



Divine Mercy Annual Report

2017

1. Mission Statement

Divine Mercy College strives to provide a well - balanced curriculum focusing on academic, spiritual, physical and moral values. We are passionate about following our call from God to provide affordable Catholic Education for our community and to build a stronger dynamic Australia through raising academic excellence and opportunity.

Priority is given to systematic and structured education following West Australian Curriculum. We believe every child is a valued member of the school's community and deserves the very best in all areas of human development.

Divine Mercy College is proud to follow and promote our Catholic values and traditions. Christ is the beginning and the end in all of our endeavours. The prime focus of the school is to give all students the best possible opportunities in their further education and to provide a solid moral/spiritual base before they enter the wider community as young adults.

2. School Background

Divine Mercy is one of only two West Australian Roman Catholic Independent schools.

Our school is centrally located near the dynamic Cockburn Central, 5 minutes from freeway exits and Gateways Shopping Centre. Well established bus routes and a shopping complex are within walking distance of the school and are utilised by many of our students. Our school is surrounded by beautiful native Australian bush and the Beeliar Lake and we are situated beside The Montessori Day Care Centre and Mater Christi Catholic Parish.

Divine Mercy moved to Yangebup in April 2004 with a small number of students. Our school has undergone rapid growth and at present (December 2018) there are 416 students.

Completion of our Early Childhood Learning Centre, including Kindy and Pre Primary was ahead of schedule which allowed for the centre to be operational for the 2017 school year.

3. Workforce

DMC currently has employed 1 Principal, 31 teachers, 4 teacher aids, 3 administration staff, 1 librarian, 1 bursar, 1 laboratory assistant, 1 computer technician, 1 uniform coordinator, 2 learning support coordinators, with a small number of teachers also taking on leadership roles (in addition to teaching). All employees are well qualified and competent with appropriate degrees: teachers are highly qualified and registered with TRB and teach only within their area of expertise. Many of our teachers offer a wealth of professional experience from Australia and other countries. At the end of 2017 two staff members left DMC for various reasons.

4. Workforce composition:

For 2017 of the 36 academic staff and 12 non-teaching staff, there were 7 males and 41 females. There were no Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander employees, however the teachers at DMC do come from a wide diversity of countries. Collectively the qualifications held by staffs were:

Diploma in Education.	31
Diploma in Special Needs Education.	2
Bachelor of Physical Education.	3
Graduate Certificate of Early Childhood Education.	3
Master of Education.	6
Doctorate.	4

5. Student Attendance:

Our students attended school on average 96% of the time last year, which was an increase of 2% from 2017.

The attendance rate percentages for each year level were:

Year 1:	98.79%	Year 6:	97.29%
Year 2:	94.41%	Year 7:	98.10%
Year 3:	93.68%	Year 8:	95.10%
Year 4:	97.13%	Year 9:	95.7%
Year 5:	96.15%	Year 10:	94.68%

6. Senior Student outcomes & Post School Destinations:

Total of Year 12 Cohort	27
Students offered a first choice university place (including those without an ATAR)	19
University Entrance Rate for year 12 Cohort (not including bridging courses)	70%
Students with an ATAR who applied for university	16
Students with ATAR offered any university place	16
University Entrance Rate for those with an ATAR	100%
Students who graduated with a WACE	19
Students who didn't graduate with a WACE	8
Students who undertook a VET program TOTAL	11
- Cert Sports and Recreation	11
- Cert ICT	9
Students who completed a Certificate II or above TOTAL	8
- Cert Sports and Recreation	8
- Cert ICT	7
Students – non ATAR and no WACE certificate	8
University	19
University Bridging Course, TAFE, Uni Ready	4
Work	1
Unsure (school was unable to contact students)	3

