



# St Aloysius

*A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd*

## Annual Report to Community 2022





## School Information

St Aloysius College is a Reception to Year 12 Catholic College for girls located in the heart of the City of Adelaide and is administered by the Mercy Ministry Companions (MMC) via Mercy Education Limited. The College was established in 1880. A Montessori Early Learning Centre was opened at the start of 2009 and is located within our grounds.

Our school has a long tradition of excellence in both academic and creative pursuits. Our students have high success rates with 100% completing their SACE studies each year and 95%+ students go on to study at university. Whilst very academically successful, our students develop holistically with a strong emphasis on a growing sense of social justice, self-belief and confidence. These values are developed through a spirit of care and cooperation. Our excellent facilities include designated spaces for each year level, brought together by the shared spaces that include the gymnasium and fitness centre, five Science laboratories, a fully rigged Drama theatre, an impressive open plan Art space, the extensive Redden Undercroft and the magnificent Heritage listed College Chapel.

The students at the College enjoy a rich, diverse range of cultures, socio-economic and geographical backgrounds. Our CBD location means students have easy access to the city's vast educational resources and we make extensive, appropriate use of our wonderful central location.

## Major Highlights of the Year

The beginning of 2022 was different to any other year we have experienced before. Some year levels returned to school at the start of the year for face-to-face lessons, while the majority of the school began with online learning. It was an enormous effort by staff and students alike to quickly adjust to a very new style of learning and interaction. Despite the difficult circumstances, to the credit of all, teachers found great avenues to connect with students and, as we well know, the students always rise to the challenge.

Furthermore, we cannot overlook the outstanding leadership and role modelling offered by the Class of 2022. Having completed their entire SACE in the context of a pandemic, they continued to live out Mercy values through their authentic involvement with whole school events and the Justice and Mercy activities at the College. There is much data that speaks of their success, but the most significant fact is that 100% of the cohort successfully completed their SACE. To each of these graduates and their families we say congratulations!







In this first year of implementation of our Reconciliation Action Plan, we have paid respect to the cultural authority of First Nations peoples in diverse and age appropriate ways. The Welcome to Country at the Reconciliation Week Assembly was moving and memorable, and many students have engaged with Kira Bain to learn some Kurna language. Likewise, as part of their Communities of Practice project, a group of teaching staff were taken on a journey of discovery with old scholar and proud Saltwater woman, Naomi Huxley, who provided staff with a unique cultural and personal experience.

After two years of limited travel, it was a joy to welcome back our friends from St Capitanio, Japan for their Study Tour. The hospitality extended by staff and students enabled all involved to build friendships and intercultural understanding, qualities that are essential in educating the global citizens of tomorrow.

Music and creativity are synonymous at SAC – and this year was no exception. There were so many highlights: school performances, Generations in Jazz wins, the Catholic Schools Music Festival, Year 4 and Year 7 Immersion Concerts, soirees, the Spring Concert at the Adelaide Town Hall and our annual SAC Spectacular event at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre, just to mention a few. We really did see the ‘Greatest Show’ in all these performances!

We enjoy a strong reading culture at the school, and central to this is the amazing contributions from our Teacher-Librarians and Library Assistants in the Catherine McAuley Library. When they are not providing reading and research materials for students or giving book talks, the library staff have been busy preparing for special events including National Simultaneous Storytime, Library Lovers’ Week, Indigenous Literacy Day, International Read To Me Day and, of course, Book Week and the infamous Book Week parade!



After excelling at the South Australian STEM MAD Awards earlier in the year, we were excited to see our students fly to Melbourne to showcase their award-winning apps at STEM MAD National Showcase (part of the National Catholic Education Conference). Our Year 10 students placed in the top 3 in Australia for the Assistive Device Category, while Year 11 student Imogen's Anxiety App placed first for the Best Innovation for Health Award, also receiving the National Voters Showcase Award for the secondary division!

## Student Attendance

St Aloysius College is proud of its students, parents and staff in regard to the importance placed on attendance at school. In 2022 our students from Reception to Year 12 averaged 87.1% attendance rate for the entire year. Non-attendance is almost always due to ill health. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were significant periods of self-isolation, significant mass-spreading events within cohorts and generally high infection rates which had a substantial impact on student attendance. It should be noted that wherever possible, learning from home measures were implemented when students were forced to remain at home, however these were mandated to be recorded as absences, contributing to a higher overall absentee rate.

Year Level	Attendance Rate (%)	Year Level	Attendance Rate (%)
Reception	88.48	Year 7	88.68
Year 1	88.33	Year 8	85.89
Year 2	89.87	Year 9	86.69
Year 3	88.65	Year 10	86.35
Year 4	88.45	Year 11	83.45
Year 5	90.13	Year 12	80.69
Year 6	86.52		

### *How non-attendance is managed by the school*

Student attendance is taken during morning admin lesson and all absences are recorded on our central administration database system, along with other information such as whether it is a known or unexplained absence.

