



Little Yarra
STEINER SCHOOL

Annual Report for 2018

2018 was a solid year of development for Little Yarra Steiner School. Our Year 12 students had a genuine choice to undertake a year-long Independent Project or ATAR scored exams. Tertiary pathways for our non-ATAR students were also developed with the cooperation of several Melbourne universities.

Parent satisfaction remains high with parents surveyed in November 2018 rated 9.1 out of 10 for satisfaction with the school overall and the level of support offered to their child, and 8.5 out of 10 satisfied with the quality of teaching. 9 out of 10 respondents would recommend the school to other parents.

Consultation and feedback from staff during 2018 found consistent overall levels of satisfaction with the school with 7.1 out of 10 inspired to come to work and 8.2 out of 10 positively reporting a safe working environment.

Feedback from student exits in 2018 indicated that parental satisfaction with Little Yarra Steiner School was high with most exits regrettably due to relocation or financial considerations.

Curriculum

2018 also saw the further consolidation and implementation of the Australian Steiner Curriculum Framework in the areas of English; History; Mathematics; Science. The Arts, Health and Physical Education and Technologies. Further, the learning areas of Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business were recognised by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority in July 2018.

NAPLAN participation through the withdrawal of student participation by their parents was minimal. Results obtained by this method are therefore statistically insignificant with insufficient data to provide comparative value.



Attendance

In 2018, average student attendance for classes 1 to 10 were reported as follows:

Class 1	96.8%
Class 2	88.6%
Class 3	89.1%
Class 4	89.7%
Class 5	86.9%
Class 6	90.5%
Class 7	90.6%
Class 8	88.9%
Class 9	85.9%
Class 10	89.3%

Student numbers and VCE results

Student numbers were stable and evenly distributed between the Primary school (121) and Upper School (129) for 2018. Class 12 had 17 students in 2018 and Class 10 and 11 had 16 and 14 students respectively, choosing to stay at Little Yarra for the completion of their schooling.

Our class of 2018 represented our 16th year of providing the VCE with most students supplementing this by undertaking and successfully completing a Class 12 Independent Project. There were 4 students who elected to receive an ATAR and one who elected to receive study scores in English and Biology. The median study score increased from 31 (out of 50) in 2017 to 33 with 5% of study scores of 40 and over; the ATAR median was 76.8.



Of our graduates from 2018 100% successfully completed and received a Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). 86% of the students who elected to go on to tertiary education were successful in gaining direct entry to courses commencing in 2019.

Staffing

New staff in 2018 included Padma Lee, Domas Rukas, Hiromi Saito and Iden Reidy. Staff who were farewelled during 2018 were Kerry Press, Shannon Ellis, Karyn Marlowe, Tania Neil, Imelda Verbraak, Dana Jindra and Clare Tomlinson.

In 2018 our staff consisted of 65 individuals in 41.5 Full Time Equivalent roles holding the following qualifications:

PhD	1
Masters Degree	6
Bachelor Degree	48
With Honors	6
Graduate Diplomas	30
Diplomas	34
Certificate IV	13
Certificate III	2

These include 20 staff holding qualifications in Steiner Education.



Finances

Following are the summary results from our Audited Financial Statements:

Revenue:	
Government Recurrent Grants	\$3,658,441
Fee Revenue	\$1,886,827
Other Income	\$253,029
Total	\$5,798,297
Recurrent Expenditure (Inc. Provisions):	\$5,656,013
Capital Expenditure:	\$1,246,527
Operating Result	\$642,398
Cash Result	\$888,322

The Capital Development and Maintenance programs in 2018 included landscaping works and rejuvenation of school gardens with enhanced sustainability and environmental planning. Master Planning meetings were held throughout the year, and a revised application for a new preschool was prepared for commencement of this project in 2020. The 24-hectare property land title was transferred from the Little Yarra Steiner Education Foundation.

Conclusion:

In summary, we continue to work conscientiously to maintain a highly supportive and safe learning environment for our students and staff, and to provide a high quality independent K-12 Steiner education for families and their children in the Yarra Ranges and its surrounds. Our school has the capacity and excellent staff and facilities to grow and thrive into the future with consistently proven innovative and capacity building education for our students.

