



# ANNUAL REPORT

NSW EDUCATION STANDARDS AUTHORITY 2023

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**PRINCIPAL:**

*Mr Steven Nightingale - B. TEACH, B. ED, M. ED ADMIN*

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## MESSAGES FROM KEY SCHOOL BODIES

### **From the School Board:**

The School Board met six (6) times in 2023. The 2023 school year saw no changes made to the composition of the school board. There were no significant changes to the staff in the school before the 2022 school year. The school did increase its allocation of staff in School Learning Support Officers (SLSO) in the Primary Department.

The school population remained steady throughout the school year, and we had some growth in numbers during the year. All students who graduated Year 12 went on to either University, TAFE, an apprenticeship or the workforce. It is a sense of pride for the school that each student went on to further education or to a trade.

The school made a significant change to its teaching and learning program in the Stage 3 area for 2023. It was decided that we would move Stage 3 from a combination of Student-Learning (ACE program, that we have used since the school started) to a fully Teacher-Directed Learning program. With this change came some initial complications, but by the beginning of Term 2 the students and staff had adapted to the new program. Feedback from students and parents was highly positive about the changes.

The school board would like to thank the school staff for their tireless efforts and devotion to the school and students. We have many staff who have been with the school for 15 or 20 years and it was a pleasure to highlight those staff members at the school awards night.

We hope that the 2024 school year will be one of academic growth and school spirit.

## VALUE ADDED INFORMATION

### **From the Principal:**

The 2023 was an exciting year for the Primary Department with the undertaking of a new learning program for the Stage 3 students. This included the building of a new classroom inside the Primary building. A significant refurbishment of the entire building took place over the summer holidays, and the staff are to be commended for their long and tireless efforts to have the new classroom and whole building ready for the first day of the school year.

The school was able to again run a full program of learning activities and excursions for the students. The stage 3 students adjusted very well to the new learning program, and feedback from the students was that it did increase their enjoyment within the classroom.

I would like to add my thanks to the staff of the school for their tireless efforts throughout the school year.

## **CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

Sherwood Hills Christian School provides a caring, comprehensive and high-quality education for all students. We have been in the Bradbury area for 44 years and are co-educational for years K-12 and offer a Senior program of study geared towards University Preparation and the SAT test. The school's academic methodology recognises that students learn in a variety of ways and therefore all students are engaged in one-on-one and face-to-face teaching. We use a combination of the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) program, as well as NESA approved curriculum. The school's ethos is to develop each student to their full potential, educationally, emotionally and spiritually. We cater to approximately 145 students with a high teacher-to-student ratio and a high level of one-on-one teaching. We maintain a high level of discipline in the student body and place a high emphasis on Christian education. [Visit the school website.](#)

Sherwood Hills Christian School provides a school-based Year 10 and a school-based Year 12. Both certificates are accepted by TAFEs, colleges, apprenticeship providers and Universities as evidence of completion of studies at a Year 10 and Year 12 level. Students in Year 12 undertake the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and that result is sent to the University Admissions Centre and is converted to an ATAR for university entrance purposes. The school has been using this method since 1990, and it has proven to be successful for all students who have gained the required results in the SAT text to enter university. The school has had students enrolled in every major university in NSW.

## **STUDENT OUTCOMES IN STANDARDISED NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY TESTING**

Sherwood Hills Christian School does not provide the Record of School Achievement and therefore only the results of the NAPLAN are presented in a link to the My School website.

### **Literacy and Numeracy Assessments**

Our NAPLAN assessments most recent information relates to 2023 NAPLAN results which are available on the My School website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

Students at Sherwood Hills Christian School complete a school-based Year 10. The courses completed by students for the school-based Year 10 are approved by the NESA for our school's purposes. Students who complete the school-based Year 10 are still offered a place at TAFE and other colleges and they can apply for and obtain apprenticeships.

Students at Sherwood Hills Christian School complete a school-based Year 12. The courses completed by our students for the school-based Year 12 are approved by the NESA for our school's purposes. Students who completed the school-based Year 12 will also complete a university entrance test called, the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). This test is recognised by the University Admissions Centre and used by them in offering our students placement at university.

The school had 8 students enrolled in Year 12 at the start of the school year, and all 8 students graduated and have gone on to University, TAFE, Apprenticeships or the workforce.

