



**NHULUNBUY
CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE**

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



NT
Christian
Schools



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Vision Statement

'To be Christian communities, learning together to live life as God intended, offering hope for the world'.

Mission Statement

To partner with parents in providing an education that honors Jesus, is academically rigorous, develops character and promotes healthy relationships. For our students to grow in wisdom, be empowered to serve others and make a difference in the world.

Nhulunbuy Christian College Vision Statement

'Grow in wisdom, serve others, change the world'.



Principal's Message

The 2023 academic year at Nhulunbuy Christian College was a year of significant focused development in our teaching and learning, in our student support, in our community engagement and in our facilities.

As a new principal, my first year involved a review of all aspects of the college. This review was supported by our routine schools' assessment which was carried out by the Department of Education in May. Following the routine schools' assessment, the Department of Education extended our college's registration until 2027. Throughout the year, I completed an assessment against each area of the School Improvement and Renewal Framework. These assessments and their associated reports were presented to and discussed by the college's school council. These reviews helped identify areas of improvement as well as areas in which the college is doing well.

During the year, a series of substantial building works were completed to optimize the usability and versatility of our campuses' facilities, to upgrade in line with modern compliance standards and to address the needs of better storage options. As part of a BGA grant, the original toilet block was gutted and refurbished as a modern, compliant facility with staff toilets, disability toilet and Primary appropriate bathrooms. An ablutions block for the high school students was developed at the rear of the property near the science laboratory. The college's Food Technology room was no longer safe or suitable for purpose. The expense for a complete remodel of the room as a kitchen was financially unachievable. Consequently, the room was gutted and repurposed as a general learning area while the staff room was remodeled to make it a space which free community events, such as our Mother's Day and Father's Day breakfasts, could be operated out of. The science laboratory was updated and remodeled to modern standards. Storage sheds were installed behind the covered basketball court. The donga was emptied and prepared for demolition. New pathways were laid, to improve campus movements. A deep maintenance of the college's and staff housing roofing commenced early in 2023 and will be fully completed by the end of 2024.

While our facilities were subject to significant review and investment, so too was our teaching and learning. Student support was identified as an area of significant need in the college. In recognition of our limited support staff, several strategic initiatives were put in place. Firstly, rather than one person managing all Education Adjustment Plans (EAPs), all staff received training in how to use Inspire (an online platform which assists staff in creating a detailed EAP) and how to efficiently document and record evidence of adjustments provided at the college. Secondly, it was decided that small group interventions groups would be a more effective use of support staff than having the staff in classrooms. The college introduced the MultiLit program from Macquarie University along with the Elementary Math Mastery program, as focused, small group intervention groups on a regular basis. The widespread expectation and support of teacher's using daily reviews, especially for literacy and numeracy, also assisted in supporting students' diverse needs within the classroom. Ongoing review of our student support programs and feedback from community members led to the identification of a need for a more formalized wellbeing and pastoral care approach. As well as student support, teaching and learning was addressed through a focus on visible learning practices and the clear articulation and exploration of learning targets. The opportunity for engaging with the wider community from an educational perspective was targeted through developing relationships with other local schools and especially developing a close working relationship with the Dhupuma Barker School who joined NCC for combined learning tasks in science, physical education, art, robotics, and history.

Mark Twine
College Principal

Staffing Information

All teachers have a minimum of four years training and are registered with the NT Teacher Registration Board.

	<i>Staffing Profile</i>	<i>Qualification if Full-time</i>	<i>Term/FTE</i>
Principal	Mark Twine	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology and English) Honors in Psychology Bachelor of Primary Education	1.0
Assistant Principal	Andrew Knee	Diploma of Graphic Arts Bachelor of Communication Design Graduate Diploma of Education (Visual Art) Cert IV in Health & Fitness (Personal Training)	1.0
Teaching and Learning Support Coordinator	Stephanie Martin	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	1.0
Teaching Staff	Clare Baertschi	Diploma of Children's Services Bachelor of Ministry	1.0
	Caron Lane	Higher Diploma Preprimary Education Diploma of Education (Primary)	1.0
	Cassie Allison	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	1.0
	Kaylie Thompson	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	1.0
	Jennifer Provis	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	1.0
	Tebany Kingston	Bachelor of Arts / Education	1.0
	Jessica Forsyth	Bachelor of Education	1.0
	Timothy Richards	Bachelor of Arts (Majoring in Drama) Bachelor of Teaching (Secondary) Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology	1.0
	Lisa Haagensen	Graduate Diploma of Education (Secondary) Physical Education and Science Bachelor of Exercise (Sports Science)	0.8
	Catherine Pridgeon	Post Grad Certificate in Education Masters of Technology in Homeopathy	1.0
	Nicole Savage	Bachelor of Engineering Bachelor of Science Graduate Diploma Education	1.0
	Polyvia Knee	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	ERT
	Sandra Knoll	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	ERT
	Tanya Van Seters	Bachelor of Education	ERT

