



Wollondilly  
Anglican College  
**2023 Annual Report**

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## Theme 1 - Context

### Headmaster – Trevor Norman



As I reflect on this past year's journey of our exceptional students, emphasising that the College experience extends beyond academics to shape character and values. Amidst societal decline, characterised by laziness and entitlement, we assert our commitment to God-designed virtues of hard work and self-discipline. Recognising societal shifts away from faith, Wollondilly Anglican College stands firm in its dedication to academic excellence and character cultivation, swimming against the tide to instil enduring values in our students.

Embracing the challenge of societal values, our mission goes beyond conventional education, aiming to empower young individuals for positive contributions. Despite potential challenges, we draw inspiration from Churchill's words: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." Excellence, we affirm, is earned through responsible and disciplined daily choices.

Commending our dedicated staff, we echo Martin Luther King Jr's sentiment: "Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education." The collaborative success of our students and the nurturing educational environment are attributed to the partnership between dedicated staff and devoted parents.

As we commemorate this year's accomplishments, we eagerly anticipate the opportunities and challenges of the next academic year. Together, as a united community, we persist in our mission to guide and inspire students, fostering knowledgeable, compassionate, resilient, and responsible members of society. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your commitment and support.

### College Council Chairman – Raoul Corry



I would like to thank our College community for the support you have given the College this year. God has built a community here at the College and we all benefit from each person's contribution to the community no matter what form that contribution takes. So, thank you for your contribution.

This has also been another successful year for the College, and as Mr Norman wrote in the Waratah Weekly recently success is not a one-size-fits-all concept and that at the College we firmly believe that success can manifest in the form of character development and growth in maturity. This can also be put another way and that is growing the person into what God has planned for them. So, we can be thankful for that growth in each and every student and look forward to the "success" that God has planned for their future.

God has blessed the College not only in the physical buildings you see around you, but also in the people that go to work in them each day – our teachers. Teaching is a continually evolving role and technology continues to transform the educational landscape. Our teachers have risen to this challenge with grace and expertise. Yet they are not just instructors but provide vital support for the wellbeing of students, offering guidance, and counsel when needed. Their care for every student is intentional and heart felt. They are committed to the College strategic pillars of Learning, Care and Culture in all that they do. And the College Council is grateful for our remarkable teachers and support staff and the extraordinary work they perform every day.

## **Student Representatives**

### **College Captain – Emmett Shafer**

I believe that the quote “It is better to travel than it is to arrive.” embodies our last day at the College very well, yes we have arrived at the end of our formal schooling career, but it’s the friendships made, the last minute studying before an exam, the school excursions and camps, the domination of volleyball gala days, the DIY shoe repairs with duct tape, the almost catching alight of Flynn classrooms and the desperate all-nighters pulled to start and finish an engineering report that may or may not have had over a month to complete. These are the things that has made today what it is, a very bittersweet moment. Bitter as we are leaving this all behind us but also sweet for having made those memories in the first place as well as beginning a new chapter of our lives to create new memories. Many may see graduating as the end of something grand but from its Latin origin word ‘gradus’ meaning ‘to step’ we see that today we are not crossing the finish line but simply taking another step along a bigger journey. Today we take a step into the future as the class of ‘23 with countless memories and experiences that have shaped us to who we are today. It will not be today alone though that we will remember in 5, 10, 20 years. What we remember will be unique to each and every one of us, but it could include refusing to go inside of the Manly ferry whilst going through intense rain without a change of clothes for the rest of the day on Year 11 camp, calculating the projectile motion of Mr Russell’s golf club in Physics (thanks for that Harry), trusting Jacob enough to be willing to leap frog over him to end up sliding along your face when he ducks or watching Joe attempt to ride across a small river before realising halfway through that he could not, wetting his only pair of shoes for a 4 day hike.

But this journey that I’ve been talking about simply couldn’t be possible without all the parents, friends, family, and teachers and staff here this morning and elsewhere. To the parents we thank you for the love, care, support, and opportunities you have provided us with. Mention of this today is only a small way we can thank you for this. Some students have been at the College for the entirety of their schooling time with others joining at different periods along the way. To current and previous College leaders I’d like to thank you for the guidance and direction that you have provided to the College to ensure we have a quality schooling experience. To the College teachers both primary and secondary, we thank you for your guidance and support throughout teaching us during our schooling career. Mr Grant, our first Year Patron who guided us through our first years of secondary and later going above and beyond during lockdown to ensure that home learning could still be somewhat entertaining with your morning roll call zooms. Mr Clarke who stepped in when Mr Grant stepped away for a short period, who then went on to form and lead the greatest volleyball team the College has ever seen. Finally, Mr Aquilina who took up the role as our Year Patron in his first year of teaching here at the College to get us through arguably the most important years of school, we thank you all for time that you have dedicated to all of us to try and give us the best possible schooling experience.

It's not by luck though that we're here graduating today, nor is it why some have received offers from universities and luck won't be there to carry us through our whole lives. It's been hard work and dedication of each and everyone here that has allowed for those things to occur so, after 1166 days of secondary school the hard work doesn't end here but that's ok because today is not the finish line. You will all go on to do bigger and better things in the future, but the journey may not be the same that you've planned out. So, remember to enjoy each and every moment along the way no matter how far away they may be from what you want because "It is better to travel than it is to arrive.", congratulations class of 2023.

### **College Captain – Jessica Fraser**

Brooke Shields once said 'Some life lessons don't ever change. They need to be highlighted and they need to be remembered throughout our entire lives. But how you embrace them will distinguish you from the pack.' Our year group has always been commended for embracing the life lessons we learn and always approaching them as the team we have formed. For me personally, my journey at Wollondilly Anglican College began in the Transition class of Toto taught by Mrs Frost in 2010. Entering the big building at the time of the Warne Auditorium alongside my fellow OGs, you know who you are. We all were so small with our uniforms big and baggy with years of schooling ahead and no idea what fun, stress and excitement we had in store for us. Where did all that time go? Today we stand as the Year 12 seniors of the College in our smart sophisticated black uniforms ready to take our next step in life not as children but as the young responsible men and women of the future we are.

A key life lesson of displaying gratefulness and thankfulness to others has been embedded within our development with always saying please and thank you. Our year group has clearly implemented this life lesson something that the staff of the College have noticed and reinforced with us. Thank you to everyone involved in the incredible progression of the College facilities available today. I would like to acknowledge many individuals who've had an extensive impact on getting us here today. I want to thank Mr Norman for the dedication and time you've put into the role of Headmaster and for taking the time to get to know our year in the short time we had left. Thank you to the Executive team of Mr Burns, Mr Toland, Mrs Evans, Ms Huxtable and Mr Adams for your dedication to ensuring we thrive at the College through the academic support, quality education and constant wellbeing check in's. To Mr van Netten thank you for your care, support and advice in your role as Stage 6 Leader of Care and Culture especially spending an hour with the boys crammed inside your office looking for the vortex thief. Thank you to all our Year Patrons including Mr Grant, Mr Aquilina, Mrs Clark and Mr Clarke. Thank you for your support, guidance, memories and dedication you've shown during our secondary school journey. Thank you, Mr Grant for the unforgettable lockdown morning zooms with the pizzazz and energy you always brought. We learnt firsthand the life lesson that Year 12 is a marathon not a sprint which involves leaning on others for support, especially our teachers. Here at Wollondilly Anglican College our teachers go above and beyond to establish the College community feeling like a second family. I will forever be thankful for every College staff member for the beautiful community and environment we've experienced. All the teachers are caring, supportive, understanding, dedicated, comforting and provide endless advice.

