



APPLECROSS
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

ACHIEVE

NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE
MUTUAL RESPECT — PERSONAL BEST

CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL
Paul Leech

VICE PRINCIPAL
Angie Thomas

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
Jenna Jarvis

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPALS
Paul Currie
Years 7-9

Toni Jones
Years 10-12

Rex Lilleyman
Student Services

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	1
FROM THE PRINCIPAL	2
FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL BOARD	3-4
OUR VISION	5
OUR BUSINESS PLAN	6
MONITORING STUDENT IMPROVEMENT ACHIEVEMENT TARGETS.....	7-8
NAPLAN AND OLN A RESULTS	9-10
YEAR 12 RESULTS	11-16
LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS	17-26
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING (VET).....	27-32
GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS	33-38
SPECIALIST TENNIS.....	39-40
STUDENT SERVICES	41-44
COMMUNITY SURVEYS	45-48
OUR STAFF	49-50
FINANCIAL REPORT	51-53

Front Cover Artwork by: Yasna Vojdani, Samantha Majer, Ruby Cotton, Sophia Yu and Jess Lee



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ngalak kaadatj koorra-koora
Wadjak moort nidja
Boodja-k nalak kaadajinu

We acknowledge the traditional Wadjak people of this land on which we learn. We acknowledge and respect First Nations people's knowledge of this land that they share with us.

Artwork: Rosie Paine

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This Annual Report provides parents, caregivers, and community members with an overview of the school's progress toward achieving our stated goals and targets during the previous calendar year (2023). It includes information about comparative student achievement, academic performance, attendance, a range of school programs, and staffing. This report is an integral part of our annual review and reporting process. It is an important means of providing the community with student achievement data and an overview of our self-reflection and continuous improvement processes.

By any measure, 2023 was an extremely positive and successful year. Towards the end of Term 1, the school had a routine (every three years) school review conducted by a Director from the Public School Accountability directorate. A large number of staff, students, parents, and members of the community participated in what was a very positive and comprehensive process. The school received a very strong endorsement from the reviewers, with our next review extended from the usual three years to five years. In an accompanying letter from the Deputy Director General (Melesha Sands), the school is described as "exceptional" with a "most exemplary learning environment". The letter also stated, "Your team of staff and leaders have clearly maximised the opportunity presented by a unified school community of students, families, and external partners to deliver pathways, support, and high-quality teaching in classrooms." The School Review Report is available on our website and provides the school community with further assurance that Applecross SHS is an effective school with excellent processes and a clear focus on delivering optimal outcomes for our students.

Our Year 7 and 9 students performed very strongly in the NAPLAN tests (pp. 9-10), and Applecross SHS was acknowledged by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) as being one of the best-performing schools in Australia, according to their socio-educational advantage measure. The school was also acknowledged by the Department of Education as having performed particularly well in 2023.

Our Year 12 students again excelled across all measures used to judge Year 12 achievement for students in ATAR, General, UniReady and VET courses (pp. 11-16). Our General students achieved a high proportion of A and B grades. A record number of students (47) attained their UniReady qualification. VET results were also very strong, with a large number of students completing their

Certificate III (31) and IV (31) qualifications with three students being awarded VET Certificates of Excellence. Our Median ATAR of 91.85 is our highest ever achieved and would typically place us in the top 4-6 schools in the state, based on the rankings used up until 2022.

While the data looks great, the most satisfying aspect is that the vast majority of students achieved results that enabled them to get into their preferred post-school course at TAFE or university, or direct employment. I congratulate the Class of 2023 for their hard work and commitment and wish them luck for the future.

The school was honoured to have been recognised for our excellent teaching and learning by being awarded as a finalist in the WA Education Awards for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (Secondary).

The excellent academic results achieved by the school are the result of good school processes that create the enabling conditions that underpin excellent teaching and learning. For instance, our strong focus on student wellbeing is one key ingredient in students achieving their personal best. The role of effective and committed teachers cannot be overstated. I also believe that the partnership that has been established with parents and caregivers is a unique feature of Applecross SHS and one that makes a significant contribution to improved student outcomes.

Apart from student achievement information, feedback from all school community members was collected via a number of surveys and a range of other means in 2023 (pp. 45-48). I am optimistic that our highly effective and consultative planning processes will result in continued progress toward our school vision and improvements in targeted areas during 2024 and beyond (pp. 5).

I trust our Annual Report will give you a good insight into overall progress and achievement during the 2023 school year at Applecross Senior High School.

Paul Leech
Principal



FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

This extraordinary school continues to amaze me. On behalf of the School Board, I would like to thank and congratulate the remarkable students and staff of Applecross Senior High School (ASHS) for their efforts, their achievements, and their impact throughout the year.

It is true that ASHS delivers NAPLAN and OLNA results that consistently match or exceed other 'Like Schools.' Indeed, our Year 12 Median ATAR results typically place ASHS in the top 10 schools in the state. The achievement of the 2023 graduating cohort would have seen ASHS place in the top five schools in Western Australia. But these achievements are not "once-offs" and do not happen by accident. They are the outcomes of the efforts of our students and staff throughout the entire journey of our students, from commencement in Year 7 through to the final days of secondary school.

As well as ATAR we have more to celebrate other than ATAR achievement alone. Through the leadership of our Principal, Paul Leech, through the Executive, staff, students, and parents, there is a positive and continuous performance environment. The learning environment at ASHS is more than just the classroom and homework. It is the intangible fabric and scaffolding that surrounds students, preparing them for life beyond school. Every student is unique. ASHS is determined that opportunities for 'personal best' are available for every student. Quality teaching underpins the successes of ASHS students in both ATAR, General, VET and UniReady programs. Our teachers are highly responsive to student needs, differentiate in every classroom and use high-impact teaching strategies to engage learning.

The main function of the School Board is to oversee governance, in conjunction with the Executive team, to ensure the school is being run effectively and that improvement plans are being successfully implemented. 2023 has been a busy time for the Board, especially in the first half of the year, as we supported the school in finalising the new 2023-2025 Business Plan. Student development and wellbeing are the number one priority within the School's Business Plan; It is an acknowledgment that ASHS is preparing all students for a healthy and fulfilling future in which they are empowered to be responsive and adaptable independent adults in the 21st century. We congratulate the Executive and staff on the collaborative development of this Business Plan and look forward to monitoring its implementation for our students.

In addition to the Business Plan, the School also underwent the formal Public School Review process with the Department of Education. This was a fascinating process, and again highlighted to Board members the significant work required to deliver a high quality and contemporary education to students. To achieve an outcome of "exceptional performance" from the Department is further validation that the environment created under the leadership of our Principal and delivered daily by our extraordinary staff is one we can all be proud of. On behalf of the Board, I congratulate all staff on their efforts to achieve this outcome. It places ASHS as a leading education provider, one that we are all committed to maintaining and continuously improving.



Minister Visit



FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

It is not just governance matters that the Board takes an interest in. The Board endeavours to proactively hear about the many topics and actions taking place across such a diverse school community. This year, we heard from Westfield Booragoon about the positive relationship they hold with the school. We also heard about the measures in place to ensure staff and student safety from physical and mental harm. At every meeting, we hear of the positive work performed and led by our Parents and Citizens Association. This group plays a critical role in cooperation between parents, teachers, students, and members of the general community, promoting the interests of the school. We cannot thank you enough for your efforts.

As a Board, we recognise that the school is growing and are committed to supporting the school in efforts to secure the necessary resources to provide for future student and staff needs. We were honoured to host the Hon. Dr Tony Buti - Minister for Education, Aboriginal Affairs, Citizenship, and Multicultural Interests, and I thank Ms Kim Giddens MLA (Member for Bateman) for her tireless efforts to assist our School. The future provision for our students is an important topic we will continue to support. On behalf of the Board, I extend an enormous thank you to our Principal, Paul Leech, for his continuing leadership, holistic inspiration, and dedication to students and staff. Thank you to Angie Thomas - an invaluable addition to the School - for not only supporting the Board, but for your unwavering efforts across executive and day-to-day portfolios.

Our Board has been so fortunate to have fantastic student representation. Our School Captains, Sienna Pettman and Theo Scagliotta, deserve our great thanks for their representation on behalf of all students. Sienna and Theo exude maturity and passion in their reports to the Board. Their leadership and inclusivity are evident through their care to all year groups, directing and coordinating extraordinarily successful fundraising efforts, and highlighting to the wider Board what is affecting and enhancing student lives. I cannot wait to see where your passion takes you. I do know that wherever it may take you, it will be a successful journey. I wish you the absolute best for your next steps.

The Board of ASHS is extremely committed. It has been a busy year, and each Board member has contributed in so many ways - both within formal meetings and outside, whether it be through analysis, thoughtful discussion, or representation. I extend my thanks to Paul Leech (Principal), Angie Thomas (Vice Principal and Board Executive Officer), Sienna Pettman and Theo Scagliotta (School Captains), Mel Clarke (Community), Geoff Cooper (Parent and Board Secretary), Lorraine Hammond (Community), Wayne Houden (Staff), Malar Jayaprakash (Community), Ben Kelly (Staff), Katie Kumasaka (Community), Adeline Teh (Parent) and Rob Thompson (Parent). Our meetings are always positive and constructive. You are vibrant and collaborative, and through your skills and background, ensure that the school is served richly.

For the Year 12 students preparing to graduate, we hope your time at ASHS has been a rewarding experience and you are looking forward to your next stage, using the skills, friendships, and life lessons your years at ASHS have provided.

To all remaining students and our future senior cohort, congratulations on another successful year, and we wish you all the best for your continuing education in 2024. Keep dreaming, keep striving, and keep achieving!



Andrew Dwyer
School Board Chair

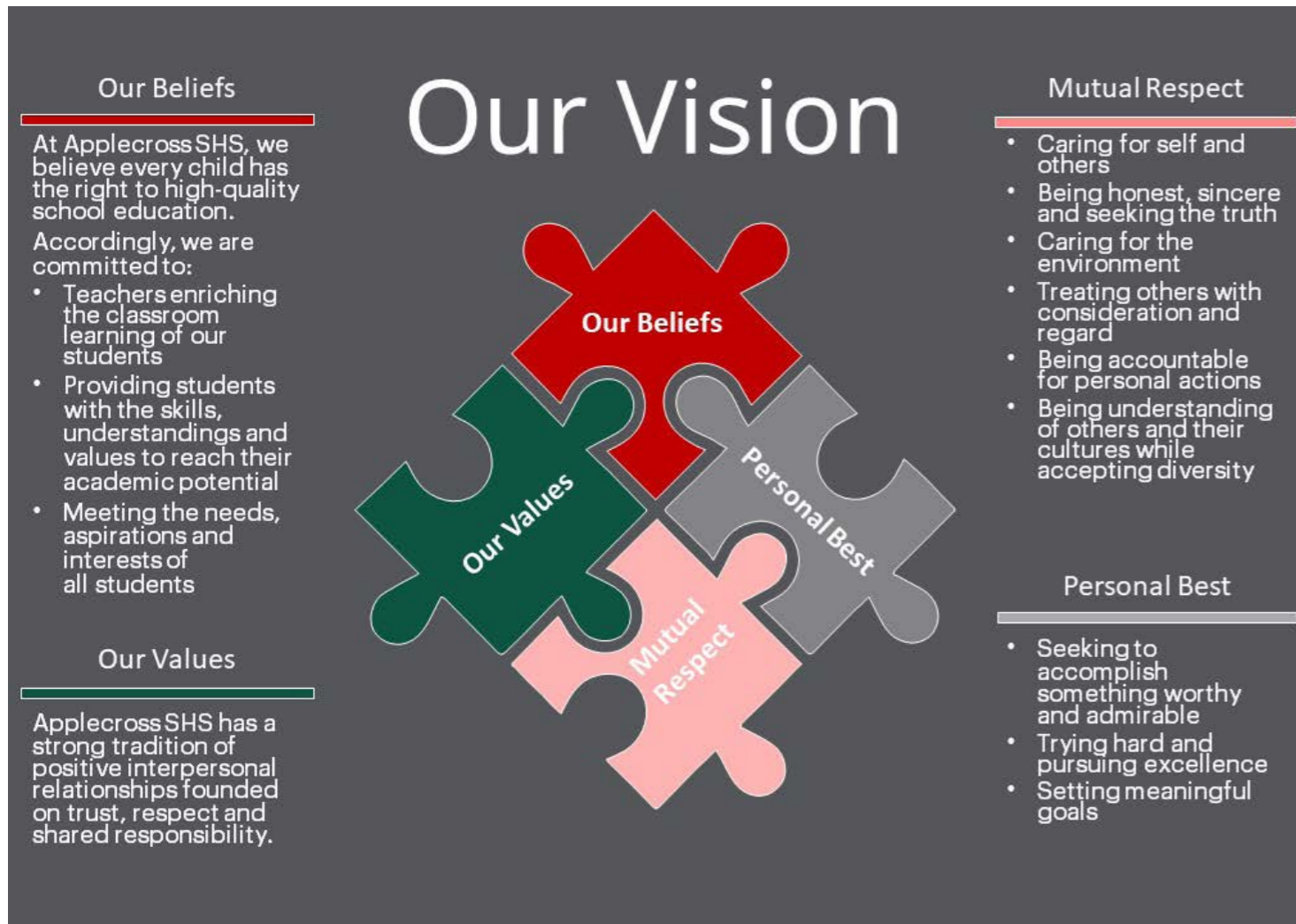
OUR VISION

Applecross Senior High School is committed to excellence and optimum development for all students. Our graduates are well-adjusted, creative, and resilient, with sufficient self-esteem to contribute meaningfully to society.

To achieve our vision, we aim to:

1. Ensure the complete wellbeing of each student
2. Consistently improve the academic outcomes and achievements of our students
3. Provide opportunities and encouragement for all students to engage in a wide range of co-curricular sporting and creative activities

The school's core values of Mutual Respect and Personal Best were developed through workshops with parents, students and staff members.



OUR BUSINESS PLAN

As the priorities in the 2023 – 2025 Business Plan are implemented, we will maintain our commitment to the belief that every child is entitled to high-quality school education.

By focusing on the plan's priorities and aspirations, we believe that Applecross SHS will make a real difference to our students and the local community.

OUR PRIORITIES

Applecross Senior High School supports students to achieve – now and into the future. The school's motto, "Achieve", is supported by our core values of Personal Best and Mutual Respect. Success for students means that they achieve their personal best in a climate of mutual respect and consideration for others.

Our students and teachers value strong, positive interpersonal relationships founded on trust, respect and shared responsibility. We firmly believe that the best learning occurs when teachers, students and parents are in partnership, have common goals and are mutually respectful.

Under the banner of "Applecross Senior High School Chooses Respect", our core values are Mutual Respect and Personal Best. It is expected that each individual will take responsibility and make a positive contribution to the school community.



Education transcends the classroom as we empower students to explore STEM fields with dedicated educators by their side.



Kim Giddens MLA visiting the new STEM Building

MONITORING STUDENT IMPROVEMENT ACHIEVEMENT TARGETS

Student achievement targets were developed as a component of the previous School Business Plan to focus on specific areas where improvement was desired. Targets were established based on the existing achievement data as well as a comparison with "Like Schools". The targets were intended to be aspirational, but also achievable, based on students' potential.

Supporting each target, there is a linked strategy (or a number of strategies) and resources designed to ensure a particular focus on improvement in that area. The targets were monitored at least twice a year by the school leadership group and the School Board. They were also monitored by the relevant Learning Areas.

In 2024 a new set of achievement targets will be further refined and developed to ensure that we are being aspirational.

