

Creek Street
Christian College



Annual Report

2021

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Creek Street Christian College Vision, Mission, and Philosophy Statements

College Vision

Creek Street Christian College (hereafter 'the College') is a ministry of the Creek Street Church and has been established to provide Christian education and training to students so that they are equipped to impact their community, our nation, and the world for the Lord Jesus Christ.

College Mission

The College has been established to provide families with a Christian education, within a caring and disciplined environment that will enable students to fully develop their God-given talents and academic abilities, so that they are able to contribute effectively to the changing society of which they are a part.

The College encourages and supports students to develop a positive and wholesome outlook on life, to become self-disciplined people and to be responsible and caring members of the community, both locally and internationally.

College Philosophy

At the College, our approach to learning is holistic in nature. We have a commitment to the development of the whole student in a Christian environment. A Christian education provides unparalleled opportunities for students to discover their passions and nurture their talents. We teach, equip, activate, and release the students with the wisdom which comes from God.

Our four foundation of a true Christian Education are to learn to:

Know and Understand...

Our programs are designed to engage the learners by stimulating wonder and dynamic educational experiences. The students develop a deeper connection to content, understand that learning areas are related to each other and the world beyond the classroom. Our students take risks, become independent thinkers in a rapidly changing world, seeking and acquiring new skills and knowledge at every stage of life.

Apply/do...

Learning is developed through experience, action, and engagement. Through real-life experiential learning students at the College understand how to put their knowledge and skills into action in meaningful and positive ways locally, nationally, and globally. We believe the Bible is God's revelation to man and that it contains the principles and values that show us how to live and do what God has called us to do.

Collaborate...

God created us for relationships. In fact, the greatest commandment – Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, strength and love your neighbour as yourself (Mark 12:30-31) - helps us build, maintain, and expand our relationship with God and others. At the College, much of what we learn is about ourselves in relation to experiences with others. Through this our students develop collaborative, interpersonal, social and language skills to help them develop an appreciation for the wider world and their place within it.

Become...

From Early Learning Centre (ELC) to Year 12, the students begin on a journey of discovering and embracing all God has made them to be and are helped to become their best versions of themselves. Students graduate from the College as open-minded, compassionate, balanced, resilient global citizens.

Principal's Report

From the beginning of 2021, the College's theme for the year was 'the year of our 40th celebration'. Clearly, we had no idea then what 2021 was holding in store for us all! Yet, what a blessing it has been to draw upon James 1:2-3 "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."

Despite the year that it was, we moved purposefully forwards, celebrating every achievement; those of the College, our students, our families and our staff. Whether on campus or in remote learning, we set the bar high to meet each goal. We learned perseverance through the trials of many kinds that we faced together and grew closer together as a team.

It certainly has been a challenging task to stay focused; but we did. Throughout all of these challenges, unity, resilience, commitment, passion and spirit, that are so typical to the character of the Creek Street College community, were clearly evident. It was noted and commented on by various members of the community, that the atmosphere, community, and joy were obvious within our College. How blessed we all are to be a part of such an amazing community who exemplified all that we can be, and all that we can achieve, even in trying times.

My thanks extend to every person who contributed to this profound sense of unity and support through every obstacle. Of course, we can't acknowledge all that 2021 held without also paying tribute to the Maxwells. It is an honour to pay tribute to Coral, the College's longest serving principal and Tim, a profoundly passionate educator and committed Chair of the College Council. It was with sadness that we said goodbye at the end of 2021 to Wilma Calvert who served the College as our founding principal from 1981 - 1990, College council member and Deputy Chair for many years after. Wilma is enjoying a well- deserved retirement.

I am also acknowledging every staff member that was part of the team in 2021. Every single person in this community made it the privilege to be here, so I thank everyone for all that they brought to make us who we are.

It is a true privilege and honour to serve Creek Street Christian College as the Principal. Having been immersed in this College for just over a year and a half now, it feels like I have been here for much longer.

As you will see in this Annual Report; we have a very special school. The people of our community are unequalled in their kindness, generosity, and creativity, and I am delighted to see us harness these qualities at the College.

We invite you to glance at who we are and what we are doing, through this report, and extend the welcome to everyone, who would like to come and immerse themselves deeper into this community.