Thank you to all our teachers and College staff. Special shout out to Mr Hewitt for your excellent feedback, Mrs Wellington for your impeccable fashion, Mr Goldsbrough for your competitive volleyball games with the boys, Mr Powter for the reminder of who Year 7s are and for constantly reminding me not to fall on my face every day, Mrs Miller's wheel of terror, Mr Lobb for your chocolate logs to desperately get us to the log meetings until you realised the name wasn't too catchy. The energy Miss Valente, Mrs Talbot and Mrs Rockwell always bring, Dr B's bio convos, Mr Badger for the badger on the roof jokes, and all the Year 12 mentors. I would like to give a huge thank you to Mr Toland for being my mentor as well as Mr Stewart, Dr Bearlin, Mrs Biddle, Mrs Hay and Mrs Cook for your constant advice and support.

For us to be graduating today, we owe an extensive thank you to our families. I would like to personally thank the parents for the time, dedication, effort and money you've put into raising us and the sacrifices you've performed to ensure we were able to experience the best learning possible. Today is as much your day as it is ours, so please enjoy your child graduating with the hard work you've all put into us. The support, guidance, advice and life lessons you all give us is endless, priceless and much appreciated with it enabling us to become who we are today. I know I would definitely not be here if it wasn't for the two extraordinary women in my life, my beautiful mum and nan. Thank you both for the endless years you've put into being there for me and going above and beyond, honestly it means the world. Thank you for all being a role model to us, I know I can personally say my mum is my role model with her strength, courage and kindness. Thank you for the life lessons you've all taught us and for being incredible.

I would like to take a moment to thank someone who is unable to be here today with us, Mr Hazlewood. Mr Hazlewood began his journey in 2017 with us being the first class he taught here at the College in Year 6. We all were so nervous and scared of him when he first met us, who would have thought how nice and caring he was with the extensive impact he had on many students' lives. Every morning he would stick his head up against the window separating the Year 6 classrooms to greet Mrs Apps' class with a joyful good morning. He had a strict quality to him but also a heart of gold. I know today he is looking down beaming with pride as he watches us graduate. Mr Hazlewood was constantly reminding us how amazing we are, and he was definitely right as I look out at my graduating cohort. He would be very proud of the respectable and responsible young men and women we've developed into. Sir, on behalf of Year 12 I would like to thank you for the extensive impact you had on our lives with the guidance, support and comfort you've provided to us. The last piece of advice I got from Mr Hazlewood is the quote 'There is always hope' which I have lived by since. We have learnt the life lesson that life does not always go to plan. It can be a roller coaster with both ups and downs so please live by this which will drive you to never give up.

Now to my fellow Year 12 graduating cohort. First of all, we made it! To think our 13 years of schooling are about to end as we enter the big HSC exams. I feel privileged to have been part of such a wonderful year group with every single one of you being exceptionally amazing people. Our life lesson to embrace the qualities of strong respect, pride, friendship, belonging, dedication and responsibility throughout our schooling has gained our reputation of being an incredible year group. We are a family who've faced collective challenges together of the dreaded COVID, bushfires, floods, loss within our community, trial heartbreak, snakes, feral cats, the Flynn rat and fruit fly plague as well as entrance of Year 11 exams without completing a proper exam prior.

What makes our year group special despite all these challenges is the way we've never let the challenge define us. Instead, we learnt to embrace and face the challenge as a team rather than individually. This was evident in the way we always pulled each other up. I believe the quote 'The harder the battle, the sweeter the victory' by Les Brown sums up our schooling journey making today even more glorious.

Together our years at school have been filled with so much more than schoolwork with being filled with fun and entertainment to learn that together we're truly amazing. When I look out at our year I'm blown away with the inspiring, hardworking, talented, resilient people sitting in front of me who I was so lucky to have experienced schooling with. From the talented sportsmen and women, the mathematicians, those with extensive mechanical knowledge, the friendly natured, the English gurus, the humorous, the welcoming, the actors, the entertainers and those with great agricultural knowledge. I could not be prouder of our year with every step we've taken together.

Today holds excitement and happiness as we finish school as well as feelings of sadness as we experienced our lasts with graduation becoming a reality. The nervousness and sorrow we experience is normal with saying goodbye to a place of comfort for years. I've always been scared to leave this place and now it's here I am terrified. However, I am full of excitement to see what the future has for us. A key life lesson one last time, yes, the HSC is important so try your best but at the end of the day the ATAR is just a number it does not define you what does define is your memories, actions and qualities so make them count. At the end of the day as long as you can say I tried my best there is nothing else you can ask for and remember when you receive this number do not let it change your opinion, dreams or ambitions. Maya Angelous once said 'success is loving life and daring to live it' so go out there and live life with no regrets and remember you are amazing. The friendships and memories we've made will forever hold a close place in my heart, Mahatma Gandhi once said 'there are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in my heart' which sums up this very moment. You all mean so much to me and I can't wait to see where the future takes you and to say I know them. Now let's take this final step together with the life lessons we've learnt. Congratulations, Year 12, it's been an honour. God Bless.

## **College Contextual Information**

Wollondilly Anglican College was conceived out of the need to provide Christian education in an environment which encourages excellence. It has grown to be a College of choice for those in the Wollondilly Shire and surrounding districts who seek a reinforcement of family values along with the development of life skills, self-discipline and broad educational choice.

Our College is focused on delivering exceptional Learning, Care and Culture for our students. There is a differentiated curriculum to provide extension opportunities. We are blessed with an experienced staff of dedicated professionals, selected from many applicants. The College provides for the education of students from Pre-Kindergarten (4 year olds) to Year 12 and offers specialist facilities to cater for all core subjects along with a variety of academic electives. Modern, technology focused, comfortable, air-conditioned learning facilities accommodate all classes without the use of any portable or demountable buildings.

Controversy surrounding the values that schools teach is never far from the media spotlight. All schools pass on values to students. Parents do not choose schools on the basis of a presence or absence of values, but rather on the basis of the quality of values that are in evidence. Wollondilly Anglican College espouses the virtues of traditional Australian Christian values. These include freedom for students to shine, the development of God-given talents and a family environment exemplified by quality pastoral care and sense of community.

