



Media Release

January 2016

Re: Catholic Education sustains improved WACE performance

In 2015, the Catholic Education system has once again delivered sustained improvement in its WACE performance.

Catholic Education accounts for 20% of all students in WA. Of the top 50 schools according to median ATAR, 32% (16) were Catholic which is well above expectation relative to the size of the sector. Based on a WACE score of 75 or more, 30% (15) were Catholic.

A total of 3274 students attained an ATAR and 1660 students completed VET courses. All senior secondary students in Catholic schools complete units of study in the Religion and Life Course. In 2015, 82.49% of students who completed Stage 3 Religion and Life used their mark towards their university entrance ATAR score.

Executive Director of Catholic Education Dr Tim McDonald said the results reflected a greater focus on school improvement across the system, which remains his top priority for 2016.

“Catholic Education has a clear commitment to sustained improvement. Results from 2015 have demonstrated continuing improvement right across the system with median ATAR, graduation rates, performance of regional schools and WACE and VET results all improved. Our focus for 2016 remains on continuing to build that improvement at all levels,” said Dr McDonald.

Dr McDonald particularly acknowledged the critical role that parents play in the education of their children and paid tribute to the dedicated efforts of Catholic school teachers, principals and support staff across the State.

- **End of statement** -

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Results summary 2015

- 99% of the 4962 Year 12 Catholic students achieved graduation
- A total of 3274 students attained an ATAR
- A total of 1660 students completed VET courses

Of the top 50 schools in the state based on median ATAR, 16 were Catholic:

John XXIII
Santa Maria College
Iona Presentation College
Corpus Christi College
Sacred Heart College
Ursula Frayne Catholic College
Aquinas College
Trinity College
St Joseph's College
Mercedes College
Chisholm Catholic College
Bunbury Catholic College
CBC Fremantle
John Paul College
Mackillop Catholic College
Kolbe Catholic College

Of the top 50 schools in the state, (based on a WACE score of 75 or more) 15 were Catholic:

John XXIII College
Santa Maria College
Ursula Frayne Catholic College
Sacred Heart College
Iona Presentation College
Newman College
Kearnan College, Manjimup
Trinity College
Aquinas College
Mercedes College
Servite College
St Joseph's Albany
CBC Fremantle
St Luke's Karratha
Chisholm Catholic College

Of the top 50 schools in the state (based on a VET qualification of Certificate II or higher) 14 were Catholic with particularly strong representation from rural Colleges.

Aquinas College
Emmanuel Catholic College
John XXIII College





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Kearnan College, Manjimup
Mazenod College
Santa Maria
St Brigid's College
Ursula Frayne
Corpus Christi College
Mackillop College, Busselton
Nagle Catholic College, Geraldton
St Luke's, Karratha

- Of the top 50 schools in the state (based on a WACE score of 65 or more) 28% (14) were Catholic.
- Also of note is that 28% (14) out of the top 50 VET schools were Catholic, up from 18% (9) schools in 2014.
- Catholic girls' schools have continued to perform very strongly - Santa Maria College, Iona Presentation College and Mercedes.
- Three regional schools have achieved outstanding results and are in the top 50 list – Kearnan College Manjimup, St Joseph's Albany and St Luke's Karratha.
- Catholic Education aims to produce faith filled individuals who can make a positive contribution to society in which they live, attributes that cannot be measured by league tables. League tables provide a particular measure of student achievement but do not capture the well-rounded education offered by Catholic Education.



2015 WACE REPORT



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