

Annual School Report 2025



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 Principal: Damien Gainsford

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School for the year 2025. It has been a year of growth, change, and many wonderful achievements. With the ongoing support and encouragement of our community, our Jarjums have continued to excel both academically and socially.



Enrolment and Community Engagement

Our school experienced continued and sustained growth throughout 2025. Through targeted marketing initiatives, active participation in community events, and strong parental support, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School increased enrolments to 32 students by the end of 2025.

We continue to encourage strong community participation by hosting family BBQs, welcoming visiting musicians, and attending functions at other schools. These opportunities have strengthened partnerships between staff, students, families, and the wider community, helping to create a vibrant and connected school environment.

Cultural Engagement and Extracurricular Activities

In 2025, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School participated in many cultural and community-based events and learning opportunities.

Students in Years 3–6 attended the school camp at CYC Burleigh Heads, which included kayaking and beach activities. They also participated in a variety of Sporting Schools activities that included tennis, ten pin bowling, rugby league and a gymnastics program as part of their sport curriculum.

We established staff worship within the Gulgangali area and invited members of our school community to join us in fellowship and worship. At the end of the year, we celebrated our third Year 6 graduation, with eight students transitioning to Pacific Coast Christian School for Year 7 in 2026 on full financial support. Our End-of-Year Celebration at The Banora Twin Towns Club was a tremendous success and a highlight for many students and families.

Alongside daily classroom learning, students participated in the Junior Rangers Program each Tuesday for Years 3–6. Every Friday, students engaged in Bundjalung Language Lessons, led Mrs Ronalda Combo.

Students also enjoyed a range of excursions throughout the year. These "On Country" learning experiences included visits to the Tweed Regional Museum, local parks, the Science Museum in Brisbane, and the Tweed Regional Art Gallery.

Students continued visited a local aged care facility, where they entertained residents through singing and dancing and created gifts for them. These opportunities enabled students to learn beyond the classroom environment while deepening their understanding of culture, community, and the world around them. We are thankful to our dedicated staff who worked hard to plan, organise, and supervise these activities. Our high teacher-to-student ratio ensured that all experiences were safe, engaging, and enjoyable.

We also held a Mother's Day Pamper Morning, where students in Kindergarten to Year 6 welcomed their mothers and grandmothers for morning tea and special activities. It was a meaningful opportunity for families to connect and celebrate together.

Professional Development

Throughout the year, staff engaged in ongoing professional development to strengthen teaching practices and improve student outcomes. We remain deeply appreciative of the support provided by the Pacific Group of Christian Schools.

Our Teacher's Aides participated in Special Education Training through Pacific Hope Christian School at the Tweed Campus. We are also excited to share that one of our Teacher's Aides has commenced teacher training through Morling College, further developing her skills and capacity to support student learning.

Teaching staff participated in professional learning focused on Autism support, resilience, and student wellbeing. We also continued our involvement in the MultiLit "Close the Gap" initiative, now entering its fourth year. This initiative has provided whole-staff training, resources, course materials, and student support programs. Student academic growth through the MultiLit program has been evident in the data collected each semester.

Most recently, staff have further developed their understanding and implementation of Individual Education Plans (IEPs), Behaviour Support Plans, and the new curriculum requirements. Our commitment to continuous learning ensures that we are well-equipped to meet the diverse needs of our students.

Events and Celebrations

A highlight of the year was the celebration of NAIDOC Day alongside the Tweed Campus. Students participated in a variety of cultural activities, including making Johnny Cakes and learning traditional boomerang throwing techniques.

Looking Forward

It is an honour to serve the staff, students, and families of Gulgangali. I am proud of all that has been achieved throughout 2025 and look forward to continuing to celebrate the growth and success of our school together with our families and community in the years ahead.

From the Executive Principal: Dr E J Boyce

Pacific Group of Christian Schools

In 2025, the Pacific Group of Christian Schools has continued to grow as a community committed to Christ, to one another, and to the careful nurture of young lives. Across all our Schools, we give thanks for the strong trust shown by families who seek an education shaped by faith, compassion, and a clear sense of purpose. Our Schools remain places where students are known, valued, and encouraged to grow academically, socially, and spiritually.

Throughout the year, there has been a deepening sense of unity across the Group. Staff, students, and leaders have increasingly shared in learning, service, and encouragement, reflecting our call to be one body serving together. Our teachers and leaders have faithfully pursued excellence in their vocation, seeing their work as service unto the Lord, and our students have responded with creativity, diligence, and generosity.

Service to others continues to be a defining mark of our Schools. Through local community engagement and broader outreach, students have been reminded that learning is not only for personal achievement but for loving God and serving others. As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude for God's provision, confidence in His guidance, and prayer that our Schools would continue to be places of peace, hope, and faithful witness, as we seek to honour Christ in all that we do.

