



# Fairholme College

## Annual Report 2024







*Fairholme College offers a diverse range of high-quality, contemporary educational experiences within a Christian community. Founded in 1917, it is a College of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland. The College is located on the Darling Downs, perched on the edge of the Range escarpment in Toowoomba.*

## VISION

Fairholme – a nurturing Christian school, committed to developing a vibrant learning community; one that challenges students to become confident and respectful contributors within our global society.

## VALUES

Christ-Centred Faith | Collaboration | Enjoyment | Respect | Seeking Excellence

## SCHOOL SECTOR

Fairholme College is an independent day and boarding school.

## COLLEGE INCOME

Please refer to the My School website ([myschool.edu.au](https://myschool.edu.au)) for detailed information regarding College income broken down by funding source.





## STUDENT BODY

Fairholme College enjoys a vibrant and varied student body. Our large, dynamic boarding family contributes invaluable to the unique nature of our College community. Boarding students predominately call Queensland and New South Wales home; however, we have girls from diverse regional centres throughout Australia. The College is proud of its First Nations students; there were 25 enrolled during this reporting period.

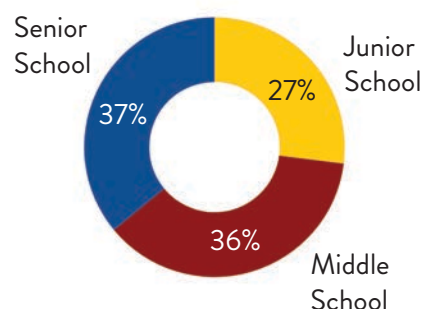
## YEAR LEVELS

Fairholme College offers programs for girls from Kindergarten to Year 12, with boys welcome in the Kindergarten programs. Boarding commences from Year 5 and caters for students through to the completion of Year 12.

## TOTAL ENROLMENTS

Total enrolments in 2024 reached 901 students, comprising of 696 Day Students and 205 Boarders.

27% of enrolments were in the Junior School (Kindergarten to Year 6), 36% in Middle School (Years 7-9), and 37% in Senior School (Year 10-12).



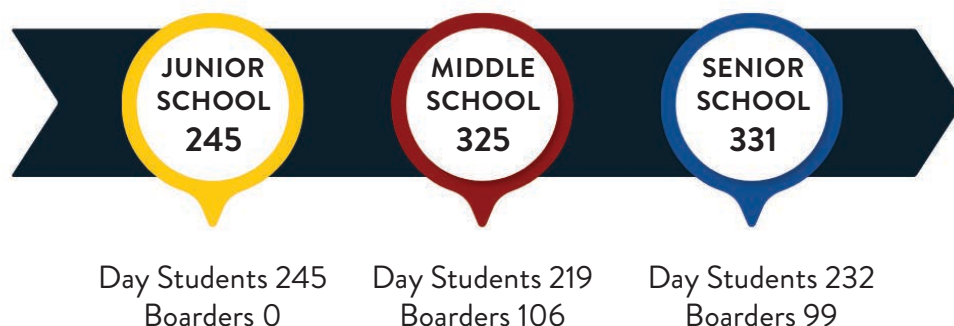
## TOTAL STUDENTS 2024

901 Total Enrolments

696 Day Students

205 Boarders

First Nation Students: 25





*'Academically, we have an **excellent reputation** in the Independent School Sector, with our students achieving excellent ATAR and NAPLAN results in 2024. We continue to excel on the sports field, in our cultural and arts programs and in our service to the community.'*

*- Mr Ian Andersen*

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Mr Ian Andersen

**As I write this report, I know that Fairholme College is approaching the end of an era – what I would characterise as the 'Evans Era'. Every era carries its own themes, characters and lessons.**

In history, the Ancient Era laid the groundwork for civilisation; during the Classical Era, art and knowledge flourished; the Middle Ages were rich in cultural and intellectual growth; the Industrial Revolution transformed our societies once again; and now we find ourselves in the Digital Era.

Over the last 44 years, Fairholme has been blessed with the 'Faragher Era', the 'Klan Era', and now the 'Evans Era'. Mr Alan Faragher was Principal from 1980 to 1994, Mr Klan from 1994 to 2009, and Dr Evans since then – and during these 'eras', three people have had the privilege of serving as Chairman of this great College: Mr Lindsay Statham for 21 years from 1980, Mr Bill Munro for the next seven years and I have been Chairman since 2007.

The hallmarks of these Fairholme Eras have been great stability, inspired leadership by these three Principals, significant changes in the College's infrastructure, a focus

on innovative and up-to-date educational practices, and a commitment to developing a vibrant learning community – importantly, all within the structure of a nurturing Christian school.

We have grown from a College combatting financial challenges in 1980 with an enrolment of around 600 students, to an expected enrolment of 900 students in 2025, and in the strongest financial position we have ever been.

So, what does it mean as the 'Evans Era' comes to a close?

It means celebrations, it means reflections; significantly, it also means change. But with change comes opportunity and, I imagine, some challenges. I am sure we continue to grow, we will continue to improve – that's what we do.

We will farewell Dr Evans at the end of first term in 2025 and the whole Fairholme Community will have opportunity to be involved in those celebrations.

We welcome Dr Leigh Hobart who comes to us from her position as Deputy Headmaster, Academic Performance and Innovation, at Brisbane Boys' College. In many ways, I know that Dr Hobart feels like she is coming home, being a





sixth-generation Toowoomba resident.

I am very confident in her ability to lead this great school forward over the coming years.

The College has had another fantastic year in 2024. Our enrolment numbers are the highest ever, including a full Boarding House.

Academically, we have an excellent reputation in the Independent School Sector, with our students achieving excellent ATAR and NAPLAN results in 2024; and we continue to excel on the sporting field, in our cultural and arts programs and in our service to the community.

I record my thanks to our Principal, Dr Evans, and the members of the Senior Leadership Team for their continued remarkable and committed leadership of the College and their engagement with the whole Fairholme Community.

Being a member of the Fairholme College Board of Directors requires dedication to the role and a passion for the College, in what is a volunteer role overseeing the operations of the College on behalf of The Presbyterian Church of Queensland. I am blessed to lead this great team, and I again acknowledge the outstanding service they have provided throughout this year.

At the Board's recommendation, the Presbyterian Church of Queensland approved some minor changes to the College Constitution. The Board now consists of nine members – five of whom must be members of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland plus four other members – all being appointed on recommendation by the College Board of Directors.

This year we farewelled Mr Graham Burt after many years of service and we thank him for his contribution and will miss his unique perspective on the affairs of the College. Dr Robyn Bain stepped up to fill the vacancy created and we look forward to her contribution over the coming years.

The College maintained an excellent financial position in 2024. We continued our policy of investing substantial funds towards the improvement of facilities and infrastructure this year, spending \$1.7 million on such improvements. Projects approved or completed during

the year, which included contributions from the Parents' and Friends' Association, included:

- > upgrade and refurbishment of many student amenities
- > upgrade and complete refurbishment of the last of our Junior School classrooms
- > refurbishment of the Gymnasium Foyer and change rooms
- > installation of a Middle School playground and improvements to the landscaped seating areas surrounding this facility
- > ongoing upgrades to and replacement of Information Technology equipment
- > furniture, fittings, plant and equipment replacements.

As usual, the Board approved the 2025 budget at its November meeting. The Board always considers the many competing factors in developing the budget each year, particularly the challenges of higher inflation currently besetting the economy. Mindful of these factors, the 2025 budget provides for a five per cent increase in Tuition Fees for Kindergarten, a seven per cent increase for Prep to Year 6, a five per cent increase for Years 7 to 12, a five per cent increase in Boarding Fees, and the Capital Levy will also increase by five per cent.

In conclusion, I can again say that the College is very well placed to meet the challenges and opportunities that will unfold next year.

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- Mr Ian Andersen



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dr Linda Evans

# 2024:

*There is more  
in you than  
you think*

*'Character is not created with a single act, no matter how brilliant or bold. It is forged in the smallest of struggles, the product of a thousand, thousand strokes.'*

- Dr Linda Evans

Each year, our Annual Report chronicles the achievements of the year that has passed, that which are quantifiable and verifiable, and to share insight into the major activities from the school calendar. Thus, the publication celebrates and acknowledges the successes that occurred throughout 2024 – many and varied as they are within any school community. Data captures only one dimension of school achievement. Culture captures it all and a culture that celebrates potential and a belief in each student's abilities is a mark of Fairholme.

Potential isn't about starting from a place of perfection. Potential isn't about luck. Potential is having faith in what lies within – talents and gifts from God and committing; committing beyond what we imagine (or others imagine) is possible. The adage, 'there is more in you than you think', has resonance when considering the role of education in the lives of young people.

As parents, we have to trust in our children – there is more than we think. When 19-year-old son puts on a backpack and travels solo to India for nine months, knowing no-one, you have to trust. When daughter, aged 24, travels to South America for the same time period, you have to trust that there are things that they can shape, and channel and change. If, in the words of poet Amanda Gorman, we are

'brave enough to see it, brave enough to be it' – to catch the winds of 'luck.' You see, one never really sees oneself as lucky, do we? We look over our shoulder and see someone else doing things more easily, more confidently, more successfully.

