



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2015

HORIZON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1. Contextual Information about the School, including Characteristics of the Student Body:

Horizon Christian School is an interdenominational Christian School located in the rural township of Balaklava in Mid North South Australia. Commencing in 1994 with 27 students, it currently has an enrolment of 407 students from Foundation through to year 12. The Middle School started in 2001, Senior School in 2004 with the first Year 12 graduates leaving in 2005.

Horizon's Vision Statement is 'A Christian Education Available for All'. The School actively promotes its Christian values, ethos and message of hope among its students and families. The Christian core values of the school are fundamental foundations for the development of all policies. They underpin all policies on student well being, pastoral care and behaviour improvement programs.

Horizon enjoys a number of curriculum strengths, notably in visual and performing arts. These are celebrated at the Senior Arts Showcase, Drama performances and Music on the Horizon evenings and at the local annual Eisteddfod competition. Horizon's instrumental music program commences in Year 5 and encourages students to embrace a range of instruments until the end of Year 9, and then specialize with one in senior music.

In recent years Horizon has enjoyed significant development with new facilities for curriculum enhancement in Sporting, Dramatic Performance and Home Economics pursuits. Horizon works actively to support its school community. Horizon is supporting Early Learners in the district with its new ventures, the Balaklava Kindergym and Balaklava Toy Library.

2. Teacher Standards and Qualifications:

Staff Qualifications

In our school we are fortunate to have a number of teachers with two or more qualifications in education. 20% have a Diploma, 77% have a Bachelor of Education, 11.5% have a Graduate Diploma and 2.8% have a PhD, 37% have another Bachelor Degree (these include Science, Animal Science, Arts, Visual Arts, Music, Journalism, Counselling, and Biblical Studies).

Teacher Participation in Professional Learning

In 2014 there was 100% participation by the teaching staff in professional learning. There was a wide range of significant professional learning involving the whole school, Primary and Secondary sub schools and individual teaching staff. The school

community has been informed of many of these throughout 2014. Staff have been committed to implementing the new Australian Curriculum and this extension work is well underway. Staff have also received training in 'Well Being' as well as a range of literacy and numeracy initiatives. A significant focus has been on differentiating the curriculum and supporting a diverse range of learners to achieve significant success in their learning.

3. Workforce Composition, Including Indigenous Composition:

Horizon has a number of specialist staff to support a comprehensive curriculum from Foundation to year 12.

Horizon does not have an indigenous staff member.

4. Students attendance at school:

F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
91.8%	91.2%	88.7%	94.4%	92.9%	91.9%	90.7%	90.4%	90.1%	90.7%	88.6%	84.6%	70.3%

Absentee Policy

When a student is absent, parents/ guardians must phone or email the school before 9:30am on that day.

As part of the school's duty of care the Office staff will contact parents/ guardians via SMS if this communication does not occur. If parents do not respond to the SMS communication, office staff will call parents to follow-up the student absence.

5. Senior Secondary Outcomes:

- I. 95% of Year 12 students achieved their SACE in 2014.
- II. 2 students were recognised by the SACE Board by achieving an 'A' Grade in Child Studies.
- III. In 2014, 63% of Year 12 students had undertaken Vocational Training as part of their completed SACE– Certificate III in Christian Ministry, Certificate III in Children's Services, Certificate III in Information Technology, Certificate II in Building and Construction.
- IV. 89% of students who were offered University courses, received their first choice in 2014.
- V. All students aiming for an ATAR achieved this goal, which was 58% of the Year 12 cohort.
- VI. The subject pass rate for Year 12 in 2014 was 100%.

6. Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing:

Percentage of students who achieved the National Minimum Standards (NMS)

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Year 3	97%	94%	100%	97%	100%
Year 5	93%	91%	91%	91%	95%
Year 7	88%	78%	91%	91%	94%
Year 9	85%	65%	88%	85%	88%

Percentage of student participation rate

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Year 3	94%	97%	94%	94%	91%
Year 5	100%	100%	100%	100%	96%
Year 7	84%	84%	84%	84%	84%
Year 9	81%	81%	81%	81%	81%

7. Parent, Student, Teacher Satisfaction with the School:

Horizon enjoyed a very successful year in 2014.

A recent Parent Satisfaction Survey again indicated very high levels of overall satisfaction with Horizon. 98% of respondents were satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied with the school. Parents were very positive regarding their satisfaction with Horizon's academic standards and the opportunities the school offers to develop the potential of students. In fact 94% of responses were satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied with this aspect of Horizon. A middle school parents commented "I can't believe the support my children get. It is the best I have ever dealt with".

Parents were clearly appreciative of the Pastoral care given by class/ teachers, (98% satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied); general teachers, (97% satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied); Chaplains/ Counsellors, (100% satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied).

Horizon's opportunities for students to be involved in extra-curricular activities were obviously appreciated by parents with 95% satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied. Horizon's physical facilities attracted 97% of responses being satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied. All respondents were satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied with the educational resources offered by Horizon. With regard to communication between Horizon and our families, including the school weekly newsletter; class teacher; reporting students' progress and notification of events, an average of 90% of parents were satisfied/ very satisfied/ extremely satisfied.

There were great suggestions regarding some areas of communication that a few parents thought could be improved. Despite the high levels of satisfaction with Horizon's communication, this is an area that will be addressed by the school.

One of the vast majority of positive parent comments included; "We are very happy we moved our girls to Horizon. It was a hard decision to move them. But we couldn't be happier. Our girls are so much happier. We are very impressed with the opportunities that are available to them. Can't thank their teachers and the school enough".

8. Post School Destinations:

95% of Year 12 students at Horizon completed their SACE in 2014. Of these students 47% enrolled in University in varying degrees including; Teaching, Science, Christian Ministry, Nursing and Arts. 37% of students enrolled in TAFE in varying courses and 15% of students went into the workforce.

9. School Income Broken down by Funding Source:

Recurrent Income	
General Recurrent Commonwealth Government Grants	3,440,869
Other Commonwealth Recurrent Grants	9,444
Recurrent State Government Grants	1,122,292
Other State Government Grants	737
School Fee Income	684,474
Other Fee Related Income	69,518
Other Private Income	71,727

Capital Income	
Commonwealth Government Capital Grants	4,825
Other Capital Income	29,730