



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn  
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

# ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

Tuggeranong, ACT

2013 Annual Report



## SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

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This report was prepared by:

Mr Michael Lee

PRINCIPAL

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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### **Principal's Message**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the College's Annual Report for 2013. This Report will inform you about the profile of the staff, the achievements of the students and the progress of MacKillop over the past twelve months. In a splendid year for the College we began to enjoy extensively refurbished facilities, increased student achievement in all aspects of school life, growth in numbers, reduction of debt and the recruitment of outstanding teachers and support staff. In 2013 MacKillop continues to do its best to meet the challenge of a welcoming, inclusive Catholic community embracing the opportunities of the 21st century.

### **School Board Message**

The St Mary MacKillop College Board is an advisory body to the College Principal. Its membership is: parent, teacher and executive teacher representatives.

Two Sub-committees of the Board, the Finance and Works Sub-committees meet to consider and make representations to the full Board on financial, capital works and maintenance issues

The Board is pleased with the continued progress of the College in the areas of student academic achievement, the dedication of staff to on-going curriculum development and implementation and the continued improvements to student and staff amenities while at the same time maintaining a low fee structure.

### **Student Representative's Message**

2013 was a great year for the students at MacKillop. So many of us were involved in fundraising with other Catholic schools in Canberra, and through our House charities and MacKillop Day. This year student leaders were invited to attend the College Board meetings and the student leaders had a trip to Melbourne to visit the MacKillop Centre in Albert Street, visit the student leaders at the Academy of Mary Immaculate in Fitzroy and attend the Dawn Service at the St Kilda Road Shrine. The emergence of the Recorder Group during the year will hopefully become a legacy of Year 12 2013.

Morgan Rosin, Nathan Backer

## 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 1,772 students.

Students attending this College come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities consisting of 48% male and 52% female students; 42 indigenous students; and 124 with a Language Background other than English (LBOTE).

The school employs 170 staff comprising 122 teachers and 48 non-teaching staff, the latter being employed in a variety of capacities including Learning Support, Clerical Support and Maintenance.

MacKillop has an ethos and vision strongly influenced by the legacy of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tennison Woods. Key features of this vision are a school welcoming of all, a strong focus on Social Justice, an emphasis on indigeneity and ecology in and beyond the curriculum and a Quality Conduct Policy that emphasise personal responsibility and restorative practices.

Over forty sports are played by MacKillop students with a huge following for Netball, Basketball, AFL, Cricket and football, as well as fencing, water polo, swimming, mountain bike riding and athletics. The College Musical this year was 'Mulan' and Variety Night included a wide range of items including illusion, recitation, band, comedy, juggling, song and dance. 2013 saw the birth of the MacKillop Recorder Group who have won a wide following. Chess is our biggest co-curricular activity and Andrew Barclay was again the College Chess Champion for 2013. The College Debaters were strong again this year.

A particularly proud moment was the selection of Oscar Mortlock (Year 12) as a “Summer Scholar” at the National Gallery of Australia – a national program for Young Australian Artists.

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 follows the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum, *Treasures New and Old*.

Religious Education is required of all students to Year 10 and to at least a minor towards the Year 12 ACT Certificate, about 70% of students choose to study a Major in RE and it is almost always among their best subject – it is very well taught at MacKillop.

The faith life at MacKillop is central to the College. Our two chapels are located in the heart of each campus and Mass is celebrated at least once a week. Symbols of the Catholic faith are omnipresent around the College and community prayer and illumination of scriptures are deeply valued. College Masses and liturgies are conducted with dignity and all members of our community are invited to attend and participate.

Our senior students are heavily engaged in the faith formation of students in our Parish primary schools, playing a significant role in their sacramental programs and reflection days.

The Year 12 Retreat is a much loved highlight of the Calendar.