At the Isolated Children's Parents' Association conference in Townsville last year, one of the guest speakers was Lorin Nicholson who, at age four, was diagnosed with a genetic eye disease. With only 10% sight, he was declared legally blind. He made it through to Year 12, with the aid of a magnifying glass to help him read, and his Mum, Dad, and teachers. At age 9, Lorin mowed the lawn for the first time. 'Not good enough, go back and do the edge near the fence', said his Dad. Aged 16, Lorin wanted to ride his pushbike

from Tamworth to Port Macquarie – solo. In just three days, he rode his mountain bike 275km across some of the steepest mountains in Australia – with less than 10 per cent sight. His father accompanied him, at a distance, by car but Lorin cycled on roads filled with trucks, semi-trailers, and car drivers on a mission. He arrived safely in Port Macquarie.

He asked the ICPA audience, ‘Who was the real hero in that story?’

‘You,’ we thought.

The real hero, according to Lorin, was his Dad who allowed him to do the ride, who drove ahead and waited throughout those three days but didn’t hover or smother. Success doesn’t happen without a support person – someone who believes you can. Belief and opportunity often live at the cusp of the smallest margins. The whispers can become a shout, tiny snowflakes can gather and stop traffic. Small is big. ‘I was just a little girl that started swimming with a big dream,’ Ariarne Titmus said, after winning a famous Olympic gold medal. We can all do hard things: we all do hard things. Character is not created with a single act, no matter how brilliant or bold. It is forged in the smallest of struggles, the product of a thousand, thousand strokes. There is more in you than you think.

Ted Lasso reminds us to ‘be curious, not judgemental’. We are all guilty of judging. Too often, and especially as females, we are told by society not to celebrate our achievements: girls are overtly and covertly put down. I’ve experienced this watching people respond when I tell them I have three sisters and no brothers. They say, ‘Oh, your poor Dad,’ as if having four daughters is something that should evoke pity. Being female should never equate with less.

Yet, Fairholme girls will not always be the goal scorers – metaphoric or actual. And when they are not, they’d better be rushing toward the girl who is. Women must champion each other. We may not be able to alter reality, but we can alter our attitude towards it, and this, paradoxically, alters reality.

Luck and fortune are born of practice, repetition, striving for excellence. It can take six years of dedicated resolve

and hard work to find yourself upon a stage delivering a poem at the inauguration of the President of the United States of America.

In the pages that follow you will read about achievements of a measurable, quantifiable definition. But I am always drawn to distance travelled in a metaphoric sense. I love to watch our Year 12s take their final walk out of the Assembly Hall; for each there is a story, rich with challenge and success. I am always immensely proud of each and every one of those young women, as they step out onto the brink of their promising futures. I am especially drawn to those who have achieved through significant struggle.

And, as I pen my final annual report, I hope that I have been faithful to this worldview in my work as teacher and principal: ‘there is [always] more in you than you think’. It is an adage that I believe in and have evidenced so many times – it has been a privilege to do so.





# FAIRHOLME COLLEGE 2024 Highlights



## Jan

> Our Commencement Assembly celebrated the outstanding ATAR achievements of Fairholme's graduating class of 2023. With a median ATAR of 89.9, the cohort topped the Darling Downs and performed among the highest in the state.

## Feb

> We met the newest addition to our Fairholme family – 'Daisy' the Bear! The name chosen by our girls pays homage to the incredible Daisy Culpin, our beloved Fairholme Principal from 1922 to 1940.

## May

- > 2024 Seniors raised an incredible \$100,228 for the Leukaemia Foundation
- > Our Middle Voices sang their way to first place at the Toowoomba Eisteddfod
- > The Fairholme Open Art Prize FACETS Exhibition, in its eighth year, showcased over 200 remarkable art pieces and awarded \$15,500 in prize money
- > Fairholme continued its sporting success, being crowned Darling Downs Champions in Cross Country, Equestrian, Vicki Wilson Netball and AFL, as well as bringing home both the Andrews Cup Cross Country Percentage Cup and the Noel McBride Relay Trophy
- > The annual Ladies and Lassies High Tea brought together mothers and daughters from our Junior School



## Aug

- > Our Junior girls danced and sang their way through the Junior Showcase, 'I Love Broadway'
- > A clean sweep for our Touch Football teams at the South West Qld All Schools Touch Competition and our Senior Basketball team were crowned Armstrong Automotive Group Cup Champions
- > Our Visual Artists shone at the 'Future Visions' 2024 Exhibition with an amazing 27 of the 55 selected works being produced by Fairholme students
- > We came together as a community to celebrate NAIDOC Week



## Sep

- > Fairholme students formed one of only three all-girls teams represented on the world stage at the Horizon Hydrogen Grand Prix Pro World Finals in the USA
- > At the annual Sony Camp, Year 11 and 12 Fairholme students dedicated the start of their holidays to provide support for children with special needs





# Mar

- > Our sporting teams launched into the year with great success, winning the Laura Geitz Netball Darling Downs Cup, U18 Fraser Coast Rugby 7s, and securing overall second place in the Andrews Cup Swimming Percentage Cup



# Apr

- > A group of Fairholme girls and staff embarked on an unforgettable adventure to Japan

# Jun

- > Fairholme students and staff took on the snow in Perisher
- > The Inaugural Fairholme Old Girls Association (FOGA) *Coming Holme* Dinner welcomed special guest, Comedian and Fairholme Old Girl, Jenny Wynter (1995)
- > Fairholme CentreStage drama group performed *Picnic at Hanging Rock* at the Empire Theatre to a packed house

# Jul

- > Annual Father's Dinner with special guest, Robert 'Dipper' DiPierdomenico
- > For the fourth consecutive year, our Fairholme Equestrian Team won the Interschool Qld Champion Equestrian Secondary School
- > Our community cheered on Fairholme Old Girls, Tatum Stewart (2019) and Dom Du Toit (2014) at the Paris Olympics



# Oct

- > Parents, friends and staff combined to deliver yet another successful Fairholme College Spring Fair
- > Fairholme Fashion Week shines the light on the incredible talents of our Fashion students
- > Fairholme's Annual Presentation Evening was a night of celebration for the College community, featuring inspirational guest speaker and Fairholme Old Girl, Nikki Keighran (1998)
- > The Fairholme P&F hosted Lunch at Holme in the Maclean Family's garden

# Nov

- > 35 Fairholme students from Years 10 and 11 together explored the wonders of Cambodia, working alongside RAW Impact, learning about and supporting generational change for vulnerable communities
- > Our Year 10 girls invited Senior Citizens for a special morning of connection at the second Intergenerational Morning Tea
- > Sold out Mother's Dinner Party featuring special guest speaker, Principal Dr Linda Evans
- > Christmas at Fairholme Community Carols and Thanksgiving Service

# Dec

- > Our Year 9 students were once again top of the Region in NAPLAN
- > The Class of 2024 achieved a median ATAR of 86.8, with 36% of ATAR-eligible students achieving a score in the 90s and an incredible 7.2% receiving an ATAR of 99 or higher.

## SENIOR CLASS OF 2024 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Fairholme's Senior Class of 2024 demonstrated the Fairholme way through impressive traits of perseverance, resilience and positivity – traits that will hold them in good stead long into their diverse and promising futures.

Notably, each 2024 Senior finished her year eligible for university entrance as well as a plethora of pathway choices, including early-entry offers, for over one-third of the cohort.

Options look especially promising for the 36% of the ATAR-eligible students who achieved a score in the 90s. Of note, too, were two students who achieved perfect scores in two of their individual subjects – and three students who did so in one of their individual subjects. Additionally, 7.2% of the cohort achieved scores in the 99 range and 25% of the cohort in the 95 and above range.

The academic accomplishments of our students, however, extended far beyond just ATAR scores. 90% of our students graduated from Fairholme with one or more Vocational Education qualification; practical skills and valuable credentials that will undoubtedly serve them well in their future endeavours.

As a College, we celebrate each and all of our Year 12 graduates – we have appreciated their contributions to the College throughout their schooling and, importantly, we look to their futures with great optimism.

# 2024: another *extraordinary* year

**7.2%**  
ATAR 99  
OR HIGHER

**25%**  
ATAR 95  
OR HIGHER

**36%**  
ATAR 90  
OR HIGHER

**87**  
MEDIAN  
ATAR

**99.95 HIGHEST ATAR RESULT**

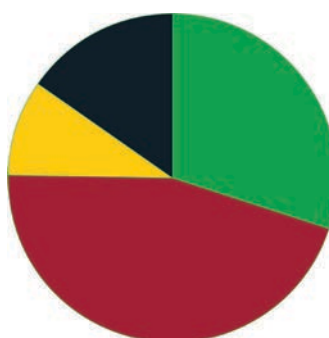
**46% OF ALL GRADES IN THE A RANGE**

**90% OF ALL STUDENTS COMPLETED  
A VET QUALIFICATION**

### ATAR SCORES

99+	9 students
95-99.95	20 students
90-95	11 students
85-90	18 students
Median	87
Median Boarder	83.85
Median Day Girl	88.7

### QUALIFICATIONS ATTAINED IN 2024



- Cert II - 38 qualifications
- Cert III - 57 qualifications
- Cert IV - 12 qualifications
- Diploma - 19 qualifications



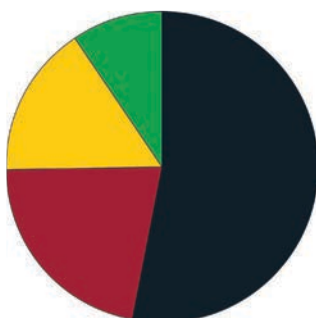


## BEYOND HOLME

2024 saw 100% of Year 12 students who applied for university through QTAC receive an offer for one of their preferences. In addition, there was increased interest in Head Start courses during 2024. These courses serve as advanced academic programs at the university level, catering to high-achieving students in Years 10, 11 or 12. A total of 13 Year 12 students graduated in 2024

having completed Head Start courses in diverse subject areas: Human Development and Learning, Bachelor of Education (Primary), Human Anatomy and Physiology, Introduction to International Relations, Mathematics in Early Primary, Australian Legal System, Foundation Psychology A, Economics, Measurement and Evaluation in Health Science.

