Our Lady’s College Annual Report – Major Achievements and Outcomes 2011

School Renewal Plan Broad Strategic Goals and Outcomes

Our College has identified four broad strategic goals which provide a focus each year of our five year renewal period. These broad goals are aligned with and informed by the Strategic Renewal Framework for Catholic Schooling 2007 – 2011 and college priorities as identified each year as a result of a continual cycle of renewal.

The information below outlines the major achievements in each of the broad focus areas for 2011.

BSG#1 Strengthen Catholic Identity, Faith Development, Ethos and Spirituality

- Continued commitment to AJASS including successful participation of staff and students at the AJASS Principals’ conference in Brisbane.
- Positive feedback was received regarding the professional development provided to staff on Catholic ethos.
- The liturgical life of the College has continued to thrive with excellent engagement of staff and students in a variety of creative and life enhancing liturgies.
- The Australian Catholic College diary has been integrated into student use.
- A regular program of assistance from the Campus Minister with the creation of assembly prayers was established.
- The Rosies Street Retreat Program was established as a community service project for Year 12 students, with 20 students actively engaged in ministering to the homeless.
- The Modern Marys Program was established with 40 students rostered to give weekly support in numeracy and literacy programs at Mary Immaculate Primary School.
- The first visits have been made to engage with “Life at Annerley”, a residence that supports sufferers of Multiple Sclerosis just a block from OLC. Performers visit to present concert items and then to chat over a cuppa.
- A Sacramental Program Group has been established with Mrs Michelle Dalton and Sr Maureen Stempko preparing a group to receive the sacraments of initiation at the end of Term 1, 2012.
- A group of 18 staff have gathered for a meeting each term to discuss the book, Jesus Today, by Albert Nolan. Feedback has been very positive and staff are keen for this initiative to continue.
- Cathy Whannel from BCE worked with a group of staff on ways of incorporating Web 2 technologies in the RE curriculum.
- Student leaders of the Mission and Liturgy Committees have worked well to develop their roles and to engage the community. Further refinement of the roles has been made with the incoming leaders.
- Jam Rolls has worked effectively as a means of empowering staff and students to engage with the Religious Life of the College and to promote the MacKillop Ethos.
- The Senior SOR program has been rewritten and the amendments have been approved by QSA.
- The college has been at the forefront of development of the Religion and Ethics course, successfully trialling units developed through BCE.
- The theme of People of the Cross has permeated all of our liturgies and celebrations.
Ideas from the JJAMM Leaders’ Conference that have been instituted have included the establishment of the JJAMM Jar, a fund that supports the development of the ethos and the visits to Life at Annerley

BSG#2 Enhance Learning and Teaching

- Our percentage of OP1s bring us to more than double the State Average for this result. Our results in the OP 1-15 bands show 76% of our students achieved OP15 or better. In the QCS Test, 21% of our cohort received an A grading – compared to 8.08% of females throughout the state.
- Notable achievements include well above average scores for Spelling and Writing in this year’s Naplan results.
- Completion of the infrastructure for the BCE LinCs Plus (wireless) project.
- Extensive use of computers in all subject areas and staff training to update pedagogical knowledge (using TPACK theory) for the embedding of ICLT practice in Australian Curriculum units for 2012.
- Laptop program has continued to year 12 with support programs put in place to allow computers to flow down to Year 8 in 2012.
- Introduction of the CERT II in Retail to support Year 12 students along with the continuation of the RSA Course for Year 11 students
- Procurement of BCE grant to support the ongoing development of staff embedding ICLT in curriculum areas. Development of Australian Curriculum with embedded ICLT well underway for implementation in 2012.
- Student participation in competitions and activities has maintained its level for 2011 within both internal activities (dance, choirs etc) and external (science competitions etc)
- Year 8 Learning Centre has been remodelled with updated cupboard space, new stylish furniture to enhance different learning modes.
- Attendance at WOE was maintained and feedback from students shows satisfaction with variety of choices. Inclusion of “whole year level” activities decreases interruptions for rest of the year.
- Information gathered for all students in Year 8 for appropriate allocation of support for learning needs.
- Student results analysed and consultation between curriculum and learning support staff resulted in modifications to learning and assessment for students.
- Review undertaking in English, Mathematics and Science to map current curriculum and prepare for 2012 adjustments for the introduction of Australian Curriculum.
- SRS Reporting system implemented in Term 1 for Interim reports and Sem 1 for Sem Reports. Comment banks have been revised and pastoral care comments introduced for semester reports.
- College newsletter articles and reports on Awards and Diligence ceremonies provide extensive and timely evidence of the participation and excellence of our students in their various activities. Achievements include: 48% students certificates for Academic Excellence, 56% certificates for work practices, 15% Outstanding Academic and 17% Outstanding Work Practices.
BSG#3 Develop Relationships, Community and Partnerships