The spectacular, award-winning grounds and modern, stylish uniforms are testament to a pride in belonging which is shared by staff, students and parents alike. This is enhanced by an emphasis on a safe environment, where students have a right to personal security and are encouraged to share responsibility for the safety of others.

In 2023 four new Kindergarten Classrooms and a Kindergarten Library were built and opened. The new classrooms were built to accommodate our ongoing enrolments growth (approximately 1,300).

We encourage the consideration of Excellence, Endurance and Eternity, *for Christ's glory*.

For more information about the context of the College, please visit our website: [www.wac.nsw.edu.au](http://www.wac.nsw.edu.au)

## Theme 2 – Outcomes and results

NAPLAN 2023 results show that Wollondilly students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 are continuing to make good progress.

Due to NAPLAN testing moving from May to March and the NAPLAN scale being reset, there is currently no comparative data prior to 2023.

The tables show Wollondilly's average student results for each year level in each domain tested. The first table demonstrated results in comparison to students with similar backgrounds. For this data set Wollondilly students performed close to students of similar background, with the exception of Year 9 Reading and Grammar where they were above students of similar backgrounds. The second table compares Wollondilly's results to all Australian students and pleasingly these results are above or well above in most domains with the exception of Year 5 Reading, writing, spelling and grammar where the results were close.

**2023**

Compare to  Students with similar background  All Australian students

|        | Reading | Writing | Spelling | Grammar | Numeracy |
|--------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Year 3 | 434     | 438     | 431      | 447     | 429      |
| Year 5 | 508     | 494     | 483      | 506     | 503      |
| Year 7 | 559     | 555     | 557      | 566     | 572      |
| Year 9 | 608     | 599     | 587      | 595     | 609      |

NAPLAN participation for this school is 100%

NAPLAN participation for all Australian students is 95%

2023

Compare to  Students with similar background  All Australian students

|        | Reading | Writing | Spelling | Grammar | Numeracy |
|--------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Year 3 | 434     | 438     | 431      | 447     | 429      |
| Year 5 | 508     | 494     | 483      | 506     | 503      |
| Year 7 | 559     | 555     | 557      | 566     | 572      |
| Year 9 | 608     | 599     | 587      | 595     | 609      |

## 2023 HSC Results

### 7 Students on the “*Distinguished Achievers’ List*”

**10 Band 6 Results 102 Band 5 Results from 70 students eligible for an ATAR**

Congratulations to the Year 12 class of 2023 for their commitment, perseverance, and achievement throughout their HSC year. Our College community was proud to receive the news that seven students were placed in the highest result band for at least one subject. All received honourable mention on the prestigious list of distinguished HSC Achievers’ Merit List for 2023. The College prides itself on developing students of high integrity and character and we look forward to seeing the contribution this cohort will make to their community. Our students will be entering the workforce, taking up trades or continuing in tertiary education. It is exciting that our Year 12 students received over 90 offers of early university entrance to institutions across the country.

#### **Distinguished Achievers’ Merit list for NSW – extract –**

##### **Amber Banks**

Design and Technology  
Personal Development, Health and Physical education

##### **Calvin Carter**

Design and Technology

##### **Scarlett Cheney**

Design and Technology

##### **April Foster**

Geography  
Personal Development, Health and Physical education

##### **Jessica Fraser**

Community and Family Studies  
Personal Development, Health and Physical education



**Benjamin Napier**  
Design and Technology

**Olivia Romano**  
Design and Technology

**Nina Winters**  
Notional Band 5 in Extension 2 Mathematics

**Scott Parnell**  
Notional Band 5 in Extension 2 Mathematics

In addition, the following students received nominations for outstanding HSC performances and projects.

**Jessica Fraser**  
Dance - Call-back Nomination for Core Performance and Core Composition

**Jemma Noblett**  
Call-back Nomination for Core Composition and Major Study Performance

**Olivia Romano**  
Design and Technology Major Project nominated for SHAPE

**Scarlett Cheney**  
Industrial Technology and Design and Technology Major Projects nominated for SHAPE

**Joshua Summerson** - Industrial Technology - Major project nominated for SHAPE

**Congratulations to Jessica Fraser, the College Dux for 2023.**

**High performing subjects** in 2023 (minimum +5 above the State mean) included Ancient History, Business Studies, Community and Family Studies and Industrial Technology

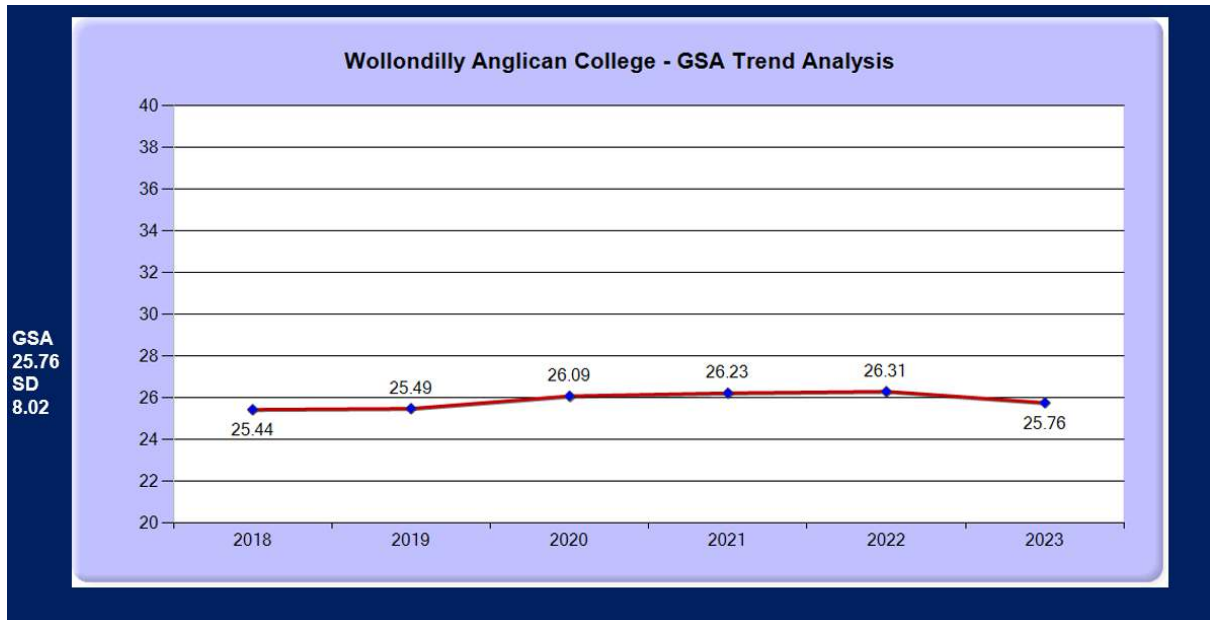
*"We are very proud of our class of 2023 who earned 10 Band 6 results and 102 Band 5 results as a product of their dedication. Results such as these are also a testament to the professionalism and dedication of our staff who have provided a high-quality well-rounded education.*

