

*In Christ Wisdom & Knowledge*

2019



TORRENS VALLEY  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# ANNUAL REPORT

TORRENS VALLEY ASSOCIATION  
FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION INC



**Torrens Valley Association for  
Christian Education Inc  
42nd Annual Report:  
Year Ended December 2019**

1227 Grand Junction Road  
HOPE VALLEY 5090

Phone: (08) 8126 2200  
Email: [admin@tvcs.sa.edu.au](mailto:admin@tvcs.sa.edu.au)  
Web: [www.tvcs.sa.edu.au](http://www.tvcs.sa.edu.au)

# School Overview

## BOARD

<b>Board Chair</b>	Mr T Adams
<b>Deputy Chair</b>	Mrs M Delpont
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr C Swartz
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs H Spalding
<b>Member</b>	Mr J Jowitt
<b>Member</b>	Mrs N Egan
<b>Ex-Officio</b>	Mrs J Prattis
	Mr J Oosthuizen

## Board Sub-committees

<b>Governance</b>	Mrs M Delpont
	Mr T Adams
	Mrs H Spalding
	Mr J Jowitt
	Mrs J Prattis

<b>Finance, Risk &amp; Audit</b>	Mr C Swartz
	Mr T Adams
	Mrs J Prattis
	Mr J Oosthuizen
	Mrs N Egan

## SCHOOL

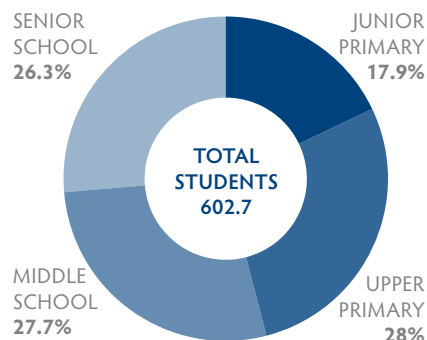
**Years Taught** Reception to Year 12

### Staff

**Teaching** 43.4 FTE  
**Non-Teaching** 23.1 FTE

### Students

<b>Junior Primary (R – 2)</b>	108
<b>Upper Primary (3 – 6)</b>	169
<b>Middle School (7 – 9)</b>	167
<b>Senior School (10- 12)</b>	158.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>602.7</b>



## Affiliations

- Christian Education National (CEN)
- Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA)
- South Australian Christian Schools Association (SACSA)
- Australian Association of Christian Schools (AACCS)



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# Board Chair's Report



It is again a privilege to present the 2019 annual report, highlighting the achievements and opportunities for our School community. The strategic priorities of Governance and Stewardship remained a focus this year, in alignment with goals identified from within the 2016 – 2020 strategic plan. As you will see from the report, progress has continued with positive results.

The strategic plan is an anchor point for our governance decisions and when considering the remaining pillars of Christian Culture, Teaching and Learning, and Discipleship, we are tracking well against targets in all areas. The stability and continued refinement of these strategic objectives is a testament to the dedication of our executive team, under the leadership of our Principal, Mrs Julie Prattis.

Stability of enrollments against budget and focused stewardship of our resources has resulted in a continued strengthening of our financial position. The audited finances for 2019 attracted positive commentary from the scrutineers, recognising benchmarked improvements in all key result areas. The planned strengthening of our financial foundation was achieved, allowing planning to continue for the next chapter for TVCS. A small government grant to engage an architect and conduct stakeholder workshops was received and utilised. Our business and administration team are a very professional outfit and should take pride in what they continue to achieve.

The community health survey was completed, and feedback provided through a series of meetings and reports. The results confirmed our Christian culture and community feel remain hallmarks of our school. Communication to parents scored very well also and I am sure you can reflect on the further enhancements in recent times, well done to all involved.

It was no surprise to many that the desire to park your car easily and enjoy modern facilities were not lost in the survey results. Maintaining and enhancing our academic achievements and setting a high benchmark for professional teaching standards stood out also as areas to focus on.

The political landscape remains challenging for Christian Schools and we remain engaged in the process of ensuring our voice is heard, well supported by our affiliations with Australian Association of Christian Schools (AACCS) and Christian Education National (CEN). The Torrens Valley Association for Christian Education Inc (TVACE) was formed by Godly people to establish a school that provides Christ-centred education. As your representative leadership team, we remain obedient to God's calling to stand firm in our convictions and are passionate about providing an education that remains tethered to a biblical world view, without compromise.

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Strong partnership links have been formed with Rivergum Christian College and a memorandum of understanding established for TVCS to provide support in the areas of Business, Curriculum Development and Staff Mentoring. We have so much to share with others and help them strengthen their opportunities to grow the kingdom of God in the Riverland.

The members of the Board have continued to provide sound and measured governance and I would like to acknowledge all of them for their dedication. The time commitment of volunteer board members is significant, and we should be very grateful for the commitment they all show.

The Board wish to express our appreciation to all the dedicated staff and volunteer teams that make up our school community. A special thank you to our Principal, Mrs Julie Prattis for her outstanding Godly leadership and also, Mrs Julie Dow for her dedication and support for the Board during the course of the year.



Mr Tim Adams  
**TVCS Board Chair**

# Principal's Report

Torrens Valley Christian School has continued to provide excellent educational opportunities for each of the 603 students enrolled in the school. 2019 has been an outstanding year of progress in every area of the school's development.

In keeping with the vision, the Board and I have worked closely together to foster a learning community that reflects our ethos and looks to the future in five strategic directions: Teaching and Learning; Christian Culture; Discipleship; Resourcing and Sustainability; and Governance.



## TEACHING AND LEARNING

### OUR VISION

Torrens Valley Christian School is a Christ-centred learning environment developing young people to believe, belong and become all that God has created them to be.

Under the direction of Teaching and Learning Director, Emily Brookes, the staff are to be commended for their professionalism in providing excellence in Christian teaching and learning. On a daily basis, our teachers seek to model Christ's love in their classrooms and support student learning.

