



**St Martins** Lutheran College

## **SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT (2020)**

### **1. Introduction**

St Martins Lutheran College is a coeducational Foundation to Year 12 College situated in Mt Gambier, South Australia. St Martins is a member of the Lutheran Schools Association and was established in 1982 as a Lutheran Primary School. In 2004 the first secondary students were educated at the College, a process of growth that continued with the addition of Year 12 in 2008. In 2020 St Martins educates over 740 students within a friendly, inclusive and caring school community. Students are drawn from a wide area, with buses operating from Mil-Lel, Port MacDonnell, Naracoorte, Penola and Millicent. St Martins also welcomes exchange students.

The College has strong links with the St Martins Lutheran Church congregation and the St Martins Kindergarten in Edward St, Mt Gambier. The College provides an education designed to assist the development of students academically, spiritually, socially and physically. A strong sense of belonging is fostered by professional and committed staff members who demonstrate traditional values such as compassion, respect and encouragement. The College achieves its mission by building positive partnerships with students and their families and by careful attention to the individual needs of students. Students are guided and encouraged to develop a love of learning in a supportive environment that focuses on the whole child.

The College's values of Hope, Faith, Encouragement, Compassion, Growth and Respect form the 'St Martins Spirit' and are applied in daily interactions within the College.

At the start of 2020 the College implemented a new structure which saw the creation of three sub-schools, a Junior School (Foundation to Year 6), Middle School (Year 7 to 9) and a Senior School (Year 10 to 12). Each sub-school is led by a Head of School who works closely with a whole College Head of Teaching and Learning. These changes reflect the College's strategic goals to further improve student engagement, accountability, achievement and wellbeing, through the provision of excellent teaching and learning, and pastoral care.

In late 2020 the College commenced the process of developing a new Strategic Plan for the next three to five years. This plan will be implemented from July 2021.

To compliment the school's existing facilities, in 2020 the College saw the construction of exciting new specialist teaching facilities for Food Technology, Hospitality and Visual Art. These dynamic new learning spaces compliment the current, well resourced, learning environment and provide positive learning

opportunities for all students. In addition, the College Gymnasium is currently being refurbished and a further three new Secondary classrooms and additional toilet facilities are currently under construction.

Ongoing school improvement is a strong feature of St Martins. Teacher professional learning focuses on areas such as literacy, numeracy, critical and creative thinking skills, the effective use of IT, inquiry-based pedagogy and wellbeing. NAPLAN results are analysed carefully, alongside other student data, to inform teaching and improve learning. Teacher professional development is supported through teacher mentoring and coaching.

## **2. Value Added Programs**

Alongside a stimulating academic program, which provides pathways to both tertiary education and vocational training for senior students, opportunities are provided for students to participate in a variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. These range from academic enrichment activities in areas such as STEM and public speaking, to sport, music, drama, art, outdoor education and community service.

Students compete with considerable success in both local and state level sporting competitions for athletics, swimming, golf and a variety of other team and individual sports. The College's popular golf program caters for students interested in developing their skills alongside a healthy lifestyle. Another highlight is the College's very successful involvement with the Human Powered Vehicle program.

For students interested in Music the College provides a range of developmental bands and choirs, along with the opportunity to participate in a variety of community music and choral festivals, including the now famous Generations in Jazz Festival held in the City of Mt Gambier. In addition, the Year 6 Musical is a popular annual event and the Secondary School produces a colourful musical on alternate years.

House competitions in the performing arts, athletics, swimming and lunchtime sport, along with special House days add another dimension to student learning. Weekend sport and a Sporting Schools program all encourage participation in healthy lifestyle activities.

A vibrant program of camps and excursions are organised across the College, which provide opportunities for students to explore and develop a range of different interests and skills. Above all, students in the Junior, Middle and Senior years are encouraged to nurture their strengths and explore ideas using creative and critical thinking to help them develop lifelong learning skills.

Students at St Martins are encouraged to be globally aware through intercultural visits to sister schools in both China and Germany. Student exchanges and visits to our sister schools also help to compliment the College's language program.