Blessing

Gerhard van Blommestein
College Principal

Our Values

Helping students *discover* all God made them to be.

- Devotion** - 'Till I come, devote yourself to reading, to exhortation and to teaching and instilling doctrine.' 1 Timothy 4:13 AMP
- Integrity** - 'Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the Lord.' Psalm 119:1 NLT
- Service** - 'God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.' 1 Peter 4:10 NLT
- Compassion** - 'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.' Colossians 3:13 NIV
- Optimism** - 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13 NKJV
- Vision** - 'Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.' Proverbs 29:18 KJV
- Excellence** - 'And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritances for you serve the Lord Christ.' Colossians 3:23-24 NKJV
- Respect** - 'Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the king.' 1 Peter 2:17 NIV

Strategic Planning and Development

The College has a Strategic planning mechanism which involves 8 key development areas.

These are:

- Student Well-being
- Staff Well-being
- Faith
- Teaching and Learning
- Community
- Environment and Infrastructure
- Leadership
- Governance

In 2021 our two specific areas of focus were: Teaching and Learning and Faith.

Governance

The College is governed by the College Council, selected by the Church Board members. The College Council meets regularly to discuss and consider future development and financial prudence of the College.

College Council



Geoff Keen
College Council Chair (Term 1)



Tim Maxwell
College Council Chair (Term 2 – 4)



Wilma Calvert
College Council Deputy Chair



Coral Maxwell
Principal (Term 1-3)
College Council member (Term 4)



Peter Rotherham
Business manager



Gerhard van Blommestein
Assistant Principal (Term 1-3)
Principal (Term 4)