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School

In 2025, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School continued to strengthen relationships with the local Aboriginal community, providing an education grounded in Christian faith, cultural respect, and genuine care for students. Attendance and engagement remain encouraging, reflecting a community in which children feel welcomed, valued, and supported.

The School continues to play an important role within the Pacific Group as a model of culturally responsive Christian education. Leadership and staff remain committed to walking alongside students and families, with a clear vision for sustaining and extending the impact of this work into the future.



From the Board Chair: Mr Mark McCrindle



This Annual Report of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools offers a snapshot of our vibrant Christian culture across ten school communities. While these pages provide an overview of our schools through key figures, financial information, and reports, the true health of our community is seen in the daily interactions between our students, staff, and families.

In 2025, we experienced both the excitement of new beginnings and the significance of transition. A particular highlight was the official opening of our new Early Learning Centre at Dural early in the year. It has been a joy to see our youngest learners begin their journey with us.

We trust this report provides insight into the character of our communities, reflected in our name: *Pacific*. Derived from the Latin relating to peace, the name speaks to the peace-making character we seek to embody as a community, grounded in Jesus' promise: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you" (John 14:27).

We are thankful for the leadership teams and dedicated staff who faithfully navigate the complexities of our schools while continually prioritising the growth and wellbeing of our students. We are also grateful to our families, who partner with us in the education and care of their children.

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 Christian Schools Group 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 2025 the school catered for Years Kindergarten to Year 6, providing 3 multiage 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

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

Teacher Accreditation

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, Bachelor 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 Torres Strait Islander and Samoan.

School Staff	
Teaching staff	8
Full-time Equivalent teaching staff	5.6
Non-teaching staff	9
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	8.53

Theme 4: Our Student Attendance

Student attendance rates per year level and whole school

Year	No of Students at census date	Total %
Kinder	3	73.93
1	5	83.50
2	2	100
3	4	89.92
4	4	87.53
5	6	92.19
6	8	81.80
2025	Whole School = 32	86.98%

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

Enrolment policy

- [Student Enrolment Policy and Procedures](#)

Child protection policy

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

- [Roles and Responsibilities \(Child Safe\) Policy and Procedures](#)

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 2025. There were 20 responses, but this was more than forty percent higher than the 2024 response, 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. Students are inspired to learn (100%) is considered a key strength, as well the teacher's keep students interested and involved in learning (97%), there is a safe and supportive learning environment (97%) and the whole school community cares about student wellbeing (97%). Staff, parents, and students work closely together to help students succeed (97%) is another highly rated area with parents displaying a strong connection and belonging to the school which has an overall satisfaction rate of 95%.

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 (94%) and believe that teachers motivate students to learn (100%). Most stakeholders also believe the School is meeting the academic needs of its students (94%) and that the school supports the different learning needs of each student (94%). More than nine in ten (91%) believe the students are being prepared to succeed in life after school. Stakeholders are, however, slightly less likely to agree the physical environment is conducive to learning (78%).

Stakeholders believe students are extremely/very equipped in the connection and belonging area (95%). Many stakeholders see the School as extremely or very effective in supporting students in their wellbeing (92%) and in their leadership domain (89%).

Teacher satisfaction

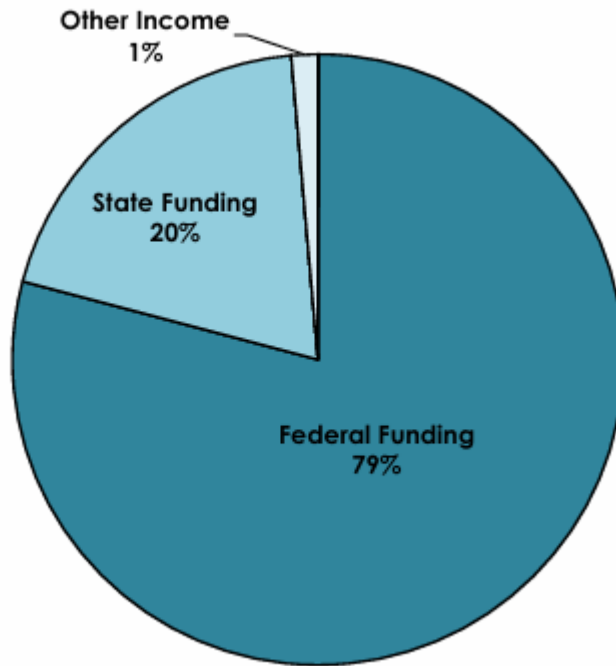
Staff members are happy in their work, and they feel they are making a difference to the student's school experiences. Staff believe that students are growing academically (94%), that they work in a safe and supporting environment (94%) and that they keep students interested and involved in learning (89%). Staff believe that they create a classroom environment where students can learn and take part easily (89%) and that the whole school community cares about student wellbeing (89%).

