

2024

Annual Report to the School Community



Lavalla Catholic College

33 Kosciusko Street, TRARALGON 3844

Principal: Ryan Greer

Web: www.lavalla.vic.edu.au

Registration: 2001, E Number: E4042

Principal's Attestation

I, Ryan Greer, attest that Lavalla Catholic College is compliant with:

- The minimum standards and other requirements for school registration and school boarding premises (if applicable) as specified in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic).
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2024 school year under the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth) and the Australian Education Regulations 2023 (Cth).
- The Child Safe Standards as prescribed in Ministerial Order 1359 – Implementing the Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises.

Attested on 20 Mar 2025

About this report

Lavalla Catholic College is registered by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA). The Annual Report to the School Community (ARSC), provides parents and the wider community with information about the school's activities and achievements throughout the year including information about various aspects of school performance. The Report is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the school community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students. Further information about the contents of this Report may be obtained by contacting the School directly or by visiting the School's website. Information can also be obtained from the [My School website](#).

Governing Authority Report

Lavalla Catholic College is governed by Marist Schools Australia Limited (MSA Ltd). MSA Ltd is a public not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and registered with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission. Its purpose is to advance education and religion, specifically to make Jesus Christ known and loved and to ensure quality Catholic education in the Marist tradition through its schools.

MSA Ltd was formed by the Trustees of the Marist Brothers and the Association of St Marcellin Champagnat to strengthen the governance of the Education Ministry. Prior to the incorporation of MSA Ltd, the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat Limited (MASMC Ltd, a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee) was formed by the Trustees of the Marist Brothers to provide governance as well as spiritual leadership and formation for those engaged in the apostolic works, activities and operations of the Marists in Australia. MASMC Ltd is the sole member of MSA Ltd. The fundamental aspiration of Marist education as explained 200 years ago by the founder Saint Marcellin Champagnat is '...to make Jesus Christ known and loved through quality education'. This is the Mission of Marist Schools Australia Limited today.

From 1 January 2022 MSA Ltd governs, manages and operates twelve Colleges in Australia, including Lavalla Catholic College, and it is particularly focused on ensuring that the Colleges follow contemporary and best governance practices to maintain compliance with Australian legislation (including education legislation) and to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for students in line with the philosophy and values of Marist Education. MSA Ltd also provides professional learning, staff formation, youth ministry, and solidarity opportunities to Marist schools governed by Diocesan Catholic education authorities.

The Board of MSA Ltd consists of highly skilled and eminent Australian educators. They have appointed the National Director to undertake the operations of the Education Ministry. The National Director appoints the College Principal who conducts the day-to-day operation of the College and reports to the National Director via a Regional Director.

Lavalla Catholic College is one of 600 Marist schools throughout the world educating young people in 80 different countries. Marist education was founded by Saint Marcellin Champagnat in 1817, in the Parish of La Valla in the Rhone Alps.

Vision and Mission

Our Vision

Lavalla Catholic College is a welcoming, inclusive community called to make Jesus known and loved through education in the Marist Tradition. With 'Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts' we unite to inspire, journey with and prepare learners for life in our changing world.

Our Mission

In our daily actions we build positive relationships following the model of Jesus Christ. We are inspired by the Marist Characteristics:

- Simplicity
- Love of Work
- In the Way of Mary
- Presence
- Family Spirit.

Families, staff and students work in partnership with the local and wider communities to create opportunities where all can flourish in safe and challenging learning environments.

Graduation Goals

Graduates of Lavalla Catholic College will strive to be:

- open to the journey of faith and to practise the Marist Characteristics
- stewards of our people, place, time and traditions
- adaptable resilient life-long learners
- responsible citizens
- respectful in building loving, inclusive relationships in the example of Jesus
- people who will celebrate all that is good
- people of compassion, integrity, dignity and hope.

