



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn  
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

# ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

Tuggeranong, ACT

## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



## SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

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This report was prepared by:

Michael Lee

PRINCIPAL

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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### Principal's Message

Welcome to St Mary MacKillop College's Annual Report for 2011. The College is Canberra's largest school, commencing this year with about 1720 students. The College is Catholic in the tradition of the Sisters of St Joseph and has their co-founder St Mary of the Cross MacKillop as our patron. MacKillop is inclusive of many faith traditions, students of all abilities with about forty different primary schools represented in each Year 7 cohort.

The College promotes the Gospel values of Faith, Hope and Love, draws heavily on the example of Mary MacKillop to lead us to Christ, adheres to Restorative Justice principles of Pastoral Care, cultivates an environment that includes academic achievement, safety and where respect for differences and self can flourish.

This year has been one of considerable achievement for the college community. The highlights which include:

- The near completion of new staff facilities on the Wanniasa Campus
- The completion of the Joanna and Robert Barr Smith Library on the Wanniasa Campus
- The commencement of the Science facilities on the junior campus
- Considerable achievement of students in national competitions
- Moving ANZAC and Remembrance Day observances
- The appointment of some excellent new teachers
- The welcoming of the Australian Catholic University Graduate Diploma of Education Program at the senior campus.
- The completion of the St Joseph the Worker campus of the Canberra Trade Training Centre
- Extensive and highly favourable publicity surrounding the election of one of our Muslim students to the position of College Captain

2011 has been a successful year for the College in so many ways.

I hope this Report illuminates the strengths, achievements, challenges and future direction of St Mary MacKillop College. Thank you for your interest in us.

### Student Representative's Message

The student leadership of the College has had a busy year. We have been encouraged to play key roles in the promotion of our school in the general community, the strengthening of our relationships with Catholic primary schools who are our neighbours, particularly in the areas of academic enrichment, sport and the performing arts, continuing to build the bridge between our two campuses and continuing to develop our social justice mission.

Highlights of the year were the success of House Charities which raised very large amounts of money, the community focus of MacKillop Day, a leadership weekend in Melbourne when we visited the MacKillop Information Centre in East Melbourne, spent the day at Mount St Joseph's College, Altona, celebrated Mass at St Francis, Lonsdale Street, attended an AFL match and had a leadership dinner in Carlton.

We have been really encouraged to be involved in a variety of decision making forums with the senior staff of the school which has given us insights into the administration of our school.

Our expression of leadership has been instinctive, positive and enjoyable. We felt we did our bit to move the College forward.

## SCHOOL FEATURES

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St Mary MacKillop College is a Catholic Secondary College located in the Tuggeranong Valley. The school caters for students in Years 7-12, and has a current enrolment of 1720 students.

The trend in enrolments at MacKillop has been positive in all areas, particularly in the increased number of Catholic families choosing MacKillop, wide interest in Year 7 and significant increases in our student retention rates from Year 10 to Year 11.

Our enrolment is 55% female, with a small but increasing number of indigenous students coming to MacKillop. There are a few students for whom English is a second language.

The school employs 172 staff comprising 122 teachers and 50 non-teaching staff.

The College provides an extensive range of school and extracurricular activities which engage almost all students. It also has developed successful partnerships with ACT Fencing, Calwell Swans/Eastlakes ACT AFL Club and other agencies.

This year the College commenced its partnership with the Australian Catholic University whereby ACU's secondary Dip Ed program was relocated to our senior campus and fully integrated into the educational and pastoral life of that campus – a unique and highly successful initiative in teacher education!

The school's website can be found at [www.mackillop.act.edu.au](http://www.mackillop.act.edu.au)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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St Mary MacKillop College belongs to the Archdiocesan education system and follows the Religious Education program Treasures New and Old developed and prescribed by the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

The College fosters prayerfulness within its community, strongly promotes the principles of social justice in the educational and curricular school programs, works closely with parish primary schools and our Early Childhood Centre and warmly welcomes people of other faith traditions to fully integrate into the faith life of the College.

