



NEWCASTLE

# St Philip's Christian College 2023 Annual Report

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**St Philip's  
Christian College**  
FOR THE WHOLE OF LIFE



# St Philip's Christian College, Newcastle 2023 Annual Report

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## THEMES

**Theme 1 - Context**

**Theme 2 - Outcome and Results**

**Theme 3 - Staffing**

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# Principal's Report

PAM O'DEA

### **'POSSIBILITIES' – Theme for 2023**

This year, the theme of possibilities served as a powerful reminder of the incredible potential that exists within every one of us, and, in fact, every moment of our lives. As we conclude another school year, let us take a few moments to reflect on the opportunities that were afforded us as a result of pursuing these possibilities.

### **Wellbeing**

As part of our 2023 College focus on student wellbeing, several initiatives were well-received, one being our SPCC Pancake Breakfast, led by our team of College Wellbeing and Ministry Chaplains. Students embraced the opportunity to connect, have fun, and build relationship, before the commencement of the school day.

Also, at our PTF gathering in Term 1, Professor Phil Morgan generously shared his research and expertise about digital safety and wellbeing with our parent community, and later presented 'The 6 Must Know Tips for Thriving at School and Home' to our students, a fun and engaging presentation, that included a range of practical strategies for studying effectively, managing technology use, maximising their academic performance, and proactively maintaining their health and wellbeing.

### **'Subs in Schools' Competition 2023**

As Term 1 concluded, Team Atlas Systems from SPCC Newcastle represented NSW in the Subs in Schools National Finals, at which they competed and won the National Title as Subs in Schools Champions, for the 3rd year in a row! Congratulations!

### **Anzac Day**

Term 2 commenced with our annual Anzac Day Ceremony, but, this year, with a difference. Our Captains and Prefects considered new possibilities for engaging our students with the significance of this occasion. As a result, every student was given the opportunity to 'plant a poppy' as a reminder of the sacrifice of men and women of our Defence Forces; a deeply moving experience.

### **Book 1 of The 'Faith the Kookaburra' Children's Book Series**

The following week, we launched St Philip's first children's book, 'Faith Strives for Excellence', written by Shelly Kelly, the Head of English at SPCC Cessnock, and illustrated by Alice Nielan, a student of SPCC at the time. Every Junior School student was gifted a copy of the book to launch Book Week.

### **Book Week**

As students engaged with the possibility of the Book Week theme for 2023, "Read, Grow, Inspire", enthusiasm built and culminated with the annual Book Week Parade, which was one of the best we have ever had. The students' excitement could not be contained as they celebrated together.

### **Kindness Week**

During Term 2, our Junior School students pursued the possibility of choosing kindness, during Kindness Week. The highlight of the week was the KINDNESS artwork that was created by all the students and now is proudly displayed on the wall below Narnia.

### **Cinderella, The Musical**

The amazing production of Cinderella was staged at the end of Term 2. The performances were nothing short of exceptional, bringing the timeless tale to life with passion and talent. It was not surprising that this unforgettable show received 8 CONDA nominations.

### **2023 "Colour Fun Run"**

During Term 3, our staff and students worked together to set the stage for a colourful, fun-filled day, raising over \$68,000 to support Beyond Christian Academy in Malawi which opened in September, this year. Thank you to everyone at St Philip's and beyond, who donated so generously to this cause.

### **Alumni Dinner**

This year, we have explored the possibility of engaging with our Alumni, by launching our Alumni website and holding our first Alumni Dinner. It was exciting to re-connect with people who have been a part of this community from across the decades.



## THEME 1 - Context

### **SPCC Staff Member and Student Recognised for Contribution to Aboriginal Education**

In Week 7 of Term 3, at the local Muloobinbah Aboriginal Education Consultative Group MAD (Make a Difference) Awards Ceremony at HSPA, Dior O'Davis and Mr Gavin Martens were recognised for their commitment and contribution to Aboriginal education within their school and community. What an achievement!

### **Matilda Junior**

Then, as Term 4 commenced, so did the staging of Matilda Junior in our College Theatre. This exceptional production by our High Street Productions students, with vibrant sets, lively choreography and outstanding acting and singing, enchanted audiences with its magic and theatrical brilliance, and was awarded 4 CONDA nominations.

### **Noteworthy Achievements**

In 2023, the following teams' or individual's successes are noteworthy.

- SPCC won the Australia NBA Under 15's Basketball global competition.
- Bill Turner Cup Under 15's team was crowned Area Champions
- James Douglas (Year 9), was awarded a 2023 CSIRO Future Shapers Award recognising his exceptional contribution to the STEM field.
- Year 9 STEM students won the Nuclear-Powered Submarine Propulsion Challenge for NSW in the Junior Division
- Led by Jonah Jo who has a no-loss winning streak for 2 years in a row, our Junior School Chess competitors worked hard to be named 'Champions' for the HRIS Chess Championship, again, this year.
- The Years 6 & 7 Teams were overall winners in The Da Vinci Decathlon competition this year.

### **Sharon Claydon visit**

Term 4 provided us with the privilege of hosting our Federal Member of Parliament, Sharon Claydon, who visited the College to congratulate our Subs in School winners and wish our new team, Oceania, all the best for the Nationals in Adelaide, in March 2024.