### TOP UNIVERSITY PREFERENCES

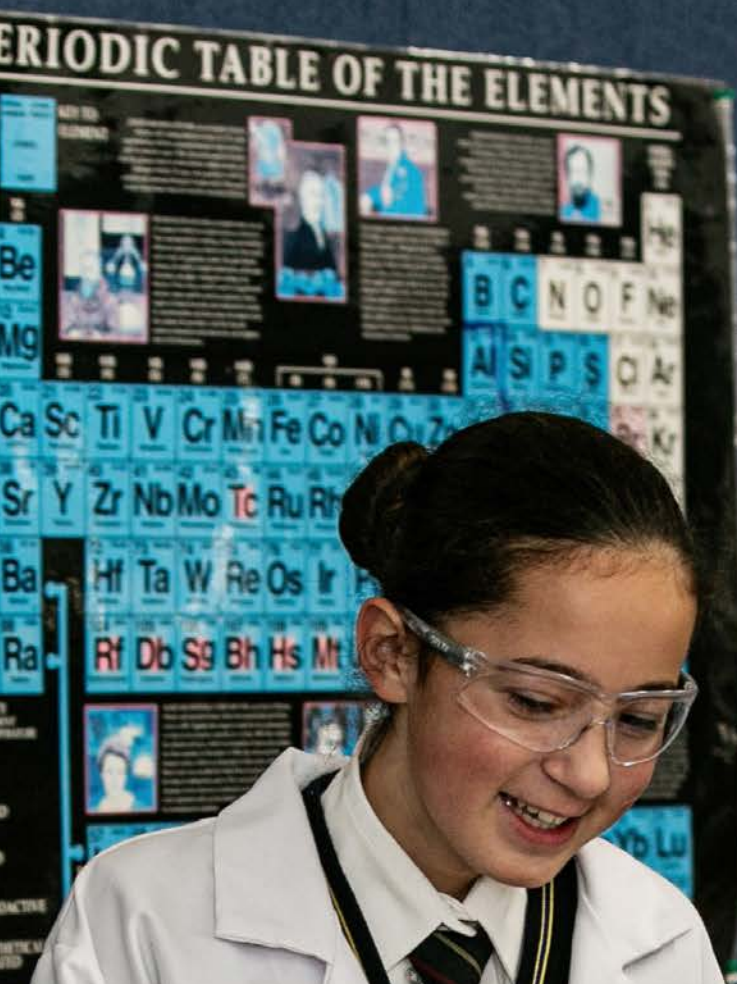


- University of Queensland - 41%
- University of Southern Queensland - 17%
- Queensland University of Technology - 12%
- James Cook University - 7%

### OFFERED AREAS OF STUDY

Area of Study	No. Students
Health	28
Law, Economics, Psychology	15
Management, Commerce	12
Natural and Physical Science	9
Creative Arts	6
Education	6
Agriculture	3
Architecture	1
Information and Technology	1









# NAPLAN RESULTS

In March 2024, our students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participated in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), with results well above the State and National averages across all assessed areas.

Notably, our Year 9 cohort once again achieved the highest secondary school results in the region, further reinforcing the effectiveness of our approach to Middle School growth and development. This outstanding performance exemplifies our College’s ongoing commitment to fostering a strong and vibrant learning culture, where excellence is nurtured at every level.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL YEAR 7



## YEAR 9



## JUNIOR SCHOOL YEAR 3



## YEAR 5



● State Mean Score    ● Fairholme Mean Score

NAPLAN RESULTS												
2024 Mean Score Comparison												
	Year 3			Year 5			Year 7			Year 9		
	Fairholme	State	National	Fairholme	State	National	Fairholme	State	National	Fairholme	State	National
Writing	463	402	416	482	470	485	582	524	540	643	558	573
Reading	441	392	404	494	483	492	578	523	535	612	551	564
Grammar	419	398	409	513	493	498	585	527	537	618	549	555
Spelling	408	388	401	487	475	486	564	530	540	585	560	566
Numeracy	401	393	404	494	479	489	561	529	540	600	552	565



Fairholme College recognises that attendance each day and at each lesson is an integral part of student success. We take great care to monitor the attendance of every student each day.

## ATTENDANCE RATE AT FAIRHOLME

Attendance is recorded electronically for each lesson. In addition, rolls are also marked in Assembly/Chapel or Holme Group Meetings. Absentee lists are generated during the day and communicated with staff.

## MANAGEMENT OF NON ATTENDANCE

Administration staff follow up on any students who are absent, to ensure that we have had contact from parents or caregivers to let us know of the student's whereabouts.

These staff will phone, email or SMS the parents of any students not accounted for on campus.

Additionally, students who are missing from classes during the day are also followed up by academic staff such as a Head of Sub-School or Head of House.

These staff are also involved in supporting students to return to school when they have had an extended absence.

When a student is ill or unable to attend school, it is expected that parents of Day Girls notify the College by

8.30am by phone, email or via the College app.

Boarding staff notify key colleagues about any Boarders who are unable to attend class and are therefore in the College Health Centre.

Should a student be absent for more than three days, the Head of House Team or Head of Sub-School will contact the family to offer support and enquire as to the student's welfare at that time. In the case of prolonged absence, the College works closely with students and families.

Student absences during examination/assessment time are managed through the College's Student Academic Policy.

Year Level	K2	K3	K5	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
% Attendance	97	94	94	94	92	92	92	91	92	91	92	91	91	91	92	86	91.3%







*Our purpose at Fairholme College is to create an engaging and nurturing learning environment where our girls feel supported to grow and challenge themselves academically. It is our aim to prepare our students with the skills and knowledge to reach their potential, and to be young women of integrity, compassion and confidence.*

## JUNIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Fairholme Junior acknowledges the importance of the acquisition of strong literacy and numeracy fundamentals embedded through meaningful and differentiated learning experiences across all areas of the Australian Curriculum – English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Technologies, Health and Physical Education, The Arts and Languages.

Innovative teaching programs, reflecting 21st-century learning models and contemporary thinking, are characterised by a balance between modelling and scaffolding, and investigative and activity-based learning. The integration of Information Communication Technology enhances the learning process in receiving, reflecting and applying information to shape the girls' thinking and understanding.

In addition to our highly experienced classroom teachers, specialist teachers helped deliver an all-encompassing curriculum in 2024 for our Fairholme Junior students.

Specialist lessons included:

- > Christian Education (Prep to Year 6)
- > Physical Education and Sport (Kindy to Year 6)
- > Languages - French and Japanese (Prep to Year 6)
- > Music (Kindy to Year 6)
- > Instrumental Music Program (Year 2 and Year 4)
- > Drama (Prep to Year 6)
- > Dance (Kindy to Year 6)
- > Visual Arts (Prep to Year 6)
- > Greta Junior Library (Kindy to Year 6)





## MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

The Middle School at Fairholme College is a platform which allows our teachers to create an exciting curriculum that caters for the specific learning needs of this unique group of students – girls aged between 11 and 14 years.

The principles that underpin the best learning in the Middle School years include creating a curriculum that is:

- > Focused on literacy and numeracy
- > Relevant to their lives
- > Authentic, not contrived
- > Challenging at every level
- > Intellectually engaging.

Furthermore, evidence-based research demonstrates that

the Middle School offers a unique experience which lays the foundation for success in Senior School years.

This is achieved through ensuring:

- > Students have a small number of teachers with whom they interact and develop positive and trusting relationships
- > The amount of assessment is reduced, yet the quality of the assessment allows for greater depth of learning and skill building
- > The students are offered choice in subjects (increasing from Year 7 to Year 9)
- > The curriculum encourages negotiation and student agency to ensure that students focus on areas of personal interest, as well as developing interest in diverse and unexplored areas.

## THRIVE PROGRAM

Every student in Years 7-12 attends life-skills lessons once every two weeks. The program presents an opportunity for the girls to be heard and to analyse and discuss some of the contemporary issues that individuals in today's society might face. The aim is to develop each girl's acceptance of herself as a worthwhile, competent and productive young woman, and also to provide information to enable students to make informed life choices.



## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

At Fairholme, we are committed to providing comprehensive academic support to all our students, from Junior to Middle to Senior School, ensuring they achieve to their potential. Our structured support programs are designed to cater to the unique needs of students at each stage of their educational journey. We strive to foster a love of learning and equip our students with the skills they need to thrive, both in school and in life.



