



Genazzano FCJ College

Registered School Number: 733

Annual Report 2008



College Contact Information

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Our College Vision

We are a Community of Faith inspiring:

- a passion for life
- a love of learning, and
- the courage and confidence to serve others.

Our College Mission

As a Christian Learning Community we challenge young Catholic women to live and act with discernment through:

- an excellent academic program
- a quality religious education
- an intensive co-curriculum, and
- active engagement with issues of social justice.

We value:

- life as a gift of God to be shared
- companionship with God, creation and one another
- the intrinsic dignity of each individual
- the distinctive contribution of women to church and society, and
- education as life-long, liberating and transformative.

The guiding principles in pursuit of our Mission are:

- FCJ Charism and spirituality
- employment of world's best practice
- commitment to community within and beyond the school, and
- development of the whole person which requires a balanced, broad and cohesive curriculum

College Overview

We are a Catholic Girls' College established in Kew in 1889 by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus. Over 1100 students from Preparatory to Year 12 attend Genazzano which is permeated by the richness and traditions of the Catholic Faith and the heritage of the Sisters Faithful Companions of Jesus.

Genazzano aims to prepare young women for the expected complexities of a new millennium. No two people are identical and Genazzano recognises the importance of engaging with each individual and supporting her as she finds her place in society.

For us, education for women is life-long, liberating and transformative. Guiding and supporting our students through their formative years is an honoured responsibility and privilege.

A great strength of our College is that within one site, a physically beautiful environment, we are able to offer education to girls from Preparatory through to Year 12. Our Boarding facility "Hopetoun Hall" is located off-campus in the nearby suburb of Camberwell. Our Boarders join us from Year 9 onwards and come to Genazzano from a range of country centres or as the daughters of expatriate Australians based overseas.

Annual Report and Strategic Development Plan

The College's 2008 Yearbook incorporates a report from the College Council Chair, College Principal and Sisters Faithful Companions of Jesus. A copy of the Yearbook is available from Reception.

The Catholic religious tradition of Genazzano FCJ College shapes all aspects of the College's on-going development and is at the heart of the Strategic Plan for 2007 – 2011. We are inspired by the vision of the Founder of the Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, Marie Madeleine D'Houet, who herself found inspiration in the image of the women of the Gospels at the foot of the Cross. We are committed to the education of girls who will respond to Jesus' cry of "I Thirst" from the Cross and seek to bring about a better world. Genazzano is therefore committed to excellence in the education of the whole person. Mindful of the context facing this generation of young women, our aim is to deepen a thirst for knowledge, and a desire to work for peace and justice. We are educating our young women to transform the world and to be leaders and shapers of the future.

On-going school improvement ensures that our students receive an education of excellence in which the gifts and talents of individuals are recognised and developed with facilities that support contemporary approaches to learning and teaching. It is a student centred environment. Our commitment to enabling young people to reflect on their lives and their role in the world ensures that students are active participants in their own learning. Accomplishing this vision requires innovation, creativity and forward planning.

"Creating the Future" outlines this forward plan for 2007 – 2011 and is the result of discussions and planning with Council, Executive, staff, students, Alumnae and parents of the College. A copy of the Strategic Plan 2007 – 2011 is also available from Reception.

Throughout the course of the year the Principal prepares reports to the College Council detailing the progress of the following four Focus areas:

- Culture & Ethos
- Learning & Teaching
- Marketing, Fundraising & Promotions
- Resource Development & Management

Annual Statutory Report 2008

This report is presented in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Government Programmes for Schools Quadrennial Administrative Guidelines. The following data provides a statistical analysis of the College's performance in the 2007 School Year.