College Overview

Lavalla Catholic College is a community that inspires excellence in learning and development through quality teaching and student support. We take to heart the inspiring words of Marcellin Champagnat, the founder of the Marist brothers, that to "... educate children is to love them and to love them all equally." Marcellin also stressed that we offer an environment that encourages and allows young people to develop into intelligent, caring, human beings with Jesus at the centre of their lives.

Writing over 180 years ago, Marcellin understood what every teacher knows; that teaching and learning are about forming a strong relationship with each individual built on trust, respect and love. All students at Lavalla are known and loved.

Offering a Catholic education across the Latrobe Valley, in 2024 our College has two campuses and a population of approximately 1300 students. True to our Marist tradition, we place a strong value on family. We appreciate our long associations with families in the Latrobe Valley and look forward to working with all families who seek to join our College community in a spirit of partnership, shared responsibility and mutual support.

Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts is our College motto, and it is a guiding principle for education at Lavalla Catholic College. In an era of rapid social and educational change there remain some constants: the need for young people to have inquiring minds, moral values on which to base their life decisions and empathy for their fellow human beings.

We pursue excellence in academics and offer a broad range of subjects at each year level. We are a pathways school and provide many opportunities to broaden life skills. Families look to our College to provide a comprehensive and engaging education for their children.

At Years 7, 8 and 9, students are offered a variety of subjects to explore their learning styles and interests. Students with unique Gifts and Talents are identified and offered opportunities to excel.

Years 10, 11 and 12 see students selecting their own courses of study and focusing more intensely on future careers. The Victorian Certificate of Education, Victorian Certificate of Education Vocational Major, Vocation Education and Training, University Enhancement Subjects and work placements are just some pathways students may take in their journey to discovering their future.

Principal's Report

First Light-Reveal the Spirit

Our 2024 theme was *First Light – Reveal the Spirit*. Throughout the year our community had many opportunities to connect with these meaningful words and understand how as a community, we can work together to animate or give life to these words.

First Light, invites us all to recognise and appreciate our world as a place in which we discover God. As Christians we believe God's first words were 'let there be light' (Genesis 1:3) and with that, our world was dawned into existence and His spirit revealed. This spirit of course, is visible to us in everything that we see, all that we experience and all that is good in our world.

The notion of Christ Light is one that permeated all that we undertook throughout this year. It is a concept, through which we understand that all of our darkened paths are brightened by the word and example of Jesus. We follow that light; the light guides us; the light enables us to see clearly and the light enables us to grow. We believe that the challenge for us all, is to place this light at the centre of all that we do, and to allow our lives and those around us to be illuminated by Christ and the example he set for us.

It was a beautiful theme for the year; rich in imagery and metaphor but also tangible in terms of sharing our mission in aspiring to live Christ centered lives.

Service

2024 saw another wonderful effort from our community, to action catholic social teaching by seeking and involving ourselves in a number of crucial service initiatives within our local, national and international community.

Once again the College was able to make a sizable donation of non-perishable food items through the St Vincent de Paul Give a damn; Give a can initiative. Well over 1200 items were donated across both our campuses to assist local families in need.

As a school we also contributed items and funds to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Our award winning College choir again showcased their talents through busking across the town, and were able to raise valuable funds for this appeal, whilst regaling the community with their vocal talents and prowess.

Additionally, the College also participated in the Catholic Church driven Caritas fundraising drive and helped to deliver relief for those people in developing and war affected countries. We also donated to Marist Solidarity projects, assisting with funding and awareness of

several charitable capital works projects in fledgling Marist schools and communities throughout Asia and the Pacific.

As you may also be aware, a large number of staff at Lavalla this year took their first steps into Mick's Kitchen, which is a social justice ministry of St Michael's Catholic Parish in Traralgon. The initiative sees volunteers in teams drawn from across our region come together and source, prepare and serve nourishing hot meals to large numbers of individuals and families in our community, who may be in need. The formation of a Lavalla staff team has been a wonderful way for our community to be represented in this important work.

