



# 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Toowoomba Christian College  
10852 New England Highway, Highfields 4352  
Offering Co-education from Prep to Year 12

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## Introducing Toowoomba Christian College

Toowoomba Christian College is an Independent Prep – Year 12 co-educational College.

During 2012, the school has maintained its recent increase in enrolments and has finished the school year with 572 students.

2012 has seen the continuation of a second stream in our primary school with two Prep classes and two Year 1 classes. The school has begun building a 4 classroom block and undercover area to cater for the growth over the coming years. This development is expected to be finished by Christmas this year.

The school took possession of its Trade Training Centre at the beginning of the year and has held a number of functions in it, including the 20 Year anniversary of Mr Brown's principalship in April. The Trade Training Centre is a wonderful addition to the school and has been used to host some of the end of Year 12 functions. The building's cost of \$2.1m was supported by a \$1.5m grant from the Federal Government.

The school has also developed plans to prepare for the move of Year 7 into high school and has drawn up plans for a new high school classroom block. The State Government has pledged \$500,000 towards this building. We are hoping to commence building by the middle of 2013.

We are truly grateful for the financial investment from all levels of government and look forward as to how these facilities will benefit the students of the school.

After much discussion of the best way to provide more parking onsite and how to use our block of land in the Cook Court estate, the school has sought to buy 5 acres from our southern neighbour and it is hoped that there will be a settlement soon. All being well, the school will be proceeding to develop more car parking space in 2013.

### **STUDENT NUMBERS**

The 2012 school year began with 554 students enrolled in the school. By the school census date in August we had 576 students.

### **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

A number of parents gave freely of their time to help in the primary classrooms, the Library and with the running of sports events. The school is extremely grateful for the assistance given by these parents.

Parents are also invited to attend special occasions such as Family Day, Festival of Nations, Sports Carnivals, and Parent Information Evenings, and all parents are encouraged to attend a parent/teacher interview at least once a year, although an opportunity is given every term. Parents also have direct access to any teachers email address if they need to make contact with any staff member.

Regular communication is provided to assist parents.

### **PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION**

Historically, the School has not had to deal with many Parent, Teacher or student complaints. Differences that arise are dealt with promptly.

Reasons for the low incidence would be because of the good rapport the students and parents have with the staff, the pastoral awareness and involvement of the staff, and the response to the strong Christian ethos of the school held by the students, parents and staff.



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## SCHOOL STAFF

In 2012 we welcomed:

Mrs Emma Gray	Teaching Prep B
Mrs Peta Ellingsen	Teaching Year 4
Mrs Amanda Gosney	Teaching Year 7
Miss Kristen Truscott	Teaching High School Maths
Mrs Tenille Mathison	School Receptionist
Mrs Kate Cook	Co-teaching in Year 1A and teaching Prep and Year 1 Drama and Computers
Mrs Tamara Mitchell	Teaching High School English, Junior Catering, Textiles and Christian Studies
Mrs Michelle Tickle	Teaching Primary School Drama as well as High School English and Christian Studies
Mrs Brindi La Grange	Principal's Personal Assistant
Mr Dwaine Joanknecht	Head Groundsman
Mrs Debbi Martin	Learning Support Teacher Aide in the Primary School
Mrs Deb Reinbott	Learning Support Teacher Aide in the Primary School
Mrs Michelle McClune	Year 1A and Drama to Lower Primary (1 day a week)
Miss Kirstie Moar	Maths High School Teacher

We farewelled:

Mrs Melody Collins	Leaving to prepare for the birth of her first child
Mr Stuart Roberts	Head Groundsman
Mrs Joeleene Lochel	Prep B Teacher Aide
Mrs Kate Cook	Leaving to prepare for the birth of her second child
Mrs Kristen Truscott	High School Teacher

## DISTINCTIVE CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

Toowoomba Christian College offers a comprehensive curriculum across the key learning areas and supports all learners via highly skilled classroom practitioners and through the following aspects:

- A Learning Enrichment Co-ordinator to meet the needs of gifted and talented students
- A Learning Support Co-ordinator and Learning Support Teacher to enhance the opportunities for students who are experiencing learning difficulties
- Tuesday after-school subject support sessions for students in Years 3 – 12

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Toowoomba Christian College offers a diverse and vigorous co-curricular program, managed by teachers and professional coaches, which includes:

### *Diverse Cultural Opportunities*

- Year 7 Production "The Empire"
- Junior High Drama "Finding Hope"
- High School Musical "The Diary of a Muse"
- Senior High Drama "Boarding Pass"
- Senior High Art "2012 Art Show"
- Senior High Media Film "LARP"



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## SPORTING PERFORMANCES

The school continued to participate enthusiastically in interschool sports with other schools in Toowoomba. This year the school has been privileged to have 16 students represent the Darling Downs or South West Queensland region at State Championships. These students were:

Blake Reinbott	Year 5	Cross Country
Grant Reinbott	Year 5	Cross Country
Eli Adams	Year 5	Cross Country
Grant Shelton	Year 6	AFL
Brodie Ernst	Year 6	AFL
Heinrich Hollander	Year 7	Soccer
Riley Coker	Year 7	Soccer
Regan Maddick	Year 7	Swimming
Brendan Shelton	Year 8	AFL and Athletics
Naomi Hitchener	Year 8	Tennis
Samuel Copland	Year 9	AFL
James Lush	Year 9	Hockey + represented Queensland in Hockey
Anthony Grant	Year 10	Soccer
Scott Baker	Year 10	AFL
Jai Hill	Year 11	Softball
Jarad Thornley	Year 12	Athletics

## PASTORAL CARE SERVICES

### *Chaplaincy*

A part-time Chaplain plays an active role in the welfare of the students and assists in personal, family, grief and spiritual counselling.

### *Counselling*

Counselling at Toowoomba Christian College is offered to assist students to develop appropriate skills and attitudes, and to resolve problems in academic, psychological, emotional, and/or social contexts. The counselling offered is in-keeping with our Christian perspective.

Counselling is done within the framework of the whole College community, involving staff and parents as required.

### *Career Pathways Counselling*

Career Pathways Counselling continues to be an integral part of the curriculum at Toowoomba Christian College and the careers service includes both individual counselling and timetabled lessons.

High School Students are encouraged to undertake Work Experience throughout the year and are encouraged to try a number of different fields of interest. We have had success in some students gaining employment through these opportunities.

Students are encouraged to avail themselves of the services offered by our Careers Counsellor – writing job applications, compile and update resume, understand interview techniques, time-management skills, investigate post-graduate academic programs and for general careers advice.



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## ***Strategies to respond to bullying***

Every individual is valuable and has the right to be treated with respect, dignity and understanding. The building of positive and effective relationships amongst all members of the Toowoomba Christian College community is of primary importance. Therefore, behaviours that exhibit elements of bullying and harassment will be treated seriously.

We are committed, wherever possible, to the restoration of relationships.

## **OVERSEAS MISSIONS TRIPS**

This year, during the June holidays, Mr Nathan Gilmour, Mr Edward Lucas and Mrs Felicity Wauchope took 11 students to Fiji. They had a thoroughly rewarding time visiting villages and speaking at church services and schools. This trip was a great success and is scheduled to run again next year.

## **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES**

This year the school once again entered students from Years 4-12 in the International Competitions in Science, English and Maths.

I am pleased with the results in the following competitions:

Primary English:	13 Credits	3 Distinctions	
Primary and Secondary Maths:	74 Credits	19 Distinctions	1 High Distinction
Secondary Science:	55 Credits	15 Distinctions	1 High Distinction
Secondary English:	66 Credits	16 Distinctions	1 High Distinction

## **YEAR 3, 5, 7 & 9 NATIONAL TESTING RESULTS**

This year saw the continuation of NAPLAN testing for all schools in Australia in Literacy and Numeracy. These results indicate that students at Toowoomba Christian College are on many occasions achieving above the state and national averages in Literacy and Numeracy.

