



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, ALBANY 2023

Part 1: School Performance Information

The life of every person is a special journey. St Joseph's College endeavors to help each person remain ever open to new discoveries along the path to full human development.

Under the Australian Government Programs for Schools Quadrennial Administrative Guidelines, all schools are required to make a commitment to ensure that School Performance Information is made publicly available in the prescribed format, within six months of the completion of the program year.

1. Contextual Information

St Joseph's College is in the coastal centre of Albany, approximately 420km south of Perth. It is a co-educational Catholic College with approximately 700 students from Three-Year-Old to Year Twelve. Established in 1978, through the amalgamation of three schools, St Joseph's College continues a rich tradition of Catholic Education in Albany that spans over one hundred and fifty years. The College is divided into three sub schools: Junior School— Three-Year-Old to Year Six; Middle School— Years Seven to Nine; Senior School— Years Ten to Twelve. The College offers breadth of study, both in and outside the classroom, to cater for a variety of talents within the student cohort and has a rigorous academic programme and supportive pastoral care for each child. In the secondary school there is a university entrance focus as well as pathways in Vocational Education and Training. A range of extracurricular activities operate within the College and there are various opportunities through liturgies, retreats, camps, carnivals, sport, music, and the arts for students to thrive within a challenging but supportive setting. The College is situated on a twenty-hectare site with excellent grounds and good facilities for students.

2. Teacher Standards and Qualifications

	3 Year trained	4 Year trained	5 Year trained
Number of teaching staff	0	39	9

3. Workforce Composition

Teachers Male:	17
Teachers Female:	32
Non-Teaching Male:	10 <small>(9 not including cleaners)</small>
Non-Teaching Female:	26 <small>(24 not including cleaners)</small>
Indigenous Female:	3

4. Student Attendance at School

Whole School	89.35%		
Year Levels:			
KG	87.05%	Year Six	90.60%
PP	87.73%	Year Seven	92.15%
Year One	88.31%	Year Eight	89.04%
Year Two	88.85%	Year Nine	89.25%
Year Three	91.52%	Year Ten	90.47%
Year Four	90.02%	Year Eleven	89.58%
Year Five	90.05%	Year Twelve	86.26%

Non-Attendance at the College is followed up firstly by the Secondary Home Room or Junior School Classroom teacher. Each morning an SMS is sent to parents whose child/children have not come to school. A letter/email is sent to parents each first Friday of the month reminding them to provide a written note or email for any unexplained absences. Home Room/Classroom teachers and administration staff enter on SEQTA any explanation etc. received for student non-attendance. Notes (and printed emails) are filed by administrative staff. Parents of students who have prolonged or numerous unexplained absences are invited for an interview with the Head of School. Should attendance not improve following the interview, the family is referred to the Principal. Students with consistent non-attendance are finally referred to the Participation Directorate.

5. NAPLAN Data 2023

Students in Years Three, Five, Seven and Nine completed the National Assessment Programme for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Students covering the full ability range attend St Joseph's College and are encouraged to sit the NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN DATA Year Three 2023

Learning Area	School Mean	National Mean
Reading	357	405
Writing	388	416
Spelling	359	404
Grammar & Punctuation	370	411
Numeracy	386	407

NAPLAN DATA Year Five 2023

Learning Area	School Mean	National Mean
Reading	495	496
Writing	471	483
Spelling	468	489
Grammar & Punctuation	472	497
Numeracy	462	480

NAPLAN DATA Year Seven 2023

Learning Area	School Mean	National Mean
Reading	551	536
Spelling	546	534
Grammar & Punctuation	546	539
Writing	546	539
Numeracy	543	538

NAPLAN DATA Year Nine 2023

Learning Area	School Mean	National Mean
Reading	595	564
Spelling	593	567
Grammar & Punctuation	579	568
Writing	573	557
Numeracy	585	568

6. Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

Our parents, students and teachers' satisfaction level with the school is shown by:

- The high retention rate we have with staff. This is indicative of the satisfaction that both our teaching and non-teaching staff have with the College.
- Strong number of applicants from high calibre staff choosing to work at St Joseph's College.

