

John Paul College

Principal Report 2021

2021 was the 38th year since Christian Brothers College and Prendiville College amalgamated and continued to contribute to the 125 years of Catholic Education in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

2021 was the second year of impact of the Covid19 Pandemic and continued to affect the normal operation of the school year. In Kalgoorlie-Boulder we were fortunate to avoid some of the lockdowns schools to the South and West of us encountered.

To the credit of the staff, core functions of teaching and learning continued, as well as many of the extra-curricular activities that are part of the weekly routines of the College.

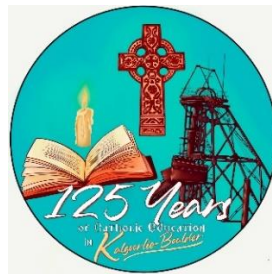
Special thanks to staff for their commitment to their students and well done to our students who continued to ensure our hygiene and sanitary practices were diligently carried out.

Our School Improvement Plan, which gives us focus and direction for the most effective learning and community relations, was impacted by the Pandemic, primarily in terms of professional development of staff: large gatherings were not possible and Professional Development providers could not access the College in most cases.

Once again, staff stepped up to run internal P.D. and a key target area was refining Teams, One Note, refining use of Sharepoint, online resourcing...a direct response to Pandemic conditions.

Catholic Identity

The College was lead school in organizing the Celebratory Eucharist for the 125th year of Catholic Education in the Goldfields.



Although Covid limitations affected visitor numbers, a contingent of Sisters of St Joseph's of the Sacred Heart Congregation were able to join us. They were thrilled to be a part of the celebration and pleased that their story of service in the Goldfields was highlighted.

The Catholic Identity of the College has been further highlighted by a new 'Sacred Space' in our Administration foyer that greets visitors. The College Prayer was finalized and inserted in the Student Diary along with a range of traditional and current prayers.

We are well supported by the Parish and Chaplin Fr Stephen, regularly leads Eucharist and visits classrooms. Fr Brennan has been a regular visitor and regularly fills in for Fr Stephen in his absence.

House prayers are being written, with student input and these will be in the Diary in future.

Community

Transforming Lives: we met our target of 90% attendance rate for our Aboriginal students.

A Yarning Circle was created and Blessed to open our NAIDOC Day celebrations. Many outside organizations joined our celebratory day.

Students continued to be part of the Polly Farmer Foundation Follow the Dream programme and in December the John Paul College Follow the Dream was launched, with the assistance of the Polly Farmer Foundation and Anglo Gold Ashanti.

A Year 7 Coordinator was appointed to assist Year 7's with high school transition: this will be an ongoing position due to positive feedback and outcomes. The Year 7 Coordinator introduced some new speakers to Year 7, such as Headspace, for wellbeing, cyber safety and "Sun Smart", and ensured our Year 7/12 Mentoring continued. Orientation day for Year 7's was well planned, and the Year 7 Coordinator was able to access all but one local primary school about future Year 7 student's needs.

Education

All teaching staff collected PIVOT data twice and discussions with Mentors and Learning Area Heads ensued a follow up about what the data was indicating needed to be addressed or celebrated.

Applying a Visible Learning focus on student performance data, a large increase in Effect Size Improvement for the cohort of students on lower bands were indicated.

The large number of tutorials offered at the College was able to continue for most of 2021. Homework Clubs for 8 – 10 were similar and the Year 7 Community group.

A process was introduced for Staff review and development of Personal/Professional Growth Plans and this will be followed up in 2022 with iGrow : a process for reflection on teaching and goal setting.

NAPLAN Data interpretation, assisted by the new Power BI software has given us a focus on the 'bright but coasting' students.

Our ViSN student numbers have increased slightly and a new ViSN teacher for 2022 has been appointed for Year 11 Italian.

Anglo Gold Ashanti has continued to support our students ATAR revision courses and the extra resourcing for OLN in Years 11 and 12.

In 2020 a EALD teacher has been appointed to oversee this programme at the College.

Stewardship

The Performing Arts Learning area building was commenced late in the year, due to a September 2022 completion.

An additional 28Kw of solar panels were installed as a part of our 'Striving for a Better Environment' programme and an increased focus was put on recycling, particularly with bottles and cans.

Mrs Manton's Mission Group continued their good work, which included visits to East Kalgoorlie Primary School, as Covid restrictions eased. They also assisted the St Vincent de Paul, Mayors Blanket Appeal and the Women's Refuge. An inspiration for their group was the story of the birth of the St Egidio group in Rome in the late 1960's.

The new College Parent entry, Pickup/Drop off was begun and Council approval obtained for this development. Traffic studies show this will ease congestion on Lionel and Hughes Streets, particularly at home-time. An on-site look at the traffic problem by the Mayor and 5 City councillors quickly convinced them of the need for change.


The appointment of a new Head Gardener and a part-time Assistant Gardener showed an immediate transformation of the grounds and a promise of great things to come.

Our School Improvement Focus Team meets regularly and, as pandemic conditions evolved, continued to be adaptive and responsive to changing conditions. Special thanks to Chelcie Paynter, who chaired for a Semester, taken over by Vinnie Keynes in Semester 2.

The College Cyclical Review in Term 2 gave us cause to celebrate, review, reflect and focus anew on School Improvement.

I sincerely thank all of the staff for their work in ensuring our students receive the best care and education possible at the College and the opportunity to flourish as human persons and discover their gifts.

We look forward to the continued growth and development of our College Community in 2022.



Mr Bradley Hall
Principal.