### **Business in a Box**

Also, in the same week, the College was a-buzz with excitement as almost 200 of our Junior, Middle and Senior School student businesses showcased remarkable entrepreneurial spirit and creativity in our "Business in a Box" event.

### **Staff and Student Team in Malawi**

Our team of staff and students in Malawi returned home safely, expressing their delight with the possibilities afforded them of fostering relationships and creating lasting change in Malawi. The possibilities this connection opens, provides opportunities for students from there and here.

As we close the chapter on 2023, a year of possibilities, let us celebrate the achievements, embrace the lessons, and anticipate the promising future ahead. With gratitude for our collective efforts, I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a new year of limitless possibilities.



# Chairman's Report

LES HOLLAND

Greetings,

I am pleased to present my report to the Foundation for the year ended December 2023.

It is important to be reminded of the purpose of St Philip's Central Office, which is to:

- 1 - Ensure the organisation remains true to its Christian Mission
- 2 - Facilitate the efficient functioning of the schools and organisation
- 3 - Ensure that all activity and endeavour results in better outcomes for students
- 4 - Pursue growth opportunities.

St Philip's is motivated to deliver exceptional, whole education by modelling God's love in such a way that the potential of every person is realized in their life; that develops the whole child emotionally, intellectually, socially, physically and spiritually; that we positively impact the world through life-changing education. Our vision is to lead the progress and accessibility of exceptional Christian education in Australia and to pioneer learning environments that students love - authentic, life-changing communities filled with the Holy Spirit.

St Philip's is committed to a holistic vision of education that leads us to love proactively and advance the God-given purpose of individuals through exceptional ways of teaching and learning. We will continue to progress and deliver exceptional education in caring, secure and challenging learning environments based on Christian beliefs, values and practice.

The building and maintenance programs are progressing on a daily basis, ensuring our students and staff have the best facilities in which to work and prosper. Some projects have been completed with others under construction and we thank our builders and trades people for their skill and commitment to providing quality buildings. There are key St Philip's employees who contribute to the outcomes in this space - thank you each for your dedication and commitment.

Thank you to our ever-vigilant CEO, Graeme Irwin AM who continues to lead the St Philip's organisation with vision and determination. Thanks also to the staff in the Central Office, to teachers and staff across all schools - you each make a significant contribution to the quality outcomes of our organisation, ensuring St Philip's continues to be 'Whole of Life Leaders in Education.'

Thank you to the Board Directors who give of time and expertise in the oversight and governance of the St Philip's organisation. You are highly valued. The years ahead will, no doubt, bring challenge and opportunity. St Philip's will continue to employ our Core Values of - Christ First, Serve One Another, Strive for Excellence, Do What is Right and Build Community. These values will ensure that we maintain the Christian culture of our organisation and the good name which we enjoy as schools-of-choice.

"Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people." Ephesians 6:7 NLT

Grace and Peace,  
Leslie J Holland  
Chairman, Board of Directors SPCEF Ltd  
AGM 23rd May 2024







# CEO's Report

## GRAEME IRWIN

As the Chief Executive Officer, it is my privilege to present an overview of the significant events and achievements that unfolded across our school group throughout 2023. This report serves as a cornerstone in various documents, including individual School Annual Reports, and hopefully encapsulates the collective triumphs and endeavours of our community.

First and foremost, I extend heartfelt congratulations to every school and entity within our organisation, as well as to each student who has contributed to our shared success. Your dedication and commitment continue to inspire and shape our collective journey.

Each of our K-12 Colleges achieved outstanding HSC results in 2023. SPCC Port Stephens achieved a top ATAR of 95.80, with three students invited to exhibit their major work in ArtExpress and an additional two nominations. SPCC Cessnock climbed over 100 ranking spots with 75% of the cohort achieving a Band 4 or higher. Likewise, SPCC Gosford had 75% of student results at a Band 4 or higher, with five Band 6 or E4 results. 23% of students from SPCC Newcastle achieved an ATAR over 90% with two achieving ATAR's over 99%. Three students from SPCC Newcastle achieved All-rounder status, achieving Band 6 results in at least 10 units of courses studied. These are impressive results! Well done!

The mainstay of our success is dependent upon the unwavering dedication of our staff members. I wish to express my deepest appreciation to every individual who has tirelessly supported our mission, fostering an environment where growth and excellence thrive.

2023 marked a year of notable growth, particularly within our student body. As we reflect on the theme of 'Possibilities', inspired by the verse from Matthew 19:26, we are reminded that with faith and perseverance, all things are possible in God.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our Executive Staff whose tireless efforts have propelled our organisation forward. Special recognition is due to the invaluable work of St Philip's Executive Leadership Team (SPELT), alongside the dedicated team at our Central Office, whose contributions are instrumental in realising our vision.

Throughout the year, we witnessed two significant transitions within our senior staff. Notably, Ally Warran's appointment as Principal of Dynamic Learning College (DLC) heralds a new chapter in the educational journey of DLC. Additionally, we celebrate the remarkable tenure of Graeme Evans, our Deputy CEO, whose forty years of service exemplify remarkable dedication. Thank you to Graeme, for your great contribution in moulding the culture of this organisation.

The inauguration of Saints Academy at Cessnock and Port Stephens signifies a pivotal step towards enhancing educational opportunities within our region. Saints Academy is an innovative new program in the after-school space – where intentional and tailored learning is offered to children as an alternative to traditional after school care options. Thank you, Paul Wellham, for taking on this innovative program and making it exceptional.

