



**Christian Brothers
Lewisham**

2025

Annual Report

TO THE COMMUNITY



**EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA**

Dr Michael Blowes • Principal
68 The Boulevarde, Lewisham NSW 2049
Tel +61 2 8585 1744 **Fax** +61 2 8585 1787
Email office@cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au
Web www.cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au

2025 Annual Report to the Community

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE CUSTODIANS

'As we take our next step we must recognise the people whose footprints first graced this land'.

Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham, acknowledges that we stand on the traditional lands of the Gadigal people; the original custodians of the land. We are an inclusive community wishing to learn more about spiritual, cultural, values and the resources connected to this special Gadigal land.

We also must extend this acknowledgment to the elders of the surrounding Eora nation, both past and present. We acknowledge and respect that the elders have helped to nurture and care for this beautiful land. We thank them for their care of the land and ask that they guide us all to understand the importance of the land and Country to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

Message Stick Ritual



The Message Stick is a traditional way of communication in Aboriginal culture. A message was inscribed on the stick and passed on so that tribes/clans could receive the same message.

In September 2012, at the Inaugural EREA Congress, this Message Stick Ritual was gifted to the EREA family by Vicki Clark from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Victoria. Each EREA office and school received a Message Stick and Certificate of Authenticity, along with an explanation of the symbols used and the ritual itself. When we use this ritual, we honour the traditional owners of the lands on which we gather, our own connectedness, identity and mission.

Message Stick Symbols



Justice and Solidarity



Inclusive Community



Liberating Education



Gospel Spirituality

The message carried on this Message Stick is *"Engaging in the present and envisioning the Future"*.



**EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA**

...educating for liberation and possibility

MESSAGE FROM EREA COLLEGES NSW LTD

Celebrating Our Community, Honouring Legacy, Embracing Hope

As we gather to reflect on another remarkable year across the Edmund Rice Education Australia (ERA) NSW Colleges, we are reminded of the guiding light of our four touchstones: Liberating Education, Gospel Spirituality, Inclusive Community, and Justice & Solidarity. With gratitude, we recognise that our journey is enriched and made possible through the strong partnerships we forge with parents and carers. Your support, collaboration, and trust are at the heart of our shared mission, ensuring every young person in our care is known, valued, and encouraged to flourish.

This year has been marked by profound moments, none more significant than the passing of Pope Francis. His humility, unwavering advocacy for the marginalised, and commitment to peace have left an indelible mark on our hearts and our collective journey. Pope Francis's legacy of hope and compassion echoes strongly in our school communities, encouraging us to walk gently and act justly each day.

We are privileged to observe the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope, which is a time of renewal and reflection for Catholics around the world. This special year invites us to set forth as pilgrims, guided by hope and the promise of new beginnings. It is an opportunity to deepen our faith, strengthen our bonds, and renew our commitment to building a community where every person is valued and uplifted.

As we farewell Pope Francis, we also welcome Pope Leo, whose papacy signals a new chapter for the Church. In his recent letter to Catholic educators, Pope Leo called on schools to be places of authentic encounter and transformation, urging us to "inspire a love of learning and a spirit of service, where faith and reason walk hand-in-hand." These words resonate deeply with our ERA values. We look forward with anticipation and optimism to his leadership, confident that his vision will continue to inspire the heart and spirit of our schools.

We would like to acknowledge and thank Sam Hardjono for completing his tenure as Chair of ERA NSW Colleges. During this time, Sam provided strong leadership, guiding the Board through a period of significant consolidation and development. His contributions have been instrumental in establishing the new entity, strengthening faith formation, and shaping the strategic direction of our schools across New South Wales.

We are pleased to welcome Mr Peter Pearce as the new Chair of ERA NSW Colleges and look forward to his leadership in continuing to advance our mission and strategic priorities.

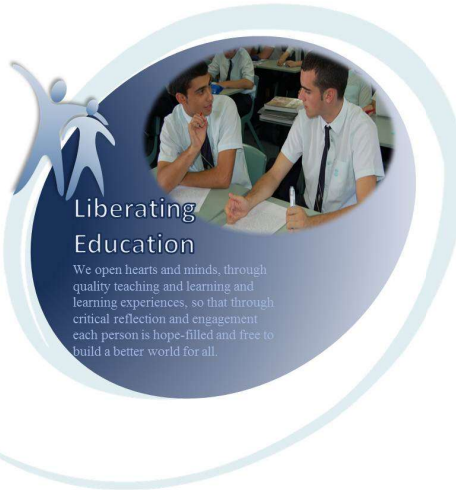
Within our schools, the achievements of our students and staff have been nothing short of inspiring. From academic excellence to creative pursuits, sporting triumphs and service initiatives, our community has demonstrated resilience, ingenuity, and a deep commitment to the common good. We celebrate every milestone, large and small, and give thanks for the dedication, kindness, and leadership shown by our young people and those who support them.

Ms Maura Manning
CEO/Director of NSW Colleges
Edmund Rice Education Australia NSW Colleges Ltd

DEDICATION

Edmund Rice chose education as the central way through which he would serve God and the most disadvantaged people of Waterford in Ireland. He inspired others to join him in this work and soon his Christian Brothers developed a system of Catholic Schools which has spread to every continent.

Under the governance of EREA NSW Colleges Ltd, Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham, inspired by the legacy of Edmund Rice and the Christian Brothers, is underpinned by four significant 'Touchstones'. We are committed to offering a **liberating education**, based on gospel **spirituality**, within an **inclusive community** which is committed to **justice and solidarity**.



Liberating Education

We open hearts and minds, through quality teaching and learning and learning experiences, so that through critical reflection and engagement each person is hope-filled and free to build a better world for all.

The graphic features a stylized blue icon of three figures in a circle, with a photograph of two students in school uniforms sitting at a desk and talking.



Gospel Spirituality

We invite all people into the story of Jesus and strive to make his message of compassion, justice and peace a living reality within our community.

The graphic features a stylized blue star icon, with a photograph of a man in a white shirt and tie talking to another man in a suit.



Inclusive Community

Our community is accepting and welcoming, fostering right relationships and committed to the common good.

The graphic features a stylized blue circular icon, with a photograph of a group of young boys in school uniforms posing together.



Justice and Solidarity

We are committed to justice and peace for all, grounded in a spirituality of action and reflection that calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are marginalised and the Earth itself.

The graphic features a stylized blue speech bubble icon, with a photograph of a group of people standing in front of a white van with a 'Vinnies' sign.

We pray that in all generations before us and in those which follow us, the education received at Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham continually empowers our students to be men of courage, advocates for justice and 'well rounded' contributors to Church and society. That in word and action their lives represent the charism of the Christian Brothers and their founder, Blessed Edmund Rice.

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham is a Catholic school catering for boys in Years 5 to 12.

For almost a hundred and fifty years, the Congregation of the Christian Brothers has been a major contributor to and participant in the Church's ministry of Catholic schooling throughout Australia. The Christian Brothers guided by the inspirations of Blessed Edmund Rice founded Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham (CBHS Lewisham) in 1889 and opened in 1891. The school was originally conducted by the Trustees of the Christian Brothers. Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) was created in October 2007 by the Christian Brothers to govern their schools, including CBHS Lewisham. In 2023, EREA NSW Colleges Limited was established to exercise governance over the seven mainstream NSW EREA schools. Edmund Rice Education NSW continues to assist in the evangelising mission of the Catholic Church, inspired by Blessed Edmund Rice's charism, the Brothers' gift to the whole church.