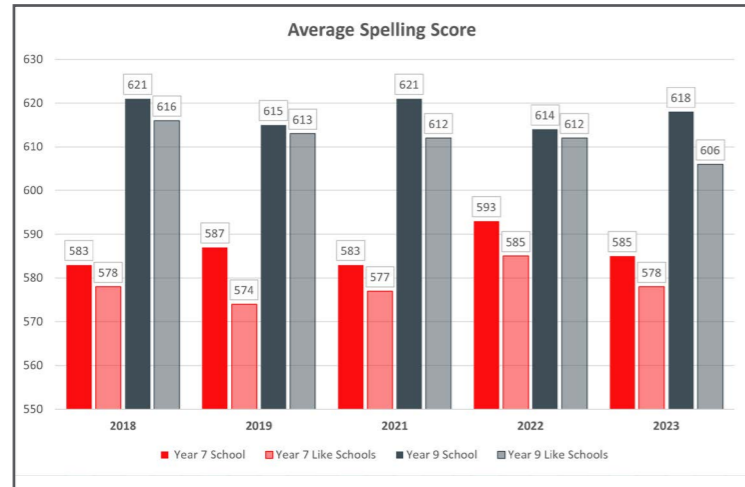
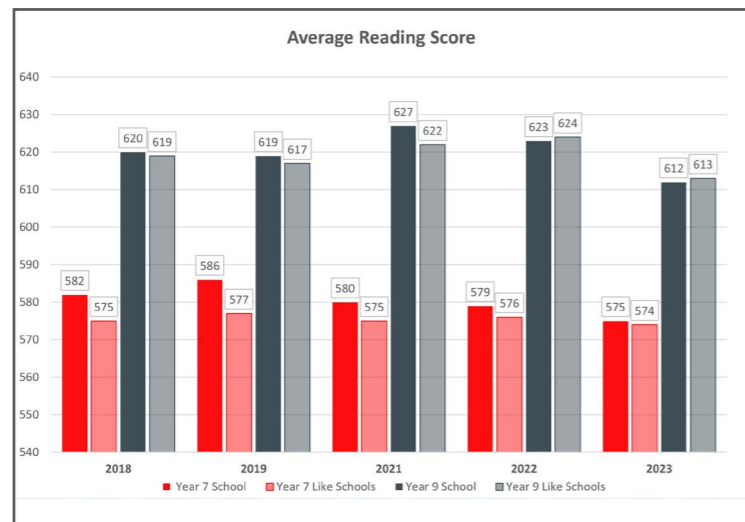
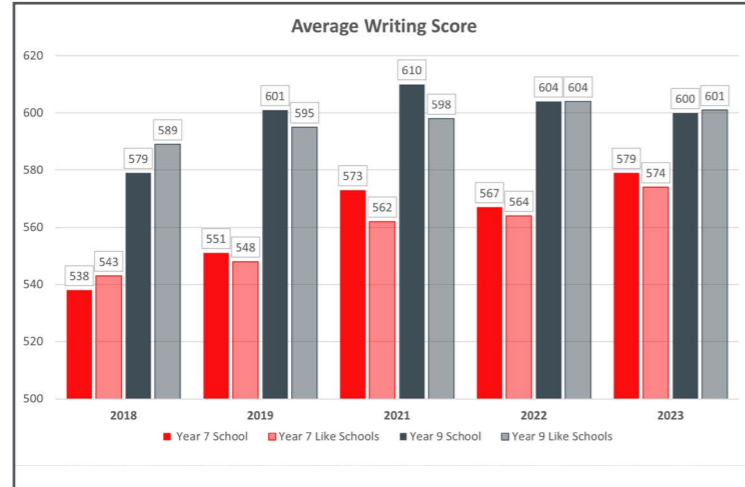
REPORT CARD

SELF ASSESSMENT TARGETS	PROGRESS					2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	No Progress	Limited Progress	Fair Progress	Good Progress	Achieved						
ATAR											
The median ATAR score of Year 12 students in the WACE will be 87.00>	[Progress bar]					98.4%	97.93%	96.90%	99.59%	100%	100%
At least 42% of students will be in the top trile	[Progress bar]					100%	92.85%	85.70%	100%	100%	100%
WACE											
At least 85% of students will achieve an ATAR 70>	[Progress bar]					99.65%	98.82%	100%	100%	100%	100%
OLNA											
At least 80% of students who sit the NAPLAN test will prequalify for OLNA (Achieve Minimum of Band 8).	[Progress bar]					69.3%	70%	100%	100%	99.7%	100%
At least 92% of students will meet the OLNA requirements by the end of Year 10	[Progress bar]					94.6%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%
NAPLAN											
Progress of students between Year 7 to 9 NAPLAN will be at a rate equal to or better than 'like school' average	[Progress bar]					98.3%	100%	**	100%	100%	100%
GATE/SPECIALIST PROGRAM											
Art											
Each year, Gifted and Talented Art students, studying ATAR Visual Art, will achieve a mean average scaled score 10% above Like schools	[Progress bar]					57%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Each Year 7-10 Gifted and Talented Special Art class will achieve 20% above like schools in grade averages for Visual Art	[Progress bar]					100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Tennis											
80% of Year 7-10 Specialist Tennis students will achieve an A grade in PE	[Progress bar]					53%	69%	66%	70%	64%	100%
80% of Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies students achieve a scaled score above 70% in the WACE Practical Tennis exam	[Progress bar]					68%	100%	80%	83%	50%	77%
ACADEMIC EXTENSION											
The mean scores for AE students will be at least 20% higher than the rest of the cohort mean in each MESH LA	[Progress bar]					93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
At least 90% of students studying two or more AE classes in Year 10 will achieve an ATAR of 92+ in Year 12	[Progress bar]					93.9%	90.01%	100%	100%	100%	100%
PRIORITY 1 STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING											
The attendance rate will be equal to or above like schools	[Progress bar]					100%	100%	^^	100%	100%	100%
PRIORITY 2 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING											
The grade distribution in all subjects will be equal to, or better, than like schools	[Progress bar]					100%	100%	98%	98%	100%	100%

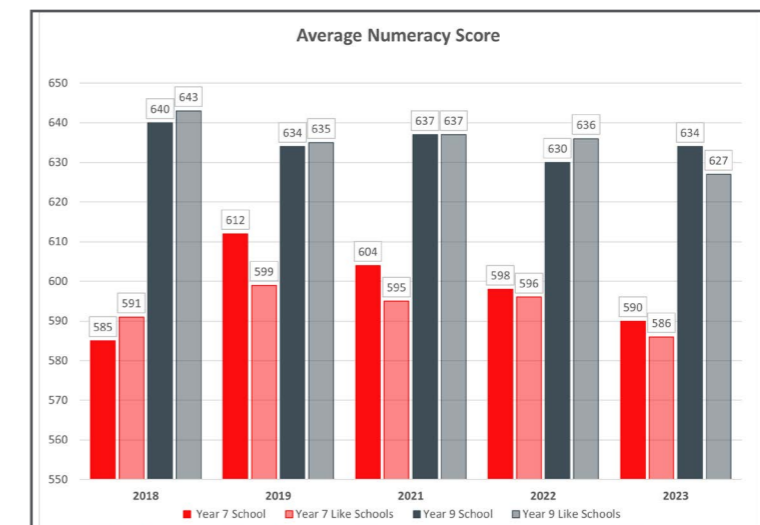
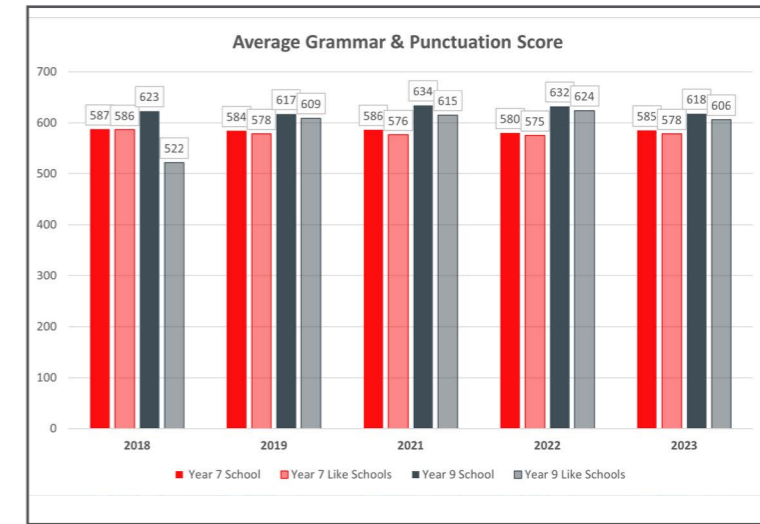
** - Not Available due to COVID-19
^^ - Unavailable

NAPLAN AND OLNA RESULTS

In 2023, NAPLAN assessments were administered in Term 1 for the first time, with students using their personal devices for completion. While the structure of the tests remained consistent with previous years, a new reporting system was introduced. Student achievement is now categorised into four proficiency levels: **Exceeding**, **Strong**, **Developing**, and **Needs Additional Support**. Notably, students demonstrated exceptional organization, engagement, and achieved outstanding average test scores. These results were benchmarked against Like Schools and showcased commendable performance.



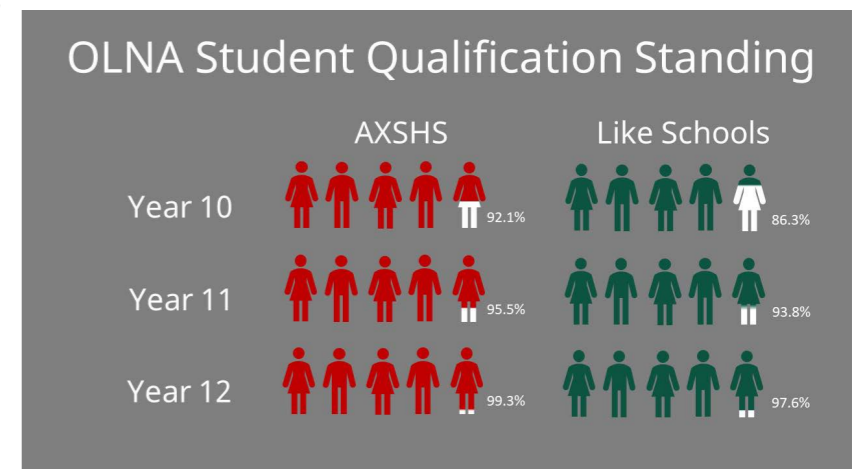
NAPLAN AND OLNA RESULTS



Students at Applecross Senior High School performed at or above the expected standard for our school in all of the National Assessment Plan – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests.

Throughout 2023, targeted programs were used to support students to successfully complete their Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA). The number of students who demonstrated the required standard of Literacy and Numeracy for the WACE continues to exceed that of our Like Schools.

As a result of our focus on Literacy, including the tiered prevention and intervention strategies, our students have continued to demonstrate excellent achievement.




We take immense pride in guiding our students towards achieving the best outcomes for life beyond high school.





Sam Hesp - ATAR Dux


NOTE: All award recipients are listed on our [website under Academic Performance.](#)


YEAR 12 RESULTS


 269 Year 12 students achieved WACE (99.64%)


 91.85 School Median ATAR


 123 students completed in 4 or more ATAR courses


 81 School Curriculum and Standards (SCSA) awards


 169 students completed a VET Certificate II or higher

 43 students with an ATAR above 95

 8 students achieved an ATAR of 99 or over

 23 students received a Certificate of Distinction

 107 students achieved an ATAR of 80 or more

 41 students received a Certificate of Merit

The Year 12 cohort of 2023 demonstrated significant improvement across all achievement measures from VET, ATAR, General and University pathway programs.

Our Median ATAR of 91.85 is now the highest achieved by any Year 12 group at Applecross SHS. This was inclusive of 8 students who achieved an ATAR of 99+.

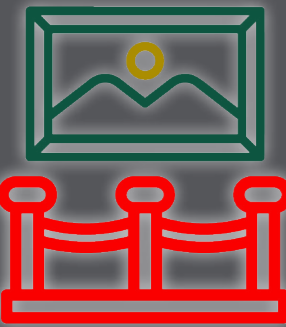
Other Year 12 results include:

- 1 SCSA General Exhibition Award
- 2 Subject Exhibitions for ATAR Design (one was an international student)
- 10 SCSA Subject Certificates of Excellence
- 3 VET SCSA Course Certificates of Excellence
- 23 SCSA Certificates of Distinction
- 41 SCSA Certificates of Merit
- AEC School Based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year
- 99.64% WCE Achievement
- 269 out of 270 students achieved OLN

- 13 ATAR courses with highest performing students (Based on the percentage of students at each school who had Year 12 ATAR course combined scores in the top 15% of all students in that course)
- 169 students enrolled in VET courses
- 47 students successfully completed the Curtin UniReady university enabling program
- 5 VET Students were in VET Beazley Medal contention – progressed to the interview stage
- 64% of students achieved an ATAR of 90+
- 14 students achieved Apprenticeships either during Year 12 or after WACE completion

Targeted strategies have been implemented within the Years 10-12 space to support student pathway choice through an educative approach. Further initiatives have been refined in the Year 12 space, including individual mentoring of the students with staff and reflective practice sessions to support independent learning.


YEAR 12 WACE/ATAR 2023 PERFORMANCE



1
General Exhibition



99.85
TOP ATAR achieved



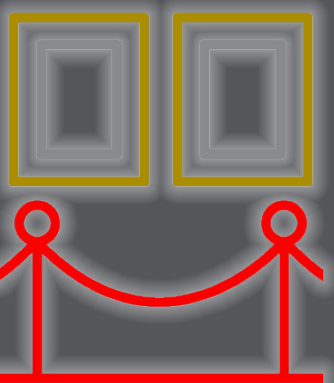
64%
Achieved an ATAR of 90+



8
Students achieved an ATAR of 99+



99.64%
Achieved WACE of 270 eligible Year 12 students



2
Subject Exhibitions



10
Subject Certificates of Excellence



91.85
Median ATAR



13
Top Performance ATAR courses in State



YEAR 12 WACE/VET 2023 PERFORMANCE



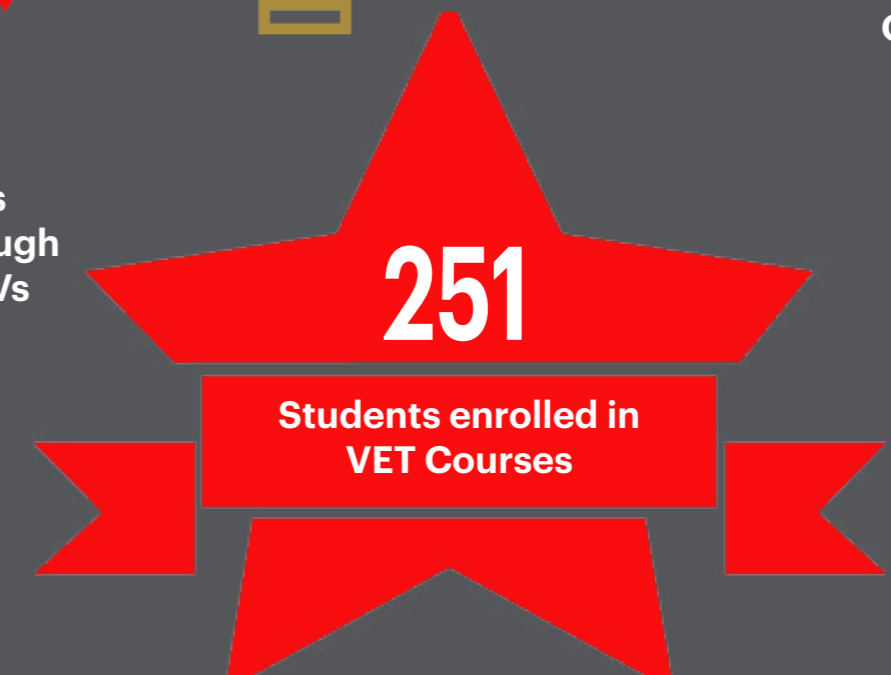
34
70 ATAR equivalents achieved through Certificate IVs




3
VET Certificates of Excellence Awarded



150
Qualifications achieved



251
Students enrolled in VET Courses



47
achieved equivalent to a 70 ATAR via the Curtin UniReady Fast Track Program



AEC
School Based Apprentice/ Trainee of the Year



34
Students achieved 3 or more VET qualifications



14
Apprenticeships Achieved



YEAR 12 RESULTS

Course Leaders

In 2023 Applecross SHS was identified by School Curriculum and Standards Authority as one of the schools with the highest performing students in the following ATAR courses. These courses are based on the percentage of students at each school who had Year 12 ATAR course combined scores in the top 15% in that course.



HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Physical Education Studies

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

- Career and Enterprise
- Economics
- Politics and Law

MATHEMATICS

- Mathematics Applications
- Mathematics Specialist

SCIENCE

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Human Biology
- Physics
- Psychology

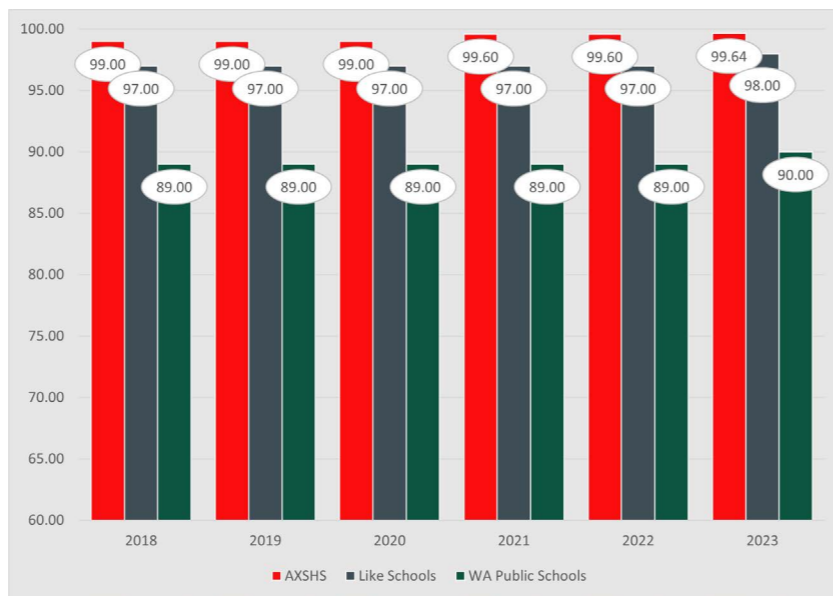
THE ARTS

- Design
- Visual Arts

LANGUAGES

- French as a Second Language

WACE Achievement Data

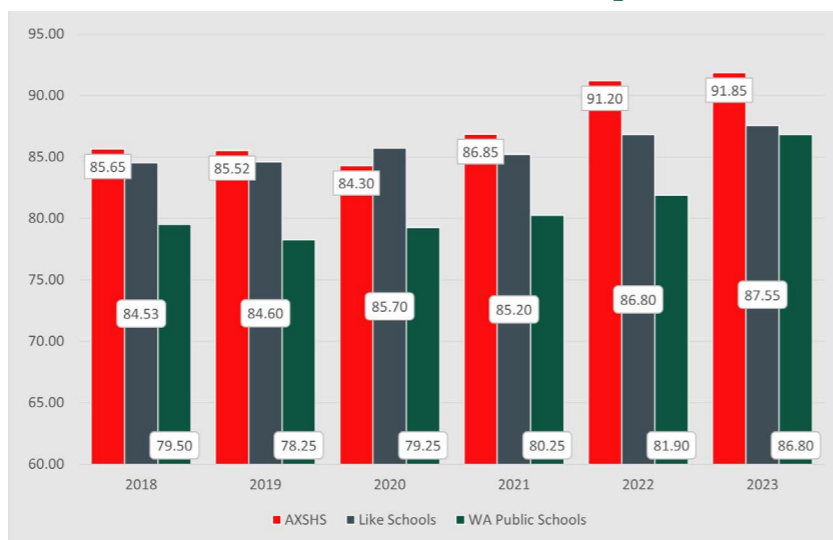


Like Schools



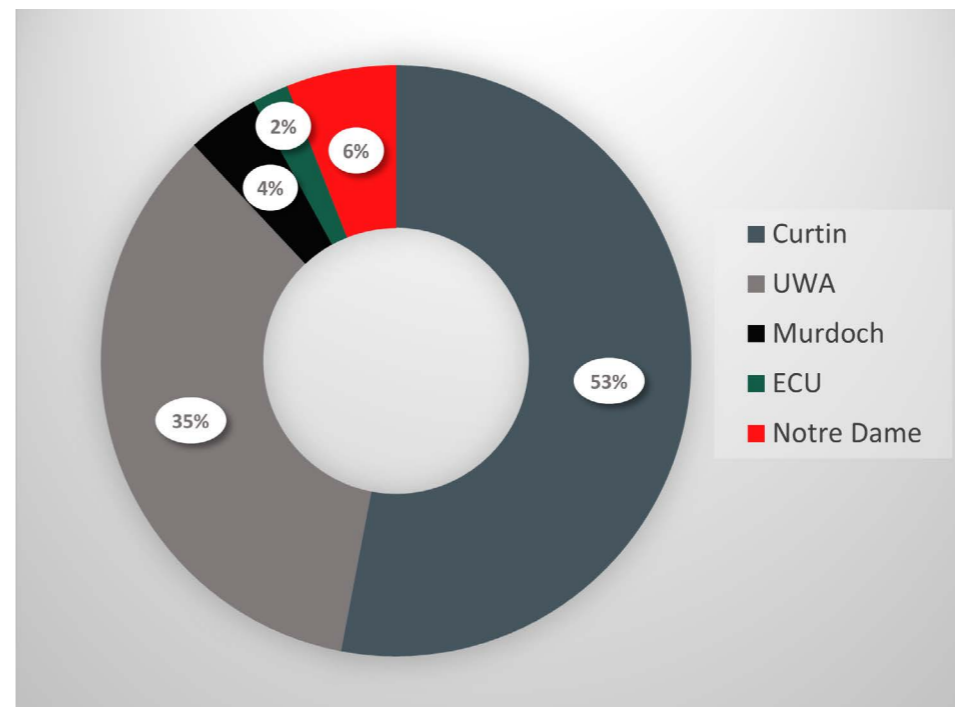
- Bob Hawke College
- Carine SHS
- Churchlands SHS
- John Curtin College of the Arts
- Mount Lawley SHS
- Rossmoyne SHS
- Shenton College
- Willetton SHS

Median ATAR Comparisons

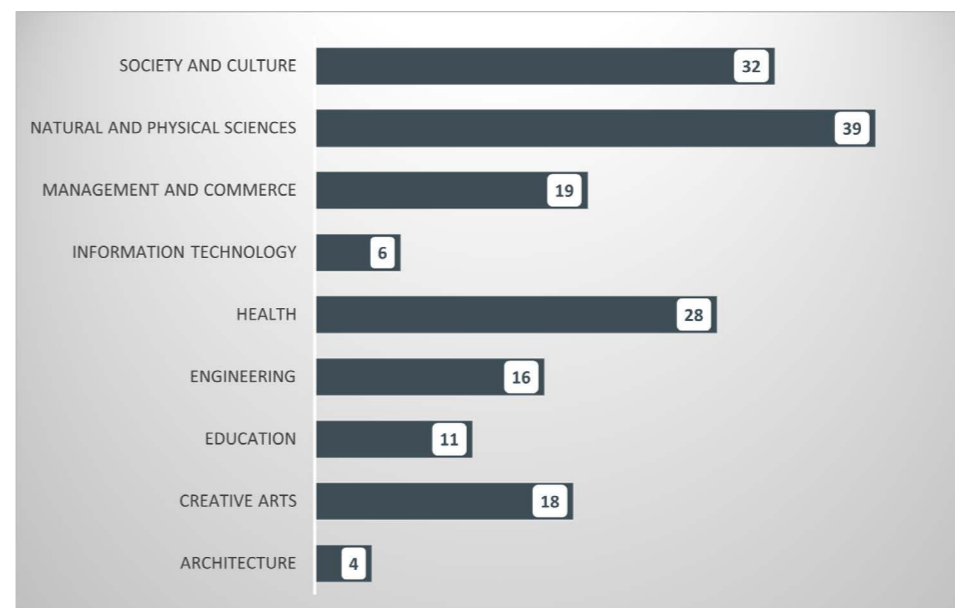


YEAR 12 RESULTS

Western Australian Universities Destinations



Tertiary Enrolments by Field of Education



LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

The Arts

Visual Arts

- **Year 10 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts** Students participated in a three-day conference and art workshops at Curtin University
- **2023 Lester Youth Prize Finalists** Jessica Chen, Cindy Tian, Amelie Qiao, Nancy Lin and Yongqi Chen. Jessica also achieved a 'highly commended' for her artwork 'The Outside World (Lucy Ma and Ashton Ma)
- **Year 7 and 8 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Camp** on Dyooodlaup (Point Walter), including a cultural walk guided by Greg Nannup of Indigenous WA
- **Year 10 and 11 Visual Arts Bush Camp** on Ballardong Country, staying in the historic town of York. Students received a Welcome to Country from Dr Marion Kickett, Noongar leader from the Ballardong Language Group
- **Minister for Education Dr Tony Buti MLA and local Representative Kim Giddens MLA** visited the Arts Learning Area. They viewed students at work in Design and Visual Art and spoke with Year 12 Student Nancy Lin about her ATAR practical work in progress
- **The Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Workshops** opened the doors for families and parents to meet tutors, see students working in studios and enjoy refreshments provided by the parent committee
- This year's theme was 'Dare to Dream' for the **Lions Club Peace Poster Competition**. Of 30 Year 7 Gifted and Talented students, 9 were selected for Club Judging. Two finalists, Jenny Park and Agnes Wu, were selected by the club to be judged at the National district level
- **Year 12 Grad Show**, including a showcase of Visual Art, Design and Media across ATAR and General courses
 - Yujie Chen, Year 12, won the **Grad Show Canteen Prize** 2023
 - Chelsea Wang, Year 10, won the **Principal's Prize**, Annual Art Exhibition
- Yujie Chen, Nancy Lin, Greta Tennant, Rishitha Venkatesh, and Heidi Wong achieved selection for the 2024 **West Australian Pulse at Art Gallery Western Australia**
- Heidi Wong, Year 12, won the sculpture category for **Hypervision** at **Midland Junction Art Centre**
- Mikayla Caporn, Year 11, achieved three awards in the **2023 Chevron Focus Environment Photography Competition**
- Year 9 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts students participated in a series of enrichment activities through partnership with **The Fremantle Biennale 2023**



Yujie Chen - 2023 Canteen Prize Winner

LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

The Arts

Performing Arts - Drama and Dance

- **Year 12 Drama Camp**: A weekend of workshops, networking with eight other schools and an opportunity to experience the Perth Festival performance by West Australian Youth Theatre
- **Year 9 Dance Performance** during Parent Teacher interview day and R U Ok Day
- **Year 9 Theatre Sports Competition** involved students improvising performances for an audience
- **The Year 12 Production of The Crucible** was performed in Term 2. This was two nights of performances with Year 9 Drama students supporting the show
- **Whole School Musical 'We Will Rock You'** School Edition by Queen and Ben Elton by arrangement with David Spicer Productions
- **Dance and Drama students from Years 8 to 11** attended the Co3 Contemporary Dance and Link (WAAPA) Dance Company's collaboration of Dante Alighieri's timeless masterpiece, "The Divine Comedy"
- **Year 9 Drama performance** of an adaptation of William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream

Performing Arts - Music

- Musical performance at the **ANZAC Day service**, including Isla Bird, performed a beautiful rendition of the Crowded House song "Don't Dream It's Over". Tricia Woo, along with student musicians Georgie Keating, Dylan Wong and Isabella Tjiandra, performed the National Anthem. Zane Bloomfield also gave a great performance of the Last Post as part of the service
- **Side By Side Musical performance**, an innovative opportunity to have music students from Applecross SHS rehearse and perform side by side with students from Emmanuel Catholic College and South Side Symphony Orchestra in front of an audience of 400 guests
- Applecross SHS Music Department hosted a visit from **Chief Warrant Officer Jeffery Spenner, Conductor of the United States Coast Guard Band**. Students had the rare opportunity to learn about music history, conducting and performance techniques
- Music Department performances throughout the year included the three major **Music Department Concerts** in May **Autumn Concert**, September **Spring Farewell** and November, **Under the Stars Picnic** featuring over 250 students across our eight ensembles
- On a more intimate scale, students performed solos and small group items at PARAGON (the Term 3 senior school music showcase), the **annual Art Exhibition** and **Year 12 Presentation Evening** at Optus in Term 4, and at school awards assemblies throughout the year
- Music Department ensembles achieved high rankings from the adjudicators at the state-wide Music festivals, including Concert Band 2, Junior Guitar Ensemble and Senior Guitar Ensemble, achieving an 'Outstanding' adjudication



Primary School Concert

LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

English

- **Estella Portillo, Year 12**, achieved a **Subject Certificate of Excellence** and ranked in the **top 0.5% statewide** for her outstanding performance in the **English WACE exam**.
- English contributes to the **Curtin UniReady program**, offering units in Fundamentals of Academic Writing and Communications. This initiative provided **47 students** with the opportunity to acquire an **ATAR of 70** through an alternative pathway.
- In Years 7 and 8, **414 students** exceeded the course standards by earning an **A or B grade**. In Years 9 and 10, **336 students** received an **A or B grade**. This means around **61% of our students** exceed the expected **West Australian Curriculum standard**.
- Students in Years 7-10 competed in the annual **Book in a Day** competition, raising money for the **Kids Cancer Project**. This year we had more participants than ever before, fielding seven teams who each wrote a novella in 12 hours. One team **raised over \$1000**.
- Most Year 12 Literature and ATAR English students attended **Curtin University's English and Literature Conference**. This gave students a taste of university life by navigating around the campus to attend lectures on aspects of their courses.
- Excellent **NAPLAN results** were achieved in Years 7 and 9, with their organisation, engagement, and average test scores being outstanding and compared favourably with like schools.
- Targeted strategies were implemented in the **Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessments (OLNA)** to ensure that more of our students achieved the standards required for WACE than like schools.
- This year, Year 7 students engaged with "**Renaissance Reader**", a program designed to increase reading for pleasure. A significant increase in student reading for pleasure was indicated.
- English teachers from Applecross **visited feeder primary schools** to teach aspects of creative writing to prospective Applecross students.



Lily Sorgiovanni - English as an Additional Language/Dialect ATAR Subject Award Recipient



Aaron Bollmann English ATAR Subject Award Recipient

LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Health and Physical Education

Sports Achievements:

- **Interschool Swimming:** Achieved 4th Place in A Division.
- **Interschool Athletics:** Achieved 5th Place in B Division.
- **Interschool Cross Country:** 6 students showcased outstanding performance, with individuals placing in the top 49 in their respective categories.
 - Notable placements include:
 - 1 x Girls 13 Years
 - 1 x Boys 13 Years
 - 3 x Boys 14 Years
 - 1 x Girls 14 Years
- **Interschool Triathlon:** Demonstrated prowess with notable placements including:
 - 9th in Year 9 Intermediate Boys Individual Event
 - 20th in Year 7 Junior Girls Individual Event
 - 4th in Year 7 Boys Team Event.
- **Interschool Volleyball:** Showcased strength with achievements such as:
 - Year 12 Boys finishing 2nd in Honour Pool Stage
 - Participation in SSWA Interschool Senior Volleyball by Year 11 Boys.
- **Interschool Badminton:** Notable achievements include Year 10 Boys achieving Runner Up at Australian Islamic College.
- Interschool Touch Rugby: Year 12 Girls excelled, finishing 1st in Pool.

After-School Curriculum Activities:

- Over **200 students** actively participated weekly in various after-school curriculum activities, including:
 - Basketball
 - Volleyball
 - Badminton
 - Running Club
 - Weights Club

These achievements reflect the **dedication, teamwork, and commitment** of our students, coaches, and staff in fostering a **culture of excellence** in sports and extracurricular activities at our school.



