

Glasshouse Country Christian College

'Growing in faith and knowledge'



Annual Report 2013



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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 2013 this number was 840 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 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, two Science labs, two Industrial Technology workshops, an engineering workshop, a 130-seat theatre and a modern library which includes six classrooms.

In 2013 the Sculpture Garden outside the new F Block was completed along with a new double storey building with six classrooms. Five of the classrooms are housing some Primary classes and the sixth is being used for a Primary staff room.



Towards the end of 2013 the old dirt parking area was converted to a fully sealed and landscaped car park which also serves to beautify the College's entrance.



Except for a few speciality rooms, all of our classrooms are air-conditioned.

Curriculum Distinctives and Innovative Offerings



Kitchen Garden Programme (Prep-Year 2)

In this program students in Prep-2 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 program is to instil into children at an early age the importance of good eating habits and nutritional knowledge. Anecdotal evidence is that the program is very successful in achieving these aims with many students reporting a change in their eating habits and incorporating more vegetables in their diet. Year 3 have a mini unit of Kitchen Garden each term.

The program has one paid staff member and relies on the dedication of the many volunteers who assist with the cooking and gardening groups. Recently, the Kitchen Garden has won prizes for its produce and student products in the local show.

Dance

Our Dance program continues to build in quality and popularity with the students performing at community events and winning prizes at competitions.



Technology

GCCC has an extensive Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment) education portal where assignments, course outlines and important information is freely available to students. The e-learning software platform also connects seamlessly with the GCCC website and has been renamed 'Connect'.

Senior School 1:1 Laptop Program

A 1:1 Apple MacBook program exists for all Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Students are issued with a 13" MacBook, given Administrator Rights to the machine and are able to take it home each night and during school holidays. This program is provided at no extra cost to families.

The internet is appropriately filtered and ubiquitous wireless access exists across the College campus.

Middle School 1:1 iPad Program

Middle School students benefit from a similar program using iPads for all students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Like the MacBooks, students are able to take the iPads home each night and during the school holidays and there is no extra charge to the parents.



Technology in Primary

Prep and Primary students continue to have access to MacBooks, iPads, desktop computers and interactive whiteboards in their classrooms to enhance their education journey.



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 Year 5 studies either a brass, woodwind, string or percussion instrument and performs on the Year 5 College band. This instruction occurs in small groups and students are expected to further their practice at home.

Year 3 Smart Strings

All Year 3 students participate in a violin instruction program called Smart Strings. The College also facilitates an extensive co-curricular music instruction program where students access private or group music lessons during school hours.

Letterland Phonics Programme

We continue to use, with great success, the phonics program 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 team building 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



Other Resources and Technology

Staff training in technology and software platforms is ongoing at GCCC. One Primary and one Secondary teacher have been released from teaching duties part time to devote themselves to training staff in the technological advancements that will enhance the teaching and learning process.

Future Pathways

All students are given opportunity to explore OP and non OP pathways.

Students in Year 11 and 12 study a maximum of five school subjects as well as Christian Life. This leaves a study time frame on Wednesdays where students are relieved from having to be at school.

As well as allowing students time to catch up on assignments and other study, they can use this day to pursue a TAFE course or a school based apprenticeship or traineeship without the fear of falling behind in their work.

GCCC has a dedicated Future Pathways Department and provides certificates in Hospitality, Business, Media and other industries through approved third party providers such as TAFE.

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.



Fiji Mission Trip

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are invited to participate in this bi-annual mission trip where the focus is to assist the Fiji Bible College in their activities. This includes community and school outreach as well as helping with construction projects. The next mission trip is scheduled for mid 2014 and may even become an annual event due to its popularity and benefit to the students and staff.



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 and there are comprehensive procedures in place for reporting and dealing with occurrences.

A family survey in September 2013 showed a high satisfaction standard with the College social climate.

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 three Chaplains on the campus, two males and one female.

The student attendance rate was 93.91%.

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 Program.
- 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.
- Discos and Trivia Nights
- Information evenings and subject selection evenings.
- 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 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:

Doctorate	0
Masters	17%
Bachelor	70%
Diploma	8%
Certificate	5%



The major professional development initiatives for the year were;

- Address Adult Language and Literacy - CIV TAE
- ASD Series - Part 2 Junior Years
- Autism Conference
- Beyond the Textbook: Multimedia interactive teaching
- Build the Bridge from Data Collection to Improved Instruction
- Casper CCA & CMA Training
- Disability Standards - School's obligations
- Educating Boys for Successful Learning
- Edutech
- Effective Writing Instructions
- Excel



- Explicitly Teaching Writing
- Google in Education
- Intentional School Leadership
- PCSchool Conference
- Prep Reading and Writing
- Senior Science Conference
- SET Planning Practical
- Social Emotional Disorder Training
- Stephen Heppell - Where is Learning Going?
- Teachers new to Christian Schooling
- Teaching Spelling - Words Their Way
- Visible Learning
- Working with Students with Speech-Language Impairment
- Duty of Care - Child Protection

Total expenditure on teacher PDs in 2013 was \$35,572.

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
- Purpose built software for IWB that enhance the teaching of literacy and numeracy

- Readily available library of educational programs that can be projected to the whole class with minimum fuss.
- Desktop and Laptop Computers
- Primary classrooms contain on average four fully networked iPads and desktop computers. Mobile computer labs using MacBooks are also used by all Primary classrooms. These computers are used by students for research, assignments, exams and to prepare and deliver PowerPoint and other software applications.
- Middle School students are each provided with an iPad which they take home after hours and during school holidays at no extra cost to families.
- Senior School students are each provided with a MacBook which they take home after hours.
- All classrooms have wireless receivers which enable students and teachers to access the internet wirelessly.



Community Consciousness

Students are encouraged to adopt a servant heart and be aware of the needs around them from a young age.

Special days are set aside for raising awareness and funds for different organisations.

Sometimes these are school wide events, sometimes year level events and sometimes individual students adopt a cause which is supported and encouraged by the College.

Some of the community events in 2013 included:

- Year 9 community service (gardening and cleaning for the needy)
- Mo's for Movember (raising awareness for men's health)
- Middle School Bandana Day for CanTeen
- Primary Crazy Hair and Hat Day

- Shave for a Cure
- Day for Daniel
- ANZAC Day march and service
- 40 Hour Famine for World Vision
- Gold coin donation/free dress day for various causes
- MS Readathon
- Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse)
- Musical and performance visits to local nursing home
- Australia's Biggest Cuppa for Cancer
- Banking to support a school in Africa
- Stand up for Destiny - helping stop children being sold into slavery
- World Toilet Day
- Care packs for the homeless



KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES 2012

The total enrolment was 840 students across Prep to Year 12. The average attendance rate was 93.91%.

2013 NAPLAN RESULTS

	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar/Punct.		Numeracy	
	GCCC	% above NMS	GCCC	% above NMS	GCCC	% above NMS	GCCC	% above NMS	GCCC	% above NMS
Year 3	432	100%	430	100%	405	100%	445	98%	401	98%
Year 5	497	96%	478	95%	482	91%	495	95%	485	96%
Year 7	541	92%	508	93%	530	89%	518	88%	526	98%
Year 9	585	99%	548	83%	574	94%	567	92%	559	92%



Outcomes for GCCC Year 12 cohort 2013

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement	46
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement	0
Number of students who achieved an Overall Position (OP)	27
Number of students who are completing or completed a school based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT)	12
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	44
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12	44
Percentage of Year 12 students who received an OP 1-15 or an IBD	35
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	100
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer	96