If we have not heard from a parent/caregiver by 9:00am, the College will contact a parent/caregiver either by mobile phone (SMS or call), home number or work number until we are able to establish the reason for the student's absence. A follow-up note from a parent/caregiver in the student's school diary the next day is also required.

Each lesson the subject teacher marks their roll for that class and compares it with the student absentee list for the day to identify any student who may be at school but not at their lesson. The roll is also taken in afternoon admin lesson.

Patterns of absence or lateness are monitored weekly by each Year Level Coordinator and either dealt with by them or brought to the attention of a Deputy Principal for more serious concerns regarding absenteeism.

Parents/Caregivers, along with teachers, play an important role in ensuring students are in attendance each lesson of each school day.

## Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assessed all students in Australian schools in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. St Aloysius College students have participated in online NAPLAN testing since 2018. The table below displays the average NAPLAN scores for each domain in 2022:

Year Level	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar and Punctuation	Numeracy
Year 3	480.3	442.5	455.7	474.5	405.4
Year 5	522.2	505.6	514.4	508.2	494.1
Year 7	567.4	569.6	570.9	556.6	559.7
Year 9	614	617.1	607.1	613.2	591

When compared with all Australian students, the vast majority of our students' average scores are above both South Australian and National averages. Our school community celebrates the NAPLAN achievement of our students, particularly as we maintain an enrolment policy which does not preference highly academic students and a policy which encourage enrolments from diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.

Teachers use the data from the NAPLAN testing in conjunction with other data on student performance to design learning programs and support individual students.

## Senior Secondary Student Outcomes

In addition to 100% of students successfully completing their SACE, the Class of 2022 achieved outstanding results.

Some of the highlights from the class of 2022 include:

- College Dux, Alisha Nair, achieved an ATAR of 99.7
- Roshani Dhillon (99.4) and Pari Patel (99.2) also achieved ATARs over 99, placing them in the top 1% of Australia.
- Our students received 56 A+ grades, with 28 Merits awarded across 8 subjects including: Ancient Studies, Digital Technologies, English, English Literary Studies, Legal Studies, Modern History, Research Project and Society & Culture.
- 49% of all grades were A grade.
- 88% of all grades were A or B grades.
- 21% of our Year 12 students achieved an ATAR placing them in the top 5% of all Australian students.
- 33% of our Year 12 students achieved an ATAR placing them in the top 10% of all Australian students.
- 55% of our Year 12 students achieved an ATAR placing them in the top 20% of all Australian students.
- 92.5% of all students who applied for university received an offer for their first or second preference.



## Other Recognised Learning

### *Vocational Education and Training*

VET is offered to secondary students in addition to, and to complement, their SACE studies.

A total of 21 students completed VET Qualifications.

- 20 completed a full Certificate III
- 1 completed a full Certificate II
- 1 completed a full Certificate I
- 5 students completed their SACE and would not have done so without a VET Qualification
- 18% of students who completed SACE also studied VET courses

### *Duke of Edinburgh's International Award*

Secondary students are offered the opportunity to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Successful participants can be awarded up to 40 SACE credits on completion of the Gold level. In 2022, we had a total of 50 students complete a level of the award:

- Gold – 5
- Silver – 16
- Bronze – 29

### *Post School University Pathways*

Our students received university offers in the following fields. *The calculations below exclude international students as they receive more than one offer for university. Based on 80 students:*



33%

Medicine and Health



19%

Humanities, Social Sciences  
and Religious Studies



9%

Engineering  
(includes software, civil,  
mining and electrical)



9%

Education and Teaching



6%

Art and Design



5%

Business and Economics



4%

Computing and Information  
Technology



4%

Law and Legal Studies



3%

Architecture, Building Design  
and Planning



3%

Science and Mathematics



1%

Agriculture and  
Animal Studies



1%

Tourism, Hospitality and  
Event Management



1%

Foundation Studies

## Teacher Standards and Qualifications

In our school we are very fortunate to have a number of teachers with two or more qualifications in education. Moreover, 1% have completed a Doctorate, 23% hold Masters degrees, 75% hold Bachelor degrees and 1% hold Diplomas. In addition, most staff are currently completing a range of tertiary qualifications and other studies to keep at the forefront of educational issues.

## Workforce Composition

The St Aloysius College regular staff is comprised of approximately 85% female and 15% male. There were 2 self-identified Aboriginal staff members in 2022. All staff members are required to have the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide clearance card and a Working With Children Check (WWCC) through the Department of Human Services. All appointments of staff are made on the basis of merit.