*At Wollondilly Anglican College, we celebrate excellence against externally measured benchmarks. Of equal importance to us is the measure of personal best and the extraordinary tales of our externally measured "value added" benchmarked results between Year 10 and Year 12 which attest to the hard work of staff and a positive learning tone for students who will now, as a result, enjoy expanded career and course options. Wollondilly students continue to achieve outstanding post secondary outcomes with expanded career and course options.*

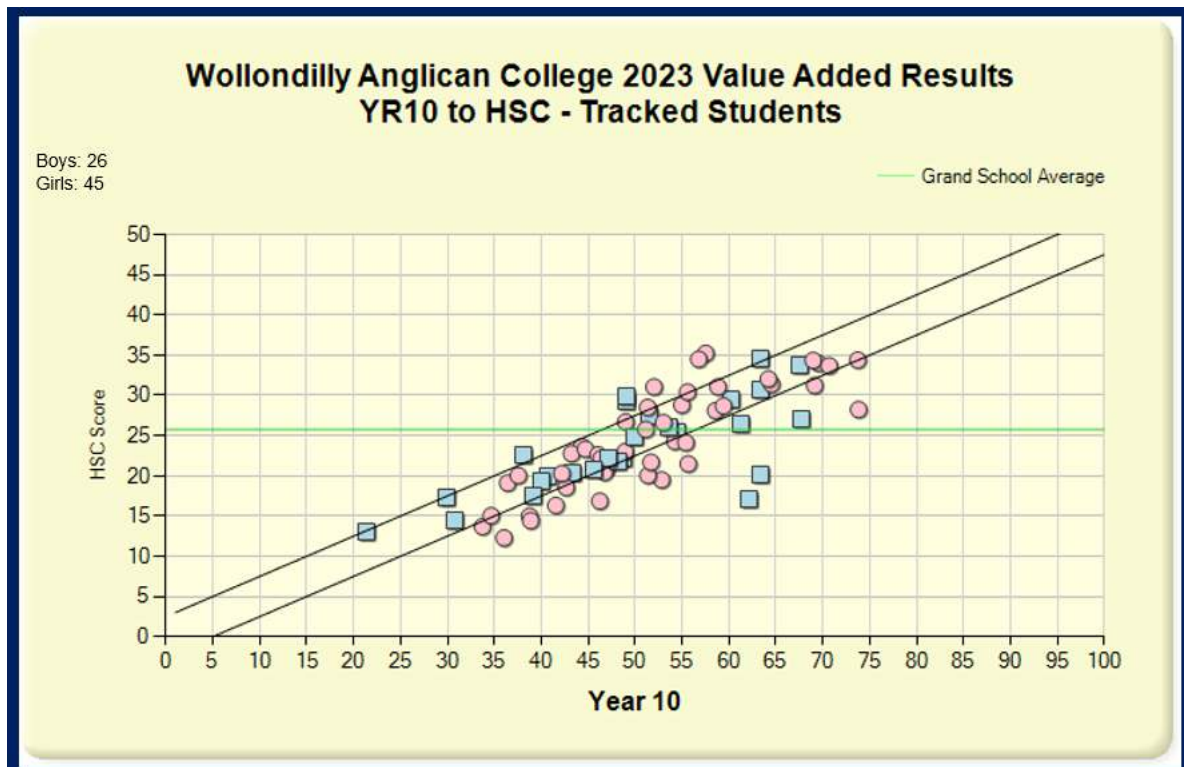
*There is both an academic and enduring character return on such a wise investment".*

### **Grand School Average**

A pleasing trend in the HSC Results over the last five years has been the increasing Grand Schools average mark across all courses combined. In 2023 we saw a slight decline in the Grand Schools average. This is due partially to the performance of the 2023 cohort as well as the 2017 results dropping off the rolling average. There is a continued need to be focusing on high quality teaching and learning occurring in the classroom with a focus on explicit teaching as well as critical and creative thinking.

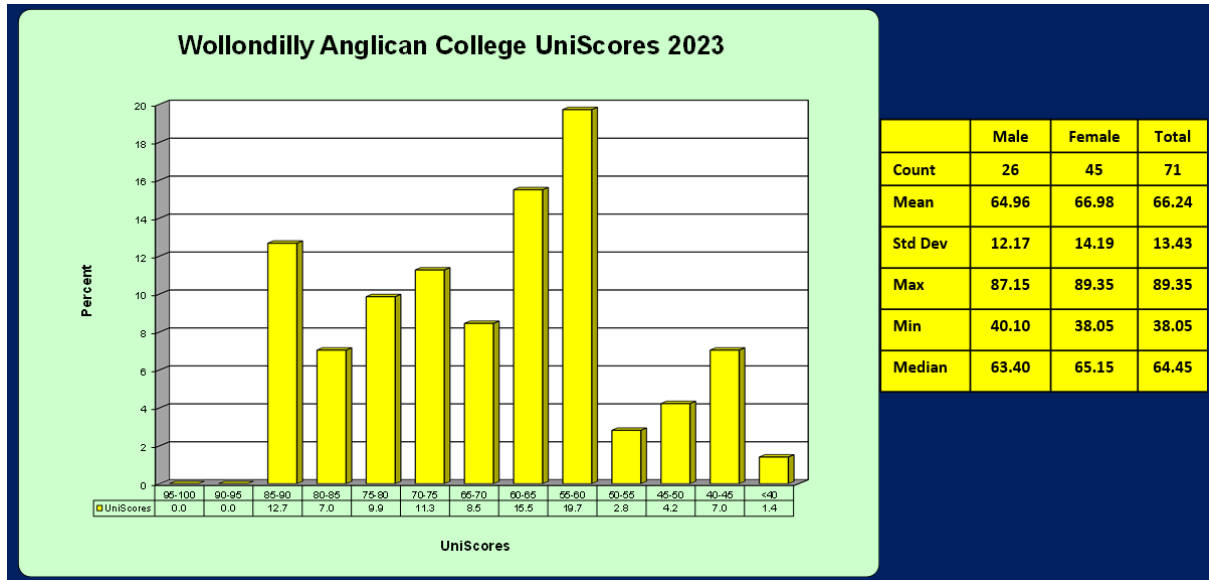


The College engages an external consultant to independently analyse results and determine how much students have improved academically between their results in Year 10 and Year 12. Of course, it would be expected that students improve as they learn and as they get older. We are really interested in how much better or worse they have achieved compared to what would normally have been expected. (This is called “Value Added” and is a measure of “how much value was added to students’ educational outcomes). Our students’ value-added achievement to their benchmark should fall in the tram lines on the graph below. In 2023 72% of the students reached or exceeded their value-added benchmark which was a decline from 2022 (89%). In 2023, 85% of the boys {92%} and 64% of the girls {88%} reached or exceeded their value-added benchmarks from Year 10 to Year 12.