## FAIRHOLME CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

SUBJECT	PREP- YEAR 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12
English	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Literature						♦	♦
English and Literature Extension							♦
Mathematics	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Mathematical Methods					♦	♦	♦
Specialist Mathematics						♦	♦
Science	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦		
Biology						♦	♦
Physics						♦	♦
Psychology						♦	♦
Chemistry						♦	♦
Ag Science						♦	♦
Humanities	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦		
Modern History						♦	♦
Ancient History						♦	♦
Geography						♦	♦
Business				♦	♦		
Legal Studies						♦	♦
Accounting						♦	♦
Economics						♦	♦
Visual Art	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Dance	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Drama	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Music	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Performance Music			♦				
Music Extension							♦
German					♦	♦	♦
Japanese	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
French	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Design Technology		♦	♦	♦	♦		
Hospitality						♦	♦
Fashion						♦	♦
Digital Technologies	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦		
Launch				♦	♦		
Information Technology						♦	♦
Health and PE	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Senior PE						♦	♦
Sport and Recreation						♦	♦
Christian Education	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
Thrive		♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦





## SENIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

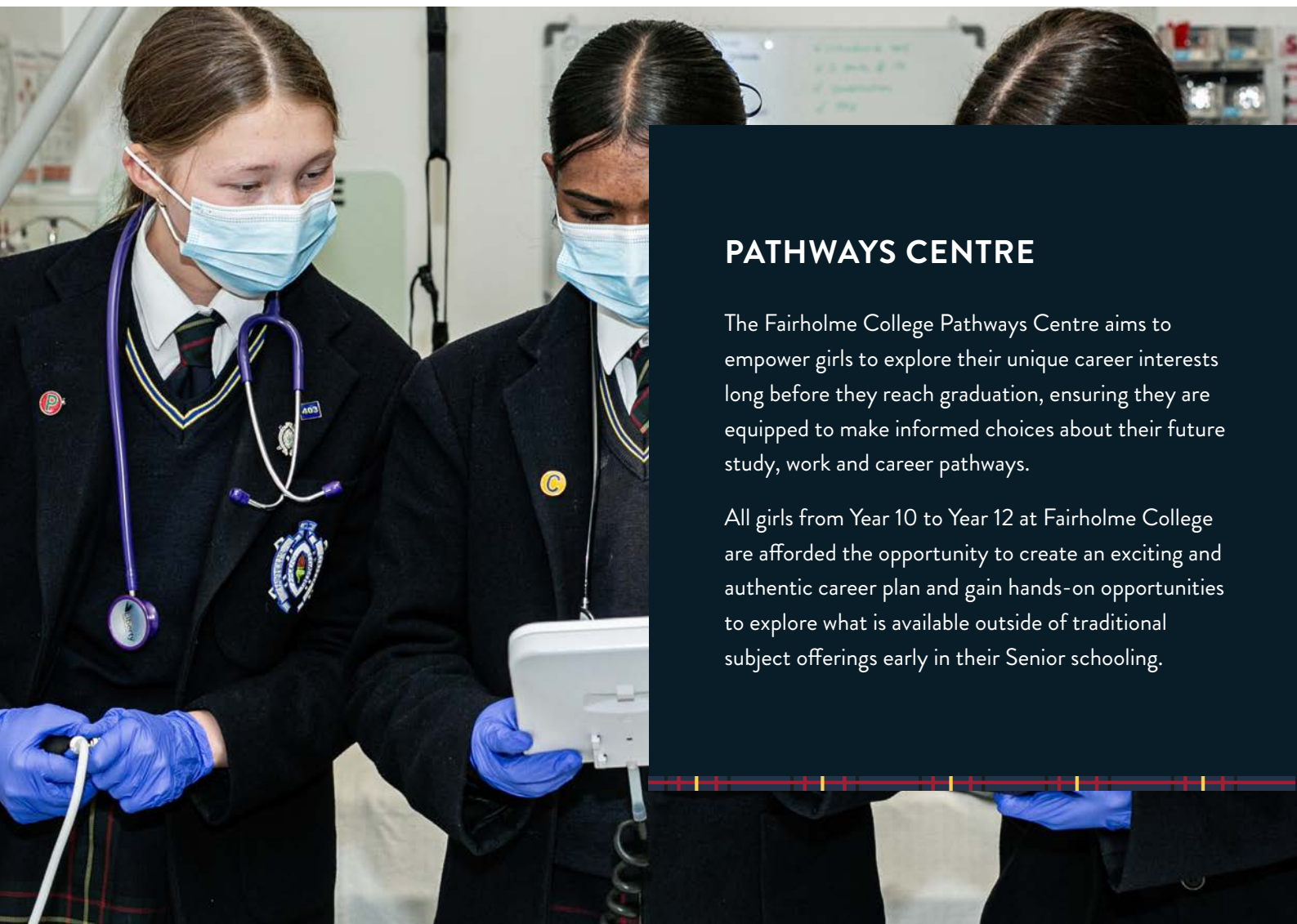
The Year 10 subject offerings seek to expand girls' conceptual understanding of core subject areas, as well as provide opportunity for a greater degree of specialisation. This ensures students are able to make informed decisions as to which subjects they would like to pursue further.

In line with the QCAA requirements, Year 10 students are required to undertake a Senior Education Training (SET) Plan, whereby parents, students and a member of the Senior SET Plan Team meet to begin to formulate each student's individual plan for her educational journey.

In Years 11 and 12 Fairholme College maintains an extensive range of study options and opportunities that prepare our students for life beyond school – whether they choose university, TAFE or study through another further education and training provider, take up an apprenticeship or traineeship, or gain employment.

These included:

- > Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) General subjects
- > QCAA Applied subjects
- > Vocational Education and Training programs (VET) - Pathway Programs
- > Traineeships/School-based Apprenticeships (SATs) - Pathway Programs
- > University Head Start Programs
- > Excellence in Music program  
(Music Extension is offered for Year 12 students)
- > Excellence in English  
(English Extension is offered for Year 12 students)



## PATHWAYS CENTRE

The Fairholme College Pathways Centre aims to empower girls to explore their unique career interests long before they reach graduation, ensuring they are equipped to make informed choices about their future study, work and career pathways.

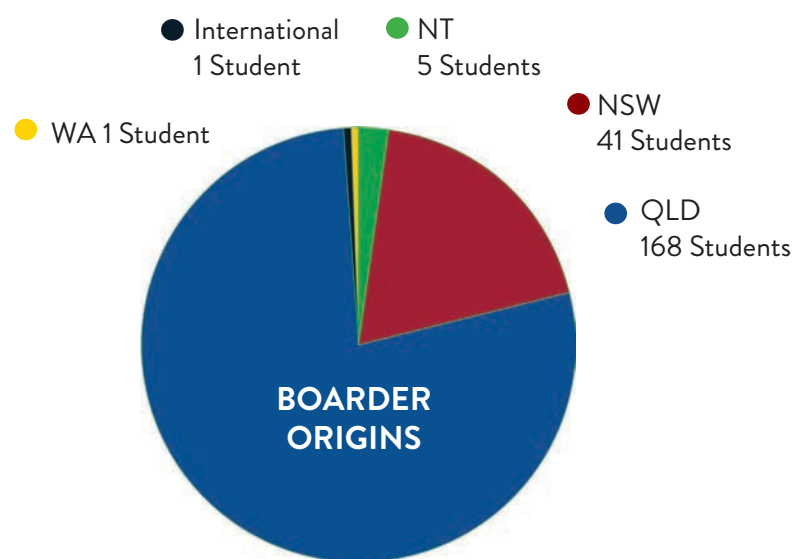
All girls from Year 10 to Year 12 at Fairholme College are afforded the opportunity to create an exciting and authentic career plan and gain hands-on opportunities to explore what is available outside of traditional subject offerings early in their Senior schooling.



*As at the end of November 2024, Boarder enrolments reached 205, constituting 23% of our total student body at Fairholme College.*

## OUR BOARDER ORIGINS

Our Boarders hailed from across Australia, as well as internationally, with Boarding students in 2024 predominately originating from country areas of Queensland, New South Wales, Northern Territory and Western Australia.



## FROM OUR HOLME TO YOURS

Our 'Home' visits commenced as part of a research project in 2014, to support our new Boarders and their families as they navigate the transition to Boarding School.

In the first year, five Boarders were visited by academic and boarding staff members in their home towns prior to commencing at Fairholme College. After experiencing the resounding benefit of these visits, the program was extended to include all girls entering boarding in the following year.

In 2024, wherever possible, our new Boarders were visited in their homes and at their schools, so staff could get to know their families and meet their teachers. The girls loved showing us their pets and a glimpse of their homelife; this also alleviated anxiety at starting at Boarding School and turned it into anticipation.



## BOARDING HIGHLIGHTS

There is always something exciting happening in the Fairholme College Boarding House. Our Boarders were involved in many activities across the year, including:

- > Attending Rugby League and Rugby Union games in Brisbane
- > Watching a show at The Empire Theatre
- > Enjoying a circus show
- > Trips to Wet'n'Wild
- > Spectating at local Panthers netball games
- > Enjoying games of Putt-Putt golf
- > Participating in photography afternoons
- > Joining with Toowoomba Grammar School for fun activities
- > Social opportunities such as the Year 11 Dinner with students from Toowoomba Grammar School and The Glennie School
- > Taking part in craft activities
- > Cooking on weekends
- > Various activities run by Seniors and Boarder Prefects on weekends
- > Trips to the Christmas Tree Farm (Stanthorpe)
- > Bushwalking in Redwood Park
- > Equestrian and Hindle Horse Riding

In addition to the myriad Boarding activities, our Boarding students were involved in all aspects of College life, including:

- > Debating
- > Eikon and Nokie art groups
- > Association Netball, Touch Football, Futsal, Volleyball, Basketball, Rugby 7s and Rugby League
- > Choral and instrumental music ensembles
- > Science and engineering challenge
- > Service activities
- > TAFE courses
- > Cross Country training
- > Speed, power and strength sessions in the Fairholme Gym

*'One of the reasons we picked Fairholme College for our girls was because of the large boarding community – we wanted them to be the majority, not the minority. We knew that if the girls were happy in the boarding house then their school work and sport would reflect that. It was the right decision and we are very happy with our time at Fairholme' - Year 12 Boarding Parent*











## OUR BOARDING TEAM

A committed, qualified and professional team of teaching, residential and medical staff ensures the highest level of care and support for each individual Boarder. The Boarding House Team consisted of 29 staff in 2024:

- > Head of Boarding
- > Two Deputy Heads of Boarding
- > Head of Wellbeing - Boarding
- > Eight Full-time Boarding Supervisors
- > Four casual Boarding Supervisors
- > Assistant to the Head of Boarding
- > Two Front Office staff (one weekend and one weekday)
- > A Bus Driver (Monday to Friday, 3pm-9.30pm)
- > 24-hour Health Centre staffed by a Nurse Manager and eight nurses.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND STUDENT MOBILITY

A number of our Senior Boarders are actively engaged in part-time employment within the local community, including at coffee shops, restaurants, and various businesses in the Grand Central precinct. This involvement not only fosters independence but also strengthens our students' connection with the broader community.

