

# Annual School Report

## 2023 School Year

Newman Senior Technical College, Port Macquarie



**NEWMAN**  
Senior Technical College



Boundary Street

Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Phone 02 6580 3800

[www.newman.nsw.edu.au](http://www.newman.nsw.edu.au)

## About this report

Newman Senior Technical College is registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and managed by the Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Office (CSO), as the 'approved authority' for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act 1990.

The *Annual Report to the Parish College Community* for this year provides fair, reliable and objective information about performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education.

The *Report* also outlines to the Parish College Community information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance and the achievements arising from the implementation of the School Improvement Plan.

The *Report* demonstrates accountability to the Federal and State Government regulatory bodies, the Parish and College Community and the Catholic Schools Office (CSO). This *Report* has been approved by the CSO which monitors processes to ensure compliance with all NESA requirements for Registration.

This *Report* complements and is supplementary to newsletters, yearbooks and other regular communications. The *Report* must be available on the College's website by 30 June 2024 following its submission to NESA.

The contents of this *Report* may be tabled for discussion at various parent forums and all information is public.

Further information about the College or this *Report* may be obtained by contacting 02 6580 3800 or by visiting the website at [www.newman.nsw.edu.au](http://www.newman.nsw.edu.au).

## Table of Contents

<b>1. Messages</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 Principal’s Message	4
1.2 A Parent Message	5
<b>2. This Catholic College</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1 The College Community	6
2.2 College Enrolment	6
2.3 Student Attendance	7
2.4 Teacher Standards and Professional Learning	7
2.5 Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility	7
2.6 Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction	8
<b>3. Teaching and Learning</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 College Curriculum	9
3.2 Curriculum Approach	9
3.3 Student Performance in National Testing Programs	10
3.3.1 NAPLAN	10
3.3.2 Higher School Certificate	10
3.3.3 Senior Secondary Outcomes	11
3.3.4 Post School Destinations	11
3.4 Teacher Professional Learning	12
<b>4. College Policies</b>	<b>12</b>
4.1 Child Protection Policy	12
4.2 Enrolment Policy	12
4.3 Pastoral Care Policy	13
4.4 Discipline Policy	13
4.5 Anti-Bullying Policy	13
4.6 Complaints and Grievance Policy	13
<b>5. College Determined Improvement Targets</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6. Financial Information</b>	<b>16</b>

## 1. Messages

### 1.1 Principal's Message

The primary purpose of Newman Senior Technical College is to support the members of the Parish community in providing a faith formation for their children. The College fosters a commitment to the individual person and provides opportunities for academic, cultural and sporting achievement. Newman Senior Technical College offers students a quality Catholic education based on the teaching of the Church and within the context of a strong faith community.

Our Parish College continued to provide many opportunities for the students to excel in academic, cultural and sporting areas. All of these areas combined to ensure that our mission was lived out daily in the life of the College.

The students' achievements and accomplishments were showcased throughout 2023. Student work was proudly displayed in classrooms, on noticeboards and in the office. College achievement was highlighted and celebrated at many assemblies. Our focus was to continue to build on the reputation that Newman Senior Technical College has earned as an exemplary College. The following list provides an indication of the College's academic achievements.

- Three Newman College students attended the NSW Training Awards, North Coast and Mid North Coast Region in June 2023 with one student winning the VET in Schools Student of the Year category.
- 19 Newman College students attended the WorldSkills National Championships in Melbourne in August 2023. Newman took home four Gold, one Silver and four Bronze Medals.
- 51 students gain full time employment including many apprenticeships or traineeships whilst enrolled at the College.
- 60 students gained a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship across 20 different vocations.
- 11 students were successful in receiving university offers including Nursing, Psychology, Teaching and more.

There were many opportunities throughout the year for our College to be represented at community and cultural events. The following list provides an indication of the College's cultural program and community involvement.

- Newman College hosted its annual family breakfast followed by our Student Representative Council (SRC) Induction Assembly. The family breakfast provides students, families and staff the opportunity to interact and build partnerships.
- Newman College held various Indigenous Activities, including celebrating NAIDOC Week, students attending the Women's Festival, students taking part in the Gathang Language Program and a cultural program run by Strong Spirit Aboriginal Services.
- Newman College was represented by the Principal, College Captains, SRC members, students and staff at the ANZAC Day Ceremony and March. The College also held an ANZAC Day Special Assembly.
- The College held fund-raising and awareness days and volunteered at local institutions including, Caritas, Vinnies Winter Appeal, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, Catholic Mission, Sailability, Port Macquarie Neighbour Centre, Ironman, RUOK Day, Go Red for Dyslexia, St Agnes' Christmas Hamper Appeal.
- The annual Newman Open Night at the College was very well attended with over 650 attendees.

