



Galen Catholic College Wangaratta

2022 Annual Report to the School Community



Registered School Number: 1744

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Minimum Standards Attestation

I, Darren Hovey, attest that Galen Catholic College is compliant with:

- All of the requirements for the minimum standards and other requirements for the registration of schools as specified in *the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic)* and the *Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic)*, except where the school has been granted an exemption from any of these requirements by the VRQA
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2022 school year under the *Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth)* and the *Australian Education Regulations 2013 (Cth)*
- The Child Safe Standards as prescribed in both Ministerial Orders in effect in 2022:
 - Ministerial Order No.870 - Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools, in Semester 1, 2022;
 - Ministerial Order No.1359 - Implementing the Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises, in Semester 2, 2022.

23/03/2023

NOTE: The School's financial performance information has been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at www.acnc.gov.au

Governing Authority Report

The 2022 Catholic Education Week theme “Tell the Good News” expresses both the joys and challenges of offering Catholic education across the Sandhurst diocese.

We continue to be committed to providing contemporary and innovative learning environments that value diversity, promote care, respect and co-operation. In 2022 our schools diligently responded to the transition back to continued face to face learning against the disruptive backdrop of the previous two years. This transition was exacerbated by staff and student absences due to COVID 19 quarantine requirements. However, school communities demonstrated outstanding resilience to find creative and sustainable pathways to ensure continuity of learning was maintained and the Good News continued to be heralded.

Our changed governance structure continues to mature, with both CES Ltd and SCECEC Ltd committed to ensuring the highest quality student outcomes in a safe and nurturing environment. A future focus that offers direction and solidarity will find expression in the development of a diocesan-wide Strategic Plan, 2023-2027.

Partnerships between schools and parishes remain a priority as parish priests continue their vital leadership role in support of the spiritual and pastoral needs of the school community. The sacramental life of both school and parish expresses and invites participation in the evangelizing mission that brings Good News to all.

Significant investment in new learning facilities and school infrastructure through the Catholic Capital Grants Program and the hard work of our school communities have ensured the provision of high-quality learning and teaching facilities for both staff and students.

The nation-wide shortage of teachers has had an impact on all schools, demanding new and innovative ways to attract and retain high quality and committed Catholic educators. Strategic initiatives will prioritize workforce placements that are sustainable and ongoing with particular attention given to our remote and smaller communities.

I continue to be extremely grateful for the commitment and professionalism that is clearly identified by the efforts throughout 2022 of personnel in our schools and in the Catholic Education Office. They continue to work tirelessly for the students and families, telling the Good News every day.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Desmond

Executive Director

Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd

Vision and Mission

Identity Statement

Galen Catholic College is a nurturing community, where Faith and Integrity are at the core of our aspirations.

Vision Statements

- Galen Catholic College strives to: Create a faith-centred and hope-filled community inspired by the teachings of Jesus;
- Provide quality education that challenges, supports and empowers students to explore and reach for their full potential;
- Foster an inclusive and safe environment;
- Build authentic partnerships between school, parents and carers and the wider community.

Graduate Outcomes

At Galen Catholic College, we are all called by Christ to be people of courage, faith and integrity.

We expect our graduates to:

- Be living witness of our Catholic story;
- Be self-aware, confident and compassionate;
- Take an active and positive place in the world;
- Have an enduring love of learning;
- Know that we are stewards of our world.

The Galen Catholic College theme for 2022 was 'Known and Loved As We Begin Anew'

Two meanings can be taken from the theme. Firstly that each individual can be optimistic and hopeful for the future despite the challenges that we face now and those we can see on the horizon. Secondly, we can ask: What role will 'faith' have in our future individually and collectively.

In 2022 the College's Annual Action Plan prioritised the following areas

- Our Faith, Our Story, Our Identity
- Our Learning
- Our Community
- Our Culture

College Overview

Galen Catholic College is a Catholic co-educational secondary school serving the families of Wangaratta and surrounding districts in the beautiful north-east of Victoria. In 2022 the College has a student enrolment of 1080. Galen Catholic College proudly provides a broadly-based curriculum, which is designed to assist the young people in our care to continue on their pathway to becoming the best they can be as God's children and achieving to the best of their ability.

