

St Dominic Savio School



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ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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THEME 1: CONTEXT

A Message from the Principal

As Principal of St Dominic Savio School, I am happy to share with the community the school's achievements throughout 2025. For over 40 years our small school has been providing a high quality and solid Catholic education, pursuing excellence within a traditional Catholic setting. Our school caters for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 and a family spirit pervades our community. Indeed, the peace that permeates the classrooms and shines on the faces of students and staff alike is frequently noticed and commented upon by visitors to our school.

At the beginning of the academic year, we were happy to welcome two new staff members to our team of dedicated teachers. Our student population continues to grow, necessitating the addition of an extra class. The school continues to update and progress academically, placing special emphasis on the study of the key learning areas of Mathematics and English. The students are encouraged to move away from the screen and to engage in more direct, human contact, a practice which proves successful for teachers and students.

This year was a particularly important one with regards to our school administration and registration. An inspection of the school, its curriculum and policies and procedures was performed during the month of April by the Board of Studies. The inspectors highlighted in particular the high quality and impressive work achieved by our teaching staff, in the areas of programming and developing scope and sequence, units of work and assessment planning. The report received was likewise complimentary for the school's Student Welfare policies and procedures, giving evidence of the solicitude that the school demonstrates towards providing a safe and welcoming environment for all students and families.

During the months that followed, an administrative decision was taken to review the school's management and operations as well as its governance structure. We are indebted to the AIS for their professional advice in this matter.

School Activities

On the background of daily academic development and health school discipline, the extra curricula activities provided by the school help to enhance the full and rounded education received by each child. A true education aims at developing all the skills required for a successful life as a child of God. Nothing must be left undone as we prepare these little souls to be happy and holy members of the Catholic Church, equipped to give of themselves to others in society. The boys are taught to think outside of themselves and to work towards a team goal on the sports field and our older boys in Year 6 are relied upon as captains; they are improving their leadership skills. The boys are remarkably enthusiastic about serving at the altar for both Holy Mass and Benediction, where the reverence and dignity of the ceremonies require much self-control.

The girls in Year 3-6 participate in weekly classes designed to give them a taste for home economics. Basic cooking and hand-sewing is taught to the great delight of the girls, who are so proud to see and present the material results of their work.

Weekly music classes are coupled with our drama program and recitation of poetry. Students are thus encouraged to develop confidence by performing in front of others. A beautiful Nativity play was presented to parents and the wider school community at the conclusion of the year. The acting skills of the children is of an impressive level and the clear voices of several students, even singing solo, delighted the hearts of all present.

Towards the conclusion of the school year, the whole student body participated in an excursion to the Australian Pioneer Village, where the children experienced life in Australia as it was lived in the 1800's. Many hand-on activities, such as butter making, wool spinning, pumping water and washing laundry by hand provided a memorable experience. The tractor ride to view the animals was a highlight.

Fundraising Activities

The major fundraising activity for 2025 was the Pentecost Fundraiser in May. Bringing together the school and parish community, a beautifully presented meal in an outdoor setting was provided by our dedicated families and a Bingo tournament was enjoyed by all. We are very grateful to the businesses who supported the school in this major event, donating vouchers and prizes for the raffle that took place at that time.

Other fundraising activities that are on-going include the weekly tea and coffee stall, manned by our school families after the Sunday Masses in the parish and the 100s Club fundraising event.

I would like to thank the teachers, Sisters, parents and wider community for their continual support and dedication in helping us to keep St Dominic Savio School a safe place of growth and learning for both soul and body.

Sister Mary Leo - Principal

A Message from the Staff

St Dominic Savio School has concluded another enjoyable and rewarding year.

As school principal, Sister Mary Leo, continued creating a clear vision for the school and guided everyone toward it. She has built strong relationships with students, staff, and families and has supported all.

We had 42 students enrolled, two full-time teachers, and two part-time teachers who job-shared, all of whom were assisted by the Sisters and support staff. As a school community, we celebrated many feast days. These included St Dominic Savio Feast Day, our Feast of Pentecost school fundraiser and The Feast of Christ the King. For All Saints' Day, the students again presented some very compelling speeches, before enjoying a fun afternoon of games.

Our annual sports afternoon was filled with fun and good-natured competition. The students were able to use their new skills and supported their teammates. Many families attended and the afternoon was a huge success.

In the fourth term, the school was fortunate enough to visit Australiana Pioneer Village. It was an informative and memorable day, where the students were given the opportunity to experience early life in Australia. The highlights of the day included butter churning and sampling damper.

As our year came to an end, the students depicted the nativity in the end of year play, "The Night of His Coming". The success of the play was due to the hard work of the Sisters and students, and it was a fitting end to another successful year.

We have been held and guided by Our Lord and Our Lady, for we are grateful every day.

**Miss Valentine and Mrs Tulissio, Mrs Vrkic and Mrs Azzi
Class Teachers**

Contextual Information about our School

St Dominic Savio School is an Independent Catholic Primary School that caters for boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 6. It was established in 1984 by the Society of St Pius X.

The school aims to provide a high-quality education, as well as a traditional Catholic education providing for the spiritual, moral, social, intellectual and physical development of the child. St Dominic Savio School is committed to the achievement of the highest standards of education in which the security, protection and comfort of the students is a high priority. Families from a wide area of Sydney select our school because of its strong focus on respect for the theological and moral virtues. St Dominic Savio School is a multicultural school as the students come from different ethnic backgrounds.

In 2025, there were 42 children enrolled in the school and the children were divided into three composite classes. The teaching staff was comprised of two full time teachers and two teachers in a job share arrangement.

THEME 2: OUTCOMES AND RESULTS

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

St Dominic Savio School uses the NAPLAN Test to assess student competency in reading, writing, grammar, spelling, and numeracy. Our school is proud of its continual success in these exams. The school's performance in NAPLAN is documented on the My School website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au>.

THEME 3: STAFFING

Teacher Accreditation

Level of Accreditation	Number of Teachers
Proficient Teacher	4

Workforce Composition

School Staff 2024	
Teaching staff	4
Full time equivalent teaching staff	3
Non-teaching staff	4
Full time equivalent non-teaching staff	3.1

In 2025, no staff members identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Further information can be found on the My School website: <http://www.myschool.edu.au>.

THEME 4: ATTENDANCE

Student Attendance Rates

	Attendance Rate (%)
Kindergarten	94
Year 1	93
Year 2	95
Year 3	97
Year 4	96
Year 5	99
Year 6	97
Whole School	96

In 2025, an average of 96% of students attended school each day. This was similar to the daily attendance in 2024.

Management of Non-Attendance

The school monitors the daily attendance and absence of students in the school by maintaining a daily attendance register for each class.

Student absences from classes or from the school will be identified and recorded in a consistent manner by the staff member responsible for the class, using the codes approved by the Minister of Education. If a student is expected to be absent for the day or is sick, parents are asked to ring or email the school before 9:00am. A dated, written explanation of absence must be given to the class teacher before the student resumes the following day or within 7 days of the absence. For absences of more than 3 days, a doctor's medical certificate is required.

Unexplained absences from classes of the school are followed up in an appropriate manner with the student and/or their parent or guardian by the class teacher and/or the principal.

Any student arriving at school after 8:40am must collect a 'Late Notice' ticket at the principal's office. The 'Late Notice' ticket is passed on to the classroom teacher and remains on file as part of the attendance register.

In the case of poor school attendance of a student, the teacher will notify the principal. The principal will then notify the parents and/or guardians in an appropriate manner. If the poor attendance is irregular, the principal will inform the parents by phone. Where the poor attendance is frequent, the principal will inform the parents by letter. A meeting will also be arranged between the parents and the principal. Where unsatisfactory class or school attendance is identified, the attendance issue and any action taken will be recorded, as appropriate, on the student file.

THEME 5: SCHOOL POLICIES

The following school policies and procedures are publicly available on the school's website:

- Anti-bullying - <https://www.stdominicsavio.nsw.edu.au/anti-bullying>
- Child Protection - <https://www.stdominicsavio.nsw.edu.au/child-protection-policy-procedures>
- Complaints and Grievances - <https://www.stdominicsavio.nsw.edu.au/complaints-grievances>
- Discipline - <https://www.stdominicsavio.nsw.edu.au/discipline-1>
- Enrolment - <https://www.stdominicsavio.nsw.edu.au/enrolment-1>

THEME 6: STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION

Based on the school's Kindergarten to Year Six student and staff retention rates, it is evident that the majority have received satisfaction from St Dominic Savio School, in their respective capacity as students, parents or staff. The student feedback to teachers and parents indicated a high level of satisfaction and enjoyment in being students at the school.

The school consciously requests feedback from all parties during the course of each year through the following methods:

1. Once a year compulsory parent teacher interviews for Kindergarten to Year Six are held.
2. Quarterly written School Reports are sent to the parents to be signed.
3. Parents are interviewed or communicated with on a regular basis via the Student Diary which must be signed daily by the parents to ensure completion of the homework.
4. Parents are also communicated with by the classroom teachers, Sisters, and the Principal for positive or negative feedback.
5. All parents applying for or taking up enrolment for their child/children at the school must be interviewed by the Principal. This central point, therefore, allows a consistent outline towards all incoming parents on what expectations they should receive and what expectation is required of them.

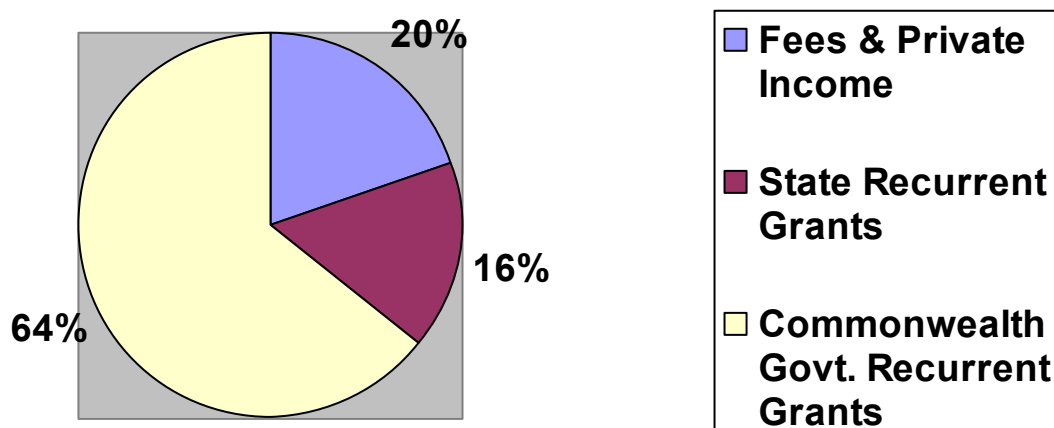
By undertaking this approach, it also allows for a continuation of the personal, yet community-based approach across the school, maintaining the ethos across Kindergarten to Year Six.

6. All staff are invited to meet with the principal on a regular basis to discuss aspects of their position, likes, dislikes, future prospects and possible improvements within the school environment – basically anything that may be of interest to either party. These meetings are welcomed by the staff and result in contentment and satisfaction for all concerned.

THEME 7: SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

<u>Recurrent/Capital Income</u>	<u>\$</u>
Fees and Private Income	181,715
State Recurrent Grants	148,857
Commonwealth Government Recurrent Grants	595,427
Government Capital Grants	-
Other Capital Income	-
Total Income	925,999

Recurrent/Capital Income (%)



Recurrent/Capital Expenditure

\$

Salary, allowances and related expenses	677,158
Non-salary expenses	187,917
Capital expenditure	-
Total Expenditure	865,075

Recurrent/Capital Expenditure (%)

