

LAMBERT SCHOOL

Lambert School

Annual Report

2024



The following report has been prepared in response to the Australian Government requirements that schools report on specific issues to their stakeholders on an annual basis.

This report provides a summary of relevant information relating to the operation of Lambert School in 2024.

About Lambert School

Lambert School is a small co-ed city school of approximately 45 students. The school aims to provide exceptional education in a non-institutional setting which is congenial, caring and mutually supporting. There is no uniform, no office or principal's study, bell, or public address system. However, the School is orderly, has a set timetable, a sense of purpose and provides a stimulating learning environment. The school has no religious or political affiliation but a strong belief in the individual, in group responsibility and in caring for each other. The curriculum is broad and challenging, with resources allocated to ensure that programs are well staffed and equipped to cater for a range of abilities and interests. In-class learning and camps are essential to the curriculum as are visits to local events such as exhibitions and concerts. The school follows the Australian Curriculum with students studying Mathematics, Science, English, Geography, Politics, Civics, Economics and History, Digital Technology, Art, Drama, Physical Education, French and Chinese. Healthy lunches and morning teas are provided each day and a qualified chef is employed. Reporting to parents is integral to the teaching/learning program through the use of the school's online data base (LMS) for assessments of assignments and paper three reports a year.

The aim of education at Lambert School is the development of reflective, creative and responsible thought and the creation of life-long learners. It is vital to the school that what is taught, and the ways in which it is taught, should inspire the students to value themselves, to recognise, accept and develop their individual gifts and talents and to encourage others to do the same.

Learning at Lambert School focuses on methods that support student engagement through:

- collaborative teamwork
- communication
- problem-solving
- creating and expression through multiple modes
- making connections.

Lambert School's teaching and learning philosophy is continually reshaped by current research on effective pedagogy practices in teaching and learning. Staff and students build relationships to promote a learning environment that cultivates confidence, communication and mutual respect. Students are encouraged to develop positive relationships between students, staff, community and the environment. All students are encouraged and supported so they remain motivated, ambitious and achieve to the best of their ability. Teachers engage students to develop a passion for life-long learning through encouraging, challenging with support and guiding them. We strive to prepare students for life's journey by developing a sense of meaning and purpose, responsible decision making, developing resilience and resourcefulness for adaptability.



Our Vision

Our vision for Lambert School is to provide Quality Teaching and Learning opportunities for all children to become successful learners, confident & creative individuals and active & informed citizens. Lambert School builds a sense of community, identity and belonging that provides a positive, safe environment for quality learning.



Message from the School Board



School Board Chair Annual Report 2024

It is my pleasure to prepare a report that reflects on 2024 for Lambert School.

This year has marked 50 years that the school has been operating. This milestone was achieved and passed with minimal fuss, as is so often the case with the achievements of Lambert School.

I would like to acknowledge that the vision of Wilma and Neville Lambert to create school that meets the learning and development needs of its students has stood the test of time, that the achievements of the countless students who have benefited from their dedication and passion for excellent teaching with the children at the center of every decision are too many to count or record here. The school with Wilma's leadership has maintained its values and focus in an environment and community that is changing, students continue to thrive and prepare for their futures with learning goals that are meaningful for them as individuals.

This year the school has invested in the support of new accounting supports and have overhauled and transferred all financial recording and planning to a new platform. This step will ensure accurate reporting and planning moving forward. The access to report in live time is vastly improved.

The start of 2024 saw the implementation of the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework and the Office of the Independent Regulator in Tasmania, this legislative change has provided opportunity for the school to review and rebuild policy and framework ensuring a safe space for all children and young people engaged with Lambert School.

The School board looks forward to 2025 and working with the school team to develop the Strategic Plan for our next exciting steps.

Kate Gillham

Chair, Lambert School Board.

Message from the Principal



Principal's Report 2024

2024 ended with celebrations of a year well spent. It was the 50th year of the school. There was a feeling of the passage of time, the privilege of lives and learning shared.

On the previous night, Wilma, Tai, and our departing grade 10 students shared dinner and anecdotes from the past years, of learning experiences, teachers, and students. These students were courteous, confident, thoughtful people now well prepared for the next stage of their education.

Now concluding fifty years of the school, we had grown from a small group of primary students around a kitchen table to a group of fifty students and nine teachers. We now operated with no loans or overdraft in a building that suited our needs and a cottage leased to Alliance Francais.