Joshua Barter
College Council Member

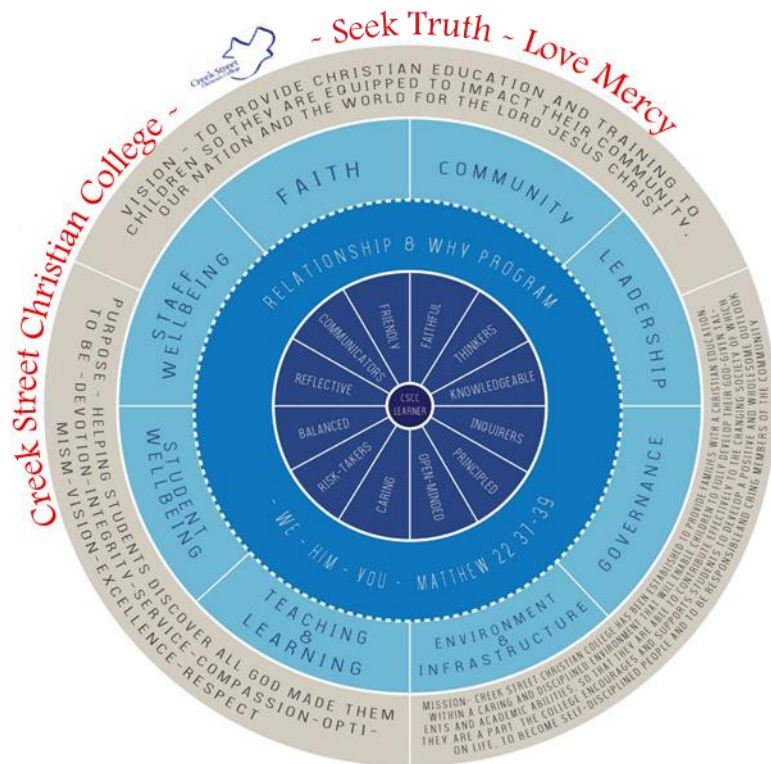


Nathan Hulls
College Council Member

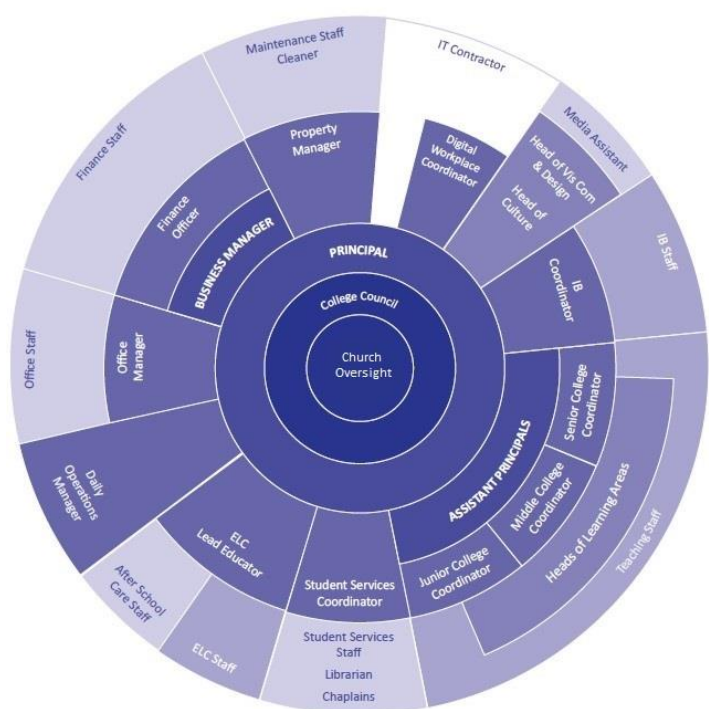


Brooke Ball
College Council Member

In the Governance area we reviewed the structure of the College and moved from the overall Vision and Mission and Purpose Statement right down to the learning that matters with the learner at the centre of all that we do. The disk below outlines in graphic form the various aspects of the College as an organisation



Management



Senior Management Team (Terms 1-3)



Coral Maxwell
College Principal



Gerhard van Blommestein
Assistant-Principal



Peter Rotherham
Business Manager

Senior Management Team (Term 4)



Gerhard van Blommestein
Principal



Lynne Hall
Assistant Principal: Student
Wellbeing



Marie Boulanger
Assistant Principal: Teaching
and Learning



Peter Rotherham
Business Manager

Leadership Team (Term 1-3)



Coral Maxwell
Principal



Gerhard van Blommestein
Assistant Principal



Peter Rotherham
Business Manager



Louise Nott
ELC Lead Educator



Marnie Pollock
Junior College Coordinator



Lynne Hall
Middle College Coordinator



James Dunstan
Senior College Coordinator



Marie Boulanger
IB Coordinator



Jenni Caldwell
Office Manager



Tim Schofield
Daily Operational Operator



Lyndon Barker
Property Manager

Leadership Team (Term 4)



Gerhard van Blommestein
Principal



Marie Boulanger
Assistant Principal: Teaching and Learning / Senior College Coordinator



Lynne Hall
Assistant Principal: Student Well-being



Peter Rotherham
Business Manager



Louise Nott
ELC Lead Educator



Luis Alvarez
Junior College Coordinator



James Dunstan
Middle College Coordinator



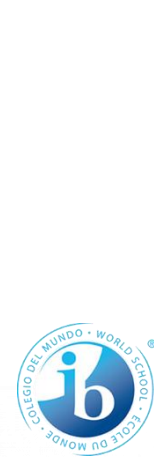
Celia van Blommestein
Student Services Coordinator



Jenni Caldwell
Office Manager



Tim Schofield
Daily Operational Operator



New IB Centre

We are delighted to announce that our IB centre is nearing completion and will be ready to be occupied in Term 4, 2022. The building has 5 new classrooms, including an Art room, with two break-out spaces both up and down stairs. The building has state-of-the-art technology and facilities. The building will include a café-style veranda to accommodate students, staff and parents for coffee and something to eat.



Outdoor recreation campus

The College bought an Outdoor recreation campus near the end of 2021. The purpose of this campus is to accommodate future recreation activities. The College is negotiating with the Bendigo City Council to use this property to facilitate activities for Creek Street Christian College students.