All meal production costs are self-funded by our school, primarily through our bottle and can recycling efforts across both campuses. Coupled with assisting in significantly reducing waste that would otherwise end up in landfill, the ability to turn rubbish into money and subsequently into meals for Mick's Kitchen, means that all of our community including our students play an active role in this initiative, simply by placing their empty bottles, cans or even poppers, into our yellow bins at school. We are privileged to undertake this work and I am thankful to the staff volunteers and the students who use the recycling program for the benefit others.

Academic achievement

Once again, across this year, large numbers of Lavalla students from all year levels received awards and recognition for both academic performance and academic improvement. As I have reflected with the students many times previously, academic and academic improvement awards recognise their commitment and dedication towards their studies and their want to continuously improve their learning outcomes and learning success. Congratulations to all of our award winners and best wishes for next year where all students can continue to set learning goals and begin performance improvement planning to ensure that actions match rhetoric when it comes to learning success and learning improvement.

Year 12 Results

Following our excellent results in 2023, where our Year 12 students achieved a series of firsts for the College and set new standards for our students to aspire towards, our 2024 Year 12 cohort was challenged to replicate the hard work and dedication that led to those outcomes. In very pleasing fashion, our 2024 graduating cohort rose to this challenge and achieved excellent results across the senior learning pathways at Lavalla.

Some highlights of our 2024 Year 12 results include:

- Our highest ever College Median ATAR of 68.42 and a College Average ATAR of 67.85
- Median Study Score of 30 – maintaining our highest ever result from last year
- 24 study scores of 40+
- Highest ever percentage of students with 35+ study scores – 21.1%
- Highest ever percentage of students with 30+ study scores – 50.5%

- Close to 5% of our VCE students receiving an ATAR of above 90 placing them in the top 10% of students state-wide
- 20% of VCE students receiving an ATAR of above 80

Whilst results across the board were strong, special mention must go to the following students:

- 2024 College Dux: Rohini Arun Kumar with an ATAR of 98.35
- A perfect 50 Study Score for Rohini Arun Kumar in Biology
- Taylah Pavey – ATAR of 93
- Asha Nightingale – ATAR of 92.95
- Makayla Brand – ATAR of 91.2
- Violet Estandarte – ATAR of 90.4
- Ryan Jones – ATAR of 90.05

Once again, we celebrate success across all learning pathways at Lavalla with the same pride and enthusiasm, and congratulate those students who pursued vocational pathways and who are commencing careers across various trade, retail, allied health and other sectors.

Of course, our core focus will always remain forming our young people with strong minds and compassionate hearts, who are ready, willing and able to make positive contributions to society. I am confident that our class of 2024 represents the very best of who we are at Lavalla, and I know our young people will make a real difference as they head out into their post schooling worlds.

Co-Curricular

2024 also saw continued and pleasing success for many of our students in the sporting and co-curricular realm. Our footballers, soccer players, cricketers, shooters, basketballers and netballers; our talented musicians, choir and performing artists, all again demonstrated how they are able to grow their skills and talents at Lavalla and carry themselves with the pride and humility that representing our school encompasses.

Whilst we thank and congratulate all of our College representatives, special acknowledgement must go to both our senior girls and senior boys basketball teams who represented the school so well at the annual Marist Basketball Carnival. In 2024 the Carnival took place on the Gold Coast with our senior girls' team going back-to-back after also winning the championship in 2023. Words cannot do justice to the extraordinary feats of our senior girls program, collecting their 15th Marist Basketball title and becoming part of Marist Carnival folklore in the process.

For our senior boys, the 2024 carnival was also a roaring success. The boys finished runners-up to St Gregory's Campbelltown but had an exceptional week, coming within a few baskets of securing the championship and the holy grail of both senior girl and senior boy carnival championships. Congratulations to all students and staff involved. The strength of

basketball at the school is testament to the collective hard work, dedication and commitment that our community has to the sport and to Lavalla.