- Continue implementation and update of Safe and Supportive Schools Environment Policy
- Cyber-safety Workshops for students, staff and parents to develop understanding of appropriate online behaviours.
- Pastoral Programs written to reflect issues of positive relationships across all year levels.
- Year 8 camp was very successful in strengthening self esteem and group formation.
- Weekly meetings of pastoral team has continued to provide information, support and consistency to approaches in relation to the issues of bullying and conflicts.
- The reduced class load of Pastoral Co-ordinators has enabled them to respond to issues quickly and with increasing efficiency.
- Counsellor and Campus Minister have been much more involved with students during 2011—both on a formal and informal basis (in playground, on retreats etc).
- Big Sister program was reviewed to include activities more directed to providing assistance in solving issues surrounding group conflict.
- The SRC structure was amended to allow more Year 8 students the opportunity to get a “taste” of the group during the year.
- The Sun Safety sub committee of the SRC continued to be a focus with education of students eg on full school assemblies.
- New student leadership committees were introduced in 2011 and the names of the Leaders were changed from Prefect to Leader to better reflect the needs of the community.
- Week of excellence activities were further strengthened to ensure that pastoral year level related activities were a focus of the week.
- Staff Meetings were used to inform staff of the learning needs of individual students.
- Staff were given a clear expectation that the individual learning needs of all students were to be reflected in their personal planning and assessment of student achievements.
- Cultural celebrations were included in the school calendar which involved all students and staff eg Harmony Day
- Dance groups continued to proudly illustrate the cultural traditions of our students eg Arts Nights and Diligence Awards; Sherwood Festival
- Staff were given professional development on the behaviours of girls and the impacts on the school, the mission and vision of catholic school and its relevance in the learning and behaviours within the whole community eg students, staff and parents.
- Preparation for new staff was taken in the areas of induction meetings, a booklet was prepared and mentors were assigned.
- BCEC Liaison Officer worked with the College community to improve communications with African families.
- P & F held New Families BBQ and formulated email lists to ensure maximum participation in Working Bees.
- The College Website has been maintained to provide more up to date information to the community eg assessment planners and exam timetables.
- Greater involvement with local feeder schools eg Early childhood class completing practical experiences in both primary and kindergarten classrooms; Year 7 students being included in the Year 8 Mathematics classes to allow for extension opportunities.
- Japanese visiting schools program supported by two visits during this year.
- Community projects were completed by each year level raising awareness of social issues and raising funds for many Catholic organisations eg Mater Little Miracles; Caritas
BSG#4 Maintain Effective College Governance, Renewal and Quality Assurance

- Facilities Brief and Master Plan completed with OPUS Architects and BCE Buildings and Planning Consultant; community consultation completed
- BGA Application submitted to raise funds for Stage 1 of Master Plan
- Negotiations with Annerley Ekibin Parish re future use of Marymac Hall for OLC use
- ICT Resourcing in college has expanded due to Federal Govt funding: all students years 9 – 12 have personal laptops; all classrooms have data projectors; college has Cisco wireless network
- Student, Parents and Staff provided with full day on internet awareness and safety; workshops complemented the introduction of the laptop program
- G2.2 was refurbished as a general teaching room; new carpets to top floor G block; other general maintenance completed
- College demographics have been monitored and funding sought to support the special needs of ESL learners, students with disabilities and others requiring additional personal support
- Student enrolments are remaining steady 410 – 420 throughout 2011; waiting list for year 8 2012
- Budgets and resourcing are consistent with college priorities and current educational trends.
- Funds allocated for staff PD re Australian curriculum implementation; pastoral care; subject areas expertise; ICT; supporting students’ learning needs
- Marketing plan has continued to maintain public interest in the college and support student enrolments
- All staff have been engaged in reviewing components of the OLC/BCE Strategic Renewal Framework
- All staff have completed annual goals and will complete reviews by end 2011.
- Environmental priorities have achieved success: vegetable garden at house; recycling program continuing; clean up Schools Day