

ANNUAL REPORT



**Educational and Financial Reporting to the
NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)**

“We promote educational excellence within a caring environment”

At St Spyridon College we aim to educate our students to take their place in a rapidly changing world with confidence and success. We endeavour to develop the whole person – strong in mind, healthy in body, endowed with love, faith, and compassion, able to make a conscious and positive contribution to the wellbeing of the broader community, our nation, and our planet. In this process we strive to provide them with the firm foundations of the Greek Orthodox Faith and Hellenic Ideals.



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THEME 1: CONTEXT



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

On behalf of the Parish Council of The Greek Orthodox Parish of St Spyridon Sydney, serving also as the Board of Governors for St Spyridon College, I am deeply honoured to present this annual message.

Education sits at the very heart of the mission of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia. We owe a lasting debt of gratitude to the visionaries who boldly founded St Spyridon College in 1983. Overcoming numerous challenges along the journey, we take immense pride in all that the College has accomplished. St Spyridon Parish stands resolute in its commitment to the College's enduring success, continually guided by our inspiring motto: FOREVER EXCELLING.

Our College community continues to thrive, as reflected in our strong enrolment numbers, proudly educating over 800 students this year. Alongside this community growth, we are absolutely delighted to celebrate the College's continued standing in the top 10% of schools across New South Wales, securing a remarkable 90th rank in the HSC. Furthermore, we are immensely proud that an outstanding 28% of our students achieved an ATAR exceeding 90. I extend our warmest congratulations to our students and their families for this exceptional standard of academic excellence. Our deepest appreciation also goes to our exceptional teaching staff, whose unwavering dedication shapes our students' success day in and day out.

We respectfully offer our profound gratitude to His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia for his constant spiritual guidance and steadfast support of our community.

Furthermore, we acknowledge and celebrate a truly momentous milestone for our Parish and College: the 50th anniversary of ministry for our Presiding Priest, Father Steven Scoutas. Having served our community for half a century, his initial inspiration, vision, and relentless drive - together with the Parish Council of the time and the founding Board of Governors of the College - were instrumental in bringing St Spyridon College to life. Together with Father Stavros Ivanos, our Parish Priest, we remain deeply grateful for their genuine paternal love and enduring pastoral care for our school and its students.

Our ongoing congratulations and heartfelt appreciation are extended to our Head of College, Mrs Amelia Katsogiannis, for her deep commitment to Greek Orthodox education and her forward-thinking leadership. We look forward to continuing our close, harmonious collaboration with her and her leadership team as we build a lasting, positive legacy for both current and future generations of students.

The St Spyridon Parish Council and College Board of Governors look ahead with ongoing enthusiasm, deep commitment, and an unwavering faith in the bright future of our College.

May our Patron Saint, St Spyridon, continue to watch over, guide, and protect our entire College community—past, present, and future.

Mr Elia Economou
Parish President – Chairman Board of Governors.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF COLLEGE

As we gather at the close of another remarkable year, I find myself reflecting on all that we have accomplished together in 2025. Another year shaped by growth, challenge, and achievement, and above all, by God's Grace and the steadfast commitment of our entire College Community to the pursuit of excellence. It is an honour to stand before you and celebrate the many milestones we have reached.

In 2025 we had four focus areas: Enhancing the K-12 Experience, Excellence in Action, A Safe and Supportive Environment and Creative and Performing Arts.

Enhancing the K-12 Educational Experience

The College continued to strengthen connections across both campuses in enrolment and transition, teaching and learning, thinking, music, Modern Greek, Sport and Wellbeing. These experiences will be further enhanced and strengthened in 2026.

Excellence in Action

Guided by our College motto, we have continued to model what it means to excel, through faith, learning and leadership. Students actively engaged in Church services, Feast Day celebrations, and cross-campus initiatives that highlight the meaning and values of our Orthodox Traditions. Detailed analysis of student performance, both school-based and standardised, has continued to inform and refine our teaching. A student-centred approach remains at the heart of curriculum planning across year levels. Staff and students were called to uphold our Code of Conduct, exemplifying high standards of behaviour, presentation, and professionalism. By nurturing a culture grounded in respect, integrity, and excellence, we continue to strengthen our learning community.

A Safe and Supportive Environment

A thriving school environment rests on respect, inclusion and clear expectations. Through open communication, strong relationships, and consistently applied policies, we have ensured that students feel valued, supported, and secure. This foundation continues to enable academic, social, and emotional growth for all. "The happiest days of our lives, most days."

Creative and Performing Arts

The College has continued to elevate its Creative and Performing Arts Program providing students with meaningful opportunities to showcase their talents. and have brought our College Community together in inspiring ways.