## ATAR Scores

The 2023 UniScores analysis revealed 71 students eligible for an ATAR {62}, 26 boys {22} and 45 girls {40}. The mean, 66.24 {69.16} decreased by 2.92 UniScore points. The mean for boys, 64.96. {69.47} decreased by 4.51 and their median, 63.40 {70.10} decreased by 6.70 while the girls' mean, 66.98 {68.99} decreased by 2.00 and their median, 66.15 68.28 {68.28} decreased by 3.13



| UniScore | Count | %     | Cumulative % 2023 | Cumulative % 2022 |
|----------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 99-100   | 0     | 0.0   | 0.0               | 0.0               |
| 95-99    | 0     | 0.0   | 0.0               | 0.0               |
| 90-95    | 0     | 0.0   | 0.0               | 4.8               |
| 85-90    | 9     | 12.7  | 12.7              | 12.9              |
| 80-85    | 5     | 7.0   | 19.7              | 22.6              |
| 75-80    | 7     | 9.9   | 29.6              | 33.9              |
| 70-75    | 8     | 11.3  | 40.8              | 46.8              |
| 65-70    | 6     | 8.5   | 49.3              | 64.5              |
| 60-65    | 11    | 15.5  | 64.8              | 77.4              |
| 55-60    | 14    | 19.7  | 84.5              | 85.5              |
| 50-55    | 2     | 2.8   | 87.3              | 90.3              |
| 45-50    | 3     | 4.2   | 91.5              | 95.2              |
| 40-45    | 5     | 7.0   | 98.6              | 100.0             |
| <40      | 1     | 1.4   | 100.0             | 100.0             |
| Totals   | 71    | 100.0 |                   |                   |

## Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

A total of 98 students completed Year 10 and were eligible for their RoSA.

## Students leaving at the end of Year 12 (over the age of 17)

The percentage of students in Year 12 who participated in Vocational Care or Trade training: 13%

Percentage of students attaining Year 12 certificate: 100%

A total of 71 students graduated from the College in 2023.

A total of 70% of students enrolled in University courses such as Law, Medicine and Teaching with 15% having secured apprenticeships or TAFE courses. The remaining 15% of students are in the workforce or are taking a gap year.

## Theme 3 - Staffing

### Teacher Standards

In 2023, a total of 83 teachers were employed either full time or part time at the College. Teachers who had teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEINOOSR) guidelines numbered 83. The number of these teachers at Proficient accreditation level is 75 with the other 8 at Provisional accreditation level. **It is reflective of the rigorous recruitment procedures of the College and its popularity as a place of work that 100% of teaching staff are Category A.**

The staff composition for 2023 was 83 teaching staff and 38 non-teaching staff.

No staff members have identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, but we strongly encourage applications from First Nations Teachers and Other Staff.

## Theme 4 - Attendance

### Average Student Attendance Rate by Year 2023

| FORM         | ATT OVERALL | ATT MALE | ATT FEMALE | ATT IND MALE | ATT IND FEMALE |
|--------------|-------------|----------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| Transition 2 | 91.10%      | 93.20%   | 89.10%     | 95.90%       | 80.00%         |
| Transition 3 | 93.30%      | 92.90%   | 94.20%     | 88.70%       |                |
| Kindergarten | 91.20%      | 92.60%   | 89.80%     | 87.00%       | 90.80%         |
| Year 1       | 92.90%      | 92.80%   | 92.90%     | 91.00%       | 94.50%         |
| Year 2       | 92.00%      | 92.10%   | 91.90%     |              | 88.60%         |
| Year 3       | 91.00%      | 90.90%   | 91.10%     |              | 96.80%         |
| Year 4       | 91.40%      | 91.70%   | 91.10%     | 93.10%       |                |
| Year 5       | 92.30%      | 91.60%   | 92.90%     | 91.90%       | 67.30%         |
| Year 6       | 91.40%      | 90.20%   | 92.30%     |              | 82.70%         |
| Year 7       | 91.90%      | 92.50%   | 91.20%     |              |                |
| Year 8       | 90.20%      | 90.60%   | 89.90%     | 92.40%       | 81.00%         |
| Year 9       | 90.20%      | 90.70%   | 89.90%     |              |                |
| Year 10      | 88.80%      | 87.30%   | 90.00%     | 90.30%       |                |
| Year 11      | 90.70%      | 92.40%   | 90.00%     | 76.20%       |                |
| Year 12      | 91.10%      | 92.10%   | 90.50%     | 85.70%       | 95.70%         |

## **Management of Student non-attendance**

### **Absentee notes from parents**

Parents are asked to:

- Notify the College of reasons for absence via a Push Notification on the WAC App or the Edumate Parent Portal. After seven days, absences are permanently recorded as unexplained. If the College receives notification in writing after the seven days, and under the instructions of the Director of Pastoral Care Coordinator T-12, these dates can be verified by Office Staff.
- In the first instance, a parent/carer will be sent a Push Notification via the WAC App at (approximately after 10.30 am) to indicate that a student has been recorded as being absent from the College. A follow up Push Notification via the WAC App is generated after the College day (approximately after 4.00 pm) for the parent/carer to verify the absence and provide a reason. Please note whilst this is the preferred option to verify an absence, you can also log onto the Edumate Parent Portal via a desktop or laptop only to verify the absence.
- Attendance information on Edumate is updated on receipt of written notification via the WAC App or Parent Portal via Edumate from a parent/carer and a copy of this information is stored. The Push Notification response to an absence notification from parents/carers are acceptable as a means of notifying the College of a student absence, so long as the Push Notification is received from the designated mobile of the parent/carer.
- Ensure the reason given for absence/lateness/early leaving must be genuine and the leave unavoidable: illness, medical appointment, pre-approved commitment or unexpected emergency. Unless the provided reason is one of the above, students will have their absence recorded as 'unexplained' on their College record and their Report and will be followed up by the College.

### **Late Arrivals**

Students arriving late need to present to Student Reception. Their diary will be stamped and they will go to class. If the Parent/Carer is not present when dropping off their child, the late arrival will remain as an unexplained absence until the Parent/Carer verifies the absence on the Parent Portal or College App.

Students who are frequently late to roll call are to be referred to the Director of Pastoral Care T- 12 for further follow-up.

### **Early Leavers**

Students leaving early need to present to the Student Reception. An early leaver form signed by a parent, will be accepted as an absence note. Otherwise, the early leave will remain unexplained until the Parent/Carer verifies the absence on the Parent Portal or College App. Students in Years 11-12 who have permission to drive to the College need to provide a written note signed by their parents to verify the reason for their early departure.

