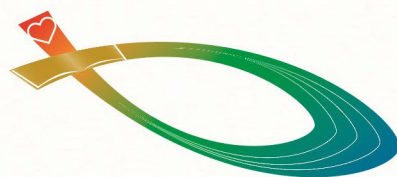


# Annual School Report 2024



New Hope  
Christian School

The following report is prepared according to the School's Annual Reporting Policy and the NSW Government's Education Act. It provides general information to the community about the School's ethos and character and its performance in Academic and Financial terms. More specific information can be obtained by contacting the school directly.

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## Theme 1: Our Context

From the Campus Director: Dianne Dowson

The school theme for 2024 was love. In John 13:34 it says, 'Love one another as I have loved you'. This love is expressed in the way we treat one another, how we show patience, kindness, and understanding. It is seen in the care we give to each of our students. The students have demonstrated love, through a kind word, a smile, or an act of service.



Each year, Pacific Hills and New Hope families have the opportunity to fill shoeboxes with a wide range of gifts for children in need around the world. This year we collected an incredible 32 shoeboxes to be distributed to impoverished regions around the world. We have also continued our sponsorship of Bryan, a teen from a small village in El Salvador. This year, for the first time, we had one of our students, Shayur, participate in a School Mission trip with students and staff from Pacific Hills. Shayur, as well as Mr Francis, were involved in the Pacific Hills Outback Mission Trip. They served in Indigenous communities in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Each of these projects and service opportunities demonstrate Christ's love which compels us to care for those around us, to show mercy, and to extend grace, just as He has shown to us. As we reflect on 2024, we have seen countless examples of love and compassion. We have seen students helping one another, teachers going above and beyond to meet the needs of each child, and families supporting and partnering with us and with one another.

From the Executive Principal: Dr E J Boyce



During 2024 New Hope Christian School continued to receive much interest in enrolment and through this year the earlier stages of the schooling have been able to be accommodated through the approval of NESAs and to the delight of parents of younger children. A new stage of the buildings of the school have ensured that the community sees growth and opportunities to participate in the life of the school.

Of continuing thankfulness for us is the way in which the New Hope Christian School students and staff connect with Pacific Hills Christian School students and staff. Each school learns with each other and from each other. Of particular note has been the number of visitors that have celebrated with us with local and State and Federal politicians visiting along with many leaders of other schools, both public and independent, as there is much interest in the ways in which New Hope Christian School operates.

## From the Board Chair: Mr Mark McCrindle

This Annual Report of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools gives a great snapshot in numbers, finances and reports of a system of ten thriving schools. Growth is an evident theme in all of this, from student enrolments and building programs to the financial wellbeing of our schools for which we are thankful to God. It is interesting to note that many of our schools are located on land that once was used for farming. Land that was once cultivated to grow trees which produced fruit is still being used to grow things: now children, nurtured and sustained by the Living Water, that they might be fruitful.



We trust that this report gives you an overview of our schools and an insight into the character of our communities, summed up in the name of this group: Pacific. Pacific comes from the Latin word for Peace the true source of which comes from Jesus who said: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you" (John 14:27).

## About our School

New Hope Christian School (NHCS) is a transdenominational Christian School that commenced operation in January 2015. It is an independent, co-educational, special school, registered and accredited (Years K to 12) by the NSW Education and Standards Authority.

The vision and purpose of New Hope Christian School is to be a Christian Educational Community which provides quality individualised and meaningful education in a caring and supportive learning environment for students with special needs, founded on Biblically based beliefs, values and behaviour. The school pursues the vision from a Biblical base by aiming: to be authentically Christian; to provide quality education and to practice Christian community that is rigorous, authentic and collaborative. The school strives to make a difference in the learning and in the life of every student so that they have optimal opportunity to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically.

New Hope Christian School caters for students with an Intellectual Disability (mild to moderate) and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder. The school is located on the grounds of Pacific Hills Christian School (PHCS) and seeks to maintain strong links between the schools. PHCS provides support through resources, facilities and staffing and integration opportunities are available for students.

