

Annual School Report**2024**



PACIFIC
GULGANGALI
JARJUMS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The following report is prepared according to the School's Annual Reporting Policy and the NSW Government's Education Act. It provides general information to the community about the School's ethos and character and its performance in Academic and Financial

terms. More specific information can be obtained by contacting the school directly.

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Theme 1: Our Context

From the Head Teacher: Mrs Paula French

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School for the year 2024. It was a year of growth, change and some wonderful achievements. With community support and encouragement, our Jarjums have excelled.

Enrolment and Community Engagement

Our School has experienced continued and sustained growth throughout 2024. With a targeted marketing campaign, aligned with engagement in community events and parental support, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School has increased in number with 27 students by the end of 2024. We continue to encourage community participation, by hosting family BBQs, visiting musicians, by attending other School's functions we have fostered partnerships between all stakeholders to create a vibrant school which regularly engages with the parent body.



Cultural Engagement and Extracurricular Activities

In 2024, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School was a part of many cultural and community events. Years 3 to 6 attended their first School Camp at Beerburrum; including a visit to Australia Zoo. They participated in a Landcare Koala food planting initiative and participated in a gymnastics program for sport. We also established staff worship in Gulgangali area, inviting members of our school community to join us for worship. We had our second graduation for Year 6 students at the end of 2024 with our students transitioning to Pacific Coast Christian School for Year 7 in 2025. Our End-of-Year Celebration event was a huge success for the students at The Banora Twin Towns Club.

Alongside our day-to-day learning, students engaged in the Junior Rangers Program each Monday for K-2 and Tuesday for Year 3-6. Every Friday the students engaged with Biren Dance, a local dance group that taught our students traditional dance and some basic Bundjalung language.

Students also enjoyed many other excursions. These excursions, known as our 'on Country' days, included visits to the Tweed Regional Museum, local parks, the Science Museum in Brisbane and Tweed Regional Art Gallery. Years K-2 have been fortunate enough to attend a local Aged Care facility to entertain guests with singing and dancing and made gifts for the residents. Years 3-6 had the opportunity to attend the SWELL Beach Art Sculpture Festival with the Junior Rangers Program. The students have appreciated the opportunities given to them at Gulgangali which allowed them to learn beyond the confines of the classroom. We are thankful to all our staff who worked hard to plan, organise, and facilitate these excursions. The high teacher-student ratio ensured that the experiences were fun and safe.

The K-2 students attended learn to swim lessons each Friday as part of their sport program and have gained confidence in their own abilities and swimming skills that they will use outside of school.

We held a Mother's Day Pamper morning with morning tea for our K-2 students and their mums. The mums and grandmothers had a relaxing time being pampered by their children and grandchildren.

Professional Development

Throughout the year, our staff engaged in professional development to enhance their teaching practices. We were continually thankful for the support received from the Pacific Group of Christian Schools. Our Teacher's Aides have engaged in Special Education Training with Pacific Hope Christian School at the Tweed Campus. We have one Teacher's Aide who has now begun her teacher training with Morling College. It is exciting to see our Aides gain further skills to enhance their learning. Teaching staff have been engaged in Autism training, youth mental health training and teaching resilience and well-being for our students.

We are now into our third year of MultiLIT's 'Close the Gap' initiative, which provided whole-staff training, course materials, resources, and student materials. We are continually training staff members in the program. Student's academic achievements through the MultiLIT program have been evident in the data collected each Semester.

Our staff continue to learn. Most recently, our staff developed their understanding of implementing Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Behaviour Support Plans. We have been engaged in learning new curriculum and implementing it into our programs.

Events

We celebrated NAIDOC Day with the Tweed campus, and our students were involved with many activities throughout the day, from making Jonny cakes, to learning how to throw a boomerang.

I am honoured to serve the staff, students, and their families of Gulgangali and I look forward to celebrating the achievements of the school together with our families and the community.

From the Executive Principal: Dr E J Boyce



2024 has continued to see growing interest in the local Aboriginal community for the presentation of Christian community in education. The school has had a continuing strong uplift in attendance at schooling by our students as they feel they are loved through acceptance and care by the broader community.

