

ANNUAL REPORT – 2014

VISION STATEMENT

Geraldton Grammar School will provide outstanding education and a strong sense of community, cultivating people of integrity, independence of mind and a love of learning.

MISSION STATEMENT

At Geraldton Grammar School we are striving for excellence today by encouraging and challenging students to fulfil their potential in preparation for the changing world of tomorrow.

Descriptive Information

School Sector: Independent

School's Address: 134 George Road, Geraldton, Western Australia

Total Enrolments: 675 full-time equivalent including Kindergarten

Year Levels Offered: Kindergarten to Year 12

Co-educational or Single Sex: Co-educational

Day or Boarding School: Day school that caters for boarding students through our relationship with the Geraldton Residential College

Characteristics of the Student Body:

Students who attend Geraldton Grammar School come from a diverse range of ethnic and religious backgrounds. The majority of students are born in Australia, including a low percentage of aboriginal students, with the remaining coming from 20 other countries. The students born in other countries originate from the European, Asian, American and African continents.

The religious background of Grammar students is similarly diverse. Parents have nominated 30 different religious groups, predominantly of a Christian faith, with which they have affiliation.

Social Climate:

Geraldton Grammar School is a school with high expectations and high standards. Through emphasis on a holistic approach to education we make every endeavour to support and encourage students in a safe and caring environment with the tradition of

Anglican schooling. The pastoral care and protective behaviours curriculum are an integral part of our school with dedicated time being given to our INSPIRE program in Primary School and our Personal Development Program in Middle School.

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings:

Geraldton Grammar School has a strong academic focus, offering a broad range of subjects. Approximately 70% of students go on to tertiary studies. For non-tertiary bound students, the school is a member of the consortium that utilised has access to the Geraldton Regional Trade Training Centre.

At Grammar, we offer two language subjects (Bahasa Indonesia and Chinese Mandarin) with Indonesian in Primary and Mandarin in Middle School. From 2016, the whole school will be learning Chinese Mandarin.

In the Primary School, K- 6 classes have interactive whiteboards, and students in Year 2-6 have 1:1 access to devices. This enable students to engage in learning experiences which foster collaboration and communication, support life-long learning and assist in preparing students for life in the 21st century.

In the Middle School, Grammar is an iPad School and this technology transitions to laptops in the Senior School.

In Middle School, we offer a large number of elective subjects in conjunction with a strong academic core. All students study English, Mathematics, Humanities, Science and HPE together with electives in the Languages, the Arts (Visual Arts, Music, Media Arts and Drama), and the

Technologies (Computing, Technology Materials, Design Technology, and Food Technology).

In Senior School, there are 30 subject offerings together with 20 Vocational Education options and work placement arrangements.

Tutorials/homework club is available four days per week for Middle and Senior students.

Academic Extension Programs:

In Primary School, there is a high level of learning support and a High Achieving and Talented Students (HATS) program. Inquiry based learning is a feature of the primary school which follows a multi-aged class grouping philosophy.

Middle and Senior School offers curriculum extension programs through creative writing, science and engineering. Chess Club is also a popular extension activity.

Language extension occurs through our signature Chinese Exchange Program with year 9 students. This involves students working online and face to face with students in China and in Geraldton. The inaugural exchange is in 2015.

Co-curricular Activities:

At Geraldton Grammar School, we offer a broad range of co-curricular opportunities.

Over 20 sports and associated clubs are available for students to participate in each year. Sports currently on offer include: Touch Rugby, AFL Football, Tennis, Surfing, Badminton, Table Tennis, Football (Soccer), Hockey, Swimming, Netball, Basketball, Cross Country, and Athletics.

The Instrumental Music Program offered within the school includes Concert Band (year 6 to 12), Primary School Choir, Middle and Senior School Choir, various Ensembles, and Rock Band. Individual and small group music lessons are provided on campus.

Outdoor Education/Camps Programs:

All students in year 4 to year 11 are involved in our successful camps program.

Year 4 – Geraldton Camps School

Year 5 – Perth

Year 6 – Geraldton Leadership Camp

Year 6 - Canberra Study Tour

Year 7 – Nukara Outdoor Camp

Year 8 – Moresby Range Outdoor Camp

Year 9 - Galena Outdoor Camp

Year 9 – Outward Bound Camp (12 days)

Year 10 – Perth Careers Convention and Universities Tour

Year 11 – Outward Bound Camp (12 days)

International School Focus:

Geraldton Grammar School has an international focus with our involvement in the Round Square Program. The 6 Ideals of Round Square Schools' are Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service. Geraldton Grammar School has a year 8 exchange program with other Australian Round Square Schools. Students in year 9 and year 11 have the option of attending national and international conferences. Our year 9 students can be involved in the Chinese Exchange Program. In 2015, Geraldton Grammar School will continue to develop an Asian focus in our education through the Australian-Indian Bridge Program.

Staff:

Academic Teaching Staff Attendance: 96.89%

Academic Teaching Staff Retention Rate: 91.4%

The Workforce Composition for 2014 (as of August Census) was as follow:

Teaching Staff:

Primary School

23.4 FTE with 4.6 male; 18.8 female

Middle and Senior School

34.48 FTE 14.08 male; 20.4 female

Support Staff:

33.11 FTE 8 male; 25.11 female

Staff Professional Learning:

Staff members were engaged in whole school, sub-school, learning area, pastoral and personal professional learning. The focus areas in 2014 were WACE courses, Early Years Education, Australian Curriculum, Pastoral Care, First Aid, and ICT.