The staff at New Hope, no matter their role, are committed to the work of Christian Education in teaching, learning, serving and growing Christian character in the community founded on Biblical beliefs, values and behaviours. Our culture is one of strong connection and love for one another in Christ, a culture that informs all that we do in His service.



### Characteristics of our student body

New Hope Christian School caters for students with an Intellectual Disability (mild to moderate) and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder. The school caters for students in Years K to 12 with the first Kindergarten cohort added in 2024. The students NCCD categories are either Cognitive or Social/Emotional and their NCCD Level of Adjustment is Substantial or Extensive.

Total students	41
Boys enrolled (31)	
Girls enrolled (10)	
Indigenous students	0
Language Background other than English	44.9%

## Priority Areas for School Improvement

The following were identified as goals for 2024 and were included in the schools Strategic Management Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Strategic Goals	Activities to Support these Goals	End of Year Review
Develop a culture of respect while demonstrating a passion for teaching and pastoral care	Positive Behaviour Support Staff devotions in meetings and daily with all staff Honour students in Assemblies School Counsellor Support	PBS Information included in Parent and Staff handbooks and shared with parents in the information evening. PBS values reinforced during assemblies. Devotions is part of our daily practice for staff and students.
Develop quality teaching programs in response to curriculum reform with Christian perspectives and literacy as priority areas	Provide training in the implementation of new curriculum. Utilise Transformation by Design (TbD) to reflect Christian perspectives in teaching and learning.	Staff completed NESA courses on new curriculum. TbD was included in curriculum documentation. Further training required to embed in classroom teaching practice. Pacific Group staff supported the familiarisation and implementation of new curriculum.
Provide opportunities for people to use their gifts to serve through Christian Education Development Program (CEDP), musicals, fairs, mission, community service, and/or open days	Participation in mission activities (staff and students) Provide work experience opportunities for students. Provide parent events to facilitate connection and support amongst the parent body.	Staff and one NHCS student were involved in mission activities organised by PHCS. A variety of work experience opportunities were provided to students utilising our school therapy staff. Parent events included morning teas, mother's and father's day events.
Engage with the Pacific Group of Christian Schools, Sister Schools and other Christian communities to build our culture of community service	School visits to other Christian Special Schools Organise networking opportunities with other schools	Hope School Directors met regularly to collaborate and share ideas. A limited number of school visits occurred with a potential for further collaboration between schools.

## Our Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

New Hope Christian School is committed to promoting respect, care and responsibility amongst the students and the broader community. These values flow from our Biblical understandings and love for God and are reflected in our Vision and Mission statements. The Positive Behaviour Support program addresses and encourages Respectful, Responsible and Caring attitudes, behaviours and values. Students are taught about appropriate behaviour and expectations through a common vision and language and with a Biblical foundation.

Student wellbeing is a high priority at New Hope Christian School. Teachers deliver programs that address the individual needs of each student. Each student has an Individual Education Plan that is developed in consultation with parents, teachers and other professionals when appropriate. Goals relating to social skills are included in these individual plans. Respect and responsibility are explicitly taught as part of the Personal Development and Health programs and encouraged through many opportunities in the life of the school.

Features of the school program include:

- Intensive individualised and small group instruction
- Program adjustment based on student progress
- Visuals and specific instructional processes are utilised to address the individual needs of students
- Close monitoring of student progress through a variety of assessment procedures

Initiatives to promote respect and responsibility include:

- ANZAC Day activities
- Acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land at assemblies
- Acknowledging and celebrating significant dates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people throughout the year
- Contributing to the Samaritans Purse, Operation Christmas Child program
- Sponsoring a child through Compassion
- Fundraising events
- Work Experience
- NAIDOC week activities
- Mother's Day and Father's Day activities
- Integration opportunities at Pacific Hills Christian School including school camps, lessons, assemblies and other special activities.