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is the pilot school as we are planning to accept invitations from other communities of the Aboriginal people to provide a similar school for their children. To that end we have appointed key senior leaders who will be able to follow through on the high level of success of Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School.

From the Board Chair: Mr Mark McCrindle

This Annual Report of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools gives a great snapshot in numbers, finances and reports of a system of ten thriving schools. Growth is an evident theme in all of this, from student enrolments and building programs to the financial wellbeing of our schools for which we are thankful to God. It is interesting to note that many of our schools are located on land that once was used for farming. Land that was once cultivated to grow trees which produced fruit is still being used to grow things: now children, nurtured and sustained by the Living Water, that they might be fruitful.



We trust that this report gives you an overview of our schools and an insight into the character of our communities, summed up in the name of this group: Pacific. Pacific comes from the Latin word for Peace the true source of which comes from Jesus who said: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you" (John 14:27).

About our School

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is a trans-denominational Christian School that has been in operation since 2022 at 3a Acacia Street, Tweed Heads South, NSW. Our vision is to provide a Christian educational community as a centre of teaching, learning and serving excellence, founded on Biblically based beliefs, values and behaviour. We are committed to authentic Christianity, to excellence in education and to genuine community.

At Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School, we emphasise the need to support students attain national educational standards, whilst maintaining the development of Indigenous identity formation, especially through Language and Culture curriculum integration.

The logo of the school was designed by Christine Slabb, who provided the following explanation:

We say 'Together We Rise' which captures the essence of Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School. It features the sun rising from the ocean, symbolizing new beginnings and hope. The 'U' shape represents our community—united in sharing knowledge and guided by Jesus Christ. This emblem embodies our commitment to fostering unity, spiritual growth, and a deep respect for culture and education on Bundjalung country.

A strong feature of our School is the close relationship we have with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community of this region. We were established by the local Bundjalung elders and Tweed Action Group, in partnership with the Pacific Group of Christian Schools who have over 40 years' experience in Christian education.

Characteristics of our student body

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is an exciting place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can learn about their culture and receive a quality curriculum-based education. During 2024 the school catered for Years Kindergarten to Year 6, providing 3 composite classes, Years K-2, Years 3-4, and Years 5-6. The students are evenly matched with gender numbers and enjoy learning in their tailored groups within the composite classes.

Our young Jarjums proudly embrace their age-old history and cultural identity. The students continue to be keenly involved with the Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council Ranger Program embracing the wisdom of the local elders. The Jarjums are proud to represent their school and enjoy building their identity foundations with community members each visit.

As every student would, our student body embraces their learning with obvious improvements in their work being celebrated and displayed proudly throughout each school term. Partnership with the MultiLIT's 'Close the Gap' initiative has provided a great opportunity for the Jarjums to excel at learning. Fortnightly monitoring reflects their improvement and encourages them to keep moving forward.

Apart of the Jarjums' culture is to celebrate their Creator every morning, the students consistently and willingly participate in morning devotion and prayers. Often mentioning personal prayer points and volunteering to pray for them.

Priority Areas for School Improvement

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

TEACHING: Teaching as a relational activity that engages a school community to know God and His Word.

- Develop a culture of respect while demonstrating a passion for teaching and pastoral care
- Analyse qualitative and quantitative measures to grow students in wisdom and knowledge encompassing student feedback, assessment of performance and approaches for diverse learners
- Develop quality teaching programs in response to curriculum reform with Christian perspectives and literacy as priority areas
- Provide staffing to support curriculum reform

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

LEARNING: Further develop learning as a lifelong process informed by research data, personal testimonies, feedback, various modes of communication and the Bible.

- Further develop the use of blended learning underpinned by Biblical beliefs and values
- Provide opportunity for Aboriginal education and cultural awareness
- Continue to implement strategies for academic improvement
- Introduce and implement online learning across the Pacific Group of Christian Schools

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

SERVING: Further develop serving as an expression of the gifts given by our community (locally, nationally and globally).

