

2021 Annual Report



Vision Statement

Children *engaged* in learning;
motivated for success;
transforming their world
through *knowing* God.

Victoria Park Christian School Chairperson's Report 2021

After a challenging 2020 year, our team, led by Principal Mark Foster, continued to strengthen relationships within the school community. It is exciting to see the development of the school's facilities, as we are continually seeing increases in student enrolments, and preparing to expand and ensure that students have a high-quality learning environment.

Pr Adam Schulz joined the team as school chaplain this year. His spiritual leadership, support and engagement has been greatly appreciated by the students and staff. Our Home and School Committee continues to support the school community behind the scenes this year with fundraising opportunities and connecting with families.

Improvements to the school facilities continue to be a high priority. The school is working towards a new early learning centre and it has been great to see other classrooms receive new furniture. As we grow, it is exciting to anticipate the future development of the school's facilities.

There is consistent growth in student numbers, with Early Years classrooms at capacity, and enrolments for 2022 already being received. It's fantastic to see more families coming to the school through personal recommendations, with families that are attracted to our Christian values.

Trev Flynn

Chairperson

Victoria Park Christian School

School Overview

Victoria Park Christian School is a Christ centred school community that strives to equip our students with an excellent education through a Christian world view. We want our children to experience God's love through their academic education and social interaction with their peers.

We believe that God's nature provides children with an opportunity to experience school life in a unique and inspiring way and nature is incorporated throughout our school with outdoor classrooms and nature play spaces. Nature spaces provide students with a unique outdoor environment for unstructured play and discovery, nature-based sensory experiences and exploration, which is endlessly re-inventible and sustainable.

Our small school community allows the students and teachers to be closely connected. This is an intentional and important aspect of our student leadership program which focuses on caring and supporting younger children, and fostering relationships between children of all ages. The school also has structured programs that supports the children academically and socially, within and outside the classroom.

Our values program supports children to see love and respect for each other as integral to their interaction with others. Our strong multicultural community is valued and celebrated. Weekly Chapel services are a celebration of what we value and an opportunity for children to share their talents in arts and display their learning to the greater school community.



History

We have now had over 94 years of education in the Victoria Park community. Below is a snapshot of the school's long standing presence in the wider community.

The School was established in 1927 as a single teacher school and was situated in McMillan Street, Victoria Park at this stage. In 1945, the school transferred to Hordern Street just around the corner from its current location. In 1963, new rooms were built on the current site of 27 Colombo Street, to cater for the Primary School while the Hordern Street site housed the High School.

During the 1980s the Junior High School outgrew the Hordern Street premises and was amalgamated with the Senior High School at Carmel.

During 2013, the school extended the Kindergarten class to include Pre-Kindergarten to cater for 3 year olds. At the same time, the Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten classroom operated separately to the Pre-Primary class. The Pre-Primary class moved into and operated from Room 3. The remaining three classrooms operated as multi-grade classrooms. In 2014, the school operated as a Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6 school.

In 2015, the school saw its name change from Riverside Community School to Victoria Park Christian School. In 2019, VPCS began a journey of becoming a single stream school by 2024.

We continue to serve our school community and look forward to finding new ways to enhance this connection as we grow and lead students to Christ.



Teaching and Learning

2021 proved to be another very busy year as staff investigated different ways of teaching and program implementation. It is really rewarding being able to come to school each day knowing that you have the privilege of working with staff who are dynamic, energetic and driven to be and do the best that they can for the students and their families and for the school.

Staff were able to adapt to the changing world climate when COVID-19 came to Western Australia. They planned and implemented a successful at home learning process for the time that students were at home with the assistance of the 'Seesaw' platform. Teachers were even able to produce physical take-home learning activities for students.

The teaching of Design and Digital Technologies has continued to be part of our regular teaching practice where students are challenged to use critical and design thinking to solve real world problems.

Our Literacy program was chosen as it is an Australian program that focuses on phonemic awareness skills as well as phonics; it teaches spelling through integration with other areas of language and literacy; it teaches grammar and punctuation sequentially as well as providing practice in auditory processing skills. Teachers will be monitoring the success of this program through improved student outcomes.