As part of the strategic priorities for 2019, a strong emphasis was placed on professional collaboration in order to embed the pedagogical framework, Engage, Equip and Empower, into the delivery of curriculum. Teachers were equipped to teach transformationally and supported to develop learning experiences, R-12, modelled on a Transformation by Design approach. All staff attended the International Transforming Education Conference (ITEC) in Adelaide in July.

Academic results from the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) for 2019 showed 100% SACE Completion,

with 26% of students achieving an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) above 90, placing them in the top 10% of students in the State. 36.1% of all grades achieved were A grades. Our Dux received an ATAR of 97.4. Thirteen A+ grades were achieved, including 7 with Merit (these students achieved grades placing them in the top 2% of students in the State for the subject studied). 42 students received University offers, 31 for their 1st preference. I congratulate students, staff and parents for these outstanding results.

In 2019, 32 students were enrolled in VET programs with 15 students (2 classes of students) enrolled in the Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology (Vetamorphus).

NAPLAN (The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) results showed students performing well above the State in all 20 of the 20 categories and above the National mean in 17 of the 20 categories (Year 3, 5, 7 & 9).

In 2019, a review of the subject selection process was undertaken, and three new subjects were included in the offerings for the following year: Year 10 Geography, Year 11 Outdoor Education and Year 12 Psychological Studies (an Integrated Learning subject). Other new initiatives included the introduction of the BridgeBuilders® peer mediation program in Primary School, Career Conversations in Secondary School, and expansion of DigiTech and Information Technology programs across the school. Professional development focussed on Differentiation, Higher Order Thinking and the embedding of thinking skills and metacognition. The partnership with the School of Languages continued to flourish in 2019, with four languages – Italian, French, Chinese and Afrikaans – being offered to 73 students.



## CHRISTIAN CULTURE

Throughout 2019, the Values Believe, Belong, Become... were embedded into the culture of the school, exemplifying the School's dedication to honouring God and its commitment to the provision of excellence in Christian education.

Strategic priorities for 2019 focussed on redeveloping the Bible Curriculum, R-12, strengthening partnerships between staff, students, parents and local churches through the building of biblical literacy, the fostering of prayer and worship, the running of a Pastors' Breakfast and building links with Christian playgroups. A School Counsellor and a therapy dog, Spencer, and a reflective garden were introduced to strengthen support for student wellbeing. These initiatives focus on building Christian character within students.

## DISCIPLESHIP

Torrens Valley Christian School seeks to create an environment that intentionally cultivates the development of Christ-like character and equips students to be culture shapers in a global community.

In 2019, a group of twelve Year 10, 11 and 12 students and five staff participated in a 25-day cross-cultural experience to Germany, Switzerland and Austria, to provide our senior students with the opportunity to grow in their relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, experience another language and culture and grow in their walk with Christ.

Opening with a moving reflective ensemble Amazing Grace, our Easter assemblies for 2019 provided a God-honouring focus for our community. Chaplain, Margaret Garland and the Vetamorphus students brought a poignant presentation entitled Were You There? Also featured was the presentation of the Easter Poem Sunrise by the students in 6T and Grace to Grace by the Revamp Band.

Other initiatives included the extension of the discipleship program Vetamorphus, student-led worship, consolidation of the Revamp band and the extension of student leadership programs. It is our prayer these exciting new projects will develop and grow student's relationship with God.

## RESOURCING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Throughout 2019, the Board and senior leadership team worked together to align short and long term financial plans to meet benchmarks and build a strong platform for future development. Major initiatives included the commencement of work on a facilities Master Plan, the alignment of Key Performance Indicators, the introduction of a new family payment system, FACTS, the development of efficiencies in the delivery of IT, improvement of debt management practices and the implementation of leadership structures. An IT Strategic Plan was approved and the issuing of personal devices was extended to include staff and all secondary-age students. These measures, along with the maintenance of facilities, were implemented to extend and enhance learning opportunities for students with long-term sustainability and growth for the school.

## GOVERNANCE

TVCS is strongly committed to the development of a Christ-centred community and the building of partnerships between parents, teachers and students. This is pivotal to enhancing and enriching the life of the school as we seek to achieve excellence in Christian Education to the glory of God. In 2019, a community feedback survey was undertaken in preparation for a review of the TVCS Strategic Plan.

## FINAL REMARKS

I would like to thank the dedicated and committed members of the Board who volunteer their time and serve faithfully for the advancement of God's kingdom through Christian Education. It has been a joy to work closely with Board Chair, Tim Adams and the members of the Board, Marzelle Delport, Caleb Swartz, Heather Spalding, Jason Jowitt and Naomi Egan over the past year.

The faithful and committed leadership of our Board members, along with members of the senior Leadership Team, Business Manager, Jannie Oosthuizen, Secondary Deputy Principal, Fergus McGinley, Primary Deputy Principal, Caroline Duell and Director of Teaching and Learning, Emily Brookes has been instrumental in helping to maintain and strengthen the foundations of our school and provide godly governance. I would like to acknowledge the commitment of Secondary Deputy, Fergus McGinley and recognise the many contributions he has made to our school in the role of Secondary Deputy.

It has been a privilege to serve God as Principal over the past year and I give Him the glory and honour for all that has been achieved.

Yours in Christ's Service,



Mrs Julie Prattis  
**Principal**

# Treasurer's Report



The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee commend the attached Financial Statements for Torrens Valley Association for Christian Education Incorporated for 2019 for ratification and acceptance by the members at the Annual General Meeting to be held in August 2020.

The 2019 financial year for Torrens Valley Christian School can be seen as a year of consolidation after the strong recovery experienced during 2018. Great care was taken to ensure the School kept to the very stringent Board approved budget for the year. I am pleased to report that under difficult circumstances, with reduced enrolments, the School was able to exceed the financial targets set in the 2019 Budget under the skillful leadership of the Principal and Business Manager. The Finance Team again spent considerable time and effort in further refining the financial processes to ensure accountability and that in all instances the School receive value for money. The work completed has meant that at a Board level we are very comfortable with the resulting financials and the continued health of the school.