- Provide opportunities for people to use their gifts to serve through Christian Education Development Program (CEDP), musicals, fairs, mission, community service, and/or open days
- Develop and implement a schoolwide parent communication strategy that uses The Alpha School System (TASS) and associated software applications
- Expand the provision of Christian Educational Communities through the Pacific Group of Christian Schools

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER IN COMMUNITY: Further develop the Christian character of each member of the community as an act that glorifies God.

- Engage the staff in personal Christian formation in community
- Develop the spiritual formation of each community
- Engage with the Pacific Group of Christian Schools, Sister Schools and other Christian communities to build our culture of community service
- Consistently monitor the stewardship of our resources utilising environmentally sustainable practices, innovative strategies and respect for our community



Our Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

Growth in respect and responsibility are two sides of the coin of maturity. There is a strong alignment between Indigenous cultures and the Christian faith in terms of this area. During class, teachers use stories, discussion and role-plays to teach these core values during devotion and prayer times. But the foundation of respect and accepting responsibility for personal actions is woven into all the school curriculum.

During class time teachers use stories, discussions, and role-plays to teach values. Throughout PGJCS we recognise and reward students who consistently demonstrate respect and responsibility. PGJCS partner with a local Aged Care facility. They participate in singing, sharing scripture and exchanging gifts in their visit to the facility twice a year. The classrooms have clear behavioural expectations, and they are explicitly taught consistently over the year to promote and reward positive behaviour.

Theme 2: Our Outcomes and Results:

Student outcomes in standardised national literacy and numeracy testing

This data is not applicable/available as we are a Special Assistance School.



Theme 3: Our Staffing

Accreditation status

All teachers at Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School have tertiary qualifications to teach in NSW. The strong preference is for teachers to identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Level of accreditation	Number of Teachers
Provisional Teacher	2
Proficient Teacher	4
Conditional Teacher	1

Summary of qualifications

Bachelor of Teaching	4
Bachelor of Teaching, Batchelor of Arts	2
Bachelor of Education	1

Workforce composition

The staff of Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School exhibits a diversity of age, gender, and ethnicity. National backgrounds include Anglo-Saxon, Aboriginal and Samoan.

School Staff	
Teaching staff	7
Full-time Equivalent teaching staff	4.4
Non-teaching staff	3
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	8.7



Theme 4: Our Student Attendance

Student attendance rates per year level and whole school

Year	No of Students at census date	Total %
Kinder	4	66.67
1	1	100
2	4	100
3	4	80
4	2	66.67
5	7	87.50
6	2	100
2024	Whole School = 24	85.83%

Description of how school manages student non-attendance

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School adopts an attitude of close liaison with families in managing student attendance. Absences are noted and followed up both by phone and by written correspondence. Visits in person may also occur from Pastor William Dumas (who also functions as our Aboriginal Liaison Officer). Long term unexplained absences are processed under the Schools Attendance and Course Completion policy. At the Principal/Head Teacher's discretion, chronic non-attendance may result in the de-enrolment of the student and referral to the DET Home-School Liaison Officer for the area.



Theme 5: Our School Policies

Please scroll down the page to "Policies" and select the policy file required.

Enrolment policy

- [Student Enrolment Policy and Procedures](#)

Child Protection Policy

Please scroll down the page to "Policies" and select the Child Protection file required for the particular policies included.

- [Child Protection Policies](#)

Anti-bullying policy

- [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy and Procedures](#)

Discipline policy

- [Student Discipline Policy and Procedures](#)

Complaints policy

- [Complaints Handling Policy](#)

Theme 6: Our Community Satisfaction

McCrindle Researchers surveyed parents and staff in 2024. There were 13 responses, but this was more than double the 2023 number, and for a small school like Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School, this was a pleasing result. The following sections are all direct quotes from the Executive Summary of the McCrindle report.

Parent satisfaction

Parents have a very positive perception of Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School. The positive learning environment (100%) is considered a key strength, as well the School's connection to the local community (92%), nurturing environment (92%) and sense of community (92%). All stakeholders (100%) strongly or somewhat agree there is a culture of respect at the School and nine in ten (92%) believe the School is highly regarded in the general community. Staff play a key role in the positive environment, with 92% of stakeholders agreeing the School is characterised by hard-working and committed staff.

