



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn  
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

# LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Pambula, NSW

## 2014 School Report to the Community



LUMEN  
CHRISTI  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

## SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

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This report was prepared by:

Steve Centra

PRINCIPAL

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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### **Principal's Message**

Welcome to the Lumen Christi Catholic College Annual Report. The purpose of this report is to outline some of the major achievements of the College and to provide data that is required to inform the community of the outcomes achieved in 2014. Our College motto ***"Be the Light of Christ"*** clearly articulates the challenge towards which the College community strives on a daily basis. This year's theme further develops this motto by acknowledging that God's Word ***"is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path"*** (Psalm 119:105). Lumen Christi has developed an outstanding reputation within the region by providing quality pastoral care, achieving consistently high academic results, and providing a diverse range of educational pathways and opportunities enabling students to be the best they can be.

### **Community Council**

The College Community Council represents the entire College community in providing a voice on behalf of the parents, students and staff in the management of the College. The Community Council oversees the content of policies, has a vital role in setting of the annual fees and approves the budget.

The Community Council also works closely with the Principal by providing necessary support and assists in setting the vision and agenda for our Strategic and Improvement plans. This partnership is vital in recognising the role of parents as the first and prime educators of our students.

This year, the Community Council has expanded with the addition of various sub-committees, namely the Uniform Committee, Fundraising Committee and the formation of a number of parent groups.

### **Student Representative's Message**

As College Captains, Chloe (Copas) and myself (Tom Baker) have regarded it as an honour and a privilege to have represented the students of Lumen Christi Catholic College. As leaders of the College we have been consulted regularly with regard to various projects and initiatives and have felt that our opinions counted when trying to achieve the best possible outcome for students. We were involved in the uniform review and were invited to attend the Community Council meetings. We were also consulted with regard to the student leadership restructure and met regularly with various members of the College Leadership team.

We thoroughly enjoyed our role as College Captains and will cherish the time we spent at Lumen Christi and will recall with great fondness the staff who worked tirelessly to provide us with the best learning opportunities possible.

## SCHOOL FEATURES

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Lumen Christi Catholic College is a Catholic K to 12 College located in Pambula Beach. The school has a current enrolment of 663 students. The College opened in 2001 and during 2013 expanded again by increasing the number of primary classes from four to six. In 2015, upon completion of the

new primary classrooms, Lumen Christi will again expand the number of primary classes to seven with a projected enrolment of 185 students from K to 6.

Lumen Christi is an authentic educational institution where our goal is to work on improving educational outcomes for all students. This is provided through a combination of engaging teaching and learning practices, an effective student management program based on restorative practices, prudent fiscal management and providing a wide array of activities for our students. Students attending the College come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities consisting of 51% male and 49% female students; 3% indigenous students; and 1% from a Language Background Other than English (LBOTE).

The school employs 74 staff comprising 55 teachers and 19 non-teaching staff, the latter being employed in a variety of capacities including learning assistants, clerical officers, teachers assistants and maintenance and laboratory assistants.

The College also employs two Aboriginal Education Workers as additional support for the indigenous students and to assist with indigenous cultural awareness in the community.

College staff work hard to ensure our students are given every opportunity to reach their potential in a safe and caring environment. In addition to the compulsory subjects set down by the NSW Board of Studies, the College provides a wide range of elective subjects that enable our students to consider either a vocational or academic path or a combination of both.

To enhance the subject selection process, the careers role has been expanded considerably to ensure diverse educational pathways are offered. Careers presentations, a designated careers space and the expansion of subject offerings are designed to ensure students make informed decisions regarding their educational choices.

Opportunities to participate in cultural and sporting pursuits are made available to all students at Lumen Christi. The music and art programs continue to provide the students with the creative outlet necessary in the development of the whole person. The development of an Instrumental Music Program to begin in 2015 will encourage students to engage in one-on-one tuition and enable current music students to further refine their craft.

The broad range of sporting opportunities on offer at Lumen Christi enables students to participate both at the school and representative level, emphasising the importance of both participation and personal best performance.

Lumen Christi Catholic College is part of the Outer Regional School Support Program (ORSS) and in 2014 ORSS funds were used to provide staff with professional development activities focussing on quality teaching and learning, increased counselling support for students, and to improve transportation efficiency through the leasing of a College bus.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Lumen Christi Catholic College follows the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum, *Treasures New and Old*.

In addition to our formal academic program, our students have the opportunity to be involved in an

array of prayerful and practical activities which enable them to live up to the challenge of being **“the light of Christ”**. In addition to the Retreat program, students can participate in various social justice activities which assist in raising awareness regarding those in our community who are less fortunate, whilst Retreats offer the opportunity to reflect on the meaning and purpose of life in an atmosphere of mutual respect and acceptance .

