Accountability Report
2016
INTRODUCTION

Accountability Requirements

The 2016 Annual Report to the St George College Community is in accordance with the guidelines for annual reporting to the school community.

It is anticipated that the distribution of this report will promote further understanding of our commitment to providing an excellent education for all students within a caring, safe, and innovative learning environment.

This report is an accurate reflection of the College’s progress and achievements during 2016 and we therefore commend it to the College community.

Mr. Bill Gonis
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Established in 1983, St George College is an independent, co-educational, Christian College that provides education from Play Group to Year 12.

The College operates under the auspices of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia and overall responsibility for the College rests with the Greek Orthodox Community and Parish of St George Thebarton and Western Suburbs Inc. in Adelaide, South Australia.

Two campuses encompass all the required facilities for effective curriculum delivery appropriate to the teaching and learning needs and interests of students who are being prepared for further study and/or the world of work in ways that are appropriate to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. As a result of the staff:student restructure at the end of 2015, the two campuses were realigned to deliver quality teaching and learning and a new wellbeing system for St George College.

St George College has two campuses, both located in Rose Street, Mile End. The purpose built Junior Campus houses the Play Group to Year 4 classes and the Senior Campus accommodates Years 5 to 12.

The newly appointed Deputy Principal, Mr Peter Karamoshos, commenced on the 11 January 2016. His key role is to deputise for the Principal and to lead and manage the Senior Campus as Head of Senior Campus Years 5 to 12, located at 73 Rose Street, Mile End. This replaced the previous model of having a Head of Senior School position.

From the 11 January 2016, the restructure removed the need for a Head of Junior School position. A new position titled Assistant Principal and Head of Junior Campus was created and Ms Stephanie Kosmetos agreed to the contractual arrangements.

The College was established to:

1. Ensure the effective teaching and learning of Orthodoxy and that of the Modern Greek language.
2. Provide excellence in education through high quality teaching and learning programs that are underpinned by values, beliefs and practices that are derived from Orthodoxy.

Parents have a real choice in the education of their children as the College reflects their spiritual, cultural, linguistic and educational values.

St George College provides a rigorous, future orientated and challenging curriculum across all the Key Learning Areas.

The principles of multiculturalism are embedded within the educational philosophy and the curriculum provision of the College. Students are encouraged to explore and experience the cultures of the various groups comprising Australian society, with a view to acquiring
different ways of viewing the world, different ways of knowing, as well as nurturing an understanding of and respect for diverse cultures.

The curriculum is extensive, covering all the educational requirements for the 21st Century with cultural events and activities forming a focus in the recognition, affirmation and development of linguistic and cultural heritage.

As indicated above, the College introduced a new Senior leadership structure in 2016. A new middle management structure was introduced for the first time at St George College. A vibrant Head of House and Wellbeing system was developed. A Director of Wellbeing, together with four Heads of House, designed and administered a new Pastoral Care program from Years 5 to 12. The Assistant Principal and Head of Junior Campus administered the Wellbeing programs for students from Playgroup to Year 4. A new Director of Daily Activities position was created to manage staff absences across the whole school, that is both campuses. Two faculty leadership positions were created to help implement the Australian curriculum requirements. One of the leadership positions was in Mathematics and one of the leadership positions in Science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). In addition, the College appointed a Head of Co-Curricular to grow the sporting and public speaking opportunities for St George College across both campuses.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) provides the broad framework for teaching and learning and the College is actively engaged in delivery of the approved national curriculum subjects. Extensive work was undertaken by the Senior Leadership team to develop quality Learning Assessment Plans (LAPs) and review the whole school Assessment and Reporting practices.

