



GREAT
SOUTHERN
GRAMMAR

GREAT SOUTHERN GRAMMAR 2019 School Performance Report



HISTORY

Since its founding in 1998, Great Southern Grammar (GSG) has developed an excellent reputation for the quality of its programmes, staff and facilities. There is a culture of achievement in the school and of excellence across a range of academic, cultural and sporting pursuits. GSG programmes offer significant depth and breadth of learning across the curriculum.

The concept of establishing an independent school in the Great Southern region arose from families seeking an independent school alternative within the region. Great Southern Grammar was founded in 1996 by a development committee. The school was incorporated in 1998 and those who worked to establish it became the first Board of Trustees. The Trustees established the inaugural School Council. The School Council, as the governing body of GSG, is the educational and financial authority of the school. The school opened in 1999 with 36 students at a temporary campus, after which a masterplan was commenced to establish permanent facilities at Lower Kalgan. The school moved into its new home on the shores of Oyster Harbour in Term One, 2000.

When local Noongar elder, Mr Aiden Eades, spoke at the opening ceremony of the school he stated, *"The school grounds are of special significance to local Noongars, with the Kalgan and King Rivers meeting close by. Never forget that this is Noongar land, but you are welcome to use it, especially for something like education."*

PRESENT

Great Southern Grammar is an independent, Christian, coeducational residential and day school for students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year Twelve, located on pristine waterfront land between the King and Kalgan Rivers in Albany, Western Australia. The school gives girls and boys from Pre-Kindergarten to Year Twelve a world of opportunity in a supportive, country setting.

At Great Southern Grammar, wide-open spaces equal wide-open futures. The school's campus is as expansive as the curriculum. Situated on 144 acres adjoining Oyster Harbour in Albany, GSG offers its students everything from Science to SCUBA diving, Mathematics to Marine Science, and History to Humanities. It is this richness of learning and breadth of experiences that allows its students to uncover their strengths and passions.

Great Southern Grammar is more than just a school. It is a growing, thriving community that prospers and succeeds on the basis of the contribution of all of its members – parents, students, teachers and stakeholders. Every member of the GSG community plays a part in developing the school, a country school offering city opportunities.

We honour and acknowledge the school founders who established GSG on Minang land in 1998, *"to provide the young people of the Great Southern region and beyond with a world-class school."*

STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2019, the school's mission and vision were redefined as part of a strategic planning process. Having celebrated GSG's first 20 years, the school developed and presented its Strategic Plan 2019 — 2024. The plan embraces Great Southern Grammar's Christian history and maintains the vision of the school founders. It consists of five goals and target objectives, each delivering a number of exciting initiatives benefitting students and graduates.

The Strategic Plan 2019 — 2024 signposts the school's future and was drawn from an extensive process involving conversations, educational research and local community consultation. The school acknowledges the input from staff, parents, Executive and the School Council. The Strategic Plan 2019 — 2024 activates and determines Great Southern Grammar's future direction. It will generate school stability and improvement, extensively reaching into areas of school operations.

Values, vision and mission

Great Southern Grammar's values are integrity, respect, commitment and compassion.

Great Southern Grammar's vision is to be a learning community in which students develop confidence, wellbeing and a sense of belonging, enabling them to achieve their goals and enhance our local and global communities.

Great Southern Grammar's mission is to provide a first-class education built on the principles of the Christian faith and led by highly committed staff.

Goals

The Strategic Plan 2019 — 2024 sets the following five goals:

1. Student learning and engagement
2. Student and community wellbeing
3. Collaborative partnerships
4. Professional staff team
5. Sustainable governance

CURRICULUM

GSG is committed to preparing students to be successful citizens in the 21st century. To this end, alongside literacy, numeracy and technology understandings, students develop creativity and critical thinking, intercultural understanding, personal and social capacity, and ethical behaviour delivered through high quality teaching. Learning experiences are developed in line with the Australian Curriculum, the Western Australian Certificate of Education courses of study, and the Early Years Learning Framework to cater appropriately for students at each stage of development.

In 2016, the school introduced programmes in Agriculture, Viticulture and Aquaculture, reflecting the important industry base of the Great Southern region.

BOARDING

Great Southern Grammar becomes a home away from home, as well as a school, for boarding students. Nestled in a well-developed precinct on the school's waterfront campus, five boarding houses and their house parents welcome students from many different walks of life to a place where lifelong friendships develop, and trust and respect are valued. Learning and life come together for boarding students as they are helped to feel at home by friends, support staff, house parents, students and mentors.

Boarding houses emulate extended homes, providing a friendly and warm environment. Permanent house parents live in each residence where they extend genuine family values to boarders. Within each residence, boarders enjoy comfortable and spacious living areas and a fully maintained kitchen.