## Theme 5 – College Policies

### College Policies

The following policies are publicly available on the College's website <https://www.wac.nsw.edu.au/about-us/college-details/college-policies/> :

- Enrolment Policy
- Child Safe Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- External Complaint Handling and Grievance Policy

## Theme 6 – Stakeholder Satisfaction

### Staff and Student Satisfaction

In 2023 students in Year 12 completed surveys related to their understanding of the Christian faith. This was additional to the standard exit survey completed by Year 12 students. This was surveyed as part of a focus on ensuring increased understanding of this in students, particularly on leaving the College and to follow-up on targeted initiatives to ensure improved understanding in this area. The survey results reflected improved outcomes in this area, which was encouraging. Students from Year 5-6 were surveyed to gain an understanding of their involvement in church or youth group settings outside of the College. This information has proved valuable in the establishment of discipleship groups that are now firmly embedded across the Secondary years. This information has been valuable in targeted follow-ups with students to continue sustaining these thriving groups.

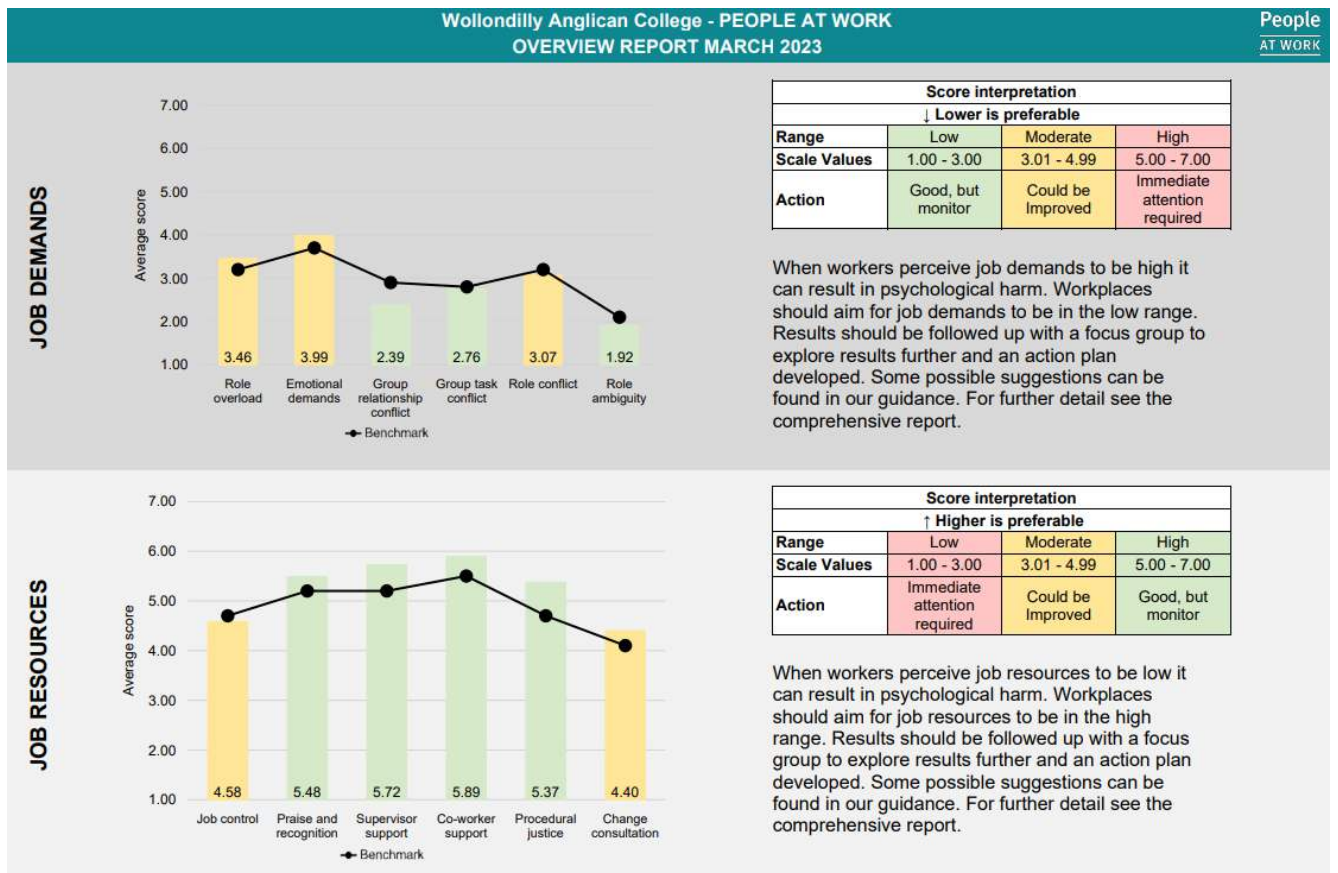
Students from Years 3-10 also completed self-reflection surveys related to the College wide focus of embedding learner dispositions. This involved students reflecting on areas of strength and growth in relation to the elements of these dispositions. This was useful in looking at areas to work on individually with students as well as affirming the continued understanding and importance of these for student learning and character development.

Year 10 students completed a survey as part of a 'Managing Wellbeing Seminar' presented to students as part of their subject selection process. This had a focus of having students reflect on aspects of their wellbeing and rank them according to where they felt they were travelling. Students also responded to areas that they would like to know more about or learn how to better manage to support their wellbeing. The top ranked areas were Time Management, Study Skills and Managing Anxiety. This was helpful for the Care and Culture team to prepare pro-active seminars to support student wellbeing in this important transition period between Year 10 and Year 11.

Staff in Year 9 and Year 10 completed surveys related to Peer Support Leadership and RFS Cadets. The completion of these surveys was valuable in assessing the interest and suitability of students for involvement in these programs. A strong survey response was evident for both programs. This enabled a review and informed selection of relevant students for involvement in these areas.

Staff completed a survey to provide feedback on Professional Development Week. The information was useful in evaluating the week and planning for future professional development focus areas.

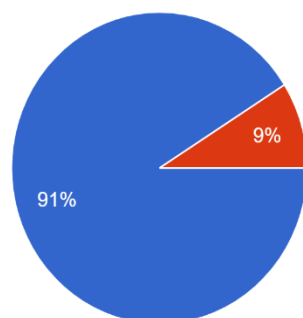
Staff also completed a wellbeing survey. Some of the findings are displayed in the charts below.