**Our Vision Statement**

“A premier College that inspires learning for personal and academic success”

**Our Mission Statement**

“Our mission is to provide quality education which meets the needs and aspirations of individual students, educates the whole person and prepares students to effectively and successfully meet the challenges of the 21st century”.
Aspirations

Graduates of St George College will exemplify:

1) knowledge about the Orthodox faith and its relevance and importance in their daily lives
2) attributes derived from a comprehensive curriculum that has provided quality learning outcomes covering academic, spiritual, moral, cultural, physical and social development
3) personal integrity, self-confidence and care and compassion for others
4) effective communication and quality interpersonal relationship skills
5) a sense of identity and pride in their cultural and linguistic heritage
6) a sense of social responsibility and social justice
7) the ability to deal with change in all its dimensions
8) the benefits derived from experiencing congruence between the values of the home and the College
9) leadership qualities and team-work skills
10) creativity, problem solving, thinking skills
11) literacy and numeracy skills in English

The 2016 academic school year closes with some significant achievements and milestones.

2016 MILESTONES

- Stage 2 ATAR scores and subject results
- International Attainment in Greek Language Proficiency Awards
- NAPLAN Results
- International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) results
- Grip Leadership Conference
- Co-curricular programs (after extensive negotiations, St George College is delighted to be rejoining the Sports Association for Adelaide Schools)
- Instrumental Music program
- Life Education
- As a result of the new wellbeing programs and Head of House system, the student leadership structure was reviewed. Student Leaders from Years 4 to 10 were elected to the positions of Student Representative Council (SRC). Years 11 and 12 voted two Prefects per class. The Year 12 Prefects voted in the College Captain and College Vice-Captain.
- Participation in the National Greek Schools Sporting Program in Perth, May 2016
Dear Parents, staff and students

Congratulations to the class of 2016. I am pleased to inform you that once again our students have achieved excellent results. Our students can be justifiably proud as can their teachers.

I wish to congratulate Subin Park, who achieved Dux of the College. She was followed closely by Zacharoula Ktisti as Proxime Accessit.

In addition, congratulations to the following high achieving students for their hard work and results: Victoria Papanikolaou, Athanasia Angelo, Vasiliki Siapantas, Amanda Piliouras, Constantinos Logothetis and Evena Vlahos.

Subin Park
Dux of the College

Zacharoula Ktisti
Proxime Accessit

Victoria Papanikolaou

Athenasia Angelo

Vasiliki Siapantis

Constantinos Logothetis

Evena Vlahos

Congratulations also to the following students for being awarded the top result in each of the SACE subjects offered by the College:

Subin Park
Biology

Victoria Papanikolaou
English as a Second Language

Zacharoula Ktisti
Mathematical Studies Specialist Mathematics (Merit)

Farzana Ahmadi
English Communications
VET PATHWAYS

Vocational Education in Schools (VETiS) enables students to gain valuable employment skills and knowledge and make relevant connections into their chosen industry while completing their SACE.

The SACE enables students to include a significant amount of VET in their SACE studies. Students can gain recognition for up to 150 SACE credits at Stage 1 and/or Stage 2 for successfully completed VET. All VETiS qualifications are nationally accredited and go towards the SACE, recognised Certificate III levels may contribute to the calculation to the ATAR. These VET certificate courses support students to complete their SACE through VET.

The College continues to be a member of the “Western Adelaide Trade Schools for the Future” VET Pathways program. We continue to offer students in the region the “Certificate II in Kitchen Operations” (National Code SIT20312) in partnership with CEG – Training Partnerships (National Code 40138).

Two Year 11 students from St George College undertook this in 2016.
## 2016 NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)

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CURRICULUM

The staff worked on the Australian Curriculum requirements.

St George College was fortunate to be one of the first schools in South Australia to undertake the SACE assessment modules Assessment for Educators.

This Professional Development which was compulsory for all staff to undertake prepared St George College to deliver the Australian Curriculum to the highest standard. The College invested substantial financial resources to run this program for the benefit of teaching and learning and Curriculum development. Through Campus meetings, the Moderation Assessment requirements studied in this Professional Development were embraced by classroom and subject teachers.

The Deputy Principal led the newly introduced whole school staff meetings each fortnight to develop a framework for Academic Excellence at St George College. This framework is titled “The Road to Academic Excellence”.

A rich and effective classroom experience at St George College includes pedagogy where students learn by doing; learning is explicit, sequential and structured; a variety of teaching approaches are used to support numeracy and literacy; analysis, critical thinking, evaluating, creating and problem solving tasks feature; students being engaged in their learning; differentiation which is inclusive and supportive is embraced.