This holistic approach to a Galen education demands that our students have access to multiple pathways, which are delivered by skilled educators who are dedicated to Christian approaches of care for the individual within a loving learning community. Especially important in this broad base of offerings at Galen are the programs offered by the Galen Learning Support Centre, designed specifically for students with additional needs. Importantly there are the many combinations for students as they undertake elective classes at Years 8, 9 and 10 leading into the many-faceted offerings within VCE, VCAL, School Based Apprenticeships and VET at Years 11 and 12.

Our college school wide positive behaviours framework, FIRST underpins our approach to pastoral practices and learning at Galen Catholic College. Faith, Integrity, Respect, Self and Team provide us the framework to engage in learning and social interactions across our whole community. We now have eight House communities which further complement FIRST.

Our Religious Education program operates across all year levels and is based around the Diocese of Sandhurst Religious Education curriculum, "Source of Life". As a part of the RE program there are retreats at each level. The RE program culminates in the senior Retreat and Human Journey program, the highlight of which is the deeply moving residential retreat experience at Year 12.

Along with a comprehensive range of subjects and programs at each year level, Galen Catholic College offers many supporting co-curricular programs. Our students have access to a wide range of representative sports, including athletics, swimming, football (Australian Rules), soccer, netball, cricket and tennis. The College has an extensive Outdoor Education program across all year levels, developing our students' skills of independence, teamwork and appreciation of the natural environment through hiking, camping, trekking, canoeing, caving, diving, rock climbing, etc.

Principal's Report

The 2022 school year provided myself with great joy as I completed my first year as Principal of Galen Catholic College. We were very fortunate to be one of the few schools in our region which did not enact school closure due to COVID 19 outbreaks. This is a great testament to the resilience of our staff and students, who engage in face to face learning post COVID 19 restrictions. Whilst we were once again reflexive, adaptive, agile and communicated well with our community, I thank our whole community for their support and understanding as we modified activities and events to remain open at all times.

Galen Catholic College continued to embed the new Homeroom system from a program where every child changes Homeroom Teacher at the end of every year to a system where the child has the same Homeroom Mentor throughout his/her time at Galen. This continued implementation included the further development of the vertical Homeroom structure, encompassing students from Years 7 – 12. To assist all leaders in maintaining our efforts to further develop these new changes we introduced the Combined Leaders Team where all leaders in our community came together twice a term for focus on the implementation of our House system, but also the delivery of our Annual Action Plan.

The creation of this team allowed us to review the old strategic plan, reflect on the impact COVID 19 had on our ability to complete strategic activities and then develop an annual action plan for 2022 that provided us with the opportunity to complete strategic actions that had been slowed down, re-imagine strategic opportunities and allocate responsibility across our teams to complete all strategic tasks for 2022.

Galen completed the school year by celebrating our senior students' graduation, as well as other year level events, under school operational guidelines. This provided our students, staff and families with the opportunity to celebrate the end of the year, for myself this was the first graduation I had attended since 2019.

Catholic Identity and Mission

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- The College theme for 2022 was "Known and Loved", chosen by our Year 12 students and student leaders.

Our theme for 2022 came from several sources initially, including the Diocesan theme of "Tell the Good News".

Our practice in recent years has been to work through a discernment process with our new, incoming student leaders to develop the theme for the coming year. This evolved from a method for creating a theme for the Year 12 Retreats which are held at the beginning of each year.

The students wanted to look forward with hope, renewed energy, and vitality and put the challenges of the pandemic behind them. The student leaders' recommendation to the College Leadership team for the theme stem was: "And we begin anew".

The artwork used to illustrate the theme was a painting by the Italian artist Marghurita Galluci of the painting, "Our Lady of Loreto with the Refugee's Cloak" from Marist Schools Australia. We used this painting to illustrate the theme for staff and students.