7. ATAR Results

Median	72.0
Highest ATAR Score	94.1

8. Student Outcomes in Standardised National Testing (Naplan 2017 – School Mean).

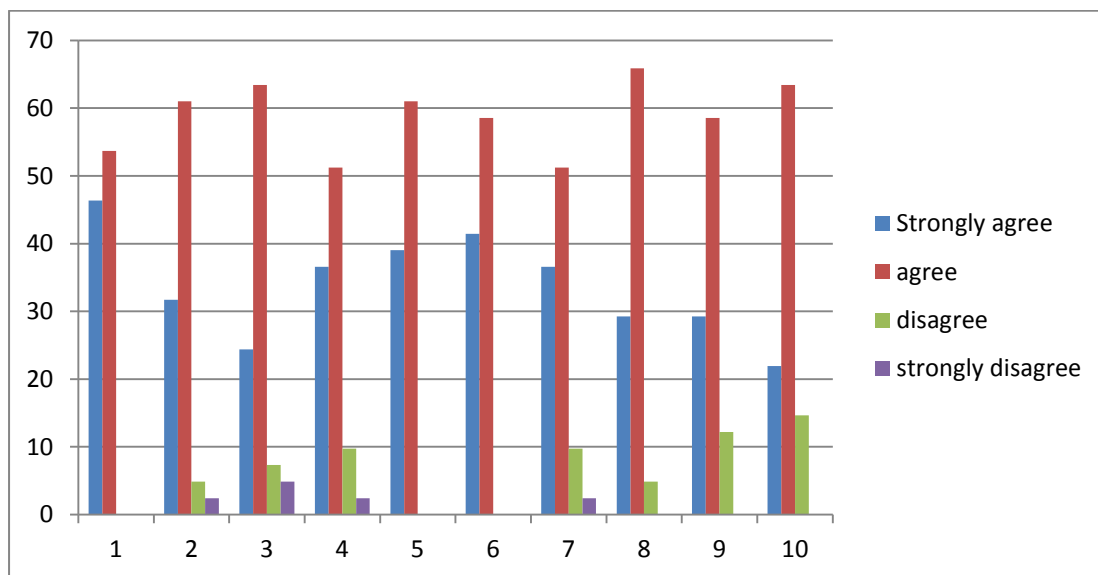
	Reading	Persuasive Writing	Spelling	Grammar and Punctuation	Numeracy
Year 3	442	415	451	441	427
Year 5	512	491	524	516	522
Year 7	535	535	602	568	580
Year 9	606	597	658	613	614
	Substantially above National Average. (by 15%)				
	Above National Average.				
	Close to National Average				
	Below National Average				

9. Parent, Student and Teachers Satisfaction with the School

Divine Mercy College conducts a survey every year in order to assure the satisfaction of many school stakeholders, especially parents, students and teachers. The 2017 results of the parent survey were as follows;

2017 Parent Survey Results

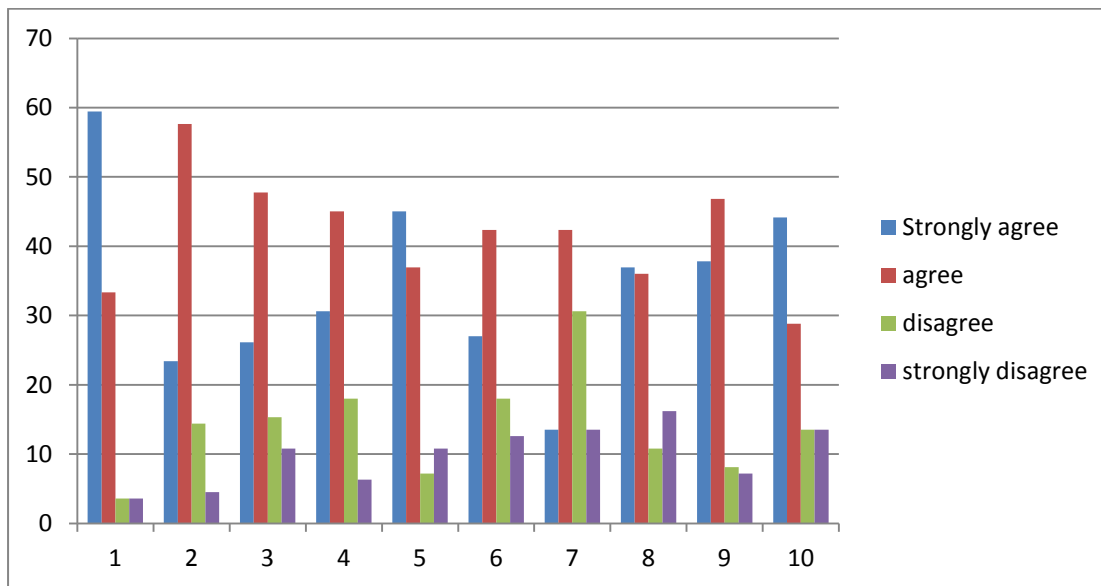
1) Teachers at this school expect my child to do his or her best.
2) Teachers at this school provide my child with useful feedback about his or her school work.
3) Teachers at this school treat students fairly.
4) This school is well maintained.
5) My child feels safe at this school.
6) I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns and works with me to support my child's learning.
7) Student behaviour is well managed at this school.
8) This school looks for ways to improve.
9) My child is making good progress at this school.
10) My child's learning needs are being met at this school.