At GSG, there is space to think, to contemplate, to walk and talk, and to take time out in a beautiful, calm, semi-rural environment. If it is action students want, there is plenty on offer, including a vast array of recreational and cultural activities from paddle-boarding to fishing, fitness, surfing, mountain-biking, movies, quizzes, shopping and dining out.

Boarding staff appreciate the commitment and sacrifice parents make to send their children to GSG and are thankful that they are trusted to take care of children living away from home. Our aim is to make this life transition as smooth as possible for all involved.

QUALITY TEACHING

GSG is committed to preparing students to be successful citizens in the 21st century. To this end, alongside literacy, numeracy and technology understandings, students develop creativity and critical thinking, intercultural understanding, personal and social capacity, and ethical behaviour delivered through high quality teaching. Learning experiences are developed in line with the Australian Curriculum, the Western Australian Certificate of Education courses of study, and the Early Years Learning Framework to cater appropriately for students at each stage of development.

Teaching staff bring a wealth of knowledge and passion to learning. Our focus is on developing the gifts and talents of each student, taking into account their individual needs and interests. Working in a learning community, teachers at GSG are committed professionals constantly developing their knowledge of the art and science of teaching so that they can apply this to student learning, and work in partnership with families. Informed by research, professional learning opportunities, mentoring and reflection, teachers are here to bring out the best in students.

A broad and balanced education is our focus for developing children ready for the future. The curriculum is carefully structured to meet the needs of students at each stage of their development, from specialist programmes in the Early Childhood Centre to the wealth of opportunities in both VET and ATAR pathways in Senior School. We develop learning pathways through Junior, Middle and Senior School to allow children

to discover and develop their passions. Through areas as diverse as the Arts, Digital Technologies, Agriculture, Literature, Economics and beyond, we help children embark on their journey of discovery.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2019

- Keep Albany Beautiful Best Kept School award
- Gov Hack team winning three state awards
- Finalist in the Australian Education awards for Best Regional School in Australia
- Hospitality students excelling as the WA state winner of the McCormick Flavour Forecast competition
- Winners of the BHP STEM awards
- Champion Interschool Swimming school
- Runners up, Buchanan Cup (Hockey)
- Division A and B winners Cricket Blast School competition
- Kingfisher Concert performances
- Introduction of Certificate IV in Business

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The School Council, with support from the Finance Committee, and Building and Grounds Committee, meets eight times each year to review the school's financial progress against budget, performance indicators and financial statements, including cash flows and a detailed monthly report from the Principal on all aspects of school operations. Various guest speakers are invited to the School Council, which helps to maintain currency and information exchange. This ensures the Council is informed of topical school and business trends, relevant to the operations of the school.

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

Doctorate.....	2
Masters.....	14
Bachelor Degree (Hons).....	10
Bachelor Degree.....	91
Post Graduate Diploma.....	77
Graduate Certificate.....	11
Certificate.....	61

WORKFORCE

Teaching staff.....	82
Non-teaching staff.....	88
Staff retention rate.....	90%

TEACHING STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Conferences.....	20	Curriculum.....	27
Computing.....	2	Specialist.....	54
Library.....	5	PD held at GSG.....	10

Total expenditure on teaching staff PD - \$57,690

STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE

Year Level	Attendance
Kindergarten	92%
Pre-Primary	91%
Year 01	94%
Year 02	93%
Year 03	96%
Year 04	95%
Year 05	92%
Year 06	92%
Year 07	94%
Year 08	89%
Year 09	91%
Year 10	94%
Year 11	92%
Year 12	92%

YEAR TWELVE OUTCOMES



Certificates of Distinction

Certificates of Merit



DUX Riku Okada 99.3

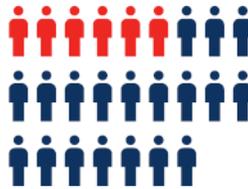


PROXIME ASSESSIT
Jorja Williamson and Austin Wingard: 95.05



Wholly School Assessed
Amelia Page

Six ATAR students over 90



19 ATAR students over 80



VET qualifications and certificates completed



ATAR students offered uni places
Median ATAR: 75.7



7 Certificate IV Business

100%

Successful completion VET pathway

GSG is an inclusive school

University Placements

Descriptor	Number
Students with an ATAR who applied	45
Median ATAR of the students who applied	75.7
Students offered first preference includes students without ATAR	51
Offered first preference at UWA	13
Offered first preference at Curtin University	25
Offered first preference at ECU	7
Offered first preference at Murdoch University	6