Marist Cricket Carnival

This year Lavalla also hosted the 50th Marist Cricket Carnival. What made this year's event even more special, is that alongside the boy's tournament, we made history by holding the inaugural girls tournament.

As I wrote to our community at the time, the logistics, planning and commitment required to host nearly 250 players, coaches and team officials and ensuring that the multitude of detail required for a successful cricket carnival to take place occurs, cannot be underestimated. I am proud of the incredible efforts of our convening committee and Lavalla staff and student helpers, who ensured the carnival was a roaring success. Whilst the cricket was fantastic throughout the carnival, the spirit and celebration of all things Marist that connect us, was definitely the real winner!

Looking forward

2025 shapes as an exciting and productive year for Lavalla. As well as completing Stage 1 of our Master Plan with beautiful new facilities across both campuses, we also enter into the first year of our new strategic improvement plan.

We also welcome a new Deputy Principal - Head of Kildare Campus Ms Cindy Foat, and a number of new, highly professional and highly skilled educators to our school.

There are many exciting initiatives and times to look forward to as we continue to take large steps along the school improvement journey at Lavalla in 2025.

I look forward to continuing to build on the strong relationships and connections established throughout this year, in what will be a special year of celebration and milestones at Lavalla with the completion of our long awaited building projects.

Ryan Greer

Catholic Identity and Mission

Goals & Intended Outcomes

The Lavalla Catholic College community consciously keeps "Making Jesus known and loved" at the forefront of our practice.

To effectively deliver the Religious Education Curriculum, *'To Live in Christ Jesus'*, in a re-contextualised and dialogical way to help staff and students towards a more Post-Critical Belief. We do this through:

- Faith Formation; Leading the college community to a deeper Post-Critical Belief stance through re-contextualisation of the Gospel in dialogue with contemporary culture.
- Promotion of Catholic Social Teaching; Enhancing the understanding of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how they guide our work.
- Prayer and Liturgy; Enhancing the practice of prayer and liturgy in the college community.
- Marist Spirituality and Pedagogy: Enhancing the collective understanding of Marist Spirituality and pedagogy in practice.
- Effective implementation the Religious Education Curriculum, *To Live in Christ Jesus*.
- Deepening the knowledge of the progression of learning in the Religious Education Curriculum, *To Live in Christ Jesus*.

Achievements

Throughout 2024 our College community used every opportunity to develop and explore the Marist Schools Australia theme: *'First Light: Reveal the Spirit'* with lots of special events highlighting and celebrating our identity, as well as helping our community to learn more about important issues affecting us and the world.

House Identity and Celebration

Each of our College Houses, across both campuses, held liturgical celebrations throughout the year. These liturgies were designed to allow students and staff to learn more about their House history and spirit, and to gather in prayer to build a sense of community. Celebrating liturgies in House groups also gives a greater number of students the opportunity to be involved in the liturgy and to build their skills in reading or leading prayer together.

Staff Formation

A significant staff formation event this year was the Amy Jill Levine Staff formation day, when Lavalla staff joined in a spirituality day organised by Marist Schools Australia, along with our

colleagues from Marist-Sion College and Catholic College Sale. Our guest speaker, Professor Amy Jill Levine, a world renowned New Testament scholar from America, spoke to us about aspects of scripture, including parables, with a focus on learning more about the Jewish context of Jesus in order to deepen our understanding.

Several staff of the College also completed other Marist formation courses, including Footsteps and the Marist Induction program, 'In the Marist Way'. We are blessed to have these rich formation opportunities available to us as part of our wider Marist family.

Laudato Si - Care for our Common Home

Every year the Catholic Church marks the anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical, '*Laudato Si*', which calls us to care for our 'common home', the earth. In 2024 our senior student leadership team, led by our Environmental leaders, organised the inaugural and highly successful 'Laudato-Si Clothing Swap' at Kildare to highlight the issue of Fast Fashion and the pollution and waste it causes. 2024 also saw the commencement of the recycling 'cash for cans' program at the College, in which the funds raised are redirected to the Mick's Kitchen initiative at St Michael's Parish. Each of these very practical actions are great examples of how faith inspires action, and a testament to the integrity and community awareness of our student leaders.