Plans for the establishment of SPCC Gilibaa, our first Aboriginal school, were crafted during 2023 underscoring our commitment to diversity and inclusivity. We were very pleased with the appointment of Jonathan Lilley to the position of Director of Aboriginal Education for St Philip's Christian College. As well as providing support across the organisation in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, Jonathan will be leading our first Aboriginal school, SPCC Gilibaa. From the Gathang language of the Worimi people, 'Gilibaa' means 'lights', a word which connects with Jesus' command to 'let your light shine' (Matt 5:16).



## THEME 1 - Context

Infrastructure development remained a focal point in 2023, with notable additions including the Active Learning Centre in Newcastle, the Junior School at Port Stephens, and new Central Office, reflecting our ongoing commitment to providing state-of-the-art facilities.

The Newcastle Active Learning Centre (ALC) has been designed to motivate and inspire students and staff to invest in the vision of their future healthy self. The building incorporates a large indoor multi-sport court space, ninja gym, climbing wall, dance and drama studios, classrooms and gymnasium facilities. These state-of-the-art facilities are already attracting great sporting partnerships and opportunities for our students.

The Port Stephens Junior School is the new face of St Philip's Port Stephens with its prominent placement on Salamander Way. This building has been designed with biophilic principles, connecting the students and staff more closely with nature, fostering a nurturing and inspiring learning environment. This building provides seamless integration between multiple entities of St Philip's on the Port Stephens site including, Narnia and also Gilibaa, an innovative bilingual Aboriginal school within a school.

The Central Office is a 3-storey building, that connects into the adjacent church, and is the new home of the Central Office staff of St Philip's. It provides training facilities for future teachers and professional learning activities and open plan office areas for staff.

Looking ahead to 2024, we embark on ambitious initiatives poised to shape the future of education within our communities. From expansive projects in Gosford and Cessnock, to the development of new Young Parents and Narnia centres, our aspirations remain upbeat as we continue to evolve and innovate. Also, we are working towards the establishment of new schools in the Charmhaven and Maitland areas where population projections indicate significant growth in school aged children numbers needing quality education.

In conclusion, while the role of leaders may often be characterised by words, it is imperative that we remain attuned to the voice of God, guiding our actions with wisdom and discernment. As we press forward, may we continue to uphold our shared values and vision, fostering a legacy of excellence for generations to come.

With warm regards and every blessing,  
Graeme Irwin AM  
Chief Executive Officer  
May 2024



# THEME 2 - Outcomes and Results

## NAPLAN

Please note in 2023 NAPLAN testing moved from May to March and the NAPLAN scale was reset. This means you can't compare NAPLAN achievement prior to 2023 to that from 2023 onwards. You can access the 2014-2022 NAPLAN results by clicking the button under the 'interpreting the table' legend.

2023

Compare to  Students with similar background  All Australian students

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	463	459	465	474	469
Year 5	542	504	527	550	537
Year 7	568	575	567	573	564
Year 9	598	601	592	579	591

NAPLAN participation for this school is 99%  
NAPLAN participation for all Australian students is 95%

<sup>140</sup> A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison to be available. Grey shading indicates participation did not meet these thresholds.

### Interpreting the table

Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

- Well above
- Above
- Close to
- Below
- Well below
- No comparison available

2014 - 2022 Results

[www.myschool.edu.au/school/43931/naplan/results](http://www.myschool.edu.au/school/43931/naplan/results)



## THEME 2 - Outcomes and Results

# VET at SPCC Newcastle

### 2023 VET courses offered on site at SPCC:

- Hospitality
- Entertainment
- Construction
- Screen and Media (Non-ATAR)
- VET Visual Art (non-ATAR)
- Business Services
- Allied Health (external RTO delivered onsite)
- Design Fundamentals (external RTO delivered onsite)

### Students Undertaking VET Courses

Course	No. of Yr11 Students	No. of Yr12 Students	Total Stage 6 Students
Construction	21	13	34
Entertainment	17	6	23
Hospitality	21	15	36
Screen and Media	17	7	24
VET Visual Art	11	7	17
Business Services	16	12	28
Allied Health (external RTO)	0	12	12
TAFE	4	2	6
Other External Providers	10	2	12
TOTALS	58 students*		

\*17 Yr 12 students did two or more VET subjects

**Percentage of Year 12 students undertaking VET/TVET Courses** 59%

**Percentage of Year 12 subjects that are VET/TVET Courses** 20% of 30 subjects (excluding Allied Health and Design Fundamentals) offered at school were VET.

33% of all subjects (including 6 EVET subjects) studied by Year 12s were VET subjects.

**Percentage of Year 12 students undertaking a VET course who attained their full qualification** 100%

# Senior Secondary Outcomes

**Years 11 and 12 have traditionally followed an academic curriculum over two years, to qualify for the HSC and then go on to study at a University or College. This is no longer the case.**

Currently in NSW only 81% of senior students follow an academic program of study with the aim of entering University. Of this 81%, approximately 71% meet the needs of University entrance through the ATAR. At St Philip's Christian College approximately 65% meet the requirements for University entrance.