## TEACHING STAFF

### Teacher Accreditation

Level of Accreditation	Number of Teachers
Conditional	1
Provisional	0
Proficient Teacher	11
Highly Accomplished Teacher (voluntary accreditation)	0
Lead Teacher (voluntary accreditation)	0
Total number of teachers	12

### Teacher Qualifications

Category	Number of Teachers
Teachers who have teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines, or	11
Teachers who have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lack formal teacher education qualifications, or	1

Note that the number of teachers falling within these two categories may not sum to the total number of teachers as reported in the previous accreditation table as some teachers with Conditional accreditation may not be included.

## WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

Workforce composition is documented on the My School website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

Category	Full-Time	Part-time
Administration	1 (Principal)	4
Teaching	6	5
Teacher Assistants	3	2
Maintenance	0	4

The Principal of the school carries out a part-time teaching load as well as Administration duties. The Indigenous status of staff members is unknown to the school.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE, RETENTION RATES AND POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

### STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATES 2023

For student attendance rates please refer to the school's data on the My Schools website:

<http://www.myschool.edu.au>

Year Level	Attendance Rate %
Kindergarten	92.8
Year 1	93.5
Year 2	95.4
Year 3	95.6
Year 4	93.8
Year 5	91.2
Year 6	92.8
Year 7	92.6
Year 8	92.9
Year 9	92.9

Year 10	87.5
Year 11	95.4
Year 12	93.7
Whole School	93.1

Ninety-three-point 1 (93.1) percent of students attended school on average each school day. This is a significant increase in attendance in comparison to 2022. The school dealt with a few chronic students and was able to improve their attendance through attendance improvement plans.

## MANAGEMENT OF NON-ATTENDANCE

The school implements policy and procedures for the management of student non-attendance. Parents are notified of any unexplained absences by text message each day. Written confirmation (email or text) must be received by the school for any absences. Absences are monitored and parent and student conferences are held to resolve the non-attendance of students.

## RETENTION RATES AND POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

The school does not deliver the ROSA or the HSC, but utilises a school-based Year 10 and Year 12 certificate. The retention rate from Year 10 to Year 12 has shown a small change each year. Of the 8 students who were in Year 10 in 2021, 7 of those students completed Year 12 in 2023. One student moved into the workforce in Year 11.

Of the 7 who graduated 5 went on to University, 2 to TAFE, College or Traineeships.

## POLICIES

The following school policies are publicly available on the website

- [Enrolment Policy](#)
- [Child Protection Policy](#)
- [Anti-Bullying Policy](#)
- [Discipline Policy](#)
- [Reporting Complaints and Resolving Grievances](#)

## **RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The school places a high priority on instilling within students a sense of respect for their fellow students, their teachers, their parents and themselves. The school's PDHPE program focused heavily on teaching students the importance of self-respect. Students are taught about the importance of taking responsibility for their own possessions and their own actions. Biblical Studies classes focus on the student as a whole and their ability to make their own choices. The school developed new programs to incorporate a greater focus on the concept of "consent" in their lives. This program was well-received by the student body.

The school wants all students to believe that they are important and integral parts of the school, home and society, and that they have talents in which they can contribute to the school and to society in general.

Through pastoral care and teacher instruction the students in the school overall seemed to grow in self-respect, and in their understanding of the importance of showing respect to others.



## PARENT, STUDENT AND TEACHER SATISFACTION

The school maintains an open-door policy for parents to make appointments to see the teachers, academic co-ordinators, head of department or the Principal without waiting for the prescribed parent-teacher interview time of the year. Parents are willing to be involved in whatever special events the school holds during the year. The school community was very supportive of all school functions throughout the year.

