

2022

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## Message from key groups in our community

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### Principal's Message

I am delighted to present to you the Annual School Report for St Patrick's Primary School, Wallsend. During 2022 the year started in a very positive manner after Covid-19 pandemic impact us.

We here at St Patrick's continued to celebrate our students' sporting, cultural and spiritual achievements of our students. These rich events help us to continue to build our strong relationships with our school community, our relationship with the Wallsend Shortland Parish and the wider community.

Many of our students and leaders represented St Patrick's in a number of community and Diocesan events. Our P&F were a wonderful support to the school, contributing of time, support, expertise, ideas toward the improving of the school and raising valuable money through fundraising events such as a very successful Mother's Day and Father's Day Ball, operating the canteen and our hugely successful Colour Run in Term 4.

Most pleasing, however, were the much-improved academic results of our students in PAT tests and other tests such as the ICAS and Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Test.

Throughout the year ALLBT/F3 14.67 45 0 0 0.75 75 0 0 0.75 15.75 221.74 476.00 [sic]

## Parent Body Message

At St Patrick's Wallsend there are many ways in which parents can engage in school life. There are different volunteer roles, such as working in the canteen, assisting on school excursions, at sporting carnivals or with parent reading groups, attending special events like our liturgies, St Patrick's Day celebrations or Christmas events.

Being part of our P&F is another way parents can be involved with our school life. Our P&F meets each month, giving parents an opportunity to contribute to decisions around the spending of funds raised as well as learn about curriculum and school updates from the principal and executive team. It offers an avenue for all families to give feedback, advocate for the school and their children, as well as be involved in school life via sub committees or the canteen. The families at St Pat's are encouraged and able to support the school through various fundraising activities that are organised throughout the year. These are exciting events that are much anticipated by the children, especially the Mother's and Father's Day stalls and our St Patrick's day celebrations.

Communication with parents is frequent and varied. Different apps are used to communicate with families showing videos and photos. These are posted to update families on their child's day. The Compass app keeps families notified with alerts, notifications and newsletters, etc. Face to face meetings are arranged when requested or required and phone calls to parents or caregivers are also made on occasion. Parent teacher interviews are held each year to discuss each child's progress and goals. The school's Facebook page is also used to communicate information to the greater community.

## Student Body Message

Being in Stage 3 at St. Patrick's has been a great experience as we have been part of making a difference. We are the Student Parliament leadership system, but this year it has changed in that even if we do not have ministerial roles, we are part of committees that we chose ourselves. This means that we can help around

change the questions depending on how we are going – harder questions if we need the challenge, and easier questions if we need more help. It's really smart!

This year it was also great to get back to some social justice events after COVID such as Project Compassion, collecting warm blankets and non-perishable food for the Vinnies Winter Appeal, and of course, our new recycling system for Season of Creation. We have learned a lot about how we can be good stewards of God's creation and help others to grow as well.

As always, our teachers and Mr. Ariel are always encouraging us to chase our PB's (personal best) and celebrate with us when we do. This can impact our learning, by how we all keep ourselves and others safe and how we are respectful we are to each other.

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## School Features

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St Patrick's Primary School was founded in January 1883 by the Sisters of Mercy. They commenced teaching in a stone church on **the hill in** Macquarie Street. In 1902, a new brick school was erected on the other side of the road and was blessed and opened by Bishop Murray. Major additions and improvements to school facilities ~~took place in 1983, 1996, 2008~~ and in 2011 when work under the BER (Building Education Revolution) began. This comprised the refurbishment of the hall and kitchen facilities, canteen, art room and classrooms. An additional classroom and withdrawal area was also built. The Mercy heritage lives on today through the rich Catholic tradition and culture that pervades the prayer and liturgical life of the school and through a strong emphasis on social justice initiatives.

St Patrick's

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## Student Profile

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### Student Enrolment

The School caters for students in Years K – 6. Students attending this School come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities. The following information describes the student profile for 2022: Additional information can be found on My School website.