House Athletics Carnival

LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS)

- Identified by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority as one of the schools with the **highest performing students** in Career and Enterprise, Economics, and Politics and Law.
- 9 students who received **Certificates of Distinction** from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority successfully completed an senior school HaSS subject.
- 12 students who received **Certificates of Merit** from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority successfully completed an senior school HaSS subject.
- **454 (70%) of students** across Year 7 and Year 8 students gained an **A or B grade** in 2023
- Applecross SHS continued to deliver the **UniReady bridging course**, in partnership with Curtin University, assisting students to find another pathway into university.
- **Certificate IV in Business** was run successfully, with 16 students completing this valuable certificate and gaining a **70 ATAR** for university entry in the process.
- Milla Lobik and Avery Flint have both been selected to attend the **2024 Premier's Anzac Student Tour** to Singapore and other destinations in April 2024. Participation in this prestigious event is highly competitive, and both students submitted fantastic written pieces.
- All HaSS Academic Extension classes from 7- 10 students participated in the **Australian Geography Competition**. This is the first time the competition was held online, and Applecross students excelled, achieving significantly above the Australian average in all year levels and categories. Overall, 11 **High Distinction** and 31 **Distinction Certificates** were awarded to our students. Nathan Bird (Year 10) also finished in the top 1% of students in the Geography competition.
- Students in the HaSS Academic Extension program for 7- 10 were also given the opportunity to participate in the **Australian History Competition**. Applecross students were awarded a great result of 22 Distinction and 8 High Distinction certificates. Also, Congratulations to Maisie Kidd and Lucas Hardy, Year 8, who were named **State Champions** in the competition this year.
- Ancient History students had the opportunity to hear from visiting **international Egyptologists** Dr Mohamad Megahed and Dr. Hana Vymazalová of Charles University in Prague. They visited Applecross and spoke to the students about their discoveries and life as Egyptologists. They shared stories from their dig at the pyramid of pharaoh Djedkare and the discovery of the tomb of Khuwy, which contained beautiful artwork and remains of the oldest known Egyptian Mummy. Students learned how modern scientific technology is used to learn more about these sites and create 3D models.
- Year 8 classes participated in an internal **ASX competition** during the Economics unit, where students were able to research, select and trade stocks over a period of six weeks. Students with the highest profit margin at the end were declared winners.
- **Sam Lim MP**, the federal member for the local electorate of Tangney, visited our Year 11 Politics and Law class to share his experiences as the local representative.
- Year 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to participate in the **Mock Trial Competition** run by the WA Law Society. Students competed against other schools, acting as either the Prosecution or Defence team. Each can take on roles such as a barrister, solicitor, or witness.
- Year 10 HaSS Academic Extension class participated in the first of two sessions with the WA branch of the **UN Youth Organisation**. The program requires pairs of students to take on the role of a permanent or temporary UN Security Council country to advocate their country's position on a particular issue of international concern, such as climate change.

LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Languages

- **Language Assistants 2023:** Welcomed Madame Coline Marion (Coco) for French and Yu Sato for Japanese from the Department of Education as language assistants. Engaged with students of all levels and across all years, contributing significantly to language learning.
- **French Club and Japan Club:** Organised and managed activities for both clubs throughout the year, fostering cultural engagement and interest among students. Clubs remained popular, providing diverse cultural experiences for participants.
- **Languages Week:** Celebrated 'Languages Week' with engaging activities involving both staff and students. Staff showcased cultural diversity by dressing in traditional attire, enriching the cultural exchange experience.
- **WACE Examinations:** Overall results were excellent in French in 2023. French ATAR was a course leader this year, with the highest performing students.
- **Excursions:**
 - Year 11 and 12 French students attended the French Film Festival, gaining cultural insights through the movie "À la Belle Etoile" (Sugar & Stars).
 - Year 10 Japanese students participated in an interactive session with a Japanese Chef, learning to make sushi rolls and decorate bento boxes.
- **Year 12 Dinners:** Celebrated the achievements of Year 12 French and Japanese students at renowned restaurants, providing an immersive cultural experience. Students practised language skills by ordering in French and Japanese, fostering socialisation in cultural contexts.
- **Special Achievements:**
 - Alliance Française Exams: Year 10, 11, and 12 French students excelled, with notable achievements by Estella Portillo a finalist in the Year 12 category and Gianna Binetti the winner in the Year 10 category.
 - Japanese Speech Contest: Recognition for Kai Casspelherr and Yuval Kidron for their commendable presentations. Kai was awarded a Well-Researched Presentation, and Yuval was awarded a Concise and Persuasive Presentation.
- **French Hosting Program 2023:** Hosted 16 French visitors, fostering cultural exchange and lasting friendships. Participants experienced Australian culture while showcasing hospitality to guests.
- **French and Japanese Exchange 2024:** Planned exchange program to Amiens, France for 23 students and teachers, promoting cultural immersion and language acquisition. Anticipated reciprocal visit from Japanese students to Applecross SHS, strengthening international ties and cultural understanding.



LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Mathematics

- Senior School students across both ATAR and General Pathways have demonstrated excellence, resilience, and an unfaltering effort to perform to their personal best.
- The results in the 2023 ATAR examinations are certainly commendable, with the following students receiving awards from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority:
 - Ona Rafart Millet was awarded a SCSA Subject Certificate of Excellence – in the top 0.5% examination score in the State - for Mathematics Applications.
 - Illah Poppy Hodson of Year 12, was awarded a school based award for Mathematics Essential.
- WACE Examinations: There were exceptional results in both **Mathematics Applications and Mathematics Specialist** courses. Each respective course was represented in SCSA's publication of schools with highest performing students in Year 12 ATAR courses - based on the percentage of students with combined scores in the top 15 per cent of all students. **Mathematics Methods** also gained a higher mean score than the state, with a larger cohort of students studying the subject than in previous years.
- Both Senior and Lower school students were afforded the opportunity to participate, extend and challenge their Mathematical skills across several national and international competitions.
 - **Australian Engineering Award for 2023** - Three Year 12 students (Sam Hesp, Dylan Wong and Barry Yang) won the prestigious Australian Engineering Award for 2023. They are students who have received an A grade for each of Mathematics Methods, Mathematics Specialist, Chemistry and Physics in Year 11 and Year 12.
 - **Years 7-12 Australian Mathematics Competition** - Over 200 students from Years 7-10 Academic Extension and Acceleration; and Year 11 and 12 Specialist Mathematics classes took part in the online Australian Mathematics Competition during Term 3. The Australian Mathematics Competition is Australia's longest running, largest and most well-known maths competition for school students and has students from across Australia taking part. This year, our students competed across three levels: Junior (Years 7 and 8), Intermediate (Years 9 and 10) and Senior (Years 11 and 12).

This year, there were 169 students who received a Certificate of Credit and 67 students who received a Certificate of Distinction. Furthermore, High Distinction certificates are awarded students who have performed in the top 3% of their year and region – Sam Hesp of Year 12, Jay Calter and Kai Caspelherr of Year 11 and William Bodger of Year 10 on their Certificates of High Distinction. William was furthermore awarded the 'Best in School' Certificate for the highest individual AMC score at Applecross Senior High School.
- **Years 7-12 Have Sum Fun Face-to-Face** - In 2023, there were teams representing the School across Years 7 and 8, Years 9 and 10 and Years 11 and 12 divisions. There were strong team performances across each of the three divisions.
- **Years 7 and 8 Australasian Problem-Solving Mathematical Olympiad (APSMO)** - With exceptionally strong student performances, Applecross Senior High School was awarded a Certificate of High Team Achievement for achieving a score in the Top 25% of team scores. Particular mention to individual performances in the Top 10% - Ekansh Rajput (Highest Class Score), Kobe Gimore (Highest Class Score), Noah Austen, Dave Wirjaatmadja and Lucas Hardy. Individual performances in the Top 25% - Monty Spence, Lucas Wang, Logan Ramachandran, Rose Tran, Joseph Binetti, Maisie Kidd, Sophia Yu, Ethan Cheah, Edmund Yang, Radimirs Sulgans, Elouise Liu, Liam Lye-Cull, Samantha Majer, Kaier Hong, Dariya Yavisheva, Samith Mapa, Tessa Warren, Rhys Chong, Oliver Turnbull, Kobe Taylor, Taimin Lin, Yena Han, Lleyton Leong and Samuel Kandel.

LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Science

- Senior School Science students showcased excellence, resilience, and a determined effort across both ATAR and the General Pathway.
- In the 2023 ATAR examinations, notable achievements were attained, with the following students receiving awards from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority:
 - Talia Edger
 - Isabella Tjandra
 - Estella Portillo
 - Ella Thompson
- These students were honoured with Subject Certificates of Excellence for ATAR Human Biology, ranking within the top 0.5% in the state for their performance in the Human Biology WACE exam.
- All ATAR subjects in Science, including Chemistry, Physics, Human Biology, Biology, and Psychology, were represented in SCSA's publication titled "Schools with highest performing students in Year 12 ATAR courses," based on the proportion of students achieving combined scores in the top 15 percent of all candidates.
- Students across both Senior and Lower school Science continued to actively participate and excel in various opportunities and challenges.
- **Science and Engineering Challenge:** The academic extension Year 10 class competed against numerous other high schools at the Claremont Showground organised by Rotary and the University of Newcastle. The students worked in groups to successfully complete a series of engineering challenges that involved teamwork, problem-solving and resilience. They were awarded first prize and the Challenge trophy.
- **Biokemon Challenge:** Our connection and affiliation with Murdoch University continued with 64 Year 8 students participating in the Biokemon Challenge, an ecology competition to align nature to Pokemon cards. The following students won individual first prizes: Raima Chowdhury, Maisie Kidd and Samantha Majer.
- **The Big Science Competition:** The Big Science Competition is open to students in Years 7 to 10 globally. It's a 50-minute, multiple-choice online competition testing science knowledge, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Questions are set in real-life, contemporary contexts, making them relatable and interesting! It challenged our 130 students from Years 7-10 students track their performance against state and national averages. This year, there were 54 certificates of Credit, 32 certificates of distinction and 31 certificates of high distinction. A High Distinction is awarded to students in the top 5% internationally, while distinctions are awarded to students in the top 15%.
- **Solar Car Challenge:** a team of Year 8 students gave a solid performance in this competition as they finished in the semi-finals.
- **Community-based Achievements:** Students achieved in helping the community, and benefits were seen in the wellbeing of students.
 - **Murdoch Soil Science Project:** the Year 9 Academic Extension students collaborated with Murdoch University to investigate local soil characteristics.
 - **Super Science Sessions:** Year 5 and 6 students from local primary schools were involved.
 - **Psychology Outreach:** Students visited Ardross Primary School to interact with the younger students regarding early childhood development.



Year 9 Food for the Future students

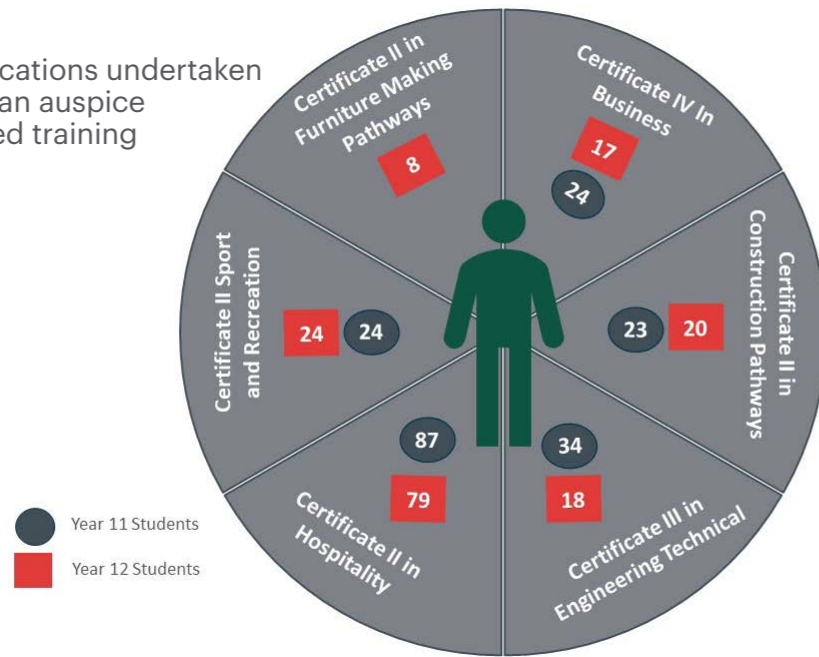
LEARNING AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Technologies

- **STEM Centre:** Mid-year, Applecross Senior High School acquired a new and purpose-built STEM Centre, conveniently located on the northern end of the Design and Technology wing. Many Design and Technology projects involve teamwork and collaboration, mirroring real-world work environments. Our centre provides a platform for students to work together, improving their communication and collaboration skills. Along with our current infrastructure within the department, it offers access to additional modern tools, equipment, and technologies, including industry-standard software, laser cutter and 3D printers.
- **Engineering Studies** in Senior School is a wonderful example of what we do, transitioning students from All Systems Go in Years Nine and Ten to a mechanical STEM-focused environment. This addition to our selections has been successful, with all students enjoying the design, fabrication processes, project selection, and learning environment. We look forward to further development in this space as we accommodate dual-year levels in senior school for 2024.
- **Construction:** The introduction of Construction last year gained popularity and further evolved from one class to seven in 2023. Strengthened through subject access at a Year 10 level, it has been positive for those looking to acquire construction-specific skills or enter the trade workforce in the future. Over the summer break, D101 was further adapted to accommodate the context of carpentry, adding purpose and custom-built benches, tools, and equipment aligned to the trade.
- **Red Apple Café and Green Apple Cafe:** In response to growing demand and popularity and an addition to the Red Apple Café, the school and Home Economics opened the Green Apple Cafe in the North block. Both cafés cater to staff and student needs and provide social and networking space when open for business. Each venue features heavily with school tours, offering the welcome promotion of Home Economics at Applecross. Coffee vouchers are frequently awarded to staff by various committees/Learning Areas to recognise work and achievement, further promoting the Staff Development and Wellbeing priority.
- **Food, Nutrition and Hospitality:** Cooking in Years 8-12 has been popular, but impacting classroom and kitchen space. Home Economics has had 66 different cooking groups come through in Years 8-12, which equals 1400+ students enrolled in cooking classes alone. A transportable was installed in Term 4 to ease the pressure for 2024.
- **Digital Technologies:** the department had a dynamic 2023. Noteworthy highlights include exhilarating escape room excursions for Years 9-11 students and fostering teamwork and problem-solving. Year 12 students gained practical insights at NextDC's server farm and Nostalgia Box, exploring digital infrastructure and computing history. The Coder Dojo and Robotics Club witnessed a surge in popularity, reflecting a growing enthusiasm for coding and robotics. Year 11 students benefited from participating in a compelling six-part AI series by ABC reporter James Purtill, deepening their understanding of artificial intelligence.
- The first ATAR student cohort completed their course, marking a substantial achievement for both students and the department. Integrating film and video elements into classes, facilitated by new camera purchases, aimed to enhance the learning experience. Students showcased their talents by creating animated digital backdrops for the school production of "We Will Rock You," contributing to its success. Overall, the year showcased educational achievements, hands-on experiences, and creative applications of digital skills.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

There was a total of 473 VET qualifications undertaken in Year 11 and 12 at school through an auspice arrangement and external registered training organisations.