## Theme 2: Our Outcomes and Results:

### Student outcomes in standardised national literacy and numeracy testing

In 2024, at the time of the NAPLAN assessments in March, there were two Year 3 students, three Year 5 students, five Year 7 students and six Year 9 students enrolled at New Hope Christian School. Two Year 7 students and one Year 9 student participated in the assessments. All other students were exempt from completing the NAPLAN assessments under the provision of students with a disability. Due to the small participation rate, it is not appropriate to publish their results.

### The granting of Records of Student Achievement (RoSA)

The NSW Record of School Achievement is a record of achievement for students who leave prior to receiving their HSC and is available for students after Year 10, 11 and 12. Courses based on Life Skills outcomes and content that are satisfactorily completed are reported on the RoSA with the notation 'Refer to Profile of Student Achievement'. All Year 10 students progressed to Year 11 and all Year 11 students to Year 12.

### Results of the Higher School Certificate

The school offered six Stage 6 Life Skills NESA-developed courses. The Profile of Student Achievement is a record of the Life Skills outcomes students have achieved, either independently or with support. All Stage 6 students were successful in achieving the requirements of the life skills courses undertaken.



## Theme 3: Our Staffing

### Accreditation status

All teachers at New Hope Christian School have accreditation with the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA).

Level of Accreditation	Number
Conditional	1
Provisional	1
Proficient	7
Highly Accomplished (voluntary level)	0

Additionally, one Teacher Assistant has Provisional Accreditation.

### Workforce composition

The staff of New Hope Christian School represent an appropriate spread of age and experience giving a balance of energy and innovation with maturity and discernment. National backgrounds include Anglo, Asian, European, and South African. We have one Aboriginal Advisor who is employed by the Pacific Group of Christian Schools and supports our school. Administration, technical assistance and maintenance support is also provided by staff from Pacific Hills Christian School.

	Number	Full time Equivalent
Teachers (including Leadership positions)	9	7.2
Teacher Assistants	10	6.3
Speech and Occupational Therapists	2	0.6
Counsellor & Chaplain	2	0.5
Administration	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15.6</b>



## Theme 4: Our Student Attendance

Student attendance rates per year level and whole school

Year Group	Students	Attendance %
K	4	82.44
1	1	97.21
2	1	86.42
3	2	85.17
4	2	87.91
5	4	91.73
6	2	91.18
7	6	90.72
8	2	83.16
9	6	91.71
10	4	88.86
11	5	92.6
12	2	85.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>88.83%</b>

### Description of how school manages student non-attendance

The School adopts an attitude of close liaison with families in managing student attendance. Absences are noted and followed up by written correspondence. Unexplained absences are processed under the Schools Student Attendance policy (available in full, from the School). Strategies are in place that can be implemented to improve unsatisfactory student attendance.

### Retention of Year 10 to Year 12

In 2022 there were three students attending Year 10 at New Hope Christian School. One student left during Year 11 and the other two students graduated Year 12. Thus, an individual student retention rate of 66% for Year 10 to Year 12 students.

## Theme 5: Our School Policies

### Enrolment policy

- [Student Enrolment Policy and Procedures](#)

### Child protection policy

Please scroll down the page to "Policies" and select the Child Protection tile required for the particular policies included.

- [Child Protection Policies](#)

### Anti-bullying policy

- [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Procedures](#)

### Discipline policy

- [Student Discipline Policy and Procedures](#)

### Complaints policy

- [Complaints Handling Policy](#)

## Theme 6: Our Community Satisfaction

### Parent satisfaction

New Hope Christian School places a high priority on the relationship between the School and its parent body. An emphasis is placed on the partnership that parents and the School play in the education process. Parents are involved in their child's learning through the collaborative planning process where each student's individual needs are identified and goals are set for the semester. Parents are kept informed of school activities through the weekly school newsletter and individual communication is also provided through email or phone calls where necessary. Teachers welcome communication from parents and meetings can be scheduled at any time throughout the year.

