

Glasshouse Country Christian College

'Growing in faith and knowledge'



Annual Report 2010

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ANNUAL REPORT TO COMMUNITY FOR GLASSHOUSE COUNTRY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE 2010/2011

DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Glasshouse Country Christian College is a co-educational school situated on 58 Roberts Road, Beerwah in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. The College opened its doors January 2000 with an original enrolment of 16 students across the Prep to 3 Year levels. In 2011 this number is 698 students across Prep to Year 12. Our students are drawn from a number of areas including the Hinterland, Caboolture, Caloundra and Mooloolah. Many of these students travel by bus through our extensive bus service partnership through Glasshouse Country Coaches and our own modern buses. The College is an independent school set up as a company limited by guarantee and is a ministry of the Glasshouse Country Baptist Church in Beerwah. We are affiliated with Independent Schools Queensland and Christian Schools Australia.

The College's mission is to work in cooperation with parents to achieve the educational goals of each student. We will endeavour to provide the human and practical resources, the environment, the encouragement and opportunities to develop the gifts and talents God has given the children so they may respond to and fulfil the call of God in their lives. We are a College built on five principles or values, "Godliness, Respect, Excellence, Attitude and Teachability" and we work hard to instil these into the hearts and minds of our students.

The College has extensive facilities relative to other schools of similar youth and population including modern and attractive buildings, a Hospitality kitchen, 2 x Science labs, 2 x Industrial Technology workshops, a theatre seating 130 and a newly completed library along with six new classrooms. The vast majority of our classrooms are air-conditioned.



CURRICULUM DISTINCTIVES AND INNOVATIVE OFFERINGS

Kitchen Garden Programme (Prep-Year 3)

In this programme students in Prep-3 are responsible for maintaining a vegetable garden, harvesting the produce and using that produce in a variety of cooking techniques and recipes. The aim of the programme is to instil into children at an early age the importance of good eating habits and nutritional knowledge. Anecdotal evidence is that the programme is very successful in achieving these aims with many students reporting a change in their eating habits and incorporating more vegetables in their diet. The programme has one paid staff member and relies on the dedication of the many volunteers who assist with the cooking and gardening groups.



Year 10-12 Laptop Programme

Funded by the federal government's Digital Education Revolution and National Schools Computer Fund each student in Years 10-12 are provided a laptop computer (Apple Macbook) for their use during school hours. If the student chooses, they are allowed to lease the computer from the College at a cost of 300 dollars per year.



Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics Programme

Special training sessions for Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics occur every Wednesday morning, depending on the nature of the up and coming carnival. e.g during Term 1 the focus is on swimming.



Band Years 4, 5, 6

Every student in Years 4, 5 and 6 is given the opportunity to study an instrument and perform as part of the College band. The 100-dollar cost per term covers the lessons (which occur during timetabled music class), the hire and maintenance of the instrument and the band instruction. In Year 3, all students participate in a violin instructional programme called, "Smart Strings".



Certificate pathways

The College has added to the scope of Australian Qualifications Training Framework Certificate courses that we offer to now include Certificate II in Hospitality, Business and Information Technology with a Certificate I in Work Education.

Letterland Phonics Programme

We have adopted a phonics programme that extends across Years P-3 called Letterland. It is a fun way to



learn sounds and spelling conventions as it teaches these important concepts through songs and memorable characters.

Camps program

Year 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 all participate in camps.

Year 3: This is an introduction for students into a camp and outdoor education. The venue for the camp is at Tunnel Ridge Ranch and is only one overnight stay and two days.

Year 5: students stay at Maranatha Camp at Mapleton, this time for two nights and three days. Students enjoy a variety of outdoor activities and challenges.

Year 7: students spend a week at Canberra where the main focus of the trip is learning about the parliamentary process, but there are many other sight seeing opportunities including Questacon, the National Gallery and the CSIRO Discovery Centre.

Year 9: The focus of this camp is teambuilding and outdoor challenge activities. The length of the camp is four days.

Year 11: Students spend four days at Emu Gully campsite, which builds on the experience of the Year 9 camp and prepares students to take their place as part of the student leadership of the College

All teachers achieved certificates of proficiency in the use of Interactive Whiteboards which have been installed in every primary classroom. This technology is a wonderful enhancement to the day to day business of teaching in the classroom.

Wireless access in every secondary classroom allowed students to bring their own laptop, independent of Apple, Windows or even Linux platforms and integrate the computer into their classroom learning.

The nature of the P-12 campus allows for a coordinated and seamless curriculum across primary and secondary schools.

The appointment of a Head of Vocational Education and Training (VET) has enabled us to develop closer ties with industry and provide school based apprenticeships for those students who wish to follow a non-OP pathway. This has also been complemented by the establishment of a Certificate 1 course in Hospitality and Certificate II in Information Technology.



We have established links with the University of Sunshine Coast through the Headstart early university programme. This is where students undertake a university subject while they are studying at school, this can lead to an alternative entry pathway into university for those students.