	Mariela Peiris	Masters of Education Bachelor of Education (Primary) Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies Diploma of Children's Services Certificate in Inclusion	ERT
	Melissa Barclay	Bachelor of Education	ERT
	Aourora Tolko	Masters of Teaching (Primary) Bachelor of Arts (Humanities)	0.0 Leave
Support Staff	Lee-Anne Pridgeon	Certificate IV in Education Support	0.8
	Esther Rika	Bachelor of Education (ongoing)	1.0
	Allana Brooks	Cert II Accounting Procedures Advanced Cert in Office Administration	0.63
	Yvonne Miles	Certificate IV in Supporting Students with Additional Needs	0.4
	Lia Techand		0.8
	Alicia Nankervis		0.8
Maintenance	Jonathan Stark	Diploma Old and New Testament Theology	0.6

Highlights of the School Year

The 2023 academic year contained many highlights such as the development of our student support services, the increase in community engagement and learning, and the school's expansion into senior schooling.

Competitions and Awards

- Chief Minister Literacy Awards
- NT Board of Studies Award (Year 6 and Year 9 student)
- VEX IQ Challenge (Robotics Competition) NT Volunteer of the Year award, Judges Award, and Teamwork Finalist award

Camping and Programs

- Year 5 NCC Sleepover (1 night)
- Year 6 Bush Camp (2 nights)
- Year 7/8 Mungali Falls camp (1 week)
- Year 9 Larrapinta Trek (2 weeks)
- Year 10 Australia trip (3 weeks)
- Year 11 Darwin based retreat (1 week)



School Events and Assemblies

- College Dedication and Information Night
- Community Breakfasts
- Swim Survival Program (6 days)
- AFL Clinic
- Rugby Clinic
- Mother's & Father's Day stalls
- Book Fair/ Book Parade
- ANZAC Day Service
- Visiting Author Andre McDonough workshops
- Year 10 Work Experience
- NT tertiary health pathways workshop
- Careers Expo
- R U Okay? Day
- Croc Wise Workshop
- National Simultaneous Storytime Week
- NCC Twilight Fair
- Year 6 Celebration Night
- Transition and Year 7 orientation days
- Shave for a Cure
- Thanksgiving and Awards Night
- Facilities Celebration



Sports Carnivals and Special Events:

- Swimming Carnival
- Athletics Carnival
- Cross Country Carnival
- Primary Swim Survival Program (6 days)
- Middle School Swim Survival Program



Parents, Staff and Community

Nhulunbuy Christian College highly values its partnership between parents, staff, and the wider community. These relationships are crucial in ensuring students feel supported and that our educational services are meaningful and wholistic. Nhulunbuy Christian College invites regular parent and staff feedback on the College.

A community survey was completed in review of 2023. The following key observations provide the college with some clear areas to strategically address in 2024 to improve our college's operation and performance.

- Teacher quality and school leadership were identified by parents as being effective and as strengths of the college.
- The college's academic program was identified as a key weakness, especially in terms of student support and meeting the individual needs of students. Parents also lack confidence in the careers advice and preparation for college that the college provides.
- The greatest need for improvement identified by parents was in governance. Parents do not feel informed about the Board and what it is doing, they don't understand the role of the council, and they do not understand the role of Christian parents in the governance of the school.
- Staff identified the school culture and leadership as strengths of the school.
- The college's academic program and student engagement were identified by staff as areas of weakness for the college. Staff identified the range of subjects and the extension and enrichment of the gifted and talented as significant areas of weakness.
- Staff identified technology support as a very significant area of weakness that needs improvement.
- As with parents, staff identified the college's governance as a significant area of weakness especially in terms of being informed about the Board and what it is doing.