## Parent Communication Survey

Do you currently use social media

390 responses

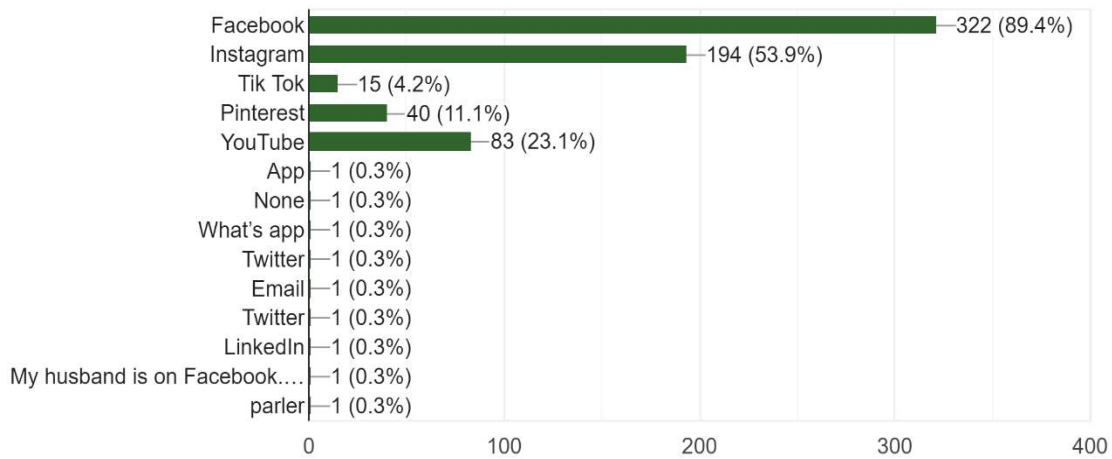


- Yes
- No



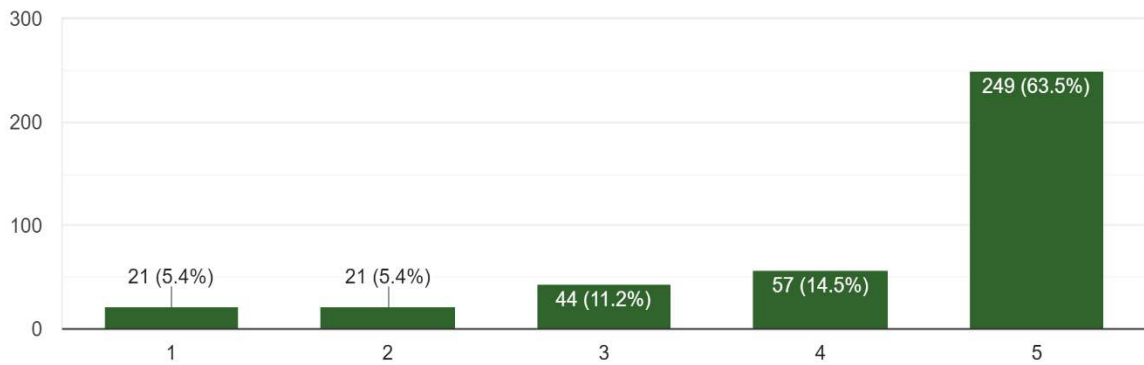
### Which social media platform do you use regularly?

360 responses



### How frequently do you read the Waratah Weekly?

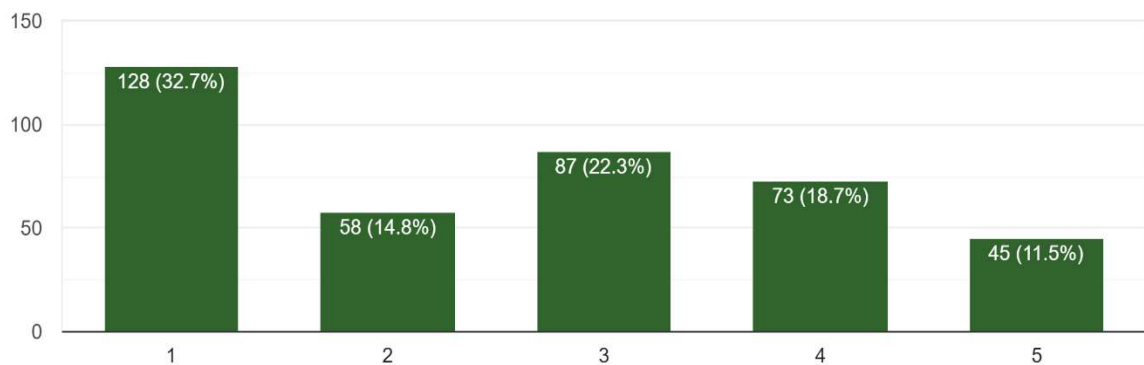
392 responses



**1 = Never, 5 = Weekly**

### Do you find the Waratah Weekly easy to read?

391 responses

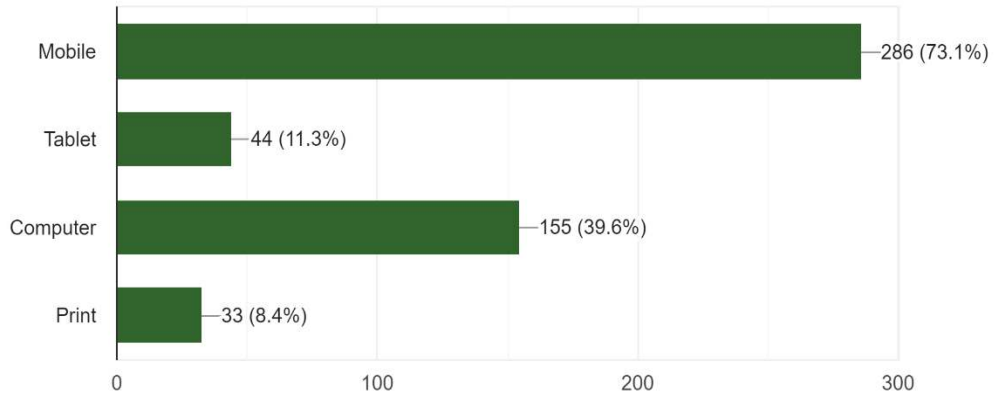


**1 = Strongly Agree, 5 = Strongly Disagree**



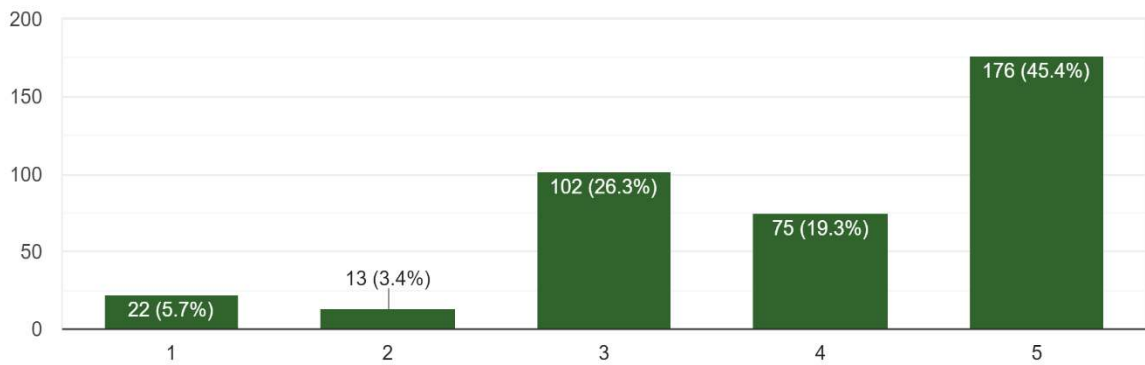
### How do you view the Waratah Weekly?