VET Connect Program



Year 10 students applied for the 2024 program



students deemed successful



students were waitlisted



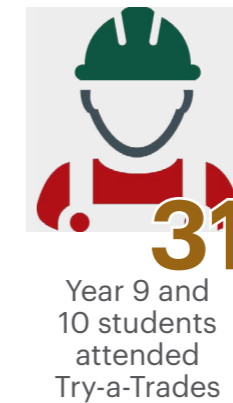
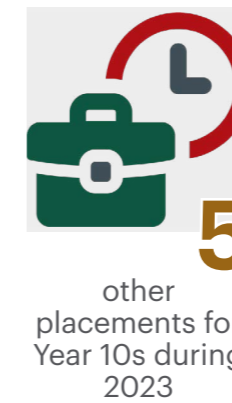
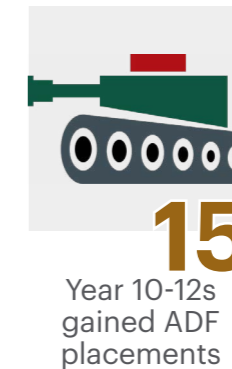
classes across Years 11-12 in 2023



Successful 2024 VET Connect Program students

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

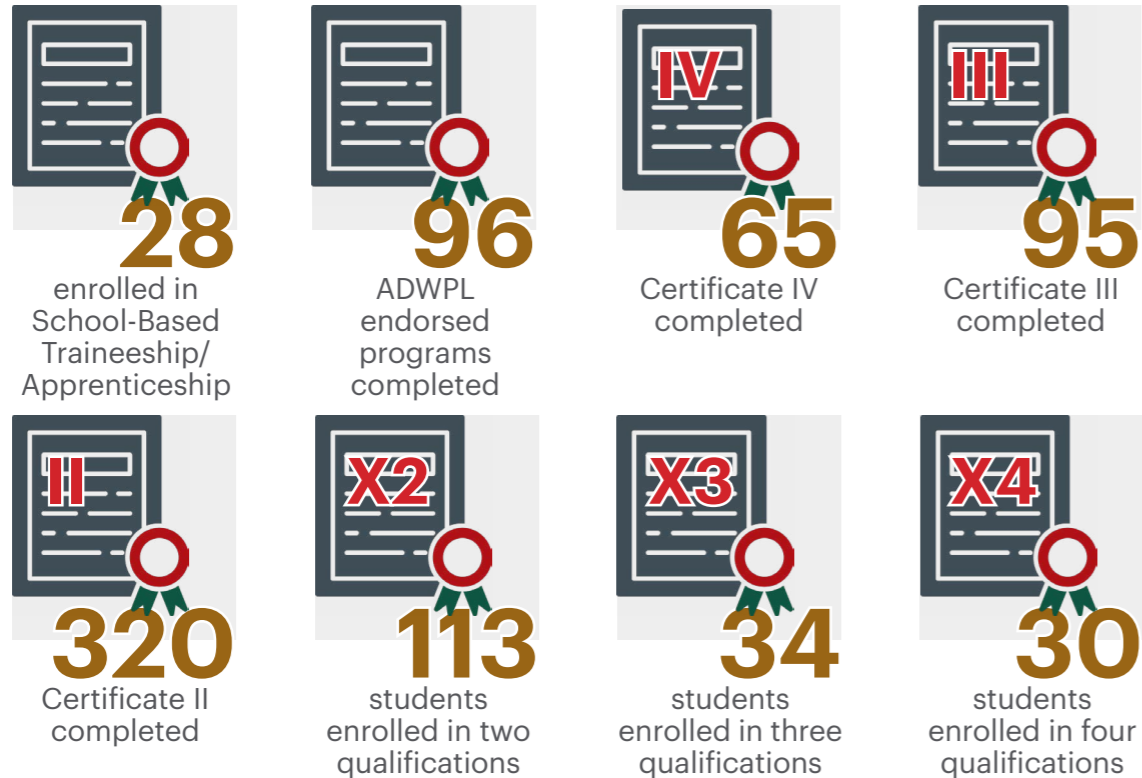
Students on Work Experience



Students on Work Experience/Work Placement

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

Certificates Completed in 2023 by students in Years 10-12



Partnerships

- Our new and existing RTO partnerships have all run smoothly:
 - iVET for Sport and Recreation and Hospitality
 - AJET for Furniture Making Pathways
 - Skill Hire for Construction Pathways
 - Skills Strategies for Business
 - SouthMetro TAFE for Engineering Technical
 - Public and Private RTOs where students attend external courses and SBTs – SM and NM TAFE, CET, MPA Skills, ITWS, FEC, DNAK, WA Academy, ERTECH, AIME, McDonald's, Subway, Hungry Jack's, Salsa's, Tubal, Reece Plumbing, Leisure Employment, VTS, City Beach and Maxima (Aboriginal SBT)
- Additional new employers have added to our database with increased numbers in VET Connect and P2C. 38 existing Work Placement Learning employers worked in partnership with Applecross SHS this year to offer Year 10 students work experience as part of Year 10 'Leap Week'. To acknowledge our valuable employers in 2023, they were invited to our Employer Acknowledgement Breakfast (served by our Year 11 hospitality students) and at the end of the year and were mailed out a Certificate of Appreciation.
- Hospitality Partnership with local cafe Grouch & Co – training and currency opportunities for Certificate Delivery Teachers, as well as possible work experience positions for students.
- Construction Pathways Partnership with Brick and Block Careers – offering assistance with product support through BGC and Midland Brick.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

New Initiatives for 2023

- The old Business and VET Office in the North block was transformed to a Café early in the year, in order to create facilities and resources that meet all the compliance requirements with the delivery of Certificate II in Hospitality and cater to the growth of the program. Through a consultative process including all school staff, students and the wider community, the new café was named Green Apple Café. The café has provided students with more opportunities for service hours as part of the Certificate II in Hospitality



Green Apple Café

Extra Special Highlights in the VET Space

- 12** Year 12 students were nominated for the SCSA VET Awards resulting in **3** students receiving a VET Certificate of Excellence
- Seth Mack** (Year 12 P2C) won the **School Based Apprenticeship/Trainee of the Year Award** at the Apprentice Employment Network WA Awards for Excellence. He also received a **Special Recognition Award** from Rotary Karrinyup for his achievements through the SBT.



Chloe Davies
VET DUX



Will Butler



Emma Hargrave



Sienna Kemp

Recipients of the VET Certificate of Excellence



Seth Mack - School Based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year

Lachie Caddy gained his Private Pilot Licence for planes under 5.7 tonnes

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)



120 students studied qualifications externally at TAFE, private RTOs or through school-based traineeships. The following qualifications were completed:

Certificate II Courses

- Certificate II in Applied Fashion Design and Technology
- Certificate II in Automotive Servicing Technology
- Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation
- Certificate II in Baking
- Certificate II in Building and Construction (Pathway Trades)
- Certificate II in Community Services
- Certificate II in Electronics
- Certificate II in Electrotechnology
- Certificate II in Engineering
- Certificate II in Engineering (Machinery & Fabrication)
- Certificate II in Hospitality
- Certificate II in Plumbing
- Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics
- Certificate II in Retail Services
- Certificate II in Supply Chain Operations
- Certificate II in Surveying and Spatial Information Services
- Certificate II in Workplace Skills

Certificate III Courses

- Certificate III in Animal Care Services
- Certificate III in Aviation (Remote Pilot)
- Certificate III in Business
- Certificate III in Community Services
- Certificate III in Design Fundamentals
- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
- Certificate III in Engineering Technical
- Certificate III in Events
- Certificate III in Health Services Assistance
- Certificate III in Hospitality
- Certificate III in Information Technology (Cyber Security)
- Certificate III in Music
- Certificate III in Nail Technology
- Certificate III in Population Health
- Certificate III in Retail
- Certificate III in School Based Education Support
- Certificate III in Sport and Recreation

Certificate IV Courses

- Certificate IV in Beauty Therapy
- Certificate IV in Business
- Certificate IV in Community Services
- Certificate IV in Education Support
- Certificate IV in Engineering Drafting
- Certificate IV in Music
- Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing Studies
- Certificate IV in Science (Biology) Animal & Marine
- Certificate IV in Science (Biology) Psychology
- Certificate IV in Screen and Media

GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS

GATE Visual Arts Program Differentiation Overview

Tailored for students with exceptional talent and interest in visual arts, aiming to meet their unique needs and abilities our core goal is to provide a challenging and enriched learning experience for students to fully explore their artistic potential. A number of processes below detail our strategies to identify and develop our selected cohort of GATE Visual Arts students.

Identification and Selection Process

Rigorous testing and application process, including practical, critical analysis, and standardised academic tests.

Onsite testing for all applicants; successful candidates proceed to interviews. Interviews at Applecross SHS are comprehensive, assessing academic performance, artistic potential and commitment to the program.

Recognition by the GATE Selection Unit for the effectiveness of the Applecross SHS interview process compared to other Visual Arts schools.

Selection Criteria

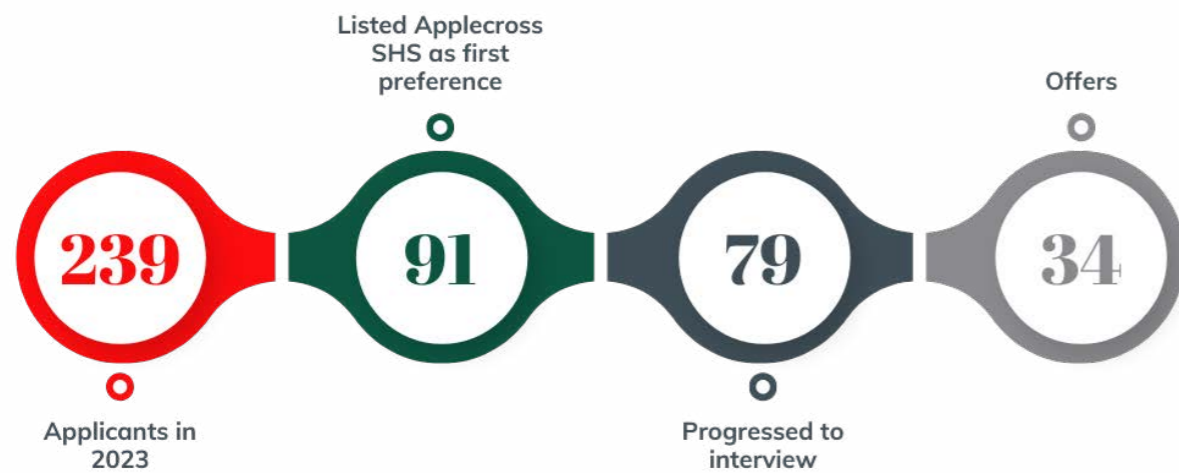
Emphasis on suitability for Applecross SHS, including presentation of school reports, NAPLAN results, attendance records, and prepared response to a Western Australian artist.

Opportunities for applicants to discuss their involvement in visual arts, awards, commitments, and potential challenges.

Impact on Rankings and Offers

Acknowledgment by the GATE Selection Unit at a special meeting this year of the Applecross SHS interview process's impact on final rankings compared to other schools. This highlights the discernment and selectivity of the Arts team in identifying ideal applicants and effective use of a ranking system to aid selection. Quality candidates on the rise, ensuring excellence in the GATE Visual Art program.

Applecross SHS GATE Visual Art Program: 2023 Applicant Snapshot



GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS

Specialised Curriculum

The GATE Visual Arts program offers an advanced and specialised curriculum that goes beyond the mainstream curriculum. Delivered in a gifted context, the program differentiates by including in-depth studies of both contemporary and historic artists and movements, advanced studio techniques, and exposure to a broader range of artistic mediums, from fine art to digital. Students have the opportunity to engage in more complex and challenging projects that encourage creative thinking, problem-solving, innovative solutions, and experimentation.

2023 Enrichment Activities

Intensive Workshops: Engaging workshops in portrait painting, figure drawing, printmaking, costume and fashion design, drawing masterclass, ceramics, and sculpture were conducted throughout the year.

Saturday Sessions: Led by a dedicated team of 12-14 tutors, these workshops are held on Saturdays across each term (Term 1-3), providing students with immersive learning experiences. Open studio format held in Term 4.

Year 9 Literacy Centre Visit: Students visited Fremantle for a visual storytelling workshop led by published illustrator, Aska, enriching their creative skills.

Year 9 Fremantle Biennale Immersion: A three-day incursion/excursion with Fremantle Biennale offered students workshops and a captivating walking tour of exhibition sites.

Year 10 Fine Arts Conference: Students participated in extended practical workshops and explored diverse indigenous works at John Curtin Gallery during the Fine Arts Conference at Curtin University.

Annual Camps:

- Year 7 and 8 Art Camp:** Students delved into the cultural history of Point Walter during an enriching Art Camp led by local and Applecross alumnus Greg Nannup.
- Year 11 ATAR Camp:** ATAR students immersed themselves in indigenous culture experiences and honed their skills in drawing, painting, felt-making, and weaving at York Bush Camp.
- Year 12 Mentoring:** Dr Mardi Crocker and Steve Armitstead provided invaluable mentoring to Year 12 students, culminating in the selection of five students for AGWA's Pulse 2024, showcasing the success of our mentoring and enrichment efforts.

These enriching experiences fostered creativity, skill development, and cultural appreciation among our students, reflecting the depth and diversity of our Visual Arts Program.



Year 11 ATAR York Bush Camp

GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS

Exhibition Opportunities and Celebratory Showcases

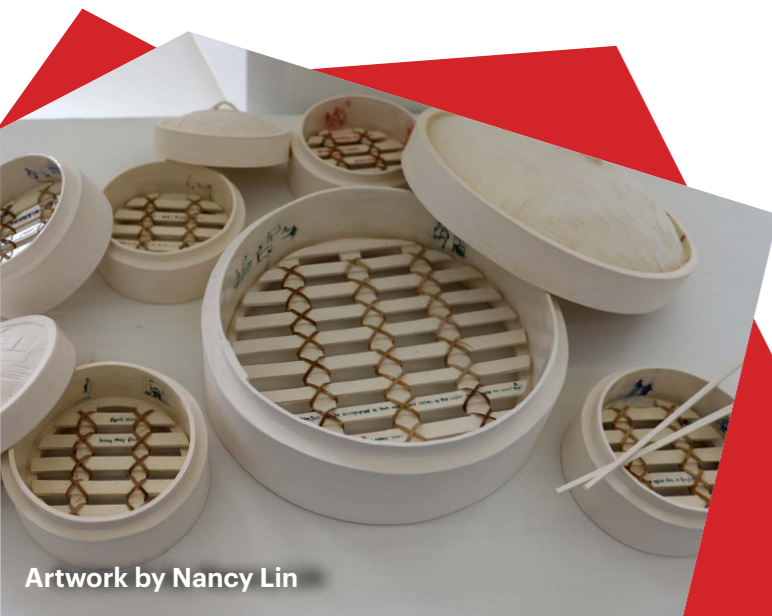
Students in our program actively participate in exhibitions, competitions, and community events, providing a platform to showcase their artistic endeavours and gain exposure to a broader audience. A pivotal moment in our annual calendar is the November Annual Exhibition, preceded by the October Year 12 Grad Show. These exhibitions serve as the culmination of a year's worth of creative efforts, displaying a rich tapestry of diverse and vibrant student talent.

In response to evolving industry practices, the format of this year's Annual Exhibition was adjusted for a more immersive experience. Families and guests gathered in the Art courtyard for pre-exhibition festivities, enjoying performances featuring roving wearable art costumes and musicians. The evening unfolded with award presentations and a captivating fashion parade.

While our focus this year leaned more towards internal and external enrichment program development, we still celebrated notable achievements. Five students were finalists in the Lester Youth Prize, and eight Year 12s achieved recognition in AGWA's Pulse 2023, amongst other community art awards

Elevated Staff Selection and Development Processes for Learning Programs

At Applecross SHS, the Visual Arts teaching team is an established, experienced, and diverse group with extensive experience catering to the needs of gifted students. Proficient in various artistic disciplines, they offer advanced instruction tailored to the unique requirements of each student. Individualised guidance, particularly from Years 10 to 12, enables students to pursue independent projects aligned with their specific interests and talents. The team's collaborative approach ensures targeted outcomes through shared project planning, fostering an environment of continuous improvement. Regular mentoring and team-teaching practices contribute to the development of best practices, refining strategies in line with our Applecross Teaching and Learning priorities. This commitment is reinforced through structured planning days, Staff Development Days, and ongoing Professional Development. The team actively engages in industry alliances and maintains connections with the School Curriculum and Standards Authority, underscoring our dedication to staying at the forefront of educational advancements. Alignment with school priorities not only ensures compliance but also sharpens teaching practices, elevating the focus on targeted learning outcomes.