As a school we had travelled to most parts of Tasmania, to four other states and territories, to Italy, New Zealand, Japan, and three times to China. In the years since Covid we have not travelled outside of Tasmania but have used the city and natural environment with excursions to Mt Wellington, as well as attending rehearsals of the TSO, art galleries, the Theatre Royal, and the Peacock Theatre. Our year concluded with a picnic at Chouncy Vale.

Education Experiences

Clint Bolster started our theatre studies with a two day workshop of commedia dell'arte. Many theatre visits followed with particular emphasis on First Nations storytelling. The theatre year ended with the high school performances of Scenes from the Sea by the grade 7 and 8s, and A Comedy of Errors by the grade 9-10s.

Sporting Schools Grants enabled us to extend our physical education programme. Our primary students enjoyed gymnastics at the PCYC, all students were coached in tennis at the Tennis Centre, and played Blind Cricket on the Domain. As in previous years, students from grades 3-10 had two weeks of swimming lessons at the Collegiate Swimming Pool.



Grade 10 students participated in the RYDA program funded by the Tasmanian Government. This was held out at Claremont College and after they were credited with five hours towards their drivers licence.

Staffing

There were some staff changes at the end of 2023.

Stephen Lambert left after nearly 20 years. He had organised many of our camps, as well as interstate and international trips. Our Science Teacher Bob Fletcher, who had been with us since 2016, transferred to the Catholic sector, and was replaced by Dr. Tai Gardner. We also lost Cheryl Scripps, our Infant Teacher and previous student, who resigned to work closer to home. She was replaced by Nell Kay, also a previous student of the school. We wish all of our departing staff the best with their future careers.

The last school day of 2024 concluded with laughter and tears, snippets of Drama performances, musical performances, and our traditional 'send up' of our departing grade 10s. We were surrounded by parents, friends, old scholars, Board members, politicians, and community members. We were farewelling our Grade 10s and wishing all a well deserved holiday.



Teacher Qualifications

It is a legal requirement that teachers employed in Tasmania are registered with the Tasmanian Teachers Registration Board. All teachers employed by Lambert School are registered and hold appropriate qualifications.

Lambert School is a professional teaching community with high expectations and strives to provide outstanding and engaging academic programs that support and nurture students to achieve their personal best. We have a passionate team of staff who are highly skilled and dedicated in their teaching and learning practices, promote the vision and values of the school and are committed to continuous pedagogical improvement based on best practice research.

Our teacher qualifications are as follows:

- Wilma Lambert: Principal, Registered Teacher
- Nina Penfold: Co-Deputy Principal, Diploma of Teaching, B.Ed.
- Caroline Jackson: B.A. Hons, Dip Ed
- Ekkehart Mundana: B. Music., Dip.Ed.
- Tai Gardner: B.Sc. Hons, PhD, LAT.
- Lili Christie: B.A., M. Teaching, Diploma of Teaching Chinese as a Second Language.
- Carmen Wang: B.F.A, M. Teaching
- Nell Kay: B.Bhav.Sci, M. Teaching.
- Emily di Pretoro: B.Ed

Our 2023 workforce consisted of:

● Total teaching staff 2023	9
● Full-time equivalent teaching staff	2
● Part-time teaching staff	7
● Non-teaching staff	4
● Indigenous staff	0
● Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	0
● Teaching staff retained from previous year	6
● New teaching staff 2024	3
● Staff retention rate	66%

Student Results

Lambert School 2024 NAPLAN Summary

Lambert School is a small school with varying numbers in grade cohorts and intakes from numerous schools and districts. Student data is not always available from year to year to evaluate and therefore much of the NAPLAN data is used to identify individual students requiring extra support. There is a level of frustration, in that access to NAPLAN data from other schools is not available if and when students move to Lambert after sitting NAPLAN from the state system or other systems.

From the information we have evaluated from 2024, Lambert School students are showing strength in Reading and Writing compared to the average Tasmanian School results. Spelling is an issue with a significant number of students, and this is reflected in both NAPLAN as well as SWIST test results.

Students' results have shown improvement from the March 2024 to November 2024. Lambert School have a number of students diagnosed with dyslexia and this is addressed by specific support groups being implemented.