## 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

<b>YEAR 7</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>National</b>	540	517	549	535	542
<b>School</b>	546	523	546	530	530

<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	554	583	573	584
<b>School</b>	588	581	587	583	578

### 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>	94%	89%	94%	91%	95%
<b>School</b>	97%	94%	96%	92%	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>	93%	83%	92%	88%	91%
<b>School</b>	99%	93%	97%	93%	95%

### 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>	10%	6%	7%	8%	5%
<b>Band 8</b>	21%	15%	18%	17%	12%
<b>Band 7</b>	25%	25%	34%	28%	32%
<b>Band 6</b>	26%	30%	27%	23%	33%
<b>Band 5</b>	15%	19%	9%	17%	16%
<b>Band 4</b>	3%	6%	4%	8%	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>	2%	9%	5%	6%	6%
<b>Band 9</b>	18%	15%	15%	14%	12%

<b>Band 8</b>	32%	27%	30%	27%	25%
<b>Band 7</b>	34%	25%	33%	31%	37%
<b>Band 6</b>	13%	17%	14%	15%	15%
<b>Band 5</b>	1%	7%	3%	7%	5%

The above tables show that strategies in place in the College to support students in the lowest achievement bands are effective in meeting their needs, while numeracy practices will benefit from the introduction of a Numeracy Coordinator in 2014 to lead teachers in developing excellent classroom practices, embedding numeracy skills in Maths classes and across the curriculum. Reading and writing continue to be areas of strength for the College, supported by Tactical Teaching Reading and collaborative teaching of writing skills through the English faculty.

## 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>

### **Attendance Policy**

Under the Education Act 2004 St Mary MacKillop College is required to maintain accurate records of: the full name and address of each student enrolled at the school, the attendance or non-attendance of each student enrolled at the school on each day when the school is open or the course of study is available. Where the prescribed hours of attendance are changed, either temporarily or on an ongoing basis, parents will be notified in writing. Under the ACT Education Act 2004 all students are required to remain at school until the age of 17 or until they gain their Year 12 Certificate, whichever comes first. Year 10 students who wish to pursue work beyond the receipt of their Year 10 Certificate may do so by applying for an Approval Statement or Exemption Certificate through the ACT Education and Training Directorate.

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and community events and are encouraged to participate in co-curricular events. Under the ACT Education Act 2004 it is a requirement that any student who is absent for 25 days or more must apply for an Exemption Certificate through the ACT Education and Training Directorate. This includes leave due to travel, student exchange, part time employment, part time training, and health issues.

### **Quality Conduct Policy**

St Mary MacKillop College uses a process of restorative practices when working with students.

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 and based around restorative principles.

The College provides clear articulation 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 a copy of which is available on the College website.

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.

The full text of the school's Quality Conduct Policy is available on the school website or from the Front Office.

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

The school policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly and confidentiality is always maintained. A full text of the school policy is available on the school website or from the Front Office.

## **PRIORITIES AND TARGETS**

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2013 saw the continued emphasis on developing literacy and numeracy skills for all students, but with a focus on Years 7 - 9 using agreed whole school practices. These include Quality Teaching Framework, Tactical Teaching Reading, and the development of a Curriculum model which outlines the relationships between school improvement, and accountability and compliance measures. There have been developments in the use of data to drive decision making in the school. Following the Registration in 2012, there were faculty reviews of Inclusive Education and Physical Education from which action plans for future development were created. Teacher certification and registration policies were brought in line with Teacher Quality Institute, particularly in the areas of teacher mentoring, continuing learning and professional conversations. Finally, the implementation of the Australian Curriculum, including English, History, Science, Maths and Geography has been completed, including the mapping of the General Capabilities and the Cross Curriculum Priorities, and planning is underway for the development of Senior Courses in English and Science for implementation in 2014.

## **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT CREDENTIALING**

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### **Year 10**

The total number of students enrolled in Year 10 at St Mary MacKillop College was 325. All students studying at the Year 10 level received a Year 10 certificate.

### **Year 12**

The total number of students enrolled in Year 12 was 226. All students met the requirements to receive a Year 12 Certificate.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

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### Professional Learning

All teachers have been involved in professional learning during the year. These activities are designed to develop the skills and understandings of staff to improve student outcomes. Professional learning can take many forms including whole staff days, subject specific inservices, meetings and conferences.