The cost was averaged over the equivalent of 1.0 FTE. Professional learning across the year was \$1,674.78 per person of which \$138.26 was spent on teacher relief.

Teachers' qualifications all met the requirements of the Teacher Registration Board of Western Australia (TRBWA).

Student Attendance:

In 2014, the school implemented SEQTA to support student attendance recording. The student attendance rate is 92.69% based on attendance records from Pre-Primary to Year 12.

Year level	Percentage Attendance
Pre-Primary	86.50
1	91.18
2	92.05
3	94.32
4	92.09
5	94.64
6	92.23
7	93.21
8	92.39
9	92.30
10	92.41
11	93.80
12	93.70

Student Absences

Attendance is marked twice daily in Primary and on a period by period basis in Middle and Senior School. Any extended absence is referred to the school attendance officer or the participation team at Mid-West District Office.

Student Retention

The student retention rates from Year 8 to Year 12 are outlined below:

Year	Year 12	Year 8	Apparent Retention Rate
2013	34	89	38%
2014	22	51	43%

The 2014 Year 12 class was part of the half cohort group across the state. An increase in subject offerings and vocational education options in 2015 is expected to further increase this improved student retention trend.

OLNA Performance

Numeracy

Pre-Achieved	33
Achieved in 2014	11
Not yet Achieved	2

Reading

Pre-Achieved	27
Achieved in 2014	19
Not yet Achieved	1

Writing

Pre-Achieved	22
Achieved in 2014	21
Not yet Achieved	3

Year 12 Performance

The following table outlines the Year 12 Performance data. In 2014, 71.43% of Year 12 students were offered a place at University. The state average for this parameter is 40%.

Performance Parameter	Number
Year 12 Students	21
Overseas full fee paying students	0
Sitting WACE Examination	19
Re-entering year 12 in 2015	1
Studying VET	2
Graduating with WACE	20
Students with 1+ A grade in a COS	7
Applied for University admission	18
ATAR and applied for University	18
Median ATAR for applicants	79.4
Students offered first preference	12
Students offered place at University	15
Students enrolled at University	15
Students who deferred University	7

NAPLAN Performance

	R	PW	S	G&P	N
3	474	426	436	483	455
5	525	461	473	503	511
7	559	524	562	554	559
9	583	550	578	566	598

R – Reading; PW – Persuasive Writing; S – Spelling; G&P – Grammar and Punctuation; N – Numeracy
Geraldton Grammar School is proud of their academic record regarding NAPLAN testing. In 2014, students performed significantly above the national mean in 14 of the 20 testing parameters. These results are also above the state mean in all areas.

Parental Involvement

At Geraldton Grammar School, we value the relationship with the home, and the shared responsibility of educating our students. Parent, students and their teachers are involved in three-way interviews to support clear communication and expectations. Parents are in regular attendance at school chapel services and assemblies. Parents also actively attend information evenings and meet and greet days. In 2014, communication is carried out through a weekly newsletter, email communication, the school Facebook site and the school's website. In 2015, the newsletter and school calendar will be in electronically available formats.

Grammar's Parents' and Friends' Association is an active body that supports community social events and fundraising for educational projects.

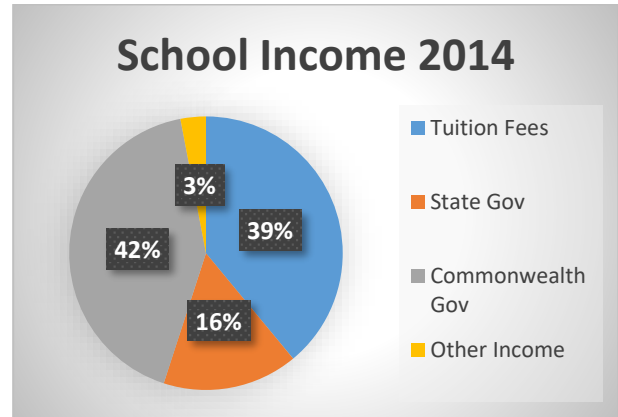
Satisfaction Levels

The 2014 Staff Satisfaction Survey highlights a very high level of staff engagement and satisfaction. The staff rated the school, their teaching experience and their line manager at an average of 4.15/5 in across 10 different parameters.

The school did not complete Parent or Student Satisfaction Surveys in 2014. The summary of 2013 outcomes is based on a 4 point scale.

Parent and Student Satisfaction Survey results indicated that the community were broadly satisfied in most categories.

2014 School Income Sources



Final Comments

2014 was a year of transition for Geraldton Grammar School. Long serving Principal Mrs Susan Shaw retired after 13 years. Foundation staff member Mr John Royce replaced Mrs Shaw as Principal for 2014 while a replacement could be identified. Mr Nick Johnstone was employed in June to start his tenure in the 2015 calendar year. Our high student attendance, committed staff and signature programs suggest a strong sense of satisfaction with the quality of our teaching and learning. This report confirms that the Mid-West Region sees Geraldton Grammar School as a school of choice for their child's future development.

Nick Johnstone
Principal
7 August, 2015