Teachers are teaching in their area of strength for Specialist Teaching – this occurs every Wednesday where students rotate through three groups of learning: Physical Education; Performance Arts – Music, Drama, Dance and The Arts – Media and Visual Arts.

Student learning is supported through the development of individual education programs (IEPs). Teachers have been able to use iMaths, MTS, PM Readers and Soundwaves to deliver and support the literacy and numeracy program.

Inquiry-based learning opportunities are provided in our early childhood program and is beginning to move into our middle and upper primary levels. We see the importance of students being an important driving force for the direction of the curriculum and how it is delivered.

Flexible seating has continued to be used in some of our classrooms with positive responses from the students. Our students have the chance to engage with a number of learning activities outside the classroom. These incursions and excursions allow for greater understanding of the topics presented. Students and families appreciate the learning through experience component of our curriculum.

AISWA (Association of Independent Schools Western Australia) continued to provide Psychological School Services and Victoria Park Christian School received the services of Mikaela Bennington. Mikaela provided valuable support to both staff and families of children with specific needs.

Staff Qualifications 2021

All teaching staff are TRBWA registered. Their qualifications and years of service at Victoria Park Christian School are as follows:

Name	Role	Qualification	Years at Victoria Park	Teaching Experience	TRBWA
Mark Foster	Principal	B. Arts (Education) B. Social Science (Youth, Health and Physical Activity) Cert IV Training and Assessment	4	15	32062564
Roy van Moorsel	Educator Year 5/6	B.Ed Primary	8	12	32055063
Rochelle Stojanovic	Educator Year 1	B.Ed Primary	6	13	32037975
Agape Joy Castillo	Educator Year 2	B.Ed Early Childhood/Primary	1	5	31303592
Rebekah Eyre	Educator Kindergarten	B.Ed Primary	5	6	33100274
Chelsea Chapman	Educator Pre-Primary	B.Ed Early Childhood/Primary	2	2	33115532
Jannine Ellis	Educator Librarian (PT)	B.Ed Primary	13	16 FT + PT	32061894
Kar-Lei Chow	Educator Language (PT)	B.Languages	4	11	33079086
Simone Field	Educator (PT) Year 3/4	B.Arts Dip.Ed	5	13	32015856
Sharyn Macri	Education Assistant (PT)	Certificate III	9	N/A	N/A
Sal Coote	Education Assistant (PT)	Diploma of Education Assistant	11	N/A	N/A
Adam Schulz	Chaplain (PT)	B. Arts (Education) Theology	1	NA	N/A
Samantha McCutcheon	Office Administration Register/Bursar		9	N/A	N/A

Professional Learning and Development

Victoria Park Christian School values staff development in enhancing student engagement and achievement of outcomes. In 2021, the following Professional Learning opportunities were undertaken and these were aligned with school based goals. Some were face to face and other were online via zoom.