It follows from this that the academic pattern of study will not suit all students. We advise that students select a course, which best fits their individual needs, abilities and aspirations.

Consider the following OPTIONS to obtaining an HSC:

**Option A: Academic ATAR Pathway.** You select a pattern of study which is academic and which is designed to lead you to further studies at University. All courses are Category A and contribute to the calculation of your ATAR.

**Option B: Academic & Vocational ATAR Pathway.** You select an ATAR pattern of study which is academic and can lead you to further studies at University. You include a VET (Vocational Education and Training) course in your pattern of study, which will provide you with a national recognised vocational qualification. In most cases, the VET course will contribute to your ATAR calculations, and it also provides opportunities for further study at TAFE or another training provider.

**Option C: HSC SmartTrack Pathway.** This is a non-ATAR HSC pathway that is designed to prepare students for life after school. Students do not need to do any examinations to achieve their HSC. This option equips students with multiple VET qualifications, and an extensive resume of industry experience. It also provides opportunities for students to undertake school-based apprenticeships or traineeships (SBATs).



## Senior Secondary Subjects Offered

### ENGLISH

Advanced English  
Standard English  
English Extension I & II  
English Studies  
(Non ATAR)

### MATHEMATICS

Mathematics  
Standard Mathematics  
Mathematics  
Extension I  
Mathematics  
Extension II

### SCIENCE

Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics

### HSIE

Ancient History  
Business Studies  
Society & Culture  
Legal Studies  
Modern History  
Studies of Religion I  
Studies of Religion II

### TAS

Design & Technology  
Engineering Studies  
Software, Design &  
Development

### CREATIVE ARTS

Drama  
Music 1  
Visual Arts

### PDHPE

Community and  
Family Studies  
Personal  
Development,  
Health and Physical  
Education

### LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

French Beginners  
French Continuers

### VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

Hospitality  
Entertainment  
Construction  
Screen & Media  
(Non-ATAR)  
Business Services  
Visual Arts



# Record of Achievement

In 2023, 98 students sat for the NSW Higher School Certificate in 30 courses. In total, 100% of candidates across all courses achieved marks of 50 or more (Band 2 or higher) with 46% of these placed in Bands 5 and 6 (80-100 marks). Of the 39 candidates who sat for a one unit extension course, 100% achieved 25 marks or more out of 50 with 82% of these achieving in the highest bands with 40 marks or more. In general, students' achievement was at or above state level. This has been a consistent trend over the past five years.

| In 2023, 98 students sat for the HSC

# Post School Destination

Most students who left school at the end of Year 12, following completion of their education, enrolled at university, TAFE or apprenticeships. Of the 98 students to complete their HSC and receive an ATAR, 84% were offered a place at university with 64% of these students received early entry offers. A number of students will take a GAP year before beginning their tertiary education. For most of these students it will involve some time spent overseas as well as joining the workforce for a short period of time.



## THEME 2 - Outcomes and Results

### Band Comparison 2020 – 2023

		Total Students	School %		School %	State Comparison %
		In Course	Band 3-6	Band 3-6	Band 1-2	Band 1-2
Ancient History	2023	8	75	80.18	25	19.78
	2022	6	100	82.15	0	17.81
	2021	8	100	77.74	0	22.24
	2020	10	100	83.59	0	16.39
Biology	2023	44	93.16	88.93	6.81	11.03
	2022	38	94.72	79.2	5.26	20.76
	2021	39	100	90.61	0	9.36
	2020	48	95.82	86.41	4.16	13.56
Business Studies	2023	12	100	87.4	0	12.56
	2022	11	100	89.38	0	10.6
	2021	22	95.44	85.97	4.54	14
	2020	26	96.13	82.04	3.84	17.92
Chemistry	2023	19	94.72	85.44	5.26	14.53
	2022	15	84.6	84.19	15.38	15.77
	2021	11	10	88.31	0	11.66
	2020	12	100	90.06	0	9.99
Community & Family Studies	2023	10	100	90.79	0	9.18
	2022	12	100	93.11	0	6.84
	2021	14	100	91.6	0	8.37
	2020	8	100	89.9	0	10.07
Dance	2020	5	100	98.45	0	1.51
Design & Technology	2023	14	100	94.79	0	5.18
	2022	9	100	96.19	0	3.76
	2021	14	100	96.72	0	3.24
	2020	22	100	97.71	0	2.26
Standard English	2023	50	96	89.31	4	10.66
	2022	39	97.42	87.52	2.56	12.44
	2021	43	100	90	0	9.95
	2020	40	100	88.69	0	11.28
Advanced English	2023	48	100	99.33	0	0.63
	2022	53	100	99.01	0	0.94
	2021	50	100	99.11	0	0.84
	2020	64	100	99.26	0	0.71
English as a Second Language	2023	1	100	77.39	0	22.58
	2022	1	100	72.78	0	27.19
	2020	0	0	0	0	0
English Extension I	2023	9	100	99.47	0	0.51
	2022	14	100	99.52	0	0.46
	2021	7	100	99.28	0	0.69
	2020	11	100	97.17	0	0.81