In reviewing the financials for 2019 I would like to bring to attention the following points:

- » The Total Income for 2019 was \$344,000 lower than 2018. This is mainly due to the decrease in student enrolment numbers from 644.7 to 602.7;
- » Total Expenditure was \$267,000 lower than in 2018;
- » The total net result for 2019 was a Profit of \$241,853 compared to a Profit of \$318,631 for 2018. Although this is a decline of \$76,000 in the net result, it is significantly higher than the budgeted profit for the year;
- » During 2019 the School Fee Debtors balance was reduced by \$54,000, meaning more cash was receipted during the year than fees invoiced.
- » The end of year cash position for 2019 was \$473,000 better than at the end of 2018.

During 2019 the School was able to renegotiate the loan facilities with BankSA, our bankers. The new facilities and structure that was implemented was not only simpler and more cost effective (i.e. lower interest rates), but also much more flexible, allowing the School to better manage its cash flow requirements. A significant saving in bank charges and finance costs has also been achieved through this restructure.

A continued target for the 2019 financial year was to stop the year on year increase in outstanding school fee debt (i.e. unpaid school fees at year end) and to start recovering long outstanding fees where possible. I wish to commend the work of the Business Manager and Principal in this regard. By following the new processes and procedures established in 2018, it was possible to not only stop the year on year increase in school fee debtors but to continue to reduce the outstanding balance compared to 2018 and 2017. The implementation of the FACTS payment system in the beginning of 2019 has proven its worth to act as an electronic portal for paying fees from 2019 onwards. As envisaged, this system has greatly assisted in the continued management of school fee payment and debt recovery.

Under the guidance of our Business Manager, Jannie Oosthuizen, the property maintenance team continued with the property maintenance plan which was established during 2018. During the December/January holidays a significant portion of the School was painted on the outside as part of a seven-year painting maintenance plan that was introduced in 2019. The solar system was recently substantially upgraded from a 10Kw system to a 99Kw system. This increased capacity plus the installation of LED lights across the School (the traditional florescent tubes were replaced with LED batons during 2019) will substantially reduce electricity costs for the future. Electricity generated and not used by the school, will be sold back to SA Power Networks to further reduce the electricity costs.

Thanks to all involved at a Board and Executive level with your assistance this year.

In Christ's Service



Mr Caleb Swartz

**Financial, Risk and Audit Committee**



# **School Performance**

Information about Staff

## STAFF NUMBERS

The information below outlines the full-time equivalent staff numbers in 2019 and the previous two years.

	2019	2018	2017
<b>TEACHING</b>			
Primary	16.3	16.9	15.8
Secondary	27.1	29.3	31.7
<b>NON-TEACHING</b>			
	23.1	17.6	16.2

### Staff movement

	2019	2018	2017
<b>COMMENCING</b>			
Start of year	4	3	0
During year	8	4	5
<b>LEAVING</b>			
End of year	2	3	5
During year	12	2	4

Note: Maternity Leave replacements are not included in this data.

## TEACHERS' HIGHEST QUALIFICATIONS

The following is a list of the highest teaching qualifications held by teaching staff at TVCS for 2019.

- » Doctorate
- » Masters
- » Bachelor Education (Hons)
- » Post Graduate Diploma
- » Bachelor, Diploma in Education
- » Bachelor, Diploma of Teaching
- » Bachelor Education
- » Bachelor Teaching
- » Graduate Diploma of Teaching
- » Diploma of Teaching
- » Grand Diploma
- » Advanced Diploma
- » Bachelor Early Childhood Education

## STAFF ATTENDANCE

Staff attendance is calculated to determine the percentage of available working time of all teaching, administrative, maintenance and grounds staff that are employed at the School. Absences include sickness, carer's leave and other special paid leave.

	2019 %	2018 %	2017 %
TEACHING	98.60	98.39	97.72
NON-TEACHING	98.53	97.57	96.96
ALL STAFF	98.58	97.94	97.53

## TEACHING, LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2019, we saw a continued strengthening of the Teaching and Learning focus of the school, identifying Educational Innovation and Leadership Development, as a few of the objectives for T&L in line with the School's current Strategic Plan. All professional learning opportunities embed and address elements of the AITSL (Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership) professional standards.

### International Transforming Education Conference

A key highlight for Professional Learning in 2019 was the International Transforming Education Conference - ITEC19 on 15 - 17 July held at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

All staff from Torrens Valley Christian School were financially supported by the school to attend the three-day conference. The aim for ITEC19 was to bring glory to God by actively seeking to engage all of our member schools and others into transformational experience that enables all to re-imagine the practice of their teaching, supporting, leading or governing.

The theme was 'Reimagining Practice'. Our International Transforming Education Conferences asked questions about the transformation of educational practice in Christian schools and other places of learning. They also seek to ask questions of Christian education's effectiveness in transforming the heart, mind, and life of every student. ITEC19, on the banks of the Torrens River in Adelaide, Australia, is no different. It seeks to ask, "How can we use our God-given creativity and imagination to consider better practice in the classrooms, playgrounds, staff rooms, and board rooms of Christian learning places?"

Christian education finds itself in a cultural moment characterised by an accelerating push towards a humanistic and self-autonomous framing of life and world. Are our current practices best placed to support students to navigate learning about themselves and their world in this context? What creative reimagining of practice would it be timely to consider, and reconsider? Through God's common grace, we see exciting innovation across the educational landscape towards deeper learning and a subsequent willingness to reimagine educational practice.