### **READING**

Year	Average Score (TCC)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	434.0	408.3	419.3
Year 5	479.0	480.1	493.2
Year 7	550.0	532.4	541.3
Year 9	584.0	566.6	574.5

### **WRITING**

Year	Average Score (TCC)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	408.0	403.2	415.4
Year 5	444.0	457.4	476.5
Year 7	534.0	511.6	517.9
Year 9	564.0	539.2	553.3



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## SPELLING

Year	Average Score	Average Score	Average Score
	(TCC)	(State)	(National)
Year 3	426.0	398.0	413.9
Year 5	501.0	478.5	494.3
Year 7	556.0	533.7	543.1
Year 9	576.0	571.3	576.6

## GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION

Year	Average Score	Average Score	Average Score
	(TCC)	(State)	(National)
Year 3	453.0	411.2	423.6
Year 5	512.0	477.2	490.5
Year 7	563.0	539.5	545.9
Year 9	598.0	569.5	572.8

## NUMERACY

Year	Average Score	Average Score	Average Score
	(TCC)	(State)	(National)
Year 3	433.0	380.7	395.1
Year 5	494.0	476.1	488.4
Year 7	554.0	531.7	537.9
Year 9	592.0	574.6	584.0

## VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING AND UNIVERSITY COURSES

### — Certificates Offered at School

Working in partnership with Club Training Australia, 42 TCC students were able to work towards obtaining a Certificate II in Hospitality (SIT20207).

### — Certificates Studied Through the Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE (SQIT)

4 TCC Students attended classes at SQIT on a weekly basis and worked towards Certificates in areas, including Automotive, Tourism, Children's Services, Information Technology and Digital Media and Technology.

### — School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeships

This year 16 TCC Senior High students engaged in School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeships while still at school in the fields of Business, Business Administration, Children's Services, Community Recreation, Hospitality (Commercial Cooking), Hairdressing, Media, and Retail.

### — University of Southern Queensland (USQ) Headstart Subjects

This year 14 TCC Senior High students studied university subjects while still at school in faculties including Business & Law, Education, Engineering & Surveying and Sciences.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

2012 saw 9 of our Year 12 students travel to Canberra for the Compass Schools Conference. I was delighted with the impact it had on our students. I strongly believe in investing in our young people's lives, and will be taking a group of Year 12 students again next year.



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## THE ARTS

This year has once again seen some marvellous performances from our students. Our thanks and appreciation goes to:

<b>Term 2</b>	24-26 May 2012	Mrs Carleigh Graham, Senior High Drama Production	<i>"Boarding Pass"</i>
<b>Term 3</b>	25-28 July 2012	Mrs Carleigh Graham, Junior High Drama	<i>"Finding Hope"</i>
	7 September 2012	Mr Nathan Hitzke High School Musical	<i>"The Diary of a Muse"</i>
<b>Term 4</b>	10 October 2012	Mr Edward Lucas, Senior High Art Show	<i>"2012 Art Show"</i>
	19-20 October 2012	Mrs Michelle Tickle, Year 7 Production	<i>"The Empire"</i>
	2 November 2012	Mr Kenneth Crowther, Senior High Media Film	<i>"LARP"</i>

## SCHOOL FINANCES

Please click [here](#) to access Toowoomba Christian College 2012 Finances published on the 'My School' website.

## THE FUTURE

I believe that 2013 will be a year when we continue to lay the ground work for our future. There are numerous changes that we know about and with a Federal election taking place there is uncertainty as to what other changes might be forthcoming as education issues play their part in the campaign.

Our future however is determined by the hand and will of God and we will continue to seek to build the school after His direction. We are confident His plans and timing are right.

There are a number of initiatives the school plans to introduce next year including teacher evaluation process in line with the government's expectations. I am looking forward to seeing the Prefects being more involved with the high school students and calling them up to greater responsibility.

The school will also have to prepare for the changes involved in Year 7 moving into High School and for the increase of students in the primary section of the school.

In light of the changes taking place it is important that we make sure we continue to build upon the values and ethos that have made this school what it is.

## SCHOOL CAPTAINS

I wish to thank Lauren McAdam and Timothy Kahler for the wonderful job they have done this year as the school's leaders. They have performed their tasks admirably and I am sure many students are very grateful for the friendship and example they have given throughout the year.

## PREFECTS

I also wish to thank Jordan Flemming, Lincoln Roberts, Jayden Smith, Ben Anderson, Kimberley Child, Sophia Hingst, Sophie Hoddinott and Liara Taylor for being our school prefects for this year. I am delighted with the quality of young people who lead our school and set a fine example for the rest of the student body to follow.



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## APPARENT RETENTION RATES

The Queensland Government requires the school to publish our Apparent Retention Rates. These rates have been calculated using the nationally agreed methodology which is defined as the number of full-time students in Year 12 in any given year, expressed as a percentage of the number of students who started in Year 10 two years previously.