## THEME 2 - Outcomes and Results

### Band Comparison 2020 – 2023

English Extension II	2023	7	100	99.13	0	0.84
	2022	7	100	98.78	0	1.2
	2021	1	100	99.19	0	0.79
	2020	1	100	99.19	0	0.79
Engineering Studies	2023	15	93.32	94.62	6.66	5.36
	2022	10	100	85.52	0	14.44
	2021	14	100	91.92	0	8.05
	2020	12	100	91.05	0	8.92
Drama	2022	12	100	98.31	0	1.65
	2021	10	100	98.33	0	1.64
	2020	0	0	0	0	0
Legal Studies	2023	11	100	89.58	0	10.4
	2022	9	100	83.96	0	15.99
	2021	12	100	85.48	0	14.5
	2020	12	100	88.1	0	11.86
Mathematics Standard 2	2023	50	96	81.77	4	18.19
	2022	52	98.06	81.12	1.92	18.85
	2021	40	90	10	7.4	22.06
	2020	54	92.57	74.9	7.4	25.06
Mathematics Advanced (Change of Name)	2023	33	93.93	92.92	6.06	7.04
	2022	36	100	94.24	0	5.72
Mathematics	2021	35	91.42	93.64	8.57	6.32
	2020	40	97.5	95.55	2.5	4.41
Maths Extension I	2023	17	100	95.77	0	4.2
	2022	21	100	93.77	0	6.2
	2021	12	100	94.05	0	5.92
	2020	14	100	94.18	0	5.79
Maths Extension II	2023	6	100	98.48	0	1.49
	2022	3	100	95.96	0	4.02
	2021	4	100	98.55	0	1.43
	2020	2	100	97	0	2.98
Geography	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0
Modern History	2023	8	100	83.82	0	16.14
	2022	7	85.71	88.13	14.28	11.84
	2021	12	100	83.4	0	16.56
	2020	11	100	83.77	0	16.2
Music 1	2023	15	100	97.57	0	2.36
	2022	9	100	97.26	0	2.71
	2021	11	100	98.13	0	1.83
	2020	4	100	97.62	0	2.35

## THEME 2 - Outcomes and Results

PD/H/PE	2023	26	92.29	88.78	7.69	11.19
	2022	27	100	78.93	0	21.03
	2021	29	96.53	85.73	3.44	14.24
	2020	46	100	84.91	0	15.05
Physics	2023	20	85	88.77	15	11.2
	2022	18	94.42	86.44	5.55	13.52
	2021	11	100	90.4	0	9.57
	2020	17	100	85.47	0	14.49
Society & Culture	2023	15	100	94.72	0	5.25
	2022	15	100	92.93	0	7.04
	2021	5	100	93.71	0	6.26
	2020	11	100	93.85	0	6.12
Software Design & Development	2023	9	100	87.53	0	12.43
	2022	7	85.69	86	14.28	13.97
	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	6	100	87.39	0	12.58
Studies of Religion I	2023	10	100	96.68	0	3.28
	2022	13	100	95.56	0	4.41
	2021	10	100	91.49	0	8.45
	2020	19	100	93.8	0	6.17
Studies of Religion II	2023	16	93.75	94.64	6.25	5.34
	2022	10	90	92.81	10	7.17
	2021	21	95.22	90.46	4.76	9.51
	2020	11	100	91.74	0	8.23
Visual Arts	2023	14	100	98.72	0	1.24
	2022	19	100	98.26	0	1.71
	2021	8	100	98.24	0	1.72
	2020	15	100	97.76	0	2.2
Construction	2023	4	100	57.16	0	42.8
	2022	5	100	71.74	0	28.21
	2021	6	100	66.12	0	33.85
	2020	8	100	52.94	0	32.62
Hospitality Operations	2023	14	100	85.63	0	14.35
	2022	7	100	84.73	0	15.24
	2021	9	100	77.3	0	22.66
	2020	7	100	82.37	0	17.58
Entertainment Industry	2023	5	100	81.47	0	18.5
	2022	5	100	85.52	0	14.45
	2021	7	100	84.77	0	15.19
	2020	4	100	83.12	0	16.85
Business Services	2023	2	100	81.81	0	18.16
	2022	1	100	77.49	0	22.47
Human Services	2023	9	88.88	87.89	11.11	12.08
	2022	7	100	92.1	0	7.86
French Beginners	2022	8	100	89.46	0	10.51



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FOR THE WHOLE OF LIFE

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# HSC Results 2023



Congratulations to all Year 12 students on their exceptional success in the HSC examinations in 2023! It is with great pride and joy that we celebrate each one of them for their achievements. Their hard work, dedication, and tenacity throughout the year, together with their ability to rise to the challenges presented by the HSC, have culminated in these excellent results.

On behalf of the St Philip's Christian College (Newcastle) community, we want to thank everyone who has contributed to the learning journey of our Year 12 students over the past 13 years, which reflects a collective spirit of teamwork and support within our community. As leaders in the College, we count it a privilege and honour to have been a part of these students' lives, believing they will achieve great success in the future, as they apply the same passion, curiosity, and resilience that brought them to this point.

The Year 12 class of 2023 has achieved notable success, including the following highlights: 2 students achieved an ATAR of 99, the highest being 99.6; 23% of student ATARs were over 90; 81 students achieved Band 6; and 3 students were named as All-Rounders, receiving Band 6 results in at least 10 units of courses studied. Almost all students' results show improvement since the Trial HSC Examinations and are to be commended on their individual achievement!