To further support student participation in extracurricular and community activities, the College has invested in a 12-seater vehicle, affectionately known as Bertie. This vehicle provides safe and reliable transportation for Boarders throughout the week. A designated driver operates the service from Monday to Friday, while the Head of Boarding and Deputy Head of Boarding assist with transportation needs over the weekend.

On average, Boarders utilise Bertie 350 times each week, with demand increasing during Netball and Touch Football seasons. The introduction of this service has been warmly received by parents, who value the enhanced safety and reliability it offers compared to local taxi services.





## CO-CURRICULAR SPORT MIDDLE AND SENIOR

Fairholme girls once again participated in a vast array of team and individual sports, showcasing outstanding dedication, sportsmanship and Fairholme spirit.

For some, this was in pursuit of excellence at a high level. For others it was an opportunity to make new friends, enjoy a regular routine or try their hand at something new. Opportunities across more than 20 different individual and team sports catered for participation at all skill levels in both competitive and non-competitive environments.

In 2024, Fairholme girls achieved resounding success in Representative School Sport, with 115 girls selected in Darling Downs teams and 26 progressing further to represent Queensland.

Fairholme had more than 135 teams in local competitions and more than 475 girls were involved in individual sporting activities.



**475 girls** involved in individual sporting activities



More than **135 teams** in local competitions



**115 girls** selected in Darling Downs teams



**26 girls** representing Queensland

## SPORT IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

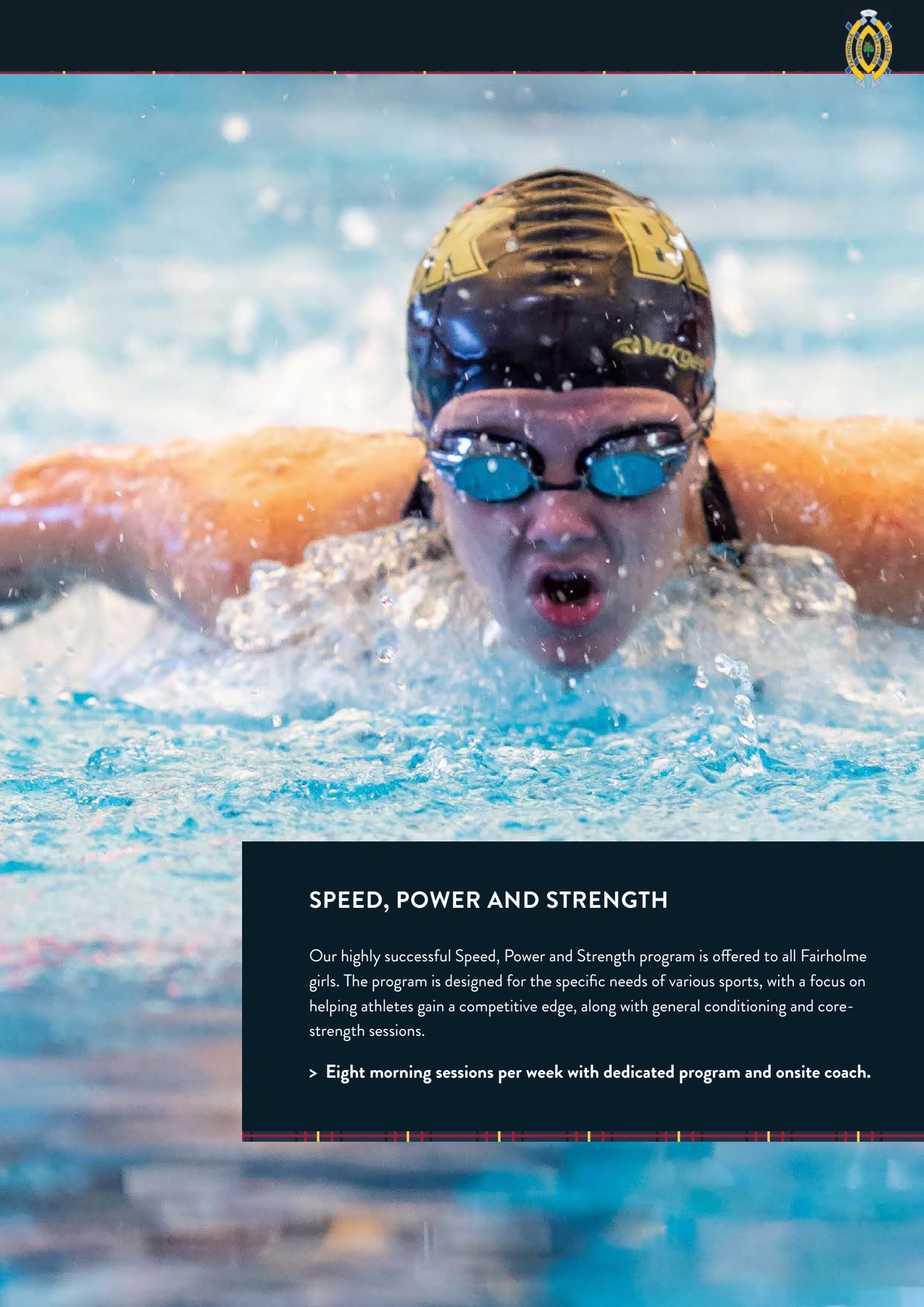
Throughout the year, co-curricular sporting activities enriched the dynamic Physical Education program at Fairholme Junior. Co-curricular opportunities were offered across a wide variety of sports, providing our junior girls with strong sporting foundations.

Fairholme Junior co-curricular sports included:

- > Participation in the Queensland Girls' Primary Independent Schools Andrews Cup Association sporting competitions – Swimming, Touch Football, Tennis, Cross Country, Netball, Athletics, Gymnastics and Basketball
- > Queensland Primary All Schools and South West Queensland Touch Football Tournaments
- > Inaugural Darling Downs Primary Schools Netball Gala Day
- > Interschool sport and association sports – Touch Football, Netball, Cricket and Basketball
- > Cross Country and Athletics after-school training
- > Fairholme Aquatic Centre learn to swim classes, squad training and Fairholme Aquatics Swim Club
- > Tennis coaching
- > Specialist programs – Aussie Hoops Basketball, Jump in2 Netball and Cricket Blast
- > Lunchtime Junior Swimming Knockout Tournament.







## **SPEED, POWER AND STRENGTH**

Our highly successful Speed, Power and Strength program is offered to all Fairholme girls. The program is designed for the specific needs of various sports, with a focus on helping athletes gain a competitive edge, along with general conditioning and core-strength sessions.

**> Eight morning sessions per week with dedicated program and onsite coach.**



# FAIRHOLME SPORT 2024 *Highlights*







## AFL

- > Open – StreetSmart Schools Cup Regional Champions, progressed to Metro South Finals

## Basketball

- > Darling Downs Armstrong Automotive Group Cup – Senior Champions
- > Year 7/8 team – Darling Downs Armstrong Automotive Basketball Challenge Runners-Up
- > Three Friday Night TSSS teams – 7/8 Semi-Finalists; 9/10 and 11/12 teams – Champions
- > Participants in Regional CBSQ Basketball Competition
- > Andrews Cup Basketball – Primary A Grade 3rd place
- > Two Darling Downs representatives

## Campdrafting

- > High School Campdraft Percentile Cup – 4th place

## Cricket T20

- > Open – T20 StreetSmart Cricket Competition was cancelled
- > Four Darling Downs representatives, one Queensland representative and one Australian representative

## Cross Country

- > Interhouse Carnival Champions – Black House
- > Darling Downs Overall Champion School
- > Andrews Cup Primary Cross Country Carnival – Percentage Cup Winners and Noel McBride Relay Champions
- > Queensland All Schools Cross Country Team Relays – 12yrs 1<sup>st</sup>, 15yrs 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17yrs 2<sup>nd</sup>
- > 19 Darling Downs and two

Queensland representatives

## Equestrian

- > Darling Downs and South West Queensland Regional Championships – Overall Grand Champion School, Champion Combined Training and Dressage teams, and Reserve Champion Show Horse and Show Jumping teams
- > State Championships – Lorette Wigan Cup for Overall Champion Secondary School, Champion team in Combined Training, Eventing and Dressage. Show Horse Reserve Champion team and Show Jumping Third Overall team.
- > Convenors of Fairholme Interschool Queensland Show Jumping at Pittsworth
- > 21 Darling Downs, 14 Queensland representatives and one Northern Territory representative

## Football

- > One Association team
- > One Darling Downs representative

## Futsal

- > Three Association Teams in Term 1 and 4
- > South West Queensland Futsal Tournament – U16 and U19 teams. U19 made Semi-Finals and qualified for Champion of Champion Tournament.