Artwork by Nancy Lin



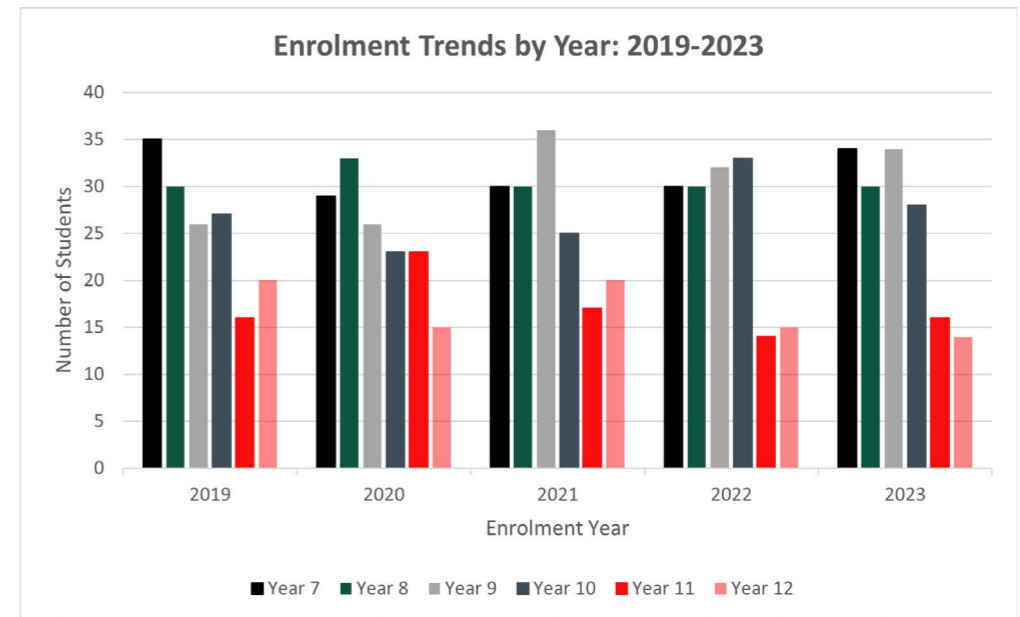
Grad Show 2023

GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS

Student Population and Program Retention Analysis

Observations of Year 7 recruitment and retention trends reveal a stabilised and more predictable trajectory across subsequent year groups. Notably, most exits from the program between Years 8 and 10 result from students changing schools. In very few instances, departures are attributed to a perceived incompatibility between the student and the program.

It is an acknowledged fact that some Year 10 students transitioning into Senior School choose to exit the program. This decision is often influenced by factors such as subject selections, ATAR and Tertiary pathways, or engagement in a VET program, which may hinder inclusion in the GATE Visual Arts program. This pattern aligns with trends seen in the three other GATE Visual Arts schools across the state. The array of pathways and Senior School subjects offered at Applecross SHS makes for challenging decisions amongst a cohort that is not only artistically talented but also academically. These students often excel in ATAR or their chosen pathway and sometimes become established leaders in the school. This year two GATE students, Denham Pearse and Ellie McFarlane, were named Head Boy and Girl for 2024.



Year 10 GATE Curtin University Conference Excursion

GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS

Gifted and Talented Student Achievement Outcomes

Applecross SHS GATE Visual Arts courses operate within a gifted context, fortified by an intensive enrichment program. This dynamic approach ensures that GATE students consistently surpass specific learning area outcomes, exceeding their non-GATE counterparts by an impressive two to three school years. Conversely, mainstream Visual Arts students generally attain the learning area standard, with an expected percentage exceeding the standard.

At Applecross SHS, the established achievement targets further underscore the program's commitment to excellence. Each Year 7-10 Gifted and Talented Special Art class strives to achieve a remarkable 20% above comparable schools in grade averages for Visual Art. As of the end of 2023, the Year 7 - 10 target has been unequivocally met, achieving a 100% success rate. Additionally, Gifted and Talented students pursuing ATAR Visual Art are ambitiously expected to achieve a mean average scaled score 10% above equivalent schools each year. 60% of GATE students achieved above like schools in 2023.

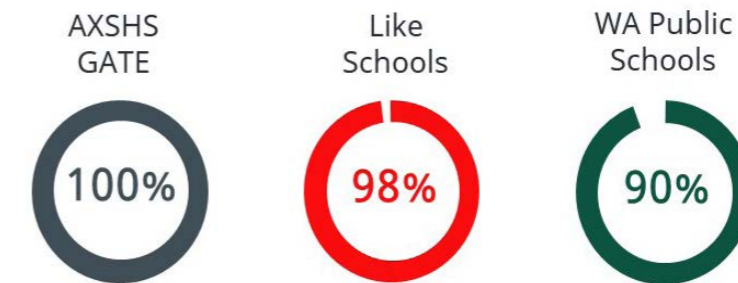


Nancy Lin - 2023 Year 12 Visual Arts Award

GIFTED AND TALENTED VISUAL ARTS

WACE/ATAR ATTAINMENT

WACE ATTAINMENT

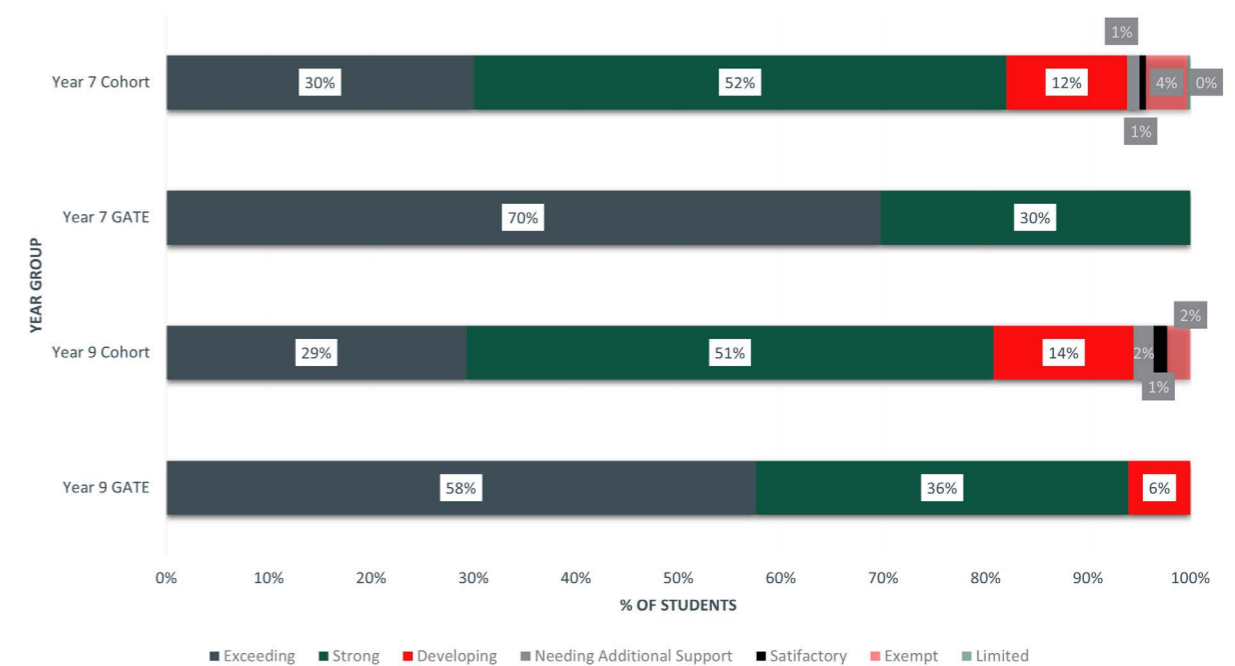


ATAR ATTAINMENT

	AXSHS GATE	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
GATE Visual Arts mean average scaled score	63.3	58.12	55.6
Average ATAR	91.2	87.6	82.8

NAPLAN COMPARISON

NAPLAN WRITING COMPARISON GATE STUDENTS V WHOLE YEAR GROUP





Specialist Tennis Presentation Evening

SPECIALIST TENNIS

Highlights

- All of our Specialist Tennis Program students participated in the Herbert Edwards and Slazenger Cups, which are the premier interschool tennis events in WA. We achieved notable success by clinching victories in both the boys' and girls' Slazenger Cup categories, as well as securing the girls' Herbert Edwards Cup. Furthermore, our boys demonstrated commendable performance, earning a runners-up position in the boys' Herbert Edwards Cup.
- Our after-school tennis squads meet on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3-5pm at the school courts. Led by experienced coaches, including ex-student state league players, these sessions offer high-level instruction, fitness training, and match practice. At just \$15 per two hour session, it's an affordable opportunity that directly supports our tennis program
- Our Tennis Captains successfully orchestrated an in-school Social Mixed Doubles tournament.
- Tennis Australia conducted the Foundation to Coaching course for our Year 10 students, who later completed a 4-week coaching program for Year 6 students at Ardross Primary School.
- In collaboration with our Specialist Tennis P&C, we organised and hosted the annual Bunnings Fundraiser Sausage Sizzle, raising an impressive \$4k for our program.
- Tomio Yamazaki coordinated the UTR (Universal Tennis Ranking) Tournaments for Applecross Tennis students.
- Five of our students proudly represented Western Australia in the Pizey Cup, while three students had the honour of representing the state in the Bruce Cup.
- Our Year 7 and 8 girls competed in the Guildford Grammar v Applecross SHS competition.
- Venturing to Brisbane, Queensland, eleven of our students showcased their talents at the All Australia Schools Nationals. Our girls team secured an impressive 4th place, winning the sportsmanship award, while the boys team claimed the 5th position.
- Concluding a remarkable year, we celebrated our annual Tennis Program Presentation Evening, recognising the multitude of successes in 2023 and presenting various awards.



AXSHS National Tennis Team



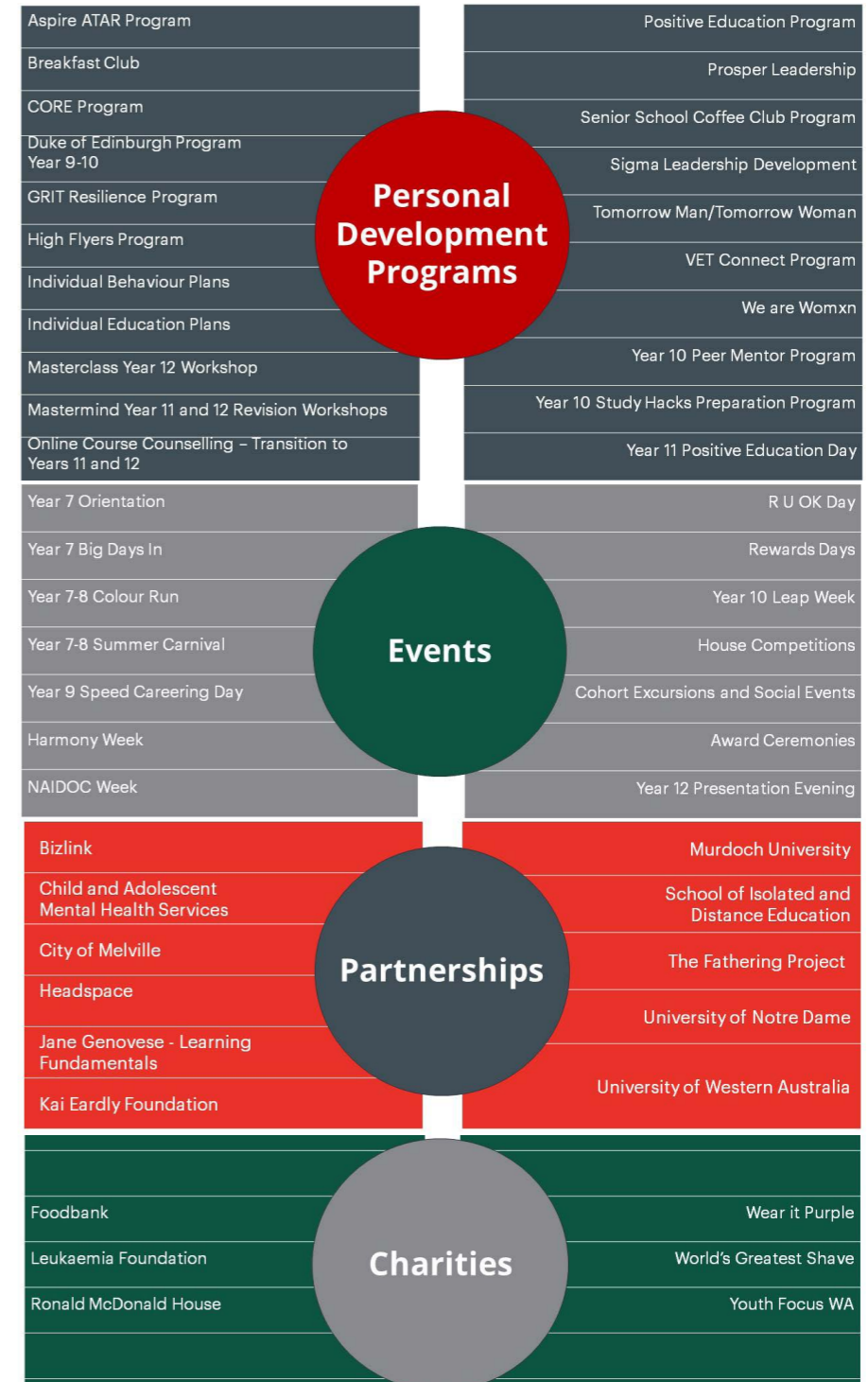
NAIDOC Week - Smoking Ceremony

STUDENT SERVICES

Student resilience and wellbeing are essential for both academic and social development, and this is optimised by the provision of safe, supportive, and respectful learning environments.

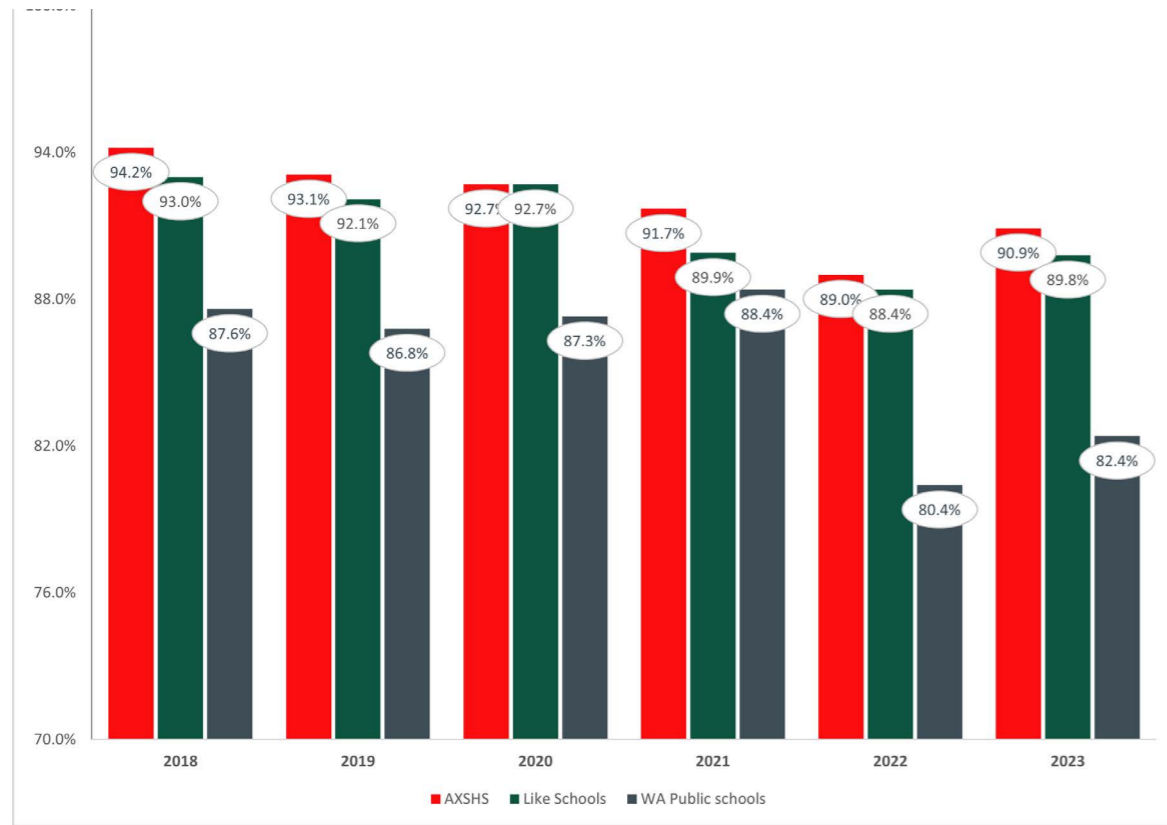
Through a number of proactive personal development programs, Student Services support students to achieve their Personal Best in a climate of Mutual Respect. Student Services staff work collaboratively with the school and the wider community to promote student development and wellbeing.

