

GLASSHOUSE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

2014 Annual Report



**GLASSHOUSE
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**

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Descriptive Information

Glasshouse Christian College is a coeducational 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 Year 3 levels. In 2014 this number was 864 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 local bus companies 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.

The College is built on five principles or values; "Godliness, Respect, Excellence, Attitude and Teachability" and it works 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, and an Engineering workshop, a 130-seat theatre, Dance studio, gym and a modern library which includes six classrooms. All of our classrooms are air conditioned.

Early in 2014 E Block was completed. This new double storey building includes six classrooms and houses our Year 3 and 4 classes.



Work began on Stage 1 of N Block (completed April 2015). This will house our Year 1 students and includes a spacious Primary staff room and kitchen. Stage 2 of N Block is set for completion by the end of 2015.



Change to name and logo

For some time we have been aware that as a College our name is often mispronounced and misunderstood. As our students win more awards and perform at more community events, this confusion has become more pronounced.

It was decided to drop the word 'Country' from the College name and to commission a new logo. The new name of Glasshouse Christian College is official from Term 2, 2015 and the new logo was unveiled at that time.

Both the name and logo met with widespread approval from our families, staff and stakeholders.

Even though the introduction is set for 2015, it is included in the 2014 report because it is published in 2015.



Curriculum Distinctives and Innovative Offerings

Kitchen Garden program (Prep to Year 2)



In this program students in Prep to Year 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. 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. The Kitchen Garden continues to win prizes for its produce and student work in the local show.

Dance

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



Agricultural Science

This program was introduced to the Senior School curriculum in 2014 and has a small but dedicated group of students enrolled in the subject.



Students work on a real farm and learn all aspects of the subject including machinery, plant biology, planting, harvesting, and animal husbandry. In their first year students have won prizes for their produce at the Gatton Agricultural College and Maleny Show.

Technology

GCC 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 GCC website and has been renamed 'Connect'.

Secondary School 1:1 Laptop Program



The 1:1 Apple Macbook program exists for all Year 10 to 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 the 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 iPads in transition

Middle School students have benefited 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 parents.

The iPad program is being phased out for Middle School students and they will participate in the 1:1 MacBook program (same as Senior students) from the beginning of 2015.

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. From Year 2 onwards there is one computer for each student.

Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics Program



Special training sessions for Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics occur every Wednesday morning, depending on the nature of the up and coming carnival. For example, 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 the 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.

Sound Waves Program

In 2014 the College introduced Sound Waves Program to Prep to Year 3 students. This program is a phonemic approach to both spelling and reading and has been used with great success.

Camps Program



Years 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 participated 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, 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 a 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.

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.

GCC 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 program. 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 the mission trip where the focus is to assist the Fiji Bible College in their activities. This mission has become so significant and life changing to those who participated that it is now an annual event rather than bi-annual.

The mission includes community and school outreach as well as helping with construction projects.

France Study Tour

New in 2014 was a study tour to France. This trip was planned to immerse our Secondary French students in conversational French and support their studies.

Six staff members, 16 students and one parent participated in the trip and it was a

huge success that plans are underway to repeat it every second year depending on demand.



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 Secondary schools.

The reported incidences of bullying are very low and there are comprehensive procedures in place for reporting and dealing with occurrences.

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 92% in 2014.

Parent Involvement



The College has a strong involvement with parents and families 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.
- Mothers' and Father's nights and chapels.
- 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.
- Special performances and theatre productions.
- 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 list is a summary of the highest educational qualification of all our teachers:

- Masters 15%
- Bachelor 74%
- Diploma 8%
- Certificate 3%

The major professional development initiatives for 2014 were:

- CSA Qld Conference
- Primary 'Learning Made Easier'
- Visible Learning
- Peer Coaching
- Thought Leaders
- First Aid
- Sharp Reading
- Thinking Science Cognitive Architecture
- Science/Maths at Qld University
- Australian School Colloquium Learning Program

Total spent on teacher professional development came to \$41,786.

Other Resources and Technology

Staff training in technology and software platforms is ongoing at GCC. 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.

Assisting Learning with Computers



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
- From Year 2 there is a fully networked computer for every Primary student. MacBooks, iPads and desktop computers are all used so students become acquainted with a variety of technology devices. 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.
- Similarly, Senior 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 2014 included:

- Year 9 community service (gardening and cleaning for the needy)
- Mo's for Movember (raising awareness for men's health)
- Primary Crazy Hair and Hat Day
- ANZAC Day service and march
- Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse)
- Biggest Cuppa for Cancer
- Fund raiser to help a student severely injured in an accident.
- Remembrance Day
- MS Read-a-thon
- Gold coin donation/free dress days for various causes
- Musical and performance visits to local nursing home
- Banking to support a school in Africa
- Clean up the community
- Buy a bale for Farmers
- Pyjama Day to help foster children



KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES 2014

The total enrolment was 865 students across Prep to Year 12. The average attendance rate was 92%.



2014 NAPLAN RESULTS

	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar/Punct.		Numeracy	
	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS
Year 3	432	54.8	391	51.4	394	52.8	420	48.6	394	58.3
Year 5	507	59.6	472	56.1	494	61.4	515	57.9	494	56.1
Year 7	542	48.0	492	33.3	532	45.1	526	39.2	535	37.2
Year 9	569	44.3	525	42.9	569	44.9	555	34.8	577	37.7

Outcomes for GCC Year 12 cohort 2014

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement	39
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement	0
Number of students who achieved an Overall Position (OP)	19
Number of students who are completing or completed a school based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT)	8
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	39
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12	34
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	100