Gospel values nourish our faith woven through every dimension of life at Galen.

The school priorities for 2020-2022 are:

- Deepening our shared understanding of our Catholic faith and heritage
- Being living witnesses of our Catholic story
- Building a community of faith and integrity unified in our diversity

There was a Sandhurst Diocese review of the Source of Life Religious Education curriculum. We then audited and reviewed our course offerings and made some changes to align better with the new Source of Life Religious Education curriculum strands.

There has been a greater focus on Indigenous education, cultural awareness and culturally safe practices. The Catholic Identity Day in April illustrated this Indigenous education theme and environmental awareness inspired by the Church document "Laudato Si" in partnership with Borinya Wangaratta Community Partnership.

On Founders' Day, we celebrated our eight Houses and our school community, including our founding charisms of Marcellin Champagnat and the Brigidine Sisters. Formation of the House communities is focused on building a community culture in the respective Houses with three pillars faith, wellbeing and learning.

The aim is to engage students and staff in the identity and story of their House patron and lead them towards an encounter and relationship with Jesus Christ.

To have consistent images illustrating the eight House patrons, a local artist, and Galen Catholic College staff member designed and painted portraits recontextualized for students today. The portraits were revealed at the End of Year Mass with the Bishop. They are now exhibited in the Resource Centre.

Achievements

- complete portraits of eight House patrons
- Promote knowledge and connection with House patrons among staff and students through House meetings
- Deepen understanding of students' knowledge of House patrons through homeroom and Religious Education and events eg. Founders' Day and Catholic Identity Day
- Develop and promote the significant Aboriginal person and clan associated with each House
- Present a significant Aboriginal person for each House on Founders' Day
- Linking individual House patrons with FIRST
- Building on FIRST and House identity/knowledge

VALUE ADDED

Embedding the Catholic Identity Team as an essential strategic and operational group that continues to evolve with new staff bringing ideas and experience to their roles. The Team comprises the Religious Education Leaders (a shared role), Social Justice, Student Leadership, Music, Ministry and Faith Leadership class teachers.

The Youth Ministry classes have a new title of Faith Leadership, with improved student numbers.

Rewriting of Religious Education curriculum aligned with the Source Of Life Diocesan review.

Conducted a wine drive and fundraising for the new Timor-Leste Project for immersion in 2024, raising over \$4000.

Learning and Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes

The year began with great positivity. The opportunity for us all to return to school as we once knew it created an energy amongst both staff and students. We looked forward to the opportunities that had been denied us through the previous two years and looked to recapture previous momentum in the delivery of high-quality learning and teaching at Galen.

Our goals continued to include ensuring that our teaching and mentoring staff understood and were implementing our learning and teaching framework consistently in all classrooms across the school. The consistency of the approach embedded into the framework had the specific intention of allowing students comfort and confidence in the knowledge that we pursued an evidence-based approach to content delivery and assessment that gave students the best possible chance to advance their achievement levels.

Achievements

2022 became a year of consolidation. Relatively new leadership teams at the school embraced the chance to move beyond the 'forming' stage and genuinely progress their work in the support of learning and teaching. This looked like Learning Leadership teams establishing ways of working with students in the year levels that was supportive, timely and focused on the pursuit of learning. These 'school' based teams were extremely well-lead by the Junior and Senior School Leaders and each team became more important and active in assisting to create learning environments most conducive to learning.

Our Learning Area Leaders also worked extremely hard to ensure the provision of mapped curriculum in the subject areas. Their work in revising our learning programs, ensuring that we match the requirements of the curriculum with engaging learning and teaching strategies continued as did their work with their teams in developing quality assessment tasks supported by rubrics ensured that students were well-positioned to understand and offer their knowledge and skills in the ways that each assessment task demanded.