Thank You

Thanks go out to all those in our College who contribute daily to keeping our Catholic identity and Marist spirit alive. Our staff, especially our RE staff led by Sue Costello; our Liturgical choir and Mr Shane Lebbe, for supporting our college liturgical life and our Liturgy Leaders for 2024: Liam Zomer and Connie Townsend, for their efforts in leading the student body and inspiring faith in others.

Value Added

- Several groups of staff members participated in the Marist staff formation program, Footsteps.
- New staff to the College participated in the Marist new staff formation program, In the Marist Way.
- A staff member travelled to the Holy Land, Rome and France, participating in the Marist Pilgrimage, walking in the footsteps of St Marcellin Champagnat.
- All staff participated in a Marist Schools Australia staff formation sessions: *First Light - Reveal the Spirit*.
- College staff continued to gain their accreditation to teach in Catholic schools.
- Several College staff undertook post-graduate studies in Religious Education and Theology.
- Students participated in Marist connect evenings throughout the year as well as Marist Youth Ministry Program Game Changers.

Learning and Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes

The College's approach to improving Learning and Teaching is applying a continuous improvement approach and placing growth and excellence at the centre of all understandings of achievement. There have been a number of new initiatives introduced as well as consolidated in 2024 and the College has continued to work to inspire students to achieve personal excellence. Key areas of focus in 2024 include:

- Embedding the Active Learning approach through the creation of whole staff Learning Forums. This is to reflect upon and share the best active learning practice in the classroom.
- Continuation of work with Expert Teacher Ben Lawless, for all teachers to ensure the successful development and implementation of Developmental Rubrics.
- Whole College curriculum audits across all key learning areas.
- Individualised focus on pathways for senior students which match with career and post school intentions.
- Continuing development of a school wide approach to develop data literacy amongst staff.
- Targeted intervention for Year12 students in relation to VCE scored and non-scored students.
- Continuing development of a school wide approach to develop data literacy amongst staff.
- Through the Cycle of Inquiry process and development of our new strategic plan, a comprehensive planning approach for the development of a new School Wide Pedagogy commencing in 2025.

Achievements

- Development and preparation for new strategic plan focused around a School Wide Pedagogy.
- Refinement of the POL structure at the school to best cater for the promotion of excellence in learning and teaching.
- Implementation of timetable review recommendations to ensure that timetabling structures are catering for student and College need.
- Introduction of a new meeting schedule for 2024 that addresses gaps in relation to faculty time for reflection, planning and curriculum development.
- Further review of subject and pathway selection processes and explicit use of data to inform key decision making.
- Consolidation of MacLit intervention initiative and training for staff in the space.

Student Learning Outcomes

Highlights of our 2024 Year 12 Results include:

- Our highest ever College Median ATAR of 68.42 and a College Average ATAR of 67.85
- Median Study Score of 30 – maintaining our highest ever result from last year
- 24 study scores of 40+
- Highest ever percentage of students with 35+ study scores – 21.1%
- Highest ever percentage of students with 30+ study scores – 50.5%
- Close to 5% of our VCE students receiving an ATAR of above 90 placing them in the top 10% of students statewide.
- 20% of VCE students receiving an ATAR of above 80

NAPLAN - Proportion of students meeting the proficient standards			
Domain	Year level	Mean Scale score	Proficient
Grammar & Punctuation	Year 7	515	50%
	Year 9	531	42%
Numeracy	Year 7	526	65%
	Year 9	547	55%
Reading	Year 7	520	62%
	Year 9	540	50%
Spelling	Year 7	522	68%
	Year 9	547	60%
Writing	Year 7	535	64%
	Year 9	566	60%

*A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate. Data not reported for 2024 due to participation not meeting these criteria or no students were assessed. Participants include students who were assessed, including non-attempt, or those exempted from the test.

