



MERIDIAN
SCHOOL

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

2018



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MERIDIAN SCHOOL, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A MESSAGE FROM KEY SCHOOL BODIES

Regional Principal

Mr Paul Maher

The sun has well and truly set on 2018, so it is time to recognise our achievements and commend many people that make Meridian School a great place to teach & learn! The 2018 school year brought with it many challenges, but it also produced many successful outcomes for Meridian School. Academically, our **NAPLAN** results showed solid growth in most key areas for our Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 students, supporting our improved Grade Point Average across the course of the year. Our Year 12 students once again achieved solid results in their **SACE** and **ATAR**.

Our staff and students of Meridian School have come a long way over the past few years, embracing the **Learning 2 Learn Framework**, and our signature Self-Directed Learning pedagogy. Students are becoming more accustomed to using online systems such as Canvas, learning in the Virtual Classroom using Zoom, and working on their Study in the Learning Centre, and they are taking far more responsibility for their own learning journey. We look forward to further improvements and understanding of the **OneSchool Global Vision** next year and beyond.

Fundamental to the growth and success of Meridian School in 2018 was the recruitment of Mr Clive Shepherd to the role of District Principal. He added further experience and professionalism to an already excellent team of staff. Mr Shepherd was exceptionally supported by Mr Traeger in his role as SACE Coordinator. Mr Shepherd's tenure at Meridian School was short-lived as his family transferred to the Gold Coast at the beginning of 2019. We wish Mr Shepherd all the very best in his future endeavours and thank him for his contribution to Meridian School. The mentoring that Mr Traeger received from Mr Shepherd throughout 2018 allowed him to transition back into the senior leadership role of District Principal.

Our end of year **Academic Awards & Year 12 Graduation Ceremony** held on Wednesday 6th December was a resounding success. It was great to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of our students and witness some outstanding Performing Arts at the **Meridian's Got Talent** show. Although very much a team effort, special thanks must go to Mr Shepherd, Mr Traeger, Ms Ngaire Morton and the Student Leadership Team for their hard work pulling this event together.

Looking back....

Cross-campus Visits were again a big factor in the success of our teaching team and the learning outcomes of our students. CCVs afford our staff and students the opportunity to collaborate with their teachers and peers from across the state, and interstate! Year 8 WA students again had the privilege of visiting South Australia this year, continuing the collaboration across the two States. The Zoom platform took intercampus learning to another level, however, we are continually providing training to our staff in the Virtual Classroom to ultimately improve and enhance the VC experience for our students.

The **Challenge of the Mount Colour Run** was once again an overwhelming success, and kudos must go to Mr Sharma and the entire Mt Gambier team for pulling together such a wonderful day of collaboration and fun. Our students have also taken part in various educational incursions and excursions to further develop their understanding of their courses, including the annual trip to Canberra where our students received positive feedback regarding their exemplary behaviour. The Lightning Sports Carnival, Belair Challenge & the **Athletics Carnival** in Adelaide were once again excellent events, bringing students together from both campuses to compete for their House Team! Congratulations to Raiders for taking out the Athletics Carnival in 2018!

Farewell...

It was with disappointment we said goodbye to Mr Sharma from Meridian School, who transferred to Victoria with his family at the end of 2018. Mr Sharma was a significant 'part the furniture' at our Mt Gambier Campus, his contribution to the development of our students cannot be understated. We wish him all the best as he moves to our Victorian School, Glenvale, for the start of the 2019 year.

Ms Ngaire Morton and Ms Tamara Bennett also departed Meridian School, and we thank them for their significant contribution 'in the engine room'. Finally, Ms Katrina Berry & Ms Rebecca Brook also left our school to take on the next challenge in their teaching career.

Acknowledgements....

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the **2018 Student Leadership Team**, particularly for organising many of the school assemblies and fundraisers throughout the year. The SLT should be proud that many of their ideas and teamwork helped shape the direction and positive culture of the school. Thanks also to the entire student body, it is pleasing to see our students try their best academically and support and drive the many events and aspects of school life. It was also wonderful to see the student body at our Mt Gambier Campus win the **Global Values Competition**. Their video submission for our school value **Integrity** was judged best afield in Australia. A superb effort!

Like many OneSchool Global campuses, a strength of Meridian School is the support and help from **parents and community members**. Thank you to all members of the community who assist with the canteen, work at the uniform shop, volunteer for excursions, help with fundraisers, help with busy bees and all of the other behind the scenes tasks that may sometimes go unnoticed. We appreciate your support of the school and we look forward to the ongoing support from parents and community members in 2019.

A big thank you to **CA Teams** at both campuses. Your direction and guidance for our campus leadership team and the teaching staff has been outstanding and much appreciated. Similarly, to the **Meridian School Board**, on behalf of the staff I'd like to thank you for your direction, guidance, support and leadership during 2018. We very much appreciate all the time you volunteer to ensure our school is functioning efficiently and effectively.