- Number of teaching staff 119
- Number of FTE teachers 101.4
- Number of non-teaching staff 43
- Number of FTE non-teaching staff 27.28

## Experience of Teachers

Age Range of Teachers	Percentage of Teachers
21-30	13%
31-40	26%
41-50	27%
51-60	17%
61+	17%



## Student, Parent and Staff Satisfaction

In 2022, staff, parents and students participated in the Living Learning Leading Surveys, developed by Catholic Education South Australia in collaboration with Curtin University, to help schools rate participants' perceptions of the school's performance according to the Living Learning Leading (LLL) Standard. The surveys were designed to capture the satisfaction of key stakeholders in considering components such as Catholic Identity, Curriculum and Learning Design, Student Agency and Leadership, Community Engagement and Safety.

In identifying trends across the groups that completed the survey, the school rated highly for students of various ages, parents and staff in the components of school safety and welcome and inclusivity. Unanimously across all groups, the participants recognised the various ways the College seeks justice for all. In terms of areas for growth, these were mostly driven by demographics, with older students calling for greater agency in their learning which was supported by the teacher data, whereas parents were seeking stronger partnerships when it comes to being involved in decision-making at the school. St Aloysius College remains deeply committed to continuous improvement in all sections of school life and has used, and will use, the school performance data to continue to improve aspects of the school from the built environment to the social, emotional and academic outcomes of our students.

## Finance - Income Broken Down by Funding Source (2021)

• Australian Government recurrent funding	\$ 11,161,891
• State/Territory Government recurrent funding	\$ 3,500,237
• Fees, charges and parent contributions	\$ 8,588,592
• Other private sources	\$ 672,971
• Total gross income	\$ 23,923,691
• Less deductions	\$ 3,764,786
• Total net recurrent income	\$ 20,158,905





## 2022-2025 Strategic Plan

Inspired by Catherine McAuley's words that *"We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us"*, we have, as a community, created our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan to reflect as Mercy Lights of **Learning, Leading, Connecting** and **Believing**.

We are excited to action our new plan and capture evidence of this action in an innovative format, enabling us to document and reflect on our progress in achieving our mission: *"With faith and courage, we nurture in our students an enduring zest for all aspect of life and learning, inspiring them to be confident individuals ready to make a difference in the world."*



### ***Mercy Light - Learning***

Teachers and students collaborate in an environment of high expectations and high support. We believe in every student's capacity to succeed, and we celebrate all learners.

#### **Actions**

- Deliver meaningful and innovative learning experiences for all students
- Create learning environments where teachers love teaching and students love learning
- Continue to create diverse pathways for students to pursue their passions

#### **Future**

- Students are engaged, motivated and inspired to achieve their best
- Staff collaborate and engage in professional learning to improve teaching practice and learning experiences for students
- All students experience success and identify future pathways

### ***Mercy Light - Leading***

We are leaders in girls' education, acting with courage to create a more just world. We nurture the leadership capacity of our students and staff.

#### **Actions**

- Create a culture of collaboration to lead improvement
- Increase diversity in all forms and levels of leadership
- Adopt sustainable practices in decision-making and use of resources

#### **Future**

- Student and staff voices shape all aspects of school life
- Diverse leadership stories are regularly shared and celebrated
- The College leads the way in sustainability and our students and staff strive for environmental justice

## ***Mercy Light - Connecting***

We are a community of care in which every student is valued. We work in partnership with our families and the community around us to engage students with the world.

### **Actions**

- Engage with and care for all members of our community
- Prioritise inclusive practices in our interactions and communications
- Continue to forge connections with the wider community

### **Future**

- Students, staff, parents, caregivers and the wider community connect regularly and enjoy participating in whole school events
- All students and families are valued and supported so that students live life to the full
- Our students are engaged with the world beyond the classroom

## ***Mercy Light - Believing***

As a Catholic school in the Mercy tradition, faith is at the heart of our mission. We grow the commitment and capacity in each student to be a sign and an agent of God's love.

### **Actions**

- Build a shared responsibility for Justice and Mercy initiatives
- Strengthen the spirituality of all students and staff to make a difference in the lives of others
- Embody Mercy values in all interactions

### **Future**

- The College continues to enrol students from diverse cultural, religious and socio-economic backgrounds
- Connections between faiths deepen understanding of and respect for our own spirituality and other faiths
- Mercy values are evident in all aspects of school life

## ***Master Plan***

With a new strategic plan established for 2022, it was timely to revisit and refresh the Master Plan to ensure the strategic and physical vision for the school aligned. Earmarked by a proposed new Primary School, the Master Plan has identified a number of opportunities to develop outdoor and breakout areas, to consolidate student services and to provide contemporary learning spaces to meet future needs.

The Master Plan contains ambitious short and long term visions for the physical design of the school, with the refresh focussing on the new and upcoming classroom and pedagogical technologies emerging over recent years. It is our hope that the alignment of our actions towards the Strategic Plan and Master Plan goals will enable us to further the vision of Catherine McAuley, and that is to educate young women who are confident, compassionate and willing to act for change.







# ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE

53 Wakefield Street  
Adelaide, South Australia 5000  
[www.sac.sa.edu.au](http://www.sac.sa.edu.au)