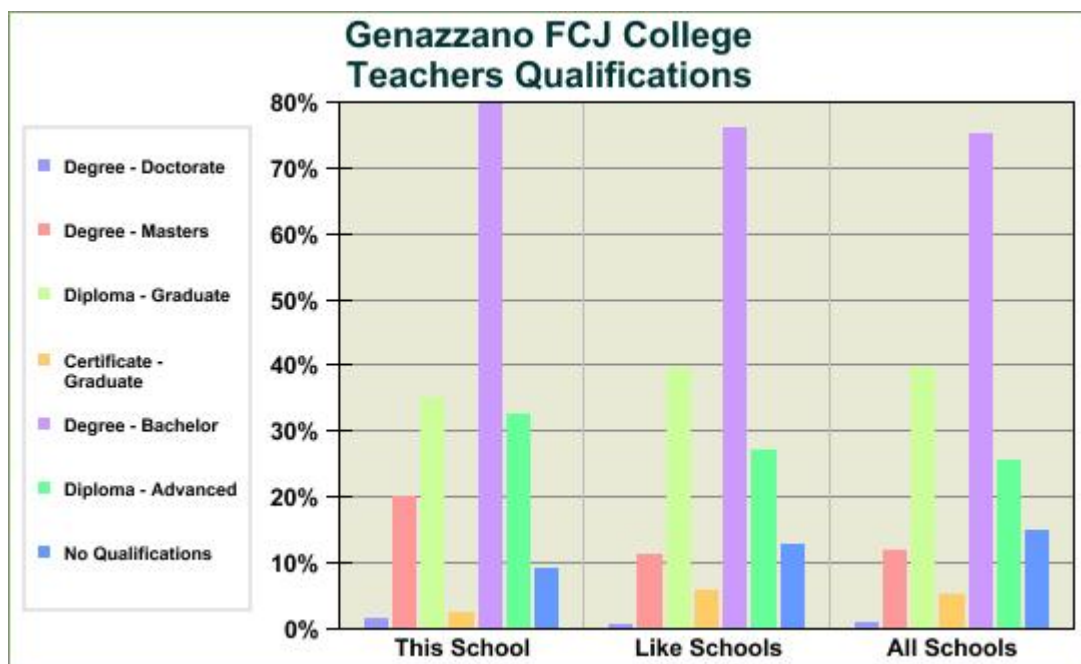
Staff attendance rate: 96.9%

Staff retention from 2007 to 2008: 92.7%

Teacher Qualifications

A full list of Academic Qualifications appears at Appendix 1. The following chart provides a graphic analysis of the academic qualifications (Highest Qualification held) of the College's Teaching Staff. A comparison of like Catholic Schools and Victorian Catholic Schools is incorporated into the chart.

Teachers Highest Qualification - Genazzano FCJ College - 2008



Teacher participation in Professional Learning

In 2008, all 112 (104.0 FTE) academic staff at Genazzano FCJ College participated in on-going Professional Development.

The main areas of focus for Professional Learning were Subject Association activities related to curriculum updates, First Aid, Classroom Technology delivery and middle management Leadership activities. Significant amounts of Professional Learning also occurred in subject based planning and development, whole school workshops for strategic development and Faith and Mission seminars aimed at achieving Catholic Education accreditation requirements.

Approximately \$652 per staff member was spent on off-campus Professional Learning for Teaching Staff. The budget is overseen by the Director of Professional Learning. Non-Academic staff are also subject to an annual Professional Learning Program.

Enrolment Trend

The College's total enrolment population continues to be strong, having grown to 1111 students at the August Census. Waiting lists exist at all Secondary Year Levels and future enrolments are at capacity for the main entry points at Year 5 and Year 7.

Our retention rates have also been consistent. The measure by percentage of Year 9 students who continued to Year 12 equates to 87%.

The apparent retention rate is based on enrolments and measures the number of students in Year 12 compared with the number of students in Year 9 three years previously. When this number is larger than 100% it means more students have come into that cohort than have left during the three years. The apparent retention rate from 2004-2007 is 99%.

Student Attendance

Average proportion of school days attended by students: 90.64%

Learning Outcomes - Years 3, 5 and 7:

NAPLAN results provide an important measure of how all Australian students are performing in Literacy and Numeracy. The performance of each student in each test is shown on national achievement scales from Year 3 to Year 9. Six bands are repeated for each Year Level. One of these bands will represent the minimum national standard for students at each Year Level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated basic Literacy and Numeracy skills needed to participate in that Year Level. A student's performance can be compared to that of other students in each State or Territory and across Australia.

Year 3	Band 2
Year 5	Band 4
Year 7	Band 5

The table below details the proportion of students from Genazzano meeting National Standards in Reading, Writing, Spelling & Mathematics. No student failed to reach National Literacy and Numeracy benchmarks.

Proportion of Yr 3, 5, 7 and 9 reaching National Literacy and Numeracy benchmarks

		2006	2007	2008
Reading	Yr 3	95.7%	100%	100%
	Yr 5	97.9%	98%	100%
	Yr 7	100%	99.3%	100%
	Yr 9	98.1%	98.5%	100%
Writing	Yr 3	95.7%	100%	100%
	Yr 5	100%	98%	100%
	Yr 7	100%	99.3%	100%
	Yr 9	100%	98.5%	100%
Spelling	Yr 3	n/a	n/a	100%
	Yr 5	n/a	n/a	100%
	Yr 7	99.4%	98.7%	100%
	Yr 9	96.8%	96.3%	99.3%
Grammar & Punctuation	Yr 3	n/a	n/a	100%
	Yr 5	n/a	n/a	100%
	Yr 7	n/a	n/a	100%
	Yr 9	n/a	n/a	100%
Mathematics Numeracy	Yr 3	87%	95.5%	100%
	Yr 5	97.9%	98%	100%
	Yr 7	99.4%	99.3%	100%
	Yr 9	95.5%	96.3%	100%

The change in National Minimum Standard results from the previous year is depicted as follows:

Year	Reading	Writing	Numeracy
3	0	0	5%
5	2%	0	2%
7	0.7%	0	2%

Senior Secondary Outcomes

The graduating Class of 2008 deserve commendation for their many achievements in all areas of College life, and we celebrate their VCE results. All students in the cohort completed their VCE with 70% of students achieving an ENTER result of 80.0 and above.