The theme for the year was taken from the book of Psalms: **“Your word is a lamp to my feet, a light to my path.”** (Psalm 119:105). This theme has been explored during formal College assemblies, Retreats and in a range of co-curricular events throughout the year, assisting us in emphasising our need to rely on God’s Word in all that we do and to challenge us to “walk the talk” when it comes to our faith.

Lumen Christi has now divided the Religious Education Co-ordinator responsibilities between ‘Curriculum’ and ‘Catholic Identity’ which will enable us to further enhance our commitment to our Catholic ethos and beliefs. These roles will begin formally in 2015 but already we are seeing the fruits of these roles as those appointed begin to focus their energies on these two vital aspects of religious education and spiritual formation.

The presence of the Parish Priests, Fr James and Fr Michael, is very much welcomed and appreciated as they assist in the sacramental and liturgical opportunities whenever time permits. Their involvement in the life of our College beyond the formal religious education program is also very much appreciated.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - NAPLAN

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Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sat the *National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy* (NAPLAN) in May this year. NAPLAN assessment results provide valuable information about student achievements in Literacy and Numeracy. An analysis of these results assists school planning and is used to support teaching and learning programs.

### School and National Mean Scale Scores

<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	419	402	412	426	402
<b>School</b>	438	407	395	437	412

<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	501	468	498	504	487
<b>School</b>	526	465	502	488	483

<b>YEAR 7</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	546	512	545	544	546
<b>School</b>	560	506	548	546	552

<b>YEAR 9</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	580	550	582	574	588
<b>School</b>	591	548	571	572	596

### Proportion of students at or above the National Minimum Standard

<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	94%	94%	93%	94%	95%
<b>School</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	93%	90%	93%	93%	93%
<b>School</b>	92%	89%	92%	89%	96%

<b>YEAR 7</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	95%	89%	93%	93%	95%
<b>School</b>	99%	97%	99%	99%	99%

<b>YEAR 9</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	92%	82%	90%	90%	94%
<b>School</b>	99%	87%	95%	96%	100%

### Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>Band 6</b>	30%	10%	10%	30%	20%
<b>Band 5</b>	30%	40%	30%	30%	50%

<b>Band 4</b>	40%	0%	20%	20%	20%
<b>Band 3</b>	0%	50%	10%	20%	20%
<b>Band 2</b>	0%	0%	30%	0%	10%
<b>Band 1</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>Band 8</b>	20%	4%	8%	4%	4%
<b>Band 7</b>	24%	4%	36%	32%	16%
<b>Band 6</b>	28%	28%	24%	28%	32%
<b>Band 5</b>	16%	52%	16%	20%	36%
<b>Band 4</b>	8%	4%	12%	8%	12%
<b>Band 3</b>	4%	8%	4%	8%	0%

<b>YEAR 7</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>Band 9</b>	12%	1%	5%	6%	11%
<b>Band 8</b>	24%	5%	30%	18%	20%
<b>Band 7</b>	30%	23%	26%	40%	23%
<b>Band 6</b>	25%	36%	30%	23%	39%
<b>Band 5</b>	6%	32%	9%	12%	5%
<b>Band 4</b>	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%

<b>YEAR 9</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>Band 10</b>	4%	4%	3%	0%	3%
<b>Band 9</b>	19%	5%	7%	14%	14%
<b>Band 8</b>	27%	23%	35%	20%	42%
<b>Band 7</b>	36%	26%	37%	42%	33%
<b>Band 6</b>	12%	30%	14%	20%	8%
<b>Band 5</b>	1%	14%	5%	4%	0%

The tables above demonstrate that in most categories students at Lumen Christi in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 generally achieve above the National average in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy. However, based on the data presented, students in Year 3 fall below the National Mean in the area of spelling, whilst students in Year 5 fall below the National Mean in the area of Numeracy. This data enables us to identify the various literacy and numeracy priorities for 2015 as part of the COSA+ project and the various teaching and learning strategies to be implemented during the year.

## SCHOOL POLICIES

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### **Enrolment Policy**

In enrolling students we are directed by the Archdiocesan Enrolment Policy which can be found on the Annual Report page of the school's website or on the Catholic Education Office website at <http://www.ceocg.catholic.edu.au/parents/Pages/GeneralPolicies.aspx>

Our annual enrolment period commences in May and the College advertises during this time to encourage families to begin the process in readiness for the new school year. All students and parents are invited to meet with the Principal and various members of the College Leadership team as they prepare for their enrolment at Lumen Christi.

### **Attendance Policy**

The purpose of the Attendance Policy is to specify the procedures used by the College to encourage and monitor attendance of our students and to outline the roles of College staff with regard to student attendance, including:

- maintaining accurate attendance records of all enrolled students.
- maintaining attendance checking procedures which enable the College to identify and assist students with unsatisfactory attendance.
- providing prompt, positive intervention measures, so that students do not fall behind with their work.
- developing sound communication links between school and parents concerning student attendance.