Across every domain, from our sporting achievements to the dazzling performances, from the spirit of team work to the warmth and care shown with our wellbeing initiatives and the care of others less fortunate, the reflective moments within our religious and cultural celebrations, our students have embraced opportunities to learn, grow, and connect.

To my Executive, Teachers and support staff - your passion, commitment and unwavering support are the foundations of our success. You inspire, challenge and care for our students in ways that reach far beyond the classroom. You shape not only their minds but their hearts. I am deeply grateful for all that you do.

To our students, congratulations on everything you have achieved this year. Whether through academic accomplishment, personal growth, leadership, or service, each of you has contributed to making 2025 a memorable and meaningful year. Remember that every challenge is an opportunity for growth, and every success a step forward on your journey to excellence.

To our parents, thank you for your trust, encouragement and partnership. The collaboration between home and school is vital to the success and wellbeing of our students. It is a privilege to work alongside you as we guide and nurture the next generation of leaders.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Father Steven, Father Stavros, Mr Elia Economou and the Parish Council for their unwavering support and dedication. Their vision and guidance has been instrumental in the continued growth of our College.

I extend my gratitude to His Eminence Archbishop Makarios for His paternal blessing of our College family.

I was recently asked what motivates me to come to work each day. My answer was immediate: my deep passion for Greek Orthodox education, for all things St Spyridon - striving for excellence together. "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (Psalm 22(23))

We pray that God and our patron St Spyridon continue to guide us and our Panagia protect us.

AIEN APISTEYEIN - Forever Excelling

Mrs Amelia Katsogiannis
Head of College



ABOUT OUR COLLEGE

St Spyridon College is a Greek Orthodox co-educational school, catering for students from Kinder Minus One (KM1) to Year 12. The College operates across two campuses: Kingsford (KM1 to Year 6) and Maroubra (Years 7 to 12). In 2025, St Spyridon College proudly supports a vibrant learning community of over 800 students.

Established in 1983 by the Greek Orthodox Parish of St Spyridon, Sydney, our College was the first Greek Orthodox school in New South Wales. Today, our student body represents over 40 cultural backgrounds, with more than 85% Orthodox. We are also proud to welcome students from various Christian denominations and other faiths. Over 40% of our families travel more than 12 kilometres to be part of our College community.

A Holistic Education

St Spyridon College is committed to developing the whole person—intellectually, physically, and spiritually. We offer rich and varied learning experiences, including:

- An exemplary academic program designed to nurture critical thinking, creativity, and both independent and collaborative learning.
- A comprehensive co-curricular program that fosters personal growth, spiritual development, and a global outlook.
- A vibrant extra-curricular offering that extends classroom learning to the sporting field, the stage, and the creative arts studio.
- Expert teaching staff.
- A strong literacy focus from the early years, grounded in the Spalding Multi-Sensory Language Literacy Program.
- Sporting pathways enabling students to compete at interschool, state, and national levels, with opportunities for elite representation.
- Enrichment activities including Debating, Theatre Sports, Write a Book in a Day, Premier's Reading Challenge, Australian Mathematics Competition, and da Vinci Decathlon.
- Targeted transition programs to support students moving from Junior to Senior Campus and into senior pathways in Years 11 and 12.

Academic performance is strong. With over 90% of Year 12 students continuing to Tertiary studies upon completion of the HSC. To maximise HSC and ATAR results, the College offers scholarships for University Entrance, Junior School Dux, ACER Scholarships for Year 7 and Year 11 entrance, as well as special programs, such as the HSC Winter programs and Preparing for the Preliminary and HSC Courses.

An excellent range of subjects provides access to three learning pathways: From school to University, from school to TAFE, from school to work.

A Well-Rounded Student Experience

Our extensive co-curricular program encourages participation in sport, the arts, and public speaking. As proud members of ASISSA and ISA, our students regularly represent their school in elite competitions. Many have gone on to represent ASISSA, CIS, ISA, NSW, and Australia in football, tennis, futsal, basketball, netball, athletics, gymnastics, and swimming.

Purpose-built, technology-rich facilities support student learning in Visual Arts, Hospitality, Design, Woodwork, Science, Music, and Drama.

Building Character and Leadership

Central to our mission is the development of leadership and compassion in every student. Our Wellbeing program empowers students through service, with opportunities to contribute to local hospices, soup kitchens, and global aid initiatives. Students take part in environmental and humanitarian campaigns and attend youth forums at state, national, and international levels, learning to engage thoughtfully with the world around them.

Education's Higher Purpose

At St Spyridon College, we believe that education's true purpose is to prepare students for futures we cannot yet imagine. Through a rigorous academic foundation and values-based learning, our students develop the confidence, resilience, and moral compass needed to thrive in a changing world.

