



2017

Annual Report

Character, Wisdom and Discipline for tomorrow's Leaders

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Principal's Foreword

Your choice of school to direct your child's education is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent. At the Burdekin Christian College (BCC), we are committed to providing a safe, inspiring and supportive Christian environment where students are encouraged to learn who they are and what God has planned for them. We believe in working together with families to educate their children to realise and maximise their God-given gifts. We work hard to maintain and build our essential partnership with parents through our communications and reporting.

Our fully accredited curriculum is planned and delivered from a Christian Worldview by a team of dedicated and enthusiastic educators. With a Biblical framework at its foundation, the College creates a rich learning environment that challenges and inspires character growth and leadership development. These attributes are celebrated and provide opportunities for wisdom to increase.

All information included in this report is designed to provide the Burdekin Christian College, its families and the broader community with a snapshot of the College's values and culture while providing an indication of its academic and extra curricula activities.

As the College continues its holistic approach to developing every child: physically, emotionally, academically and socially, it intends to continue to strive to provide its students with opportunities to grow and shine in their individual areas of excellence. We are thankful for the achievements of our students and our staff during 2017.

John McVeigh
Principal

Who we are ...

BCC Motto

The College motto is Care:

- **Courtesy** – I respect others.
- **Attitude** – I can do it.
- **Resilience** – I can overcome.
- **Excellence** – I do my best.

We endeavour to develop and instill essential life skills with a Christian focus into each student at the College.

BCC Mission Statement

The Burdekin Christian College exists to equip and educate children from a Christian Worldview to become people who will positively influence their families, communities and nations in a Christ-like way.

BCC Values

The Burdekin Christian College is committed to:

- Creating a community where teachers and parents are partners in teaching and learning.
- Challenging families to make Jesus Christ the Lord of the family and the home.
- Supporting families as they train their children in God's ways and God's truth.
- Establishing an environment characterised by Christian virtues such as love, faith, honesty, humility, consideration, obedience, service, stewardship, industry, loyalty and courage.
- Basing our teaching on God's Word, the Bible.
- Helping our children to acquire a life-long love for learning, and to develop and understand their God-given talents and gifts.
- Developing and celebrating each child's creative and critical abilities.
- Educating the whole child for living in the world and for eternity.
- Fostering and celebrating the development of gifts, skills and abilities of the learner for service to Christ and the community.
- Focusing on cooperation as the most effective strategy for building community.
- Encouraging students to perform to the best of their ability in every aspect of their endeavours.

Chairman of the Board's Message



The 2017 year began by faith, knowing that God is in control. As like every year, the obstacles and opportunities that lay ahead were all in God's hands. Our College Principal, Mr John McVeigh, capably assisted us as a Board, the staff, the students and the wider BCC community to successfully navigate the road ahead.

The year began with a healthy student population (Prep to Year 10 - 130 students, Early Learning Centre - 23). As we trusted God he went before us and turned each of our challenges, whether external or internal, into opportunities for growth. As Board Chairman, I'm thankful for my dedicated Board and the BCC staff that partnered with me as we faced each challenge head on and successfully navigated the path before us. We engaged an external auditor, Mr Bill Tuckwell to oversee the College finances.

As our College has been operational since 1982, the process of updating the guidelines and migrating the College from an Incorporated Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee began. These changes would provide a better trading environment for the College corporately and also give more protection to the Directors and the College. This is currently a process under construction. Throughout this year, our team worked tirelessly to ensure the College's curriculum fully aligns with the Australian Curriculum and the policies align with legislative requirements.

We employed an educational expert (Mr John Collins) to assist us develop a new 5-year Strategic Plan (2018-2022) to establish goals and to give direction for the College's next chapter. Our wonderful staff and facilities are such a blessing, so along with our Christian ethos they combine to make our College an integrated faith and learning community.

There have been many improvements to our main campus this year. Transforming the downstairs undercroft of our Secondary Building into a state of the art computer-teaching facility and renovating the College Library have both created beautiful education spaces for our students. The decision made to suspend the development of the Adelaide Street block for Secondary will be reversed when there is a reduction in the student to debt ratio.

In November, we faced a few more challenges. Our Secondary School Accreditation was thankfully quickly rectified. Our government funding was partly withheld, but with the assistance of the Hon. George Christensen MP, the decision was challenged with the outcome pending over the Christmas holidays. Our Principal John McVeigh also gave the Board notice that he would be retiring in July 2018 after his two years of invaluable service.

Finally, although as a College we have faced many trials in 2017, the best is yet to come. BCC is God's college. We believe that Christian schooling will become more prominent in the future because of recent societal changes. A huge thank you to Team BCC for their support and hard work in 2017.

Ps Peter Holmes
BCC College Chairman

Principal's Message



Education is not solely about the impartation of knowledge. It is more the holistic development of each person enabling them to grow culturally, socially, emotionally, spiritually and academically.