CBHS Lewisham is unambiguously a Catholic school. The school strives to build a culture and a climate at Lewisham that reinforces the conviction that a way of living based on the teaching of Jesus Christ provides the model that one needs to lead a rich and fulfilling life.

In 2025, as is the tradition, the school year commenced with a significant School Opening Mass. This occasion is an opportunity for the school community to pray together, and brings into focus the values that mark CBHS Lewisham as a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice Tradition.

Throughout the year, other opportunities exist for the prayerful expression of our faith. Inclusive faith development opportunities exist for students in each school year: class, to year group to whole school liturgies, Mother and Son Mass, Father and Son Mass, and spiritual retreats. Courses in Religious Education (Years 7 to 10) and NESA Developed Courses (Studies of Religion and Studies in Catholic Thought in Years 11 and 12) are embedded within the regular curriculum.

The school endeavours to ensure that boys are well known and cared for through its structured administration. During the past school year, CBHS Lewisham continued to develop a number of initiatives to meet specific student needs: Peer Support, and revisions to the Merit System that affirm students in their academic success and effort. In the senior years, boys have access to Careers facilities and resources. Across Years 5, 7, 8, and 9 boys have also enjoyed opportunities for personal development through the School's camp experiences. Year 11 students have enjoyed the Retreat programme, and Year 12 students their graduation day as they leave our School community. Students, staff and parents have also had access to the services of the school's counsellors.

Likewise, the school places great pride and emphasis on the curricular and extra curricular programmes offered to its students. Boys with high academic potential are offered placement in our Aquinas High Potential class, while boys who benefit from additional academic support have their needs catered to in our Literacy Support Classes. We offer additional, school based elective courses in Stage 5 that have been developed in response to student interest. Elective Science, the Football Development Programme and Steps to the Future are all examples of these courses. In Stage 6, we are proud of the success of the boys in our HSC Pathways programme, where all boys who graduate at the end of Year 12 have a clear path into the next phase of their life. Boys who wish to attend university immediately after school work towards achieving an excellent ATAR to afford them the most amount of choice of university courses possible. Other students experience success on our Dual Accreditation Pathway, where they are working towards achieving a nationally recognised VET

credential. Many of these boys manage the responsibilities of school and work through a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship.

Boys at Lewisham also have the chance to experience the rich extra-curricular life of the school. The school participates and experiences success in the Sydney Catholic Schools sporting competition. Boys compete in sports such as; Rugby, football, touch football, AFL, cricket, basketball, tennis, cross country, golf and even table tennis. As part of this competition, boys also compete at chess against other schools. Our more musically inclined students can engage in band, orchestra and choir, as well as private instrumental musical tuition. We are proud of the CBHS Lewisham Marching Band, who participates annually in the ANZAC Day march through the city. Boys who enjoy the cut and thrust of debate are able to take part in the CSDA Debating Competition, as well as the annual Public Speaking Competition. The school annually sends teams to successfully compete in competitions such as the Da Vinci Decathlon, Tournament of the Minds and the Ethics Olympiad, in addition to the annual Titration Competition. Boys are also encouraged to engage in service based programmes, such as Duke of Edinburgh, or supporting the Matthew Talbot Hostel in the city. CBHS Lewisham strives to provide opportunities for the boys in our care to develop into well rounded young men.

CBHS Lewisham, as a school in the Edmund Rice tradition, has established a strong reputation and tradition based on the development and achievement in academic, spiritual values, cultural, sporting areas and the creative arts. The school prides itself on striving to develop wholistically the talents of each boy so that he achieves to the best of his ability. The school also seeks to foster team spirit within through the active participation of students in the school's co-curricular activities.



MESSAGE FROM KEY SCHOOL LEADERS

Principal's Report – Dr Michael Blowes

What must it have felt like to leave your home, your country, and everything familiar—knowing you may never return?

Over 150 years ago, young Christian Brothers stood on the shores of Dublin Bay, their eyes fixed on the illuminated statue of the Virgin Mary above their training college. With faith as their compass, they turned their backs on their homeland and set sail for Australia, they spent nights looking at the stars, knowing it was unlikely that they would return to Ireland but believing they were part of God's greater plan.

They had little idea what lay ahead. And four generations later, we too stand on the edge of uncertainty. We are the inheritors of their dream—a dream for a new world—and like them, we cannot predict what tomorrow holds.

I ask you what the world will look like in 2030? Will we meet the global target of a 45% reduction in emissions, or will coral bleaching become as routine as summer storms? Will women feel safe from male violence in our society, or will we continue to see gender inequality? Will Artificial Intelligence be a solution that builds prosperity for all or will it create unemployment and further inequality?

I have a number of questions but fewer answers. What will our school be like in five years? For the young Year 5 Primary students who have begun their classes this year what will their Year 10 classes look like? Will Artificial Intelligence dominate their instruction, turning students into passive consumers of algorithm-driven content? Will knowledge be reduced to data tailored to marketing profiles? Will our relationships increasingly serve the profits of Microsoft, Apple, Google, Amazon, and Meta?

All of us are challenged with the question of truth in a world of contested facts and an abundance of spin. Our church has experienced a difficult year with the passing of Pope Francis in April but our new Pope is navigating our way in complex and shifting times. I was inspired by Pope Leo's recent apostolic letter on Catholic education. To meet the challenges of the future he urges school leaders to chart new "maps of hope" for their students and communities. He calls on educators to be choreographers of hope, tireless seekers of wisdom, and creators of beauty—so that our constellation of faith not only shines but guides us: toward the truth that sets us free.

So, what should Christian Brothers High School Lewisham look like in 2030? If we follow the Pope's guidance, we need not stray far from what we champion today. Catholic education must continue to promote dignity, justice, and hope—integrating academic excellence side by side with the formation of character and compassion.

Pope Leo warns of a world where human relationships serve technology, rather than the other way around. We must harness technology for the common good. With automated knowledge at our fingertips, our students must become more sophisticated, more critical, and more discerning of the information we read. We have launched our new five-year strategic improvement plan, inspired by Pope Leo's encyclical and titled A Map of Hope, seeks the pursuit of wisdom and beauty for our students.

The plan calls for teachers to challenge our boys to deepen their understanding and expression of their faith—the truth that sets them free. We will promote and model respectful relationships and work towards a safer society. This will involve closer collaboration with our neighbouring Catholic girls' schools. Our commitment to improving the literacy and numeracy of our students remains steadfast, and in an age of digital saturation, critical literacy is more vital than ever.

2025 Annual Report to the Community

Technology and AI are powerful tools—but they cannot replace real human connection and we support the government's move to delay access to social media for students under the age of 16 years. It gives parents and teachers an opportunity to help strengthen students' digital literacy and support safe online engagement, now and into the future. Education must focus on the wise use of technology, placing the person before the algorithm and fostering a "humane digital culture." Pope Leo calls on us to create "apprenticeships of virtue," nurturing thoughtful, respectful, and compassionate citizens. I am confident that our plan for the next five years, this map of hope, guides us towards such an end.

2025 has been a year of significant milestones: the commencement of our new Primary and Food Technology building, the refurbishment of the old Methodist chapel and the completion of the new grassed playground, along with the affirmation of our mission through an excellent renewal report which credited us as being an authentic example of a school in the tradition of Edmund Rice. The year has been marked with the continued growth and achievement of our students across all domains. We are proud of the fact that last year's HSC graduates, in numbers greater than ever before, have exercised the power of choice and have been successful in gaining their preferred university course or have begun their chosen vocational career.