Students performed well at various sporting events throughout the year. The following list provides some examples of sporting highlights.

- A Newman College student was selected for the ParaMatildas Squad.

- Two Newman College students were selected for the NSWCCC Touch Football team. They competed at the National Youth Championships on the Sunshine Coast and placed third out of 18 teams.
- Newman College Rugby League students. One student was selected for the NSWCCC U18s team, three students were selected for the 2023 Presidents Team and three selected for the Northern Country Girls and competed at NSWCCC in Sydney.
- Newman Girls Rugby League team were runners-up in the Northern Country Katrina Fanning Cup in 2023.
- Newman Boys rugby League team were finalists in the Northern Country Rugby League finals.

There were many people who assisted in the College's quest for excellence. In particular, special thanks are extended to the parent body and the staff for all their generous efforts. Newman Senior Technical College is indeed blessed to have such dedicated and enthusiastic people supporting the College.

Mark Nunan  
Principal

## 1.2 A Parent Message

The key to the success of the Parent Consultative Committee (PCC) is in its name. It is a representative body that works in close consultation with the St Agnes' Catholic Parish Secondary Schools (SAPSS) Leadership Team and the Parent Assembly.

The PCC is a reference group, an advisory body and a sounding board for all manner of issues relating to the education of our children. The committee consists of parent representatives from each of the secondary schools (MacKillop College, St Joseph's Regional College and Newman Senior Technical College), along with the Principals of each school and the Regional Services Leader for the Hastings, Mr Stephen Pares.

The PCC is a forum which offers its members the chance to 'stay in touch' with happenings across the secondary schools.

At its regular meetings, the PCC is updated on a range of initiatives undertaken across the Parish schools, and Principals have sought the parent perspective on a host of issues.

Throughout the year, the parent representatives have been kept informed of and discussed issues such as Enrolment Information evenings, and Parent Bodies within our schools. They were kept up to date with the Creative Arts Nest initiatives, which included ArtWalk and the A4 Art Competition which was open to all students and staff in our Parish Schools, and the Drumline success. 2023 also saw governance changes which impacted on the schools and associated Parish support services.

We are very fortunate that parental involvement such as this is sought by the SAPSS Leadership Team – and acted upon. This further demonstrates the value of a body such as the PCC.

As another school year begins, you can be assured that the PCC will continue to advocate, engage, facilitate, plan and achieve on behalf of students, families and the broader school community.

I would encourage parents who wish to contribute ideas, discuss concerns or provide feedback on any issue relating to our secondary schools to please contact our Leadership Team, Regional Services Leader - Stephen Pares, or myself.

Jackie Martinson  
Chair  
St Agnes' Parish Secondary Schools Parent Consultative Committee

## **2. This Catholic College**

### **2.1 The College Community**

Newman Senior Technical College is located in Port Macquarie and is part of the St Agnes' Catholic Parish which serves the communities of Hastings and Port Macquarie Regions, from which the families are drawn.

Last year the College celebrated 44 years of Catholic education.

The Parish Priest Father Paul Gooley is involved in the life of the College.

Newman Senior Technical College is a Parish College with strong links to the Parish family. The College aims to involve the children and their families in the life of the Parish through activities such as those listed.

- Support and representation on the Parish Education Council.
- A strong and effective working relationship with our Parish Priest.
- A collegial relationship with St Agnes' Parish Secondary Schools.
- Completion of small building projects and maintenance work for parish entities.

The College uses the mandated Diocesan Religious Education curriculum and the resource text "To Know, Worship & Love". Catholic life and culture permeate College life with two and a half hours of religious education taught formally each week. The Diocesan Daily Prayer guidelines support the College's prayer life. The aims and direction of our Parish College are guided by *The Mission of Jesus Christ Foundational Values Catholic Education in the Diocese of Lismore*. This Framework underpins all policy, planning, roles and processes within the College. Our aim is to increasingly integrate the essence of this statement into all aspects of College life. Religious Education is given priority in our College and classroom curriculum and planning.