Theme 7: Summary of our Financial Information

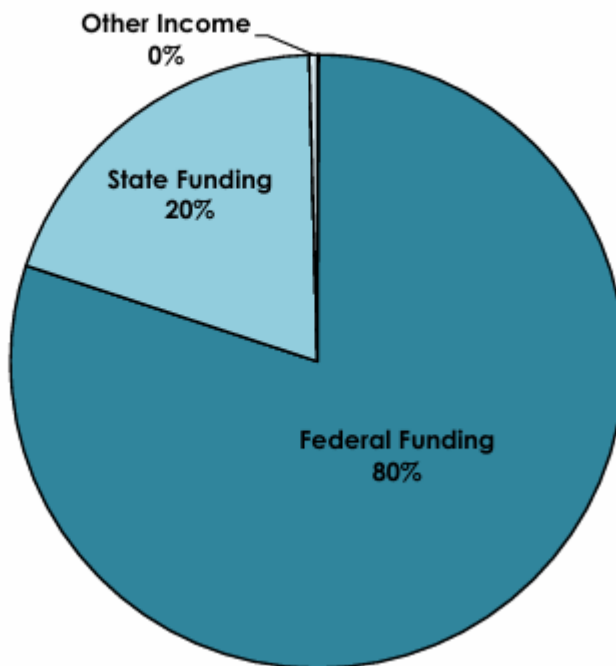
Recurrent/Capital Income

INCOME SOURCES

2025



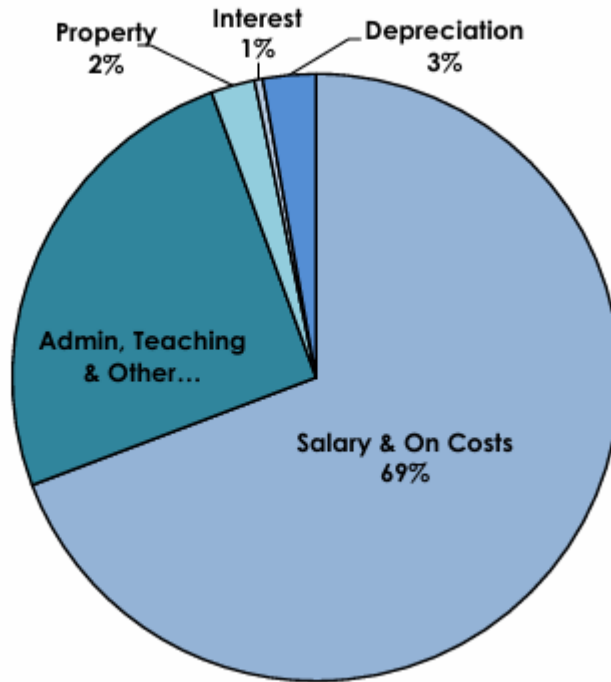
2024



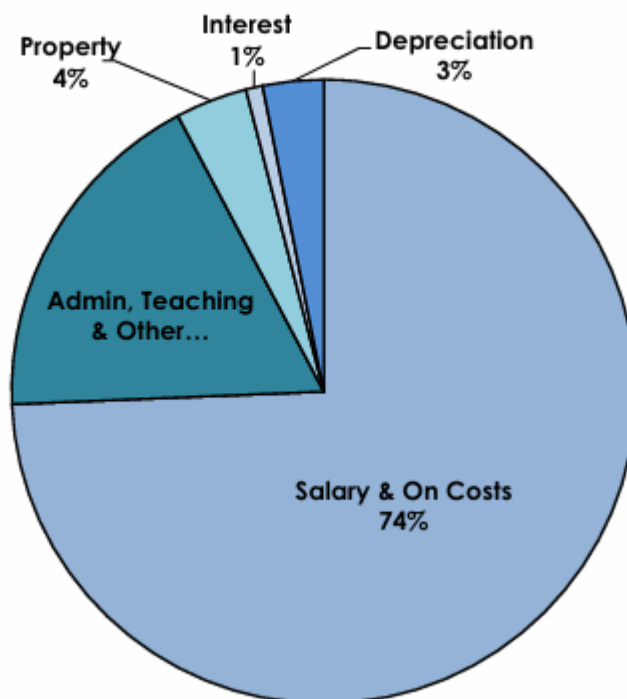
Recurrent/Capital Expenditure

EXPENDITURE AREAS

2025



2024





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Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is an independent school trading under the Pacific Group of Christian Schools ABN 11 001 832 828