



2021 Annual Report to School Community

2021 has certainly been a busy year at the College. For all of us, 2020 provided a year of great uncertainty and the College was no exception to this reality. It felt like many aspects of our daily lives entered a period of 'wait and see'. In contrast, 2021 has seen the College commit a significant amount of time and effort looking to the future and considering our strategic direction, ambitions and goals. All whilst being ever mindful of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its potential to rapidly impact even the most basic of plans.

Earlier this year, you may recall being asked to complete a climate survey regarding the educational experience provided by Nagle Catholic College. This survey was given to all relevant stakeholders; parents, staff, and, most importantly, our students, to gain a better understanding of what the College is doing well, and areas that we could focus on, looking into the foreseeable future. I am pleased to say that, overall, the feedback was positive and affirming. However, there are always areas that we can improve and develop in the best interest of our students. Our College Executive, staff, School Advisory Council and Parents' and Friends' Association spent a considerable amount of time reviewing this feedback. Additionally, time was committed to considering the strategic direction of the College over the coming years. The mandate for all stakeholders during this period of discernment was very simple, 'Let's build a better school'. I am pleased to announce that, based on the feedback we received and following a period of reflect and review, the College has developed a new Strategic Plan to guide our direction over the next four years. The College was conscious of keeping this plan practical and accessible for all members of our community. To that end, our new Strategic Plan is a simple, single page document containing four sub-headings: Catholic Identity, Education, Community and Stewardship. Our new Strategic Plan can be found on our College website. I encourage everyone invested in the College to take a few minutes to review the plan and to learn more about the exciting direction we hope to take the College over the next few years.

This year, the College also invested significant time developing a Vision for Learning. I am sure many will be wondering; 'What is a Vision for Learning?' Put simply, a Vision for Learning enables a school to clearly articulate a defined set of beliefs and values which underpin its story, context and culture. It attempts to address three fundamental questions about a school;

Who we are? Why are we? What do we represent?

By articulating these intentions, we provide a frame of reference about our unique identity. When a person joins our College, whether they be a student or staff member, it is anticipated that they will see who and what Nagle Catholic College represents through our Vision for Learning and seek to align themselves with these core practices and beliefs. Our Vision for Learning, titled '*One Step Beyond*', articulates our intentions for student engagement and aspirations as a 'Christ centred, student focused' community. This vision encompasses the whole person and goes beyond just the teaching and learning component of education but rather hopes for an educational experience that is more holistic and formative.

Our Vision for Learning is fundamentally a guide intended to articulate who we are, what we represent and what type of opportunities we provide our students. I again encourage you to review our Vision for Learning which is accessible to everyone via our College website.



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Every five years, all non-government schools are required to undertake an independently conducted registration and audit process. This is necessary to verify that a school is being effectively governed across fifteen different standards. These standards range from curriculum and staffing ratios to complaint management and financial resourcing. This year, the College underwent such an audit. The planning and preparation for a registration audit is exhaustive and represents a significant amount of work over a six-month period. I am pleased to announce that the College had an exceptional positive audit with no areas across the fifteen standards requiring modification or additional action. I am sincerely grateful to all staff involved with the preparation of this audit. I believe this positive outcome reflects the professionalism and dedication of all staff, both teaching and non-teaching, who serve this community. They should all justifiably be proud of the excellent opportunities and outcomes they provide our students, as recognised by the successful outcomes of this audit.

At the end of last year, the College commenced a program of refurbishing classrooms. As you would probably be aware, many of our buildings are more than 100 years old and require regular refurbishment to ensure they remain contemporary, modern teaching spaces appropriate for 21st century learners. During the January break this year, six classrooms were renovated with new flooring, window treatments, ceilings, white boards, lighting and furniture. At the start of next year, the College will renovate a further six classrooms and will continue this process over the next few years to ensure all teaching spaces are modern and comfortable to optimise the learning experiences for our students.

2021 has seen some significant changes in the way the College engages and meets the educational needs of our students. Our timetable structure has been modified to double the number of options classes our Year 10 students are able to access over the year. Our 'JumpStart' program, also for Year 10 students, has seen over 90 students accessing workplace learning opportunities one day per week, gaining real world, practical experience. In addition, our Music curriculum has seen significant growth and next year we will have approximately 30 incoming Year 7 students enrolled in our Music scholarship program. This year, the College also introduced an academic and curriculum extension program, known as ACE, to Years 8 and 9 students with great success. Next year, in addition to continuing in Year 10, this program will be expanded to include a merit selected group of Year 7 students, who will have nearly a third of their class time dedicated to this initiative. Separately, in 2022, the College will also be launching an AFL Academy program with endorsement from the West Australian Football Commission, and in partnership with the East Fremantle Football Club. The 'Nagle Knights', as they will be known, will initially be available to Year 7 students, with the intention of expanding this program over the next few years. As a College, we are delighted with how the changes implemented this year have further engaged our students with their learning and we are excited about the additional opportunities which will become available next year.

Of course, any organisation is only as good as its people. I would like to personally thank our dedicated teaching staff who strive to support our students in a variety of different ways to achieve their full potential. Your efforts are always greatly appreciated. Similarly, the importance of support staff in a school should never be underestimated. They are the foundation of the College and they work tirelessly to ensure the school operates smoothly and efficiently, quite often hidden behind the scenes. To all our non-teaching staff, I thank you for the significant contribution you make to the College, whether that be in education, administration, library services, canteen services, cleaning, information technology or grounds and maintenance.

I would further like to recognise the College Executive. This is a group of committed individuals who work tirelessly in the best interests of the College. To Mrs Robyn Gummy, Mrs Susan Seaward, Ms Marie Masotto



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and Mr Daniel Bowen, along with my Personal Assistant, Mrs Sarah Boyle, I thank you for your commitment to the College and the support you have provided me this year. It is sincerely appreciated.

I would finally like to recognise both the School Advisory Council and our Parents' and Friends' Association for their hard work this year. In this busy world, it can be especially challenging to find people who are willing and able to give up their spare time to support schools in this capacity. To Mrs Jo Luxton, Advisory Chair, and the hardworking members of both groups, I sincerely thank you on behalf of the College for your support and guidance this year. Your contribution to the life of the College has been most sincerely appreciated.

I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the significant efforts of one particular staff member. The 'Morrissey Medal' is awarded to staff who have completed 20 years of service at Nagle Catholic College. This award recognises their dedication, their passion and their outstanding contribution to the College community over a significant period of time. All recipients of this award are presented with a medallion and a gift from the College.

This year, we have one recipient of this award, Mr Peter Fiorenza. On behalf of the staff, parents and past and current students of Nagle Catholic College, I would like to sincerely thank Peter for his commitment, his hard work and his dedication to the College over the past two decades. Both a significant achievement and milestone.

I would also like to acknowledge our Regional Officer, Mr Allan McMahon. Allan has been serving in Geraldton over the past 12 months from his substantive position as a Principal in Perth. Many of you would not know Allan, however, he has worked tirelessly behind the scenes supporting all Principals in Catholic schools across the region stretching as far north as Port Hedland. Allan has been a great support to me and the College over this year and I wish him all the best for the future and his return to Perth.

Finally, to the staff who are leaving the College at the end of the year. I thank you for your dedication and support during your time at Nagle. I trust you have enjoyed your experiences and you leave with many happy memories of your time at the College. I wish you all the very best in the next phase of your life and the journey ahead of you.

Thank you and God bless.

Mr Michael Williams
Principal