For these reasons and many more, Christian Brothers Lewisham has enjoyed another remarkable year. One of the great constants at CBHS has been the tireless leadership of our Deputy Principal, Mr Mark Woodbury. He has been well supported by fellow members of the School Leadership Team: Ms Ann-Marie Banno (HR), Mr Michael Behayi (Administration), Mr Chris Kidd (Pastoral), Mr Keith Page (Academic), Mr Darren Perry (Business) and Mr Dan Valencic (Identity).

We celebrated and farewelled Ms Natalie Devenish with her appointment as Principal of St Dominic's Penrith. Natalie has made a great contribution to the life of the school during her three years with us. Ms Christina Cleaver and Ms Jacqueline Fullard, added to their duties by stepping into her role for Semester Two.

After 22 years of dedicated service, we farewelled Ms Cathie Dalliwall who has retired from the role as Executive Assistant to the Principal. Cathie has supported three principals, Brian Roberts, Br Paul Conn and myself—each with their own leadership style, challenges, and visions. Beyond her executive role, Cathie has also been the editor of both our newsletter and this school annual. Through her vision and editorial care, she has captured the stories, achievements, and spirit of our students and staff. Thanks to her, generations of families have been able to hold in their hands a record of our school's life—a legacy that will endure long after today.

Though we cannot know what the future holds, we are comforted by the knowledge that we, like the Christian Brothers who stood on the shore of Dublin Bay 150 years ago, are part of God's plan. As St Paul reminds us, we are called to "shine as lights in the world". May we remember those who shined before us and may we especially remember our previous Principal, Br Paul Conn who passed away this year. We were honoured to hold a Requiem Service here at Lewisham after he was buried in his beloved home of Townsville.

To our parents, teachers, and students—thank you for your dedication, your confidence to our mission, and your contribution to the many successes of this year. We all play a part in a remarkable and long standing community of faith and each of us in our own way shines brightly as lights of this world. There is much to give thanks for this year of 2025.

Conanti Corona

Dr Michael Blowes - Principal

Deputy Principal's Report – Mr Mark Woodbury

This year, as in so many before it, was a year of opportunity for the young men of CBHS Lewisham. We remain proud of our traditions and of our mission to educate boys to become men of faith, conviction, courage, and compassion.

Together with families, we strive to develop young men who will be valued members of society, no matter their chosen path in life. While we maintain high expectations of our students, we also remain committed to being contemporary in our educational approach, ensuring that our boys are prepared for the challenges of the modern world.

The school has worked tirelessly to improve the educational experiences of our students, encouraging them to strive for excellence each day. Our teachers continue to refine their understanding of how boys best learn and in what environments they thrive. We make no apology for the high standards we set in the classroom, on the playground, and in public. Discipline and hard work remain the cornerstones of success, but we also foster an environment where risk-taking is encouraged and mistakes are embraced as valuable learning opportunities. Collaboration, creativity, and resilience are qualities we nurture, ensuring that boys are willing to step outside their comfort zones and grow.

Opportunity is ever-present at CBHS Lewisham. This year, boys were given the chance to shine in Academia, Sport, Music, Debating, Social Justice, STEM, and many other pursuits. Representing the school in these activities brings pride to the community and instils in each student a sense of accomplishment and belonging. We congratulate our boys who competed successfully in sporting teams, including football, AFL, rugby, touch football, cricket, swimming, tennis and table tennis. We have students successfully take part in the Ethics Olympiad, Da Vinci Decathlon, Tournament of the Minds and the national Titration Competition. We are proud of those boys who have moved through the Duke of Edinburgh programme.

At the heart of all our decision-making is the student. We continue to seek to form fine young men of strong conviction, independence, empathy, and compassion. To support this mission, the improvement of school facilities remains a priority. This year saw the refurbishment of the Healy classrooms, with the Wynne classrooms scheduled for completion over the Christmas break. Work commenced on the Primary and Hospitality block, and the transformation of the corner block brought grass to the site for the first time in many years – a welcome addition to our grounds.

CBHS Lewisham is not a silo; it is part of a vibrant community made up of parents, grandparents, and carers. We work in partnership with families to ensure that values and expectations remain constant in the lives of our boys. The support of families is vital to their development, and this year it was evident across countless events — from Notables Night in Year 5 and the Year 6 Presentation Night, to public speaking, debating, parent information evenings, and the Year 12 Graduation. This unwavering support is deeply appreciated.

Finally, we extend heartfelt thanks to our staff, whose generosity and dedication remain the foundation of our success. Their tireless efforts ensure that boys grow academically and personally, whether inside the classroom or beyond it. The countless hours given freely to coach sporting teams, lead debating and music ensembles, organise dances, provide extra lessons during holiday breaks, guide social justice initiatives, and attend camps, retreats, and spirituality days make the staff of CBHS Lewisham truly exceptional.

2025 Annual Report to the Community

This year has been one of growth, opportunity, and community. Together, we continue to build a school where boys are challenged, supported, and inspired to become the best versions of themselves.

Mr Mark Woodbury

Deputy Principal

School Advisory Council Report – Mr David Robinson, Council Chair

The role of the Advisory Council is to support Dr Blowes and the School Leadership Team and staff as they implement their vision for the education of students at CBHS Lewisham.

CBHS is a part of Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) which is a community of 54 other schools and colleges across Australia. In March the Trustees of EREA commissioned a panel led by Ray Paxton, National Director of Education Strategy to conduct a School Renewal Report. The panel met with a wide range of School stakeholders reviewing areas of identity, education excellence, sustainability, justice and advocacy. While the Report affirmed CBHS as a dynamic Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, it made various recommendations which will be incorporated in the School's Strategic Plan for the following five years. The outcomes from the school survey conducted during 2024 will also strongly influence the Plan. The draft Strategic Plan has been available for stakeholder comment and will be finalised before the end of 2025.

The Advisory Council's Finance Committee continues to work with the School Business Manager to provide oversight of the School's finances. The School acknowledges the financial pressures experienced by families in the current cost of living crisis and the efforts families go to support their son's attendance at CBHS. There are and will continue to be financial challenges for the School as the impact on the Federal Government funding formula based on the Direct Measure of Parents' Income (DMI) continues to create "real" decreases in government funding. The School takes every effort to keep increases in school fees to the minimum. The School is financially sound and has capacity to execute its building program.

The School has been able to commence two major projects during the year being Stage 2b of the Master Plan (Primary School and Hospitality classrooms) and the creation of the multipurpose space and playground at 64-66 The Boulevard (corner of Toothill Street), as well as executing some major maintenance repairs. The cooperation of the Inner West Council has been greatly appreciated. The Advisory Council also acknowledges the work of the Capital Works subcommittee consisting of ex-students Elias Elias, George Hayek, Wally Stanton and Tim Poisel. Their expert advice continues to be very much appreciated.

The School continues to outperform in external examinations and NAPLAN and enrolments continue to grow thus ensuring sustainability.

The Advisory Council noted with great sadness the passing of former Principal Br Paul Conn in April 2025. Br Conn was Principal from 2008 to 2020.

I thank all my fellow Council members Janine Hannigan, Antoinette McGahan, Anne Phillips, Lucy Snowball and Ben Wilding for their commitment, wise counsel and good humour. I would also like to thank the School Leadership Team for their support, expertise and transparency throughout the year.

Mr David Robinson
Council Chair

Parents and Friends Association Report – P & F Executive

The 2025 school year began with a warm welcome to new families of CBHS Lewisham as the Parents & Friends (P&F) Association in collaboration with the school leadership team brought together students, parents (new and returning) and staff over light refreshment that fostered a sense of community and connection at CBHS Lewisham.

Throughout the year, the generosity of our families and students has been truly inspiring. Their support of the CBHS Lewisham Bursary Program through various P&F fundraising initiatives has made a meaningful impact.