And to our staff – **Teachers, education assistants and our administration staff**, thank you for all your efforts over the course of 2018. We look forward to 2019 with energy and enthusiasm as we seek to further develop our SDL pedagogy and continued implementation of the *Learning 2 Learn Framework* and ultimately improve the learning outcomes for our students in this rapidly changing world, in order to achieve the OSG Vision to prepare **life-ready students**. We are privileged to have great staff here at Meridian School, team players who are in the profession for all the right reasons – the growth and development of our students!

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Meridian School is an independent, co-educational school which operates in a network of Brethren Schools nationally and globally. Meridian School has an enrolment of 116 students across 2 campuses in South Australia which are located in Aberfoyle Park, Adelaide, and Mt Gambier. Enrolment at the school is open to the children of all Brethren families and children of families who are willing and able to support the ethos of the School. The school has a rich academic program which is supported by an extensive ICT blended mode of teaching and learning. The School also offers a vibrant Co-curricular program which includes sport, music and community involvement.

School Ethos

At this School, students are encouraged to develop their full potential and acquire the discipline of learning how to learn, while upholding Christian teachings and beliefs.

The truth and authority of the Holy Bible and strong family values underpin the commitment of the School to provide quality in every facet of education – curriculum, teachers, facilities, management and discipline – in a safe and caring environment.

Values Statement

- Integrity - uprightness, honesty and decorous conduct, governed by the Holy Bible;
- Care & Compassion - kindness, consideration and generosity to all;
- Respect - for all people, property, opinions and authority;
- Responsibility - for our actions, progress and the environment;
- Commitment - to self-discipline and the pursuit of excellence.

Learning to Learn Statement

The School is committed to creating and delivering learning programs that meet the educational needs of each student, and to nurture the attitudes and skills necessary for continual learning and personal growth throughout life. “Learning to Learn” means to use learning as a tool whereby students are equipped with the ability to think critically, process information perceptually, analyse data accurately and evaluate situations intelligently in order that they fulfil their true potential.

OneSchool Graduate Attributes

1. Positive Attitude
2. Self-Motivated
3. Team Player
4. Hard Work Ethic
5. Organised

Further information about the school is available from Meridian School’s listing on the My School website <http://www.myschool.edu.au>

Teacher Standards & Qualifications

All staff are registered to teach in South Australia and in addition are trained in Mandatory Reporting. Many of the staff have obtained two or more qualifications. The following table is a summary of our 2018 staff qualifications:

QUALIFICATION	Number of Staff
CERTIFICATES	9
DIPLOMAS	8
DEGREES	9
DOUBLE DEGREES	6
MASTERS	9

Workforce Compositions

Along with course specific teachers, specialist staff are engaged to assist with Learning Support, curriculum development, Technologies (Digital, Design and Foods), Accounting, Art, Health & Physical Education, and Music.

There were no indigenous staff in 2018.

Student Attendance at School

The overall average attendance rate for 2018 was 95.20%

YEAR LEVEL	RATE OF ATTENDANCE (%)
3	96.30
4	95.60
5	95.00
6	94.93
7	95.50
8	94.67
9	94.00
10	95.37
11	96.91
12	95.08

Parent, Teacher & Student Satisfaction

Staff appreciate the benefits of teaching at Meridian School where small class sizes, cooperative and positive students attitudes, and close working relationships between staff and the School community ensure teaching at the School a rewarding experience for teachers.

Summary data for a recent Teacher Survey is available on request.

Parents see feedback on students' performances as being clear, simple and regular. The School newsletter also informs parents and the wider community of life at Meridian School.

Summary data for a recent Parent Survey is available on request.

Both students and parents appreciate the efforts by staff to create best possible outcomes for students, and they feel part of a safe, supportive and positive learning environment.

Excursions are well received, and major events such as Academic Awards, Sports Day and Fundraising Days are eagerly anticipated.