Our College here in the beautiful, bountiful Burdekin offers a unique opportunity where this holistic development occurs. Students can enter our Early Learning Centre at 18 months and exit Year 12 (in 2019) equipped and ready to pursue their dreams of employment or tertiary education.

We believe that God has given the responsibility of raising children to parents, but it is our desire to partner with families to achieve the best outcomes for each child in our care. As an African proverb says: *It takes a village to raise a child*. Our College has a desire to be that village, or that community, to come alongside parents to assist them in raising their children in these challenging times. We desire to create a supportive, caring environment where students can be inspired to do their best, to be their best, and let God do the rest.

We have a caring community and passionate professionals who are dedicated to assist in educating your children to equip them with the necessary skills to take their place in this world. We, at the Burdekin Christian College, are committed to learning and teaching from a Biblical Worldview. Our staff infuse Christian life and values into the curriculum in a relevant and meaningful way with the hope that our students will become responsible citizens with a desire to serve and influence others in a Godly manner.

We acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the God-given gifts, skills, talents and creativity that He has given each one of us. God has blessed us with experienced professionals who care about the wellbeing of each student, and it is our heart's desire to see each child achieve to their full potential. It is this Kingdom culture and the people here that make the Burdekin Christian College such a special place to work and learn.

The key initiatives for this year were:

- Built a new \$200000 computer laboratory and implemented technology subjects.
- Continued articulation of our core values to our community through verbal and visual prompts of graphic representation around the College.
- Facilitated opportunities for teachers to lead staff meetings including in-servicing staff as a result of external professional learning.
- Implementation of PCSchool (School Finance, Administration and Reporting System).
- The Library renovation, half basketball court construction and plan the upgrade of 'The Arts' teaching facility.
- Writing the 2018 - 2022 Strategic Plan.

It has been an honour and privilege to serve as Principal for such a time as this.

John McVeigh
Principal

Contextual Information

School Sector

Independent

School's Address

2-12 Melbourne Street, Ayr, Qld., 4807.

Phone: (07) 4783 5552 Web Address: www.burdekincc.qld.edu.au

Total Enrolments

133 (at Census)

Year Levels Offered

Preparatory to Year 10

Co-educational or Single Sex

Co-educational

Characteristics of the Student Body

Total enrolments	133 students
Female students	57 students (43% of student population)
Male students	76 students (57% of student population)
Full-time equivalent enrolments	133 students (100% of student population)
Indigenous students	35%
Language other than English	15%

Student Leadership Team

The Student Representative Council (SRC) includes College Captains, Vice Captains and House Captains. Students are elected by a three-level process including their peers, staff and an interview panel consisting of the Board Chairman, Principal, a teacher representative and a community representative.

In 2017, SRC Student Leaders' responsibilities included:

- Organising and participating in College events such as discos, Open Days, our weekly and special Assemblies like ANZAC Day and NAIDOC Day.
- Raising funds for YWAM (Youth with a Mission) Mercy Ships to help underprivileged children in Papua New Guinea.
- Sporting House Captains leading House Meetings and assisting in organising carnivals including: Swimming, Cross Country, and Athletics.
- Organising sports equipment to be borrowed at lunch times.
- Assisting in keeping 1st Recess sports equipment organised and maintained.
- Representing the College at various community events including the RSL Anzac Day March and Ceremony, Kilometres for Cancer.
- Raising funds for the Pyjama Angels Foundation.
- Raising funds for two new water coolers for the students' lunch areas.

In addition, the Student Leadership Team attended a College-organised 1.5-hour (8 February) inservice in the College Hall and the GRIP Leadership Conferences (primary & secondary) as part of their training, learning and development.

Other Information

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

The Burdekin Christian College (BCC) provides its students with a balanced curriculum, based upon the current Australian Curriculum subject offerings. Unique in the Burdekin, the College consists of an Early Learning Centre, a Primary (Prep to Year 6) and a Secondary (Years 7 to 10) College; all three sectors co-existing on the same campus.

All primary students are taught by their core classroom teacher in the subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, and Humanities and Social Sciences studies. Additionally, the students undertake instruction from specialist teachers in Physical Education, The Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Art) and Information Technology (Technologies).

Secondary students (Years 7 to 10) participate in the core subjects and are also instructed by specialist teachers in Physical Education, The Arts (Drama, Music, Visual Art) and the Technologies (Design and Technologies, Digital Technologies, Hospitality).