391 responses



### If the Waratah Weekly was to be published digitally on using a more mobile device suitable format, would you find this more helpful?

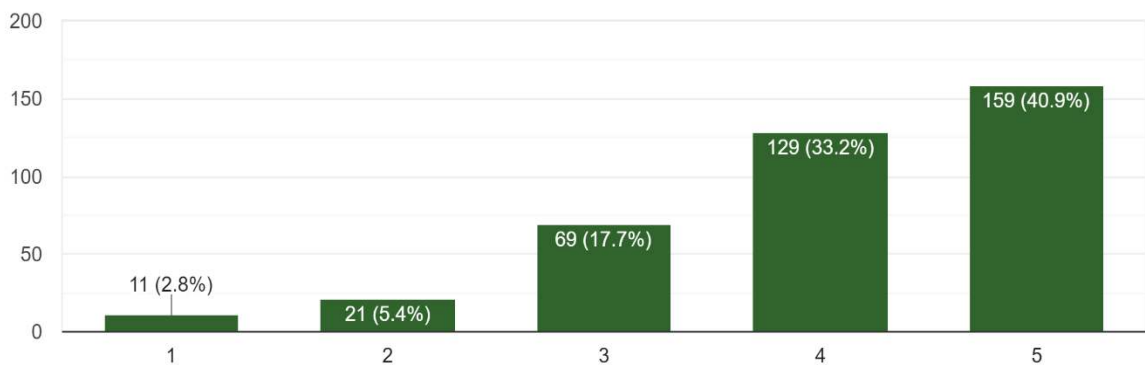
388 responses



**1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree**

### Do you think that the College communicates effectively with parents/carers?

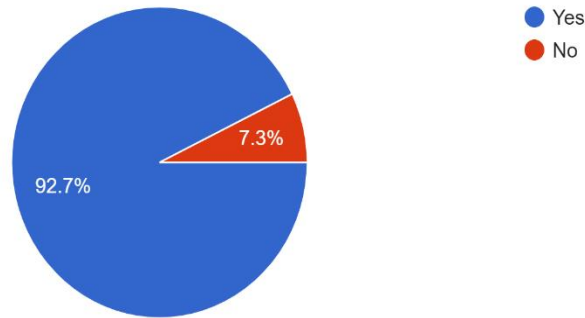
389 responses



**1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree**

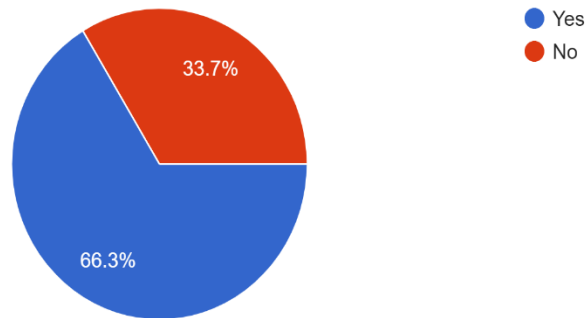
### Have you downloaded the College App?

386 responses



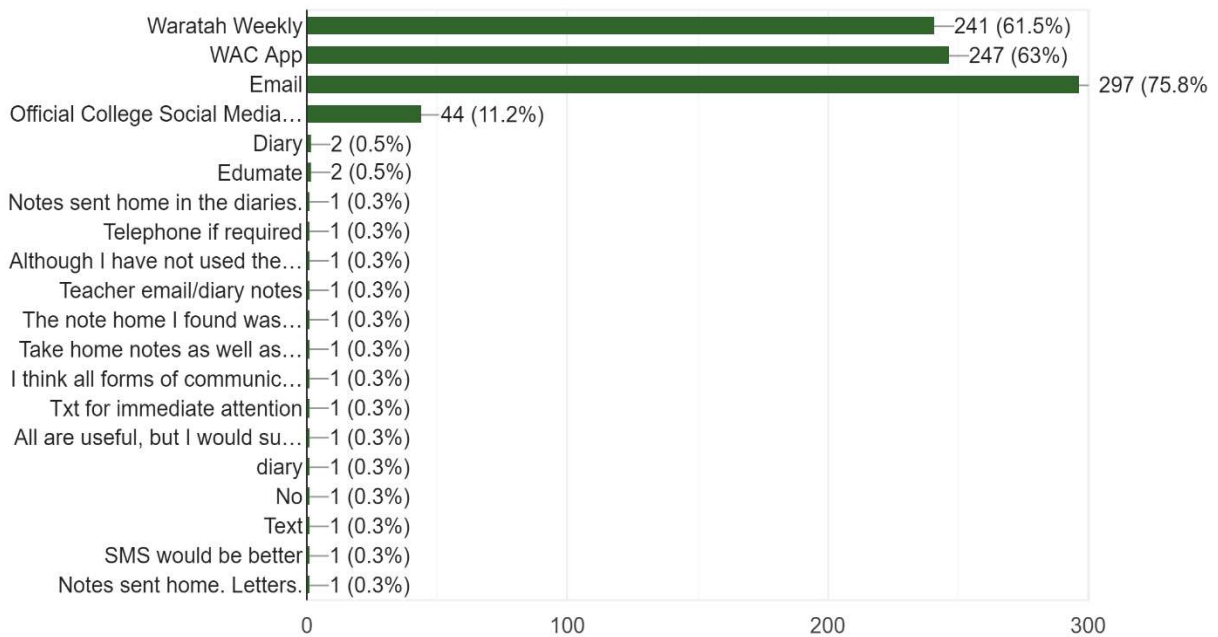
### Do you follow the College Facebook, Instagram & Youtube accounts?

392 responses



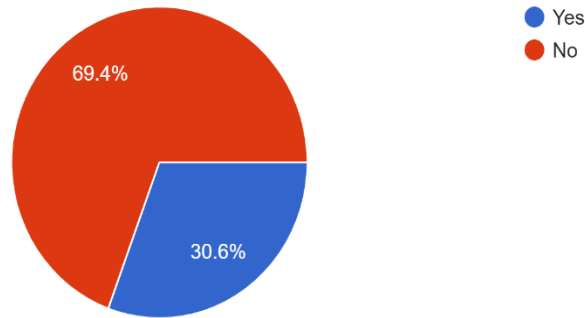
### Which of the following do you find the most effective for College Communication?

392 responses



Have you considered joining the College Parents & Friends (P&F) group?

392 responses



## Theme 7 – Summary Financial Information

Consistent operation between 2023 and 2022