We continued to ask our Year 7 students to set academic goals across the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities with a view to ensuring that there was shared understanding of the aspirations of students and parents that could direct and inform the work of our teachers with each student in their class. This level of understanding of each student is vital to ensure that we stay true to our desire to cater for the individual learning needs of each student.

Data-literacy became a stronger focus and teachers invested time in analysing data taken from our commitment to PAT testing and, of course, our NAPLAN data, but we also spent some time in looking at a broader data storey that painted a very positive picture of the end results of our work with our students. Some good news stories were particularly evident in our VCE and VCAL results and achievement data trends that suggest that our focus on learning and teaching is paying dividends for our students over the duration of their time with us. Add to this the very positive social, spiritual and well-being outcomes attached to the achievement of our students, and we remain rightly proud of what our students achieve throughout their time at Galen.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**VCE/VET/VCAL**

- Dux for Galen Catholic College in 2022 achieved an ATAR of 96.5
- Six Galen students achieved ATARs of 90 or above whilst 25 Galen students achieved Study Scores over 40 in 14 individual subjects.
- 15 Galen students achieved ATARs of 80 or above.
- 23 Galen students achieved ATARs of 70 or above.

Galen Year 12 students once again achieved 96 percent success rate in attaining their VCAL certificates.

Galen VET students also performed impressively as part of their VCE and VCAL certificates, whilst 41 students in this pathway moved into employment or apprenticeships prior to completing their studies.

Galen Catholic College's NAPLAN trend data at Year 9 seems to be recovering post COVID. Reading, Writing and Numeracy have begun an upward trajectory in 2022, which is a positive sign that being back in the classroom more consistently is allowing our students to relearn some of the habits of classroom learning lost in their previous two years of schooling. Consideration of how we support students to improve spelling and grammar and punctuation need to be factored in to our future work.

The absence of 2020 data does not allow us to consider the 2022 Year 9 cohort growth between years 7 and 9.

MEDIAN NAPLAN RESULTS FOR YEAR 9

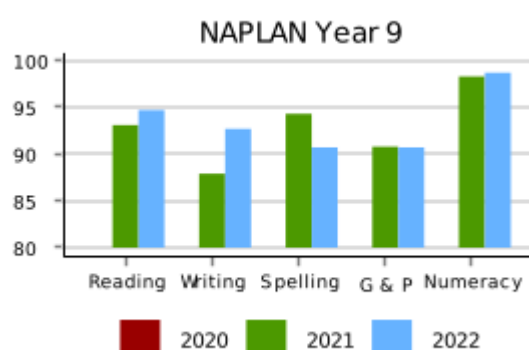
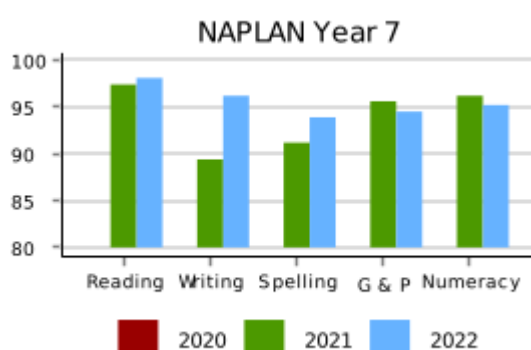
Year 9 Grammar & Punctuation	571.3
Year 9 Numeracy	582.3
Year 9 Reading	584.1
Year 9 Spelling	566.5
Year 9 Writing	572.9

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS MEETING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS					
NAPLAN TESTS	2020	2021	2020 – 2021 Changes	2022	2021 – 2022 Changes
	%			%	
	*		*		
YR 07 Grammar & Punctuation	-	95.6	-	94.5	-1.1
YR 07 Numeracy	-	96.2	-	95.2	-1.0
YR 07 Reading	-	97.4	-	98.1	0.7
YR 07 Spelling	-	91.2	-	93.9	2.7
YR 07 Writing	-	89.4	-	96.2	6.8
YR 09 Grammar & Punctuation	-	90.8	-	90.7	-0.1
YR 09 Numeracy	-	98.3	-	98.7	0.4
YR 09 Reading	-	93.1	-	94.7	1.6
YR 09 Spelling	-	94.3	-	90.7	-3.6
YR 09 Writing	-	87.9	-	92.7	4.8

* There are no NAPLAN results to report in 2020 as the Australian Government decided that due to the COVID-19 pandemic NAPLAN Assessments would not take place.