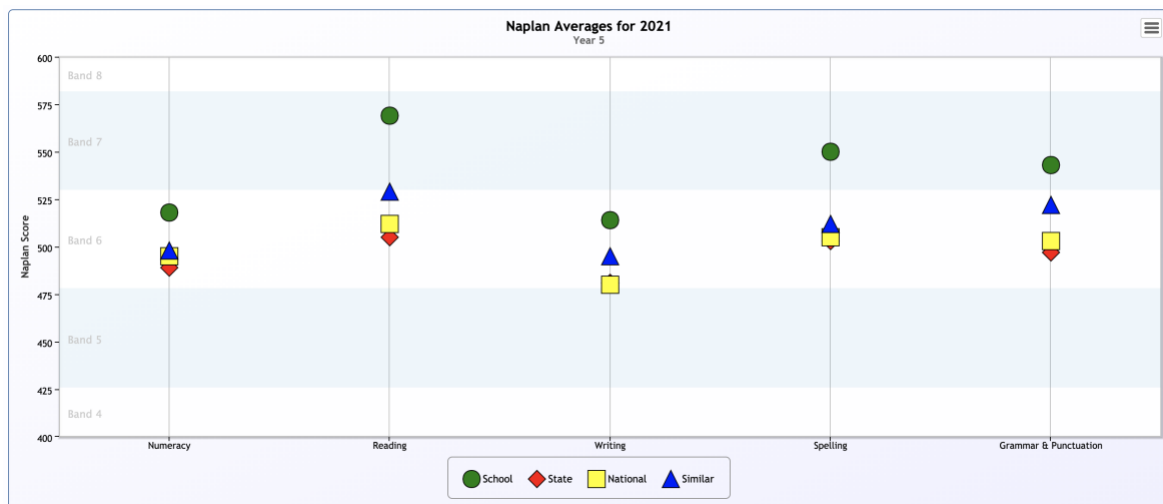
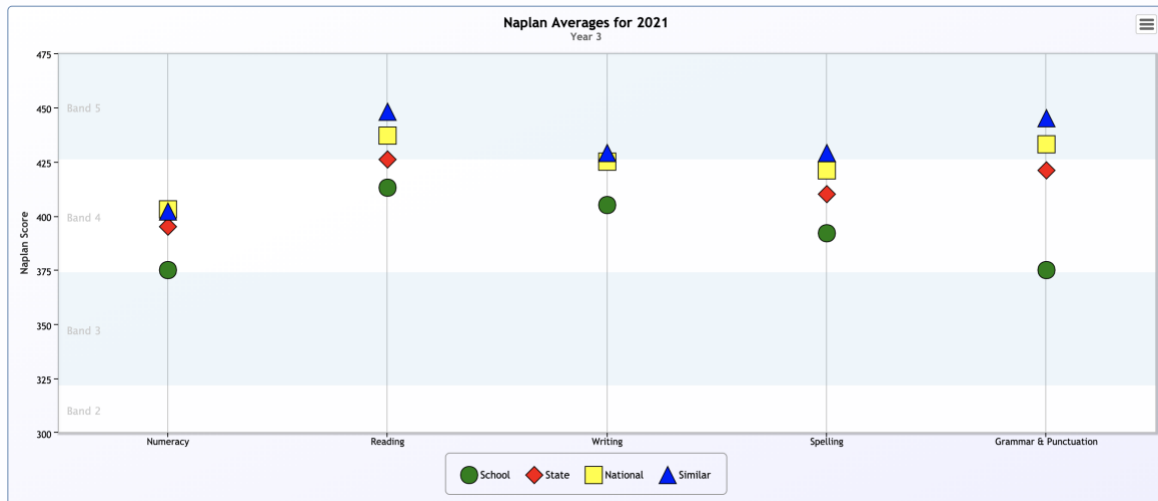
- Building Cultural Capacity
- Schools that Deliver
- Inquiry Based Learning
- Leadership Mentoring & Coaching
- National Quality Standards
- ACSWA System Day
- Child Protection and Mandatory Reporting
- School visits
- NCCD Presentations
- Principal Advisory Meetings
- AISWA CGA

2021 NAPLAN

Victoria Park Christian School works closely with each student and is therefore aware of individual needs through the use of other testing tools, and therefore, works to address these needs even before NAPLAN.

The following tables show how our school performed in each of the NAPLAN averages and whether the group performed *below*, *at* or *above* the National Standards.

****It is important to note that VPCS only had a small number of students in the Year 3 and Year 5 cohort. Our students were all able to show individual growth.**



Students

	Pre-Kindy	Kindy	Pre-Primary	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Total
2011		11	11	10	8	12	12	11	11	5	91
2012		18	9	13	9	10	11	12	10	8	100
2013	11	12	18	5	13	13	6	9	6	5	98
2014	16	17	13	18	5	11	10	3	8		101
2015	18	19	13	13	16	5	8	9	3		104
2016	10	13	14	13	12	12	4	5	9		92
2017	22	10	11	7	10	8	11	4	5		88
2018	12	19	10	9	9	12	3	11	4		89
2019	14	20	20	7	9	6	11	1	9		97
2020	18	24	18	22	8	13	7	9	1		120
2021	16	22	24	14	20	7	11	7	11		132

The above figures are as of the end of August.

Student Attendance Data in 2021

The average student attendance statistics for 2021 demonstrate that students across compulsory schooling (PP-Year 6) were in attendance 88% of school days in the first semester of 2021.