2017 Student Survey Results

1) Teachers at this school expect me to do my best.
2) Teachers at this school provide me with useful feedback about my school work.
3) Teachers at this school treat students fairly.
4) My school is well maintained.
5) I feels safe at this school.
6) I can talk to my teachers about my concerns.
7) Student behaviour is well managed at this school.
8) I like being at my school.
9) My teacher motivates me to learn.

10) My school gives me opportunities to do interesting things.



2017 Staff Survey Results

1) Teachers at this school provide students with useful feedback about their school work.

2) Student's learning needs are being met at this school.

3) This school works with parents to support student's learning.

4) At this school student behaviour is managed in a fair and non degrading manner.

5) This school continually looks for ways to improve.

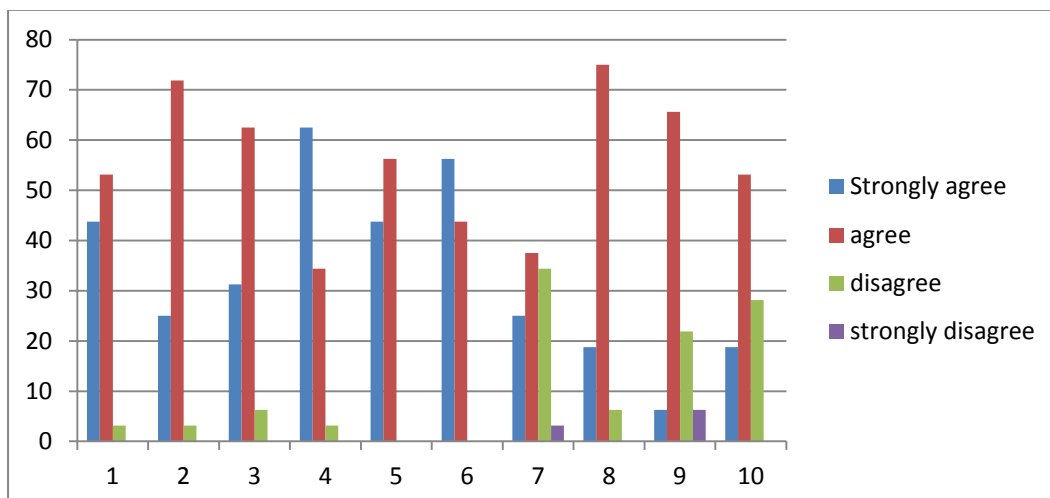
6) Teachers at this school are motivated to help students to learn.

7) Staff work well as a team and staff morale is high.

8) The school is well maintained.

9) I receive useful feedback about my work at this school.

10) Staff are well supported at this school and the school takes staff opinions seriously.