This year the College attracted wide and largely favourable publicity with the election of a Muslim boy as College Captain for 2011; a warm and welcome event in Catholic education in Australia.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - NAPLAN

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Students in Years 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

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	540	529	538	533	545
School	551	542	537	543	535

<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	568	582	573	584
<b>School</b>	580	566	574	574	569

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

<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%	91%	93%	93%	94%
<b>School</b>	99%	97%	97%	98%	98%

<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%	85%	91%	90%	93%
<b>School</b>	95%	85%	94%	93%	97%

#### Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

<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>	6%	10%	5%	7%	7%
<b>Band 8</b>	25%	22%	22%	21%	13%
<b>Band 7</b>	31%	26%	27%	28%	31%
<b>Band 6</b>	27%	22%	28%	33%	29%
<b>Band 5</b>	9%	17%	14%	9%	18%
<b>Band 4</b>	1%	3%	4%	2%	2%

<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>	6%	8%	3%	5%	2%
<b>Band 9</b>	13%	12%	15%	11%	12%
<b>Band 8</b>	31%	25%	29%	32%	25%
<b>Band 7</b>	27%	23%	31%	31%	34%
<b>Band 6</b>	19%	17%	16%	14%	23%
<b>Band 5</b>	5%	15%	6%	7%	3%

St Mary MacKillop College students compare favourably to the National mean scale scores in most areas of NAPLAN in Years 7 and 9.

MacKillop students performed in the upper achievement bands in Year 7 and 9, especially in the area of writing. Our goal for 2012 is to move students from Band 8 to 9 for Year 7 and from Band 9 to 10 in Year 9.

The proportion of MacKillop students at or above the National minimum standard is above in all areas of NAPLAN. In 2012 the College focus will be improving Numeracy standards across the College.

## **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>

The College strictly adheres to this policy. As 325 places were available to students seeking secondary enrolment into Year 7, a significant number of places for Category Ten students (as defined in the CEO Enrolment Policy) are available. St Mary MacKillop warmly welcomes families of all faith traditions into our community.

### **Behaviour**

The College is committed to the provision of an environment where students feel safe and happy and where relationships between the staff and students are respectful and productive.

The College provides clear recommendation of its policies, a working relationship with families and caregivers and the integration of counselling as ways of helping to ensure the College is a place of support for students.

The College outlines its behaviour management code in its Quality Conduct Policy which is available from the College upon request.

Corporal punishment is expressly prohibited in this school. In addition we do not sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons to enforce discipline at our school.

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

This policy is based upon the principles of procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive environment. A full text of the policy is available from the College Office.

## **PRIORITIES AND TARGETS**

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The College priorities and targets for 2012 are outlined in its Management Plan for 2012.

These are:

- 1 Continual development of the Catholic Vision and Josephite charism of the College. This was achieved by:

- The integration of the Director of Mission into the life of the College.
  - A review of the Social Justice student fundraising.
  - Student Leadership programs.
  - College Masses and Liturgies.
  - Involvement of Archdiocesan initiatives.
- 2 The Building/Refurbishment Program
- The completion of the St Joseph the Worker Campus of the Canberra Regional Trade Training Centre
  - The completion of the Robert and Joanna Barr Smith Library on the Wanniasa Campus.
  - The completion of the Student Services Centre at the Wanniasa Campus.
  - The commencement of the new staff facility and Chapel of St Anthony of Padua Chapel which will be dedicated to the life's work and memory of Foundation Principal Mr Paul Butts.
- 3 Improvements in Literacy and Numeracy. This will be achieved by:
- Implementation of tactical teaching initiatives.
  - Formation of a literacy team.
  - Staff mentoring and idea sharing.
  - Systematic analysis of NAPLAN results in literacy and numeracy.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT – Year 10 and Year 12 Certification

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### Year 10 Certificate:

The total number of students enrolled in Year 10 at St Mary MacKillop College was 306. All students studying at the Year 10 level received a Year 10 Certificate.

### Year 12 Certificate:

The total number of students enrolled in Year 12 was 200. All students met the requirements to receive a Year 12 Certificate. All students who received a Year 12 Certificate completed a Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) accredited course in English and Mathematics.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

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### Professional Learning

All teachers have been involved in professional development activities during the year. These activities are designed to develop the skills and understanding of staff to improve student outcomes. Professional development takes many forms including whole staff days, subject specific in-services, meetings and conferences.

The College held five whole staff professional learning days in 2011. The content of these days was as follows: all staff attended the CEO system day relating to the implementation of the Australian Curriculum and MacKillop organised and ran two days around course writing for Australian

Curriculum Phase 1 courses. All staff attended twilight professional learning sessions to undertake training in Tactical Teaching Books 1, 2 and 3. All staff updated their CPR qualifications and staff who needed to update their first aid completed training with a private provider. Each year the College holds a Staff Conference. This year the theme of the conference was “The MacKillop Journey – we are but travellers here”.

### **Teacher Qualifications**

All of the 124 teachers at St Mary MacKillop College are qualified as required by the relevant Territory authorities.

## **TEACHER ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION**

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At St Mary MacKillop College the average number of days that teachers were in attendance was 197 days out of a total of 204 days.