** Data cannot be reported for this year as the number of students that sat the test was below 5 and the data has been suppressed for privacy reasons in accordance with the ACARA NAPLAN data reporting provisions.

*** No students sat the NAPLAN tests in this year level and in one or both of the relevant years.



Student Wellbeing

Goals & Intended Outcomes

2022 was finally a year where we could return to the engagement, learning, routine and normality of school. We navigated two years of online learning and lockdown periods to come out the other side. Even though it was extremely difficult for our school community, 2022 proved to be the turning point where we demonstrated resilience and cooperation as a school community.

It was fantastic to witness our students engage with their learning at Galen Catholic College in a safe and nurturing environment.

Our House system continues to build strength and continuity for our students, staff and families.

This year we focussed on developing and teaching our school expectations of FIRST (Faith, Integrity, Respect, Self and Team). In term 1 we focussed on what Respect looks like in our actions at school. In term 2 students and staff focussed on Integrity, in term 3 Team was the focus and in term 4 it was Self. A record number of student commendations were awarded in 2022 which is an outstanding achievement.

A big thank you to our wonderful Homeroom Mentors who have continued to develop close relationships with students and families in their homerooms. They continue to take an active interest in all areas of their students and look at possibilities for support and advocacy.

The House Leaders must be congratulated for all of their hard work, dedication, perseverance and passion for their role. They truly uphold and demonstrate the values and characteristics of their House patron, we really appreciate their willingness to support students, staff and families. Their contributions this year have been enormous.

We must also acknowledge and thank our professional, supportive and committed Galen Wellbeing team. We are very fortunate to plan and allow for growth in our team. This year we added both a full-time psychologist and speech pathologist to assist with the many elements of student needs and supports.

Our counsellors, social worker, psychologist and speech pathologist have all provided exceptional care and follow up for our students. They have supported our students, families and staff with their genuine care, follow up and professionalism. They have maintained an excellent rapport with external agencies to create the best supports for our students.

A huge thank you also to our FIRST team for leading the way with the implementation of our school wide positive behaviour support framework. The use of student data has allowed us to measure the effectiveness of our teaching and expectations.

Achievements

This year we successfully ran the Year 7 boys RISE (Resilience, Identity, Success, Empower) program. There were 23 year 7 students who participated in the RISE groups to develop social skills and confidence.

Recognition and thanks must be given to our Galen Respectful Relationship (RR) Team.

As a lead school for RR, Galen successfully completed a positive review as well as assist Catholic Primary schools with the delivery of RR material. In Term 2, Year 9 Galen students

visited St. Joseph's Primary school Beechworth and in term 3 visited St. Patrick's Primary school Wangaratta to deliver RR workshops in regards to seeking help and being a Upstander.

The Galen RR team and students also hosted a very successful student forum in term 4 for the Primary schools within Galen's RR cluster. Grade 6 students from the Catholic Primary schools, along with Galen Year 9 students were able to come together and discuss key concepts and issues within their schools.

Thank you also to our Galen Student Wellbeing Committee who organised our RUOK day on Thursday 15th September. A total of \$800 was raised towards mental health initiatives.

The Galen Student Wellbeing Committee also successfully raised awareness and activities for the National Day Against Bullying & Violence.

The school also constructed a bully audit that was well received by our students. A total of 725 students completed the confidential bully audit and as a result House Leaders were able to follow up and support students who had reported bullying or witnessed bullying.