We support every student in fulfilling their potential on the learning journey from KM1 to Year 12. Guided by gratitude, faith, and a strong partnership with families, we aim to make that journey both meaningful and joyous.

AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

1. Independent Schools Australia (ISA)

The Independent Schools Australia represents the interests of the independent school sector on a national basis such as in relation to Commonwealth funding and representative on national policy making bodies. There are eight Member State and Territory Associations of Independent Schools representatives. The Head of College is a member of this prestigious Council.

2. The Association of Independent Schools of New South Wales (AISNSW)

The AIS is the umbrella organisation that serves the interests of all independent schools in the State. It guards the rights of member schools to expound their philosophy and also protects the rights of parents to choose the kind of education they want for their children. The Association renders advice to member schools on all legal and administrative matters related to education and ensures that our school's voice is heard on significant issues affecting the education of our students. The Head of College is a member of the AIS Advisory Group.

3. Association of Heads of Independent Schools in Australia (AHISA)

The Head of College is a member of AHISA. This is the peak body of Independent School Heads in Australia. The NSW Branch meets four times per year. The Association exists as a means by which Heads may meet for the exchange of information. The Head of College is a member of the Academic Committee.

4. Heads of Co-educational Independent Schools (HICES)

The Head of College is a member of HICES. This body provides a medium for providing opportunities for school participation in leadership training and the organisation of such events as athletics, swimming, diving, cross-country, music and special ability events. Executive staff participate in all the leadership groups.

5. Independent Primary Schools Heads Association of Australia (IPSHA)

This forum avails the Junior School Heads with opportunities to interact at the State and National levels. Benefits for our College include access to travelling art displays, participation in music festivals, sharing in sporting and cultural activities, and development of professional fellowship. The Head of Junior Campus is a member.

6. All Suburbs Independent Schools Sports Association (ASISSA)

ASISSA is strictly a sporting body that includes Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country Carnivals as well as competitive sport for Year 6 students.

7. Independent Sporting Association (ISA)

St Spyridon College is a member of the ISA. Weekly competitive games are played on a Saturday. The ISA is a highly reputable sporting body that provides a pathway to elite sporting competition. The Head of College is the Secretary of this Association.

THEME 2: OUTCOMES AND RESULTS



STUDENT OUTCOMES IN STANDARDISED NATIONAL AND LITERACY NUMERACY TESTING

NAPLAN Results 2025

Compare to  Students with similar background  All Australian students

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	429	438	443	446	423
Year 5	479	485	490	512	494
Year 7	551	566	564	547	581
Year 9	592	605	592	595	614

>99% of the students sat the NAPLAN tests in 2025.

Source: <https://myschool.edu.au/school/43858/naplan/results>

The table below shows the percentage of each cohort with results in each Proficiency Level in 2025.

Year 9 (%)	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Grammar	Spelling
Exceeding	22.7	19.3	31.8	25.0	26.1
Strong	64.8	59.1	48.9	47.7	63.6
Developing	10.2	19.3	17.0	21.6	10.2
Needs Additional Support	2.3	2.3	2.3	5.7	0.0
Year 7 (%)	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Grammar	Spelling
Exceeding	21.3	12.0	14.7	12.0	25.3
Strong	70.7	70.7	69.3	60.0	62.7
Developing	6.7	17.3	16.0	24.0	10.7
Needs Additional Support	1.3	0.0	0.0	4.0	1.3
Year 5 (%)	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Grammar	Spelling
Exceeding	8.5	8.5	6.4	23.3	19.2
Strong	66.0	57.4	70.2	42.6	55.3
Developing	19.1	27.7	23.4	27.7	25.5
Needs Additional Support	6.4	6.4	0.0	6.4	0.0
Year 3 (%)	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Grammar	Spelling
Exceeding	10.7	21.4	5.4	12.5	14.3
Strong	67.9	58.9	89.3	57.1	76.8
Developing	19.6	17.9	5.3	28.6	8.9
Needs Additional Support	1.8	1.8	0.0	1.8	0.0

Interpreting the table

Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

 Well above	 Below
 Above	 Well below
 Close to	 No comparison available

HSC CLASS 2025

100% of students attained their HSC. Hospitality VET was offered at school. 15 out of 71 (21%) students studied these courses.