There is a growing enthusiasm for innovation in teaching and learning. As secular education breaks free of the institutional shackles of modernity, Christian education must be willing to critically embrace pedagogical innovation and challenge traditional structures and practices. It is our desire to provide a space for optimistic and biblically critical dialogue at this pivotal moment. We commit this conference to the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ through our desire to transform education and reimagine practice; this is our deep hope.

Keynote speakers included: Dr David Smith, Jefferson Bethke, Steve McAlpine, Dr Patricia Weerakoon, Dr Nick Latinga and Dr Rod Thompson.

## School Based Professional Learning Days – Highlights of Key Events and Professional Learning Days

To meet the Teaching and Learning objectives, in line with the school's strategic plan, staff were involved in intentionally planned and rigorous professional learning, with a day each term designated to this purpose.

- » 29 January **Certificate of Christian Education: Classrooms & Deeper Learning** Session 1, led by Dr Fiona Partridge and Emily Brookes
- » 29 April **Student Engagement** led by Emily Brookes
- » 29 August **Canvas Learning Management System & Crafting Formational Learning**
- » 12 December **Canvas Crusader Training** (Train the Trainer Training for Canvas - new Learning Management System)

## CEN conferences and study with the National Institute of Christian Education

- » Representatives of each sub-school were involved in **Bible in the Belly of the School** with Dr Rod Thompson (alongside our SA CEN sister schools) on February 7th to further equip and support our Bible curriculum R-10 through the TG21 program.
- » On 6-8 March Emily Brookes (Director of Teaching & Learning) along with Dr Fiona Partridge (CEN), Chris Parker (CEN) and other Teaching and Learning leaders from interstate CEN schools attended the **Christian Deeper Learning Conference** in Frisco, Texas. Highlights were the keynote speech given by one of the deeper learning pioneers in the national movement, Ron Berger from EL Education, and a presentation of learning keynote by students from Surrey Christian School in British Columbia. It was highly valuable to be involved in this rich learning experience. One that is of great significance to the work we are doing here at TVCS as we grapple with thinking more deeply on how to prepare students to be actively engaged in God's Kingdom, taking the next step in instructional practices as it relates to student engagement and as we grow to become 'uniquely better' in engaging students in their own education and foster critical thinking from a Christian worldview. Fiona and Emily were invited to deliver a workshop on one of the five areas of the deeper learning movement (instruction). The workshop was called:
  - » 'Sharing Examples of Practice - Stories from Australia'. This workshop presented the Transformation by Design (TbD) resource used by Christian Education National (CEN) schools in Australia to frame teaching and learning. We explored a range of crafted teaching practices which help develop classrooms as communities and enable students to participate in God's story of the world, critiquing other dominant cultural stories around them. Examples from curriculum and student learning activities using the TbD framework were shared. We used a range of teaching routines throughout the presentation, encouraging critical and creative thinking. Participants came away with a number of ideas they could embed in their own classrooms as they seek to develop beautiful, active learning communities.
  - » Torrens Valley Christian School promotes and supports staff in their further study with the **National Institute for Christian Education** and in March, Simon Golley & Coby Beames graduated with a Master of Education and Craig Bowyer graduated with a **Master of Education (Leadership)**.
  - » Catherine Green and Rachel Jowitt continue to study towards a Master of Education and Master of Education (Leadership) with the **National Institute of Christian Education**.



- » Kickstarters for the subject of study (EDU400 – **Biblical Foundations of Education**) with the National Institute for Christian Education were held on 18-19 July at TVCS and run by Dr Beth Beech and Dr Rod Thompson.
- » New staff were allocated a peer support colleague for the first year of employment and, in June, undertook the **Certificate of Christian Education** (CCE) developed from our national body, CEN and delivered by Dr Fiona Partridge.
- » On 16 September, Emily Brookes (Director of Teaching and Learning), Fiona Clayton (Head of eLearning) and Catherine Green (Senior School Coordinator) attended the dual CEN Conferences: **Developing Leaders Conference & Teaching and Learning Conference** in Hobart. Emily Brookes was invited to present a workshop on 'Quality Questioning'.

### AISSA Professional Learning Opportunities – Highlights of Key Events

Several staff attended professional learning opportunities presented by AISSA. Highlights of key events include:

- » A team of teachers and leaders from Middle School and Senior School attended the **Paradigm Shifters Learning Symposium** 29 July. The keynote speaker was Professor Yong Zhao from the University of Kansas, USA. We heard from a number of schools in Adelaide who have implemented special projects and learning opportunities using Professor Zhao's philosophy of student autonomy, product-oriented learning, global campus, and entrepreneurial mindset.

### Other Professional Learning and Projects

- » Throughout 2019, **SACE** teachers continued to utilise the online platform **PLATO** to support their interpretation and application of their performance standards and clarifying and moderating subject outlines and assessment.
- » **Wellbeing Training:** Our Wellbeing Team, Margaret Garland (Chaplain), Rachel Mulligan (School Counsellor) and Secondary School representatives, Catherine Green (Senior School Coordinator) and Susan Koefer (Head of Humanities), attended **Training in School Refusal** on 6 March. Trevor Coward (Middle School Coordinator) also attended **Be You Essentials** (Wellbeing Program) training on 20 June. Rachell Mulligan (School Counsellor) attended the Season's for Growth training in August.
- » **eLearning:** Fiona Clayton (Head of eLearning) is a highly sought-after speaker and curriculum designer with the SACE Board. She has been regularly invited as a speaker and team leader in various projects across the state (metro and country) in the area of Digital Technologies. She has also attended the **Future Tech Leaders Symposium** at the STEM Innovation Lab on 30 October. Fiona was also invited to speak at the **ANZ Digital and Blended Learning Transformation (K-12) Conference** in Melbourne on 22 July.