This year we have begun using an electronic role marking system. This system has enabled staff to more carefully monitor student attendance as the role is completed for morning PC (Pastoral Care) and all lessons which follow (Primary classes continue to be marked as "AM" and "PM"). Accurate reports can be produced for each student as teaching staff are required to follow up any student absence and adjust the role from "Unexplained" to "Explained" absence based on communication with parents.

### **Pastoral Care Policy and Behaviour Management:**

The aim of the College's Pastoral Care policy is to ensure a consistent, caring and positive approach to behaviour management. Our staff is committed to modelling responsible behaviour to students in our care and to dealing with them in a fair and consistent manner. The principles of Restorative Justice informs our policy. The principles include: acknowledging the inevitability of conflict and hurt in relationships, working towards healing by repairing relationships and learning and growing from



experience. Parents are a key part of the Restorative Justice process and are kept informed and involved when seeking resolutions and support for our students. Corporal punishment is expressly prohibited at Lumen Christi. In addition the College does not sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons to enforce discipline at the College.

All students enrolling at Lumen Christi Catholic College are required to read and sign the Pastoral Care Policy to acknowledge acceptance of the policy and their intention to comply with the expectations of the policy – particularly the Code of Conduct which specifies behavioural expectations designed to maintain a safe learning environment for all.

Accurate record keeping with regard to behaviour management has also become a focus for this year as we continue to develop an electronic behaviour management recording and communication process.

The full text of the school's [Pastoral Care Policy is available on the College website](#) or from the College Front Office.

### **Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy**

The College policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly and confidentiality is always maintained. A full text of the College's [Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy is available on the school website](#) or from the Front Office.

## **PRIORITIES AND TARGETS**

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Throughout 2014 there has been a strong emphasis on enhancing the quality of teaching and learning. As part of the School Improvement Project the Teaching and Learning Team was formed, consisting of both experienced and early career teachers from primary and secondary. This team engaged in classroom observations and presented a range of professional learning sessions as part of the Twilight Professional Learning program.

The Teaching and Learning Team also engaged staff in reviewing the AITSL standards, developing Professional Learning Plans via the new MyPad site, enhancing understanding of the new primary mathematics curriculum and focused on literacy both in upper primary and lower secondary levels.

As a means of measuring the success of the Teaching and Learning Team, several members of the group also worked closely with colleagues on a class of year 7s who had been identified as having particular learning needs. After some time it became evident that through this collaboration the results of the class were significantly improved, both in terms of academic outcomes and general responsiveness and engagement.

At the beginning of the year the ICT Vision Team was also established as a means of establishing a clear vision for ICT in the College. The team eventually decided to introduce a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) ipad program. Consequently a significant proportion of staff in-house professional learning has focused on the use of ipads in the classroom. Generally the confidence of staff in using these

devices has improved greatly and we look forward to the successful implementation of this program in 2015.

The College has further developed partnerships with external agencies especially in relation to students completing workplace hours for their VET subjects, school based apprenticeships and work experience opportunities. Lumen Christi has also created partnerships with Australian Catholic University and Wollongong University in an attempt to improve the educational aspirations of students and to engage the services of university staff and students in conducting HSC lectures and providing mentoring to students. The creation of the MyScience program for primary students has been an exciting initiative supported by ACU through the Equity Pathways Program. We look forward to continuing our relationship with these tertiary institutions which assists us in expanding opportunities for our students.

As a community it is important that communication with our families is effective. Throughout this year we have endeavoured to enhance this communication through the effective use of technology. Our website now contains more visual material, including the Principal's Report where students interview the principal about coming events. The development of an electronic newsletter has also meant a more regular flow of information to our families, and the recent introduction of the "Skoolbag app" enables us to send notifications to families to keep them up to date with all that is happening at the College.

In terms of strategic resourcing of the College, a Master Plan process has commenced which will focus on creating open learning spaces in keeping with contemporary learning theories. This has been coupled with a refurbishment program for the short term which will provide a more immediate response to the need for space created by increased enrolment numbers and the introduction of K to 6. Further to this, a Catholic Symbolism Team has also been developed in order to augment the building program with a clear focus on improving the visibility of art work symbolising our Catholicity.

The uniform review which commenced in term 2 was completed and a range of uniform modifications have been implemented which will be rolled out at the start of 2015 for all new kindergarten and year 7 students. The establishment of a uniform shop on College premises will enable a more consistent and convenient supply of quality uniform items.

A number of other initiatives have been introduced this year which will come to fruition in 2015. These initiatives include an expanded student leadership program and the development of a comprehensive pastoral care program designed to improve the quality of relationships and to enhance student mental health and wellbeing.