The Mission Statement highlights the nature and calling of the College.

### **2.2 College Enrolment**

Newman Senior Technical College caters for children from Years 11 to 12. The following table indicates the student enrolment characteristics:

	<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>TOTAL 2023</b>	<b>TOTAL 2022</b>
<b>Male</b>	102	60	162	174
<b>Female</b>	84	54	138	117
<b>Indigenous *</b>	30	12	42	25
<b>EALD *</b>	0	0	0	0

\* count included in first two rows

NB: EALD refers to students who have English as an Additional Language or Dialect.

### 2.3 Student Attendance

In order for students to reach their full potential it is important that they attend school regularly. Whilst it is the parents' legal duty to ensure their children attend school regularly, staff monitor attendance each day as a part of their duty of care. Attendance is marked every day and checked each week by the principal or their delegate. The College uses the attendance coding system adopted in all NSW schools. Unexplained absences are followed up promptly by staff. Parents are requested to provide a satisfactory explanation for an absence by means such as a written note, as an entry in the Compass Portal, telephone call, SMS message or email to the College preferably on the first day of absence, and certainly within seven days. The principal is made aware of sustained student absences or absences reflecting a pattern. In these situations, the principal or delegated staff member contacts the parent/guardian. Parents are encouraged to arrange medical and other necessary appointments outside college hours. Prolonged periods of absence occur from time-to-time for various reasons. In these cases, students and their parents meet with the principal to discuss the leave request.

The average student attendance rate for the College during 2023 is shown in the following table.

<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Year 12</b>	<b>All Years</b>
84.0%	86.0%	85.0%

### 2.4 Teacher Standards and Professional Learning

All teachers employed by the College are accredited by NESA. Maintaining teacher accreditation involves consistently demonstrating the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and engaging with and implementing professional learning.

At this College there are 37 teachers accredited by NESA including 7 teachers with recognised qualifications to teach Religious Education, 4 Indigenous staff and 39 non-teaching staff.

### 2.5 Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

The College ensures that at every available formal and informal opportunity the values of respect and responsibility are promoted. We want every student to understand and appreciate that they are part of both the College and the local community.

The College models and teaches students about respect and responsibility in a number of ways.

- The College's mission in promoting respect and responsibility can be outlined in three simple and succinct statements: Respect for Self - Respect for Others - Skills for Life. Students, teachers and parents/guardians are regularly reminded of the College's commitment to these and other College

values by newsletter items, assembly messages and by the nature of our interpersonal relationships.

- Students were involved in a range of community activities, including helping out at the local Neighbour Centre, volunteering to assist at Sailability, volunteering at local events such as Ironman and Port Macquarie Running Festival and of course maintaining our Community Garden. Students and staff contribute generously to social justice appeals, including St Vincent de Paul and Caritas.
- The values of respect and responsibility lie at the heart of Catholic schools, and underpin all policies and procedures. Students, teachers and parents are regularly reminded of the College's commitment to these and other values by newsletter items, assembly messages and by the nature of our interpersonal relationships. This year, the College held a special parent forum to address these and other values identified by the College community. Many of the awards presented to students throughout the year are indicative of these values. Respect and responsibility are fundamental to the College's restorative justice program.
- The College GRIT Team Building Program - (Guts, Resilience, Initiative and Teamwork) encompasses the promotion of respect and responsibility by involving the whole College to take part in a team building day.
- The Work Readiness Program promotes respectful behaviour and responsibility in the workplace including personal presentation, appropriate telephone use, ability to communicate with employers and staff and the responsibilities involved in maintaining successful workplacements.

## 2.6 Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

The College uses a variety of methods to gauge parental, student and teacher satisfaction with College operations. We understand the importance of regularly reviewing approval and satisfaction levels. Last year the following formal and informal opportunities allowed the College to test reaction to decisions, policy and procedures.

- This year the College participated in the School Review and Improvement process supervised and supported by the Catholic Schools Office. SRI offers the College the opportunity to review all aspects of College life and plan ahead for the next three years. During SRI a number of staff, parent and student surveys and open meetings were conducted to gauge the opinion of all members of the College community.
- Schools in the Diocese of Lismore jointly participate in the program *Tell Them from Me*. This program is a commercially produced suite of surveys that are used for measuring student engagement and wellbeing. The surveys were used in 2023 to capture student, parent and teacher voices, providing reliable evidence that the College was able to use in identifying strengths and areas for improvement.
- Student/Families/Teachers Conferences and Transition to Year 12 Interviews were held where dialogue is facilitated and feedback sought from families and students.
- Informal parent events such as Year 11 Parent Partnership evening were held to provide parents with the opportunity to learn more about the College and ask questions.