A highlight of the year was the launch of the Second-Hand Uniform Shop, made only possible by the kind donations of outgrown uniforms from our school community. This initiative has been a great success, offering sustainable and affordable options for families, but also contributed immensely towards the Bursary Program.

Special thanks to our Events & Fundraising Coordinator, Athena Martikas, for her amazing contributions in organizing the April Easter Raffle and Mother's Day Stall in May. The Father's Day Raffle held in August saw a huge response raising funds which contributed towards the work our CBHS students did during their 2025 Fiji immersion trip.

Our much-loved Trivia Evening made a vibrant return in Term 3, turning the McDonald Centre into a lively space filled with laughter, friendly rivalry, and school spirit. Attendees tested their knowledge with a variety of trivia questions and took part in creative activities including card games and golf putting challenges. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the many generous local businesses and CBHS families who donated prizes for the event — your support played a key role in making the night a great success.

Serving on the P&F Committee in 2025 has been both a privilege and a pleasure. I'm sincerely grateful to the school leadership team, staff, students, and parents for their ongoing support and meaningful contributions throughout the year.

Members of the 2025 CBHS P&F Committee:

1. Marie Hardman
2. Sasha Afiouni
3. Meaghan Aldridge-Chow
4. Isabel Wong
5. Louise Marcroft
6. Athena Martikas
7. Marjan McGarry
8. Frank Madzin
9. Maria Ong

Maria Ong
President

STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN STATE-WIDE TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS

Christian Brothers' High School, Lewisham is a Catholic Independent Registered and Certified school to present students for both the Record of School Achievement and the Higher School Certificate.

The school is comprehensive, but nevertheless strives for academic excellence. All students are challenged to achieve their personal best.

Regular homework is set and an organised home study program is expected of every student at Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham.

The school has designed a curriculum structure that encourages each student to achieve within his ability range and to reach his full potential.

As well as the mandatory courses for the Record of School Achievement and the Higher School Certificate each student studies a course in Religious Education.



2025 NAPLAN RESULTS

The results below represent the median achievement in each of the NAPLAN tests for each year group.

Year 5 NAPLAN Median Scores			
NAPLAN Test	Median Achievement		
	2025	2024	2023
Reading	514	490	501.5
Writing	498.1	500.3	492
Spelling	510.5	497.9	497.8
Grammar and Punctuation	525.3	504.5	500.6
Numeracy	518.1	494.5	509.6

Year 7 NAPLAN Median Scores			
NAPLAN Test	Median Achievement		
	2025	2024	2023
Reading	559.7	545.6	543.4
Writing	562.8	541.3	534.2
Spelling	565.1	549.6	538.5
Grammar and Punctuation	563.5	550.8	544.85
Numeracy	584.8	568.1	549.6

Year 9 NAPLAN Median Scores			
NAPLAN Test	Median Achievement		
	2025	2024	2023
Reading	578	574.1	593.65
Writing	582.1	592.3	585.8
Spelling	578.1	585.5	582.9
Grammar and Punctuation	575.7	563.9	589.8
Numeracy	594.6	591.9	607

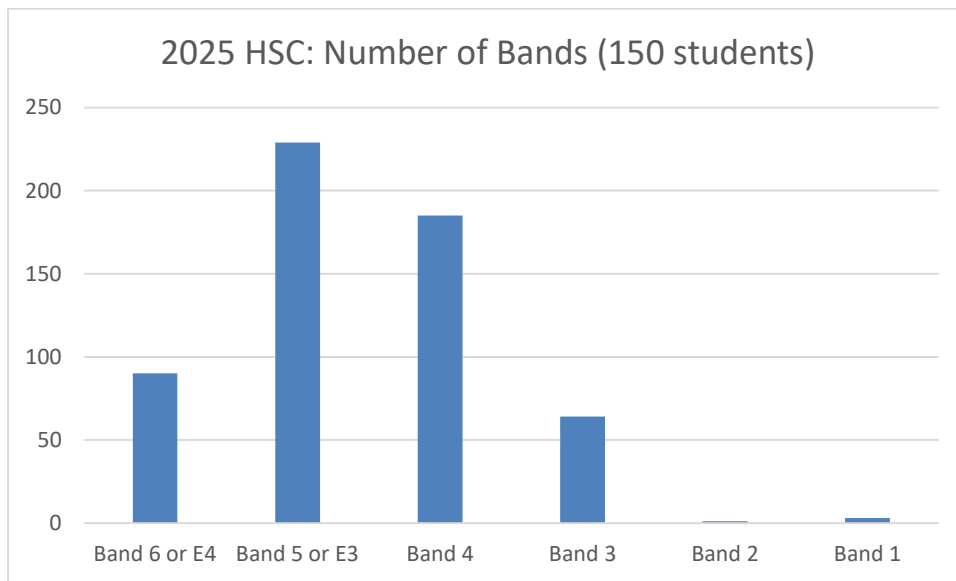
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HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE**Percentage of students who received a Band 5 or 6 or Extension E4 / E3**

HSC Courses	CBHS 2025	State 2025	% Difference	CBHS 2024	State 2024	CBHS 2023	State 2023
Aboriginal Studies	58.20	69.96	-11.76	75.43	71.98	78.93	72.02
Ancient History	87.49	72.41	15.08	79.91	72.92	76.55	71.44
Biology	82.76	73.04	9.72	78.94	73.89	77.81	73.30
Business Services	73.77	73.6	0.17	N/A	N/A	82.0	74.40
Business Studies	80.36	74.28	6.08	81.36	73.45	78.47	73.77
Chemistry	73.95	74.86	0.91	80.63	74.33	80.48	74.13
Construction VET Examination	78.52	75.97	2.55	75.00	77.68	86.0	76.91
Economics	83.00	77.69	5.31	80.57	77.35	83.70	76.76
Engineering Studies	82.37	73.2	9.17	76.83	74.25	81.11	74.27
English (Advanced)	84.71	81.80	2.91	84.09	82.03	85.16	81.73
English Extension 1	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.93	42.42	46.75	42.17
English Extension 2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	46.90	40.07
English (Standard)	77.53	71.62	5.91	75.84	71.40	76.07	70.12
Geography	81.40	75.66	8.74	79.43	74.96	N/A	N/A
History Extension	45.05	40.09	4.96	41.40	40.16	41.80	39.79
Hospitality VET examination	79.50	76.67	2.83	75.00	78.52	N/A	N/A
Industrial Technology	73.44	70.62	2.82	74.51	70.77	75.65	70.87
Information & Digital Technology	N/A	N/A	N/A	81.69	76.52	79.40	76.22
Legal Studies	85.61	75.21	10.4	85.28	75.55	89.90	75.27
Mathematics Advanced	84.07	78.83	5.24	81.89	78.43	85.95	78.04
Mathematics Extension 1	80.83	78.71	2.21	77.94	79.94	82.64	77.78
Mathematics Extension 2	80.68	82.48	-1.80	89.50	82.58	90.93	82.20
Mathematics Standard 1	77.08	70.99	6.09	80.20	71.46	79.23	71.99
Mathematics Standard 2	80.06	71.56	8.50	78.42	71.63	78.64	71.76
Modern History	82.06	73.72	8.34	78.29	75.02	80.96	72.78
Music 1	89.72	81.27	8.45	N/A	N/A	88.75	82.09
PDHPE	76.17	74.15	2.02	77.04	74.03	76.16	72.98
Physics	72.43	73.58	-1.15	72.03	73.75	80.56	74.81