Additional Distinctives the College Offers in its Curriculum

- Accelerated Reader Advantage Program.
- Chapel: fortnightly (primary Prep – Year 6); weekly (secondary: Yrs 7 – 10).
- Christ-centred, Bible-based curriculum presented from a Christian worldview.
- Concert Band, Stage Band, Choir.
- Daily devotions (core class).
- Fast ForWord.
- Instrumental Music program: string, brass, percussion, keyboard, voice.
- JCU MEOOW Workshops (Yr 8).
- MiniLit: Prep to Year 2.
- Missionary visit: Ps Bob Mann from 'Helping Hands', Jaipur, India.
- National Subject Competitions.
- Newsletters: Ayrwaves.
- Term Assessment Calendars (secondary).
- YuMi Deadly Maths (primary & secondary).

Extra-curricular Activities

During 2017, BCC offered extra-curricular activities such as Christian Living, Leadership opportunities and Sporting programs. Some of these activities included:

- BCC Inter-House Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country Carnivals.
- Burdekin Drama Festival.
- Burdekin Festival of Arts.
- Burdekin Rostrum Competition (Junior secondary).
- Burdekin Water Festival – Junior Ambassador.
- Discos: Prep – Yr 3, Yrs 4 – 10.
- Free Dress Days (pyjamas, crazy hat, storybook character).
- Home for the Aged visits (Yrs 7 – 9).
- Inter-school sport (upper primary and secondary).
- Kindy – Yr 2 Athletics Carnival.
- Life Education Van visit (Kindy – Yr 6).
- NAIDOC Week celebrations (ELC, primary, secondary).
- Prep-Year 7 swimming lessons (Term 4).
- Primary Camp (Yrs 4 – 6): Magnetic Island.
- Student Representative Council Fundraising – Uniform Free Days, Pyjama Angels Foundation, Cancer Foundation.
- Under 8's Day (Kindy – Yr 3).
- Visiting Arts Council shows.
- Year 6 Colls' Memorial Lecturette Competition.

Social Climate

The Burdekin Christian College (BCC) is committed to providing a safe, nurturing, Christian environment where students are encouraged to step out of their comfort zones in order to learn who they really are and to reach their full potential. We believe that every individual is unique and the College is committed to working with families to bring out the best in every student.

To further affirm our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of its students, the College has several policies in place including Child Protection, Behaviour and Bullying Policies. The College has adopted a zero tolerance stance to bullying and actively uses assemblies, chapels services, Health and Christian Living sessions to build a positive culture to highlight and affirm the healthy behaviour standards expected. Teachers are equipped to identify behaviour changes in students, monitor situations and address them expediently.

BCC have passionate staff that are focused on the overall wellbeing of its students. To ensure we meet our goal of educating the whole person, the College cares for its students by combining the skills of its talented teachers, leadership training program, Senior Pastor and Chaplain when needed.

Parental Involvement

The Burdekin Christian College (BCC) is committed to and works tirelessly to build strong relationships with its families. Parental involvement that fosters an excellent relationship between the College and home increases student enjoyment and academic results. The College conducts Student/Parent/Teacher interviews in first and third terms where parents have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress.

Parental involvement is encouraged at BCC with parents involved in a variety of activities including:

- Board of Directors.
- Chapel and weekly Assemblies.
- Classroom Reader Program.
- Excursions.
- Fundraising events.
- Library.
- Special Assemblies.
- Sporting Team activities.
- Tuckshop.
- Upper Primary Camp (Magnetic Island).

BCC Income Broken Down by Funding Source

For details of College income by funding source, please refer to the Burdekin Christian College page on the My School website which can be found at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

Staffing Information

Staff¹ Composition

	Full-Time	Indigenous	Part-Time	Indigenous
Teaching Staff				
Males:	5	0	0	0
Females:	10	0	4	0
Non-Teaching Staff (including all support staff)				
Males:	3	0	2	1
Females:	7	0	7	1
Total number of Staff:	25	0	13	2

Qualifications of all Teachers²

Qualifications	Number of Classroom Teachers at the College in 2017 who held the following Qualifications
Master's Degree / Doctorate	0
Bachelor Degree	18
Diploma	1

Average staff³ Attendance for BCC, Based on Unplanned Absences of Sick and Emergency Leave Periods of up to 5 Days.

Number of Staff	Number of College Days	Total Days Staff Absences	Average Staff Attendance Rate
13	190	36.4	98.5%

For permanent and temporary classroom teachers and school leaders the average staff attendance rate was 98.5% in 2017.

Proportion of Teaching Staff Retained from the Previous Year.

Number of Permanent Teaching Staff at End of 2016	Number of these Staff Retained in 2017	% Retention Rate
15	9	60%
From the end of 2016, 60% of staff were retained for the entire 2017 college year.		

1. Staff includes all individuals employed by the College during 2017.

2. Teachers includes all individual teachers employed by the College during 2017.

3. Staff means permanent and temporary classroom teachers and the Principal.

Professional Learning for Staff . . .