Girls	Boys	LBOTE*	Total Students
149	164	99	313

\* Language Background Other than English

### Enrolment Policy

The [Enrolment Policy](#) applies to all school enrolments within the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese. School authorities manage local enrolment processes and procedures in a manner consistent with the rationale and guiding principles articulated in this Enrolment Policy and accompanying [Enrolment Procedures](#). It aims to:

- Set direction for school procedures and practices for enrolling students into Catholic primary and secondary schools within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.
- Establish a common, consistent approach in enrolment practices.
- Assist the system of Catholic schools to:
  - provide schooling, where possible, for children of Catholic families who seek enrolment
  - cater for the individual needs of each child equitably within the constraints of the available teaching and material resources
  - encourage parents enrolling their children in Catholic schools to give support to parish and school life, especially in education in faith.

### Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for 2022 was 88.62%. Attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group						
Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
89.12	88.83	87.66	89.35	88.71	89.23	87.46





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## Staffing Profile

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### Staffing Profile

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2022:

Total number of staff	35
Number of full time teaching staff	13
Number of part time teaching staff	14
Number of non-teaching staff	8

### Total number of teaching staff by NESA category

Teachers at this School are either accredited as conditional, provisional or proficient as defined by the NSW Teacher Accreditation Act 2004. Accreditation at the levels of Highly Accomplished and Lead teacher are voluntary. The number of teachers within the Diocesan Schools System (systemic schools) at these levels is as follows:

- Conditional 101 teachers
- Provisional 50 teachers
- Proficient 1862 teachers
- 1 Highly Accomplished teacher
- 1 Lead teacher

Additionally, there are approximately 4 teachers who are currently actively engaged in the submission process at the higher levels of accreditation. Teacher status at individual schools can be sourced directly from the School.

### Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including whole school staff days, subject specific in services, meetings and conferences and a range of professional learning programs provided by the Catholic Schools Office (CSO). The School takes responsibility for planning,

Summary of professional learning at this school

The staff of St. Patrick's are continually upskilling themselves in response to diocesan initiatives, our school strategic plan and also teacher-identified areas of professional need. Staff development in 2022 mostly centered around actioning our goals in our 2022 School Strategic Plan, including a Spirituality Day revisiting our Mercy charism and revisiting our



Catholic schools are an extension of the Church and therefore participate in its mission, which is to spread the good news of the Kingdom of God in all things.

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## Curriculum, Learning and Teaching

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The School provides an educational program based on and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses for Primary Education. The Key Learning Areas (KLAs) are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Human Society and its Environment, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education.

The Curriculum is structured around the outcomes and content for each learning area and general capabilities for learning across the curriculum including literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology, critical and creative thinking, ethical behaviour, personal and social competence and intercultural understanding.

The Catholic Schools Office Learning Framework is bringing together structures, that relate to quality learning and experiences in schools across the Diocese.

It is built around five essential elements:

Continual focus on Leading Learning

Cultures built on Collaborative Learning

Rich and purposeful Personalised Learning

Creating the conditions for Supportive Learning

Building capacity through Professional Learning

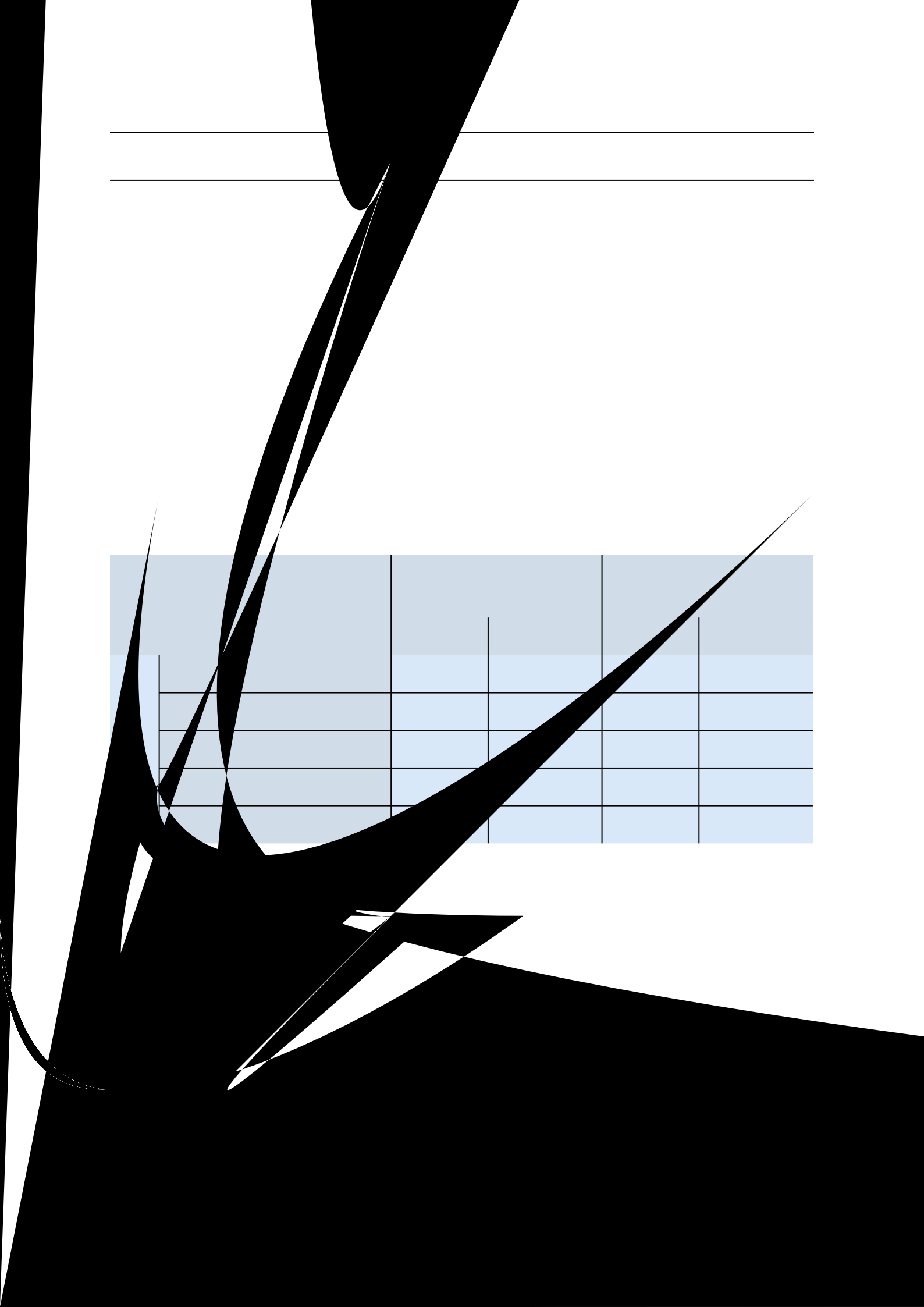
St Patrick's continues to develop into a true Professional Learning Community through a focus on learning, using data to inform teaching. The Maitland/Newcastle Diocese initiative 'Leading, Learning, Collaborative', led by Lyn Sharratt continued in 2022 and further, consolidated our whole school belief, commitment and understanding of what a true professional learning community is. Fortnightly Learning Conversations continued to be embedded common practice, as an ongoing collaborative process with teacher gradepartners, facilitated by an executive member and often attend with a 'knowledgeable other'.

The Learning Conversations focused on Reading due to our data and new release of the K-2 English Syllabus. Common formative assessments were used to plan and measure progress. The fortnightly Learning Conversations were centered around collaboration, student reading and fluency outcomes, data and assessment.

Through our journey of unpacking 'Clarity' by Lyn Sharratt, our whole school data wall was reinvented, ensuring staff buy-in and a whole school/shared responsibility. Student growth was tracked, using the Syllabus outcomes and Acadience fluency data. Learning and teaching sequences

St Patrick's are using evidenced based practices to improve student outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy, through professional learning, 'Learning Conversations' and the use of data to inform teaching. St Patrick's is a part of the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan (LNAP) focusing on the key areas of Instructional Leadership, Diagnostic assessment, Differentiated Teaching and Tiered Interventions. A leading teacher provides targeted support and professional learning to teachers in these areas to build capacity. The (LNAP) State Government Project concluded at the end of 2022.

