



# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018 NARACOORTE



**SUNRISE**  
Christian School

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds, transitioning from a pale blue at the top to a deep orange near the horizon.

“SHINE YOUR LIGHT ON THE WORLD.”  
MATTHEW 5:16

# SCHOOL REPORT 2018

As part of our Funding Agreement with the Australian Government, we are required to ensure specific ‘School Performance Information’ is made publically available to the school community.

What follows is a report which incorporates specific performance measures as mandated.

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# CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Since 1978, Sunrise Christian School has developed a reputation and tradition for providing excellence in a Christ Centred Education to support parents in their God given mandate to 'train their children in the ways of the Lord'. The school works closely with the families and their local churches to encourage and nurture the child's 'heart and character' in order for each child to individually find and fulfil the plans God has for them in a loving, safe and secure atmosphere.

Our dedicated staff, who are all committed to Christ, work together with parents and students to ensure that each child's learning experience is happy, challenging and successful. Their goal is to see the child thrive in the excellence that is the very nature of God, both in character and academics. The Biblically based curriculum has been developed within the school over the last three decades to produce a quality cyclic approach, using traditional methods of pedagogy (teaching) in conjunction with the best of the 'latest' practice.

With this in mind, our student body is comprised of children from families which place a priority on Christian values and the atmosphere that this creates is our major focus.

The following two quotes from parent interviews highlight our statement of purpose: to assist parents with their God given responsibility of bringing up their children, by providing a God-centred, education which reflects the Christian world view.

"The relationship with teachers is fantastic as well as their genuine concern with and care for your child is very special."

"It is a school that has an incredibly family like atmosphere, where you can trust that you can send your children to school and the teachers and leadership staff treat them as their own."

The fact that we are genuinely fulfilling our purpose sets us apart as a school and this type of feedback from parents lets us know that it is being noticed in the wider community.



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# LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Assisting parents as they seek to develop Godly character in their children continues to be our number one goal. This year we maintained our tradition of starting with a week of professional development where staff met together to plan and pray for the year to come. With that we look at some facts and figures related to our staff and students.

Music continued to play a key role in the life of the school. Assembly (chapel) and class devotion times are all enriched by student participation in vocal and instrumental music. This includes Monday morning and Friday chapel times. During Monday morning assembly times we honoured our leaders by praying for them and singing the National Anthem.

A highlight was the annual concert, our musical “Dude, You Hear What I Hear?”, which was held at the Naracoorte Town Hall. It is a whole community event celebrating the talents of the children and giving praise to God. The Grade 6 and 7 students played a lead role in hosting and performing in these concerts.

The students participated in various sporting teams that included such sports as netball, basketball, cricket, soccer, and Australian Rules football. In each case the teams are in competitions involving other local schools and once again gives the students the opportunity to develop their testimony in the wider community.

Our annual sport day was another highlight and not only was it a testimony to the community who witnessed us as we gathered, but it gives the athletically gifted students a chance to shine. This year we again hired SANTOS Stadium, an international standard athletics facility. Our top athletes in Grades 3–7 went on to ably represent us at the annual SACSA sports’ day.

Parents and teachers alike commented on their helpfulness and overall good example that is set by all students.

Another key focus is our desire to see the children engage with mission. A key in this is educating them about Sunrise Bethel in PNG and the close engagement we have with the Bethel community. They have enthusiastically applied themselves to fundraising for various aspects of this outreach. In addition, students are regularly involved with outreach to the local community via nursing home visits, shopping centre concerts, Grandparent Days and Book Week functions. The 40 Hour Famine and Operation Shoebox were also notable times when the students were encouraged to engage with the wider community.

Our Grade 7s participated in several projects that form key traditions at our schools; the Stewardship Programme, their Historical Novel, the flight to Canberra and their end of year formal dinner and graduation night. Our school camping programme begins in Grade 4 continuing through to Grade 7, with the milestone camp being Canberra.

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# TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Teacher attendance for 2018 was 93.99% (Non-teaching attendance was 96.42%.)

## STAFF RETENTION

We have retained 100% of the teaching staff and 100% of the non-teaching staff in 2018.

## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Diplomas and Degrees	Number Qualified
Bachelor of Education	3
Diploma of Teaching	3
Bachelor of Arts	1
Bachelor of Special Education	1
Bachelor of Teaching	3
Bachelor of Journalism	1
Bachelor of Law	1
Bachelor of Ministry	1

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# WORKFORCE COMPOSITION INCLUDING INDIGENOUS COMPOSITION

Teaching staff full-time equivalents: 8.06

Indigenous teachers: not disclosed

In the area of professional development (PD) we had a focus on not only our classroom staff, but also on our senior leaders and emerging leaders.