NAPLAN INFORMATION

Year Three

Test	Results	GSG
Reading	Top 20%	21%
	Middle 60%	68%
	Bottom 20%	11%
Grammar and Punctuation	Top 20%	18%
	Middle 60%	82%
	Bottom 20%	0%
Spelling	Top 20%	29%
	Middle 60%	71%
	Bottom 20%	0%
Writing	Top 20%	41%
	Middle 60%	53%
	Bottom 20%	6%
Numeracy	Top 20%	26%
	Middle 60%	53%
	Bottom 20%	21%

Year Five

Test	Results	GSG
Reading	Top 20%	39%
	Middle 60%	52%
	Bottom 20%	9%
Grammar and Punctuation	Top 20%	41%
	Middle 60%	50%
	Bottom 20%	9%
Spelling	Top 20%	28%
	Middle 60%	53%
	Bottom 20%	19%
Writing	Top 20%	22%
	Middle 60%	65%
	Bottom 20%	13%
Numeracy	Top 20%	24%
	Middle 60%	76%
	Bottom 20%	0%

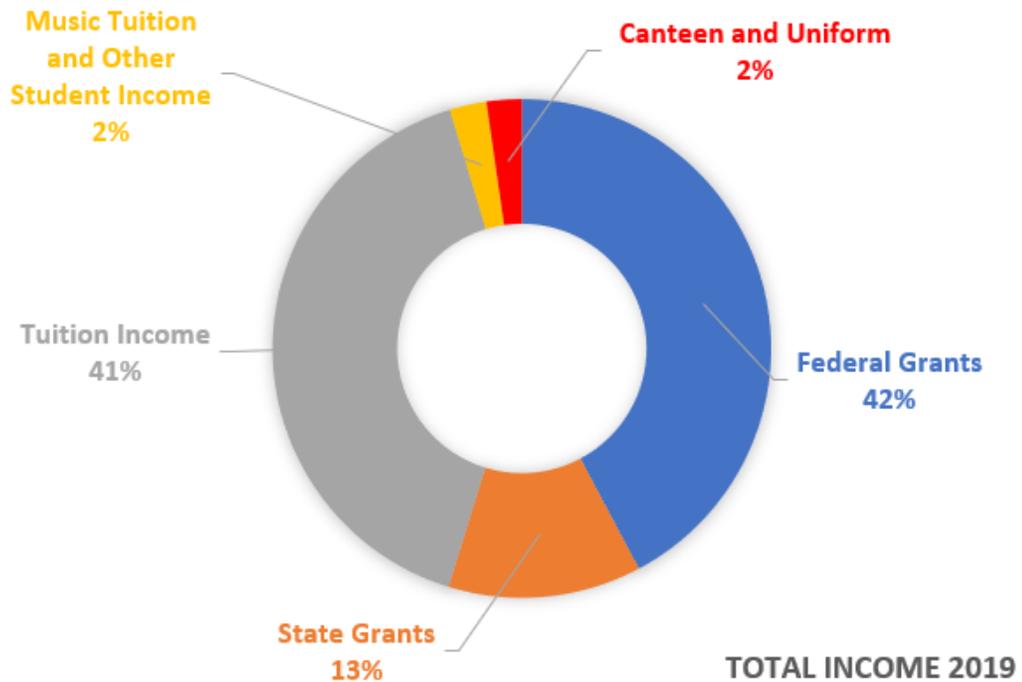
Year Seven

Test	Results	GSG
Reading	Top 20%	39%
	Middle 60%	50%
	Bottom 20%	11%
Grammar and Punctuation	Top 20%	40%
	Middle 60%	44%
	Bottom 20%	16%
Spelling	Top 20%	28%
	Middle 60%	60%
	Bottom 20%	12%
Writing	Top 20%	22%
	Middle 60%	66%
	Bottom 20%	12%
Numeracy	Top 20%	33%
	Middle 60%	58%
	Bottom 20%	9%

Year Nine

Test	Results	GSG
Reading	Top 20%	38%
	Middle 60%	56%
	Bottom 20%	6%
Grammar and Punctuation	Top 20%	34%
	Middle 60%	56%
	Bottom 20%	10%
Spelling	Top 20%	32%
	Middle 60%	55%
	Bottom 20%	13%
Writing	Top 20%	30%
	Middle 60%	60%
	Bottom 20%	10%
Numeracy	Top 20%	44%
	Middle 60%	50%
	Bottom 20%	6%

SOURCE OF INCOME



PARENT AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

In December, the school held a Parent Pulse survey for Year Two, Year Six, Year Nine and Year Eleven parents to provide feedback covering key aspects of GSG. This feedback greatly assists the school with operational and strategic planning to continually improve the educational experience provided to students. A focus group was formed with parents to discuss the findings of the Parent Pulse for further improvement. The school welcomes feedback and encourages school families to make contact should they have any concerns about any aspect of the school.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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School Information

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