Numeracy results in Years 7-10 have been of concern and extra support groups were run to supplement the mainstream program.

PAT Maths and English (Reading) results show that significant improvement for individual students has been made in 2024. The SWIST test for spelling is used for Grade 3-7 and allows for diagnostic assessment and planning.

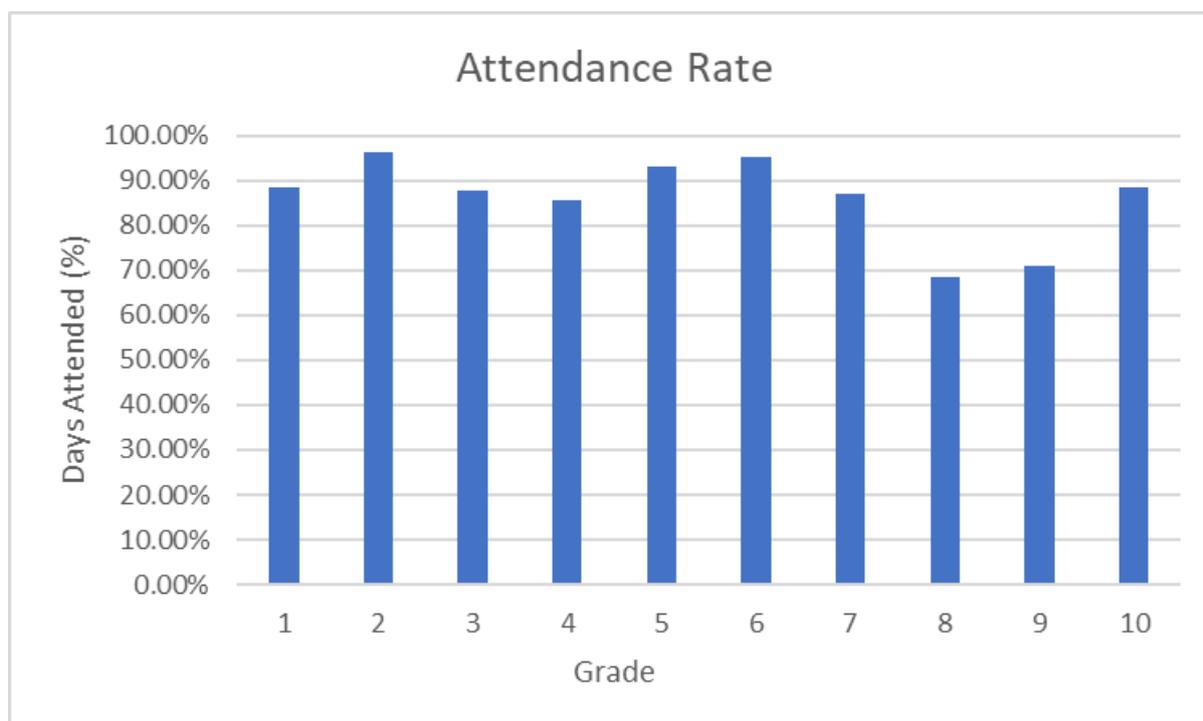


Attendance

Lambert School implements policy and procedures to monitor the daily attendance of students and follow-up on absences.

Average attendance was low during the 2024 school year compared with previous years. Due to the small number of students at Lambert School, a small number of students with school refusal significantly affected these results, particularly in grades 8 and 9.

Attendance by Year Group, 2024



Data taken from 2024 attendance reporting data, so does not include the fourth term.

The responsibility lies with parents and guardians to ensure student attendance, with notification of absenteeism by phone or email by 9am. Where no notification has been received, there is further follow up from the school. Under Ministerial Instruction 5 for Authorising a Person to Act as an Authorised Person for the Purpose of Sections 40(2) and 40(3), the school has authorised the principal, deputy principal and administrator to investigate absences. If an absence remains unexplained after contact has been made with parents/guardians, or there is long-term absenteeism, the relevant authorities are notified. Data on attendance is kept by administration for reporting.

Finance

Lambert School income amounted to \$1,299,955.89 in 2024, allowing expenditure in educational resources to support students.

Income primarily came from school fees, Commonwealth and State Government Grants as detailed below.

School Fee Income: \$188,838.45

Commonwealth Grant Income: \$873,616.00

State Government Income: \$198,465.00

Other Grants \$11,775.00