All teaching staff were involved with 9 days of in school PD in addition to the rolling review of curriculum and WHS that is a scheduled component of each weekly staff meeting. Also integrated into PD is a schedule to ensure that appropriate staff members have Basic Emergency Life Support training and Fire Safety training. Both of these are outsourced to professional trainers.

The senior leadership and emerging leaders were involved with a series of seminars that were hosted by AISSA (Australian Independent Schools of South Australia).

Administrative staff were also involved with specialist training during the Mid-year Staff Conference and Office Managers and Assistants continue to be certified in Emergency First Aid for Education and Care Settings.

The average expenditure on Professional Development per teacher was \$692.65.



# STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL INCLUDING RATES OF ATTENDANCE AND NON-ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT

Attendance by Grade Level								
Grade	Rec	Gr 1	Gr 2	Gr 3	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6	Gr 7
Average %	92.93	91.76	91.64	93.02	91.59	88.32	91.20	88.62

Average attendance for the whole school was 91.14%.

School attendance is managed with an electronic system. This system, named “Teacher’s Assistant” has been very successful in helping track attendance patterns.

Non-attendance is managed via this electronic system where the receptionist is able to check unexplained absences each morning after roll call. All unexplained absences are noted and parents are phoned or sent an SMS to ascertain the reason. Applications for exemption from attendance are handled based on State Government requirements.



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# STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT

Student outcomes in standardised national literacy and numeracy testing

National Standards are a set of indicators, or descriptors, which represent nationally agreed minimum acceptable standards for literacy and numeracy at a particular year level. In this context, 'minimum acceptable standard' means a critical level of literacy and numeracy without which a student will have difficulty making sufficient progress at school.

The information being shared is gathered from a single source, the NAPLAN Tests, in the areas of reading, spelling, writing and numeracy. These Government approved tests are given on an annual basis to Grades 3, 5, and 7 and are graded outside the school to maintain a high level of impartiality.

Although we look forward to the results each year, we are reminded that this is only one test and cannot provide the full picture of the progress of any student. These results should be read in conjunction with the termly school reports to get a more accurate picture of a student's progress.

The results of the children at or above the National Minimum are framed in terms of a percentage.

Area	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Numeracy	Grammar and Punctuation
Year	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018
Grade 3	100	100	96	100	94
Grade 5	100	89	100	100	89
Grade 7	94	94	94	100	94

In addition to our good results in National testing, a highlight for each student was the end of year awards' night. Each child was individually acknowledged for a character trait that their teacher had seen exhibited during the year.

A School Board representative assisted the Principal in presenting Sport, Arts, Academic and Character awards to a boy and girl representative in the R/1, 2/3, 4/5, and 6/7 age groups.

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# PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION IN THE SCHOOL

During the course of the year we have regular opportunities for parents to meet with the Campus leadership and discuss issues in the life of the school community.

The following topics are open for discussion and parental feedback is sought on them:

Christian character and spiritual maturity, school governance, school leadership, curriculum content, student academic performance, quality of teaching, quality of assessment and reporting, meeting student special needs, behaviour management, management of bullying and harassment, wearing of school uniform, qualifications and professional development of teachers, school communication with parents, provision of facilities and equipment, uniform shop service, administration staff, school bus, and safe school environment.

The staff are happy and understand that to maintain high standards we must have high expectations of each other and our students' abilities. Our top three mottos are as follows:

Our number one goal is Godly character, every student matters every day, and every student can be a high achiever.

As a leadership team of the school, we appreciate the staff, realising that they are our most valuable 'resource'. We are particularly aware of the importance that relationships play in managing the stresses that staff experience. Because of this, regular times of staff fellowship are organised including starting each day with staff devotions based on the Bible.

Student feedback is ongoing via class management plans and teachers report a high degree of student satisfaction.



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# SCHOOL INCOME BROKEN DOWN BY FUNDING SOURCE 2018

Australian Government recurrent funding	\$1,813,641
State/Territory Government recurrent funding	\$364,017
Fees, charges and parent contributions	\$460,260
Other private sources	\$18,559
<b>Total gross income</b>	<b>\$2,656,477</b>

(Excluding income from Government capital grants)

## IN CLOSING

2018 saw much growth in students, staff and facilities. All glory goes to God for the accomplishments. We look forward to 2019 with much anticipation.

TOGETHER WE SHINE.

#### Contact Information

Sunrise Christian School  
72 Old Caves Road  
Naracoorte  
SA 5271

P: 08 8465 6005  
E: [info.naracoorte@sunrise.sa.edu.au](mailto:info.naracoorte@sunrise.sa.edu.au)  
[www.sunrise.sa.edu.au](http://www.sunrise.sa.edu.au)