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HSC Courses	CBHS 2025	State 2025	% Difference	CBHS 2024	State 2024	CBHS 2023	State 2023
Studies of Religion I	43.97	38.46	5.51	42.50	38.35	41.72	38.80
Studies of Religion II	80.42	77.38	3.04	81.10	77.75	80.09	77.37
Visual Arts	81.31	81.38	-0.07	82.76	81.90	87.50	76.00



Summary of HSC Achievements	
Award	Students
All Rounder Achievement <i>10 or more units above 90</i>	James Aoun Andrea Catanzariti Theofilos Malliaros
Dux	Theofilos Malliaros
Top Achievers	Reuben Elias Theofilos Malliaros Christopher Panagiotlaris
Distinguished Achievers List <i>Students who achieved above 90 in a course</i>	11 students received an ATAR above 95 25 students received an ATAR above 90 85% of course results above state average
Higher School Certificate	150 candidates

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

Male Teaching Staff	Female Teaching Staff	Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander Teaching Staff
57	48	1

Total no. of teachers employed	Resignations at end of 2025	Retention Rate
105	12	93%

Details of 2025 teaching staff that are responsible for delivering the curriculum as described in the Education Act

TEACHER STANDARDS CATEGORY	NO. OF TEACHERS
i. Teachers who have teaching qualifications from a higher education institute within Australia or as recognised within the national Office of Overseas recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines, or	105
ii. Teachers who have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lack formal teacher education qualifications.	0

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Year	Number of HSC Students	Percentage of HSC Students Undertaking Further Study	Percentage of HSC Students undertaking the Workforce
2025	150	82%	18%

Year	Number of HSC Students	Number of HSC Students Undertaking VET or Vocational Training	Percentage of HSC Students undertaking Vocational or Trade Training
2025	150	27	18%
2024	143	28	19.58%
2023	130	37	28.45%
2022	169	46	27.22%
2021	144	20	13.89%
2020	158	28	17.72%
2019	182	31	17.03%
2018	157	39	24.84%

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF NON-ATTENDANCE

Average Student Attendance Rate 2025

The average student attendance rate is calculated and reported as a single percentage.

2025 Average Attendance	
Year cohort	Average attendance (%)
Year 5	94%
Year 6	93%
Year 7	92%
Year 8	92%
Year 9	95%
Year 10	90%
Year 11	93%
Year 12	95%
<i>Average for Years 5 - 12</i>	93%

Management of Attendance

Student attendance is monitored by the Sentral online software package with data entered by Homeroom Teachers at the beginning of the day, and then at the beginning of each period by their classroom teacher. Students are required to explain absence from school in writing on their return to school. Parents are encouraged to report absence by telephone on the day that it occurs.

Non-attendance is followed up by the Homeroom teacher, then the Pastoral Co-ordinator and if persistent the Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care and the Deputy Principal. The Principal, school counsellors and Pastoral Care Co-ordinators also work with agencies such as the Department of Community Services and the Police Child Wellbeing Unit. The Department of Community Services and the Police Child Wellbeing Unit are notified if necessary.

Please refer to Pastoral Care Policy on School website: <https://www.cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au/our-school/reports-and-policies/>

RETENTION OF YEAR 10 TO YEAR 12

Retention Rate 2025

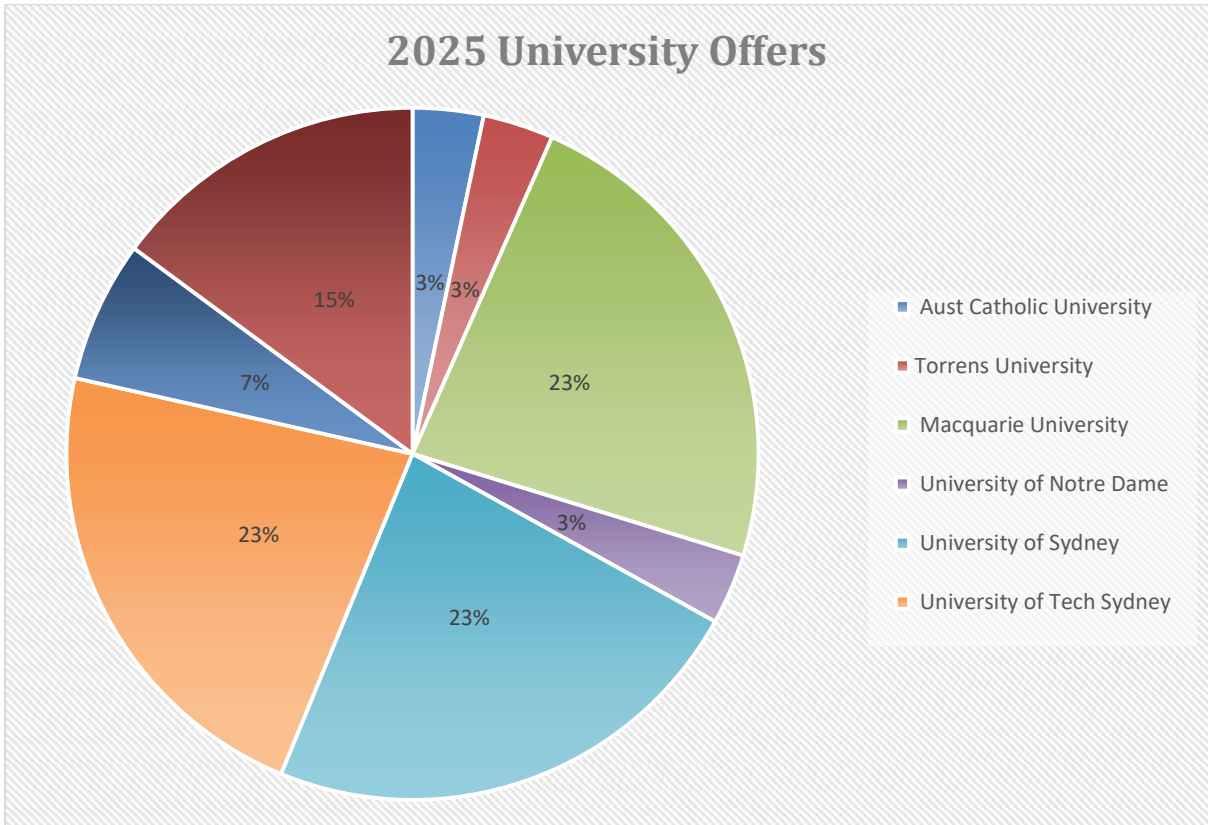
YEARS COMPARED	YEAR 10 TOTAL ENROLMENT	YEAR 12 TOTAL ENROLMENT	RETENTION RATE
2023/2025	169	150	89%

The retention rate is based on data relating to actual students who have been tracked at two different points in their career. In this case our data tracks students in Year 10 and then in Year 12.

The trend has also been relatively static over the years; the rate for 2024/2025 indicated the success of students achieving employment either at the end of Year 10 or during their Year 11 Course.