Student satisfaction

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School excels in supporting students in their holistic development. Academically, stakeholders believe the School caters to the individual needs and differences of the students (100%) and believe that teachers motivate students to learn (100%). Most stakeholders also believe the School is meeting the academic needs of its students (92%) and that the School is innovative in its approach to education (92%). More than four in five (83%) believe the School is extremely or very effective in supporting students with their learning habits. Stakeholders are, however, slightly less likely to agree the physical environment is conducive to learning (62%).

Stakeholders believe students are extremely/very equipped in social/cultural awareness (92%), curiosity (92%), holistic development (75%) and personal presentation (75%). Many stakeholders see the School as extremely or very effective in supporting students in their emotional wellbeing (92%) and in their leadership development (83%). Stakeholders are less likely to believe students are extremely/very equipped in digital literacy (55%), critical thinking (55%) and problem solving (55%).

Teacher satisfaction

Staff members are happy in their work and feel supported by the School. All staff members strongly or somewhat agree they find their work satisfying and fulfilling (100%) and enjoy coming to work each day (100%). Close to nine in ten (88%) agree they are receiving adequate opportunities for professional development and three quarters (75%) say that School leadership values and incorporates their feedback. There are still one in two (50%) who often feel overwhelmed by the amount of work they need to achieve in a week.

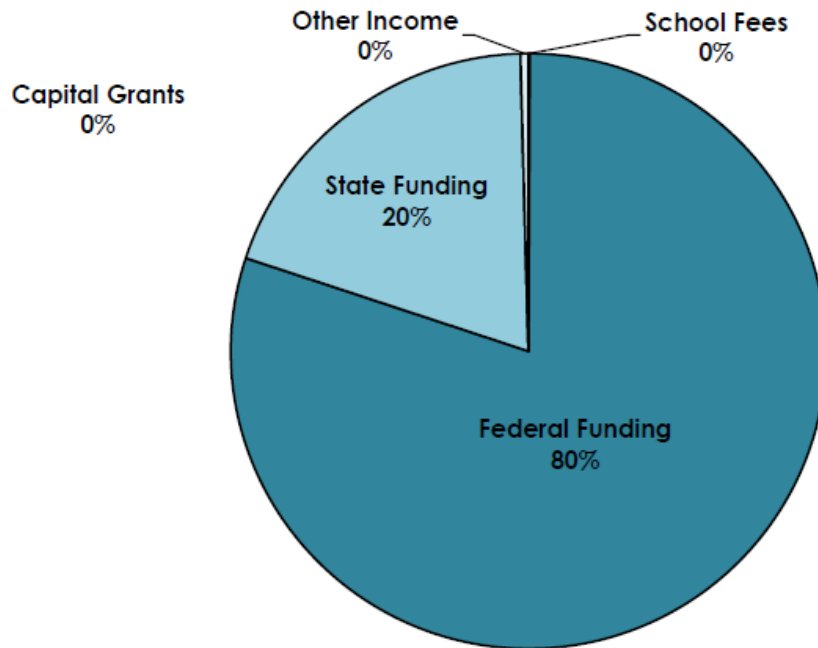


Theme 7: Summary of our Financial Information

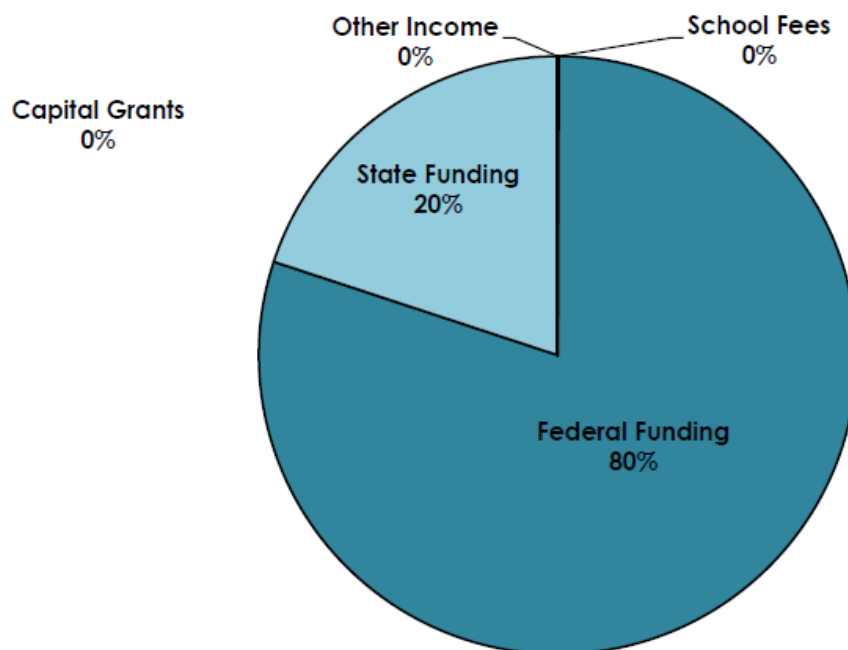
Recurrent/Capital Income

INCOME SOURCES

2024



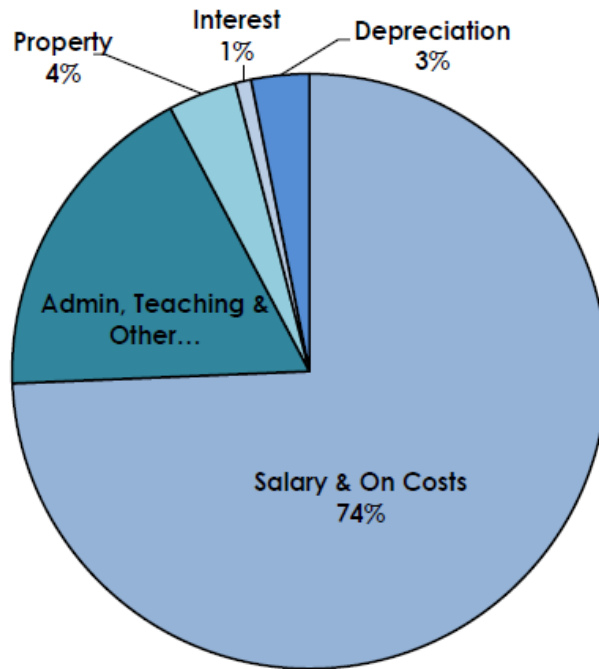
2023



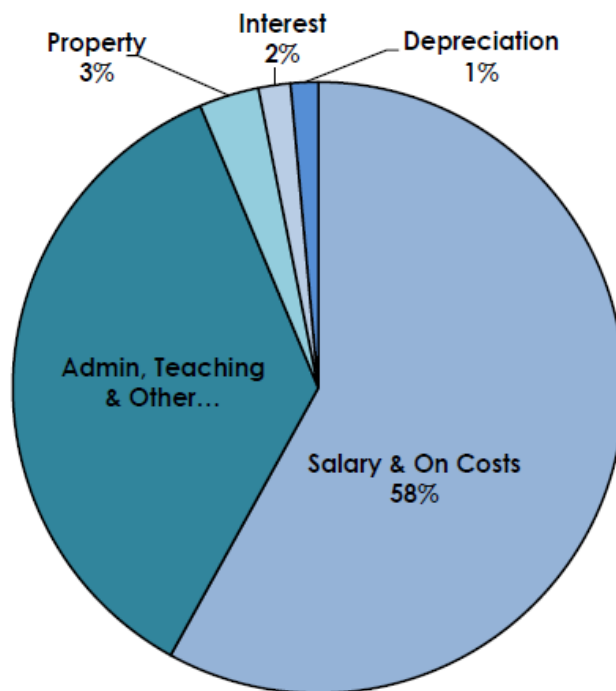
Recurrent/Capital Expenditure

EXPENDITURE AREAS

2024



2023





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Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is an independent school trading under the

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