The students are encouraged to participate in various competitions run by the University of NSW and Newcastle Permanent Building Society. These competitions cover a variety of areas including Maths, English, Writing, Spelling, Science and Computer literacy and Religious Education. A number of students received distinctions and credits in these competitions in 2022. We continued our annual, in-school Mathematics and Spelling Bee competitions. With a number of students finishing top 2 in our 'Central' Region and at the







## Complaints Handling Policy

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has established a [Complaints Resolution Policy](#) which is implemented by our school and all systemic schools in the diocese. The rationale for the policy is that within the reality of the schooling experience, it is recognised that, from time to time, misunderstandings and differences of opinion will occur, and that these need to be resolved satisfactorily. Addressing such matters within a framework of dignity, respect and truth can provide powerful opportunities to model the love of Christ in the reality of our contemporary world. CSO monitors the implementation of this policy.

The full text of the [Complaints Resolution Policy](#) may be accessed on the School's website, the administration office or at the CSO website.

### Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility

In 2022 the school reviewed its vision and mission statement to more accurately reflect our school community. It is centered around Christian Values and places great emphasis on having the courage to live the Gospel through respect, compassion and

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## School Improvement

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The School implements the system's review cycle of improvement which outlines the

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## Community Satisfaction

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Consultation with parents, students and teachers is valued and sought. Their feedback contributes to the planning and the achievement of improved outcomes for students. This year, the School has used a variety of processes to gain information about the level of satisfaction with the School from parents, students and teachers. The school undertakes extensive surveying of all stakeholder groups annually. This data is shared with the school community and contributes to the priorities for future planning.

### Parent satisfaction

In 2022 our parents completed the 'Tell Them ~~from the~~ Survey'. This is what our wonderful parents had to say.

Continuing our commitment to seek and incorporate community opinions and ideas to improve outcomes for learners, the school gathered data from parents, students and school personnel. This information informs and guides school policy as well as the School Improvement Plan. Some of the main points of the data is summarized below but offers only a glimpse of the rich experience of all stakeholders at St Patrick's Primary School.

#### Partners in Learning Parent Survey Report

Complying to the Diocese mandated questionnaire, the 'Partners in Learning' Parent Survey data capture began on September 06 and was open until October 14, 2022. The survey provided the opportunity to offer their opinions about how the school supports learning, positive behaviour and the quality of the learning environment.

The survey data indicated that parents felt welcome at school and that St Patrick's supports positive behaviour. Parents felt that they could easily speak with their child's teachers and that communication from the school was clear and accessible.

St. Patrick's parents encourage their children to excel at school and praise their children when they do well. This is visible on Monday assemblies with solid parental attendance. The data also indicates that parents and carers discuss the importance of schoolwork with children and enquire about any challenges that learners may be experiencing. Likewise, parents also report that teachers encourage and show an interest in th4.67 Tf0.75 0 0 0.75 346.41 436.93





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## Financial Statement

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This School Financial Information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth Government in the Commonwealth Financial Questionnaire.

School Financial Information for the 2022 year is detailed below:

Recurrent and Capital Income 2022	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants <sup>1</sup>	\$3,428,807
Government Capital Grants <sup>2</sup>	\$0
State Recurrent Grants <sup>3</sup>	\$905,727
Fees and Private Income <sup>4</sup>	\$699,344
Interest Subsidy Grants	\$12,631
Other Capital Income <sup>5</sup>	\$264,310
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5,310,819</b>

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure 2022	
Capital Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	\$14,691
Salaries and Related Expenses <sup>7</sup>	\$3,702,191
Non-Salary Expenses <sup>8</sup>	\$1,256,824
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$4,973,706</b>

### Notes

1. Commonwealth Recurrent Grants includes recurrent per capita grants and special purpose grants.
2. Government Capital Grants includes all capital grants received from the Commonwealth and State Governments.
3. State Recurrent Grants includes recurrent grants per capita, special purpose grants and interest subsidy grants.
4. Fees and Private Income include Archdiocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income.
5. Other Capital Income includes building levy fees and capital donations used to fund Capital Expenditure.
6. Capital Expenditure includes expenditure on School Buildings, and Furniture and Equipment.
7. Salaries and Related Expenditure includes all salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation and workers compensation insurance.
8. Non-Salary Expenses include all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenditure covering resources, administration, operational expenses, utilities, repairs and maintenance.