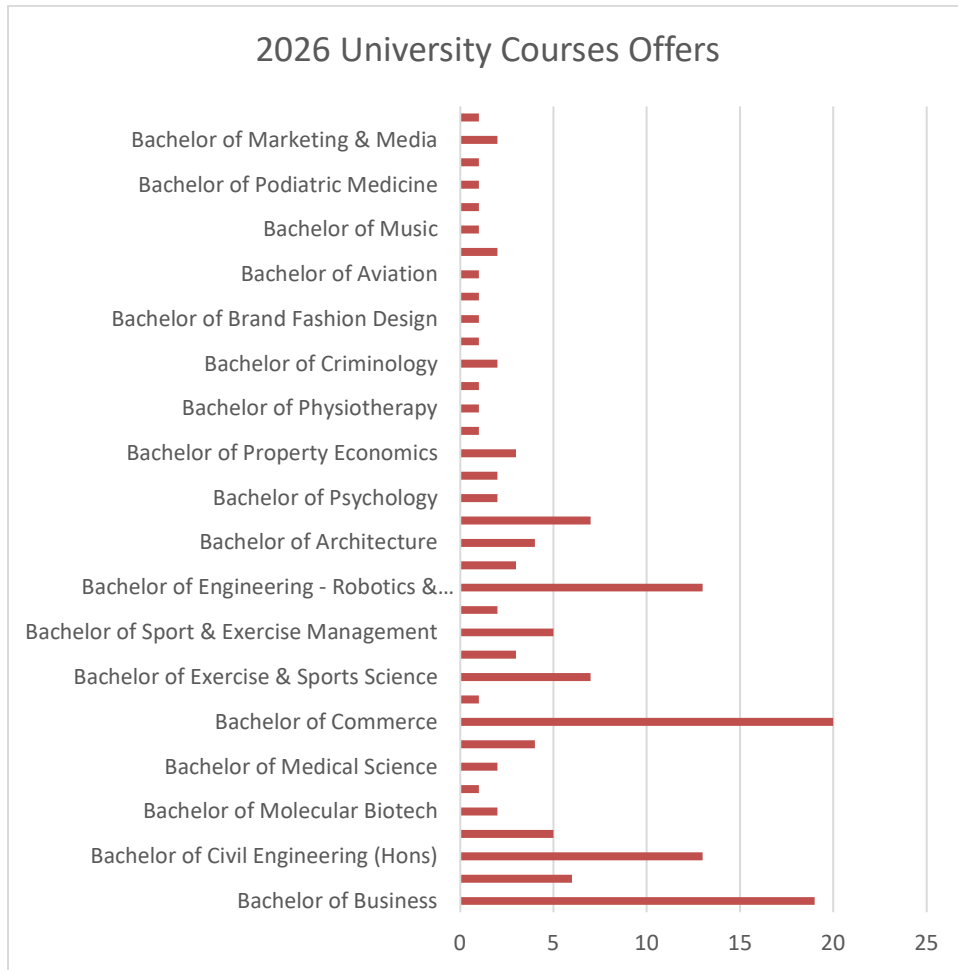
POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

HSC 2025 student enrolments at universities and areas of eventual study



- This pie chart is based on all University Admission Centre (UAC) offers made to our 2024 HSC students who applied for a university course/s. Some students received multiple offers from different universities.
- Our students are fortunate to reside in close proximity to a wide selection of tertiary education institutions. The universities who made the most offers to our students was University of Technology.

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Based on our University Admission Offers, 142 UAC offers were made to 150 students. This figure does not include the numerous offers students received in the Early Offer rounds before they sat the HSC. Many students received multiple offers and sought assistance from the Universities and UAC to research the best opportunities in their chosen area of study. Double degrees increased their popularity with many students choosing a double degree over 4 years. When choosing an area of study students are then also combining Business, Arts or Finance for extra skills. For the class of 2025 the Engineering field was popular followed by Business/Commerce, Project or Construction Management, Computing and Sport and Exercise Science.

ENROLMENT POLICIES AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDENT BODY

The expectations for continuing enrolment are clearly set out for all students who are successful applicants in the Statement of Enrolment Understanding Contract. In addition to the Statement of Enrolment Understanding, students are subject to the normal guidelines for academic progression required by the NSW Education Standards Authority documented in the Assessment, Certification and Examination (ACE) Rules online.

As a Year 5-12 school, our total enrolments were 1,203 students for 2025.

COHORT	YEAR	NO. STUDENTS
Primary	5 and 6	233
Junior Secondary	7 to 10	678
Senior Secondary	11 and 12	292
TOTAL ENROLMENTS		1203

Of our total enrolments, there were 37 First Nations students

The student body is multi-national, being mostly second and third generation Australian. The ethnic groupings are globally diverse.

The majority of students are baptised Catholics and other Christians, including the Orthodox rites, with a very small percentage of Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist or students with no formal religious affiliation.

The School Enrolment Policy is publicly available for viewing on the School website at <https://www.cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au/our-identity/policies/>

SCHOOL POLICIES INCLUDING A SUMMARY OF POLICIES FOR STUDENT WELFARE, DISCIPLINE AND COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Student Welfare

In 2025, the school ran a number of specific student welfare programs with students:

1. All staff continued to implement Restorative Justice Practices in their dealing with all students, particularly those at risk of disengaging with their learning.
2. The Vertical Pastoral Care System allows students to become members of one of the eight Houses. Pastoral Care for secondary students is provided to each House through the Assistant Principal Pastoral, House Pastoral Coordinators, Homeroom Teachers and Class Teachers. Student Pastoral Care in the Primary School is coordinated by the Deputy Principal with each Class Teacher.
3. The Pastoral Team held Student Profile Meetings regularly throughout the academic year. These meetings of teachers identified specific educational and social needs of students at risk that assists with the development of Individual Student Plans.
4. The Pastoral Team reviews student progress at timetabled (once per school cycle) meetings that allow Pastoral Coordinators, Counsellors and the Assistant Principal Pastoral to review student progress and develop future support structures.

Student Complaints

Complaints about marking on assessment tasks and examinations are addressed by students bringing their complaint to the Curriculum Review Panel. Further details can be obtained from the Assistant Principal – Academic at the school.

Complaints from students relating to teachers, fellow students or school life in general are directed to the appropriate Pastoral Coordinator. If required these complaints are reviewed by the Pastoral Team at their regular meeting and if necessary referred to the School Leadership Team.

Grievances

There are several avenues through which staff complaints can be handled.

1. The Principal is available to staff to deal directly with matters of concern.
2. The online Staff Handbook Countering Harassment policy provides the definition, the framework procedures and guidelines for dealing with harassment in the workplace.
3. Grievance procedures are conducted according to the policies and Code of Conduct of Edmund Rice Education Australia.
4. The staff participates in regular meetings that provide opportunities for the airing and resolution of staff complaints. These timetabled meetings fall into the following categories: Whole Staff, KLA Coordinators, Pastoral Coordinators and Year Level Teachers.
5. The IEU chapter is encouraged to meet and to make representation to the Principal.
6. The Principal has an open-door policy for any individual staff member to see him personally on an individual issue.

Specific Policies

Relevant policies include;

- Anti-Bullying
- Attendance
- Complaints and Grievances
- Discipline
- Enrolment
- Student Welfare

The full text of these policies are available on the School website at <https://www.cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au/our-school/reports-and-policies/>

STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION

EREA NSW is committed to listening to the views and expectations of key stakeholders and commissions independent surveys to provide performance feedback on a wide range of related education topics.

In 2025, as part of this commitment, students, staff and parents were surveyed as part of CBHS Lewisham's EREA renewal process. As a result of this process, CBHS Lewisham received the following feedback on the progress of the school from students, staff and parents.

IDENTITY

Christian Brothers Lewisham welcomes and celebrates diversity in its local, national and global communities, responsive to each person's aspiration and needs. There is a strong expression of faith and ongoing efforts to engage within the Church including a strong connection to the Edmund Rice story. Given the lower number of Catholic enrolments within the current cohort, the school demonstrates a reimagining of Catholic identity and the various access points to faith.

EXCELLENCE

Christian Brothers High School is a dynamic Catholic school in the Edmund Rice Tradition. The school continues to provide high quality education to a diverse community of learners and offers personalised pathways to ensure every student can achieve success. Students are supported by a strong relational culture to achieve their personal best in all aspects of their journey through the school. A focus and investment on literacy and numeracy has led to improved learning outcomes across the curriculum.

SUSTAINABILITY

CBHS Lewisham offers an education which has recognised the academic achievement, as well as pastoral care programs and operates within a competitive enrolment context. It has shown diligence towards considering affordability for students from diverse backgrounds which forms their process of enrolment. Plans to develop facilities to compliment educational outcomes have been considered in the Master Planning process for the benefit of student learning and to attract enrolments.

JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY

The school is committed to a holistic and just culture which encourages student agency, deep listening, identity exploration, and a bridging of socio-economic and geographic disadvantage, inspiring students to thrive academically, emotionally, and socially. Social Justice is a strong component in the school's program with a variety of offerings. There is usage of the House system to enable student engagement to raise funds and awareness. The school offers a dedicated space and team to First Nations young people which provides a culturally safe space and support and personalisation around learning.

Parent Quotes on what they value about Christian Brothers' High School:

Values the school instills and expects from the children, we are on the same page at school and at home in our family life. The best schooling decision we have made for our child was to send him to CBHS Lewisham.

We are happy with the academic education and our son has met lots of like minded friends.

I think the school is doing an excellent job academically and from a pastoral level. I feel it is a great environment for boys and that teachers genuinely care.

My son is academic and is thriving in this environment. I am really happy with the education he is receiving and the fact that he can be involved as much or as little as he likes.

My son's academic and sporting needs are being met, it is a great balance for young boys to thrive. It's a nurturing environment

Student Quotes on what they value about Christian Brothers' High School:

Relationship with staff and peers has seen an exponential growth in senior years which I enjoy to connect with and have a laugh.

I value the morals and lessons that Christian Brothers' High School has taught me over the years.

I value the pride of the school and the learning opportunities I receive from the various programs in the school.

The school's support towards me is what I value the most, whenever I am stressed the counselling services are always available for me to go to and help me calm down, teachers are always helpful and will go over work if I find it difficult.

What I value most with my association with CBHS is the relationships that I have created within my time here.

Staff Quotes on what they value about Christian Brothers' High School:

I most value the opportunity to see students become respectful young adults as they move from primary to seniors.

I value our commitment to the touchstones, particularly inclusive community and justice and solidarity. Knowing that we as a community are consistently helping those in need is great and positive for our students to see.

Its ability to provide quality education in a safe and nurturing environment for its students to grow into wonderful young men with great character and potential.

Being an old boy and seeing the school grow each day is special to me as I really value my association with the school.

The opportunity to impart knowledge and skills under the umbrella of Gospel values and the teachings of Christ to the youth of my community.

INITIATIVES PROMOTING RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY

Justice and Peace Program at CBHS Lewisham

"Peace begins with a smile."

- Mother Teresa

Edmund Rice inspires all our schools to provide a liberating education grounded in gospel spirituality, within an inclusive community dedicated to justice and solidarity. Guided by these touchstones, CBHS Lewisham educates young men for justice and peace, offering hope to a world where human dignity and the integrity of creation are too often diminished. This holistic commitment to justice and peace education is woven throughout the Lewisham community, integrating the head, heart, hands, and feet in all aspects of learning and action.

In 2025, Sydney experienced rising poverty and homelessness as the cost of living skyrocketed creating economic disparities, leaving a growing number of individuals and families struggling to make ends meet. These stressors of life have had a direct implication on mental health which is something we continuously advocate for at CBHS to promote healthy minds, especially in young men. This crisis highlights the importance of social justice, inspiring outreach programs and initiatives at CBHS that seek to create positive change and extend support to the broader community. Accordingly, our focus this year has been on strengthening connections within our local community, building upon a positive growth mindset, and re-engaging with our overseas partnerships.

The school community made an outstanding contribution to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year's mission, "Unite Against Poverty", promotes sustainable development and offers vital humanitarian support in disadvantaged communities worldwide in the hopes to alleviate poverty. The Lenten appeal truly reflected the spirit of compassion, inspiring long-term change and a more equitable future. At CBHS, students and families donated generously, staff provided baked goods for fundraising and House group competed against one another in a Basketball competition. In the spirit of Lent, "Project Compassion" donations concluded with Rosary prayer in our Chapel where we collected all our donation boxes and shaped them into a set of Rosary beads. The moment of prayer and reflection reminded us of our why – calling us to sacrifice, to show deep compassion, and to renew our dedication to uplifting those who need it most.

Our Year 12 students have truly led by example this year, achieving record-breaking fundraising efforts. Their solidarity, advocacy and involvement in the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave raised incredible awareness, culminating in an outstanding \$25,000 donation to the organisation. The transition to our 2026 Year 12 cohort has been equally inspiring. As the face of the Movember Campaign, their first major fundraiser as a year group encouraged meaningful conversations and promoted openness around men's physical and mental health, ensuring these important issues foster open dialogue surrounding overall wellbeing.

This year we held the most successful Peru Day fundraiser for our continued partnership with Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders and the Build a House Program. This Virtual Immersion allows our community to see the extreme economic and social hardships faced by the communities in Lima Peru. Through our Edmund Rice connection, Br Stephen Casey, we were able to stay in touch via zoom, and students had the opportunity to learn about the rich tapestry of Peru's history and culture, and the missions of the Christian Brothers in Latin America. Virtually, seeing the program live from the hills of

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Lima we were able to meet the family who we were building a house for. During this virtual immersion, Br Stephen took us on a tour of the new home and also provided insights into the process of materials needed and labour sourced in order to allow this project to be successful. The success of our fundraising day led to the building and housing for a family of seven, as well as additional funds towards the upkeep of the local Fey Alegria School's kitchen and play garden. We are proud to keep this long standing relationship with Peru and be there in spirit. Thank you to all the students and families who were involved in supporting this initiative.

The Act for Peace School Ration Challenge raises vital awareness for refugees and displaced people around the world, including those in places such as Syria, Myanmar and Burma who rely on emergency ration packs. Funds raised through this initiative help provide essential food supplies, emergency healthcare, and life-changing support to those most in need. Our school set an initial goal for \$2,000 which was far exceeded thanks to the generosity of our participants and their sponsors. In total, we proudly raised \$9,500.

The Year 10 Spirituality Day, held during World Refugee Week, invited students to deepen their understanding of justice and compassion and tangible community outreach. In joint partnership with St Scholastica's College, Glebe students came together to assist local refugee support networks, including St Vincent de Paul Society, Asylum Seekers Centre Newtown, and the House of Welcome Granville, where they engaged with powerful stories of resilience, dignity and hope. As a continuation of this, the two cohorts reconnected as part of their Pastoral program in recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The "Vinnies Chapter" was strengthened this year through our weekly volunteering at the St Vincent de Paul Matthew Talbot Kiosk in Woolloomooloo – a shared commitment among Year 12 students who attended in small groups every Friday afternoon. Here, they served refreshments and offered a compassionate presence, positively shaping their understanding of community and social responsibility. Our partnership with Vinnies continued through the Magee House Winter Appeal, where our school community donated a full truck of food, warm clothing and essential items for families across Sydney experiencing homelessness or food insecurity. To conclude our year of service, the Treacy house led the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, reminding us of the true spirit of Christmas, one rooted in kindness, empathy and generosity. By contributing food and essential goods, we sought to bring light to those facing hardship, demonstrating that even the smallest acts of giving can offer hope and make a meaningful difference.

In addition to these initiatives, our House groups have supported a charity or organisation of their own, leading to greater awareness of social, mental health and economic issues in our community.

