

GLASSHOUSE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

2015 Annual Report



**GLASSHOUSE
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**

58 Roberts Road Beerwah | 5439 0033 | admin@glasshouse.qld.edu.au | www.glasshouse.qld.edu.au

Descriptive Information



Glasshouse Christian College is a coeducational school situated at 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 2015 this number was 965 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 fleet.

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 compared to other schools of similar age and population including modern and attractive buildings, a Hospitality kitchen, two Science labs, two Industrial Technology workshops, 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.

New Buildings

Stage 1 of N Block was completed April 2015 and Stage 2 finished by the end of 2015 ready for students to move into at the beginning of 2016.



N block houses our Year 1 and 2 students, our Primary French classroom, offices and also includes a spacious Primary staff room and kitchen. The building was officially opened on Tuesday 8 March by the Honourable Mal Brough MP and Mrs Renee Leitch from the GCC Board of Directors.

Change to name and logo

As mentioned in the previous report, 2015 was our year of transitioning from the old logo and name to the new one. This has been very well received by the College community and it is great seeing the new uniforms being so warmly embraced.

The new branding was the ideal time to put professional directional signage around the campus. The format and design of the signs was finalised in 2015 for erection in 2016. The signage includes building and classrooms signs, map signs at three different entries to the campus and two entrance signs at the main entrance from Roberts Road.



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 Kitchen Garden is to instil into young children 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 two part time paid staffs members 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 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. Students continue to win prizes for their produce at the Gatton Agricultural College and Maleny Show.

Technology

GCC has an extensive 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 is called 'Connect'.

Secondary School 1:1 Laptop Program

The 1:1 Apple Macbook program exists for all students in Years 7 to 12. Students are issued with a MacBook, given Administrator Rights to the device and are able to take it home each night and during the school holidays. The cost of this program is covered by tuition fees.

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



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.

Year 4 Band Program

Every student in Year 4 studies either a brass, woodwind, string or percussion instrument and performs on the Year 4 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

The Sound Waves Program introduced in 2014 has been so successful that it has now been extended to the whole of Primary. This program is a phonemic approach to both spelling and reading and has been used with great success.

Camps Program



Years 3, 5, 7, 8, 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 stayed at Currimundi Active Recreation Centre for three days. Students challenged themselves physically, mentally and formed new social connections with each other.

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 8: Attended Higher Ground near Gympie where boys and girls were split up and challenged themselves through obstacle courses, group challenges and overnight trekking.

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 an adventure campsite which prepares them to take their place as part of the student leadership of the College.

Future Pathways

All students are given opportunities 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, 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.

GCC has 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 biennial.

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

French Culture and Language Tour

New in 2015 was a language and culture tour to Nouméa. This trip was planned to immerse our Secondary French students in conversational French to support their studies, and to expose them to a different culture.

As the first trip of its kind, numbers were small so GCC partnered with St Teresa's in Noosaville to keep costs affordable for the students.



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.

Reported incidences of bullying related behaviour are very

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

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 were kept informed of the activities of the College via a fortnightly newsletter, the College website, Facebook page, emails and SMS messages.

Staffing Information

Staff Composition

Full time:	Teaching	55	
	Non-Teaching	12	
Part time:	Teaching	12	
	Non-Teaching	49	(incl. 2 Indigenous)

Qualifications of all Teachers

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

- Masters 21%
- Bachelor 66%
- Diploma 6%
- Certificate 2%



Expenditure on and staff professional development

Teaching:	\$72,715
Non-Teaching:	\$16,403

The major professional development initiatives for 2015 included:

- Team boot camp - for all staff
- Visible Learning Symposium
- Alan November conference
- First Aid
- Sharp Reading
- Excel Intermediate
- Study tour of New Zealand schools by Management
- Australian School Colloquium Learning Program
- IT Expedia
- Synergetic Training
- Understanding ASD
- Teachers new to Christian schooling



Staff Attendance

Average staff attendance for school based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave periods of up to five days:

Number of Teaching Staff	Number of school Days	Total Staff Absences	Average Staff Attendance
67	200	317	98%

Proportion of teaching staff retained from the previous year was 90%.

School Income Broken Down by Funding Source

All these details can be found on the My School website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>

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.

In anticipation of changing the College data system from PC School to Synergetic, some training has taken place with more intensive training sessions planned for when the software is active in January 2016.

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:

- 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.
- 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
- Secondary 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 2015 included:

- Year 9 community service (gardening and cleaning for the needy)
- Primary dress like an animal day to raise funds for the Sunshine Coast Animal Refuge
- ANZAC Day service and march
- Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse)
- Biggest Cuppa for Cancer
- 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
- Donations of pencil cases and stationery items for disadvantaged children in Fiji.
- Nepal Day to raise funds for victims of Cyclone Pam
- Random Acts of Kindness - delivering hand made gifts to people in the community for Christmas.



Key Student Outcomes



Average student attendance rates

The average student attendance for the whole College was 93% which is a 1% increase upon the previous year.

The average attendances per year group is as follows:

Year Level	Average attendance in 2015
1	93%
2	93%
3	94%
4	93%
5	92%
6	93%
7	94%
8	92%
9	92%
10	91%
11	95%
12	94%

Attendance is managed by:

- Rolls marked every lesson
- SMS messages sent out to parents or caregivers regarding all unexplained absentees
- Parents or caregivers of students with regular unexplained absences have meetings with Heads of School.

Apparent Retention Rates

Year Level	Year 10	Year 12	% Retention
Number of students	76	57	75%

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2015

Number of students awarded a Senior Education Profile	57
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement	0
Number of students who received an Overall Position (OP)	39
Number of students or are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT)	11
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications	15
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12	51
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)	0
Percentage of Year 12 students who received an OPI-15 or an IBD	53%
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification	82%
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer	89%



NAPLAN Results

Year level	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar/Punctuation		Numeracy	
	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS	GCC	% above NMS
Year 3	445	97	406	97	399	100	445	97	420	100
Year 5	514	98	494	100	488	94	498	94	484	100
Year 7	560	100	513	92	558	96	547	94	549	100
Year 9	595	95	531	72	578	90	568	94	591	100



GLASSHOUSE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE