



Patrician Brothers' College

2023 Annual School Report



Patrician Brothers' College
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Introduction

About the Annual School Report

Patrician Brothers' College is registered by the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) as a member of the Catholic system of schools in the Diocese of Parramatta.

The Annual School Report provides parents and carers and the wider school community with fair, accurate and objective information about various aspects of school performance and development. The Report describes the achievement of school development priorities in 2023 and gives information about the next years priorities.

This Report is a legislative requirement under the Schools Assistance Act 2008 and the Education Amendment Act 2004.

The information in this Report is complemented by the school website where other school publications and news can be viewed or obtained from the school.

Key Messages

From the Principal Mr. Frank Chiment

It is with pleasure that I present the 2023 Annual School Report for Patrician Brothers' College, Blacktown.

Patrician Brothers' College is a Years 7-12 Catholic boys school under the care of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta. Students are encouraged and nurtured to strive for personal excellence in the vast educational offerings of the College.

Patrician Brothers' College is first and foremost a Catholic school in the Patrician tradition. It was established in 1952 and was founded on the rich traditions of the Patrician Brothers. We actively practise our faith - which is demonstrated by our care for one another, the way we learn, and through our service-learning program. As a school that values community, we collaborate in partnership with parents and carers.

The College has high expectations of students. Boys are challenged to be the best person and students they can be.

We offer a vast array of extra-curricular opportunities. These include various representative sports, debating, public speaking, internal sports and activity clubs.

In 2021, the College Learning Plan 2021-2023 was implemented. The priorities are mapped to time frames and key strategies are embedded in the working life of the College to meet the intent of our Learning Plan by 2023.

The College motto is Christus Regnat (Christ Reigns). We strive to build a community where Christ reigns in the hearts of all.

The Annual School Report is a government initiative that allows our parents and carers to gain information about some of the structures and performance of our school and its role in the wider community. It is, however, a written document that cannot replace that very real and human need for personal interaction. We invite all parents and carers who wish to discuss any aspect of this report to make contact and work with us collaboratively.

From the Parents/Carers

Year 12 Graduation Ceremony was a highlight of the year, with parents/carers being able to attend. Parents strongly supported parent/teacher evenings which were conducted in person. Regular information and orientation evenings were also conducted online through Zoom or on campus as required.

Regular sporting events, cultural evenings, public speaking and debating events were attended and celebrated by parents/carers.

Patrician Brothers' College is a popular choice for families seeking a boys' education that includes spiritual, academic, physical and personal growth and which takes place in a supportive and caring Catholic community.

Parents and carers were formally surveyed in a centrally administered feedback system that provided information to staff about their child's experience and their own experience of college. The results will be used to look at further improvements at the college.

From the Students

Student participation is a cornerstone of life at Patrician Brothers' College.

In 2023, student leaders were elected by their peers and staff. They took part in a Leadership Day; Year 12 Retreat; Multicultural Day, and other Patrician leadership initiatives such as the Year 7 induction, and the Senior Leaders Retreat and Reconnect workshop; Thursday morning mass; welcoming guest speakers; staff versus student soccer match; organising St Patrick's Day Concert and barbeque; and pancakes for Pancake Shrove Tuesday to raise money for Caritas; and Reflection Days. Student leaders were allocated a number of portfolios such as house captains for carnivals, year group mentors and Patrician Charism mentors. They took an active part in NAIDOC week celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Our peer support leaders from Year 10 assisted in the initiation, orientation and acculturation of Year 7 students. Their leadership of the Year 7 Orientation Day reflected the pastoral care evident in our community.

A group of Year 11 students took part in the National Space Design Competition in Brisbane.

Students at the college were formally surveyed in a centrally administered feedback system that provided information to staff about the students and their experience of school.

School Context

History of the college

The College was founded in 1952 by the Patrician Brothers to serve the mainly rural families of Blacktown and surrounding districts. The College motto *Christus Regnat* translates to Christ reigns. We strive to build a community where Christ Reigns in the hearts of all and where students are encouraged to grow and develop in a community that reflects the gospel values of faith, forgiveness, honesty, hope, justice, respect, tolerance and trust. The students are actively encouraged to develop a personal spirituality based on the Patrician ideals of prayer, Eucharist, community life and care for the poor. We strive for excellence and foster the love of learning. Substantial building programs commenced in 2002 with the official opening of the Jubilee Hall. The chapel was opened in 2007 and the bust of Bishop Delany was unveiled the same year, adding a new dimension to the religious focus of the college. In 2008 the administration building was refurbished, and in 2012 the administration forecourt was upgraded. In 2010 the Jubilee Hall was air-conditioned and two additional classrooms and a gymnasium were built under C block. In 2011, with Commonwealth funding, the Patrician Learning Centre was built including an open learning classroom and meeting facilities including a kitchenette. A major building program was undertaken in 2012 which included new student facilities, fencing of the sporting fields, building of an amphitheatre, an electronic score board and grandstand seating. In 2016 major renovations were made to the existing A and D blocks to incorporate multiple open-plan learning facilities, improved Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) facilities including a Food Technology and Hospitality kitchen, a student/staff cafe, Visual Arts facilities and a Drama space. In 2019 solar panels were installed extensively around the school. In 2020 a purpose commissioned room for Retail Services was completed.