Once again, congratulations to the Class of 2023! We wish them abundant success and pray God's blessing over all their future endeavours.

*Mrs Pam O'Dea*  
Principal

*Mr Joshua Whiddon*  
Head of Senior School



# HSC Notable Achievements & Highlights



- **3rd in Hunter Region**
- **114th in State**
- **Early Entries**

Over 63 students received early offers to university prior to the HSC Exams.

- **3 SPCC students recognised as HSC All-rounder Achievers**
- **81 SPCC students recognised as HSC Distinguished Achievers**
- **Music Results**

80% of SPCC music students received Band 6, with several outstanding marks, including:

- Yuna Park: 99%
- Timothy Davies: 98%
- Eliza Durie: 97%

- **English Results**

SPCC has once again placed 1st in the Hunter Region for English, with many students receiving Band 6 (90+) in Advanced, Extension 1 and Extension 2 English.

- **Courses above the State Average**

SPCC students achieved above State average in 23 subjects, with performance in the following subjects being more than 10% above State average:

- Legal Studies
- Business Studies
- Construction
- Entertainment

- **90% of single-subject accelerated students achieved Band 6 (90+) in their course.**
- **80% of SPCC students achieved results in top 3 bands across all subjects.**

## Academic Performance Snapshot

Total Number of Subjects:	30
Total Number of Students:	98
No. of Single Subject Accelerants:	10
No. of Full Year Accelerants:	1
All-Rounders:	3
Distinguished Achievers:	81
Percentage of Student ATARs above 90:	23%

Highest  
ATAR  
99.60

## HSC Course Band Distribution

Band 6: 15.54%	<b>80%</b>
Band 5: 32.43%	
Band 4: 32.05%	
Band 3: 16.12%	<b>20%</b>
Band 2: 3.83%	
Band 1: 0%	



# DUX of the College

## Anika Morrison

The College Dux for 2023 is awarded to Anika Morrison, who demonstrated exceptional achievement across all of her HSC subjects. Throughout her studies in Stage 6, Anika demonstrated outstanding diligence and commitment to her studies. She has been recognised as an HSC All-Rounder, achieving top bands in the following subjects:

- Advanced English
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Mathematics Extension 2
- Swedish Continuers (completed as an accelerated student in 2022)

It is this diligence and effort which contributed to first place awards in Extension 1 and 2 Maths, Biology and Chemistry. Anika completed a compressed Swedish Continuers course in Year 11, achieving outstanding results, placing 4th in NSW!

Anika has balanced her academic pursuits with wider school involvement, including musicals, sporting and fundraising endeavours. We are exceptionally proud of Anika's achievement and dedication to her studies, and for this reason she is a worthy recipient of Dux of the College.



TOP  
ATAR  
99.60

## ATAR Highlights



MATTHEW  
ATTIA  
99.55



TIMOTHY  
DAVIES  
97.45



NATASHA  
LOW  
96.60



ADELE  
MAURER  
96.00



GABRIELL  
CHALHOUB  
95.10



CHARLOTTE  
COLLINGS  
94.95



LEXI  
MOORE  
94.80



CHARLES  
DUNN  
94.50



LARISSA  
PROCTER  
94.50

# SPCC Outstanding Achievers

## | Matthew Attia

Matthew has maintained a consistent pursuit of excellence in his academic and creative endeavours. In 2022, he completed his accelerated HSC Physics course and was recognised as a Distinguished Achiever. In 2023, Matthew has achieved outstanding HSC results, achieving top bands in:

- Advanced English
- Chemistry
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Physics (2022 as an accelerated student)



ATAR  
99.55

## | Timothy Davies (All-Rounder)

Timothy has shown unwavering commitment to his studies at the College. Not only has he contributed to building school community as 2023 College Captain, he has consistently showcased himself as a highly-accomplished student. In 2022, as an accelerated student, Timothy completed his HSC examination in Entertainment, and positioned 6th in the State. In 2023, Timothy has been recognised as an HSC All-Rounder, achieving top bands in the following subjects:

- Advanced English
- Extension 1 English
- Extension 2 English
- Legal Studies
- Music
- Entertainment Industry (2022 as an accelerated student)



ATAR  
97.45

## | Natasha Low (All-Rounder)

Natasha has consistently demonstrated a high level of diligence and excellence in her learning. Her achievements are exemplified by achieving first position in both PDHPE and Visual Arts courses during Year 11 and Year 12. She has been recognised as an HSC All-Rounder, achieving top bands in the following subjects:

- Advanced English
- Biology
- Mathematics Standard 2
- PD/H/PE
- Visual Arts



ATAR  
96.60



# Practical and Performance Nominations

## | Art Express – Visual Arts

Niamh Pearce - Accepted  
Liana Ponsen

## | First Class – Visual Arts

Liana Ponsen - Accepted  
Paige Farnant - Accepted

## | Callback – Dance

Charlotte Davies

## | Shape – Design and Technology

Mackenzie McDermott  
Paige Farnant

## | Encore – Music

Gabriel Chadban  
Timothy Davies  
Jayden Lynch  
Chenay Nesbitt  
Yuna Park  
Liana Ponsen



# Distinguished Achievers

Ashton, Emily  
(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Ancient History

Atkins, Liana Shannon

- Ancient History

Attia, Matthew Benjamin

- Chemistry
- English Advanced
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Physics (in 2022)

