



Fahan School Annual Report for 2008

The following report has been prepared in response to the Australian Government requirements that schools report on specific issues to their stakeholders on an annual basis. This report relates to information from the operation of Fahan School in 2008.

Fahan School is a unique school for girls providing valued education and homely boarding facilities to girls from Kindergarten to year 12. Fahan School also provides education to boys from Kindergarten to Year 2.

Fahan School is set amongst magnificent gardens and tranquil environment overlooking the picturesque Derwent River.

During 2008, there were 364 students enrolled including 17 students from overseas and boarding at Fahan School.

Fahan School aims to provide an excellent education experience for its students, while at the same time allowing time for reflection and the development of personal, social and community life skills.

The staff at Fahan are a special breed. In terms of their skills and willingness to interact and assist students, Fahan is richly blessed with a highly competent and engaged group of professionals. They have the welfare of their students in their charge as their single greatest priority.

Student Outcomes

Students are encouraged to achieve to their potential and continue their studies post – Year 12 at university, TAFE or move to satisfying and fulfilling work opportunities.

In 2008, students completing Year 12 at Fahan School received outstanding results across a range of subject areas. In summary, 97% scored 50 or better in their TE ranking, with 42% achieving a ranking of 90 plus. The overall median score for 2008 was 89.4 with almost one third (32.2%) of the class achieving a ranking in the top 5% of the nation.

100% of the Year 12 cohort aimed for University entrance, 20% of the cohort participated in a Vocational Education and Training Programme during their senior secondary education.

A summary of the 2008 post school destinations for Fahan School Year 12 students is shown in the following table.

School Year – 2008	Number of Students	Percentage of Students
Students studying at University	15	48.4%
Students who gained entrance to university now working (GAP)	16	51.6%
Students Working	0	0%
Total Year 12 Students	31	100

Other Student Matters

80% of the Fahan School cohort in 2005 enrolled in Year 12 in 2008.

Students at Fahan School are involved in a wide variety of learning opportunities. Co – curricular activities include:

- Intra and Inter school sport
- Community service
- Peer mentoring – big sister, little sister
- Interstate trips
- Broad range of cultural pursuits including music, drama, dance and art
- Eisteddfords
- Outdoor education and field trips
- International and interstate student exchanges
- Amnesty international
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Scholastic clubs

The table below indicates Standardized Test results of Fahan School students in the areas of reading, writing and numeracy for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The first part of the table shows the percentage of Fahan School students who achieved national benchmark for that area. The second part of the table compares the 2008 cohort results with those of the 2007 cohort. The difference corresponds to the increase or decrease in the percentage of the cohort who achieved the benchmark in comparison with the previous year. It must be noted that the comparison relates to two different sets of students, i.e Year 3 in 2008 compared with Year 3 in 2007.

	Year level	% of students who achieved national benchmark	Changes from 2007 to 2008
Numeracy	3	100%	Nil
	5	100%	Nil
	7	97% (1 student)	95% (2 students)
	9	92% (3 students)	n/a
Writing	3	100%	Nil
	5	100%	Nil
	7	97% (1 student)	100%
	9	92% (3 students)	n/a
Reading	3	100%	Nil
	5	96% (1 student)	100%
	7	97% (1 student)	100%
	9	95% (2 students)	n/a

Staffing and Employment Matters

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

During 2008, 100% of teaching staff were involved in over 20 professional development activities addressing latest techniques and strategies for:

- pastoral care,
- managing student behaviour,
- literacy,
- numeracy,
- languages
- curriculum review and development
- IT for the 21st Century

- Health and well being – staff and students
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Career options
- Teaching for understanding

The average 2008 expenditure per FTE teacher at Fahan School on professional learning was \$390.95

Levels of Involvement

Parent and Student appraisals indicate high levels of satisfaction at Fahan School. Fahan School is fortunate to be supported by strong parental involvement in many aspects of school life, including voluntarily service in classrooms and School tuckshop, Board and Committee membership, Parents and Friend forums, out of school hours sporting assistance (such as coaching and umpiring). Clearly the extensive parent support and assistance is indicative of the school community satisfaction with the direction and operation of Fahan School.

Fahan School staff are committed the philosophy and ethos of the school and voluntarily choose to remain with the school. At the end of 2008 Fahan School farewelled Jane Naqvi, June Newman and Gill Wyatt who all retired after giving many years of fine service to students at Fahan school. Natalie Brown moved to another School as a promotion to further her career.

97.4% of teaching staff employed for 2007 continued to work at Fahan during 2008, with the exception of those who commenced/continued on approved maternity leave.

Student participation rates in a wide range of activities in and outside school time is very high and student attendance rates are also very high. The average student attendance rate in 2008 was 97%.

The Fahan School community are invited to have input into Schools Capital Development Plan. These plans identify priorities for Fahan School for the benefit of future students and community. Furthermore, Fahan School has a well established “open door” policy where community members, past present and future, are always welcome to visit, observe and share their thoughts on “ life at Fahan”.

*If you have any questions or comments related to this report, please address them to:
Mr Tony Freeman, Principal Fahan School Phone 03 6225 1064*