Staff

Staff Professional Values

Learning – ‘Let the wise listen and add to their learning.’ Proverbs 1:5 NIV

Communication – ‘Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.’ Colossians 4:6 NLT

Reliability – ‘Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.’ 1 Corinthians 4:2 NIV

Integrity – ‘We intend to do what is right, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of people.’ 2 Corinthians 8:21 ISV

Staff Character Values

Love – ‘Do everything in love.’ 1 Corinthians 16:14 NKJ

Service – ‘Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people.’ Ephesians 6:7 NIV

Honour – ‘Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other.’ Romans 12:10 NLT

Encouragement – ‘Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.’ 1 Thessalonians 5:11 ESV

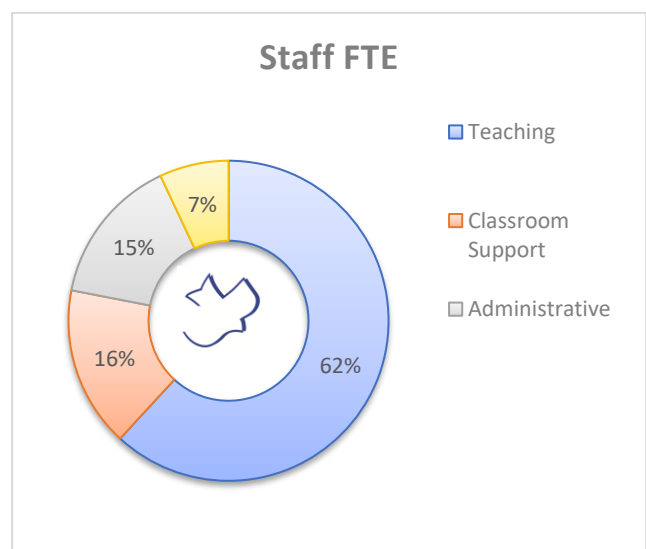
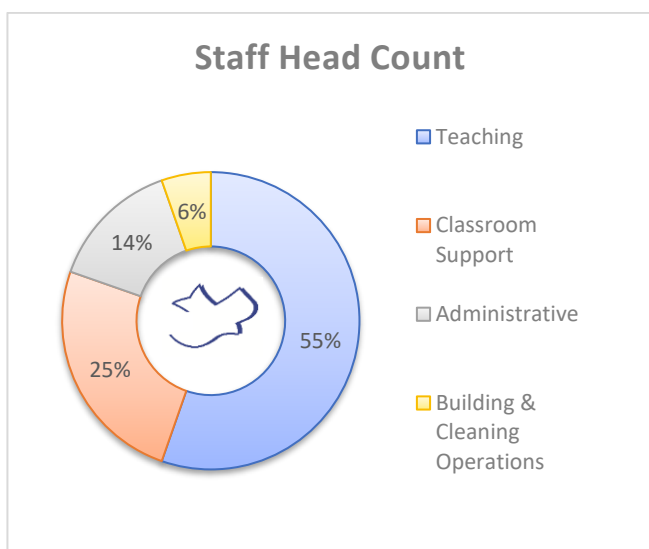
Staff Professional Learning

There were limited face-to-face opportunities during the year, but there was a greatly increased occurrence of teachers working collaboratively and supporting one another in their teaching and transition to on-line delivery. Staff training included:

- Level 2 First Aid
- Learning Management System upskilling- Compass
- Linewise (student safety platform)
- Anaphylaxis and Asthma specific training
- Review of Child Safe Code of Conduct Policy.

Staff Attendance Rate

The staff attendance rate for all permanent and casual staff was 94.4%.



Staff Opinion Survey results

Staff at Creek Street Christian College showed an overall mean satisfaction level of 78% (mean of key areas), which is the same as its results from 2020. Creek Street Christian College was higher than or equal to its 2021 results for each of the key areas, except for three. Percentage figures below indicate mean levels of satisfaction.

The highest rated items were for:

- I feel supported if I need help with managing children’s behaviour (90%);
- I understand this school’s objectives and goals (89%);
- Teachers model and teach positive behaviour to children (89%); and
- This school is a safe place to work (89%).

The lowest rated items were for:

- There is excellent communication within this school (63%);
- This school offers opportunities for me to become involved in the decision-making process (69%);
- Class sizes are manageable (71%); and
- Personal development programs are enriching and of great benefit to me (71%).