KEY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS

NAPLAN

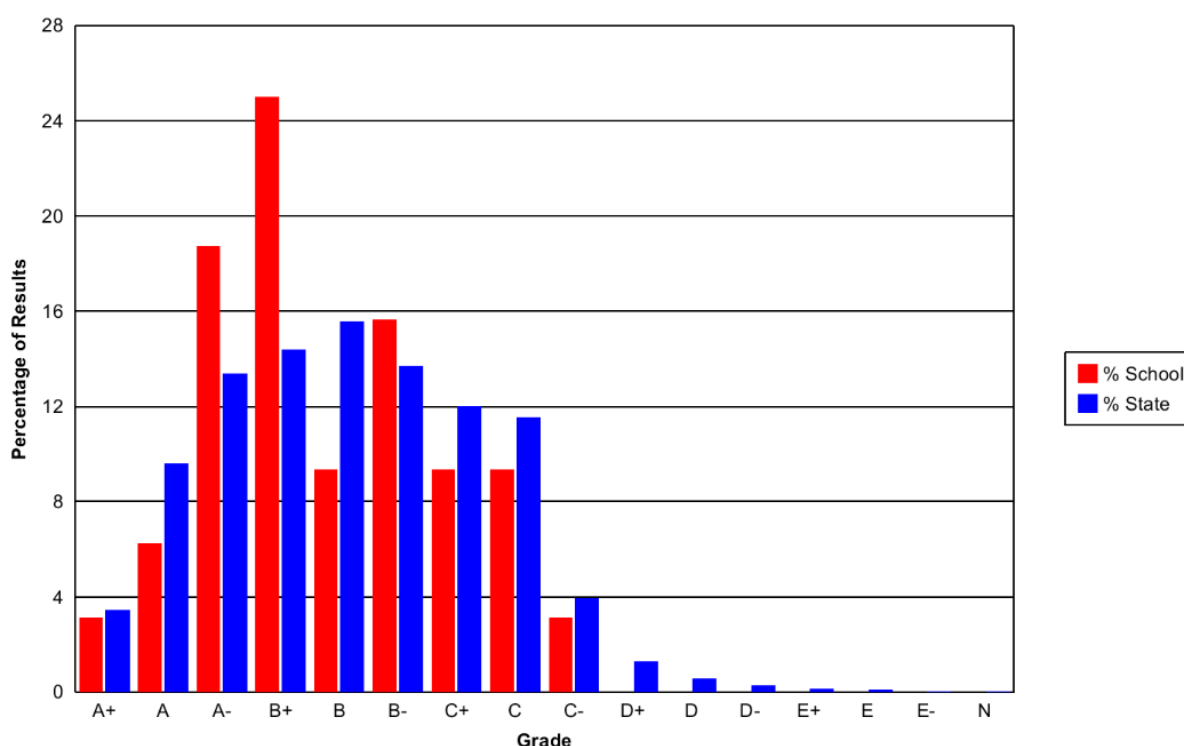
Meridian School students performed at or above National mean for 16 of the 20 assessments.

Year Level	READING		WRITING		SPELLING		GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION		Numeracy	
	National	Meridian	National	Meridian	National	Meridian	National	Meridian	National	Meridian
3	434	458	407	423	418	400	432	471	408	431
5	509	507	465	473	502	502	504	499	494	501
7	542	588	505	552	545	593	545	612	544	583
9	584	602	542	562	583	589	581	605	596	598

SACE

The results obtained by the class of 2018 show a high achievement within all subject areas. As seen in the 'Stage 2 Schools Subject Results – by Grade Distribution' trend there is positive skew towards greater achievement in which the median was an B+ which is one point higher than the state's median result of B.

Stage 2 School Subject Results - by Grade Distribution

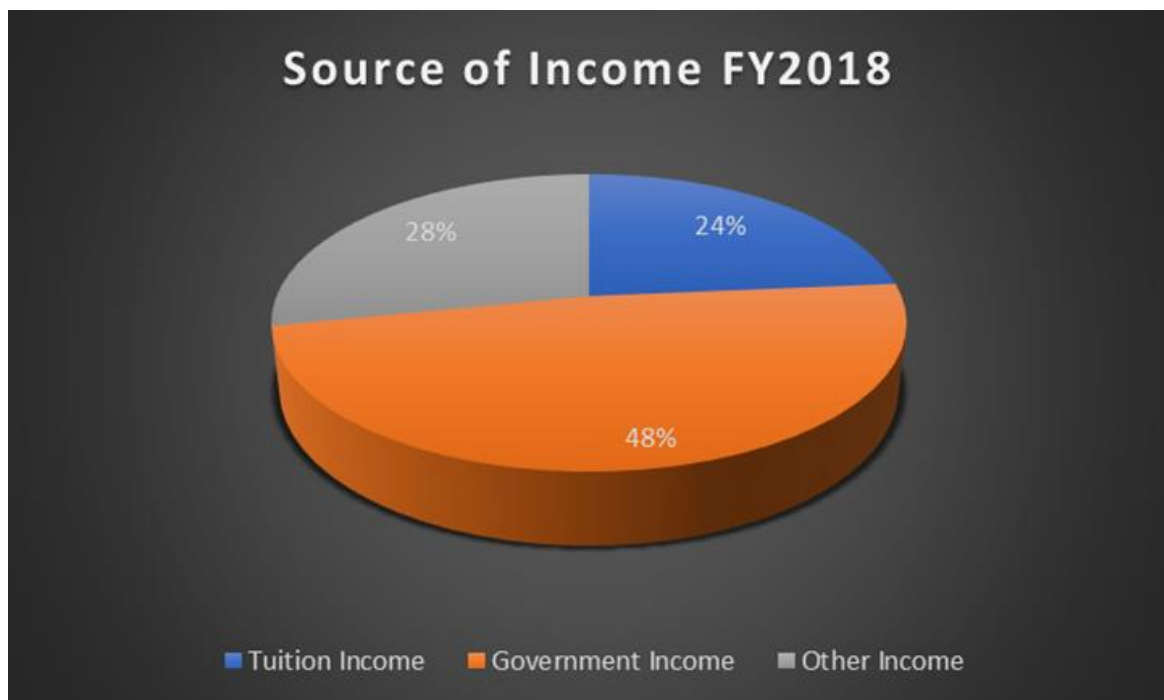


Vocational Education & Training

In 2018 four students completed their Certificate III in Business and four students completed their Certificate III in Accounts Administration.

School Income Broken down by Funding Source

An income summary is shown on the chart below



School Photos





MERIDIAN SCHOOL

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