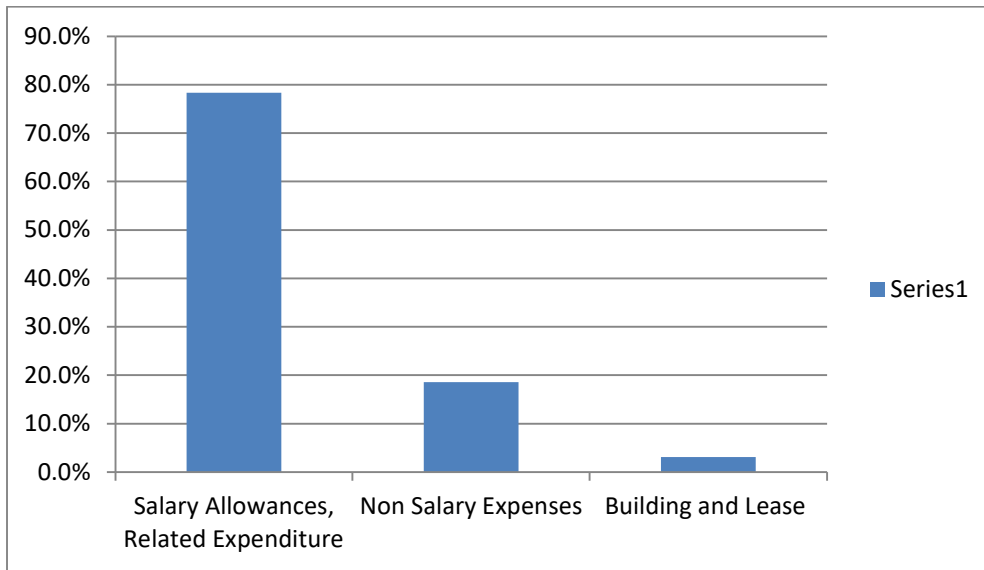
The staff of the school held regular meetings with the student body in which the students were permitted to put forward their ideas for school improvement. This was received well by the students and many useful ideas have come from these meetings.

Through informal feedback and formal staff evaluations the general information points to a staffing body that is generally satisfied with the school's working environment. The main area of concern is the ability of staff to adequately assist those students requiring greater one-on-one attention. Staff also commented on the need for greater access to technology, particularly in the Primary department. This is to be addressed in 2024, and the work was completed in Term 1 of 2024. Staff satisfaction is a section of each staff members yearly review. Regular staff meetings also afford the opportunity for staff to give feedback on school events or issues. During the review process staff are afforded the opportunity to place in writing any concerns or ideas they have concerning their particular area of responsibility or the school as a whole.

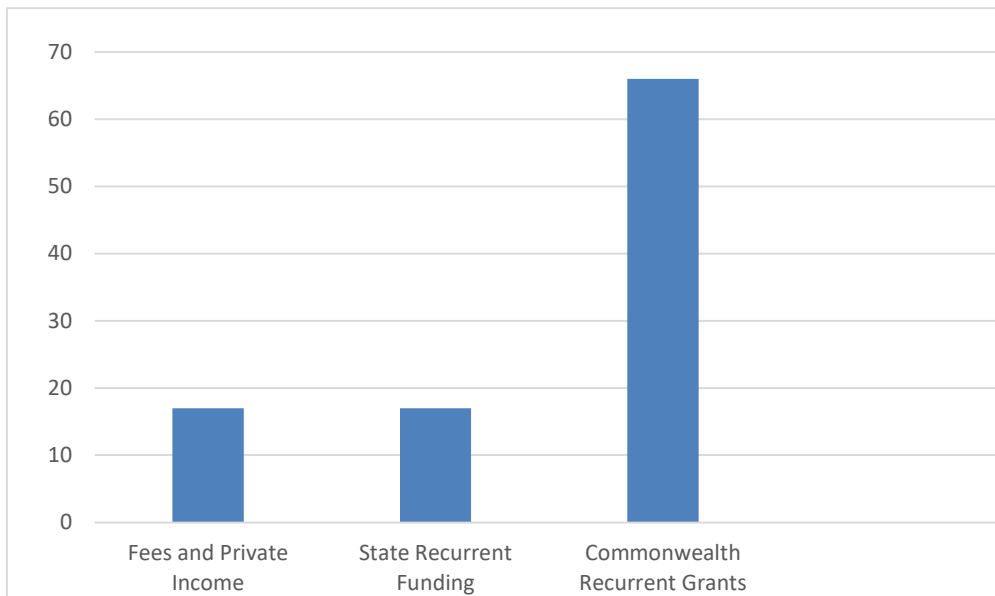
[www.sherwoodhills.nsw.edu.au](http://www.sherwoodhills.nsw.edu.au)

# SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Recurrent/Capital Expenditure 2023



## Recurrent/Capital Income 2023





## **Sherwood Hills Christian School**

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