Media Release



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A Holistic Approach Built on A Foundation of Literacy and Numeracy

Christian Schools Australia celebrates the extraordinary results of member schools St Andrews Christian College and Northcross Christian School as part of the '<u>Top 10 Private Primary Schools in Australia</u>'.

The <u>Cardus Education Survey Australia</u>, a recent survey of nearly 5,000 graduates from all education sectors aged 25-39, has already shown that Christian school graduates rated their school as preparing them better than graduates of other schools in:

- Finding a sense of meaning, purpose, and direction of life,
- Dealing with personal relationships.

This focus on a holistic preparation for life does not come at the expense of academic results, as demonstrated by the outstanding results of these two schools, and the consistent results of many other Christian schools across the nation.

'Whilst maintaining very affordable tuition fees, these schools consistently deliver the highest standards of academic excellence and support for all students' said Dr Darren Iselin, Director of Research & Innovation at Christian Schools Australia (CSA).

'I'm not surprised at the good NAPLAN results across a number of Christian schools. There is strong evidence that parental engagement in learning, teacher-pupil and pupil relationships are important for attainment and wellbeing, and these are strengths of many Christian schools', indicated CSA's Director of Public Policy, Mark Spencer.

'Within a faith tradition that puts relationships at its centre, the success of these schools bears testimony to the importance of those relationships and their impact on student learning', Mr Spencer said, 'Literacy and numeracy are fundamental to more complex learning, and we need to ensure that there are solid foundations for students to achieve their potential, whatever that might look like'.

Christian Schools Australia congratulates St Andrews Christian College and Northcross Christian School, and the many other member schools identified within their regions as providing high quality educational foundations.

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For all media enquiries:

Mark Spencer, Director of Public Policy mspencer@csa.edu.au | 0419 419 224





Christian Schools Australia (CSA) is the largest association of Christian schools in the country and has member schools educating around 75,000 students and employing more than 11,000 staff at more than 180 locations across Australia. CSA member schools provide high quality education within an authentic Christian learning community.