## Hockey

- > Darling Downs Schools Cup Hockey participants – 3<sup>rd</sup> overall
- > Two Darling Downs representatives

## Netball

- > 28 Association Netball teams (Saturday and Wednesday nights) – 11 teams Grand Finalists in respective

divisions, eight Premiership teams

- > Darling Downs Senior Vicki Wilson – Team 1 Regional Champions, Team 2 Regional Development Champions
- > Darling Downs Junior Vicki Wilson – Team 1 Regional Runner-Ups, Team 2 Development Regional Champions
- > Vicki Wilson State Final – Junior team 7th place, Senior team 10th place
- > Year 7-9 Laura Geitz Darling Downs Schools Cup – Division 1 Champions
- > Inaugural Darling Downs Primary Schools Netball Gala Day – Undefeated
- > 11 Darling Downs and two Queensland representative

## Orienteering

- > Queensland Schools Orienteering Championships – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place School
- > Seven Darling Downs and one Australian representative

## Rugby 7s

- > Over 80 girls training and playing in U13, U15 and U18 teams
- > South West Sevens Competition – U13 Runners-Up, U15 Runners-Up and U18 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- > Fraser Coast Tournament – U18 Champions, U15 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
- > Scots PGC College Rugby 7s Tournament – 15 Years Champions, 13 Years and Opens Runners-Up
- > Queensland All Schools Rugby 7s Tournament – U13 9th place and U15 13th place
- > Four Darling Downs representatives, two Queensland representatives

## Rugby League

- > Three Darling Downs representatives and one Queensland Merit representative

## Softball

- > Darling Downs Golden Gloves participants
- > One Darling Downs representative and one Queensland representative

## Swimming

- > Interhouse Carnival Champions – Stephens House
- > Andrews Cup Primary Swimming Carnival – 2nd Overall Percentage Cup
- > 12 Darling Downs and two Queensland representatives and one Queensland representative

## Tennis

- > Secondary School Team Tennis Tournament – 5th place, Country Championship winners
- > Knowles Cup Tournament – Junior Finalists. Fairholme awarded Intermediate player of the competition.
- > Darling Downs Secondary Schools Cup – Regional Champions
- > One Darling Downs representative

## Touch Football

- > Eight Association Winter Series Competition teams – A Division Semi-Finalists
- > Six Summer Competition teams
- > South West Queensland All Schools Touch Tournament – U13, U15 and Open teams: Champions
- > South West Queensland Swans Schools Cup – U13 and U15 Champions, Open 3rd Place
- > Gold Coast Titans Queensland All Schools Touch Carnival – 3rd

teams participating: Open Team: Top 8, U13: Top 16

- > All Hallows' Touch Tournament – U15s Grand Finalists; U13 and Open, Semi-Finalists
- > Ten Darling Downs representatives, one Queensland representative, one Queensland shadow and one All Australian Schools Merit Team representative

## Track and Field

- > Interhouse Carnival Champions – Cameron House
- > Queensland All Schools Athletics Championships – highest ranked Toowoomba school
- > Queensland Athletics Relay Championships – 4x800m 1st, Long Jump 3rd, Discus 3rd
- > Andrews Cup Primary Athletics Carnival – Percentage Cup Runner-Ups
- > 20 Darling Downs and one Queensland representative

## Triathlon

- > Six Darling Downs representatives and one Queensland reserve

## Volleyball

- > Five Association teams in Terms 1, 2 and 3
- > Term 1 – F2 2nd, F4 Champions
- > Term 2 – F2/F3 2nd, F4 3rd
- > Term 3 – F1 2nd, F1 1st, F4 3rd
- > Four teams participated at Darling Downs Schools Cup – Year 7/8, 9/10 and 11/12

## Water Polo

- > One Association team Runners-Up
- > Annual Fairholme vs Glennie 'Chris Stumkat Shield'
- > Five Darling Downs representatives

## Interhouse Overall Champion House for Sport

Stephens House







## TOP OF TOOWOOMBA FOR SPORT

In 2024, Fairholme College won Darling Downs Championships across ten different sports:

- > AFL
- > Basketball
- > Cross Country
- > Equestrian
- > Netball
- > Orienteering
- > Swimming
- > Tennis
- > Touch Football
- > Volleyball

## CO-CURRICULAR ARTS

The Arts at Fairholme in 2024 engaged, challenged and empowered students through an extensive array of highly creative and immersive experiences.

To support our rigorous academic programs, our Junior, Middle and Senior School girls were offered a wide variety of exciting co-curricular opportunities in Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Art, Debating, Public Speaking and Sound and Lighting



## CO-CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

### Dance

- > Dance Collective (Years 7-12)
- > Jazz Dance Troupe (Auditioned Group 10-12)
- > Contemporary Troupe (Auditioned Group 10-12)
- > Hip Hop Squad (Auditioned Group 10-12)
- > Specialist Dancers (Auditioned Group 7 – 12)
- > Physie Dance (Junior School)

### Drama

- > CentreStage Drama Group (Years 7-12)

### Choral Music

- > College Choir (Years 7-12)
- > Chamber Choir (Auditioned Group Years 7-12)
- > Middle Voices Choir (Years 7-9)
- > Junior Chorale
- > Junior School Year-Level Choirs

### Instrumental Music

- > Symphony Orchestra
- > Symphonic Wind Band
- > String Orchestra
- > Stage Band
- > Saxophone Ensemble
- > Chamber Strings
- > Corelli String Quartet
- > Haydn String Quartet
- > Chime Choir (Junior, Middle and Senior)
- > Junior School String Orchestra
- > Junior Band

### Visual Art

- > Nokie Art Group (Middle School)
- > Eikon Art Group (Senior School)

### Additional Co-curricular Groups

- > Music Theory Tutorials
- > Interschool Qld Debating Union Competition
- > Sound & Lighting Crew
- > Public Speaking – Lions Youth of The Year, Rostrum and EVATT competitions
- > Film Club

### Specialist Tuition

- > Instrumental, Music Theory and Music Technology
- > Individual Vocal Tuition – Fairholme Singing Studio
- > Speech & Drama
- > Musicianship, Aural Training and Music Craft





## ARTS EVENTS

Our Fairholme Arts program is enriched by the depth of quality performance and presentation opportunities on offer to our Junior, Middle and Senior School students. Our extensive array of events in 2024 included:

- > *Picnic at Hanging Rock* – CentreStage drama group performance
- > Fairholme Open Art Prize – FACETS Art Exhibition
- > *Choralations* – Choral Music Pre-Eisteddfod Concert
- > City of Toowoomba Eisteddfod – Vocal, Choral and Instrumental Music, Dance and Drama sections
- > Instrumental and Choral Music Camps
- > Visual Art Excursion to ‘Fairy Tales’ Exhibition, QAGOMA
- > Drama excursion to see Queensland Theatre’s production of *Medea*
- > *Spring Concert* – Brisbane Regional Youth Orchestra and Fairholme Instrumental Ensembles
- > *Instrumentally-Inclined* – Instrumental Music Pre-Eisteddfod Concert
- > *Reverberations* – featuring Toowoombells and Fairholme Chime Choirs
- > *Crème de la Crème* Recital – Year 12 Music, Music Extension and Senior School Music Scholarship Recipients
- > *A Box of Chocolates* – Middle School Concert
- > *Autumn Tones* – Year 8 Performance Music and Year 11 Music Semester 2 Recital
- > *Musical Nuances* – Year 8 Performance Music and Year 11 Music Semester 2 Recital
- > Annual Dance Showcase
- > Junior School Arts Showcase
- > Queensland Theatre Company ‘*Scene Project*’
- > Kingaroy Dance Eisteddfod
- > Eutopia Dance Competition, Brisbane
- > Jen Murray Dance Masterclass
- > TriCare Nursing Home performances – Stage Band and Saxophone Ensemble
- > Blue Care Nursing Home performances – Chamber Choir and String Quartets
- > Interhouse Choral and Dance Competitions
- > Performances at College events, including Fairholme Girl for a Day, Year 12 Formal Soiree, Spring Fair, Assemblies, *Presenting Fairholme*, Valedictory
- > *Sing Out* – massed Junior School Festival hosted by Fairholme
- > SJunior, Middle and Senior Lunchtime Concerts
- > Fairholme Singing Studio Annual Recital
- > *Curtain Call* – Arts End-of-Year Showcase and Awards Presentation Evening
- > Fairholme Community Carols and Thanksgiving Service
- > Kindy to Year 3 Christmas Musical

## CHALLENGING CREATIVE MINDS

High performing students were extended through participation in:

- > AMEB Examinations and Trinity College of London Examinations
- > Queensland Theatre Education Program for Drama
- > State Honours Ensemble Program (SHEP) – Vocal and Instrumental
- > Australian Honours Ensemble Program (AHEP)
- > Gondwana National Choir
- > Creative Generation Excellence Awards in Visual Art Darling Downs and Southwest Queensland Regional Exhibition
- > UniSQ Future Visions Art Exhibition Finalists
- > Special Assembly performances (Commencement, Anzac Day, Founders’ Day, Valedictory, Final)
- > National High School Mooting Competition







# FAIRHOLME ARTS IN *The Spotlight*

## PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK

Months of rehearsals culminated into a compelling performance of *Picnic at Hanging Rock* by our Fairholme CentreStage drama group at the Empire Theatre, Armitage Centre. With engaging Artist in Residence, Matthew Caffoe from Mashed Theatre & Films, along with Co-Directors, Katrina Bailey and Karen Wighton, the girls performed to a sold-out audience, bringing to the stage a contemporary adaptation of the classic novel by Joan Lindsay.