2023 Student Services Highlights



STUDENT SERVICES

Student Attendance



Applecross Senior High School attendance continues to be very positive and is starting to trend upward after the most challenging times of the COVID-19 period.

Attendance is above Like Schools for the past three years and well above State attendance figures. The school has a comprehensive set of processes and interventions to monitor attendance and works closely with the families of students whose attendance is of concern.

The school is continuing to expand access to programs that result in students either returning to school on a regular basis or, in a small number of cases, finding a suitable alternative program that meets their individual needs.



Year 7 and 8 Colour Run

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Enrolments

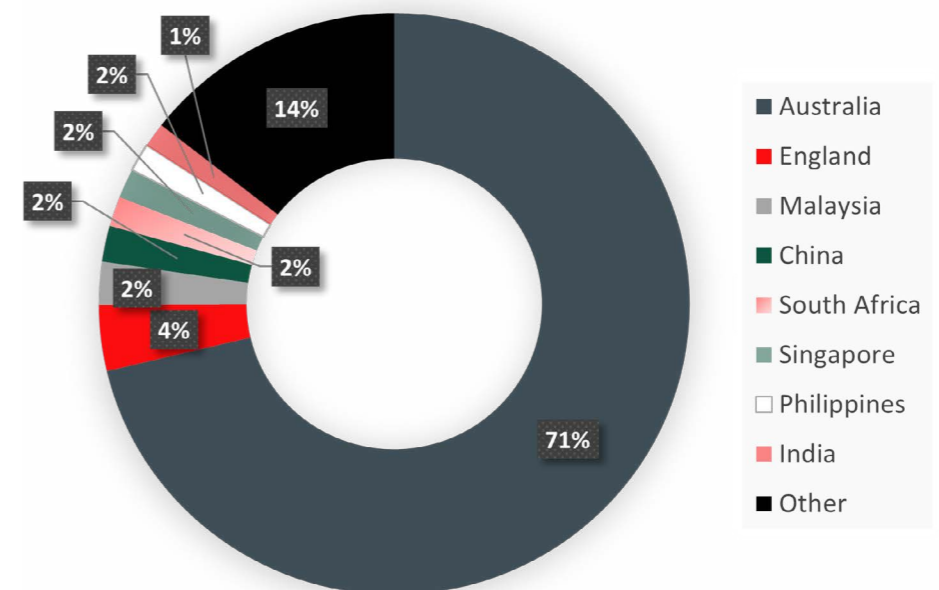
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Enrolment		1526	1613	1659	1720	1772	1853
Female		779	821	842	868	868	924
Male		747	792	817	852	852	929
Lower School		1055	1136	1135	1179	1247	956
Senior School		471	477	524	541	525	897

Year Cohort Numbers



Multicultural Campus

Student Place of Birth



COMMUNITY SURVEYS

Surveys of the school community are an important means of gaining feedback and measuring the impact of school improvement strategies. Our school uses a variety of survey tools to seek feedback from our parents, students, and staff on a range of areas we monitor. The school analyses the results to identify strengths and challenges and to develop 'lines of enquiry' for further investigation of issues.

The Biennial National Schools Community Survey is conducted every two years and includes questions that are the same for all Australian schools. The survey was postponed in many schools because of COVID-19 disruptions in 2022. Even though Applecross SHS completed the surveys in 2022, we were required to administer the survey again in 2023 to bring all schools back in line. The survey was completed late in the year with very low response rates from parents/community members.

Staff and Community Perceptions

In March 2023, the school was selected as part of the first cohort of 20 schools to participate in the Leading Cultures of Teaching Excellence program (LCoTE). As part of this program, three surveys on aspects of the school's culture were completed (leaders, staff, and parents/community). There was a good response rate of 324 parents, 90 staff and 14 leadership staff. The survey data was discussed and analysed as part of the LCoTE course, which enabled comparisons to be made with other schools, both primary and secondary. Overall, our survey results are very positive when compared to other schools. However, there are always potential issues identified that require further investigation. For instance, survey questions where the responses from the three groups had a strong correlation and those where there was a much weaker correlation were investigated. Follow up work will continue on the 2023 surveys in the first half of 2024.

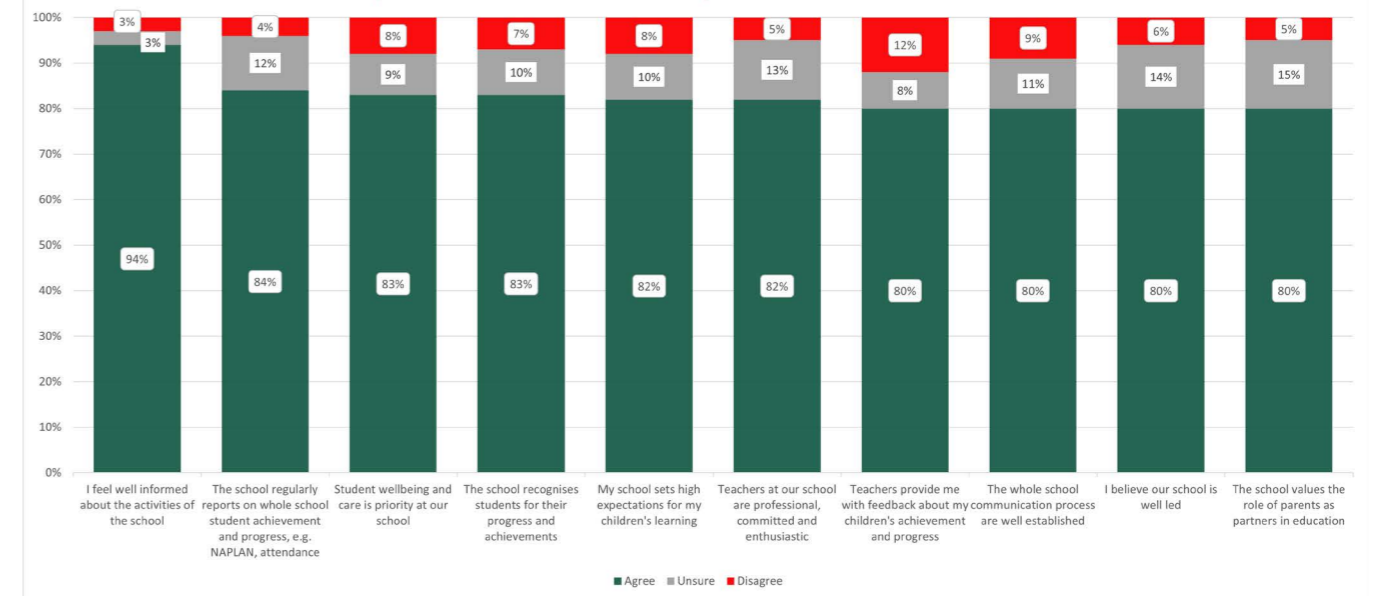
A snapshot of responses is represented on the page 46.



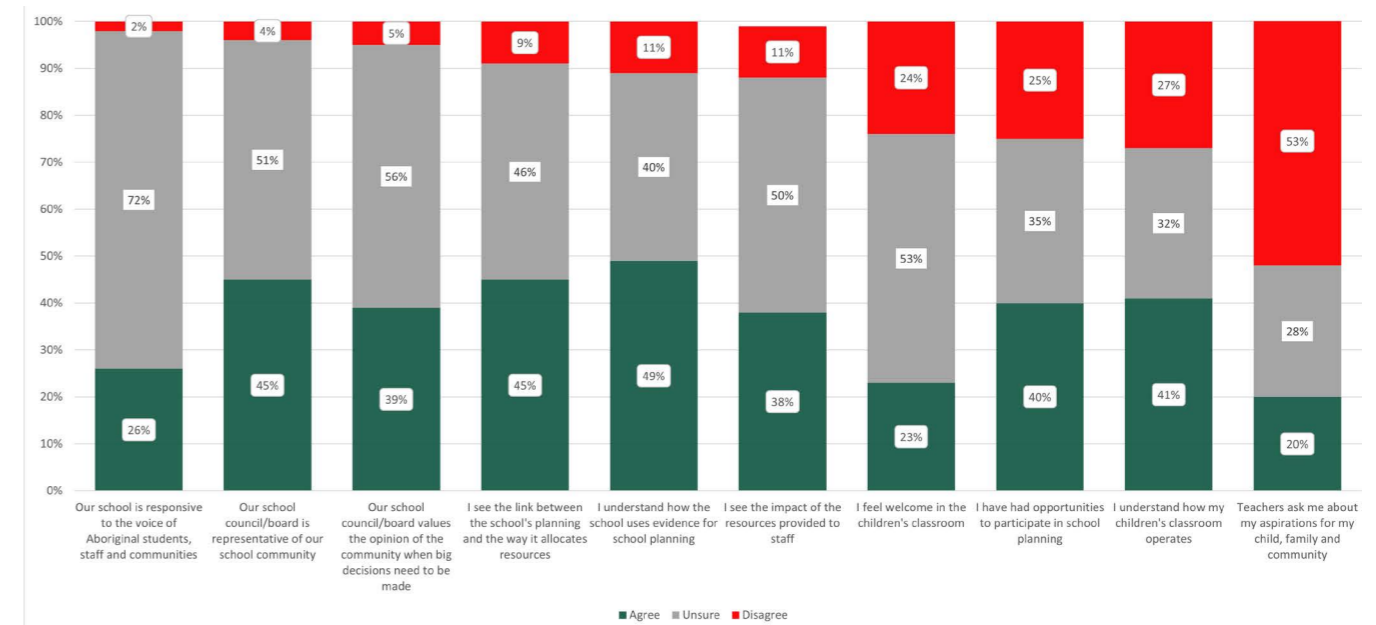
First Day of 2023

COMMUNITY SURVEYS

Snapshot of Parent Responses - Most Positive



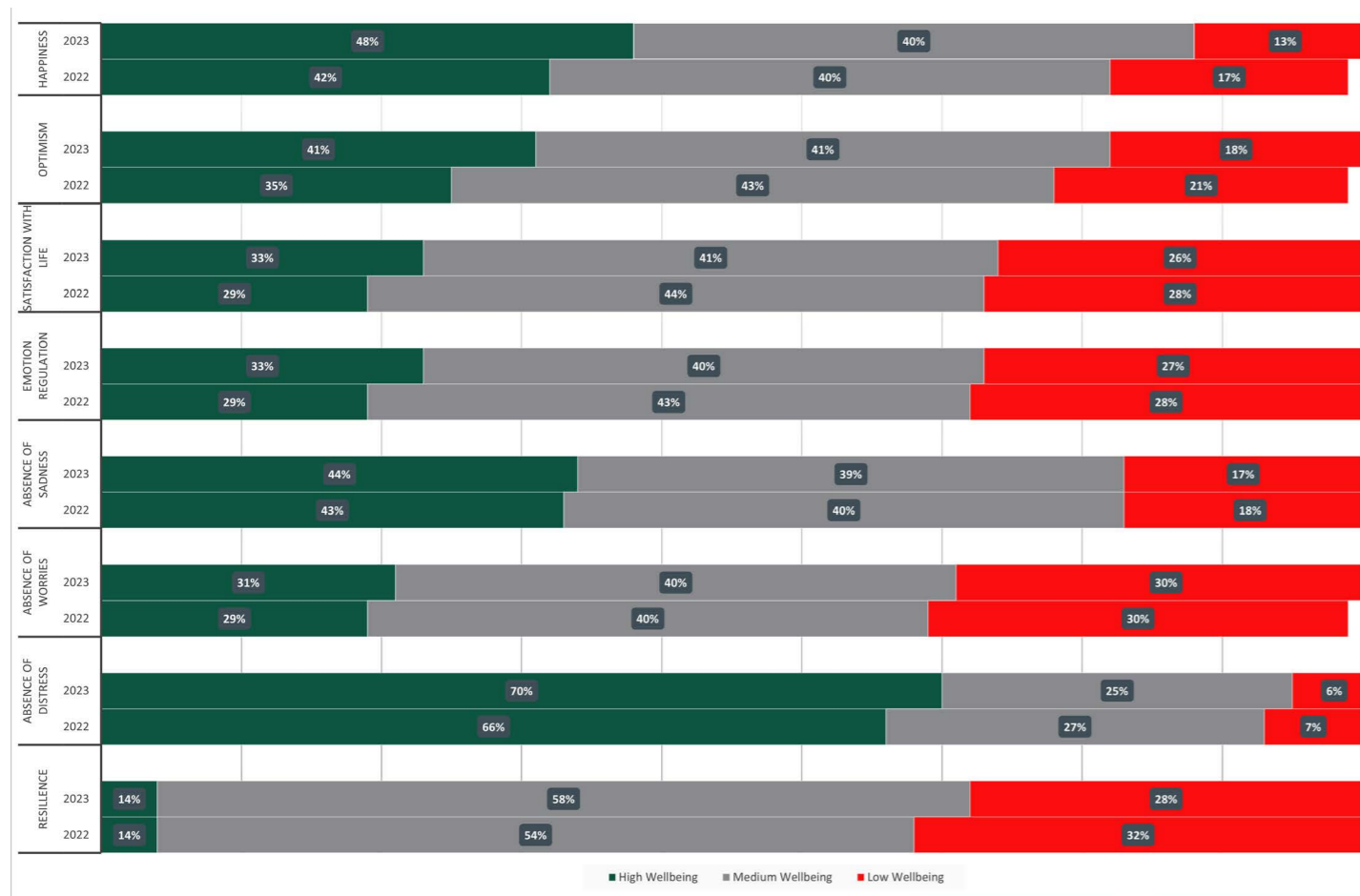
Snapshot of Parent Responses - Least Positive