Location / Drawing Area

Patrician Brothers College is located close to the Blacktown central business district, the college is set on seven hectares in the heart of the rapidly expanding Blacktown City. The college is just ten minutes walk from the Blacktown transport interchange and is easily accessible by public transport. Like our city, we have continued to grow and respond to the needs of our stakeholders but our culture has remained unashamedly Catholic and focused on boys' education.

Workforce Composition

Staffing Profile

Staffing Profile	
Total Number of Staff	103
Number of staff who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	0
Number of full time teaching staff	71
Number of part time teaching staff	13
Number of non-teaching staff	19

Total number of teaching staff by NESA accreditation level

Teachers at the college are either accredited as conditional, provisional or proficient as defined by the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 (NSW). Accreditation at the levels of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher is voluntary.

The contracted number of accredited teachers within Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) are as follows:

Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) accredited teachers	
Conditional Teachers	363
Provisional Teachers	125
Proficient Teachers and/or above	3495

Teacher status at Patrician Brothers' College can be sourced directly from the college.

Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member working within CSPD is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including: whole of school staff days, subject-specific engagements, conferences, meetings and a range of professional learning opportunities provided by CSPD.

The college takes responsibility for planning, implementing, evaluating and tracking its staff's professional learning and individual staff members take responsibility for their ongoing professional development. All teachers have been involved in professional learning opportunities during the year related to improving student outcomes.

Specific and focused Professional Learning for the staff of the college this year has included:

- The development of the Faith in Action team to develop the faith of the Staff.
- The staff continued to work on strategies to improve the literacy, especially the writing skills of our students.
- The development of an EAL/D understanding and targeted responses to student needs.

Catholic Identity and Religious Education

Prayer, Liturgical Life and Faith Experiences

Education within the Diocese of Parramatta is a ministry of the Catholic Church, walking with humility in the way of Jesus, serving all of God's people. The Gospel messages of love, forgiveness, tolerance and compassion are lived experiences that are visibly evidenced at college. We offer families high-quality accessible education that challenges each student to discover a meaningful, hope-filled and flourishing life. Our caring teachers share faith and learning with students, including through their own example. Every day, be it in the playground, at an assembly or in the classroom our students experience a genuinely religious way of understanding the world. The invitation to meaningful prayer and liturgy, as well as participation in the Sacraments, nurture and give expression to the religious dimension of school life in the context of the Church's celebration of the liturgical year.

Social Justice

All students at the college are encouraged to regularly engage in activities to support Catholic Mission with fundraising and awareness-raising initiatives. Students are encouraged to work closely with their local parish, community groups, support local charities and participate in outreach or immersion experiences for the benefit of the whole community and the student's personal development.

This year students and staff from the college engaged in the following initiatives and activities:

- Senior Students and staff run a breakfast program at the school.
- Senior Students and staff engage with Vinnies Van once a month.
- Students collect for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal for our local chapter.

All of these initiatives enabled the students and staff to practise their faith through action as Jesus demonstrated in the Gospels.

School, Home and Parish Partnerships

Parents and carers have been actively encouraged to engage in a variety of school activities including parent forums, information evenings, parent/teacher/student meetings, liturgies, social events and opportunities to provide feedback. Regular communication with parents and carers occurred through phone calls, meetings and the Compass information platform.

Religious Education

At the heart of our college is the Religious Education program. It is through this area of study that students learn to value the Catholic identity, traditions, values and Christ's teaching. Our Religious Education program is embodied by the quality of our relationships and how we deal with the daily issues of life.

CSPD schools use Sharing Our Story, a Religious Education curriculum that has been used for more than 20 years. In all subject areas, we offer an education completely consistent with the teaching of the Church on the dignity of all aspects of the human person. We also appreciate the need to provide age-appropriate learning opportunities.

Professional Learning of Staff in Religious Education

Professional Learning in Religious Education offered to staff this year included:

- New Staff Patrician Induction Program.
- Staff attend a Staff Formation Day.
- Staff are invited to participate in the Patrician Network formation opportunities.

