



Little Yarra
STEINER SCHOOL

Annual Report for 2019

2019 was a year of consolidation for Little Yarra Steiner School. Our Year 12 students continued to have the 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 continued to remain strong with the Independent Schools Victoria 2019 Lead Survey reporting 9 out of 10 for satisfaction with the school overall, 8.4 out of 10 satisfied with the quality of teaching and 8.3 out of 10 respondents would recommend the school to other parents.

The Lead Staff Survey 2019 found improved overall levels of satisfaction amongst teachers with 9.3 out of 10 reporting overall satisfaction with the school and happy to recommend the school to people. Additionally, 8.6 out of 10 staff positively reporting an excellent environment in which to learn and 76% reported positive relationships with the school leadership team.

Feedback from student exits in 2019 indicated that parental satisfaction remained positive with exits due to relocation, financial and academic considerations.

Curriculum

In 2019 the school utilised the Australian Steiner Curriculum Framework recognised by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority in the areas of English, Mathematics, Humanities and Social Sciences, The Arts, Health and PE and Technologies.

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 2019, average student attendance for classes 1 to 10 were as follows:

Class 1	99.1%
Class 2	87.4%
Class 3	86.8%
Class 4	90.2%
Class 5	92.3%
Class 6	86.1%
Class 7	89.5%
Class 8	91.5%
Class 9	87.0%
Class 10	83.7%

Student numbers and VCE results

Student numbers were stable and evenly distributed between the Primary school (121) and Upper School (129) for 2019. Our senior students comprised 14 students in Class 12 and 13 students in Class 11. Of our graduates from 2019 100% successfully completed and received a Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). 100% of the students who elected to go on to tertiary education were successful in gaining direct entry to courses commencing in 2020 and 75% of these were into Bachelor Degrees. The median study score remained steady at 32 (33 in 2018) with 1% of study scores of 40 and over; the ATAR median was 68.

The class of 2019 represented our 17th year of providing the VCE with

- 100% satisfactory completion of VCE
- Median study score 32 (33 in 2018 and 31 in 2017)
- 1% of study scores of 40 and over
- 31% of students applied for tertiary places and of these all were offered places



Most students undertook and successfully completed a Class 12 Independent Project. There were 2 students who elected to receive an ATAR and one who elected to receive a study score in English. Tertiary offers included Bachelor of Commerce/Laws at Latrobe and Deakin University, Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne and Victoria University and Bachelor of Health Science/Bachelor of Applied Science (Osteopathy) at RMIT.

Staffing

New staff in 2019 included Simon Robinson, Bronwyn Steventon, Erin Downey, Rachel Sinclair, Shar'lee Northover, Jessica Agganis and Jessica Hull. Staff who were bid farewell during 2019 were Corey Flynn, Andrew Wright, Kate Bills, Julie Wright, Matt Daniele, Judy Martin, Anna Tuchtan, Janine Thompson-Stokell and Rachel Blake.

In 2019 our staff consisted of 62 individuals in 42.3 Full Time Equivalent roles holding the following qualifications:

PhD	1
Masters Degree	7
Bachelor Degree	47
With Honors	4
Graduate Diplomas	27
Diplomas	32
Certificate IV	13
Certificate III	2

These include 22 staff holding further qualifications in Steiner Education.



Finances

Following are the summary results from our Audited Financial Statements:

Revenue:	
Government Recurrent Grants	\$3,499,670
Fee Revenue	\$1,927,710
Other Income	\$290,237
Total	\$5,798,297
Recurrent Expenditure (Inc. Provisions):	\$5,545,581
Capital Expenditure:	\$152,637
Operating Result	\$118,842
Cash Result	\$1,097,195

The Capital Development and Maintenance programs in 2019 included landscaping works and rejuvenation of school gardens with enhanced sustainability and environmental planning. Funding approval was received for a new Prep/Preschool building to commence in 2020 and upgrade of the gymnasium to a multipurpose facility in 2020/21.

Conclusion:

Little Yarra Steiner School continues to work attentively to maintain a supportive and safe learning environment for our students and staff, and to provide a quality independent K-12 Steiner education for families and their children in the Yarra Ranges and surrounds. Our school has excellent and satisfied teaching staff as well as a supportive parent community. Improved facilities in 2020 and a focus on the environment and outdoor learning will support further development and capacity to provide leading edge education and facilities for our students into the future.