10. School Income:

Divine Mercy College has been funded from the following measures: (2017)

	Total \$	Per Student \$
Australian Government Recurrent Funding	3,351,510.00	8,056,51
State/Territory government recurrent funding	1,236,886,12	2,973,28
Fees, charge and parent contributions	724,106,13	1,740,64
Other private sources	239,738.79	576,30

11. Communication with the School Community

Divine Mercy College maintains the communication with the school community by the following methods:

- School newsletters are published fortnightly and emailed to parents
- General assemblies are held twice per term
- Daily prayers are held for Primary School and High School separately
- School Calendar is now published
- "Parent Teacher" nights are held 2 times per year
- School reports are produced 2 times per year at the end of both 1st and 2nd semester
- The interim reports are produced at the end of term 1
- Additional letters and emails are sent when required
- Parent teacher meetings are also held when required

12. Special Programs

Beside the core programs required by the Western Australian Department of Education, Divine Mercy College also offers

- LOTE – Japanese
- Media
- Music
- Dance
- EALD
- G&T in some subjects
- Interschool Sports

13. Community Spirit and Partnerships

At Divine Mercy, we enjoy many partnerships with our families which help create wonderful experiences for our students and foster not only the Catholic Faith but also community spirit at our school.

These include:

- Weekly Masses
- Morning Chapel
- Canteen.
- Uniform Shop.
- Book Club.
- Sports Clubs
- Reading Rosters.
- Liturgical Celebrations
- Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation with support from Mater Christi Catholic Parish.
- Fundraising
- Parents & Friends
- Legion of Mary- weekly program. Involves apostolic work in the spirit of faith and in union with Mary.
- St Vincent De Paul Society – weekly program, plus various charitable programs are run each term.

We have also developed a strong partnership with the Non-Government School Psychology Service and utilise their services to provide quality testing and guidance to enable us to provide education plans for students experiencing difficulties.

14. Parents and Friends

The Parents & Friends Association has been actively involved in the life of the DMC community. Their participation, fund raising efforts and practical advice and suggestions are greatly appreciated. Our P&F is a member of the State Federation of P&F Associations, approved by catholic Business Australia. Divine Mercy College P&F regularly reports to the school community on their activities and copies of their minutes are available to all parents.

15. Conclusion

2017 was an extremely busy year for Divine Mercy College with a focus on strategic direction for the future. Divine Mercy College has very minimal turnover from year to year. Throughout the year we have seen numerous teachers reach 10 years of service with our year 5 teacher, taking long service leave during term 4, her replacement has continued employment in the Education Support Centre, which has allowed our support for students to grow with a particular focus on Numeracy.

All staff and working hard to implement goals as outlined in the 2018 – 2021 Business Plan for the school. The clear Strategic Direction outlines timelines for improvement which will

only lead to greater improvement in all areas of the school, Catholic Faith, Student Learning, Productivity, Engagement and Wellbeing.

The facilities around the school have continued to be improved with a third computer lab being built, shelters for our pathways, new shade shelters for our drive through and solar panels being installed for renewable energy. The outside basketball courts are now fenced, with continual replacement of school assets in-line with the school maintenance and replacement schedule.

Religious education has been a focal point during the first half of 2018 with the school now reciting the Evangelist prayer at 12 noon daily. This fits our strategic vision to empower students to achieve their potential, as our gift to God. At DMC we encourage students to attain the beliefs, values, attitudes, knowledge, skills and practices which will enable them to achieve their full potential as human persons.

During 2017 Divine Mercy College added additional courses in year 11 & 12 by adding Certificate 1 & 2 in Sports and Recreation as well as Certificate 1 & 2 Information Communications Technology. This ensured that more students were given the opportunity to achieve their WACE certificate and expanded their options after leaving Divine Mercy College.

The Schools NAPLAN results were again very pleasing as teachers high level of teaching was confirmed by the results, with all areas (except 1) being close too, if not above the national average. In some areas DMC's results were substantially higher than the National Average. DMC also outperformed schools in close proximity in most year groups.

Looking forward Divine Mercy College will focus on continual change and growth being lead by the School Business Plan 2018 – 2021. An area of focus for 2018/2019 will be more high level data analysis to assist with both Teacher Appraisals and Students Learning in all areas. The school currently has a strong leadership team who are united and focused on ensuring the students education, wellbeing and faith are at the forefront of all school decisions.

We are proud of our staff, students, parents and whole school community, and feel blessed in being a part of developing and guiding young people lives.