A one-to-one device program is in place within the College for students in Years 5 to 12. Students use Chromebooks or laptops to produce innovative and creative work. In addition, students in Foundation to Year 4 have access to shared class sets of iPads, while students across the school engage in coding tasks with a variety of robots.

Ongoing programs include Vetamorphus, a course for students interested in developing Christian leadership skills. This program continues to be popular, with students completing a Certificate 3.

Community service, both locally and internationally, is a strong feature of the College. All Year 10 students assist the local community through Meals on Wheels and the Student Representative Councils raise money each term for various charities. Service learning through Habitat for Humanity (building homes in developing countries) and a partnership with a school in Sumatra, Indonesia, are parts of the College's international service program for senior students.

### **3. Teacher Standards and Qualifications**

Staff members at St Martins contribute greatly to the education of students, both in the classrooms and in extra curricula activities. All teaching staff at St Martins are registered teachers. In our school we are fortunate to have a number of teachers with two or more qualifications in education. The following summarises teaching staff qualifications 11% Masters Degrees, 34% Post Graduate Diploma/Certificates, 100% Bachelor Degrees, and 39% accredited to teach Christian Studies in Lutheran Schools. Staff regularly update their First Aid Training and Child Protection Training as required by the Teacher's Registration Board and St Martins' employment policies. Further training for accreditation to teach Christian Studies in Lutheran schools is ongoing. Staff members are supported in furthering their professional learning and are encouraged to upgrade their qualifications through ongoing study. A number of teachers have also been involved in mentoring student teachers.

#### **Workforce composition**

In 2020, the College had 100 staff members, 63 (52.53 full time equivalent) teaching staff and 38 (25.3 full time equivalent) non-teaching staff. The increase in staff reflects the increased enrolment in the College. Other support staff include a School Counsellor, Indigenous Education Coordinator and learning support staff to assist with students who have additional needs. This includes gifted students and those with barriers to their learning. Three trainees were also employed to work in education support, administration and retail.

The St Martins out of school hours care program permanently employs two Diploma qualified childcare workers bringing innovation and continuity to the after-school care program.

There are currently no staff that identify as indigenous.

### **4. Student Attendance in 2020**

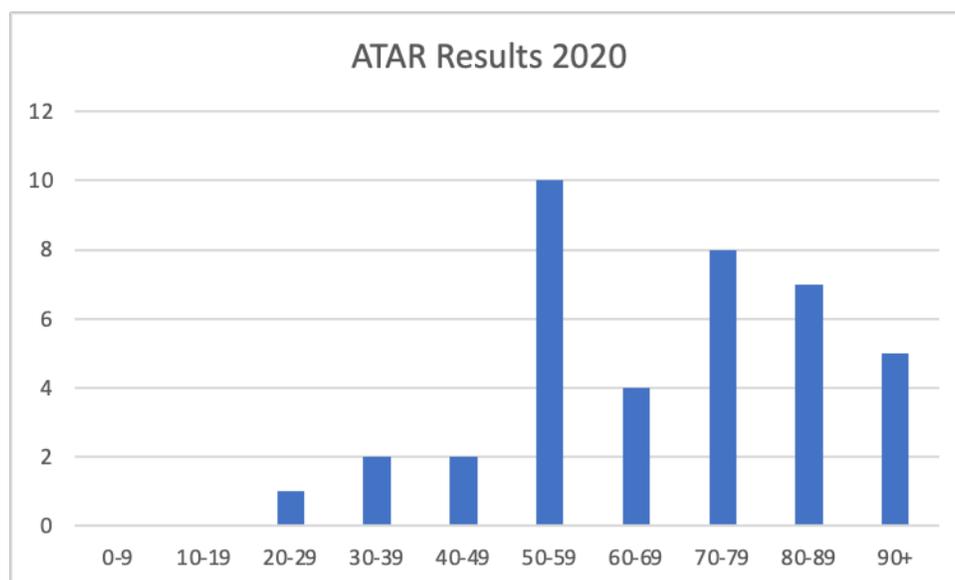
St Martins recognizes that regular school attendance is essential for students to learn and develop. Parents are encouraged to inform the school if their child will be absent via the Student Management System, SEQTA, or a phone call to the school. If this information has not been supplied absences are followed up with a text message, phone call from the school, or if necessary, a home visit.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Total Average
93	94.3	93.2	94.3	95.0	94.8	93.5	92.4	92.4	92.0	93.5