## FAIRHOLME OPEN ART PRIZE – FACETS ART EXHIBITION

In its eighth year, the Fairholme Open Art Prize delivered an exceptional curated art exhibition, showcasing talented student works alongside those of acclaimed artists. SOFA-sponsored student awards were presented to Kadence Wilson (First Prize), Indianna Hitchcock and Lucy Mitchell (Second Prize - shared). Photography awards were presented to Annabelle Rogan (First Prize), Clare Hogan (Second Prize). Curators, Sandy Pottinger and Sue Lostroh, awarded a Student Encouragement Award to Kaylah Daniel-Stafford.



## CREATIVE GENERATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS IN VISUAL ART

From the four finalists selected to represent Fairholme College in these state-wide awards, Celina Mouzouris was awarded a Certificate of Participation, whilst Roma Aarons, Georgia Hoffmann and Kadence Wilson impressively had their works short-listed as finalists and were awarded Certificates of Commendation.



## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND FUTURE VISIONS ART AWARDS

The 2024 Future Visions Art Awards attracted 126 student submissions from schools across the Darling Downs region and further afield, with judges selecting just 55 as finalists for inclusion in the Exhibition.

Of these, 27 works were produced by Fairholme students in Years 10-12. Year 12 student, Alana Callaghan was awarded Overall First Prize for her work, 'Light at the end of the Tunnel'.

## TOOWOOMBA EISTEDDFOD

### Choral Music

- > Middle Voices – Middle School Vocal Ensemble Section – 1st Place
- > Middle Voices – Middle School Choir Section – 1st Place
- > Fairholme Chamber Choir – Secondary School Folk Singing Choir – 2nd Place
- > Fairholme College Choir – Secondary School Hymn Singing Choir – 2nd Place
- > Fairholme College Choir – Secondary School Spiritual Gospel Choir – Highly Commended
- > Fairholme Junior Chorale – Primary School A Grade Choir – Highly Commended
- > Fairholme Chamber Choir – Secondary Vocal Ensemble – Highly Commended
- > Fairholme College Choir – Secondary School Choir – Participation
- > Fairholme College Choir – Secondary School Modern Choir – Participation

### Instrumental Music

- > Stage Band – Secondary Stage Band – 1st Place
- > Junior Chime Choir – Primary Percussion Ensemble – 1st Place

- > Chime Choir – Secondary Percussion Ensemble – 1st Place
- > Junior Chimelets – Primary Percussion Quartet/Trio – 1st Place
- > Symphony Orchestra – Secondary School Orchestra – 2nd Place
- > Junior String Orchestra – Primary School String Ensemble – 3rd Place
- > Corelli String Quartet – Secondary String Quartet/Trio – 3rd Place
- > String Orchestra – Secondary School String Ensemble – Highly Commended
- > Haydn String Quartet – Secondary String Quartet/Trio – Highly Commended
- > Flute Trio – Primary Woodwind Trio / Quartet – Participation
- > Chamber Strings – Open Instrumental Ensemble – Participation
- > Junior Band – Primary Concert Band – Participation
- > Saxophone Ensemble – Secondary Woodwind / Brass Ensemble – 3rd Place
- > Symphonic Wind Band – Secondary Concert Band – 1st Place

## EUTOPIA DANCE COMPETITION

The Fairholme Jazz Dance Troupe travelled to Brisbane to compete for the first time in the Eutopia Dance competition. The Troupe competed in the Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical and Hip-Hop sections, impressively winning a bid to compete at the Global Games to be held in Hawaii in May 2025.





## CO-CURRICULAR CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

In addition to the Arts and Sport Co-Curricular activities, students are offered a wide-ranging variety of activities and clubs – before, during and after school – on a regular basis each term.

Some of these opportunities include:

### Junior School

- > Readers Cup
- > Debating
- > Garden Club
- > Maths Olympiad
- > Chess Academy and Chess Squad
- > Club G
- > Creative Writing Whizzes
- > LEGO Discovery and LEGO Challenge

### Middle and Senior School

- > Regular service activities such as Homework Help, Tony's Kitchen meal preparation, and Rosies Friends on the Street breakfast BBQs
- > Hydrogen Grand Prix
- > Readers Cup
- > Maths Team Challenge
- > Film Club
- > Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
- > Robotics Club
- > Premier's Reading Challenge
- > Interact Club
- > Cadets



*In 2024, Fairholme College's approach to Wellbeing continues to be deeply rooted in its core values: Christ-centred Faith, Collaboration, Enjoyment, Respect, and the Pursuit of Excellence.*

**Christ-centered Faith:** We believe that every individual in our community is created in the image of God. This belief shapes our actions and interactions, reflecting His worth, love, and purpose for our lives. We practise forgiveness and embrace being forgiven. This value also shapes the College's commitment to working with people, through Restorative Practices.

**Collaboration:** We foster an environment where open and honest communication is encouraged. We support each other in taking risks with new ideas and continuously ask, 'Is there a better way?'

**Enjoyment:** We find joy and satisfaction in our work and face challenges together with camaraderie, free from fear. We value generosity of spirit and ensure we take time to rest and rejuvenate.

**Respect:** We celebrate diversity and the unique contributions of each individual. We listen actively to understand different perspectives.

**Seeking Excellence:** Recognising our individual strengths and abilities, we encourage perseverance, curiosity, and a willingness to learn. We focus on activities that promote personal and collective growth.

## SUPPORT: THE HOUSE SYSTEM AND COLLEGE SOCIAL WORKER

The House system remains the cornerstone of pastoral care at Fairholme. It organises students into smaller Holme Groups of 12-16 members within their sub-school.

These groups meet daily, fostering care and camaraderie among students and staff. This system also provides an avenue for devotions and prayers to be offered with students in a small-group setting.

The Heads of House and College Social Worker play crucial roles in student wellbeing. Heads of House focus on

pastoral care within the House system. As a skilled wellbeing professional, the Social Worker provides individualised support, addressing personal and emotional challenges.

Furthermore, the College Social Worker runs programs and facilitates opportunities for students to participate in activities that foster connection, belonging, and build community across the school.

Together, these roles ensure comprehensive support for students.



## WELLBEING FRAMEWORK: WAYS OF BEING

Fairholme College furthered the implementation of a unique Wellbeing Framework, emphasising the importance for people to incorporate simple, effective actions into daily routines to enhance their psychological, social and emotional health.



Inspired by '5 Ways to Wellbeing' - [www.5waystowellbeing.org.au](http://www.5waystowellbeing.org.au)

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

As a Presbyterian Church-owned school, Fairholme's Christian ethos is integral to its culture and practices. Weekly assemblies and Chapel services are held for all year levels, and Christian Education classes are mandatory from Prep to Year 12. Students can further explore their faith through activities like Breakfast Club, Growth Groups, and Faith and Friends in the Boarding House.

## SERVICE LEARNING

Service learning is a key component of life at Fairholme College, offering students opportunities to deepen connections, grow in awareness, give back, and learn about the world. Highlights from 2024 include:

- > The Year 10 Intergenerational Morning Tea with local residents
- > Year 10 and 11 students participating in the Homework Help Program for children of migrants and refugees through HumeRidge Church of Christ and attending residents at Blue Care, weekly
- > Increased Year 9 involvement in cooking for Tony's Kitchen
- > Various Junior School initiatives to raise awareness and support for local charities
- > A transformative trip to Cambodia for Year 11 students in partnership with RAW Impact, where students engaged in meaningful service projects and cultural exchange, broadening their global perspective and understanding of service
- > Utilisation of a sign-up platform to streamline and expand opportunities for students to participate in service activities, making it easier for them to get involved and contribute to the community.

## PARENT ENGAGEMENT

*The culture of the College is one which invites connection and positive relationships with families.*

Formal avenues, such as information evenings, Parent/Teacher/Student interviews, and social gatherings held regularly across the College, offered opportunities for discussion and parent involvement. Additionally, the Parents and Friends groups provided important information-sharing and friend-raising avenues.

Importantly, in recognition of the value of relationship development for new Boarders, key staff travelled to meet each incoming Boarder 'at home' in the year before entry.

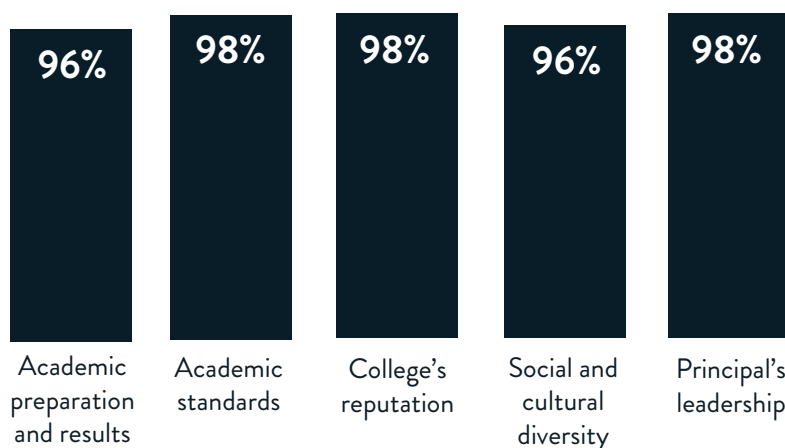
From a parent-engagement perspective, a number of teachers have been involved in a research project with Griffith University and Independent Schools Queensland to look at ways of developing stronger connections between home and school through appropriate pedagogical approaches. Underpinning this is our drive to work collaboratively with families to enhance learning outcomes for our students.