The teacher retention rate from 2010 to 2011 was 81%. Of the staff not retained, a number moved interstate, some moved to other systemic schools and into promotional positions whilst others moved to positions within the government sector. One staff member retired from the teaching profession.

## **STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

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The average student attendance for the school during the survey period in 2011 was 94.84%. School attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group

Year 7	95.4%
Year 8	94.6%
Year 9	94.1%
Year 10	95.3%
Year 11	94.6%
Year 12	95%

### **Student Retention**

Of the 2010 Year 10 cohort, 74% of students continued on to Year 12 2012. There has been a gradual increase in the number of Year 10 students remaining at the College. This has been in part to the reputation of the College within the local community as well as improving academic results and more targeted course counselling.

### **Post School Destinations**

Each year the school collects destination data relating to the Year 12 student cohort. When students were surveyed during the year: 60% of students wanted to attend university to complete further study; 10% of students wanted to complete further study at CIT; 20% of students wanted to enter the workforce; 6% were undertaking apprenticeships and 4% of students were unsure.



## PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

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### Parent Satisfaction:

Parent satisfaction with St Mary MacKillop College has generally been high again this year. Parent attendances at Information Evenings, College Masses and liturgies and other school events has been very high. The College Board, a key means of gauging parent concerns and satisfaction, has expressed considerable satisfaction with the strategic direction of the school, levels of student achievement and the College's energy towards ensuring student satisfaction and well-being.

### Student Satisfaction:

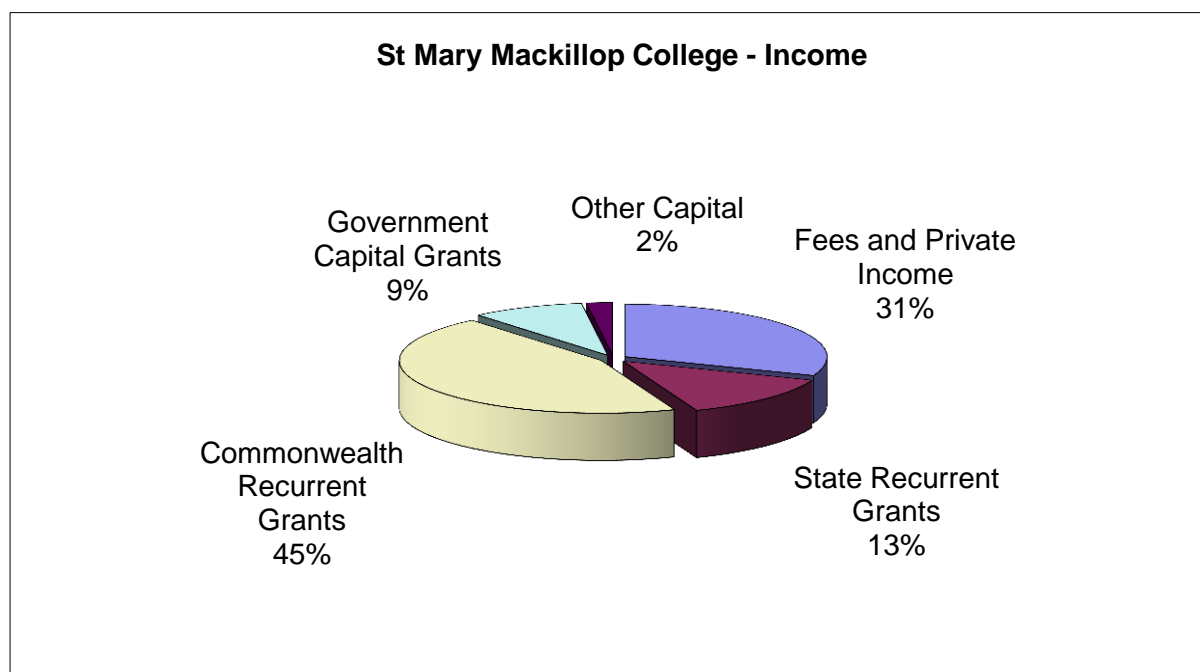
2011 witnessed very high levels of student participation in Carnivals, College sport and co-curricular programs, Masses and liturgies, and other College events. Student involvement in leadership, the Student Representative Council and primary school forums registered record levels. In particular student leadership in the areas of house activities, social justice and fund raising was very strong - all indicators of high student engagement and morale.

### Staff satisfaction:

Staff members have generally expressed strong support for the strategic direction of the school, its vision and mission, the high level of activity surrounding refurbishment of teaching areas at the Wanniasa Campus and the continued improvements around student behaviour and attitude.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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### St Mary MacKillop College - Expenditure