Senior Secondary Outcomes	
VCE Median Score	30
VCE Completion Rate	100%
VCE VM Completion Rate	85%
VPC Completion Rate	90%

*Data not reported for 2024 due to insufficient data i.e. less than 4 student enrolments for VCE/VCE VM/VPC or none of the students in a school received study scores.

Post-School Destinations as at 2024	
Tertiary Study	59%
TAFE / VET	9%
Apprenticeship / Traineeship	4%
Deferred	0%
Employment	26%
Other - The category of Other includes both students Looking for Work and those classed as Other	2%

Student Wellbeing

Goals & Intended Outcomes

At Lavalla Catholic College we strive to develop positive relationships between students, staff, and the community. We do this by building resilience and the capacity to cope with adversity, creating a safe environment where students feel engaged and welcomed. The notion that happy and well adjusted young people are best placed to achieve academic and social success underpins our approach to student wellbeing and pastoral care.

Intended Outcomes

Relationships: To nurture the relationships between students, staff, and families; to be inclusive and understanding of the diverse needs of everyone in the school community.

Resilience: To build an inclusive culture that encourages the development of social-emotional skills necessary for leading a productive and fulfilling life.

Happy and Safe: To create an environment that embraces a culture whereby students and staff feel safe, supported, and valued.

Attendance: To ensure that all stakeholders (staff, students & families) understand the importance of regular attendance and the impact that irregular attendance has on academic performance and social-emotional well-being.

Achievements

Achievements and progress in student development and wellbeing in 2024 include:

- Consolidation of our genuine 7-12 Vertical House system across both campuses.
- Refinement of the Wellbeing Hub and Flexible Learning Space; a central location to assist students and support flexible learning arrangements as required.
- Ongoing implementation of College Positive Behavioural Response Processes including common consequences and language across campuses to improve consistency.
- Ongoing promotion of Online Safeguarding, Cyber Intelligence and Respect.
- Presentations from external experts on matters relating to resilience and cyber-safety
- Participation and training in the Live4Life Teenage Mental Health First Aid program and initiative.
- Ongoing compliance with Child Protection Standards and Ministerial Orders.

- Ongoing development of PAM within SIMON to allow parents/carers to monitor and address their child's school attendance and progress at school.
- Meaningful and relevant student assemblies, at Campus and House and Year level to celebrate student success and promote our College culture.
- Celebrating students through the Three Violets affirmation and award program.
- Continued improvement of awards processes to recognise holistic student achievement.
- Focus of fundraising in solidarity with the mission of Marist Schools Australia and the Catholic Church.
- Continuation of dynamic transition practices including school visits to enhance the experience of Primary enrolments and student transitions.
- Campus transition opportunities for Year 9 students
- Homeroom sessions to support goal setting by each student and the development of student/teacher relationships.
- Matching students' interests and abilities with potential pathways
Student Participation — focus on student ownership of campus activities including "House Centered Activities".
- Continued development of the House Cup competition as a House Spirit and belonging initiative.
- Representation at community ANZAC and Remembrance Services.

Value Added

Our busy calendar gives witness to the richness of experience through guest speakers, excursions, incursions and activities. Not a single week passes across our campuses where the students and staff have not engaged in fulfilling and enriching pastoral education.

Curricular and co-curricular experiences deepen and strengthen our life learning. Our staff are exceedingly generous in their commitment to improving student learning. Dedicated staff members have planned and organised experiences and programs of learning for students so that they holistically develop in accordance with our mission.

Student Satisfaction

In 2024, the College continued to use various methods to monitor students' engagement and satisfaction, and build their agency as key partners in their learning and development.

Coupled with participation in the *Diagnostic Inventory of School Alignment* (DISA) survey, in 2024 students had the option to participate in student forums; nominate and participate in student leadership structures and committees as well as to participate in a number of other survey instruments designed to capture their level of engagement and satisfaction with the College.