VALUE ADDED

In 2022, Galen Catholic College students were offered a diverse range of curricular and extracurricular activities including:

- House Swimming and Athletics Carnival
- Founders' Day celebration
- Junior school Production of 'Frozen'
- Whole school Production of 'Legally Blonde'
- Year 12 Retreat
- Year 12 Graduation
- Year 7 FIRST camp
- Year 8 Anglesea Camp
- Year 9 Mt Buffalo Adventure Camp
- Year 10 Harrietville Camp
- Year 10 Formal
- St Vinnies Winter Appeal
- Night of the Notables
- Year 8 Medieval Day
- Galen Band Tour – Wagga Wagga
- Seeds of Change
- Breakfast Club
- Italian and Indonesian Days

- National Sorry Day & Reconciliation Week
- Extensive Outdoor Education program
- Student Leadership camp to Canberra
- Sporting teams across the VSSSA
- Italian Opera trip to the Victorian Arts Centre
- Student leadership and membership across a broad range of areas such as the Environment and Social Justice groups.
- Online Pathway/Re-commitment Interviews
- ANZAC assembly
- Christmas cards sent to all incoming Year 7 students from their new Homeroom Mentor and Homeroom peers.

STUDENT SATISFACTION

The College continues to engage with students in the areas of social emotional wellbeing, positive relationships and engagement. A continued belief in the College's ability to do so, underpins the ongoing commitment to programs that seek to provide opportunities for students to connect with peers and teachers.

Students have a strong sense of belonging within the Galen community. The pastoral care provided by our staff ensures that students feel supported, safe and secure while attending Galen Catholic College.

There is clear pride that Galen students feel in their school. This is well illustrated on a number of occasions each year.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student Attendance

The importance of students attending school cannot be undervalued.

Regular attendance at school

- Reinforces routine behaviours;
- Allows students to be a part of sequenced learning experiences;
- Provides more opportunities for feedback to be given

- Assists with the development of social skills such as friendship building, teamwork and communication skills.

Most importantly it promotes more opportunities for students to find experiences that will develop their connectedness to the College, their education and peer relationships.

Galen Catholic College uses the electronic attendance program called SIMON (School Information Management Online Network).

All staff record school attendance via SIMON. Parents MUST notify the school either via phone call (57216322), written note or email (absences@galen.vic.edu.au) that their child will be absent. This is recorded by the school administration on SIMON as "Parent Notified Absence".

Each day at 10am an SMS absent alert is sent to any parent who has a student absent from school without parental approval. If a student is absent and a parent/guardian does not contact the school, the homeroom mentor follows up the absence by contacting the parents for the unexplained absence.

If there is a continued pattern of unexplained absence, House Leaders and Deputy Principal request a meeting with the student and parents involved. If the student experiences school refusal issues, a member of the Wellbeing Team will become involved to support the student and family.

External community agencies (NECAMHS) and NAVIGATOR are also utilised during this support process.

YEARS 9 – 12 STUDENT RETENTION RATE

Years 9 to 12 Student Retention Rate	73.2%
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AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE BY YEAR LEVEL

Y07	88.0%
Y08	85.5%
Y09	85.2%
Y10	84.1%
Overall average attendance	85.7%

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

VCE Median Score	29.0
VCE Completion Rate	100.0%
VCAL Completion Rate	95.0%

POST-SCHOOL DESTINATIONS AS AT 2022

Tertiary Study	30.0%
TAFE / VET	11.0%
Apprenticeship / Traineeship	13.0%
Deferred	24.0%
Employment	19.0%
Other – The category of Other includes both students Looking for Work and those classed as Other	4.0%

Child Safe Standards

Goals & Intended Outcomes

In 2022, Galen formed a new Child Safe Standards Committee to implement the new child safe standards that will need to be implemented by July 2022 and the main goal was to Oversee the changes and implementation of the new Child Safe standards

The Child Safe Standards committee includes the following members of staff;

- Principal
- Deputy Principal – Pastoral Care & Wellbeing
- Executive Assistant to the Principal
- Deputy Principal – Catholic Identity