Learning Spaces were extensively upgraded on the Senior Campus. Learning Spaces offered flexibility to cater for a variety of learning activities; resources being available and accessible, especially with the new IT infrastructure investment; visual aids being used to enhance learning; appropriate use of technology to support learning; opportunities for students to be active; students better managed to maximise individual learning.

Subject content which is clear and well sequenced, drawn from the current Australian Curriculum; content catering for high achieving and struggling students; explicit, challenging and achievable goals for students; planning which is framed around the Australian Curriculum achievement standards; relevant material which is connected to prior knowledge; connecting knowledge to the real world.

Feedback and assessment following the Australian Curriculum requires regular formal and informal feedback which is constructive and unbiased; clearly presented assessment rubrics using the achievement standards; students being able to assess their own work; clear reporting of academic progress to students and parents; assessment data being used for intervention and to modify practice.

Finally, the overall climate we endeavour to create at St George College includes a safe, trusting, respectful and supportive environment; high expectations at all times; positive relationships between students and staff; staff knowing their students; orderly conditions which ensures students remain on task; the teacher being active in the classroom; understanding and respecting cultural differences.
ADMINISTRATION

- Appointment of a new acting Business Services Manager (May 2015)
- Appointment of a new Deputy Principal/Head of Senior Campus, Mr Peter Karamoshos
- Appointment of Assistant Principal, Ms Stephanie Kosmetos, Head of Junior Campus
- The Principal’s Personal Assistant took over the management of all Enrolments into the College, with her new role as Principal’s Personal Assistant/Registrar.

ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

With the passage of the Schools Assistance (Learning Together – Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Act 2004, and the related Schools Assistance Regulations 2005, the Australian Government introduced a number of new commitments and educational requirements which all schools are required to meet in order to receive funding.

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT MEASURES

1. Staff Attendance

   Teacher staff attendance for the 2016 academic school year was similar to the 2015 academic school year.

2. Staff Restructure Phase 2

   The first key task for the new Principal was to correct and realign staff:student ratios, following the legislative requirements of the Enterprise Agreement. Given the cost for redundancies, this was finalised in October 2016. The College staffing ratios are now aligned with the Somerset benchmarks recommended by AISSA (The Association of Independent Schools of SA).

3. Teacher Qualifications

   All teachers of the College hold appropriate qualifications and meet the stringent requirements of the Teachers’ Registration Board.
4. Expenditure and Teacher participation in Professional Learning

St George College was fortunate to be one of the first schools in South Australia to undertake the SACE assessment modules Assessment for Educators. The 5th and final unit of this subject was delivered by the South Australian Certificate of Education professional development arm in Term 1, 2016.

This Professional Development which was compulsory for all staff to undertake prepared St George College to deliver the Australian Curriculum to the highest standard. The College invested substantial financial resources to run this program for the benefit of teaching and learning and Curriculum development.

Five staff were supported to undertake Janet Farrell’s Creative and Critical Thinking 5 session workshops throughout the year – run at AISSA.

The Principal, Deputy Principal and Assistant Principal undertook the basic and advanced “School Improvement by using Data Analysis” workshops run at AISSA.

The Principal and Deputy Principal attended the John Hattie “Visible Learning” workshop held at the Festival Theatre in Adelaide.

The Principal attended the ACEL (Australian Council of Educational Leaders) Annual Conference in Melbourne.

The whole school Professional Development was delivered by the new Leadership team who worked closely with Julie Tarzia, our Senior Consultant from AISSA.

SATISFACTION

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

St George College is characterised by parents and students as a friendly and safe school where each student is encouraged to reach her/his potential.

The College receives numerous letters and emails from parents commenting positively on:

1) Learning environment
2) Values & Culture
3) Leadership and direction
4) Learning and extension activities
5) Student transition
6) Appropriateness of Homework
7) Capital Works Programmes
8) Trade Training Centre in Hospitality
9) Quality Teachers