### 3. Teaching and Learning

#### 3.1 College Curriculum

The College provides a comprehensive educational program based on and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses for Secondary Education. Students study NESA mandated and approved courses leading towards the Higher School Certificate (HSC) and/or Record of School Achievement (RoSA) Award. The College offers 25 Higher School Certificate (HSC) Courses and 9 Extension Courses.

The Parish Secondary College's curriculum includes the following features.

- Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses in Automotive, Business Services, Construction, Early Childhood Education and Care, Electrotechnology, Furniture Making, Hospitality Operations, Human Services, Information and Digital Technology, Manufacturing and Engineering, Plumbing, Retail Services, Tourism Travel and Events are offered to students. In addition to this, curriculum offerings include HSC extension/specialisation courses in Automotive, Business Services, Construction, Early Childhood Education and Care, Electrotechnology, Hospitality Operations, Human Services, Information and Digital Technology and Manufacturing and Engineering.
- Students undertake regular workplace learning (one day per week and block periods). The Workplace Learning Program is instrumental in providing students with additional valuable technical skills, employability skills, employment opportunities and countless other benefits.
- A Learning Support Team that is integral to ensuring that students requiring additional support are catered for. The team's role is to support the College's responsibility to provide an inclusive program of study, extra-curricular activities and pastoral care. It is an interdisciplinary group that uses a systematic process to address the academic, social and emotional needs of the College community to enhance inclusion.
- The staff at the College aim to create an environment where Literacy and Numeracy standards are a high priority. The College conducts its own Literacy and Numeracy testing program each year and staff are committed to adopting the College's Literacy and Numeracy Policy.
- The College has a Leader of Pedagogy whose role is to ensure that staff members are engaging in professional dialogue around their teaching practice. This is supported with contemporary research and guidance from the Contemporary Learning Framework that is a Diocesan initiative to guide teaching and learning innovation.

#### 3.2 Curriculum Approach

The College continues to work towards developing contemporary, evidence-based pedagogical approaches to underpin learning. The College's approach to learning is characterised by the following activities.

Newman Senior Technical College has an applied curriculum characterised by students gaining National Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications in conjunction with the Higher School Certificate. The pedagogy reflects the applied, practical curriculum delivered by industry qualified educators to reflect industry standards, enabling students to transition to the workforce and tertiary education.

The Parish Secondary College offers a strong co-curricular program including student participation in participation in a variety of activities.

- **Sporting Opportunities** - Newman College offers a comprehensive sporting and co-curricular program with the opportunity for students to challenge themselves and to advance their skills through competing at Diocesan, State and National levels. Students who are more committed to

their sport have the opportunity to study further as part of the curriculum through the Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation course. Newman College has a partnership with the NRL Development Program giving the students the opportunity to complete the Refereeing Certificate as well as the LeagueSafe Certificate.

- **Indigenous Awareness Activities** - Port Macquarie is home to the Birpai people. With 42 Indigenous students enrolled at Newman in 2023, the College recognises and promotes Indigenous Culture, Heritage and Survival. Recognition and promotion of activities are part of the annual community celebrations for NAIDOC and are available to the wider community to build bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Indigenous students are further supported through the provision of an Indigenous Education Support Officer who ensures that support is provided to Indigenous students through liaising directly with families on student progress, providing support in the workplace and assisting Indigenous students to access external pathways and support.
- **The Food Project** - The College café "The Food Project" provides an environment of togetherness and community. It offers a learning space for our hospitality students enabling them to develop their personal capacity far beyond curriculum outcomes. The café stimulates the Catholic ethos of community where students, staff, families, Parish organisations and local community groups have the opportunity to come together and be a part of the College's hospitality.
- **Gifted and Talented Students** - Gifted and talented students are identified through a number of mechanisms. These include the creation of specialisation or extension classes. Students who demonstrate that they are particularly gifted in key learning areas are provided with the opportunity to extend their skills and challenge themselves in their area of interest. Opportunities for challenge are provided through various Regional, State and National Competitions such as WorldSkills and Training Awards. Our success in the WorldSkills Competition and Training Awards has continued to reflect the emphasis we place on skill development and striving for excellence. Further to these opportunities, School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships are offered to students who demonstrate a high level of aptitude and ability in their chosen career field. These opportunities extend student learning and development well beyond the HSC course opportunities.

