



FRESHWATER CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Principal's Report for 2021

Mr. Doug Holtam

2021 was a wonderful year, and I am delighted with the strong community that we continue to establish and build together. God's love has lifted us to new heights and we are grateful for His favour and blessing.

I've framed my report on the year around the College's Virtues: Compassion, Courage, Honour, Humility, Integrity and Wisdom. Our Virtues guide and shape the College culture and represent the 'operating system' upon which we seek to build the lives of our students.



Courage

This virtue is my personal favourite. Courage empowers us to defeat fear, live abundantly and undertake great endeavours beyond ourselves, to which we are called. The first Courage Award goes to the College Board for their unstinting commitment to our mission and for making the courageous decision to continue, literally, building and investing in the College through a very challenging time in our history. Many would have bunkered down and held on tight. However, our Board stepped out in faith and we now see the fruit of their courage in the form of a brand new inspirational 21st Century Learning Space for our Senior Primary students. I've given the entire Year 11 cohort a Courage Award for their incredibly courageous group spirit in meeting every challenge thrown at them during their Emu Gully Leadership camp.

Compassion

The Compassion Award goes to our Freshwater Staff Team for the love, care, and kindness they've consistently shown to our students, families, and each other through the trials of 2021. It reminds me of the following verse from John 13:35: *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another"*. I am blessed to serve alongside such a compassionate, caring and loving team of 'extra mile' people.

Humility

Throughout 2021, our Year 12 Student Leadership Tea – College Captains, Prefects and House Leaders – has displaced outstanding servant leadership. They have consistently modelled all six of the College Virtues. The humility that they have displayed throughout what has been an outstanding year of service to the College has been impressive. In defining this winsome quality, we look to the example of Jesus: humility is about how we use our power, resources, and influence to serve the best interests of others. Thank you to our Year 12 Leaders. You are worthy recipients of the Humility Award.

Honour

I acknowledge, honour and thank our Lord Jesus Christ for His leading, grace and love towards our community through all the trials of 2021, empowering and encouraging us to keep calm and carry on. For, as stated in John 15:5, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me, you can do nothing."* Conversely, *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"*. (Philippians 4:13). Jesus has never left or forsaken us (and never will), and I am blessed to know that as we have given of our best this year, that he has given the increase to our efforts and shouldered the heavy lifting.

I also honour our parents for choosing a Christian education for their children. The longitudinal research (Cardus Institute) that looks into the effects of Christian education on graduates in their twenties and thirties illustrates that children who attend Christian schools are more likely to become strong citizens.

Integrity

Addressing the Secondary cohort during assembly, I asked the following question ... *"How do you define integrity?"* I received the following answer from a bright and articulate Year Seven student, *"Integrity is all about doing the right thing even when no one is watching."* I think you'll agree that this is a pretty good general definition. The high level of commitment, care and diligence our staff showed in *"doing the right thing"*, through switching from school-based mode to 'learning from home' with a four-hour turnaround showed a high level of commitment, professionalism and in particular, integrity. This was not an easy manoeuvre and is rightly acknowledged and admired.

Wisdom

The cohesive teamwork and interdependence that our Executive Management Team brings to their work every day demands a great deal of knowledge, understanding, character, and skill. However, this is not enough to lead a Christian school. One vital ingredient is godly wisdom, which combines the qualities listed above with discernment, good moral judgement and all the College Virtues. I sincerely thank our College leaders for their support and their willingness to choose godly wisdom as their guiding voice, inspiration and power.

Mr. Doug Holtam
College Principal

Freshwater Christian College

369-401 Brinsmead Road, Brinsmead, QLD, 4870
PO Box 643, Redlynch, QLD, 4870

Mission Statement

Life | Love | Learn

School sector

Freshwater Christian College is a private, independent, interdenominational Christian school

Associated Christian Schools - member school
Christian Schools Australia – member school
Independent Schools Queensland - member school

Year Levels Offered

Prep to Year 12

Co-educational or single sex

Co-educational

Characteristics of the Student Body

54% Boys

46% Girls

8% Indigenous

0.1% International

22% Junior Primary (P-2)

33% Senior Primary (3-6)

33% Junior Secondary (7-10)

12% Senior Secondary (11-12)

Total enrolments

576 students (as at August 2021)

Workforce Information - Staff Composition, including Indigenous Staff

Type of staff	Male Headcount	Male Full Time Equivalent	Female Headcount	Female Full Time Equivalent
Teaching	16	15.6	36	29.6
Non-Teaching	4	2.8	33	27.2
Operations and Maintenance	6	6.4	1	1

Qualification of all teachers

Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school

Doctorate or higher	0%
Masters	10%
Bachelor Degree	83%
Diploma	7%

(as at August 2021)

Funding Information - School Income Broken Down by Funding Source

Details of Freshwater Christian College's income can be found on the My School website <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

Social Climate - Parent, teacher and student satisfaction with the school

The College views its relationship with parents as a partnership in their child's education, therefore parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's education at the level that suits them best. This may be as classroom helpers in literacy and numeracy programs, arts coordinators, camp helpers, sports coaches, guest lecturers or coming along to the classroom to assist or view students' presentations.

Our volunteer program 'Freshwater Friends' continues to grow and Parents are welcome to volunteer in specific areas within the College, including the Library, Café and Horticulture Program.

Our Parent Class Ambassador program continues to go from strength to strength. The Parent Class Ambassador is a volunteer who, under the guidance of our Marketing Communications Officer, provides other parents in their child's class with support, friendship, and care.

The annual online parent survey conducted in Term 3 received 147 responses.

We asked:

What do you think are the best aspects of the College?

What do you think could be improved?

Responses received:

Small community feel, like values it teaches
Fun loving environment, great teachers
Great diversity for kids to learn and grow
Safe professional environment
Sporting options
Parking area
School uniforms
Communication between parents/teachers

Student Outcomes

Average student attendance rate (%) for the whole school

Number of possible school days	Total number of days attended	Total number of days absent	Average attendance rate
115,775	106,990	8,785	92.4%

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2021 was 92.4%.

Average student attendance rate for each year level

Year level	Number of possible attendance days for year level	Number of school days attended	Total number of all student absences	Average attendance rate for a particular year level
Prep	6,964	6,470	494	92.9%
Year 1	8,407	7,635	772	90.8%
Year 2	6,131	5,696	435	92.9%
Year 3	7,749	7,232	517	93.3%
Year 4	8,240	7,724	516	93.7%
Year 5	7,888	7,356	532	93.3%
Year 6	9,166	8,475	691	92.5%
Year 7	8,963	8,322	641	92.9%
Year 8	8,659	7,973	686	92.1%
Year 9	16,247	14,881	1,366	91.6%
Year 10	15,086	13,810	1,276	91.5%
Year 11	7,210	6,807	403	94.4%
Year 12	5,065	4,608	457	91.0%

Management of Non Attendance

The College has comprehensive procedures to manage non-attendance. Parents of absent students are required to contact the College on the morning of the absence to advise the reason why their child is not at school. Parents will be contacted by SMS if they fail to contact the College. Students who are continually absent are counselled.

NAPLAN results for Years 3, 5, 7, 9 in 2021

NAPLAN results can be found on the My School website www.myschool.edu.au