



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2021

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 493 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 Transforming Christian Education 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, including student well being, pastoral care and behaviour improvement programs.

Horizon enjoys a number of curriculum strengths. Visual and Performing Arts endeavours 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. Outdoor Education, Technology Studies, Food and Hospitality and Agricultural Studies are also areas of strong student interest and success.

In recent years Horizon has enjoyed significant development with new facilities for curriculum enhancement in Physical Education, Technology Studies, Agriculture and Home Economics pursuits.

Primary students are enjoying a new active play space, while older students are making use of the newly opened facilities in the Secondary Sports Hub.

Horizon works actively to support its school community. Horizon is fostering the growth of Early Learners in the district with the Balaklava Kindergym and Toy Library, and the School Ready Program for students about to start in Foundation.

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. 8.5% have a Diploma, 80% have a Bachelor of Education Degree, 14% have a Graduate Diploma, 4% have a Master's Degree, 2% have a PhD, and 29% have a second Bachelor Degree (in areas including Science, Animal Science, Natural Resource Management, Technology, Arts, Visual Arts, Music, Counselling, TESOL and Biblical Studies).

Teacher Participation in Professional Learning

In 2020 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 2020. Staff have been committed to continuing to refine the implementation of the Learning Management System (LMS) CANVAS and the delivery of the Australian Curriculum. This extension work is all but fully implemented. A significant focus has been on task design and assessment within the Australian curriculum and continuing to support a diverse range of learners to achieve significant success in their learning. Staff have also received important training to support the well being of learners.

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:

In our unprecedented COVID year, our absentees reflect parents' concerns for the safety of their children and their decisions to keep them home, isolated from peers and others.

F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
89%	85.7%	81.5%	90.3%	89.1%	84.5%	87%	88.6%	86.6%	89.5%	84.7%	84.4%	81.4%

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:

- 35 out of 38 (92.1%) of our Year 12 students achieved their SACE in 2020. (In 2019 we had 87.5% who achieved their SACE).
- 28 students (74%) were aiming for an ATAR and this was achieved by 24 of those 28 students (86%). 1 student was affected by COVID issues and should achieve an ATAR midway through 2021.

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

- Due to COVID-19 Horizon Christian School did not undertake the NAPLAN in 2020 as testing was cancelled.

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

Horizon has enjoyed another very successful year of growth, care for students and families, development of the grounds, and the strategic training to continue to foster amongst all staff, the capacity to support student learning and wellbeing.

Many parents have provided rich feedback about Horizon Christian School. Responding to Horizon's management of the complex COVID-19 'crisis' from 2020, parents were pleased about a number of aspects including:

- Communication via emails and letters which was informative. A strong theme of parent feedback about this communication included comments such as: "We felt well cared for and communication was brilliant." And, "The communication was great via parent letters / emails. It was all very clearly explained and detailed."
- Horizon's provision of learning resources for students to learn at home were very appreciated. Parent comments included, "Canvas is great for kids and it is a great platform." And, "The book packs that were supplied were awesome!" And, "Excellent resources, easily accessible, fantastic communication."
- Regarding the great work teachers did to support children learning at home, parents made the following comments, "Teacher communication was great." And, "The teachers replied quickly to any questions my children had. Canvas and zoom were great in keeping them informed on what they needed to do." And, "Well managed, and so quick to organize given the circumstances and constant shifting of information." And, "I was very impressed to receive a personal phone call from my daughter's home group teacher in the lead up to learning at home. This made me feel extremely supported. Anytime I emailed a teacher they were very quick to respond and were extremely caring and considerate."
- The use of the Remind App was very helpful with parents of students in the Primary years. Parents made the following comments, "Remind App excellent with the Primary school, best communication 10/10." And "Love that App, it's a great way to communicate."

Parent feedback has also indicated that Horizon should address the need for an increased use of social media as a means of rapid communication. In addition, the consistent use of the Remind App beyond the Primary years should also be addressed to strengthen quick and effective communication.

8. Post School Destinations:

- Of the 2020 cohort, 21 students (55%) (2019 we had 66%) of our Year 12 students undertook Vocational Education & Training as part of their completed SACE, including: Christian Ministry, Children's Services, Hospitality, Beauty, Agriculture, ICT, Construction, Engineering and Fitness.

9. School Income Broken down by Funding Source:

Recurrent Income	
General Recurrent Commonwealth Government Grants	6,169,132
Other Commonwealth Recurrent Grants	112,121
Recurrent State Government Grants	1,753,436
Other State Government Grants	
School Fee Income	881,480
Other Fee Related Income	59,847
Other Private Income	34,452

Capital Income	
Commonwealth Government Capital Grants	61,610
State Government Capital Grants	80,000
Other Capital Income Including donations	56,997