### 3.3 Student Performance in National Testing Programs

#### 3.3.1 NAPLAN

Not applicable to the College.

#### 3.3.2 Higher School Certificate

The Commonwealth Government has set minimum acceptable standards for Reading, Writing and Numeracy at particular ages. From 2020 all Year 12 students must reach a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy in order to receive the HSC. Students can demonstrate they have met the minimum standard by completing online tests in Reading, Writing and Numeracy from Year 10 until a few years after Year 12.

At Newman Senior Technical College, student and College performance are closely monitored. The Higher School Certificate is one means of gathering data on individual student and College achievement. Staff members have participated in Catholic Schools Office information sessions on Data Analysis workshops.

The results of the College's Higher School Certificate candidature are reported below. The table provided shows the percentage of students who achieved in the top three bands and shows a comparison with results from previous years.

### Higher School Certificate: Percentage of students in Bands 4, 5, 6

	2021		2022		2023	
	School	State	School	State	School	State
<b>English Standard</b>	24%	58%	38%	56%	27%	75%
<b>Mathematics Standard 2</b>	50%	51%	53%	54%	47%	75%

The non-ATAR, vocationally oriented nature of the College's model can from time to time see mixed results in the HSC. Student enrolment has tended to reflect a greater percentage of students whose focus is more on the applied VET courses. Whilst the number of Band 4, 5, 6 in Standard English and Standard Mathematics was not as strong in 2023, data shows that student growth in these subject areas remained consistent with previous years.

### 3.3.3 Senior Secondary Outcomes

The table below sets out the percentage of students undertaking vocational education training in their senior years as well as those attaining the award of Higher School Certificate (or equivalent vocational education and training qualification).

#### Senior Secondary Outcomes Year 12, 2023

% of students undertaking vocational training or training in a trade during the senior years of schooling.	100%
% of students attaining the award of <i>Higher School Certificate</i> or equivalent vocational education and training qualification.	100%

In 2023 there were 60 students who were school-based apprentices or trainees across 20 vocations.

11 Year 12 graduates received early entry university offers.

### 3.3.4 Post School Destinations

Destination data is required to be collected by all schools for students beyond the compulsory years of schooling. This table is an easy way to represent the figures ensuring school and system compliance with this Federal requirement.

Each year the College collects destination data relating to the Year 12 student cohort. The table below sets out the percentage of students for the various categories shown.

#### Destination Data Year 12, 2023 Graduating Class

University	TAFE / Other institutions	Workforce entry	Destination not reported
10%	41%	94%	4%

### 3.4 Teacher Professional Learning

All teachers were involved in professional learning activities during the year. These activities are designed to develop the professional skills and understandings of staff so as to improve student outcomes. Professional development can take many forms including whole-staff development days, subject specific in-services, meetings and conferences.

Whole staff development day professional learning activities in 2023 were:

Staff Professional Learning Activity	Date	Presenter
Staff Spirituality Day	06/04/2023	Nicole Prior Barb Dempsey Mark Nunan
Staff Professional Learning Day	24/04/2023	Various
Staff Professional Learning Day	30/06/2023	Mark Nunan Nicole Prior
Staff Professional Learning Day	17/07/2023	Various
Staff Professional Learning Day	09/10/2023	Mark Nunan Nicole Prior

Additionally, staff attended either singly or in groups a range of professional development opportunities including:

Activity	Staff numbers	Presenter
Flatwater Kayaking Instructor Course	3	Paddle Australia
Marine Teachers Conference	1	MTA via Zoom
Training & Education Training (TAE)	8	Australian Forensic Services

## 4. College Policies

### 4.1 Child Protection Policy

Children and young people have a fundamental right to grow, develop and feel safe in environments that are free from violence, exploitation and harm. The CSO has clear expectations that all students in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lismore will be protected from all forms of harm including sexual, physical and psychological harm, as well as ill-treatment and neglect. The CSO has certain responsibilities and expectations to ensure the safety and protection of children in their care, including supporting measures to ensure that children and young people will be taught how to protect themselves, and how to seek help if they are concerned about their safety. The College's Child Protection Policy is located on the [College's website](#) and the Diocese's [Commitment to Child Safeguarding](#) is located on the Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Website.