Achievements

- Students in Years 7 - 10 discuss the Child Safe Standards through their Health Education curriculum. Documentation from the 4R's resource (Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships) are used to support the teaching of Child Safe Standards.
- Parents were informed of the Child Safe Policies via the school website. Galen Catholic College posted its Child Safe statement on the website, SIMON home page and in all Galen email signatures.
- Staff had the Child Safe policies and practices as well as the Child Safe Code of Conduct explained via staff meetings. There were a significant amount of staff meetings dedicated to implementing the Child Safe policies and practices. Staff were encouraged to ask questions and the Child Safe policies are printed and placed in prominent areas around the staff room and Boardroom.
- Galen Catholic College has also implemented all aspects of Child Safety in regard to Human Resources. Recruitment, reference checks and storing of information complies with Child Safe requirements.

Galen Catholic College will continue to develop and review its Child Safe Standards. This is a practice that involves all members of the Galen Catholic College community as it is the responsibility of all to be Child Safe in our school.

Leadership

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Four priorities were identified for 2022.

These were:-

- Deepen our understanding of the House system and their specific patron
- Create a culture of academic rigour and engagement in learning
- Deepen our shared understanding of our Catholic faith and heritage
- Further embed FIRST and our supportive frameworks
- Implementation of the College Landscape and Heritage Walk plan

Achievements

The major achievements were:

- Redevelopment of the “New Horizons II” strategic plan to have one key strategic intention from each of the 5 key strategic areas.
- Each House team commenced development of the House Patron story, values and images and a local artist was commissioned to paint a portrait of each House Patron which will be used as a consistent visual source for presentations, posters, banners and publications.
- The Landscaping Master Plan enacted with FIRST banners on the undercover walk way into school
- House banners designed and placed on uprights in the dome space
- Commencement of the Performing Arts and Stadium building project
- Review of our FACE Team and Parents' Association to join as one team in 2023
- Professional Learning was provided to Learning Area Leaders around collection and use of data supported by the data set developed and administrated to our students
- Reformation of the year level Learning Leader teams to better reflect the specific needs of the Junior and Senior Schools.
- Further development in access and use of student data regarding the FIRST framework including use of the FIRST matrix to respond to behaviour concerns at all year levels.
- Review and realignment of administration roles
- Conducted a professional learning day educating staff on the FIRST Behaviour Flowchart and minor and major responses. A Shared Student Support Framework was also established to assist staff in responding appropriately to incidents and communicating with relevant staff.
- Catholic Identity professional learning utilising the Mullinmur Billabong Education Centre with Borinya staff

EXPENDITURE AND TEACHER PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Description of Professional Learning undertaken in 2022

Professional learning at Galen underpins the direction of our learning community. As a community of lifelong learners and educators, our collective practice and as a result student outcomes have been improved through targeted professional learning opportunities. In 2022, professional learning had three broad foci:

- Improving collective practice and classroom learning
- Supporting student wellbeing
- Developing our Catholic school identity

Two major highlights for the year were our series of professional learning workshops run for staff about our learning and teaching framework – Infinite Possibilities, and our staff faith formation days – focusing on the College theme Known and Loved.

During the year Galen staff participated and shared their learning from a range of professional learning opportunities focusing on:

- Tertiary and further study
- VET Industry placement
- Curriculum Development and Review
- VCAA Subject Webinars
- School Operations Improvement
- Supporting positive student behaviours
- Leadership Development
- VET program development and training
- Learning-area and subject specific seminars (e.g. ACHPER, HTAV, Comview, exam review)
- Catholic Identity and Religious Education
- Further Tertiary Study
- Early Career Teacher Development
- Indigenous Education Network Days
- Staff Formation
- OHS
- NCCD Training
- Timetabling
- VCE, VCAL & VET specific training and compliance
- School Compliance

Number of teachers who participated in PL in 2022	103
Average expenditure per teacher for PL	\$1012