- Feedback from parents highlighting the positives and negatives about their child's learning and development. These comments are then reviewed in relation to the general teaching/learning programme and the overall operation of the College. Evidence from the School Climate Survey, strong School Advisory Council and Parents & Friends membership.
- All parents, students and teachers are encouraged to raise issues or concerns with the appropriate personnel within the school. Parents are reminded of this regularly at Parent Information Evenings and through the College Newsletter (*Wisdomfeed*).
- Significant improvement in attendance at school events and parent interviews.
- Annual Community Meeting - reports and opportunities for questions.
- Counselling Senior School Students to choose pathways that are realistic and achievable.
- Active Parents and Friends Association.
- Maximum number of parents on the St Joseph's College Advisory Council.
- Consultation of students, staff and parents in relation to the development of our Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 and our current Capital Development Plan which has been submitted and approved.
- St Joseph's College is known as a school of choice. Prospective parents often report the positive experiences they have heard or experienced about our College from current parents, staff, and students.

7. **School Income**

See Website: <https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/48860/finances>

8. **Senior Secondary Outcomes**

Students who completed their final year of secondary school at St Joseph's College had the option of two pathways – Vocational Education + Training (VET) or ATAR (University).

There is growing trend over the years that the number of students studying the ATAR subjects is less than 50%. However, at St Joseph's College in 2023, 51.28% of Year Twelve students studied 4 or more ATAR courses.

Students (43.59%) undertaking the VET pathway were offered Certificates II, III or IV in Construction, Engineering, Business/Workplace Skills, Visual Arts, Music Industry, Fashion Design, Outdoor Recreation/Sports Coaching, Hospitality, Information Technology, Education Support and Nursing Preparation. Other students completed a School-Based Traineeships. In 2023, Year 12 students completed 56 Certificate courses. A number of St Joseph's College students were successful in gaining apprenticeships in 2023 in Year 11 and 12. This is attributed to the unique opportunity of our students being able to complete a Certificate II or higher from the commencement of Year Ten. More up-skilling is evident in our students by the completion of Year Twelve and this is enhancing employment opportunities.

Students who chose to follow the University pathway completed studies across a range of ATAR subjects including Religious Education, English, Mathematics

Applications, Mathematics Methods, Mathematics Specialist, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Human Biology, Physical Education and Politics & Law (ViSN).

The top performing ATAR student in 2023 achieved a score of 95. The medium ATAR for St Joseph's College was 80.77. Twelve Certificates of Merit were awarded by School Curriculum and Standards Authority, five Courses of Study were above state mean.

The total number of students in Year Twelve in 2023 was 39. Of these students, 33 or 84.62% achieved WACE graduation.

9. Post School Destinations

University offers:

Curtin University 5 (Engineering and Related Technologies, Health)

Edith Cowan University 2 (Health, Society and Culture)

Murdoch 6 (Natural and Physical Sciences, Education, Society and Culture)

UWA 6 (Natural and Physical Sciences, Engineering and Related Technologies, Health, Management and Commerce, Education)

Notre Dame University 4 (Health, Education)

6 out of 18 students have enrolled at university for 2024, 11 out of 18 have deferred. (Please note that due to living in a regional area, many students complete a gap year and work full-time to save for the transfer to Perth before commencing their chosen University course.)

21 out of 39 students - Apprenticeship, TAFE and employment.

10. School Improvement

Below are details relating to the main goals that were a priority on the Catholic School Improvement Plan (CSIP) for St Joseph's College in 2023. As a Staff there were three "anchors" – Missionary Discipleship, Academic Excellence and Pastoral Care. The following CSIP targets below addressed these in 2023.

Faith

Whole school exploration of the meaning of Christian witness with a focus on Belonging and Inclusion.

Catholic Earthcare

In keeping with the College's commitment to sustainability and good stewardship, the school continually reviews its current practices. School operations have a distinct focus on good recycling and renewable practices, promotion and support of second-hand/gently used school items and careful financial decisions and allocation of funds.

Junior School Spelling including Early Learning

In 2023 a review of the current teaching of spelling was carried out. Changes were made to the structure of literacy time and practices in each Junior School year group.