### 4.2 Enrolment Policy

The Catholic School is the principal educational arm of Catholic families, parishes and the wider church. It is there to assist parents and parishes in their educational, evangelical and catechetical mission as well as to help the wider community in its educational and civic service (Catholic School at a Crossroads Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of NSW and the ACT, **2007**). Catholic schools were established as places of educational excellence and places that transmit the faith, in the mission entrusted to the Church by our

Lord Jesus Christ. They form part of a tradition of Catholic education provided by religious and lay teachers in the Diocese of Lismore for over 150 years. The [Enrolment Policy](#) can be accessed on the Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Website.

#### **4.3 Pastoral Care Policy**

The College's Pastoral Care Policy is based on the principles of restorative justice and procedural fairness. The policy reflects the vision and mission of the Catholic Church and is characterised by safety, trust and mutual respect. To live out this policy the College has adopted various programs aimed at helping students value themselves and experience wellbeing. These include programs focussing on self-esteem, social relationships, moral development, vocational awareness, sexuality, anti-bullying, drug awareness, health and personal safety. The College's pastoral care policy has been developed in consultation with staff, parents and students and is available on the website.

#### **4.4 Discipline Policy**

The College policy is based on procedural fairness and ensures that practices respect the dignity, rights and fundamental freedoms of individual students. Students are required to abide by the College rules and to follow the directions of teachers and other people with delegated authority. Where disciplinary action is required, any penalty imposed will vary according to the nature of the breach and/or the student's prior behaviour. The policy is discussed with students, staff and parents on a regular basis. Reminders about the policy are regularly included in newsletters and it is available on the website.

The College does not sanction corporal punishment or allow parents to administer corporal punishment in the College grounds.

#### **4.5 Anti-Bullying Policy**

The College's Anti Bullying Policy fosters a cohesive approach to the issue of bullying and includes specific initiatives that are designed to promote pastoral care, wellbeing and safe communities. This policy covers the bullying of students with disabilities. Disabled children and young people need to know they have the right to be safe from bullying, what bullying is, how to keep safe and what to do if adults do not do enough to stop the bullying. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of all Catholic social teaching and intrinsic to our education ministry.

#### **4.6 Complaints and Grievance Policy**

The College policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly, and confidentiality is always maintained.

### **5. College Determined Improvement Targets**

Each year the College implements the School Improvement Plan. 2023 was a very rewarding year.

Key improvements achieved this year	Key Improvements for 2024
<p><b>Mission of Jesus Christ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Throughout 2023, students benefited from the integration of Project Based Learning into our Catholic Faith in Action units. This has enhanced student engagement and deepens their understanding of faith through practical, real-world applications. This approach has fostered collaboration, critical thinking, and a stronger connection within the community and the parish. Continued development remains a priority.</li> <li>• The Tell Them From Me data indicates progress, showing that students have gained meaningful insights into Catholic living and values. This feedback confirms our efforts to integrate faith-based teachings effectively into the curriculum, ensuring students are well-versed in the principles and practices of Catholic life.</li> <li>• We have successfully promoted staff formation opportunities on a more regular basis, enhancing professional development and fostering a deeper understanding of our Catholic mission. Our Spirituality Day continues to provide an opportunity for our staff to grow in their faith and effectively integrate Catholic values into their teaching practices.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mission of Jesus Christ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With changes to NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) options, Newman Senior Technical College will have successfully embedded the first four Units of Competency from the Certificate II Active Volunteering.</li> <li>• We will continue to provide and promote intentional, ongoing and reflective opportunities for faith formation and spirituality development for our College community.</li> </ul>

### Learning and Teaching

Staff engaged in the 1 hour NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) accredited course "Using Punctuation Effectively to Improve Writing". Further time was allocated to this in Professional Learning Team time.

The intervention program addressing Higher School Certificate (HSC) Minimum Standards had good results.

- **Year 11:**

30 Year 11 students were brought up to minimum standards.

12 reading, 17 writing, 6 numeracy = 35 students with one or more remaining. Of those, most are studying a RoSA pattern of study. This opportunity will be re-addressed in their HSC year.