ST SPYRIDON COLLEGE					
HSC 2025					
SUBJECT	NO. OF STUDENTS	BAND 3 – 6		BAND 1 – 2	
		SCHOOL (%)	STATE (%)	SCHOOL (%)	STATE (%)
Biology	9	100.0	65.2	0.0	13.3
Business Studies	39	97.4	87.9	2.6	11.1
Chemistry	5	100.0	89.5	0.0	10.2
Design and Technology	14	100.0	97.3	0.0	2.5
Economics	17	100.0	92.5	0.0	7.3
English Standard	32	100.0	93.8	0.0	5.7
English Advanced	33	100.0	99.7	0.0	0.3
Food Technology	13	100.0	86.5	0.0	11.6
Geography	12	100.0	90.8	0.0	8.6
Hospitality (VET)	15	100.0	87.8	0.0	2.6
Legal Studies	8	100.0	86.5	0.0	12.6
Mathematics Standard 2	28	92.9	83.0	7.1	16.6
Mathematics Advanced	22	100.0	94.2	0.0	5.6
Modern History	19	100.0	86.8	0.0	12.5
Music 1	5	100.0	95.2	0.0	4.2
PDHPE	23	91.3	89.8	8.7	9.4
Physics	6	100.0	84.4	0.0	15.3
Visual Arts	12	100.0	99.1	0.0	0.7
Modern Greek Continuers	9	100.0	98.2	0.0	1.8
Serbian Continuers	2	100.0	88.9	0.0	11.1

EXTENSION COURSES	NO. OF STUDENTS	BAND E3+E4		BAND E1+E2	
		SCHOOL (%)	STATE (%)	SCHOOL (%)	STATE (%)
English Extension 1	5	100.0	95.2	0.0	4.8
English Extension 2	3	100.0	88.4	0.0	11.6
History Extension	7	100.0	87.3	0.0	12.5
Mathematics Extension 1	16	87.5	77.2	12.5	22.6
Mathematics Extension 2	5	100.0	84.4	0.0	15.6
Modern Greek Extension	2	100.0	93.8	0.0	6.3
Science Extension	1	100.0	76.3	0.0	23.5

Band 6 is the highest and Band 1 is the lowest

Band E4 is the highest and Band E1 is the lowest

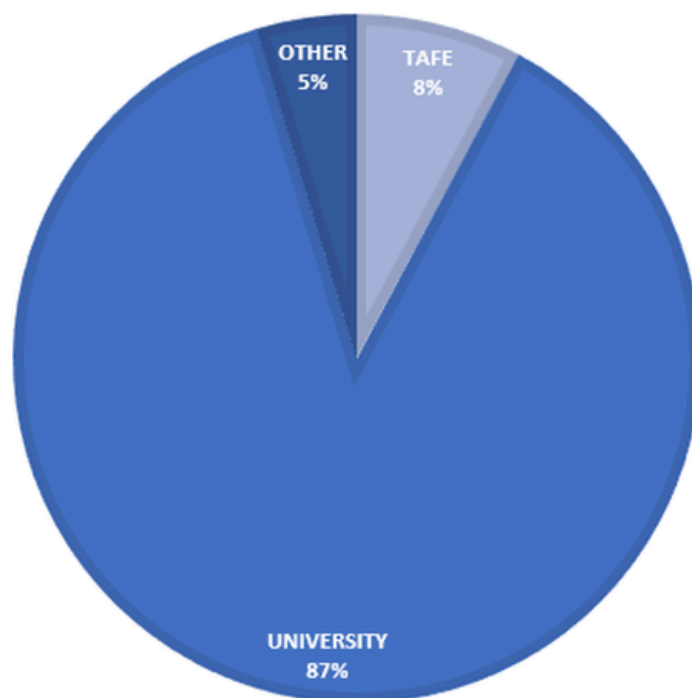
The Record of School Achievement 2025

Six RoSA credentials were issued by the NSW Education Standards Authority to St Spyridon College students in 2025.