Brady: Beyond Blue

Gallagher: Livin'

Healy: White Ribbon

Kearney: Movember

Magee: Vinnies Winter Appeal

O'Neill: Go Foundation

Treacy: Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Wynne: World Environment Day Cook Islands SPCA

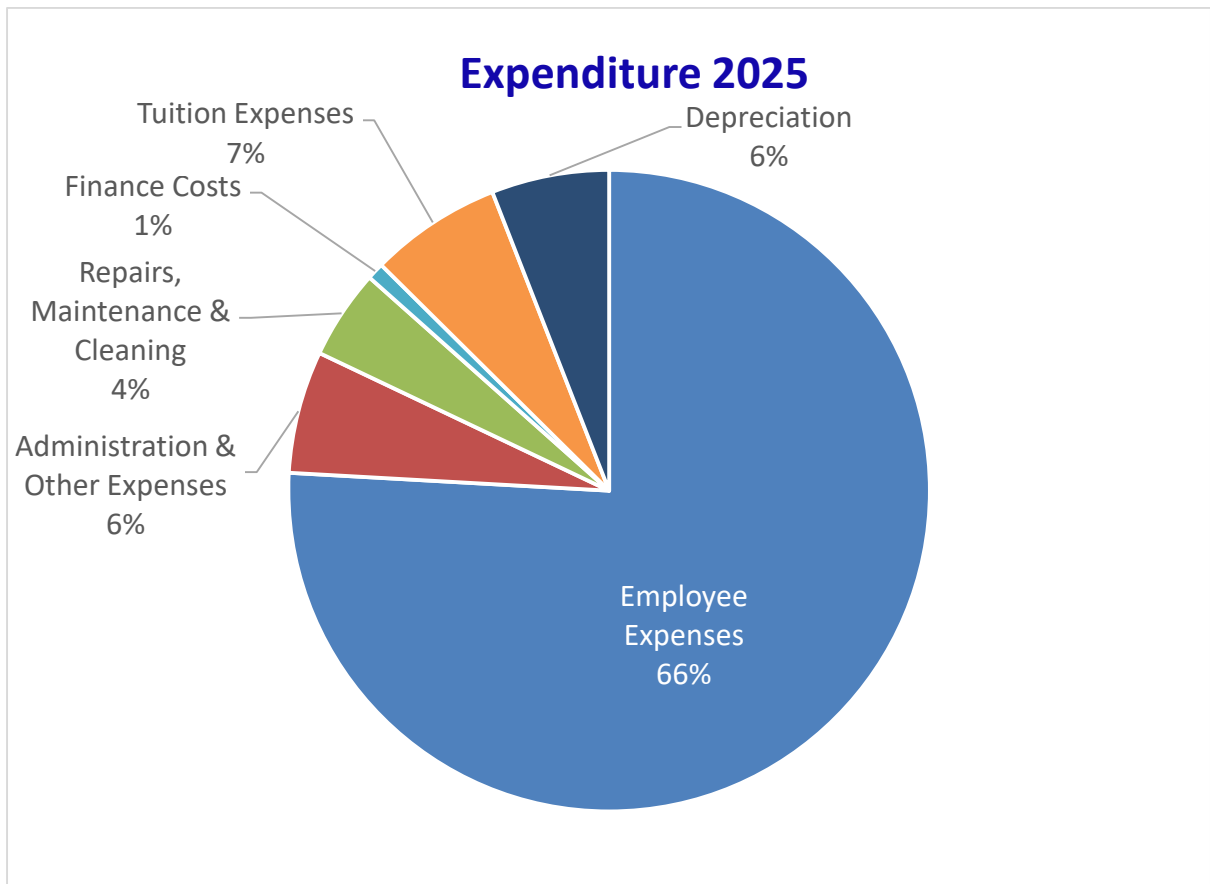
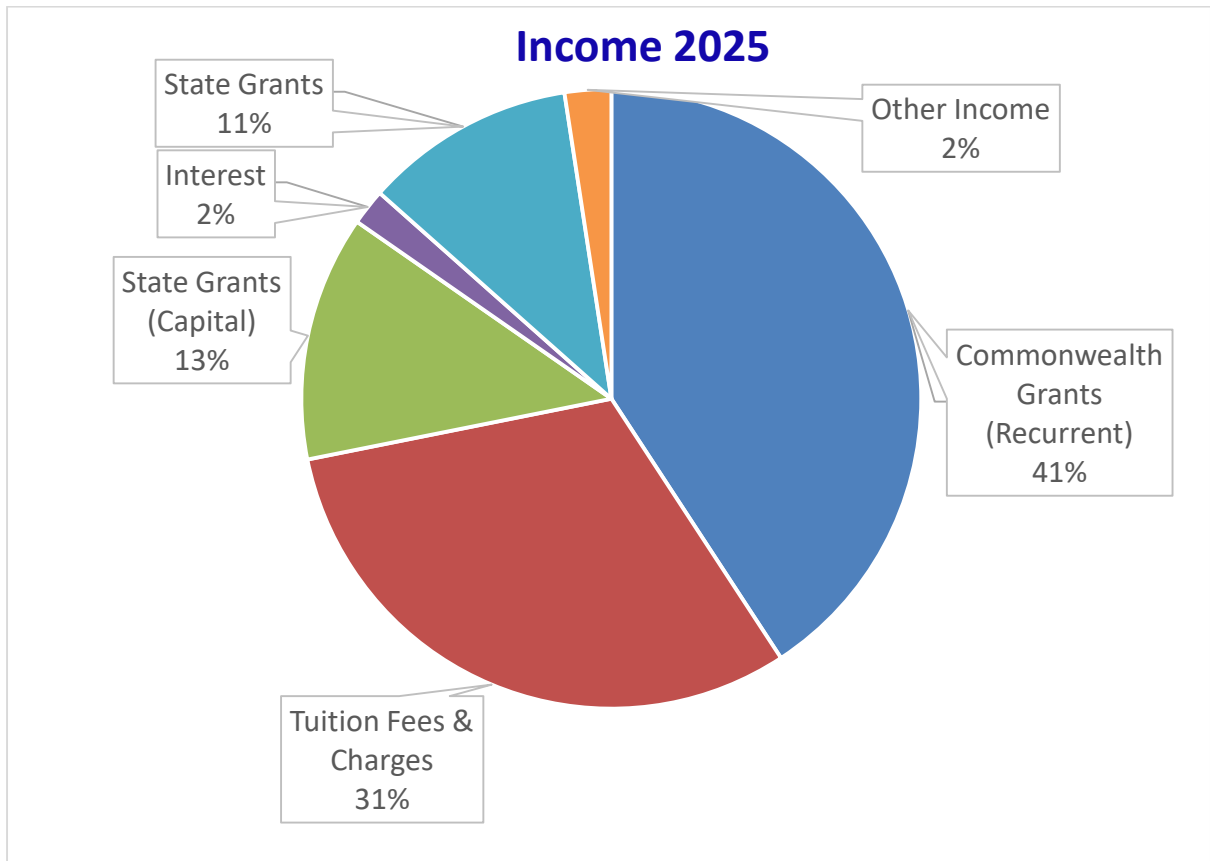
"Have courage, the good seed will grow up in the children's hearts in its own time. Give to the poor in handfuls."

Edmund Rice

Miss Claudia Natalini

Justice and Peace Coordinator

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION





Christian Brothers Lewisham

68 The Boulevard, Lewisham NSW 2049

Tel +61 2 8585 1744 **Fax** +61 2 8585 1787

Email office@cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au

Web www.cbhslewisham.nsw.edu.au