Students

Student numbers

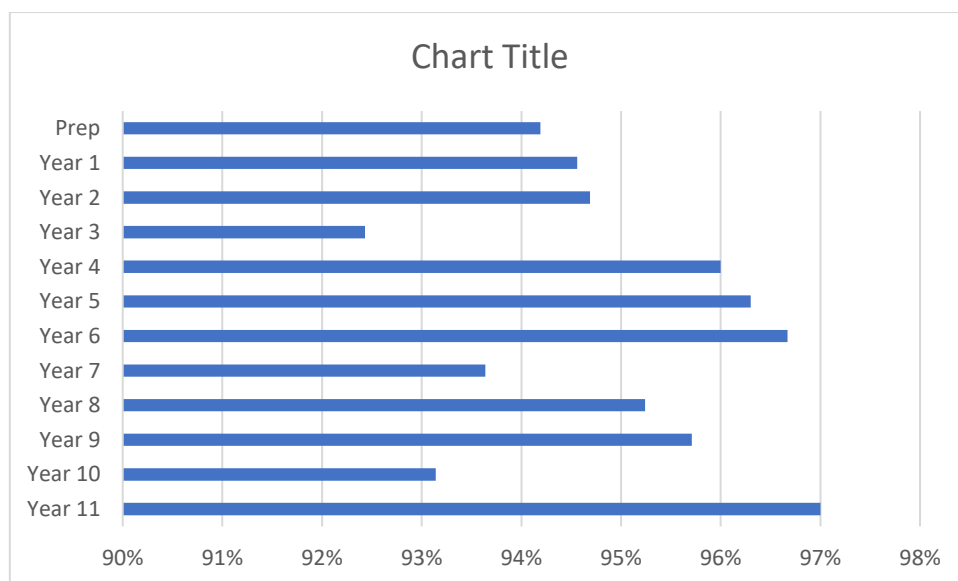
320 full time students commenced at our College at the beginning of 2021, including 38 were enrolled into our Early Learning Centre.

Enrolments at the time of Census included:

Male - 158 Female - 162

1 indigenous student 23% of non-English speaking background

Student Attendance Rate



Student Opinion Survey results

Students at Creek Street Christian College showed an overall mean satisfaction level of 72% (mean of key areas), which is the same as its results from 2020. Creek Street Christian College was higher than the National and Independent Schools benchmarks, when considering the average of the key areas. Percentage figures below indicate mean levels of satisfaction.

The highest rated items were for:

- I am encouraged to achieve high results (80%);
- I understand what is expected of me at school (80%);
- My teachers are positive and enthusiastic about their teaching (78%); and
- My teachers are caring and supportive (78%).


The lowest rated items were for:

- Bullying is not a problem at my school (60%);
- I look forward to going to school (63%);
- I enjoy going to school (64%); and
- There are support services that I can easily access (66%).

The College Leadership Team devised an action plan to address student concerns. There is a focussed effort to improve student well-being after two years of lockdowns and Covid related stresses. And disappointments.

NAPLAN Results 2021

Compare to Students with similar background All Australian students



	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	493	446	443	462	423
Year 5	550	496	531	561	508
Year 7	547	541	545	556	559
Year 9	583	587	593	602	595

2020 No Data due to cancellation of NAPLAN testing (Covid 19)

2019

Compare to Students with similar background All Australian students

Interpreting the table
Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

Well above
Above
Close to
Below
Well below
No comparison available

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	469	464	454	488	434
Year 5	513	479	490	515	498
Year 7	546	512	546	555	553
Year 9	601	576	592	607	616

Parents

Parent Opinion Survey results

Parents at Creek Street Christian College showed an overall mean satisfaction level of 77% (mean of key areas).

The highest rated items were for:

- This school is clearly identified as a Christian school (92%);
- This school is kept clean and tidy (89%);
- The staff who work in the front office are friendly and helpful towards parents (88%); and
- The School's Christian ethos adds to the distinctive nature of the education it provides (85%).

The lowest rated items were for:

- This school offers opportunities for me to become involved in the decision-making process (57%);
- This school offers me opportunities to get involved in my child's education (62%);
- Teachers communicate with me regularly about my child's progress (68%); and
- Bullying is dealt with in an effective manner (71%).

The College Leadership Team took the feedback on board and devised an action plan to address parent concerns.

Finances