In 2017 the staff at the Burdekin Christian College (BCC) were committed to growing and developing their skills and learning through a range of professional development opportunities throughout the year. As an educational institution, we are committed to increasing learning excellence for all staff and students. Being committed to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers is core to our professional developmental values. Each staff member is committed to gathering data that helps inform and indicate areas for growth or to improve their teaching practice, engagement and professionalism. Individual staff interviews guide and help refine professional development goals to support upcoming learning for every staff member. Refining the curriculum and teachers' own skills and knowledge are critical to support teachers in their professional goals.

Our ongoing relationship with Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) for training and curriculum growth is increasing year by year.

In 2017 we were committed to three over-arching College improvement goals. As a Christian learning community we:

1. Encourage student engagement with faith by guiding each individual student toward a responsive relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. Enhance student learning by valuing educational growth and the uniqueness of every child.
3. Enhance student learning by managing behaviours that have a negative impact on the learning environment.



2017 Teaching staff, Support staff and Board members.

Staff Professional Development in 2017

a) Teacher Participation in Professional Development

Description of PD Activity	Number of Teachers Participating in Activity
BCC - Adult First Aid Course	14
BCC - Beginning Teachers' Workshop	1
BCC - Child Protection – Response to Child Abuse	5
BCC – Child Protection Policy & Procedures	15
BCC - Computer Networking	19
BCC - PCSchool Spider (IT)	19
DJMIR – Workshop (Early Childhood)	2
ISQ - Cyber Safety and Student Wellbeing	1
ISQ - Education Adjustment Program	1
ISQ - Educational Leader Conference	1
ISQ – Maths Probability (primary)	5
ISQ - Support for School and Curriculum Leaders	1
QCAA - Australian Curriculum (discussion)	2
QCAA - Australian Curriculum (investigations)	1
QCAA - Australian Curriculum (research)	1
QCAA – Curriculum Planning	6
QCAA – The Arts Assessment	1
QCAA - The Possibility of Play in Five Concepts	5
The Billy Graham Response Team	11
Yu-Mi Deadly Mathematics	3
Total number of teachers participating in at least one activity in the program year.	19

b) Expenditure on Professional Development (PD)

Total Number of Teachers	Total Expenditure on Teacher PD (as recorded in Financial Questionnaire)	Average Expenditure on PD/teacher
19	\$28954	\$1524
The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2017:		\$28 954
The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2017:		100%
The major professional development initiatives were as follows: Professional learning opportunities facilitated through the Burdekin Christian College (BCC), Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) and Queensland Curriculum Assessment Authority (QCAA).		

Key Student Outcomes

Student Attendance

The average attendance rate for the whole College in 2017 was 85.5%.

Average student attendance rate for each year level:

Year Levels	Average Attendance Rate for each Year Level as a Percentage in 2017
Prep	85.9%
Year 1	84.8%
Year 2	88.1%
Year 3	85.3%
Year 4	84.9%
Year 5	80.9%
Year 6	85.2%
Year 7	88.0%
Year 8	87.2%
Year 9	81.7%
Year 10	88.4%

How Non-attendance is Managed by the College

Absenteeism is managed in accordance with College policies. Student non-attendance is managed as follows:

- Daily Roll Marking.
- Written/verbal communication from parents on the morning the absence occurs.
- SMS sent to parents of absent students who have not had contact with the College.
- Non-contact is followed up by successive attempts.
- Parents are contacted to discuss irregular or persistent absences.
- Support provided via chaplaincy and/or learning support where necessary to ensure continued engagement.

NAPLAN results for Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 - Benchmark Data 2017

Reading

Year	Average Score (BCC)	Average Score (National)
Year 3 (2016)	390	431
Year 5 (2016)	467	506
Year 7 (2016)	519	545
Year 9 (2016)	587	581

Writing

Year	Average Score (BCC)	Average Score (National)
Year 3 (2016)	398	414
Year 5 (2016)	424	473
Year 7 (2016)	487	513
Year 9 (2016)	492	552

Spelling

Year	Average Score (BCC)	Average Score (National)
Year 3 (2016)	396	416
Year 5 (2016)	446	501
Year 7 (2016)	517	550
Year 9 (2016)	576	581

Grammar and Punctuation

Year	Average Score (BCC)	Average Score (National)
Year 3 (2016)	444	439
Year 5 (2016)	449	499
Year 7 (2016)	516	542
Year 9 (2016)	561	574

Numeracy

Year	Average Score (BCC)	Average Score (National)
Year 3 (2016)	376	409
Year 5 (2016)	418	494
Year 7 (2016)	501	554
Year 9 (2016)	606	592

For a detailed analysis of NAPLAN results please refer to the My School website <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

Contact details

Contact Person for Further Information

For further information on the College and its policies please contact:

The Principal

Phone: (07) 4783 5552 or email office@burdekincc.qld.edu.au