## 5. Senior Secondary Outcomes

### Year 12 Results, 2020

There were 54 students in the Year 12 cohort in 2020. In addition, there were ten Year 11 students who studied a subject at Year 12. Of the Year 12 students, 39 were eligible for an ATAR. All but five Year 12 students completed their SACE. Eight students received an ATAR of 80 or above.



## 6. Student Outcomes in NAPLAN, 2020

Due to COVID-19, NAPLAN was not conducted in 2020.

## 7. Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

Every second-year parents, staff and students are surveyed as part of an initiative of Lutheran Education Australia. This provides opportunities for feedback. The Quality Schools survey was not undertaken in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Students are also able to provide feedback through regular SRC meetings and meetings with the Principal and Heads of School. The Parents and Friends group meet regularly each month providing excellent communication opportunities between families and staff. Additionally, staff provide feedback regularly throughout the year via staff meetings.

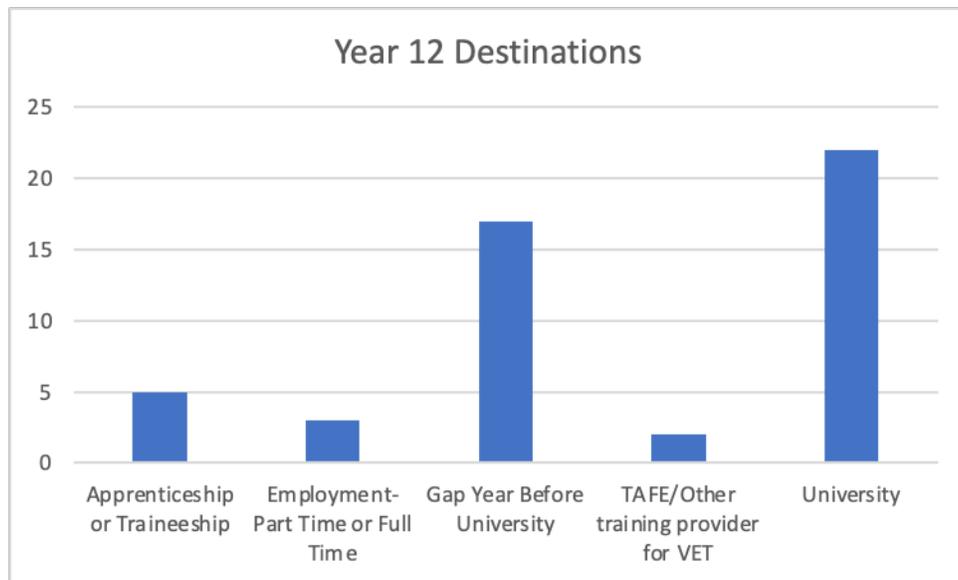
Through previous surveys, areas that are identified as strengths include:

Students	Parents	Staff
Teachers care for students	Sense of community	Supportive and positive team culture
Friendly and inclusive environment	Supportive and caring staff	Beautiful environment, good buildings and resources
Great extracurricular opportunities	Smaller classes and individual needs of students considered	Strong sense of community

Areas for improvement include:

Students	Parents	Staff
Class behaviour management	More information on student progress	Increased consultation
Assignment stress	Increased parent involvement	Consistency in behaviour management
Student interaction with each other	Behaviour management	Consistent pedagogy

**8. Post School Destinations: Class of 2020**



**9. School Income 2020**

Income broken down by percentage:

Tuition Fees	18
Commonwealth Grant	63
State Grant	18
Other Income	1