Parents indicate on many occasions about how appreciative they are of the School and their belief that their children's lives have been enhanced in many ways at New Hope Christian School. They believe that staff are receptive to their concerns. The following is representative of some of the communications from parents:

Thank you to the amazing New Hope team for this amazing year for [name]. [Name] has been blessed by each and everyone of the team. We were a little uncertain as she started the year, but it was very apparent even after the first week that this decision that we spent many hours praying about, was the right one. New Hope is the most exceptional of schools, staffed by a team of dedicated superstars. What a blessing!

Thank you so much for all you've done to provide such a wonderful Christian learning environment for [name]. We really appreciate the care, the concern, the discipline, the teaching, the communication and the community. Thank you to all at NHCS for being there to support and encourage [name] – it has meant everything to us!

We have seen incredible growth in [name] during her time at your wonderful school. The support, guidance, and opportunities provided by you and all the teachers and staff have truly made a positive impact on her academic and personal development, for which we are deeply grateful. The enduring love of Christ has always been evident.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you, her teachers and the rest of the staff for creating such a nurturing and enriching environment. It has been so rewarding to see [name] grow from strength to strength under the care of the teachers. [Name] has also made friends with a beautiful set of children.

A snapshot of Parent feedback from the 2024 Stakeholder insights study (McCrindle):

- 94% strongly or somewhat agree that the physical environment is conducive to learning.
- 93% agree that teachers motivate students to learn.
- 91% agree that the School caters to students' individual needs and differences.
- 91% also agree that the School is innovative in its approach to educating students.

### Student satisfaction

New Hope Christian School is a safe, supportive and caring environment. There is a positive feeling amongst the students at New Hope Christian School. Students interact well with their teachers and have a happy disposition. Classrooms and playgrounds are places of positive interaction and happy engagement with each other and with staff. Some of the students have come from mainstream settings where they have found various challenges often related to social/emotional reasons or support for their learning needs. For these students, New Hope Christian School has provided the care and support that has enabled an improvement in behaviour, anxiety and academic achievement.

### Teacher satisfaction

New Hope Christian School staff diligently apply themselves to developing the best learning experiences for the students. The teachers find great satisfaction from supporting the students and catering for their diverse needs. They enjoy rich and productive professional relationships which are overlaid and undergirded by personal friendship and Christian fellowship. Teachers work closely with school leaders and with each other to create challenging and appropriate learning opportunities for students. Within the pressures of a demanding role staff satisfaction is high.

Feedback from the 2024 McCrindle Survey showed that New Hope staff are happy in their work and feel supported by the School. Close to nine in ten staff members strongly or somewhat agree they enjoy coming to work each day and that their work/life boundaries are prioritised and respected (88%). A similar proportion find their work satisfying and fulfilling (81%).

