone the College's Absentee Line or message the College's EduApp early on the morning of the student's absence. Any unexplained or unexpected absences are investigated by a member of the administration staff on a daily basis. Extended student absence is followed-up by the Class Teacher or Year Level Co-ordinator.

Key Student Outcomes

In 2024, the average attendance rate for the whole school, Prep to Year 12, as a percentage was 92.67%.

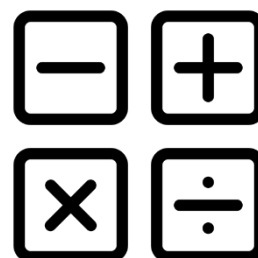
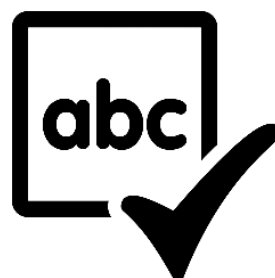
Year Level	Percentage %
Prep	92.68%
Year 1	93.38%
Year 2	92.91%
Year 3	93.87%
Year 4	92.87%
Year 5	94.13%
Year 6	93.06%
Year 7	92.8%
Year 8	91.94%
Year 9	91.07%
Year 10	91.71%
Year 11	92.28%
Year 12	92.71%



NAPLAN 2024 Benchmark Data

The results below are from the 2024 NAPLAN testing.

READING		
Year Level	Average Score (Westside)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	435	404
Year 5	520	493
Year 7	564	535
Year 9	597	565
WRITING		
Year Level	Average Score (Westside)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	437	416
Year 5	491	485
Year 7	553	540
Year 9	602	574
SPELLING		
Year Level	Average Score (Westside)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	431	401
Year 5	512	486
Year 7	564	540
Year 9	584	567
GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION		
Year Level	Average Score (Westside)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	438	409
Year 5	531	498
Year 7	574	537
Year 9	595	555
NUMERACY		
Year Level	Average Score (Westside)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	424	404
Year 5	509	489
Year 7	580	540
Year 9	584	565



Year 12 Outcomes

2024 Cohort Summary (Data provided by QCAA – Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority)	
Number of students awarded a Senior Education Profile (SEP)	76
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)	71
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA)	3
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)	0
Number of students receiving a Senior Statement only	2
Number of students awarded one or more VET Qualifications	31
Number of students who are completing/completed a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT)	6
Number of students awarded a VET Qualification	
Certificate I	0
Certificate II	10
Certificate III	26
Certificate IV	3
Diploma	1
Advanced Diploma	0

Post – School Destination

Collection Procedure

The Next Step survey is undertaken by the Queensland Government, targeting all students who completed Year 12 and gained a Senior State in 2023, whether they attended a state, Catholic or independent school, or a TAFE secondary college.

The Queensland Government Statistician's Office conducted the survey between March and June 2024, 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 2023 Westside Christian College leavers.

School Response Rate to the 2023 Year 12 Completers Survey

Number of Year 12 Students in 2023	81
Number of responses received from students	65
Percentage Response Rate	67.7%



Post – School Destination continued

Summary of findings in relation to main Destinations of students in 2023

School Year 2023	Number of Students in each category	% of students in category
University (degree)	30	46.2
VET Total (Cert IV+ III, I-II, apprenticeship, traineeship)	14	21.5
Working full-time	7	10.8
Working part-time, casual	9	13.8
Seeking work	4	6.2
Not studying or in the labour force	1	1.5
Total Year 12 students	65	100%



At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2023 Post-School Destinations Survey, Next Steps – Student Destination report for the school was not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be uploaded to the school's website in September – after release of the information.

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 more than 48 years, the College has established itself as a respected institution in the Ipswich area. 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.

Funding

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

Contact Us

For more information, please contact
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