



2011 ANNUAL REPORT

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

Introducing Toowoomba Christian College

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

During 2011, the school has maintained its recent increase in enrolments and has finished the school year with 503 students.

2011 has seen the introduction of a second stream in our primary school. Due to this decision a new 2-classroom block was built ready for the start of the 2011 school year.

Another major change for 2011 has been the completion of two government funded projects as the school undergoes a \$5m expenditure program to add new facilities. The Federal Government's *Building the Education Revolution* Grant of \$2m was used to complete the Indoor Sports Centre. The 3 new ovals were completed with a State Government Grant through the Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Program.

During 2011 work was begun on the Trade Training Centre and planning was continued on the driveway and parking upgrade. A block of land in the Cook Court subdivision was also purchased.

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.

STUDENT NUMBERS

The 2011 school year began with 504 students enrolled in the school. By the school census date in August we had 506 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.

SCHOOL STAFF

At the beginning of the year we welcomed the following staff:

- Prep Teacher Mrs Allison Serjeant
- High School Teachers Mrs Carleigh Graham, Mr Edward Lucas, Mr Ben Sercombe, Mrs Laura Siddans and Miss Claire Whereat
- Director of Information Technology Mr JoNathan Hamilton
- Prep Teacher Aide Mrs Lydia Holden, who went on maternity leave and was replaced by Mrs Joeleene Lochel
- Mrs Melody Collins, Mrs Shelley Traves and Mrs Felicity Wauchope, who joined our school administration team

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

- Primary School Eisteddfod
- Junior High Drama – ‘We Are The Wild Things’
- Primary School Drama Festival
- Primary Drama and Music classes
- Year 7 Primary School Production ‘Message in a Bottle’
- Art Competitions
- High School Musical – ‘She’s Famous’
- Senior High Art Show ‘I Am’
- Senior High Drama Class ‘Twelfth Night’

Sporting Success and Opportunity

- Toowoomba District Cross Country Championships
- Toowoomba District Swimming Champions

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 12 students represent the Darling Downs or South West Queensland region at State Championships. These students were:

Sarah Freeman	Year 12	Soccer
Anthony Grant	Year 10	Soccer
Jai Hill	Year 10	Softball
Corey Bellert	Year 9	AFL
Alex Spary	Year 9	AFL

James Lush	Year 8	Hockey
Alicia Freeman	Year 7	Soccer
Bailey Grant	Year 7	Soccer
Naomi Hitchener	Year 7	Tennis
Brendan Shelton	Year 7	AFL
Sam Copland	Year 7	AFL
Regan Maddick	Year 6	Swimming

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.

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 14 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.

Our 2011 Asian Experience was held during the September School holidays.

Miss Chrissy Henderson and Miss Claire Whereat led a team of 3 Senior High Students throughout Asia visiting schools, orphanages and hospitals in Siem Reap, Phnom Penh, Manila, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.

The Asian Experience is designed to give students the opportunity to experience and cultivate delight for all of God's people and creations.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES

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

I am pleased with the results in the following competitions:

Primary Maths:	18 Credits	4 Distinction	
Primary English:	28 Credits	5 Distinctions	
Secondary Maths:	36 Credits	14 Distinctions	
Secondary English:	59 Credits	15 Distinctions	1 High Distinction
Secondary Science:	39 Credits	15 Distinctions	

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 (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	437.0	400.1	416.2
Year 5	496.0	469.5	488.4
Year 7	548.0	533.5	540.2
Year 9	597.0	572.5	579.6

WRITING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	422.0	403.5	415.5
Year 5	429.0	470.8	482.5
Year 7	553.0	533.2	529.3
Year 9	593.0	565.7	567.7

SPELLING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	410.0	387.9	406.3
Year 5	454.0	465.7	484.3
Year 7	566.0	528.6	537.8
Year 9	570.0	575.5	581.5

GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	457.0	407.2	421.6
Year 5	499.0	485.4	499.7
Year 7	561.0	525.0	533.0
Year 9	600.0	567.7	572.8

NUMERACY

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)
Year 3	419.0	384.7	398.4
Year 5	511.0	470.4	488.0
Year 7	590.0	539.0	544.9
Year 9	609.0	574.9	583.7

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING AND UNIVERSITY COURSES

Certificates Offered at School

Working in partnership with Club Training Queensland, 32 TCC students were able to work towards obtaining a Certificate II in Hospitality (SIT20207)

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

12 TCC Students attended classes at SQIT on a weekly basis and worked towards Certificates & Diplomas in a range of areas including Automotive, Children's Services, Construction Pathways, Design Fundamentals, Engineering, Hairdressing, Information Technology, Make Up Services, Metal Fabrication, Nursing and Tourism

School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeships

This year 17 TCC Senior High students engaged in School-based Apprenticeships & Traineeships while still at school in the fields of Business Administration, Commercial Cooking, Community Recreation, Community Services Work, Electrotechnology, Engineering Fabrication Trade, Hospitality, Hairdressing, Information Technology, Media, Plumbing, and Retail.

University of Southern Queensland (USQ) Headstart Subjects

This year 11 TCC Senior High students studied University subjects while still at school in faculties including Business & Law, Education, Engineering & Surveying and Sciences.

IT Developments

This year the school completed its computer 1:1 ratio roll out for students in Years 9 to 12. The school purchased 129 additional computers to fulfil this.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

2011 saw 11 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.

THE ARTS

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

- Mrs Graham and Mrs Rosenberg as our High School and Primary Drama teachers
- Mr Crowther for the writing and directing of the play, "We Are the Wild Things"
- Mr Lucas for his guidance and inspiration in the "I AM..." exhibition
- Mr Hitzke for the well-written and acted musical "She's Famous".

Term 3

Primary School Eisteddfod
Junior High Drama class
"We Are the Wild Things"
Primary School Drama Festival
Primary Drama & Music classes
Including: "Message in a Bottle"
By Year 7 Drama class

Term 4

High School Musical
"She's Famous"
Senior High Art Show
"I Am"
Senior High Drama Class
"Twelfth Night"

SCHOOL FINANCES

Please click [here](#) to access Toowoomba Christian College 2011 Finances published on the 'My School' website.

THE FUTURE

I believe that 2012 will be a year of adjustment and consolidation. The school will be seeking how best to use the new facilities and resources we have been given. We will also be investigating any necessary adjustments as we implement the National Curriculum in Maths, English and Science, and as we prepare for the next stages of its rollout.

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 Sarah Freeman and Cole Schoultz 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 Levi Mulhare, Danielle Hine and Ruth Macartney, 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.

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 Science and Training (DEST) as part of the annual National School Statistics Collection.

Year	Year 10	Year	Year 12	Retention rate %
2004	35	2006	28	80.0%
2005	34	2007	32	94.1%
2006	38	2008	35	92.1%
2007	46	2009	35	76.1%
2008	47	2010	39	80.6%
2009	44	2011	41	93.0%

STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders
Doctorate	0%
Masters	2%
Bachelor Degree	61%
Diploma	25%
Certificate	40%

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2011	\$33937.72
The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2011	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	4
Full Time Staff	48
Administration	15
Teaching	33
Indigenous	0

STAFF ATTENDANCE

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 94.5% in 2011.

STAFF RETENTION

Proportion of teaching staff retained from 2012 was 99.0%.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2011 was 92.0%.

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.

YEAR 12 OUTCOMES

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2011	
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 2011 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available.

YEAR 2 DIAGNOSTIC NET RESULTS

The school does not participate in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net.

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