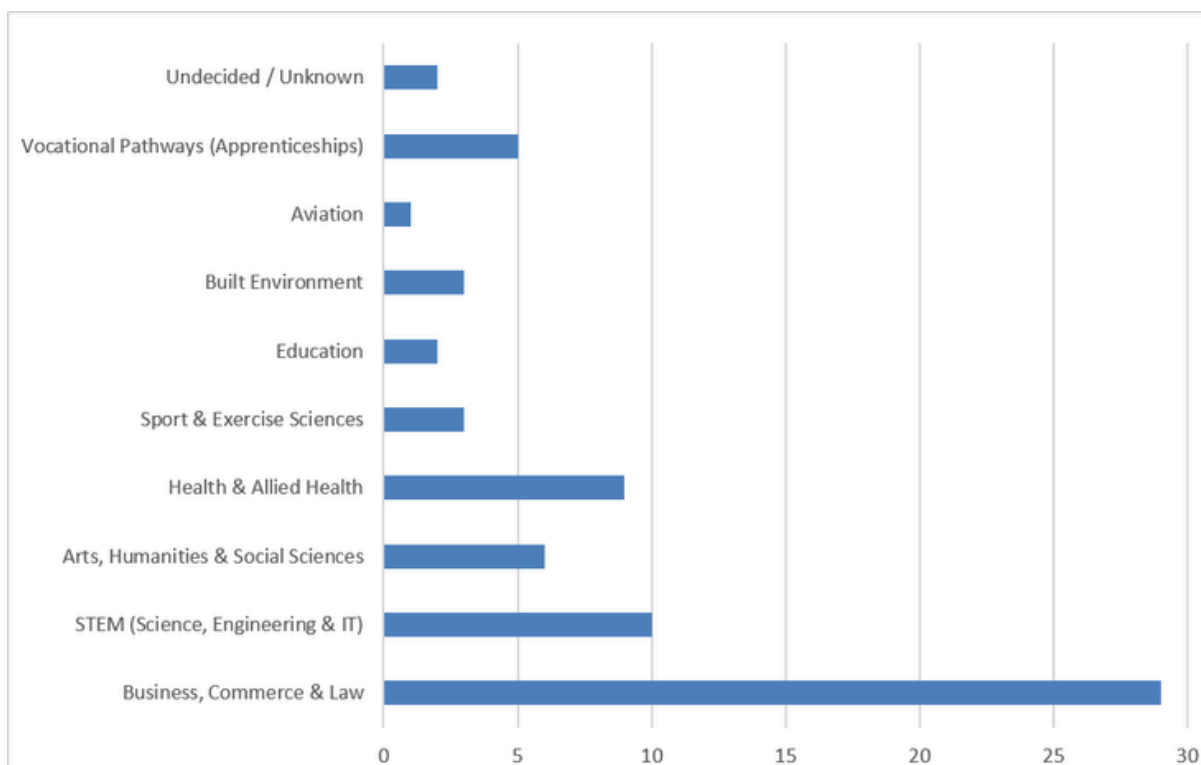
HSC CLASS 2025 STATISTICS



HSC CLASS 2025 – DESTINATIONS



TERTIARY AREAS OF STUDY



THEME 3: STAFFING



OUR PRINCIPLES AS EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

We, the teachers of St Spyridon College are united in our efforts to provide an education for our students which models respect and love for young people. We demonstrate this in our responses to each student and in our interactions with each other.

We are critical to our students' academic, spiritual, moral, social and physical development.

The Mission of our College, guides and informs our teaching and learning practices. At a fundamental level we actively promote the Greek Orthodox ethos of our College. We actively promote professional dialogue and robust educational debate that leads to more effective teaching and learning. We embrace professional evaluation and accountability.

As a group of education professionals, we critically reflect on our practice and demonstrate our commitment to lifelong learning. We enlist appropriate collegiate support to further our professional growth and development. We embrace change as an opportunity for new learning experiences.

We endeavour to create a dynamic, future-focused teaching and learning environment within which students can embrace challenges, take initiative, take risks and develop into active, independent learners. We expect and reward high effort. As individuals and as members of teams we:

Develop students' critical thinking, through diverse, challenging and engaging learning experiences that develop students' ability to:

- Contemplate problems and create solutions
- Exercise judgement and analyse different perspectives on the same issue
- Challenge those things that offend their sense of justice
- Make connections between related concepts
- Distinguish fact from opinion, bias and manipulation
- Distinguish between cause and effect
- Work productively with others for the benefit of their own learning, the group, the community and the global community of which they are an active part.
- Recognise the good in each person and demonstrate respect, compassion and forgiveness for students and each other.
- Support colleagues by fulfilling our own professional responsibilities to a high level.

No one can guarantee the happiness and success of another human being. Nevertheless, in a rapidly changing world where change is the only certainty, we hope that the endeavour described above will help students to develop skills, knowledge, attitudes and perspectives to manage life's challenges with faith, resilience and success.

Workforce Composition

The school's workforce presents a rich diversity of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Our teachers and other staff are equipped with high level qualifications, expertise, professionalism and commitment to quality outcomes for students. We do not have any staff that identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders.

School Staff	
Teaching	80
Full Time Equivalent Teaching Staff	72.6
Non Teaching Staff	30
Full Time Equivalent Non-Teaching Staff	19.4

Teacher Accreditation

Level of Accreditation # of Teachers	
Conditional	3
Provisional	5
Proficient Teacher	72
Highly Accomplished (Voluntary Accreditation)	0
Lead Teacher (Voluntary Accreditation)	0

THEME 4: ATTENDANCE



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The school implements policy and procedures for the management of student non-attendance. Attendance checking procedures enable the identification and provision of assistance to students with unsatisfactory attendance.

We are pleased to report that the daily attendance rate for students in 2025 was 92%. This was similar to the daily attendance rate in 2024.

Year Level	2025 Annual Attendance Rate %
Kindergarten	95
Year 1	94
Year 2	92
Year 3	93
Year 4	93
Year 5	92
Year 6	91
Year 7	93
Year 8	91
Year 9	92
Year 10	89
Year 11	93
Year 12	91

Managing Student Attendance

Attendance at school is compulsory and term dates are to be strictly observed. Students are expected to attend the College on every school day. Kinder Minus One children are to attend on all the days that they are enrolled. Medical, dental and other appointments are not to be made during school hours, where possible.

The College maintains a register of daily attendance comprising the following information for each student:

- Daily attendance recorded by noting daily absences
- Reason for absence
- Documentation to substantiate reason for absence
- Late arrivals/early leavers/partial absence

Students are not permitted to leave school prior to the last day of each term, unless in exceptional circumstances. An early break-up holiday will not normally be acceptable.

The Head of College in exceptional circumstances may grant leave. Applications for leave must be made in writing well in advance by completing a LEAVE REQUEST FORM.

Exemption from attendance for extended periods may be granted by the Head of College in exceptional circumstances.

An absence from school must be explained by a parent or guardian and received within a reasonable timeline. Reasons for the absences are provided via the parent portal.

The Absentee Report is sent to staff each day. Year Advisers/ Coordinators/Class Teachers check the Absentee Report and follow up on any obvious concerns with parents.

The high level of attendance demonstrates the strong wellbeing culture of our College.

Student Leave During School Term Time

Leave is only permissible for an exceptional circumstance, such as a significant wellbeing and family issue, and only with permission from the Head of College.

In recognition of our families’ cultural links to countries overseas, our students are afforded extensive holiday periods. If families require any additional information, they contact the College and speak with the Head of College or her delegate.

Penalties apply for students who miss or submit late assessment tasks due to holiday travel. Year 12 students are not granted any extended holiday travel leave.

THEME 5: SCHOOL POLICIES



SCHOOL POLICIES

The following school policies are publicly available on the school website.

- [Enrolment Policy](#)
- [Child Protection Policy](#)
- [Anti Bullying Policy](#)
- [Discipline Policy](#)
- [Complaints Policy](#)

THEME 6: STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION



PARENTS

A diverse range of parent information sessions are conducted each year. In 2025 these sessions included:

- In Kindergarten to Year 6, there were opportunities to hear from each of their child's teachers about the programs planned in all Key Learning Areas for the year ahead.
- There were Parent Forums and orientation sessions for parents and students entering Kinder Minus One, Kindergarten, and Year 7 for the following year.
- Parent Forums were conducted for Years 7 to 12 to outline curriculum and assessment and the wellbeing program for the year ahead.
- Formal Parent-Teacher interviews were organised twice for all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 and once for students in Years 7 to 12.
- School reports were issued in June and December. Open two-way communication between the College and home is always encouraged throughout the year across Kinder Minus One to Year 12 by phone, email or by arranging a meeting.

Why did you choose St Spyridon College for your child's education?

"We appreciate the schools' values and are strong believers in our religious and cultural heritage."

"We are choosing St Spyridon because of the values and beliefs the school instills, its reputation in the community, as well as its academic performance over the years. We also like that it is co-educational."

"We as a family have very strong family values and always have discussed with our family that our children would attend St Spyridon College. As it is a well-respected, family and community orientated school."

"To embrace the College culture grounded in the Orthodox faith, which encourages students towards excelling academically and as an individual."

"The values of St Spyridon College coincide with our family values. Our experience with the school has been positive, with the school fostering development both academically and emotionally, in a caring and nurturing environment."

"For the purpose of academic achievement and to instill religious and traditional greek values."

STUDENTS

Reflections of the College Captain Evan Mihail

It's been a great honour to have experienced growing up together over the past 6 to 13 years of school as peers, friends and now a proud member of the graduating class of 2025.

Back in 2020 when we first began as Year 7, we were 70 wide eyed, a little nervous but also very excited 11 and 12 year-olds looking forward to the next stage of our schooling. Honestly, we thought that "future" was just a fancy word for more homework and slightly cooler uniforms, while dreaming of future careers. Some of us wanted to be astronauts, others doctors and of course all the professional soccer players and actors.

According to our 2020 Passport to Senior School, 39 of us came from the Junior School and 31 from various other schools. Our diversity was also reflected in the 15 different countries that were represented as part of our backgrounds. While not the united nations, this blend created an interesting mix when set with the Greek heritage of our majority.

Over the years, we've seen each other grow in many ways. From the shy and uncertain kids we once were to the confident, accomplished individuals standing before you today, our transformations have been nothing short of incredible. And while our teachers and parents may have raised an eyebrow at some of our creative choices, we knew, deep down, they were always guiding us to become the best versions of ourselves.

Reflections of the College Vice Captain Amali Roumanous

They say that friends are the family we choose. And though, years ago when we were young children beginning kindy as strangers, who happened to be placed in the same classroom and Senior school by chance, our friendships developed and grew over time, until now where we have become the family we are today.

4603 days ago, on the 31st of January 2013, about half of us lined up on the primary school ramp to begin our first day of kindergarten and I am sure a similar scene played out for those of us who began at other schools. As we looked out into a sea of mums and dads with worried faces, and yiayia's and pappou's with teary eyes, our naivety left us excited to tackle all that lay ahead.

At first High school felt like an impossible obstacle course we were never going to complete. However, from our first Orientation Day and the "Getting to Know You" excursions at the start of Term 1, we met our new teammates and began to establish friendships while silently grappling with our new reality and how to conquer this course together.

TEACHERS

Reflections of the Year 12 Adviser
Mr Milan Stanimirovic

When you first walked through our gates in Year 7 you were a little shorter, a lot louder, and very curious. Along the way there were triumphs and tests, detours and discoveries, friendships found, questions asked and answers slowly learned. You discovered that real growth rarely happens in comfort, and that faith matures when it is lived, day by day and choice by choice.

I remember you walking past my classroom in Year 7, waving as you went by. Through Years 7 and 8 we built a good rapport and when the opportunity came to be your Year Adviser in Year 9, I took it happily. There are so many memories with you all that I cannot choose a favourite one. Moments that showed the joy, energy, and spirit that have carried you through your schooling. And it was that same spirit I thought about as we stood together on the Harbour Bridge. Standing there, the wind in our faces and the city stretched out below, I saw a reflection of your own ascent. Just as we climbed step by step to reach that extraordinary view, so too have you climbed, through challenges and triumphs, reaching new heights in your studies, in your friendships, and in your faith. That view was more than spectacular; it was a symbol of the perseverance you've shown and the vantage point you've earned. You have soared in this high-school journey, and I could not be prouder of who you are and who you are becoming

As Orthodox Christians we know learning is never only about marks, as education must form not just minds but hearts. It is about becoming the kind of person who prays before acting, serves before being asked, listens before replying, and loves without counting the cost. As God is perfect, everything He creates is perfect, and each and every one of you has been created the way you should be. To recognise this truth is to practise self-love: to honour the image of God within yourself, to value who you are, and to carry that confidence into the world with humility and grace.

What comes next are new pages. Some of you will step into university, some into TAFE or work, some into service and new responsibilities. Wherever you go, remember who you are. You are beloved children of God. Stay rooted in prayer that is simple and daily. Keep close to your parish. Let your faith be a lamp for your choices and a harbour for your heart. Travel together. Keep checking on one another. Celebrate generously. When someone stumbles, lift them. When you are strong, serve. When you are unsure, ask for wisdom. Holiness, my dear students, grows in community.

Congratulations, Class of 2025. You have finished this chapter beautifully. Now, with God's help and your own efforts, begin the next. Thank you.

Through all the ups and downs, sports carnivals and exam seasons, we have always stuck together, lifting one another up to achieve our best and fulfill our goals.

None of this would have been possible without our dedicated teachers, and I don't just mean those we had as seniors. I mean allas the saying goes it takes a village to raise a child and our village has been St Spyridon College.

Reflections of the College Dux Phillip Preketes

School is not built solely for marks, and is instead a community of people. Despite the 5:00 AM starts and the integrals, my most vivid memories are not of textbooks, but of the moments shared within these walls.

I owe a debt of gratitude that words can barely repay to the teachers who walked this path with me. To all the teachers who have taught me throughout high school, your impact is reflected in where I stand today. And to my fellow HSC students and friends, I can't stress enough my thanks for keeping the ride smooth. I wish you all the best for your future endeavours.

I would like to send my thanks to Father Steven for his hardwork and the vision he had for his community, as we stand on his shoulders, and those supporting him, to move forward. I would also like to thank our humble and kind hearted Head of College Mrs Katsogiannis, by guiding us through her values and moral compass.

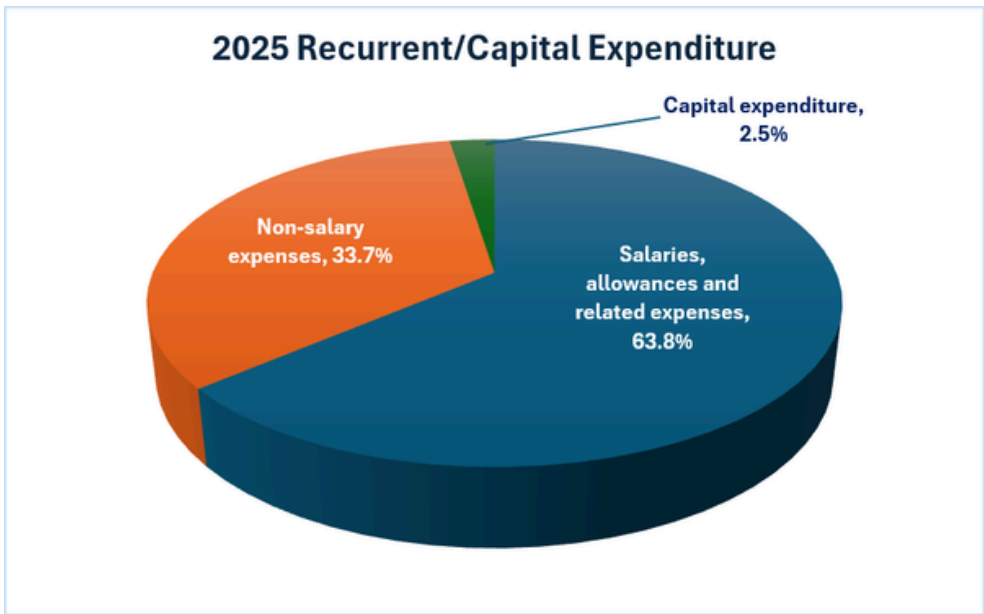
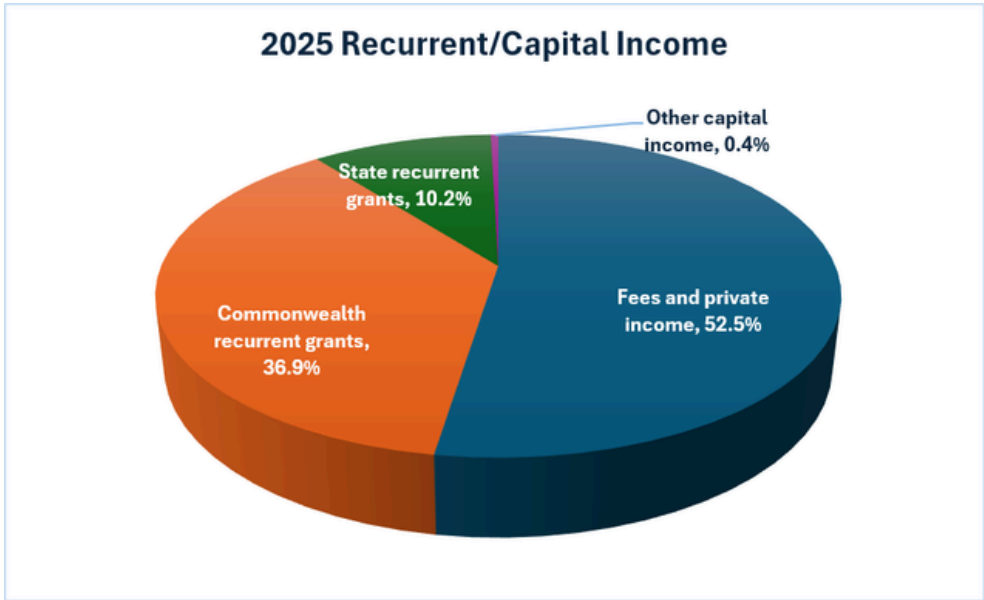
To everyone here, my advice is broad. Do not rush. We live in a world that demands instant gratification, but real achievement is a slow burn. Do not feel pressured to be the best at everything. Everyone has their own forte. Do not look at what others have with envy; look at what you own with contentment. We are a community bound by faith and culture, and we should carry ourselves with the dignity that implies. Use each other for support, not for competition. Want the best for each other. To the young men: Carry yourself with honour. To the young women: Carry yourself with grace. Do not fight over meaningless things. Do not let meaningless grievances steal your energy. Do not be consumed by anything that does not serve your higher purpose. Do not forget to study.

I leave you with this final thought. Whether you are aiming for Dux, or simply aiming to be better than you were yesterday, the formula remains the same. Set your mind to it. Strategise it. Execute it. Be patient. If you do this, you will not only survive the years ahead; you will thrive in them, and you will reap the benefits of the seeds you plant today. And do not forget how mistaken are we for glories, riches, passions and pleasures, when all we need is to have a pure heart. I leave to ask you whether we require anything but God in our hearts.

THEME 7: SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION



2025 College Review



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