



Little Yarra
STEINER SCHOOL

Annual Report 2024

2024 was very much a growth year for the school; both numerically in terms of student numbers but also in development of program and vision. The start of the year involved a re-visioning of the school masterplan with significant staff involvement in the development of ideas and aspirations for the school. A key component of this was the collation and refinement of plans around an “Arts Precinct” to enhance the life of the school within an arts environment – be that fine art, music, drama or manual arts.

The school was subject to review by the VRQA as part of the standard process that applies on a rolling 5-year cycle. The key focus point of this review was around child safe practices and procedures to ensure that we are compliant and pro-actively managing student and staff safety. The VRQA has confirmed that LYSS has successfully met all the requirements of the review.

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 have been established and are available for our graduates.

Staff welfare was also a priority in 2024 especially for those staff who had compromised health issues. The further enhancement of student / staff relationships was a priority focus to ensure learning outcomes could be met. The school employed 2 part-time psychologists to offer mental health support to staff, students, and parents throughout the year.

Curriculum

In 2024 the Australian Steiner Curriculum Framework (ASCF) continued to be used throughout the school. The ASCF is 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



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Technologies.

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

Attendance

In 2024, average student attendance for classes 1 to 10 were as follows:

Class 1	88.1%
Class 2	90.4%
Class 3	90.3%
Class 4	89.6%
Class 5	86.0%
Class 6	90.0%
Class 7	90.0%
Class 8	84.2%
Class 9	85.8%
Class 10	87.2%

Student numbers and VCE results

Student numbers in 2024 (at census) were 133 Primary and 129 Secondary students totaling 262, an increase of 14 students from the 2023 census. Our senior students comprised 14 students in Class 12 and 20 students in Class 11.

Our class of 2024 represented our 22nd year of providing the VCE with 14 students supplementing this by undertaking and successfully completing a Class 12 Independent Project. Three students among the cohort elected to receive an ATAR and 3 others to receive a study score for English.

The highest ATAR was 72 with the next highest at 71.4.



The Median Study Score was 29 with the Median English Study Score at 33.5. The highest study score for the cohort was 36 in English.

Of our graduates from 2024 100% successfully completed and received a Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

100% of the students who elected to apply for tertiary education were successful in gaining offers for their first preference for direct entry to courses commencing in 2025 and 100% of those received a first round offer in December of 2024.

Staffing

Staff turnover was minimal throughout the year. New staff in 2024 included Tania Neil and Anne Wilson. Staff who were bid farewell during 2024 were Willow Harvey, Larissa Lemon, Robin Brian, Tania Neil, Michael Arvanitakis, Josie McLachlan and Georgia Mitchell.

In 2024 our staff consisted of 69 individuals in 45.0 Full Time Equivalent roles holding the following qualifications:

PhD	2
Masters Degree	5
Bachelor Degree	44
Graduate Diplomas	16
Diplomas	14
Certificate IV	16
Certificate III	2

These include 27 staff holding further qualifications in Steiner Education.



Finances

Following are the summary results from our Audited Financial Statements:

Revenue:		
Government Recurrent Grants		\$4,604,031
Fee Revenue		\$2,155,624
Other Income		\$ 163,489
Total		\$6,923,144
Recurrent Expenditure (Inc. Provisions):		\$7,032,236
Capital Expenditure:		\$1,186,373
Operating Result		(\$109,092)
Cash Result		\$348,534

The Capital Development and Maintenance programs in 2024 included substantial maintenance work on buildings with the continuation of the external painting program, completion of bathroom renovations, masterplan update and refinement, acquisition of a new bus, commencement of preliminary work on the Arts precinct, installation of air conditioning plant, and path & roadway resurfacing. Strong focus has also been given to grounds and landscaping to ensure a blending in with the local flora and natural land environment.

Conclusion:

Little Yarra Steiner School continues to work consistently and collegially 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. A focus on the environment, further development of the Reconciliation Action Plan and outdoor learning will support further development and capacity to provide leading edge education and facilities for our students into the future.