NCC School Council

The Nhulunbuy Christian College School Council is an integral part of the life of the school. Counselors are made up of members from NT Christian Schools. We are forever thankful for the tireless service, commitment and support the College council provides at Nhulunbuy Christian College.

In 2023 the council was represented by:

- Divyan Ahimaz
- Esther de Zwardt
- Suzi Condon
- Fiona Stark
- Jaco Loenon



Ex Officio:

- Mark Twine - Principal

During 2023 the school council completed

Facilities

In 2023, significant investments were made into the maintenance and upgrade of the Nhulunbuy Christian College facilities.

The projects actioned in 2023 included:

- The renovation of H block
- The renovation of the Primary ablutions block by BGA grant
- The installation of a library walkway
- Upgrade to bus zone and pathways
- Renovation of the staff room
- Conversion of the food tech room into a general learning area.
- Science Lab upgrade to compliance standards
- Construction of high school ablutions block.
- Construction of maintenance and sports sheds.
- Deep maintenance of roofing of A and C block.
- Roof replacement of 36 Eugenia (Staff Housing).
- Renovation of parts of J block for NTCC and technology hub.
- Security screen upgrade at staff housing 36 and 40 Eugenia Avenue.



The following projects are a strategic priority for 2024:

- Landscaping around new bus zone and walkways
- Renovation of K block classrooms using Mountain District donation.
- Creation of flexible walls in H block with BGA grant.
- Deep maintenance of roofing for H block, J block, K block, L block and walkways.
- Deep maintenance of 40 Eugenia (staff housing) roof.
- Acquisition of a second HiAce

Critical Incidents

- In May 2023, an experiment in the science lab required a temporary evacuation of the room due to chemical fumes. After a thorough investigation, the science lab was renovated to have greater ventilation to avoid any possible reoccurrences.
- In September, the staff housing at 40 Eugenia Avenue was broken into. There was property damage, and a vehicle was stolen. The Board approved a security upgrade to the housing. This work was completed in October.

School Self-Assessment

As a college community, we come together to celebrate the many blessings we have every day! We also take time to reflect on the areas within our school that we can continue to improve.

Reports against all areas of the School Improvement and Renewal Framework were carried out over the course of the year and presented to the school council. These reports were used to inform the development of the 2024 action plan.

Key Priorities and Focus Areas for 2024

Christian Identity

- The newly formed pastoral care and wellbeing team, under the leadership of the Assistant Principal, will invest in and improve the college's weekly chapel/pastoral care group times.
- Engage with local churches and Christian groups to provide students with connection to the broader Christian network – especially for significant events such as Easter and Christmas.

Care and Well Being

- Establish and empower a pastoral care and wellbeing team under the leadership of the Assistant Principal.
- Strategically roll out and review the Nhulunbuy Learning Culture handbook/approach in harmony with the roll out of the Northern Territory Christian Schools four core competencies for formational learning. This will include allocating the Assistant Principal project time to continue developing and rolling out this school wide practice.

Schools and Programs

- Diversification of subject offerings. This will be addressed through the targeted introduction of design technology and photography college-based subjects and the partnering with additional organizations such as Open Access College, Northern Territory Distance Education and Charles Darwin University.
- Further develop student support services with the introduction of devoted student support learning area, regulation space and meeting spaces.
- Improve our students literacy and numeracy skills through data informed practice and a review of our college's numeracy program.

Governance and Leadership

- Continued investment and prioritising of our student leadership to achieve a sustainable model that is meaningful and purposeful.

Community and Culture

- Continue to develop and invest in community relationships and partnerships especially with other local schools, churches and other organizations such as the aged care facility.
- Continue to develop and invest in partnerships within the Northern Territory Christian Schools through reference groups, system wide projects, and interschool collaborative planning and teaching.

Finance and Resources

- Complete deep maintenance of roofing.
- Complete renovations of the Primary classrooms by renovating the Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms in K block.