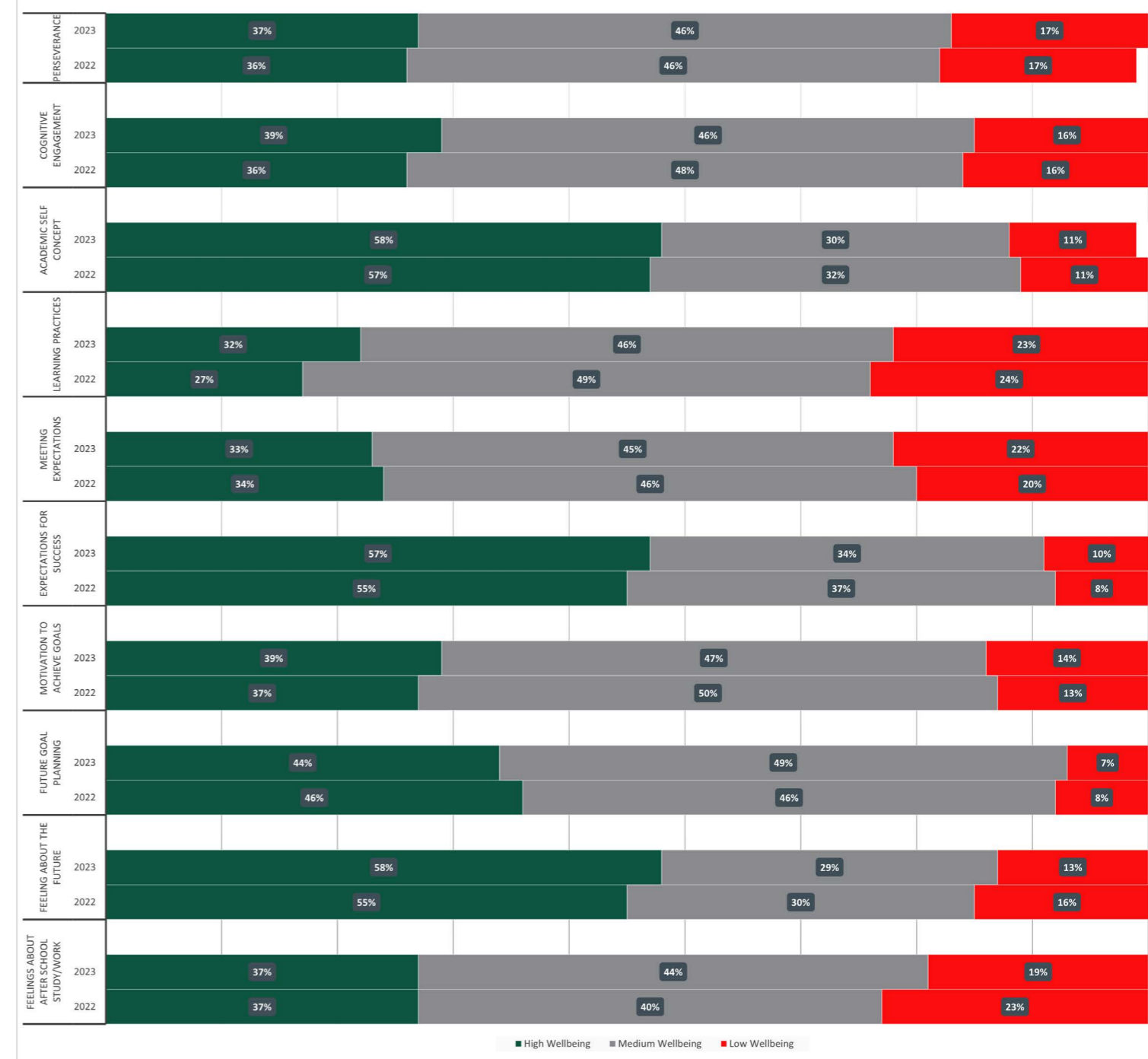
Student Perceptions

For the past two years, students completed the Wellbeing and Engagement Census (WEC), which is used by many schools in Australia as an effective means to measure and track the wellbeing and engagement of lower and senior year students. These surveys enable us to compare the results of our school with the results of nearly 90,000 other students. Snapshots from Emotional Wellbeing and Learning Readiness show a trend of increases across the board from 2022 to 2023. Lines of enquiry have been identified in areas where students provide negative responses. Feeling safe and cared for by staff is considered important in our school. This is an area we continue to work on to improve the schooling experience for all our students. Feedback provided by WEC informs our planning for student programs, it was also factored into our 2022 review and planning process in the lead up to the development of the 2023-25 School Business Plan. A snapshot of responses is represented below and the following page from the Emotional Wellbeing and Learning Readiness domains. It is encouraging to see that there has been improvement in virtually all areas between 2022 to 2023.

Emotional Wellbeing






Learning Readiness



OUR STAFF

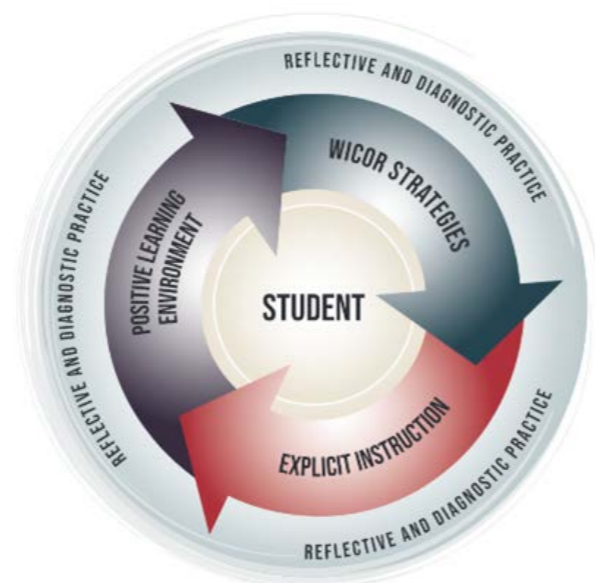
Applecross SHS is fortunate to have a very highly qualified and experienced staff (both teaching and non-teaching). The school is also in a fortunate situation in that we are able to retain a very high percentage of our staff each year. Applecross maintained its stable teaching staff group in 2023, with three retirements at the end of the year and three resignations. We have been able to recruit outstanding staff members and this continued in 2023.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Students 	1659	1720	1772	1853
Teaching Staff 	129	133	142	146
Support Staff 	53	61	67	68

Note: Teacher and Administration numbers reflect "head count" with many part-time workers.



The school's Business Plan priority of Excellence in Teaching and Learning was promoted throughout the year by our Teaching and Learning Coordinator, who worked with teachers in areas such as classroom observation and feedback, behaviour management, explicit instruction and Interactive Notebooks. Professional learning supported shared understandings of effective pedagogy, enhanced curriculum knowledge and delivery.



OUR STAFF

The professional growth of our staff is key to our success in providing the best possible opportunities for our students. We utilise School Development Days and after-school workshops to target the key priorities of our School Business Plan. Many of these workshops are led by our own highly experienced teachers, sharing their expertise with peers.

School Wide Pedagogy

- CMS Tasters & Refreshers
- Informal Agreements
- PIVOT Surveys
- Peer Observation & Feedback
- Data Analysis
- Effective Lesson Openings
- Pacing Strategies
- Interactive Notebooks
- Focused Notetaking
- WICORising for Engagement
- Positive Behaviour Support
- Critical Reading Strategies
- Inquiry Strategies
- Literacy Strategies
- Differentiation Strategies
- Safety Assessment & Record Keeping
- Collaborative Study Groups
- Interventions
- Student Engagement

Curriculum

- Assessment-Grading & Moderation
- Cultural Awareness
- Education Perfect
- French Culture
- Language Scope & Sequence
- Multiplicative Thinking
- Science Lab Demonstrations
- Teaching for Impact
- Teaching, Learning & Assessing Exemplars

ICT

- Reporting to Parents
- SEQTA – Communicating with Parents
- SEQTA Training
- Webex Training

Staff and Student Wellbeing

- Collegial Activities
- Collegiate - Teaching and Learning Community (TLC)
- Intro to Level 3 Classroom Teaching
- Merit Selection Workshops
- Positive Education
- Restorative Practice
- School Business Plan - Consultation
- SEQTA- Pastoral Care
- Student Services
- Talent and Growth Groups
- Writing TRBWA Evidence Sets

FINANCIAL REPORT

(AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023)

The finances of Applecross Senior High School are overseen by the Finance Committee and Finance Sub Committee. This committee comprises the Principal, Manager Corporate Services, teachers, and a parent representative. The Finance Committee funds priorities identified through school planning and review processes, which are incorporated into the Business Plan and endorsed by the School Board. The committee recommends contribution and charge levels to the Board for approval and regularly monitors income and expenditure rates. The Finance Committee confidently ensures that Applecross Senior High School meets the minimum expenditure of 96% while reviewing its finances to comply with regulations. To keep up with the ever-changing teaching and learning environment, asset replacement schedules are updated regularly. The Board receives regular reports on the financial position of the school, including both staffing and contingency budgets.

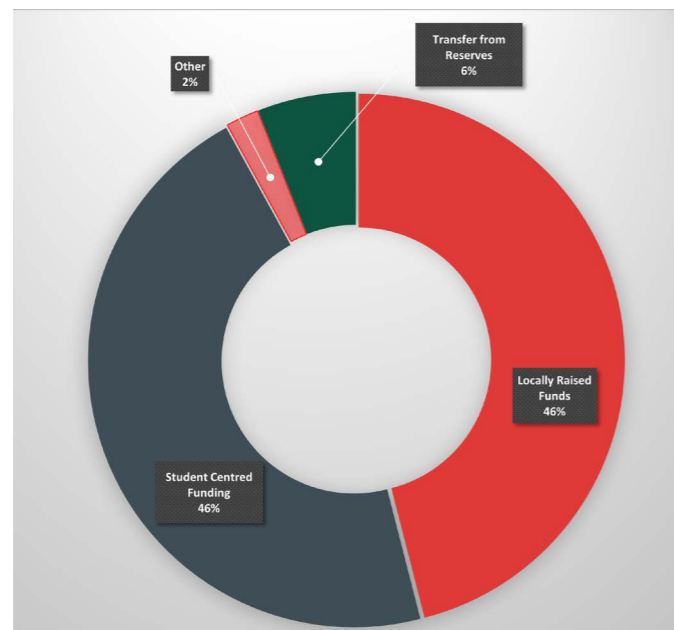
Cash Position



Cash Position Components

General Fund Balance	\$420,444.41
Deductible Gift Funds	\$0.00
Trust Funds	\$0.00
Asset Replacement Reserves	\$2,347,451.35
Suspense Accounts	\$131,085.90
Cash Advances	-\$200.00
Tax Position	-\$15,401.00
Total Bank Balance	\$2,883,380.66

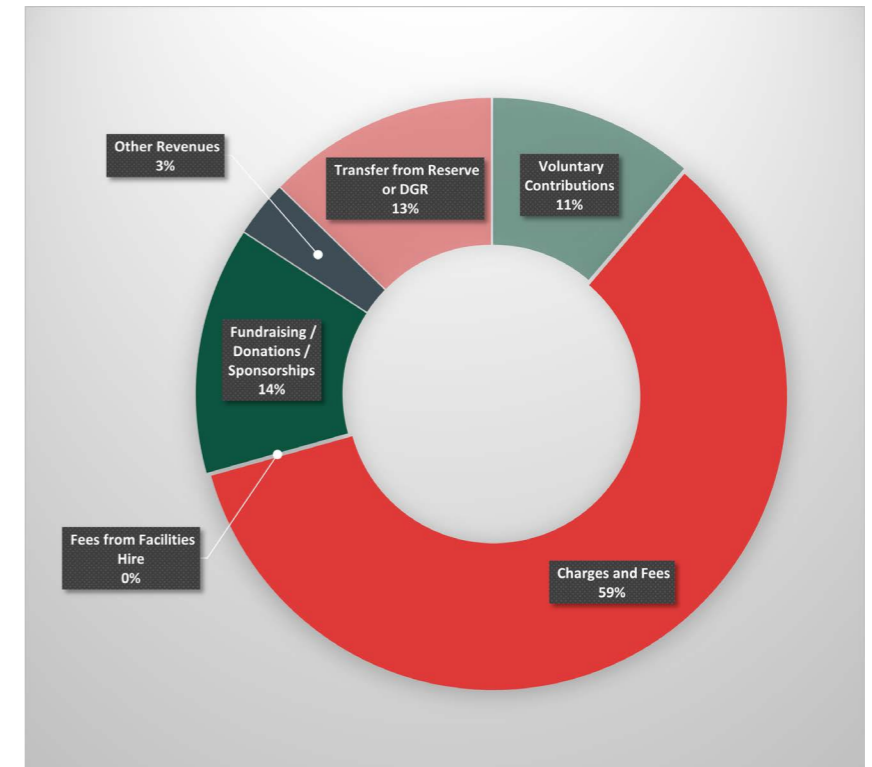
Current Year Actual Cash Sources



FINANCIAL REPORT

(AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023)

Revenue Report



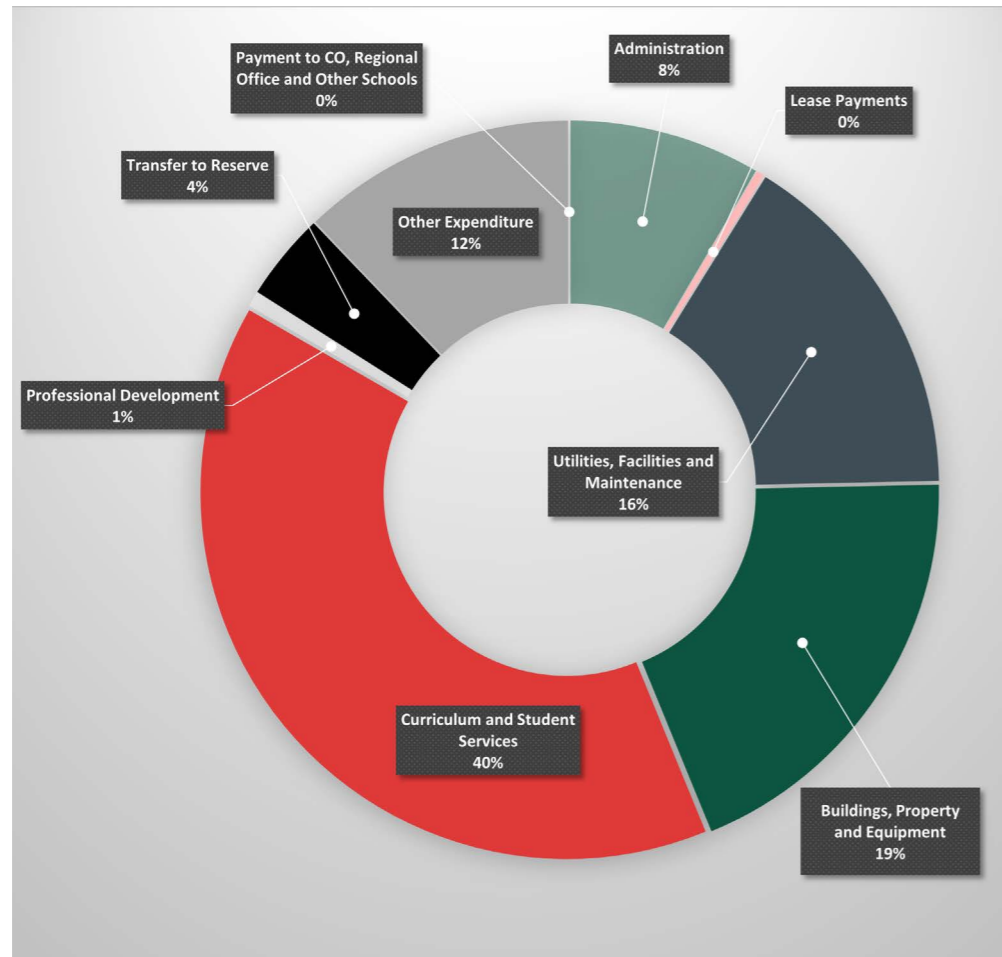
Revenue - Cash & Salary Allocation

	Budget	Actual
Voluntary Contributions	\$261,414.00	\$217,503.25
Charges and Fees	\$1,268,992.28	\$1,220,027.18
Fees from Facilities Hire	\$-	\$-
Fundraising / Donations / Sponsorships	\$360,701.97	\$360,701.97
Other Revenues	\$79,608.90	\$79,062.99
Transfer from Reserve or DGR	\$256,135.57	\$256,135.57
Total Locally Raised Funds	\$2,226,852.72	\$2,133,430.96
Opening Balance	\$634,768.87	\$634,768.87
Student Centred Funding	\$1,189,606.57	\$1,176,327.34
Total Cash Funds Available	\$4,051,228.16	\$3,944,527.17
Total Salary Allocation	\$20,240,179.00	\$20,240,179.00
Total Funds Available	\$24,291,407.16	\$24,184,706.17

FINANCIAL REPORT

(AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023)

Expenditure Report



Expenditure - Cash and Salary

	Budget	Actual
Administration	\$308,933.16	\$297,673.10
Lease Payments	\$23,091.07	\$13,198.17
Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance	\$593,597.92	\$558,430.48
Buildings, Property and Equipment	\$677,970.72	\$674,684.49
Curriculum and Student Services	\$1,628,946.05	\$1,391,783.19
Professional Development	\$88,000.00	\$24,004.86
Transfer to Reserve	\$136,618.00	\$136,618.00
Other Expenditure	\$429,013.84	\$427,415.47
Payment to CO, Regional Office and Other Schools	\$2,425.00	\$275.00
Total Goods and Services Expenditure	\$3,888,595.76	\$3,524,082.76
Total Forecast Salary Expenditure	\$19,552,180.00	\$15,650,929.00
Total Expenditure	\$23,440,775.76	\$19,175,011.76
Cash Budget Variance	\$162,632.40	

We take pride in nurturing a safe and inclusive environment that prioritises student wellbeing.





Artwork: Rosie Paine

Contact Us :



Links Road, ARDROSS WA 6153



9314 9393



axshs.email@education.wa.edu.au



applecross.wa.edu.au



facebook.com/ApplecrossSeniorHighSchool



instagram.com/applecross_shs/



@applecrossshs5058