The calculations are based on enrolment data collected from the school by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) as part of the annual National School Statistics Collection.

Year	Year 10	Year 12	Retention rate %
2006	38	28	80.0%
2007	46	32	94.1%
2008	47	35	92.1%
2009	44	35	76.1%
2010	50	39	80.6%
2011	55	41	93.0%
2012	78	44	86.0%

## STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders
Doctorate	0
Masters	2.5%
Bachelor Degree	90%
Diploma	7.5%
Certificate	0

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2012	\$46,359
The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2012	100%

## STAFF COMPOSITION, INCLUDING INDIGENOUS STAFF

Toowoomba Christian College employs a diverse range of teaching and administrative staff, all of whom are active Christians.

Part Time Staff	17
Full Time Staff	45
Administration	23
Teaching	39
Indigenous	0

## STAFF ATTENDANCE

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97.7% in 2012.



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## STAFF RETENTION

Proportion of teaching staff retained from 2011 was over 90%.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2012 was 94%.

## HOW NON-ATTENDANCE IS MANAGED BY THE SCHOOL

Attendance in the High School is recorded each day during Pastoral Care Groups. Each Grade has 2 groups of males and females.

Attendance in the Primary School is recorded each day at the beginning of class.

The Electronic roll system called “ERoll” is used by all class teachers accessed by remote desktop on the school staff computers.

“ERoll” can be accessed by any teacher at any time to confirm absences and reasons for absences as well as departures during the day.

To ensure the rolls are completed each morning the Student Receptionist sends out an email with a tracking function recording the teacher’s response of yes to the completion of the rolls. Any emails that have not been responded too by 9:00am are followed up with a phone call from the Student Receptionist.

The Student Receptionist is responsible for recording and monitoring students arriving late, departures and absences.

The Head of Secondary compiles a list of students that are regularly absent due to TAFE courses, University subjects, School-based Traineeships and Work Experience.

When a student is ill or unable to attend school, it is expected that parents notify the school via phone or email before 9:00am. On the student’s return, all notes from the parent explaining absences (including medical certificates) are retained.

Once all absentees have been recorded and explained, any student that is away without explanation will be followed up with a phone call to their parents. Any continued absence is also followed up with a phone call to the parents of the student to offer support and enquire as to the student and family welfare at that time.

Any student that is missing from class is reported to the Student Receptionist immediately to follow up on their whereabouts.

In the case of prolonged absence, parents are asked to request planned absence of their student with the Heads of Primary and Secondary in advance. This information is then communicated to the student’s teachers.

Junior High Student absences during examination/assessment blocks are managed through the school’s *Absences of Junior High Students from Class tests and Exam Policy*, which is made available through the School website.

Senior High Students’ absences during examination/assessment blocks are managed through the school’s *Absences of Senior High Students from Class tests and Exam Policy* and Signing in and out Procedures.





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## YEAR 12 OUTCOMES

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2012	
Total number of Senior Certificates awarded	Not Applicable
Percentage of OP – eligible students with OP 1-15	Not Applicable
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates and awarded VET qualification	Not Applicable
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates with OP eligibility or awarded a VET qualification	42%
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer	100%

## NEXT STEPS SURVEY

*At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2012 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available.*

## HOW COMPUTERS ARE USED TO ASSIST LEARNING

The school has over two hundred computers being used by students and they are all used to assist learning.

## VALUE ADDING

All of the school's activities are built around the concept of value adding. The school has not formulated a method of measuring this in a way to give true recognition to the value we add to each student.

## PARENT, STUDENT AND TEACHER SATISFACTION

The school receives feedback and measures of satisfaction through various ways including letters and testimonials from parents.

The increasing enrolments over time are a good indicator of satisfaction with the school and its offering.

## CONCLUSION

I would particularly like to thank all the people who have stood with the school in prayer this year. I am very conscious that the Lord is building this school and I know how important it is that we continue to look to Him for His blessing and guidance.

I wish to thank the parents who have entrusted their children to Toowoomba Christian College and assure you it is our deepest desire to keep giving your son or daughter the training in their formative years so that they will be prepared to serve the Living God in the world they face.

Our mission is to prepare young people for service in today's ever-changing world by grounding them in the unchanging person of Christ and His unshakeable kingdom.

Richard Brown  
Principal