- » **VET/Careers/SACE:** Catherine Green (Senior School Coordinator) is renowned across the state for her work in VET, Careers and SACE. This has seen her attend events throughout the year run by AISSA, CESA, SATAC, Uni SA, Adelaide University, and the SACE Board. Catherine was invited to act as a consultant in the **National Review into Senior Secondary Pathways into Work, Education and Training** at AISSA on 20 November. She was also invited to attend a funded trip to Australian National University for the Beyond Year 12 Conference in Canberra in early December.
- » **Jolly Phonics Training** on 8 February was attended by Lara Aldridge and Halina Higginson (Reception Teachers) at S.P.E.L.D.
- » In March, Caroline Duell (Primary Deputy) Megan Thorpe and Lara Aldridge (Acting Primary Deputies) and Heather Adams (Primary Teacher), attended the **Seven Steps to Writing Workshop**. A strategic Professional Learning opportunity to be equipped with further resources for literacy and writing in Primary and Middle School.
- » Emily Brookes (Director of Teaching and Learning) and Fabian Karuga (Head of Maths and Science) attended **PATH19** run by Maths Pathway on 25-26 July. It brought together education's most forward-thinking advocates and practitioners of change with the Maths Pathway community to exchange ideas about maths teaching and learning. Over two jam-packed days, we were inspired by keynote speakers, connected with colleagues, got involved in workshops, brainstormed new teaching practices, and collaborated to continue to change the face of education! Session topics included Rich Learning, mini-lessons, teacher training, classroom practices and data play. We gained access to a wealth of ideas and resources, tried, and tested by the Maths Pathway community. Emily was also invited to present a workshop on 'Leading Change'.
- » Emily Brookes (Director of Teaching & Learning) , Jannie Oosthuizen (Business Manager), Lara Aldridge (Junior Primary Coordinator), Fiona Clayton (Head of eLearning) and Stephen Randell (IT Manager) attended **Canvascon** on 13 August as part of the strategic planning and analysis of a new Learning Management System – Canvas.
- » **New subjects:** Business Innovation and Outdoor Education teachers (Courtney Kernich and Chris Martyn) undertook relevant training for their respective courses at Adelaide Uni and the SACE Board in November.
- » The Leadership Team, including Julie Prattis (Principal), Caroline Duell (Primary Deputy), Emily Brookes (Director of Teaching and Learning), Lara Aldridge (Junior Primary Coordinator), Megan Thorpe (Primary Coordinator), Marzelle Delpport, Heather Spalding and Naomi Egan (Board Members), Julie Dow and Amy Loechel (Administration Leaders) and emerging leaders at TVCS, attended the **Global Leadership Summit**. The two-day conference was held on 17-18 October and provided keynotes for world class leaders and themes included: Change Management, negotiation, supervising people, risk taking, character and values, and grander vision.



# **School Performance**

Information about Students

## ENROLMENT STATISTICS

The total number of students enrolled at Torrens Valley Christian School at the time of the August census was:

	2019			2018			2017		
	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
RECEPTION	13	11	24	24	24	48	19	12	31
YEAR 1	25	24	49	19	14	33	13	17	30
YEAR 2	19	16	35	17	17	34	22	19	41
YEAR 3	20	19	39	21	20	41	18	20	38
YEAR 4	23	19	42	18	21	39	22	18	40
YEAR 5	21	24	45	23	18	41	25	27	52
YEAR 6	23	20	43	25	26	51	25	19	44
YEAR 7	28	27	55	27	25	52	29	31	60
YEAR 8	26	25	51	34	35	69	32	26	58
YEAR 9	30	32	62	31	25	56	31	40	71
YEAR 10	26.9	21	47.9	30	42	72	27	30	57
YEAR 11	24	36	60	23	30.9	53.9	27	34	61
YEAR 12	20	29.8	49.8	22.6	32.2	54.8	26	23	49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>298.9</b>	<b>303.8</b>	<b>602.7</b>	<b>314.6</b>	<b>330.1</b>	<b>644.7</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>632</b>

This represents a 6.51% decrease from 2018.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATES

Average student attendance rates for students reflected are based on information provided to the Department for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for students in Years 1 to 10. Attendance relates to Terms 1 to 3.

	2019 %	2018 %	2017 %
YEAR 1	90.9	93.1	93.9
YEAR 2	92.8	92.7	93.0
YEAR 3	93.4	95.5	93.6
YEAR 4	93.4	93.2	94.5
YEAR 5	93.4	94.8	93.8
YEAR 6	91.5	94.7	92.4
YEAR 7	95.8	91.9	94.3
YEAR 8	91.7	92.1	95.1
YEAR 9	90.1	89.7	94.3
YEAR 10	91.2	89.7	94.2
NON-TEACHING	92.3	92.4	94.0

## STUDENT RETENTION RATES

Student retention compares the enrolment of students in Year 12 with the corresponding student group when they were in Year 9.

	2019 YEAR 12 COHORT	2018 YEAR 12 COHORT	2017 YEAR 12 COHORT
STUDENTS IN YEAR 12	49.8	54.8	49
STUDENTS IN YEAR 9	62	75	64
RETENTION RATE (%)	80.3	73.1	76.6

## VALUE ADDED

How does TVCS add to a child's education which other schools may not be able?

Torrens Valley Christian School –

- » is co-educational;
- » enrolls children from Reception to Year 12;
- » provides a Christ-centred education in a caring family environment;
- » values each child as an image bearer of God;
- » offers a Biblically-based Curriculum;
- » is a non-denominational school drawing on more than 20 different denominations;
- » offers a wide range of subjects at Senior School level for SACE;
- » has high standards of academic achievement;
- » provides a Christian perspective in all subjects taught;
- » offers holistic education, developing the God-given giftedness of each student;
- » prepares children for life in this world and beyond;
- » has committed Christian teachers who not only teach but encourage, listen to and pray with students;
- » is governed by a Board of Directors elected by the Torrens Valley Association for Christian Education Inc., a body of which all parents can become members; and
- » is affiliated with over 65 other schools through Christian Education National (CEN).

## SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

- » **Current enrolment** of 595 students at February 2020 - an indication of the school's growing reputation in the community.
- » **TVCS** was extremely blessed with exceptional results from SACE in 2019, the best results in over five years. The high standard of academic achievement obtained in 2019 is a credit to the students and staff, with our students performing well above the best State averages. In 2019:
  - 100% SACE completion
  - Best student result was a top ATAR of 97.4%
  - 13 A+ results, 7 with Merit
  - Merits received in General mathematics (2), English (3), Research Project (1) and Ancient Studies (1)
  - 36.1% of results were A
  - 48.4% of results were B
  - 85.1% of all results were A's or B's
  - Average ATAR: 77.36
  - 11 students received an ATAR above 90 (20% of cohort)
- » **Believe, Belong, Become:** our new Vision and Value statement became embedded into the culture of the school in 2017 and these statements have continued to underpin and strengthen the School's commitment to excellence in Christian Education.
- » **Bible Presentation:** In February 2020, our Year 12 students presented bibles to the children in Reception. This special ceremony highlights the milestones in the development of our students and emphasizes the continuing cycle of Christ-centred R-12 education at our school.
- » **Art Show:** Since its inception six years ago the Torrens Valley Christian School Art Show continues to be a popular event, showcasing art work from students in all sections of the school.
- » **TVCS Open Day Showcase:** In May 2019 the school opened its doors and welcomed families into the classrooms for a new-look open day. From Jolly Phonics to quadratics, Sport to Art Classes, Music to microscopes, Parliament to Information Technology, classrooms were open for the community to experience the joy of learning.

- » **Bridgebuilders®:** In the Primary School we are using a wellbeing program, called the BRIDGE BUILDERS® Program. This Program is designed to help students with resolving everyday conflict and to reduce bullying. The BRIDGE BUILDERS® Online Program teaches life skills and helps students to be resilient and equipped with understanding, strategies and language to resolve everyday problems, get help and let go of grudges. When students are empowered with these skills they are able to feel safer, happier, more connected and be more successful learners at school and into their future.
- » **Reconciliation Week:** 'National Reconciliation Week' is celebrated across Australia each year in May/June. Dates commemorate two significant milestones in Australia's journey to build better relationships between the wider community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples —the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision. During Reconciliation week, our School was involved a number of special activities and I warmly congratulate our staff for their efforts towards reconciliation in our nation.
- » **Annie:** Our musical performance of Annie in June 2019 was outstanding in every regard. This family friendly musical tells the extraordinary story of a little orphan who never gives up. What an amazing way for our students to showcase their musical talents onstage and technical talents backstage.
- » **ITEC:** International Transforming Education Conference: In July of 2019 ITEC provided a transformational experience that enabled our staff to re-imagine the practice of teaching, supporting, leading or governing. This world class conference was attended by over 1500 delegates and was an excellent opportunity for our staff to network with other educational professionals from interstate and overseas.
- » **Career Development Week:** As part of a major initiative, all Year 10 and 11 students participated in our second annual Career Development Week in July 2019. The aim of CDW is for our students to experience a broad range of occupations and job opportunities. This highly professional and innovative approach to careers was well-received by staff, students and parents alike.
- » **Science Week:** Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future was the theme for the August 2019 National Science Week and primary and secondary students alike were involved in activities and programs that highlighted our Science curriculum.
- » **Book Week:** Reading is My Secret Power was the theme of Book week activities for students from Reception to Year 6 in August 2019. Activities included author visits, a book launch, a special assembly, dress up day and rotational activities in the library. It was a fabulous week!
- » **Senior School 2019 Subject Showcase:** Initiated five years ago, the Senior School Subject Selection Showcase has become a major event on the school calendar. In August 2019, the event attracted wide acclaim from parents, students and service providers, as Tertiary Institutions showcased their academic offerings to senior students. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive with University staff commenting that "the standard of the TVCS expo lifted the bar in terms of excellence in presentation!" I congratulate VET Coordinator, Mrs Catherine Green and Coordinator of Studies, Mrs Emily Brookes and the Senior School staff on this excellent initiative.
- » **Pastors Breakfast:** Designed to build community, strengthen the reputation of the school and foster links with local churches, our annual Torrens Valley Christian School Pastor's Breakfast was held on 7 November 2019. Over 40 Pastors and Church leaders joined staff, Board members and student leaders for an informal BBQ Breakfast followed by an engaging session with our guest speaker, Brian Cox.
- » **Camps:** A range of camps were again offered in 2019 from Years 4 to 12, presenting curriculum opportunities to students through first hand experiences, enabling students to develop social skills, be more self-reliant, confident and disciplined and develop teacher / student relationships outside the classroom environment.

- » **Junior/Primary Expo:** We continue to hold these expos each year where an estimated 150 – 200 parents and guests have the opportunity to share a learning journey with their child, hear the students read, view classroom work and share the joy of community.
- » **A Playgroup** offering a structured educational program for children, birth to age 5, has continued to grow and develop in 2020 and it is exciting to see these little ones learning through play each Friday morning in a Christian environment here at Torrens Valley Christian School.
- » **Waste Management System:** At the beginning of 2019, TVCS introduced a Wipe out Waste initiative to reduce the amount of waste-to-landfill produced by the School and to complement the existing Waste Management systems in place at the School. The impact was huge. This, together with a drive for "Nude Food" has had a major impact on the general waste produced by the School as students have considered the part we all play in the future of being caretakers of our Earth.
- » **Fair Trade Certification:** As an outworking of the Christian ethos of the school, TVCS has had Fair Trade Certification since 2017, recognising the School's commitment to sustainability and human rights.
- » **School of Languages:** The partnership with the School of Languages continues to flourish, with four languages – Italian, French, Chinese and Afrikaans – being offered to 75 students who enrolled.
- » **Student Leaders:** The 2019 our School Captains set a wonderful standard for other students and provided a Godly role-model within the TVCS Community. 2019 Senior School Captains, Vice Captains and Junior School Captains and Vice Captains set a shining example for all TVCS students. We thank God for their contributions throughout the year and the leadership they displayed.



