
Sacré Cœur 2008 Community Report



Sacré Cœur

International School of the Sacred Heart

Registered School Number 149



Introduction

Sacré Coeur, Glen Iris, one of over 140 schools in the global Sacred Heart schools network, is in its 120th year.

This report outlines various organisational and educational aspects of the school. It seeks to provide the school and wider community with fair, reliable and objective information about the performance of the school across a range of areas.

The report also outlines information about the life and activities of the school as well initiatives and developments of major interest and importance to the school community during the year.

School Overview

Sacré Coeur is a Catholic Prep to Year 12 School for girls. It was established by the Society of the Sacred Heart (rscj) order of nuns in 1888. The school consists of a primary school, Joigny, and a secondary school. There were approximately 680 girls enrolled in 2008. It offers a broad range of subjects to VCE with a strong academic tradition. There is a particular emphasis on internationality, individual attention for students and pastoral care.

Significant achievements for 2008 were excellent VCE results, ongoing improvements to school facilities, high participation rates in GSV sport and DAV debating.

School Goals

- A faith which is relevant in today's world.
- A deep respect for intellectual values.
- Building community as a Christian value.
- A social awareness that impels to action.
- Personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom



Student Attendance Rates

Regular school attendance helps children to develop social skills such as friendship building, teamwork, communication skills and healthy self-esteem. Students who regularly miss school are at risk of missing out on key learning activities and may experience long term difficulties with their learning.

The overall attendance of students at Sacré Cœur is excellent. In 2008, the average student attendance rate was 96.1%. Student rolls are marked twice a day. All parents are requested to send a note when a child returns to school after an absence and to ring the school office to notify that a child will be absent that day.

Student academic Achievement

The following data indicates the percentage of students in the school who met the National Benchmarks as assessed by the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in 2008. The NAPLAN tests are set for

all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in every school in Victoria. This data was provided through the Catholic Education Office.

The School is given the option to apply for exemption from these tests for some students for a variety of reasons. Primarily it may be when a child is receiving Integration Funding for a recognised physical, social or intellectual disability

Year 3 NAPLAN Testing

	% of students above the national benchmark 2008	% change from 2007 (AIM)
Writing	100	0.0
Reading	100	0.0
Spelling	100	N/A*
Grammar & Punctuation	94.1	N/A*
Numeracy	100	0.0

Year 5 NAPLAN Testing

	% of students above the national benchmark 2008	% change from 2007 (AIM)
Writing	100	0.0
Reading	100	0.0
Spelling	100	N/A*
Grammar & Punctuation	100	N/A*
Numeracy	100	0.0

* Spelling and Grammar & Punctuation new in 2008.



Year 7 NAPLAN Testing

	% of students above the national benchmark 2008	% change from 2007 (AIM)
Writing	100	0.0
Reading	100	0.0
Spelling	N/A	N/A*
Grammar & Punctuation	100	N/A*
Numeracy	100	+5.0

* Spelling and Grammar & Punctuation new in 2008.

Year 9 NAPLAN Testing

	% of students above the national benchmark 2008	% change from 2007 (AIM)*
Writing	100	N/A
Reading	100	N/A
Spelling	N/A	N/A
Grammar & Punctuation	98.8	N/A
Numeracy	100	N/A

* No national benchmarks available for 2007

Average Standardised Results at Year 9

The average standardised results provide a measure of the median score achieved by students in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Mathematics on the NAPLAN test. The median score is the middle score obtained by Year 9 students at the school, i.e. when all scores are ranked highest to lowest, half the scores will be above and the other half will be below the median. The median score represents the average Standard Level achieved by students in Year 9 at the school; generally the median score will be between 4.5 and 6.

	Sacré Cœur Median Score
Year 9 reading	5.85
Year 9 Writing	5.98
Year 9 Spelling	5.64
Year 9 Grammar & Punctuation	5.46
Year 9 Numeracy	5.25

Victorian Certificate of Education

The VCE completion rate in 2008 was 100%.

The 2008 median VCE study score was 34 which was rated amongst the highest Catholic school results for Victoria.

Sacre Coeur's 22.2% of VCE study scores 40 or above, places the school in the top four of all Catholic schools in Victoria for study scores above 40. Five students received a perfect study score of 50. One student was selected to show her work in VCE Top Arts.

The top ENTER score was 99.9, with 63.7% of students received a study score of 80 or better.



Description and Analysis of Student Outcomes

Sacré Cœur consistently achieves amongst the top rankings in all Statewide (AIM – 2006 / 2007) and National (NAPLAN 2008) tests and examinations. Over the last three years (2006, 2007, 2008) our VCE Median study score has ranged from 34 – 36 (State average 30). We have had between 22% (2006, 2008) -23% (2007) of our students achieve study scores of over 40. This is very significant given the figure for the State in this category is 8%.

The AIM/NAPLAN results for Year 7 and Year 9 for 2006, 2007 and 2008 also show

that in the areas tested (writing, spelling, comprehension, grammar, punctuation and numeracy) Sacré Cœur students perform amongst the highest levels in the state. In 2006, 2007 and 2008 90% of our Year 7 and Year 9 students were in the top 50% of the state in all areas tested. More than 80% of our Year 3 and Year 5 students were also in the top 50% of the state in all areas tested.

These results reflect the calibre of the teaching staff, the students' willing uptake of information and skill development and an atmosphere of serious application to study and academic excellence.