In Year 5 all students participate in the instrumental programme. Students learn an instrument for six months and perform in the band. A number of students choose to continue their instrumental tuition through the tutors on campus.

SOCIAL CLIMATE

The social climate of the College is positive with students reporting a warm and friendly atmosphere. Many student friendships extend across year levels and even across Primary and High schools. The reported incidences of bullying are very low. Establishing positive relationships is often the topic of assembly and chapel addresses and this is reinforced in the classroom. Students are encouraged at all times to report matters that they believe to be unsafe or if they feel threatened. The College's 'Child Protection Policy' has been accredited as per relevant state legislation.

There are two Chaplains on the campus, a male and a female.

The student attendance rate was 94%

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The College has a strong involvement with parents in numerous ways including:

- The College P and F which meets monthly.
- The Kitchen Garden Programme.
- Volunteers in areas such as reading tuition, tuckshop, library, sporting marshals, coaches etc.
- Carnivals such as Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming, P-3 Sports.
- Two scheduled parent/teacher conferences per year.
- Grandparents day.
- Mother's night and Father's night at the Prep.
- College Open Day and Funfest.
- Information evenings and subject selection evenings (Secondary).
- Prep awards night, Primary Awards Night Secondary Awards Night, Sports Awards Night and Arts Awards Night where parents are most welcome.
- A close association with the the church "Playgroup" that operates on Wednesday and Thursday mornings.



Parents are kept informed of the activities of the College via a fortnightly newsletter and the College website.

STAFFING INFORMATION

The following table is a summary of the highest educational qualification of all our teachers:

| Qualification | Percentage of Classroom Teachers and school leaders at GCCC |
|---------------|---|
| Doctorate | 2 |
| Masters | 6 |
| Bachelor | 72 |
| Diploma | 13 |
| Certificate | 7 |



The major professional development initiatives for the year were;

- | | |
|---|---|
| First aid course | SET planning workshop |
| Teaching from a Christian perspective | The Teacher Aide and the ASD Child workshop |
| Primary Connections (Science) | Legal Compliance for Child Protection |
| Classroom discipline (Bill Rogers DVD Seminars) | Shared reading and Interactive Writing Workshop |
| Letterland Phonemic Awareness | Christian Schools Moderation |
| Australian Qualifications Framework | Struggling readers and writers |
| Dyslexia workshop (all staff) | Levels of computer instruction |
| Early Childhood conference | Various Queensland Studies Authority subject specific workshops |
| National Curriculum Briefings | |
| Vocational Education Learning Group | |

\$30 364 was the total expenditure on teacher PD which averages out to approximately \$722 per teacher.

The average staff attendance for the year was 96.3%

KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES 2010

The total enrolment was 553 students across Prep to Year 12. The average attendance rate was 94%.

NAPLAN RESULTS



| 2010 | Reading | | Writing | | Spelling | | Grammar and Punctuation | | Numeracy | |
|--------|---------|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|-------------------------|-----|----------|-----|
| | GCCC | QLD | GCCC | QLD | GCCC | QLD | GCCC | QLD | GCCC | QLD |
| Year 3 | 400 | 392 | 393 | 402 | 365 | 371 | 378 | 398 | 372 | 378 |
| Year 5 | 496 | 468 | 492 | 471 | 483 | 467 | 523 | 483 | 499 | 473 |
| Year 7 | 530 | 537 | 503 | 530 | 532 | 535 | 534 | 529 | 541 | 545 |
| Year 9 | 571 | 564 | 548 | 564 | 571 | 572 | 561 | 573 | 582 | 576 |

Outcomes for GCCC Year 12 cohort 2010

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of students awarded a Senior Statement | 14 |
| Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement | 0 |
| Number of students who achieved an Overall Position (OP) | 14 |
| Number of students who are completing or completed a school based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT) | 4 |
| Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications. | 9 |
| Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12 | 14 |
| Percentage of Year 12 students who received an OP 1-15 or an IBD | 79 |
| Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or have completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE and VET qualification | 64 |
| Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer | 100 |



HOW COMPUTERS ARE USED TO ASSIST LEARNING

The College is committed to making technology accessible to all the students of the school, across all the year levels and to integrate the technology into the curriculum. This is achieved through the following priorities:

Interactive Whiteboards (IWB) and data projectors in the vast majority of classrooms afford educational advantages such as:

- Notes put on the whiteboard can be readily printed for students, saves on 'copying down' and helps students engage more with learning
- Purpose built software for IWB that enhance the teaching of literacy and numeracy
- Readily available library of over 1000 educational DVD titles that can be projected to the whole class with minimum fuss
- Desktop and Laptop Computers
- The College has five computer labs containing state of the art computers. These computers



are used for class assignments and dedicated computer studies. Some lesson times in the lab is block timetabled but teachers are free to book lessons in the lab

- The majority of classrooms contain on average four fully networked computers. These computers are used by students for research and to prepare and deliver Power Point and other software applications.
- Most classrooms have wireless receivers which enable students and teachers to access the internet wirelessly through the students own computer or through a school provided one.