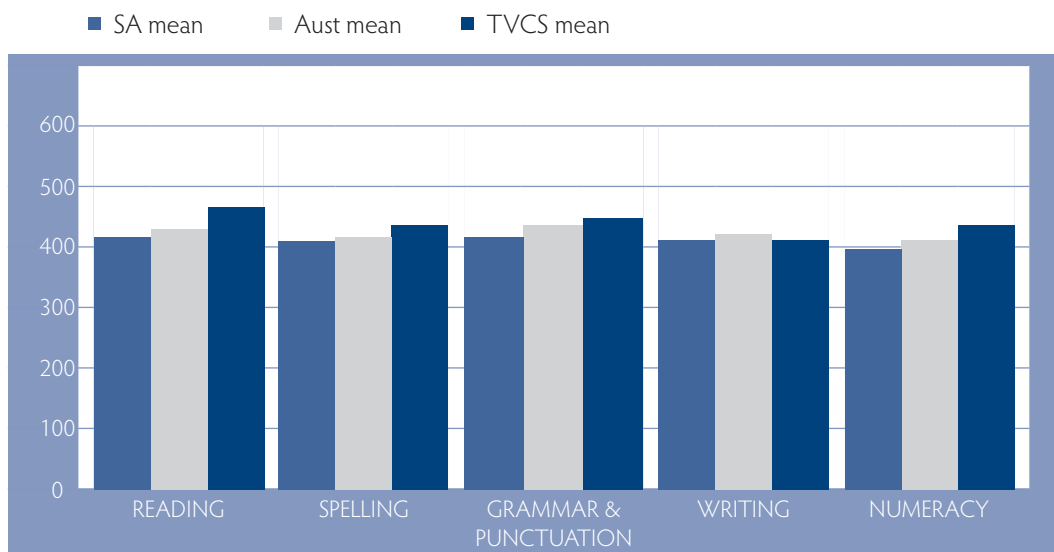
## NAPLAN RESULTS

The Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 cohorts of students were tested under the Benchmark System of Testing, NAPLAN. The graphs below show the comparison between mean results for Torrens Valley Christian School, the State and National average for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

### Year 3

TVCS was above the State mean in all five categories and above the National mean in four of the five categories.

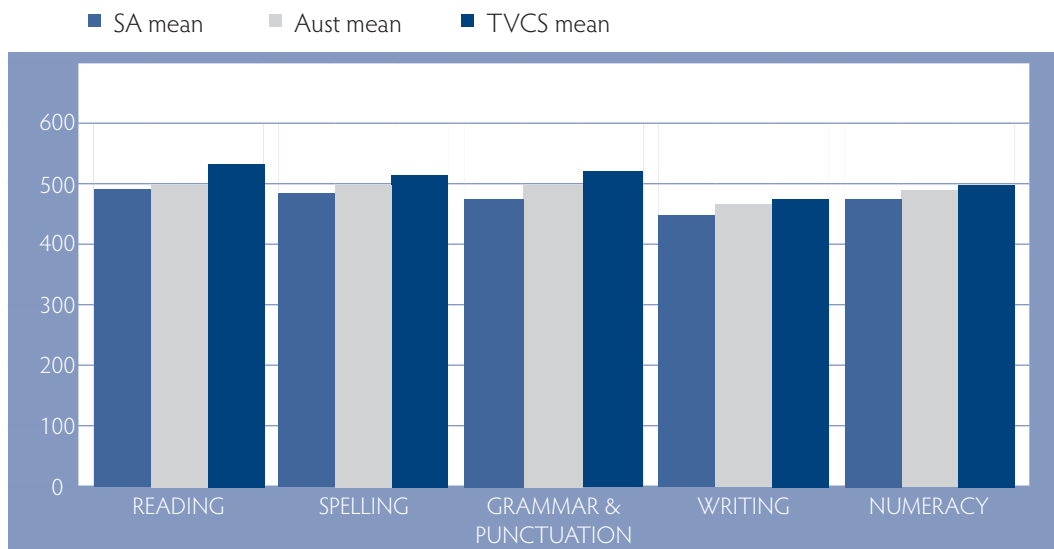
#### Year 3 NAPLAN 2019



### Year 5

TVCS was above the State and National mean in all five categories.

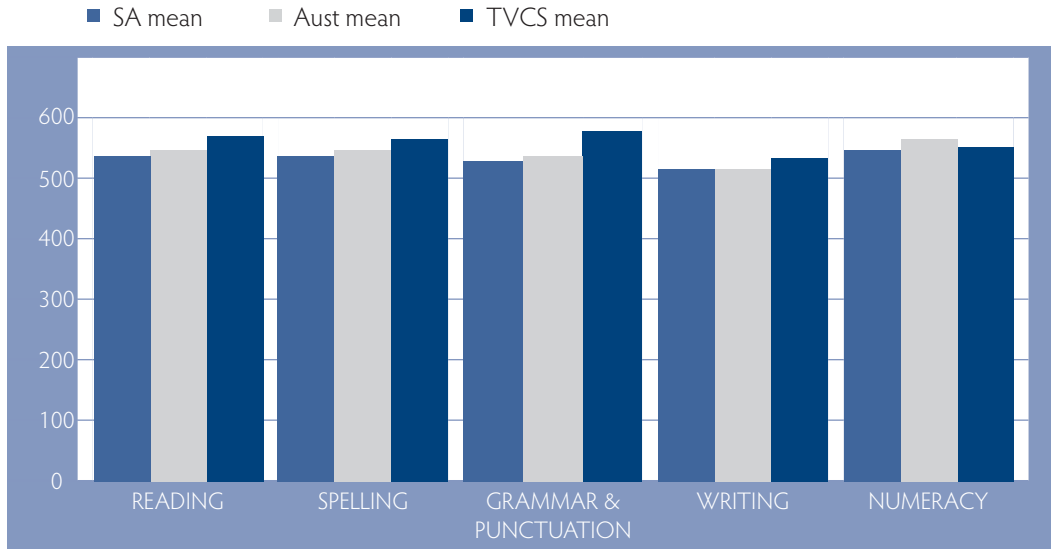
#### Year 5 NAPLAN 2019



### Year 7

TVCS was above the State mean in all five categories and above the National mean in four categories.