Additionally, all students were invited to participate in multiple rounds of Parent, Teacher and Student interviews to discuss growth, improvement and levels of engagement across the school and with their work.

Student Attendance

- Daily attendance of each student enrolled at the school is recorded in every class at Lavalla Catholic College.
- Any absences of a student from school including classes are identified and followed up according to normal protocol.
- Reasons for each student's absence are provided and recorded in writing via the Parent Access Module (PAM).
- Follow up of any unexplained absences of a student by contacting the parent/carer of the student as soon as practicable on the same day.
- Parents/carers are notified promptly regarding a student's unsatisfactory school or class attendance. If upon being notified of their child's absence or contacted to seek an explanation, a parent reports that the child was not living with them on that day, the school ensures notification of another parent who was responsible for ensuring the child attended school on the relevant day(s).
- If contact cannot be made with the parent, contact is made with the emergency contact/s nominated on the student's file held by the school.
- Information regarding a student's unsatisfactory attendance at school or classes is recorded on their student file.
- Parents/Carers are informed of their responsibilities around attendance and initiatives aimed at promoting parental awareness of the importance of children attending school every day are implemented.
- Attendance improvement strategies, interventions, and levels of adjustment are implemented where the absence is having a significant impact on a student's educational achievement and development, including an Attendance Student Support Group, Personalised Learning Plan, Student Absence Learning Plan, and Return to School Plan.
- Strategies for supporting the attendance of students in out-of-home care, students experiencing homelessness, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) families, overseas students, students with disabilities, students with culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and newly arrived families are implemented.
- Referral processes are implemented to Child FIRST or Child Protection, MSA, and the School Attendance Officer where required.
- Compliance with the school's regulatory and legislative requirements in relation to absence procedures and subsequent follow up.

Years 9 - 12 Student Retention Rate	
Years 9 to 12 Student Retention Rate	76.92

Average Student Attendance Rate by Year Level	
Y07	88.0
Y08	85.7
Y09	87.9
Y10	86.4
Overall average attendance	87.0

Leadership

Goals & Intended Outcomes

Leadership at Lavalla Catholic College strives to create an authentic Catholic Marist Community by:

- supporting positive student outcomes through the provision of appropriate learning opportunities for all students
- creating a safe environment for all members of the school community
- providing resources linked to priority teaching goals
- providing purposeful, effective, and contemporary learning spaces
- employing and forming highly professional and quality staff
- focusing on the ongoing development of expert teachers in a Catholic school context promoting strong home/school relationships with parents and carers
- identifying potential school and community partners on the basis of their capacity to contribute to the improvement of student achievement and/or well-being
- at all times meeting mandatory compliance benchmarks under all relevant State and Federal legislation and regulatory frameworks
- maintaining sustainable enrolment across all year levels
- supporting and resourcing practices that are progressive, ethical, sustainable, and environmentally proactive.

Achievements

In 2024 the College undertook its school review process or Cycle of Inquiry. This process afforded all staff, students and community members the opportunity to contribute and be heard regarding their thoughts, suggestions and feedback across all aspects of College life. The process gathered a multitude of important feedback and ensured that the review panel were able to make evidenced informed recommendations for school improvement, which would form the basis of the College strategic direction and Strategic Improvement Plan for 2025-2027.

The College also invested heavily in the ongoing Faith Formation of leaders and staff in Catholic and Marist Spirituality. Participation in regional, national and international formation opportunities enabled staff to continue to build understanding and skills and align their practice with the Mission and Vision of our Catholic school in the Marist tradition.

The College also continued to improve and refine its use of a Development Management package, EMS360. This software assists the College in better receiving requests, and approving and recording professional development. This product also allows the storage of

records of Annual Review Meetings, which are important opportunities for staff to ensure their developmental pathways are aligned with the strategic directions of the school.