TEACHER SATISFACTION

Staff completed a locally developed Staff Wellbeing survey during the second half of 2022 with the results showing overall satisfaction and staff wellbeing rating positively despite the interrupted beginning of the year due to the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Amongst the areas of greatest satisfaction for staff were

- feeling positive at school
- feeling enthusiastic at school
- feeling supported by school leaders
- confidence of staff in approaching school leaders
- staff expectations of themselves and each other and their professional responsibilities
- opportunities for staff to participate in decision-making
- opportunities for professional development to improve skills, knowledge and performance
- excitement about the future for Galen staff and students

TEACHING STAFF ATTENDANCE RATE

Teaching Staff Attendance Rate	78.3%
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ALL STAFF RETENTION RATE

Staff Retention Rate	81.1%
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TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS	
Doctorate	0.0%
Masters	7.1%
Graduate	13.3%
Graduate Certificate	0.9%
Bachelor Degree	56.6%
Advanced Diploma	9.7%
No Qualifications Listed	37.2%

STAFF COMPOSITION	
Principal Class (Headcount)	4.0
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	128.0
Teaching Staff (FTE)	110.3
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	74.0
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	69.2
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	1.0

Community Engagement

Goals & Intended Outcomes

The College's community outcomes for 2022 maintained a strong focus on building and maintaining authentic relationships between home and school including:

- Providing opportunities for all students to share their learning with parents;
- Opportunities for sharing professional learning and development with our primary schools;
- Developing stronger partnerships with community organisations and agencies; and
- Further development of strategies to support staff and student wellbeing.

Achievements

The connection between families and schools through weekly learning walks was encouraging, providing both new and existing families to see learning in action and providing the opportunity for our junior students transitioning to senior school to experience access to more than conventional classrooms and explore career pathways.

The joining of the Family & Community Engagement (FACE) team and the Galen Parent Association continued the development of authentic dialogue for parent involvement and engagement in existing curriculum and new opportunities for partnerships together.

It was a wonderful year to reengage our students in social activities again during 2022 with camps, excursions, formals and graduation events occurring with parents able to attend and be involved.

VALUE ADDED

2022 provided the opportunity for the College community to reconnect through the broad range of curricular and extra-curricular activities, including whole school swimming and athletics carnivals and regional sporting team competitions. Our junior school production 'Frozen' whole school production of 'Legally Blonde' performed to sold out audiences and our camps and excursions provided our students with the opportunity to further develop relationships with staff and peers.

The year was packed with excursions and incursions on site for students across all learning areas including extending art student inspiration engaging in 'out of the classroom' activities such as VCD riverside excursions, science and STEM experiences shared with primary schools, VET trades expo and hospitality students catering for external functions as well as English performances bringing texts to life for students.

Our College House Feast Days and whole College Founders' Day brought students, families and staff together developing positive connection to the House wellbeing support network.

PARENT SATISFACTION

Galen Catholic College Advisory Council developed a Parent Satisfaction survey in which Galen parents highlighted some strengths of the College as:

- education programs being suitable for their child
- academic standards provide adequate challenge
- their child's enjoyment in learning and development of valuable social skills
- their child's acceptance of, and by other students
- their child feeling safe at school
- good two-way communication between staff and parents
- parents feeling comfortable approaching the College with concerns and that concerns are taken seriously
- good pathways to success based on child's needs, skills and talents

Future Directions

Galen Catholic College is fully committed to the process of strategic planned development. School Reviews are scheduled in a cyclic way by Catholic Education Sandhurst Ltd and feedback from those reviews is utilised in developing future School Improvement Plans and Annual Action Plans.

The College continues to invest heavily in improving infrastructure and learning environments. The remodelling of the sports stadium which will significantly increase the size of the playing area to two basketball courts, and includes equipment storage areas and staff offices commenced in 2022, along with the construction of a Performing Arts Centre, which will incorporate several learning spaces, as well as a performing arts space, staff offices and drama equipment storage. Both projects are scheduled for completion mid 2023.