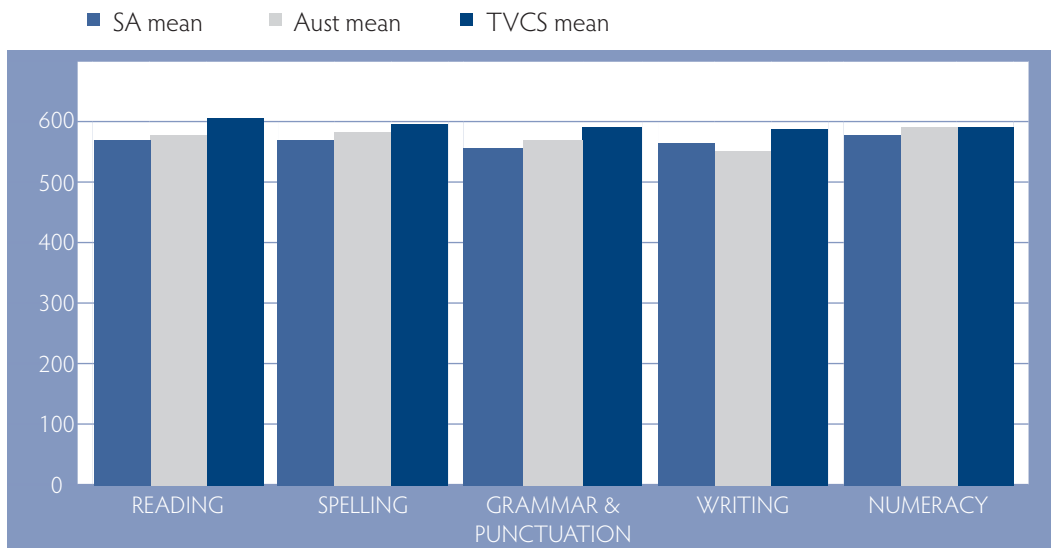
#### Year 7 NAPLAN 2019



### Year 9

TVCS was above the State mean in all five categories. TVCS was above the National mean in four of the five categories and equal to the National mean in one category.

#### Year 9 NAPLAN 2019



## Overall

TVCS was above the State mean in 18 of the 20 categories and above the National mean in 15 of the 20 categories.

## SACE STAGE 2 RESULTS

The information below shows the average score and the individual subject results compared to the State SACE results and results from previous years.

	2019	2018	2017
TVCS AVERAGE ACHIEVEMENT SCORE	B	B	B
STATE AVERAGE ACHIEVEMENT SCORE	B	B	B

GRADE	NO. OF RESULTS FOR TVCS	TVCS %		STATE %		
A+	13	5.4	36.6	3.6	27.5	
A	34	14.1		10.2		
A-	41	17.1		13.7		
B+	42	17.5		48.3	14.6	43.7
B	58	24.1			15.5	
B-	16	6.7			13.6	
C+	21	8.8	15.0	11.8	26.8	
C	14	5.8		11.1		
C-	1	0.4		3.9		
D+	-	-	-	1.0	1.7	
D	-	-		0.5		
D-	-	-		0.2		
E+	-	-	-	0.1	0.2	
E	-	-		0.1		
E-	-	-		-		
N	-	-		-		

■ Above the State average results

## SACE COMPLETION

The table below shows the number of students completing SACE compared to the State average.

	2019	2018	2017
POTENTIAL SACE COMPLETERS	51	54	49
SACE COMPLETERS	51	54	49
TVCS COMPLETED	100%	100%	100%
STATE COMPLETED	98%	97.4%	97.6%

## AVERAGE AUSTRALIAN TERTIARY ADMISSION RANK (ATAR) RESULTS

The table provides information on the average ATAR score for those students who registered and received an ATAR.

	2019	2018	2017
AVERAGE ATAR SCORE	77.4	78.6	72
NO. OF STUDENTS REGISTERED	42	44	42
ATAR SCORE GREATER THAN 80	50%	46%	31%

## VET RESULTS

The table below provides information on the number of students who completed VET Qualifications and the number of completed qualifications grouped by certificate level.

CERTIFICATE LEVEL	NO. OF TVCS STUDENTS WITH COMPLETED VET QUALIFICATIONS	NUMBER OF QUALIFICATIONS COMPLETED	TVCS %	STATE %
CERTIFICATE I	-	-	-	9.03
CERTIFICATE II	5	40	12.16	34.19
CERTIFICATE III	28	289	87.84	55.90
CERTIFICATE IV OR GREATER	-	-	-	0.87
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Three students are continuing with their 2019 studies into 2020.

One student partially completed her Certificate III.

Two students were enrolled in Certificate III as School Based Apprentices and will complete their qualifications in full time employment.



1227 Grand Junction Road  
HOPE VALLEY 5090

Phone: (08) 8126 2200  
Email: [admin@tvcs.sa.edu.au](mailto:admin@tvcs.sa.edu.au)  
Web: [www.tvcs.sa.edu.au](http://www.tvcs.sa.edu.au)



**TORRENS VALLEY**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

TORRENS VALLEY ASSOCIATION  
FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION INC

1227 Grand Junction Road  
HOPE VALLEY SA 5090  
08 8126 2200  
[admin@tvcs.sa.edu.au](mailto:admin@tvcs.sa.edu.au)