Temporary Overseas Students

Victoria Park Christian School was unable to host any overseas students in 2021 due to international travel restrictions.

School Events

There are so many things to be thankful for as a school. Our staff go above and beyond to make sure that our students receive the best possible education. The attention to the individual is high, and our desire for students to improve in their overall health and well-being is strong. Our engagement with the school community continues to be a highlight with many wonderful events shared throughout 2021, even though for some of the events parents could not join in. We need to thank our Home and School Committee for their continued support and involvement in our school events. Below is an outline of these events.

- Week of Worship (WOW)
- Annual School Concert
- Sporting schools program
- Choir performances
- Grasshopper Soccer
- Harmony Day
- Book Week
- Remembrance Day
- Mother's Day
- Father's Day
- Adventist Primary School Sports Day
- Early Years Dinner
- Orientation Day

Community and Marketing

Victoria Park Christian School continues to strive towards our school name being known in the community and throughout our Adventist Churches. As a result of COVID-19, many events couldn't take place some were postponed to a later date. VPCS adopts a variety of strategies and these were employed in 2021 to make our school known to the wider community:

- Facebook
- Skoolbag app
- Fundraising Events
- Newsletter
- SDA Conference news articles
- Orientation Day
- Early Years Dinner
- Professional partnerships with local business
- Connection with our local churches – Victoria Park, Belmont, Osborne Park
- Shopping Centre and Local Government initiatives

Our Home and School Committee are a wonderful asset to the school and its wider community. The support from these key individuals makes for successful school based events, and the connection to people beyond our school is high as a result of the hard work being undertaken by this team. So much value is added because of the relationship between the home and the school. Each year this committee works many hours to ensure our community and marketing plan is being engaged with, and the ideas presented are implemented in a timely and efficient way.



Pastoral Care and Student Welfare

The Chaplaincy program was to continue at Victoria Park Christian School in 2021. The school receives funding from the Federal Government's Chaplaincy Program. Pastor Adam Schulz commenced his time as school Chaplain in 2021. We are blessed to have a Chaplain on site for two full days a week in 2021.

Our Chaplain spent time doing some work with parents and families and spent time getting to know the children during break times, like lunch and recess. He supported students during class times through the teaching of the PATHS program, which teaches and reinforces sound principles for good emotional and social health and well-being. He also worked in with the students per the teachers' requests for additional support and pastoral care.

Our Chaplains organised some of the following events during the year of 2021:

- Week of Worships
- Special guest speakers for Chapels/Assemblies
- Staff Wellbeing

Our Chaplain was able to incorporate our Adventist Values in our weekly Chapels to reinforce good character and to further develop character building. Teachers also reinforce these values during their worship program and class time.

Our Chaplain enjoyed learning from students and staff about the unique character of VPCS.



School Improvement

Listed below are key areas for improvement that were identified as part of our school improvement cycle. Throughout 2021, staff continued to focus on the following areas for school improvement:

- Building stronger connections with wider community
- Growth in student numbers
- Increase in academic performance
- Development of an Early Learning Centre (K-2)

Each year, our school participates in a school improvement survey run by Insight SRC. This data allows us to see areas for improvement, as well as, areas of success and continued development. We are excited to be able to create a site masterplan for our school grounds. This document will guide our planning into the future.

Our Quality Adventist School Framework continues to be a crucial tool in our improvement journey. The framework allows us to identify and highlight areas of strength, but also to address areas that need improvement. Staff meet regularly to openly discuss and strategise ways to move forward and be a place that meets the demands of its key stakeholders. Ongoing use of data is vital to our future growth and overall success. This is an area that staff have identified as being a need for Victoria Park Christian School. Our 5 year review took place in September 2021. This was done remotely due to travel restrictions at the time. We were very pleased to receive another 5 years worth of accreditation within the Adventist Schools Australia system.

We are keen to find out what is important for our families and how we can improve the teaching and learning that occurs. Victoria Park Christian School would like to recognise

the crucial role that parents play in the success of a school. We are blessed to have supportive families here at VPCS. Staff value their input and feedback as we continue on this improvement journey.