Student Retention Rates

Proportion of Year 9 students (2005) retained to Year 12 (2008): 98.35%

Post-school Destinations

Of the 88 students who completed Year 12 in 2008, 80% went on to Tertiary study, 11% enrolled in TAFE/VET and 1% commenced an apprenticeship/traineeship. A further 6% of students were accepted into a course at university, but have deferred the place.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

In 2008, attendees at a selection of school activities in both Joigny and the Senior school were surveyed regarding their level of satisfaction; parents, students and teachers. Overwhelmingly the feedback received was very positive.

Sacre Coeur prides itself on keeping channels of communication open between the school Administration and parents, students and teachers.

Value Added

The “value added” section of this report refers to those school activities and programs that have a positive effect on the wellbeing and achievement of students and the school community.

The following is a sample of some of the many curricular and extra-curricular activities, categorised under the five goals of Sacred Heart Education, which the school believes have produced a positive impact.

A faith which is relevant in today's world

- Daily prayers
- Year level and school Masses
- Special occasion Masses (Opening of the school year, Sacred Heart Day, Leadership commissioning Mass, Vale Mass)
- Student Liturgy Committee
- Ethos Committee
- Week of Prayer
- Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist
- Reflection days
- Pastoral programs



Value Added Continued

A social awareness which impels to action

- Making a Difference program
- Friday night school tutoring
- Caritas
- Project Compassion
- Student Justice Action Committee

Personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom

- City Cite
- Pastoral programs
- Leadership programs
- Outdoor Education

Building community as a Christian value

- Buddy/Big Sister Little Sister systems
- Joigny Musical/Senior Production
- Sacred Heart Week
- Student Sacred Heart committee
- Arts Festival
- Joigny and Year level picnics
- Orientation days for new students
- House Activities
- Level and whole school assemblies
- Camps
- GSV Sport

Deep respect for intellectual values

- Thinking skills
- Multiple intelligences
- Individual differences programs
- Tournament of Minds
- Reports and Assessment
- Excursions and incursions
- VCE results
- Wide subject choice



Professional Engagement of Teachers

Staff Attendance

The average attendance rate for all teaching staff in 2008 was 89.4%. This figure includes all staff on extended leave such as long service or maternity leave during 2008.

- All staff on sick leave, long service leave, maternity leave or attending professional development were replaced by existing staff members or qualified replacement teachers.
- Staff have demonstrated commitment to the school through additional attendance at:

- Camps
- Organising and attending excursions
- After hours meetings
- Extra-curricular activities occurring after school and on weekends
- Conferences (including presentations)
- First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Parent-teacher interview and Information nights
- Open Day
- Community building social events
- Regular before and after school sports training and practice for extra-curricular activities

Staff Retention

81.58% of teaching staff employed in 2007 were retained in 2008. Movement of teaching staff at the end of 2007 was due to retirement, promotion and geographical proximity to home.

This high retention rate is indicative of the high staff morale and positive school environment. Teachers who leave Sacré Cœur are publicly acknowledged by the school for their contribution at the Carols Service in December each year. New teaching staff bring an infusion of enthusiasm, new skills and ideas to the school.



Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2008

Reporting Framework	Modified Cash \$
Recurrent income	
School fees	6,917,793
Other fee income	392,240
Private income	537,863
State government recurrent grants	689,290
Australian government recurrent grants	2,219,191
Total recurrent income	10,756,377
Recurrent expenditure	
Salaries, allowances and related expenses	7,402,002
Non salary expenses	3,182,085
Total recurrent expenditure	10,584,087
Capital income and expenditure	
Government capital grants	194,222
Capital fees and levies	165,075
Other capital income	302,103
Total capital income	661,400
Total capital expenditure	431,202
Loans (includes refundable enrolment deposits and recurrent, capital & bridging loans)	
Total opening balance	4,642,031
Total closing balance	4,279,873

Note that the information provided above does not include the following items:

System levies charged to individual schools, intra-systemic transfers and diocesan supplementary capital fund (SCF) supported borrowings for primary schools. The information provided is not comparable with other educational sectors. The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) is in the process of reviewing the Financial Questionnaire (FQ) during 2009, that may ultimately change the method of reporting these exclusions.

Teacher Qualifications

In 2008, there were 92 teachers on staff. All teachers held registration with the Victorian Institute of Teachers. There is a diversity of qualifications amongst staff, ranging from Masters Degrees to Diploma of Teaching. A complete list of qualifications of individual staff is published each year in Cor Unum, the school magazine.

Highest Qualification	% of teaching staff
Masters Degree	17%
Graduate Diploma	33%
Bachelor Degree	49%
Diploma of Teaching	1%

Teacher Participation in Professional Learning

Professional learning includes those formal and informal activities that have been designed to increase the knowledge and skills of teachers so as to strengthen the teaching and learning capacity within the school.

All 92 teachers from Sacré Cœur participated in Professional Learning Activities in 2008. The average expenditure per teacher on professional learning in 2008 was \$326.00.

Sacré Cœur Leadership Team 2008



John Fox
Principal



Janice Hayes
Deputy Principal:
Pastoral



Wendy Ross
Deputy Principal:
Administration



Mark Oski
Director
of Mission



Jennifer Carter
Director
of Studies



Rosslyn Leyden
Head of Joigny
Junior School



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