Learning and Teaching

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of NAPLAN is to provide information to parents and carers and teachers about the achievements of students in literacy and numeracy. Questions are based mostly on the literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills students have learnt from previous years of schooling.

Each year the results are analysed by the school to inform teaching and learning with a view to improving student performance. Commencing in 2023, NAPLAN test results are reported using proficiency standards. Students' results show how they performed in each of the NAPLAN assessment areas against 4 proficiency levels:

- Exceeding: The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing
- Needs additional support: The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

The percentages of students achieving at Exceeding and Strong proficiency levels are reported in the table on the next page.

NAPLAN Results Year 7 2023

Year 7	Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
	School	Australia
Reading	45%	68%
Writing	48%	63%
Spelling	71%	73%
Grammar and Punctuation	45%	64%
Numeracy	54%	67%

NAPLAN Results Year 9 2023

Year 9	Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
	School	Australia
Reading	52%	63%
Writing	43%	58%
Spelling	65%	71%
Grammar and Punctuation	35%	56%
Numeracy	55%	64%

Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

Eligible students who leave school before receiving their Higher School Certificate (HSC) will receive the NSW Record of School Achievement (RoSA). The RoSA has been designed to provide grades for all Stage 5 (Year 10) and Stage 6 (Preliminary) courses completed during secondary education.

In 2023:

- The number of students issued with a RoSA in Year 10 was 8.
- The number of students issued with a RoSA in Year 11 was 3.

Higher School Certificate (HSC)

Percentage of students in performance bands 4, 5 and 6 (trend data) in select courses as compared to the state.

HSC Results						
HSC Subject	Percentage of students in top 3 bands					
	2023		2022		2021	
	School	State	School	State	School	State
English Standard	38%	59%	44%	56%	55%	58%
English Advanced	98%	95%	97%	94%	96%	93%
Studies of Religion 1	61%	84%	59%	79%	38%	69%

Total number of Year 12 students engaged in either a VET or NESA endorsed courses: 135.

NESA endorsed courses and or VET courses undertaken by Year 12 students include: Fitness, Numeracy, Photography & Videography, Sport Lifestyle and Recreation, Studies in Catholic Thought, Work Studies.

School HSC Highlighted Performances

Percentage of students in performance bands 4, 5 and 6 (trend data) in highlighted courses as compared to the state.

HSC Results		
HSC Subject	Percentage of students in top 3 bands	
	2023	
	School	State
Investigating Science	90%	69%
Visual Arts	83%	91%

HSC Results Comment

The HSC Data demonstrates an all-round achievement. The students have gained outstanding marks in traditional ATAR subjects such as Investigating Science and Visual Arts but also in more contemporary VET subjects such as Construction and Hospitality.

This reflects the College's commitment to all its students and providing an individual learning pathway that suits each individual.

Student Profile

Enrolment Policy

Patrician Brothers' College follows the Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) Enrolment Policy Procedures and Guidelines. The full text or a link to the full text of the school's enrolment policies, including all prerequisites for continuing enrolment, can be obtained from the school office or can be accessed on the school's website.

Student enrolments

Student enrolments 2023	
Number of Boys	Number of Girls
1000	0
Total Enrolments: 1000	

Student attendance

Student attendance rates 2023			
Year	Attendance Rate	Year	Attendance Rate
7	90%	10	88%
8	89%	11	87%
9	87%	12	89%
College Average: 88%			

Managing non attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents and carers, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

The compulsory schooling age range is 6-17. Parents and carers are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, explaining the absences of their children in writing within several days to the school, and taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.

School staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. They maintain accurate records of students' attendance, follow up unexplained absences through written and verbal communication, implement programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise, and provide clear information to students and parents/carers regarding attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance.

The school principal or their delegate may grant permission for late arrival or early departure from school, leave or exemption from attendance only in individual cases, on

written request from parents and carers. For longer exemptions, an application for approval is made through Diocesan authorities. The principal/delegate will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents/carers promptly if an unexplained absence occurs. If truancy is suspected, the principal will contact the parents/carers to ascertain the reason for the absence. If a satisfactory response is not received, the matter will be referred to the relevant staff at CSPD who will follow up unexplained absences as per legislative requirements.

Student retention rates

The retention rate of students for Year 10 to Year 12 was 82%.

Post School Destination

Each year the college collects destination data relating to the Year 12 student cohort. The table below sets out the percentages of students for the various categories.

Post School Destination	
University	68%
Technical and Further Education (TAFE)	12%
Workforce	16%
Other/Unknown	4%

Characteristics of the student body

The table below shows the number of students in each of the categories listed.