The school held five whole staff days in 2013. The content of these days was as follows:

Term 1: 2 days focused on the implementation of the Australian Curriculum, TQI and Numeracy, as well as First Aid

Term 2: 1 day focused on staff wellbeing and coaching

Term 3: 1 day focused on Australian Curriculum: Cross Curriculum Perspectives (as a series of Twilight Professional Learning sessions)

Term 4: 1 day focused on Shared Pedagogy, Best Practice and Using Data

### Teacher Qualifications

All 128 teachers at St Mary MacKillop College are qualified as required by the relevant State and Territory bodies. Two teachers gained Highly Accomplished accreditation.

## TEACHER ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION

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The average teacher attendance rate during 2013 was 96.5%.

The teacher retention rate from 2012 to 2013 was 87.6%.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

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The average student attendance for the school during 2013 was 90.96%.

School attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

**Attendance rates by Year group**

Year 7	92.15%
Year 8	90.25%
Year 9	89.97%
Year 10	88.58%
Year 11	94.04%
Year 12	90.81%

### Senior Secondary Outcomes

90 students in Year 12 received a VET certificate, 179 a statement of attainment and 11 students completed an Australian School Based Apprenticeship.

### Student Pathways and Post-School Destinations

Each year the college collects destination data relating to the Year 10 and Year 12 student cohorts.



Year 10 cohort: Of 325 students in the Year 10 cohort, 32 left for a Government College, 3 left for an Interstate school and 12 left for an unknown destination.

Year 12 cohort: When surveyed, approximately 60% of students plan to go to University or complete further study, 18% intend to enter the workforce, 10% wish to study at CIT and about 12% wish to take up an apprenticeship.

## PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

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The opinions of parents, students and teachers are sought throughout the year in formal and informal ways, covering a range of aspects including school improvement. As in previous years, parent and guardian satisfaction at St Mary MacKillop has been high. Parents and guardians attend information evenings and parent teacher nights, seeking a detailed engagement with the academic processes of the school. Families are also conspicuous in their attendance at College masses and liturgies, assemblies and other college events. The College Board remains an authentic and important way in which parents can raise their concerns and their satisfaction with the school, continues to express support for the strategic direction of the College, as well as being pleased with the continued improvements being made in student outcomes, especially at certification points. Parents are also supportive of the pastoral support students receive, focused as it is on age appropriate education for personal; development and a strong emphasis on supporting the individual where needed. Students, too, have expressed their acknowledgement of the importance of the pastoral support they receive, particularly at points of transition.

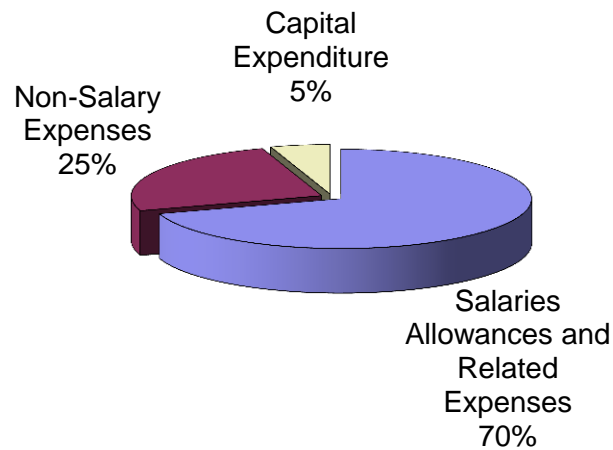
Student participation in Carnivals, College sports and co-curricular programmes, Masses and liturgies, and other College events continues at high levels. Our students continue to look for ways in which they can develop and provide leadership to their fellow students, and through such bodies as the Student Representative Council and primary school forums they are finding ways to demonstrate their commitment to improving their College. Student leaders are also instrumental in leading House activities, especially those focused on Social Justice, an area where the entire student body places an emphasis.

Staff members continue to express high levels of support for the strategic direction of the school and its vision and mission. In particular, they support the inclusive and welcoming nature of the school, and the importance of new staff, including early career teachers, in the renewal of the school. The changes that have occurred in the architecture of the school are welcomed as they offer opportunities for the development of better outcomes for students through 21st Century pedagogies. Staff understand that the maintenance of the strong connection between our support staff and our teachers is important for the benefit of our students, and professional learning, which has always been of significance in the school continues to be a key link between the vision of the school and the outcomes of our students.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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### St Mary Mackillop College - Expenditure



### St Mary Mackillop College - Income