Bishop, Connie  
(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Legal Studies

Burke, Joshua

- Music 1
- Hospitality Examination  
(Kitchen Operations and Cookery)

Chadban, Gabriel

- Music 1

Chalhoub, Gabriell

- Studies of Religion II

Clayton, Summer

- Ancient History
- English Advanced
- Modern History
- Music 1

Collings, Charlotte

- Mathematics Extension 1

Collins, Liam Joseph

- Mathematics Standard 2

Davies, Timothy

- English Advanced
- English Extension 1
- English Extension 2
- Legal Studies
- Music 1
- Entertainment Industry (in 2022)

Deng, Tianai

- Music 1

Dunn, Charles

- Mathematics Advanced

Durie, Eliza

- Music 1
- Drama (in 2022)

Farnant, Paige

- Design and Technology

Garland, Zoe

- Design and Technology

Gray, Hosanna  
(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Biology

Gray, Jessica

- Business Studies
- Legal Studies
- Mathematics Standard 2

Imig, Amelia Violet

- Mathematics Standard 2

Jaliens, Asia

- English Advanced

Jewell, Angus  
(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Entertainment Industry

Levey, Hana

(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Biology

Leyden, Ethan

- English Advanced
- Legal Studies

Low, Natasha Anne

- Biology
- English Advanced
- Mathematics Standard 2
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Visual Arts



# Distinguished Achievers

Lynch, Jayden Michael

- Music 1

Lynch, Sophie

- Music 1

Maurer, Adele May

- Biology
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Mathematics Advanced
- Studies of Religion I

McDermott, Mackenzie

- Design and Technology
- Visual Arts

Moore, Lexi Amara

- English Advanced
- English Extension 1
- Legal Studies
- Music 1
- Drama (in 2022)

Morrison, Anika Kate

- Biology
- Chemistry
- English Advanced
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Mathematics Extension 2
- Swedish Continuers (in 2022)

Nesbitt, Chenay Ruby

- Music 1

Newcombe, Jessica

- Visual Arts

Park, Yuna

- English Advanced
- Music 1

Pearce, Niamh

- Visual Arts

Ponsen, Liana

- Music 1
- Visual Arts

Price, Isobel

- English Advanced
- English Extension 1
- Society and Culture

Procter, Larissa

- Business Studies
- English Advanced
- Studies of Religion II
- Dance (in 2022)

Puslednik, Sophia

- Visual Arts

Rogers, Dimity

(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Physics

Smith, Holly

- Visual Arts

Stratford, Arkie

- Construction Examination

Tapp, Lily

- Ancient History
- Biology
- Mathematics Advanced

Wills, Oscar

(Year 11 Accelerated Student)

- Physics

## Congratulations Year 12, 2023!

# Workforce Composition

SCHOOL STAFF	NUMBER OF STAFF
Teaching staff	132
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	110.9
Non-teaching staff	65
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	47.6

[www.myschool.edu.au/school/43931](http://www.myschool.edu.au/school/43931)

# Teacher Accreditation

LEVEL OF ACCREDITATION	NUMBER OF TEACHERS
Conditional	5
Provisional	7
Proficient Teacher	147
Highly accomplished Teacher (voluntary accreditation)	0
Lead Teacher (voluntary accreditation)	0
SIA ISTAA Experienced Teacher Accreditation	2

# Student Attendance

Students are expected to attend school every day. If a student is not in attendance, then the following procedures should be followed:

Parents/guardians are expected to contact the College on the day of the child's absence to inform the College of that absence. (Parents/guardians are encouraged to notify the school of pre-arranged appointments as soon as the date of such appointments is known. When such notification is made, the parents/guardians need not contact the school on the first day of the absence). If a student is absent and no notification has been received by 10am, a text message is sent to parents/guardians notifying them of the absence. Parents/guardians can respond to the SMS regarding the nature of the absence, and this is accepted as notification.

If the parents/guardians do not notify the College, or respond to the SMS, the Principal or her delegate will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents promptly within three school days of an unexplained consecutive absence occurring. For any absence, a written note or SMS providing the dates of and reasons for the child's absence is required from the parent/guardian within seven days of the child's return to school. The purpose of this note is to determine whether or not the student's absence is explained or unexplained. This note or SMS will be recorded on the student's school record. If a note or SMS of explanation is not received, then the absence is recorded as unexplained.

Year	Head Count	Full Year Equivalent	Full Days	Absence	Attendance	Attendance %
Kindergarten	74	71.63	13,036	963	12,073	92.61%
Year 1	72	71.52	13,016	1,024	11,992	92.13%
Year 2	70	67.26	12,242	989	11,253	91.92%
Year 3	86	84.85	15,443	1,173	14,270	92.40%
Year 4	86	81.56	14,844	1,193	13,651	91.96%
Year 5	83	82.96	15,098	1,155	13,943	92.35%
Year 6	84	82.96	15,099	1,212	13,887	91.97%
Year 7	169	164.90	30,012	2,508	27,504	91.64%
Year 8	170	163.59	29,774	2,910	26,864	90.23%
Year 9	171	164.80	29,994	3,184	26,810	89.38%
Year 10	142	137.57	25,037	2,710	22,327	89.18%
Year 11	140	134.74	24,523	1,830	22,693	92.54%
Year 12	117	102.21	18,603	1,074	17,529	94.23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,464</b>	<b>1,410.55</b>	<b>256,721</b>	<b>21,925</b>	<b>234,796</b>	<b>91.46%</b>