## ANNUAL SURVEY

The feedback received through our annual MMG Education survey helps us better understand parent and student perspectives, assisting the College to continually improve the education experience.

Year 6, Year 9 and Year 12 families were offered the opportunity to complete this survey during Term 4. The questions provided the opportunity to indicate satisfaction, and provide specific feedback, on all areas of College life.

Fairholme Year 6/9/12 Parents - Top 5 Expectations Met/Exceeded



*'It's the tartan, that ties us together. From the dedication of our staff to the camaraderie among the students, and the inclusive approach to education which make Fairholme College a truly special place.'*

– Fairholme Year 12 Parent

*'It's the feel of the College - it feels like a beautiful, nurturing, caring space for girls.'*

– Fairholme Year 9 Parent

*'I respect and appreciate all teachers at Fairholme. They always give and support our students in every way possible.'*

– Fairholme Year 9 Parent

*'The Junior School has a lovely family feel. Moving my daughter to Fairholme has completely changed her relationship with school in a positive way. She is more confident and happy at school.'*

– Fairholme Year 6 Parent

*'What I value most about my association with the College is the dedication of the secondary school teachers. Many are genuinely committed to both the academic success and overall wellbeing of their students.'*

– Fairholme Year 12 Parent





Parents were asked to provide open responses to the most valued aspects of Fairholme College.

The most frequently nominated aspects were:

#### Year 6 Parents

- > Caring community
- > Standard of education
- > Supporting the interests of every student
- > Sense of family
- > Inclusivity

#### Year 9 Parents

- > The College community
- > Opportunities
- > Academic curriculum and standards
- > Safe, caring and supporting environment
- > Quality of teachers and staff

#### Year 12 Parents

- > Community connections
- > Inclusive and nurturing environment
- > High academic standard
- > Dedicated teachers

Students were asked what do they enjoy most about being a student at Fairholme.

#### Year 6 Students

- > My friends
- > Quality of teachers and staff
- > Sports program
- > Opportunities provided
- > I enjoy going to school

#### Year 9 Students

- > My friends
- > The College community
- > Quality of teachers and staff
- > Academic curriculum and standards
- > Opportunities provided

#### Year 12 Students

- > My friends
- > Quality of teachers and staff
- > The College community
- > A safe and supportive learning environment
- > Academic curriculum and standards

*'I feel the teachers genuinely want the best for myself and my peers. I feel comfortable around them in school settings. Friends and teachers create a positive surrounding environment that assists in making each day brighter.'* - Fairholme Year 9 Student

*'I enjoy the close-knit culture that us girls have made and how there is a large sense of school spirit and wanting to make sure that you do the school proud and justice. I also appreciate how kind and caring all of the staff have been over the course of my journey; they have made it so much easier being able to talk to some of them like they are your friends.'* - Fairholme Year 12 Student

*'I love the Fairholme community and its kind environment where everyone is encouraged to be the best they can be.'*  
- Fairholme Year 9 Student

*'I value the kindness and empathy my peers and teachers have shown. I also value the College's attention to the arts program and the sports programs.'* - Fairholme Year 6 Student

*'I love the environment and how interactive and engaging it is to be a part of the school. I love interacting in activities at lunch times and dancing. I know I can rely on my teachers for support and can count on them when I am in need.'* - Fairholme Year 12 Student





## STUDENT VOICE

At Fairholme College, we strongly believe that involving students in decision-making processes promotes a sense of belonging and engagement within our school community, ultimately leading to more effective learning and teaching outcomes.

### SENIOR SCHOOL

*Student driven, student centred and student led.*

Our Senior School motto is centred around the Student Voice – student driven, student centred and student led. Several key student-engagement initiatives continued throughout 2024, ensuring our students' voices were heard on all aspects of life at Fairholme.

Senior School Student Voice initiatives included:

#### > Senior School Meetings

Students in Years 10 and 12 met individually with the Head of Senior School (Year 10 in Term 1 and Year 12 in Term 2)

#### > Carpet Conversations

Occurring in Term 3, groups of 12 students met with the Head of Senior School for lunch to discuss their successes and uncover the areas we need to prioritise in the following year

#### > Student Focus Groups

Groups were formed as required in areas such as AI and Progressive Reporting

#### > Lunch with the Head of Senior School

Groups of students met with the Head of Senior School in Term 4 to provide feedback and identify what is working well, and any areas for improvement

#### > Year 12 Survey

Conducted each year in October, our Year 12 students and their parents were presented with the opportunity to provide feedback via a formal survey

#### > Frameworks

Students continued to play a role in the feedback for frameworks such as our wellbeing framework and the teaching and learning framework

#### > Students as Employees

Students have an active say as employees in a variety of areas across the College, such as marketing and photography.





## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### *Year 9 Leadership Committees*

In our Middle School, each Year 9 student is a member of a Leadership Committee, encouraging all girls to take an active role in the Fairholme Middle School community and influence the areas of school life where they feel connected.

The students are provided with the opportunity to have their say on the way things operate in the Middle School, as well as contributing their ideas for activities, events and fundraisers to implement.

The eight Committees aim to run one activity per term. Some highlights from our 2024 Year 9 Leadership Committees included:

#### > Arts Committee

Just Dance, Box of Chocolates concert, Middle School Arts mural

#### > Cultural Committee

Harmony Day, NAIDOC poster competition, Healing Tree, Rainbow Serpent chalk drawing, Peace activity

#### > Environment Committee

World Environment Day activities; Boost Juice Fund Raiser – donating funds raised to Drought Angels; Cake Sale Fund Raiser – donating funds to Pot Plant project; Pot Plant Painting Project – decorating the amphitheatre

#### > Pastoral Care Committee

Friday Fun Day games in amphitheatre, positive messages

written on mirrors in bathrooms

#### > Teaching and Learning Committee

Book Week Kahoot, stress ball making

#### > Service Committee

Beanies for Brain Cancer fundraiser

#### > Sport Committee

Dodgeball, mini Olympics, amphitheatre games, Red Rover, Donut fundraiser

#### > Wellness Committee

Play dough, bubble blowing, colouring in/chalk drawing, friendship bracelets, and Beanies for Brain Cancer fundraiser.

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

### *Year 6 Leadership*

As in our Middle and Senior Schools, our Year 6 students in their final year in the Junior School are inspired to leave Fairholme Junior a better place for all.

The girls apply to be a leader in a specific area in which they are interested, where they have personal capacity and where they would like to make a positive contribution and a difference.

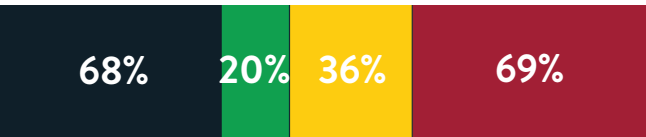
- > Kindy      > Prep      > Year 1
- > Community Events      > Chess
- > Performing Arts      > Environmental
- > Christian Education      > Visual Arts
- > Greta Junior and Reading Support
- > Sport, Lunch and Before School Activities





OUR TEAM

In 2024, teaching staff at the College numbered 68 full-time and 20 part-time employees. Additionally, 36 full-time and 69 part-time employees undertook non-teaching roles in the business, catering, maintenance, health, residential, Arts and Sporting facets of College operation.



Total Staff 193

- Full-time teaching staff
- Full-time non-teaching staff
- Part-time teaching staff
- Part-time non-teaching staff

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS



STAFF RETENTION

Teaching Staff, end 2023	Staff Retained into 2024	Retention Rate
88	84	95.45%

STAFF ATTENDANCE

Average staff attendance for the school was, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave periods of up to five days. The average staff attendance for permanent staff, temporary staff and school leaders in 2024 was 96.74%

Number of Staff	Number of School Days	Total Number of Absences	Average Attendance Rate
193	195	1247.37	96.69%





## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

There is a strong connection between teaching standards and teacher Professional Learning; the link to student learning is clear.

The College values the knowledge and commitment of its employees. We recognise that teacher knowledge and skills contribute significantly to the quality of teaching and learning at the College.

Our staff endeavour to deepen their subject knowledge, develop their teaching skills and stay current with new research, while striving to remain innovative and imaginative in their field.

In addition to Professional Learning days, visiting experts, keynote speakers, collaborative work, seminars, workshops and conferences, for both academic and non-academic staff, covered a disparate range of fields and topics in the past year.

Professional Learning opportunities in 2024 included:

- > Heads of Departments' Forums for updates to Australian Curriculum V9
- > Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) Curriculum Leaders Forum

- > Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) Insights
- > Timetabling Solutions
- > Capacity Building School Libraries Conference
- > Innovation in the Classroom
- > Queensland Association of Mathematics Teachers (QAMT) State Conference
- > Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) External Exam Marking
- > Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) Pivotal People 2024
- > Collaborative and Proactive Solutions In-Person Training

## EXPENDITURE

\$75,275.45 was spent in supporting Professional Learning for 88 teaching staff, equating to an average expenditure per person of \$855.40.

***'The College values the knowledge and commitment of its employees. We recognise that teacher knowledge and skills contribute significantly to the quality of teaching and learning at the College'***