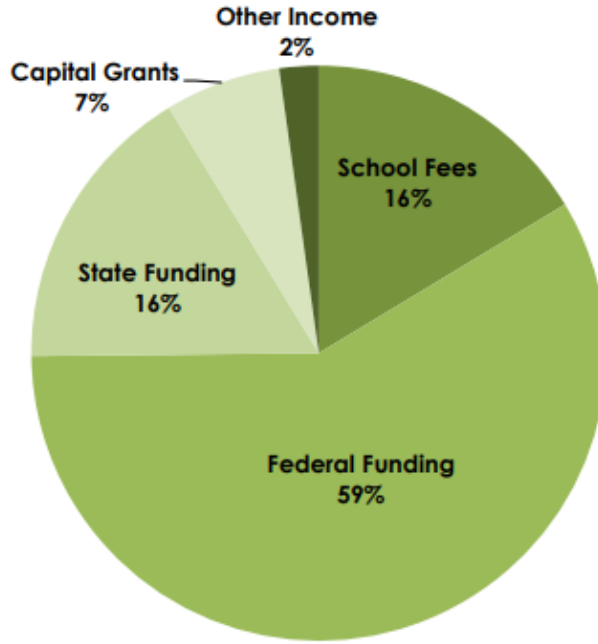


# Theme 7: Summary of our Financial Information

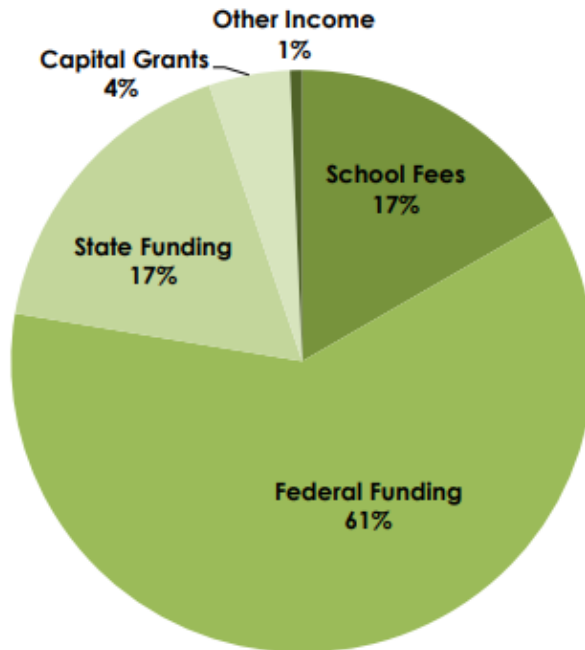
Recurrent/Capital Income

## INCOME SOURCES

2024



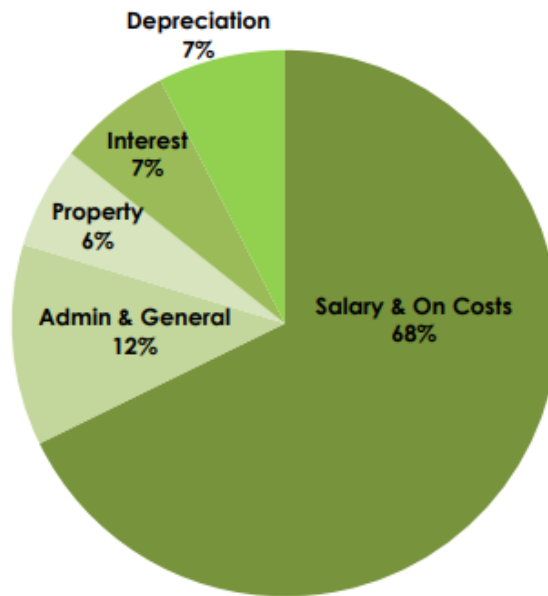
2023



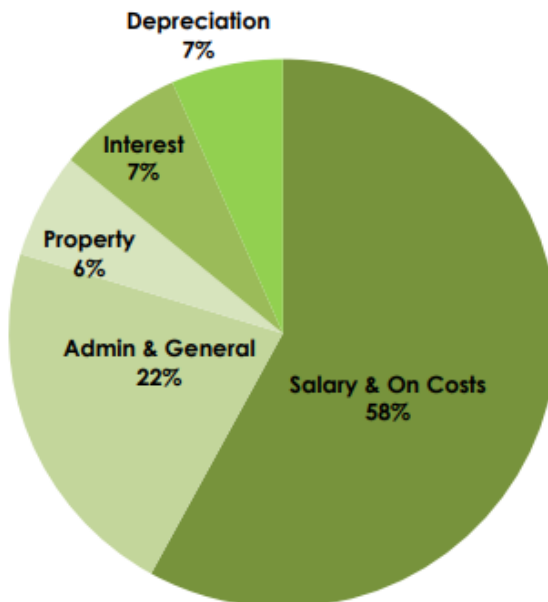
Recurrent/Capital Expenditure

**EXPENDITURE AREAS**

**2024**



**2023**





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New Hope Christian School is an independent school trading under the  
Pacific Group of Christian Schools ABN 11 001 832 828