Expenditure And Teacher Participation in Professional Learning	
List Professional Learning undertaken in 2024	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>In the Marist Way</i>, <i>Marist Pilgrimage</i> and <i>Marist Footsteps</i> learning and formation opportunities • Participation in diocesan Learning & Teaching and Wellbeing network meetings and workshops • Numerous subject/faculty specific Professional Learning including updated study design and curriculum building opportunities • Child Safeguarding and Compliance Training for all teachers/staff including NCCD training and training in both privacy and discrimination legislation • Strong staff involvement and participation in the Teacher Excellence program (TEP) • Several staff undertaking post-graduate study to enhance their knowledge, skills and qualifications, particularly in curriculum leadership and religious education 	
Number of teachers who participated in PL in 2024	107
Average expenditure per teacher for PL	\$605.00

Teacher Satisfaction

In 2024 the College undertook its school review process or Cycle of Inquiry. This process afforded all staff members the opportunity to contribute and be heard regarding their thoughts, suggestions and feedback across all aspects of College life. The process gathered a multitude of important feedback and ensured that the review panel were able to make evidenced informed recommendations for school improvement, which would form the basis of the College strategic direction and Strategic Improvement Plan for 2025-2027, based upon authentic consultation and collaboration.

In scheduled staff meetings throughout the year, teachers and non-teaching staff were also able to raise concerns about various issues, which were then explored and areas for improvement addressed. Improvements included: workload, in relation to the reporting process and clarity of these requirements; adjustments to the meeting processes and schedules to ensure more efficient and productive meetings; increased opportunities to participate in decision-making committees and working groups; and expanded opportunities for leadership roles.

Significant events in the life of staff at the College were recognised and celebrated in both formal and informal ways. The College again hosted a special Christmas function which was warmly received and which provided a fitting end of year celebration for our staff.

Teacher Qualifications	
Doctorate	1
Masters	38
Graduate	48
Graduate Certificate	2
Bachelor Degree	102
Advanced Diploma	6
No Qualifications Listed	4

Staff Composition	
Principal Class (Headcount)	5
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	119
Teaching Staff (FTE)	105.88
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	99
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	79.54
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	0

Community Engagement

Goals & Intended Outcomes

Our College focus in 2024 was continuing to strengthen our community relationships and partnerships.

Areas included with our local Parish and other Parishes throughout the Diocese; with local, state and national service organisations and community organisations within and around Traralgon and the LaTrobe Valley; and with the various Marist Ministries throughout Australia, whose work is aligned with the vision and mission of the College.

Achievements

Whilst not an exhaustive list, in 2024 Lavalla students excelled and achieved in:

- Music and Choral Eisteddfod
- Basketball
- Australian Football
- Soccer
- Cricket
- Athletics
- Swimming
- Sport Shooting
- College Musical and Drama Productions

Our students are to be commended for their efforts and for their pride at what it means to be a Lavalla student and to represent our community.

Parent Satisfaction

In 2024 the Cycle of Inquiry process enabled parents, carers and other members of the community to participate in the *Diagnostic Inventory of School Alignment* (DISA) survey process, collecting important perceptive data and contributing strongly to the creation of the new College Strategic Plan.

Also in 2024, the College community once again enjoyed celebratory occasions such as Year 12 Graduation, Commissioning Mass, Champagnat Feast Day and Mass and mid-year and end-of-year Award Ceremonies.

Occasions such as our Awards Evening, Parent Teacher Evenings, Year 7 Meet and Greet Year 7 Information Evening, and the Learning Expo were well attended, indicative of the value parents place on these occasions.

In both formal and informal ways parents continue to express their satisfaction and appreciation for the various elements of College life in the areas of Student Wellbeing and Learning. Parents also make individual and College-wide comments of appreciation for the dedication of the staff. They see that teachers 'know' their children and that support staff take an interest in students and work to support those students and families with additional needs.

Financial Performance

The school's financial performance information and a report of the financial activities of the school's boarding premises (if applicable) have been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at www.acnc.gov.au.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at www.lavalla.vic.edu.au