- **Year 12:**

30 Year 12 students did not meet minimum standards at the start of the program. Only four did not meet minimum standards at the end of the program. Of those, two were RoSA pattern of study students, one chose not to complete the final test, and one made two attempts but was unsuccessful. She has been provided with information on how to complete the test through NESA and offers of support.

Staff have become comfortable in using the essential aspects of the new Learning Management System (LMS), Compass. In a Professional Development session in Term 4, each subject area was required to place Assessment Outlines or Delivery Plans into Compass in a unified approach. It is hoped that the LMS will act as a portal for students wanting to access this course information.

### Learning and Teaching

- The College Leadership and Curriculum Teams will continue to source relevant Professional Development for teaching staff. The focus for 2024 will be in line with the College School Annual Improvement Plan. This focuses on two areas; Feedback and Consistent Teacher Practice/Pedagogy.
- An intervention process for students wishing to engage in the online testing of Higher School Certificate minimum Standards will again be offered.
- The 2023 Year 11 Semester 1 Assessment Week model was not well received by all faculties. Some subject areas had fewer reading and writing elements in their assessments. In 2024 the format will return to an Examination Week approach, with all subject areas having some literacy component built into their assessment.

<p><b>Pastoral Care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have provided engaging professional development opportunities for staff, focusing on wellbeing, anxiety and depression management. These initiatives have equipped our educators with essential skills and knowledge, promoting a supportive and positive school environment while addressing critical mental health and safety concerns.</li> <li>• We have continued our preventative approach by embedding GRIT into the College culture, encouraging students to overcome adversity and fostering a positive team environment. This initiative has strengthened resilience, perseverance, and collaboration among students, contributing to their overall personal and academic growth. Our annual GRIT day, together with Pastoral Care lead events strengthens our holistic pastoral care approach year on year.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pastoral Care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With a focus on relationships, the physical, social, emotional, psychological, intellectual, cultural and spiritual wellness of all students, as a College we will investigate and develop a plan.</li> <li>• Continue with our preventative approach of embedding GRIT into the College, encouraging students to overcome adversity and to create a positive team environment.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for staff and students to build healthy positive relationships.</li> </ul>
---	--

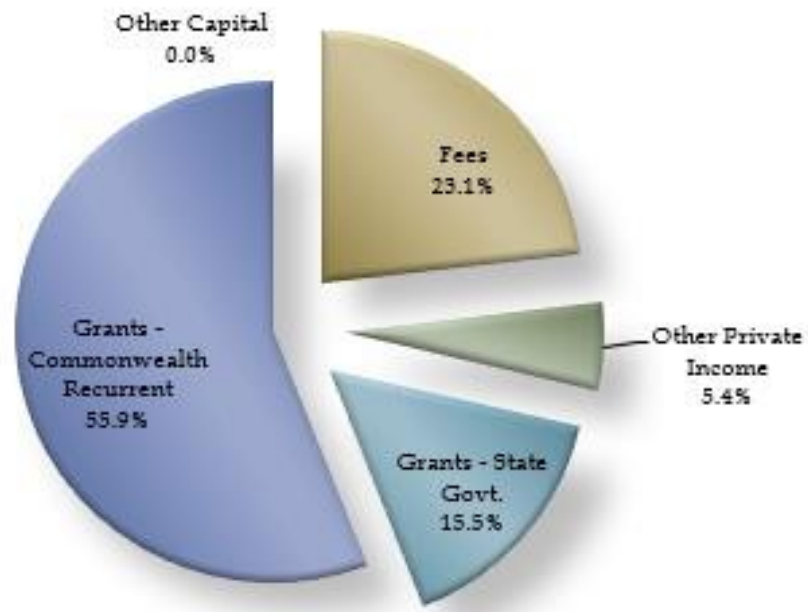
## 6. Financial Information

Catholic schools are accountable for all monies received. Each year, the Lismore Catholic Schools Office submits to the Commonwealth Government a financial statement on behalf of the parish primary schools and secondary colleges. This statement details the income and expenditure of each school. In addition, the financial accounts for each school and for the Catholic Schools Office are audited annually.

A visual summary of the income and expenditure reported to the Commonwealth Government for 2023 is presented below:



## 2023 INCOME - Newman Senior Technical College PORT MACQUARIE



## 2023 EXPENSE - Newman Senior Technical College PORT MACQUARIE