These results are testament to the personal commitment, companionship and service of both students and teachers. Such learning and teaching reflect the proud traditions of the College established over a century ago by faith-filled and forward-thinking women.

The excellence achieved in each area will ensure their success as tomorrow's leaders. Key outcomes for 2008 include:

- * 25 of our students scored in the top 3% in the State of Victoria.
- * The School Dux was Ashleigh Hollitt (99.85).
- * The VCE Median Study Score was 35.
- * 15 students received ENTER scores above 99.
- * Percentages of Class of 2008 who attained an ENTER greater than:

95 and above	25%
90 and above	38%
80 and above	70%

Genazzano FCJ College commends all members of the teaching staff for their commitment, dedication and companionship of our students. We acknowledge the partnership of families whose support of our Year 12 graduates has endured a successful and satisfying year.

We congratulate the graduating Class of 2008 on its many achievements in all areas of College life, and for another year of outstanding VCE results. These excellent results reflect courage and confidence in learning, living and leadership.

The excellence achieved in each area will ensure the success of the Class of 2008 as tomorrow's leaders.

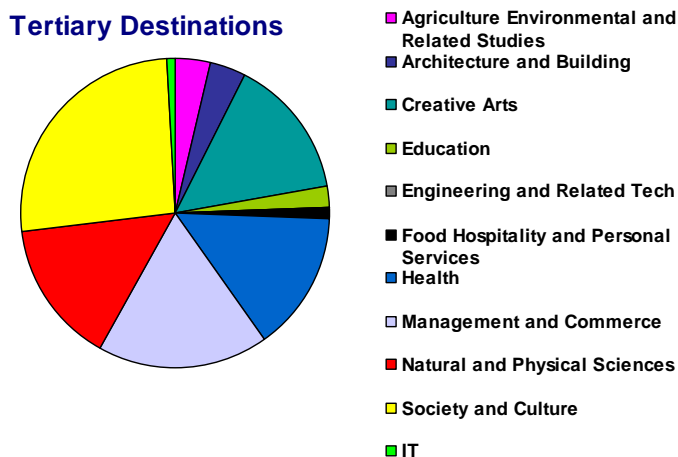
Student Post School Destinations

There were 166 students who completed Year 12 in 2008.

97.57% received a University offer, of which 81.36% accepted and commenced study.

The majority of students accepted places at Monash University and Melbourne University, followed by Swinburne, Deakin, La Trobe, ACU, RMIT and Victoria Universities. 4 students accepted places at William Angliss TAFE.

The most popular University courses were Society and Culture (includes Arts, Law and Humanities), Management and Commerce, Health, Natural and Physical Sciences and Creative Arts.



Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

In 2008 the College participated in the Annual AISV Parent Survey to gauge responses for families on a wide range of issues and a high degree of satisfaction was recorded in each area under review. As a result, the College has undertaken to hold a number of consultation forums and information sessions with all stakeholders to seek feedback and input into various areas of school life. In 2009 the Student Voice Program provides for the Prefects, Student Representative Council and Mission Groups to involve students in the review of key matters raised by the Principal's Executive. The College Council incorporates a Strategic Focus at each monthly meeting which enables key personnel and student representatives the opportunity to contribute by way of consultation to the decision making process.

Apart from formal surveys and forums, the key parent associations play an active role in the life of the College. The Presidents of the Genazzano Fathers' Association, Genazzano Mothers' Association, Alumnae Association, Boarding House Committee and Sports Committee are represented on the Executive Co-ordinating Committee which meets with the Principal on a quarterly basis to share information on activities and provides feedback to the Principal.

Value Added

The College is proud of the Co-Curricular Program that is provided to the student body. An extensive array of sporting, musical, artistic, cultural, spiritual and societal activities are undertaken each year. This program also provides opportunities for the students to be active in social justice, companionship and mission based initiatives.

Our families are encouraged to be active in the various fund-raising and friend-raising activities conducted by the College and Parents Associations. From Gen Welcomes to the Annual Dinner Dance, the Sacramental Program to Father-Daughter Masses and Year Level functions to Parent Information Sessions, the opportunities provided to our community to meet, engage and collaborate are plentiful.

Attendance at such events is one way to ascertain parent and community support for the operations of the College. We continue to enjoy strong support which is also evidenced by the large number of volunteer parents contributing to the life of the College. Such contributions are made on a daily basis in areas such as rowing regattas, second-hand book sales, stalls, boarding house committee meetings etc.

The College is also held in high distinction by the local community with commendations having been received from organisations for our students' assistance, contribution and support in programs such as visits to Nursing Homes, Choir and Orchestral performances, local netball competitions and environmental initiatives.

Financial Performance

A report on the College's financial activities for the 2008 School Year is included in Appendix 2. It should be noted that this report is based on the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) template used for Commonwealth reporting requirements.

Conclusion

This report responds to the annual reporting and compliance requirements of the Commonwealth Government. It also provides a snapshot of the 2008 School Year based on selected key performance areas. Enquiries regarding the report should be directed to the Business Manager, Mr Mark Glover, or myself.

Patricia A Cowling

Principal

June 2009