Additional support was provided to ensure intervention programmes were being delivered.

Secondary School Mathematics

Mathematics learning and teaching programmes were reviewed so that transition years from Junior School, especially Year Six, were improved.

Capital Development Plan

In 2023, the College submitted a CDP for the upgrade of classrooms, specifically for the Secondary School building – STEM and universal accessibility. The build was approved in December 2023.

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ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, ALBANY 2023

Part 2: School Community Report Advisory Council Chair Report 2023

This is my seventh year as a member of the School Advisory Council. I have seen and experienced a lot over those years. My time as SAC chair is coming to an end but feel I still have some more to give and would like to continue to support Rachael Keenan as she enters her second year as Principal of our school. Rachael has written to Dr. Debra Sayce, Executive Director of CEWA to extend my term as SAC member and she has stated the following:

“I understand that you are seeking approval to extend the membership of the current Advisory Council Chair, Mrs Marina Pietropaolo, for 12 months, extending the membership period to eight years. The request is to ensure Mrs Pietropaolo's experience and expertise is available to guide the application/ implementation of the school's Capital Development Plan and to identify and support the development of a new Advisory Council Chair. I support your proposal and grant permission to accept Mrs Pietropaolo to continue as Advisory Council Chair until 31 December 2024.”

Our Capital Development Plan is still going through the approval process. Earlier this year I had the opportunity to attend a meeting with the panel from CEWA to discuss the CDP alongside Rachael Keenan and other executives from our college. Rachael explained the importance of the CDP for our school and made an exceptional and convincing presentation to the panel and do believe we are heading in the right direction for them to consider the CDP for our school.

Catholic Schools Advisory Councils came together with CEWA in June this year for our bi-annual Chair conference to discuss the important role we have as School Advisory Councils. This was held at Government House with the Governor as one of the key speakers. I was invited by Wayne Bull, Deputy Executive Director of CEWA to say the opening prayer. I found this event to be very informative and it offered the opportunity to see what other Catholic Schools are doing for their community. I came away very proud of our school.

We are not the largest Catholic school nor the smallest, but our school stands out when it comes to the size of our community spirit. I look at our P&F and our SAC and see the great things we have achieved at our school over the year. Open nights, the Capital Development plan, Mother and Father's Day stalls and breakfasts, raffles, the Colour run just to name a few. All done with committed parents and staff wanting to see our school and student's flourish. One point that stood out for me at the conference was “we are here working together shoulder to shoulder and facing the same direction, same vision and same mission

with Chairs, council members, principals, and executives. As SAC's we bring in the outside world, knowledge, observations, connections to serve the school and students."

It is so humbling to know that we have a full council next year. To know that we have the support from our parents and friends is a huge part of the success of our school. I welcome our new members for 2024 and would like to thank our existing members continuing next year. It is a privilege to sit at our meetings with such a great group of parents and friends who have our schools' best interests at heart. They take time away from their families, they are always there to lend a helping hand and am truly grateful to have them on our Council. Two such members will be leaving us this year. Eliza Flores who is our Parish representative has decided to leave our council as she enjoys the arrival of her new baby. We wish you all the best Eliza and thank you for all your time and effort you have put in on our council. Our other council member Amanda Harris-Hawkins term has come to an end. Amanda, you have been on the council for six years as the P&F Representative. Thank you for your ongoing dedication and commitment to our school. Your contribution you have made to our council has been invaluable and you will be missed. We also have two P&F members leaving, President Dayna Davey and Secretary Kylie Dallimore.

You should both be proud of what you have achieved in your time on the P&F. Thank you for your service and all your time spent making our P&F successful it is greatly appreciated.

St Joseph's College has come a long way in the seven years I have been on our council. Our student numbers are the largest I have seen, and our finances are looking healthy. We are only as strong as the people who surround our college. Our principal, teachers and administration staff are a huge part of the success of our school and would like to thank them for all their efforts and long hours they contribute to our school community. With positive collaboration together we are all working towards our main aim being Christ centred and student focussed. I look forward to working with you all in 2024.

Marina Pietropaolo

Chair: St Joseph's College Advisory Council

November 2023

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