[www.myschool.edu.au/school/43931/attendance](http://www.myschool.edu.au/school/43931/attendance)

# School Policies

The following school policies are publicly available on the website:

- Enrolment Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Discipline Policy
- Complaints Policy

[www.spcc.nsw.edu.au/schools/colleges/newcastle/about/policies](http://www.spcc.nsw.edu.au/schools/colleges/newcastle/about/policies)





# Feedback from Students, Parents, and Staff during 2023

At SPCC we believe that everyone matters, so it is important to ensure that feedback from parents, teachers and students is obtained and considered. Our College desires to work in partnership with families in order to achieve the best educational outcomes for each student. It is essential to receive regular feedback from parents, teachers and students and this comes in a variety of forms. Our strong enrolment figures and waiting lists are a testament to parent and student satisfaction and the good reputation of our school in the wider community.

### STUDENT SATISFACTION

Students meet formally and informally with their teachers and members of the Executive and College Leadership Teams throughout the year. They offer important feedback and their perceptions of school. Communication opportunities include:

1. Pastoral Care Teacher Meetings
2. Student Leader Meetings
3. Student group meetings with the Principal
4. Head of School Meetings with Leaders
5. Chaplain facilitated Meetings
6. Student Voice Groups

### TEACHER SATISFACTION

Our College works hard at maintaining unity and a high staff morale. Feedback from teachers is gained through:

1. Staff contributions during meetings
2. Discussions during Professional Discussion Meetings with the Principal
3. Emails from staff
4. Informal discussions with staff

### PARENT SATISFACTION

Our school has an 'open door policy' and parent involvement is welcomed and encouraged. Feedback is obtained in a variety of ways throughout the year.

1. Parent Surveys
2. PTF Meetings
3. Emails and Letters
3. Student Withdrawal Forms / Exit Interviews
4. Parent Meetings
  - a. Parent Teacher Online Interviews
  - b. Online Information Nights
  - c. Discussions with parents on informal occasions

## THEME 6 - Stakeholder Satisfaction

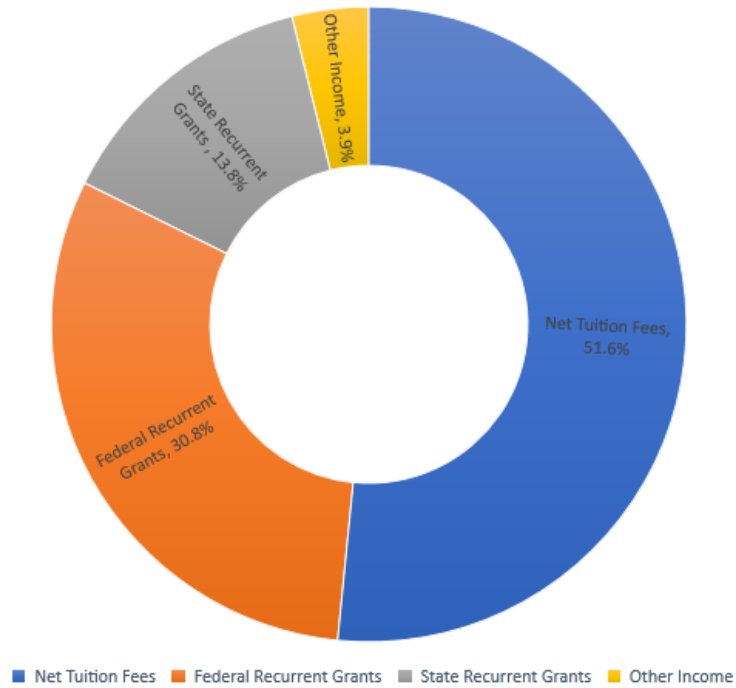
### FOCUSED SURVEYS FOR 2023

- Student Perspective surveys of Teachers – Years 5 – 12
- Weekly Pulse check-in with students
- Perspectives Survey – Parents, Staff and Students
- Senior School Student Leaders Nominations
- 5 – 12 Gallup Student Poll Survey
- Year 10 GRAD Student Voice Survey
- Senior School Captains Voting
- Gallup Q12 Staff Engagement Survey
- Year 12 Formal Awards Survey
- Senior School Launch Day Feedback Survey
- Year 8 and 9 students interest Survey for Homeroom Classes
- SPCC Student Leadership Symposium Feedback
- Academic Mentoring Survey
- Senior School Staff Awards Survey
- Middle School Student leadership voting
- Year 5 Parents MacBook Survey
- Middle School Students Toilet Survey
- Year 7 Testing Day RSVP
- Year 7 ADDvantage Elective survey
- Well-being Program Survey Year 7 – 10
- Safe Spaces Survey Year 2 – 12
- Malawi Feedback Preparation
- Nepal Service Trip Survey
- IP Meetings and Feedback
- Teacher Duties Survey
- Sub-School Visit Survey
- Year 5 Macbook Survey
- Year 12 Mentoring Survey
- MySPCC App Feedback Survey



# THEME 7 - Financial Information

### SPCC Newcastle Income by Source



### SPCC Newcastle Expenses by Type