Student Body Characteristics	
Language background other than English (LBOTE)	573
Students with disabilities (SWD)	74
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	57

Wellbeing

The wellbeing and safety of all students is central to the purpose of Catholic Education and we acknowledge that healthy relationships and exceptional pastoral care are core to each child's positive experience at school. Patrician Brothers' College is a place where students are nurtured to grow, to belong and to be safe.

A sense of wellbeing and connectedness promotes optimal development of the person as a whole and contributes to academic success. We have a strong focus on pastoral care and our school has a counsellor to support our students. CSPD provides resourcing for additional wellbeing initiatives and teams to support attendance, behaviour and intervention for students at risk.

Our wellbeing initiatives include:

- investigating the use of Man Cave to work with the students.
- Add guest speakers from Headspace and the Goodfellas program to current program.
- Continue to use and develop our own student wellbeing program.

Patrician Brothers' College bases student wellbeing on the [CSPD Student Wellbeing Policy \(2022\)](#) and the [CSPD Student Wellbeing Framework](#). The guidelines identify the rights and responsibilities of every student in the school and are based on the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. Corporal punishment is expressly forbidden at the college.

Related policies include:

- [Bullying of Students - Prevention and Response Procedure \(2022\)](#)
- [Student Use Of Digital Devices And Online Services Policy \(2022\)](#)
- [Guidelines for Parents and Carers in Raising Complaints \(2023\)](#)
- [Student Wellbeing Policy \(2022\)](#)
- [Student Wellbeing Framework](#)
- [Student Attendance Policy \(2021\)](#)
- [Student Attendance Procedures \(2022\)](#)
- [Bullying of Students - Prevention and Response Procedure \(2022\)](#)
- [Weapons Procedures \(2022\)](#)
- [Banned Substances Student Procedures \(2022\)](#)
- [Family and School Partnership Principles](#)

Actions promoting respect and responsibility

Patrician Brothers' College actively promotes respect for others and responsibility for self. During the past year, our community has engaged with the following actions and opportunities:

- Student leaders launch Respect Week at College Assembly.
- Celebrating our diversity through our Multicultural Day.
- Continue with our SRE program at the primary schools.

Community Satisfaction

During 2023, CSPD and our college utilised a variety of measures to obtain feedback from parents and carers, students and staff regarding community satisfaction.

Areas of strength from the parents/carers feedback include:

- The high pastoral care of their sons.
- High academic standards.
- Teachers are available to parents and students.

Areas of strength from the student feedback include:

- Teachers care about the students and their learning.
- Provision and implementation of support structures in learning and wellbeing.
- Teachers are willing to spend extra time coaching teams after school.

Areas of strength from the staff feedback include:

- Teachers are professional.
- Teachers are very collegial and supportive of each other.
- The College has processes in place to support the Staff.

School Improvement and Learning

Priorities

Current Year Priorities		
Priority 1	To extend the variety of religious and spiritual well-being experiences for students, staff and parents to be active participants of a Catholic College in the Patrician tradition.	Still Working Towards.
Priority 2	To ensure best practice by undertaking research in learning pedagogies, especially with regards to EAL/D.	Still Working Towards.

Projected School Priorities		
Priority 1	To keep up with emerging and developing research and technology, the College will revisit our Learning Framework with the aim to include new data-driven ideas and pedagogies.	
Priority 2	Develop the College's College Learning Plan for 2024 - 2026.	

Financial Statement

Financial information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth and State Government in the Financial Questionnaire.

School Financial Information for 2023 is detailed below:

Recurrent and Capital Income	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants ¹	\$12,149,188
Government Capital Grants ²	\$0
State Recurrent Grants ³	\$3,419,702
Fees and Private Income ⁴	\$4,309,867
Other Capital Income ⁵	\$538,559
Total Income	\$20,417,316

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure	
Capital Expenditure ⁶	\$765,157
Salaries and Related Expenses ⁷	\$14,217,665
Non-Salary Expenses ⁸	\$5,605,865
Total Expenditure	\$20,588,687

¹ Commonwealth relates to Commonwealth Recurrent Grants including per capita funding and special purpose grants

² Capital relates to Government Capital Grants received for construction of school assets

³ State relates to State Recurrent Grants including per capita funding, interest subsidy and special purpose grants

⁴ Fees relate to Diocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income from parents/carers

⁵ Other refers to Other Capital Income including amounts charged for Diocesan Building Levy from parents

⁶ Capital Expenditure refers to expenses incurred mainly for School Buildings, Furniture and Equipment

⁷ Salaries refers to the total of all Salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation, workers compensation and leave

⁸ Non-Salary refers to all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenses