

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

AL SIRAAT COLLEGE

A registered independent school under the *Education Training and Reform Act 2006* (Vic)

A registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

Transform how we think and act in ways that are truly inspiring



AL SIRAAT
COLLEGE

Al Siraat College

A Learning Community



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INTRODUCTION

Al Siraat College is a co-educational, Foundation to Year 12 school for students from the Islamic faith.

We are an Australian school in the Islamic Tradition caring and educating children from our global community.

Our co-educational setting between Foundation to Year 4 helps socially prepare children for learning to understand each other and the world around them. From Years 5 to senior secondary, our parallel learning classes help our young men and women comfortably flourish in their separate learning environments. Depending on the subjects studied, students may be in co-educational classes in the VCE years. As an Australian school in the Islamic Tradition, we endeavour to infuse the Islamic traditions and ethos into all areas of the College.

Our dedicated staff prepare the citizens of tomorrow, who will be of benefit not only to themselves, but also to others; locally, nationally, and globally.

IDENTITY

We are an Australian school in the Islamic Tradition.

VISION

Transform how we think and act in ways that are truly inspiring.

It is important to note that we are not responsible for achieving our vision, rather we are responsible *for making an effort* to achieve it. This recognises the belief in the Islamic Tradition that we are not able to change people – that is the job of The Creator. Our role is to make the required effort and pray for positive changes.

MISSION

Develop enlightened individuals of learning and character.

The name of Al Siraat means ‘the path’ – which denotes the path from learning to character. This mission is embedded into our foundations and DNA.

VALUES

We enact our school philosophy by living our values.

We Value	Informs the Way We
Living Islam	Live our life
Respectful Relationships	Interact and deal with others
Real Life Learning	Teach and learn
Responsible Citizenship	Walk the earth
It Starts With Me	Change the world

Al Siraat College supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian Democracy, including a commitment to: elected Government; the rule of law; equal rights for all before the law; freedom of religion; freedom of speech and association and the values of openness and tolerance.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Alhamdulillah, we thank Allah for guiding us through another year of learning in 2023. With the completion of 15 years at Al Siraat College, we continue our journey with a focus on learning, taqwa, salaah, and adaab (etiquettes).

This year, we built on our previous efforts, particularly in VCE results, where our students once again showed their dedication and resilience. Our commitment to building a positive school culture remained strong, with ongoing work to improve our learning environments and programs. These initiatives are crucial in helping our learners reach their full potential, both academically and spiritually.

A memorable highlight of 2023 was our Primary School Production, which beautifully showcased the performing arts talents of our young students and the incredible dedication of our staff. The event was a testament to the vibrant community spirit at Al Siraat, highlighting the importance of creativity and self-expression in our holistic approach to education.

We also received overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and staff regarding the College's environment and learning programs. This feedback reflects our collective effort to create a nurturing and supportive space for our students. However, our Secondary students have reminded us that we must continue striving to make Al Siraat a more fun and engaging place, especially as they progress through their educational journey.

As we reflect on the past year, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and the broader community. Your unwavering commitment and passion have been instrumental in making 2023 another meaningful year at Al Siraat College. Together, we have laid the foundation for future growth and continued progress as we serve our community with sincerity in education and character development.

May Allah accept our efforts and continue to bless our students with khair and barakah in this life and the akhirah.

Mr Fazeel Arain
Principal

CORPORATE STRUCTURE

The School is managed daily by the Principal who is supported by the Executive Team, which comprised the following in 2023:

Fazeel Arain

Principal

Vis Naidu

Head of Senior Years

Rahat Arain

Director of Learning and Innovation

Mohamed Elbotaty

Head of Junior Years

Don Walkley

Manger People and Culture

Suffian Amin

Assistant Head of Secondary, Curriculum & Learning

Esra Boz

Director of Teacher Practice

Inas Mahboub

Assistant Head of Primary, Curriculum & Learning

Leah Hamel

Head of Operations & Compliance

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDENT POPULATION

Al Siraat College in Epping serves a diverse and vibrant student population, reflecting the multicultural fabric of the local community. The student body is composed of students from various cultural, linguistic, and religious backgrounds, fostering an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated and respected.

Al Siraat College serves a culturally diverse community and provides education to Muslim children from Foundation to Year 12. This shared faith background contributes to a cohesive community, where Islamic values and teachings are integrated into daily school life, alongside the Australian Curriculum. The College had a highly diverse school community in 2023 with about 1326 students from over 50 different ethnic backgrounds. The College is fortunate to have a diverse range of students from approximately 31 Nationalities with 32 first languages other than English spoken at home. ASC continues to be a very strong multicultural school with 70% of the student population comprising of Junior school and 30% of students in Senior school. The school's population includes students who speak multiple languages, often reflecting the diverse heritage of their families, which enriches the cultural experience for everyone.

The College attracts students from diverse areas with most students residing in the neighbouring areas within a 15km radius of the school. The community is diverse, with many families from low to medium socio-economic backgrounds, including a substantial percentage of migrant and refugee families. This diversity enriches the school environment, providing a broad cultural and social experience for all students.

The College is consolidating its enrolment trends, with fewer transitional enrolments and more stable student numbers. Enrolment figures fluctuate each term, reflecting the dynamic nature of new student admissions. The student population is dynamic, with a strong sense of community and belonging.

Al Siraat College is committed to providing an inclusive and supportive educational environment. The school's mission is to foster academic excellence, personal growth, and community involvement, preparing students for a successful future both in this world and the Hereafter. The College's values are deeply rooted in Islamic principles, ensuring a balanced focus on both worldly knowledge and spiritual development.

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

All teaching staff employed by Al Siraat College are fully qualified and registered in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT). The teachers employed will have completed an accredited teacher education program and hold current VIT registration, which ensures they meet professional standards for teaching.

The College is privileged to have teaching staff with a diverse range of qualifications and extensive teaching experience. Our educators bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the classroom, ensuring high-quality education and support for all students. The commitment and dedication of our teaching staff play a crucial role in fostering an enriching and dynamic learning environment at Al Siraat College.

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

The workforce composition at Al Siraat College reflects the diversity of the community we serve. Our staff members come from various cultural and professional backgrounds, bringing a rich tapestry of experiences and perspectives to the College. This diversity enhances our ability to support and connect with our students and their families.

Our team includes both seasoned educators with extensive experience and new graduates who bring fresh ideas and approaches to the classroom. Additionally, we are privileged to have international teachers who bring a wealth of knowledge and global experience, significantly contributing to the growth and education of the school. This blend of experience and innovation ensures a dynamic and effective teaching environment.

Currently, the College does not have any staff members who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. However, we remain committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive workplace for all staff and are dedicated to continuous improvement in our diversity and inclusion practices.

Category	Male	Female
Teaching	39	80
Non-Teaching	31	40
Total Staff	70	120

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Al Al Siraat College provides opportunities and supports staff in their Professional Learning to develop their skills and continually update knowledge to practise quality teaching. In 2023 the College invested approximately \$72,422 in Staff Professional Learning which is significantly less than previous years due to the focus on expert staff from within the college providing training both online and onsite. This equates to about \$381 per staff member. The CRT cost and travel expenses are excluded from this figure.

Professional learning was undertaken in a broad range of areas, which included:

- Courses and conferences conducted by professional and subject associations:
 - 6th Annual Australian Islamic Schooling Conference
 - Addressing LGBTQ issues in Islamic Schools
 - Islamic Pedagogy
 - Teacher's Conference - Text & Tradition]
 - Essential Assessment Educator Conference
 - Annual Psychology Teachers Conference
 - Understanding by Design

- Practical Behaviour Management- Masterclass
- ACEL Inclusion & Disability Conference
- Differentiated Instruction - Proven Strategies for Success
- Essential Assessment - How To Use Assessments in Mid-Year Reporting
- National Education Summit
- Leadership Lessons from the life of the Prophet (SAW)
- Teaching English in Middle Years
- Edutech Conference
- Seven Steps to Writing
- ACEL Leadership Conference
- Digital Learning
 - Introduction to Canvas
 - Effective Use of iPads for Teaching & Learning
 - Effective Use of iPads for Teaching & Learning v2
 - Apple Inspire Innovation Program
 - Apple Community Event Day
 - AI in Education Conference
 -
- Well-being
 - Building Student Wellbeing and Resilience
 - Engaging Reluctant Learners
 - Safety First Workshop
 - Islamic Health Education for Muslim Youth
- Occupation Health and Safety and compliance:
 - Protecting Children - Mandatory Reporting and other Obligations for the Early Childhood Sector
- Subject and VCE specific training:
 - Introduction to Myfuture
 - From surviving to thriving for teachers new to VCE Business Management
 - Exam Review Seminars
 - VCE Subject webinars
 - Teaching VCE for the first time
 - Growing VET In Your School
 - Application Process, SEAS and Scholarships
 - VTAC Course and Application
 - Myfuture Insights: The Role of Emotion in Career Education
- Coaching
 - The Art of Coaching Emotions
- Leadership
 - Leadership - Keeping it Simple
 - National Teacher Certification (HALT)
 - Emerge as the leader you are!
- Internal PDs focussing
 - Welcome to the land of Oz
 - Cracking the Hard Class - Bill Rogers
 - Islamic Pedagogy
 - PLCs
 - Even Better Conference
- International Conferences
 - Learning Environments Conference

The College also supports both Primary and Secondary pre-service teachers as well as pre-service teacher aides.

SENIOR SCHOOL

2023 has been a vibrant and eventful year at Al Siraat College, marked by numerous achievements, student engagement activities, and community building events. The College continues to foster an environment of academic excellence, cultural diversity and spiritual growth supporting the holistic development of its students.

Academic Achievements

The academic year saw students participating in various educational competitions and programs. Our Year 7 students participated in the Maths Association Victoria (MAV) Maths Games Day. Maths Games Day provided a unique opportunity for our students to nurture their mathematical talents and sharpen their critical thinking skills. The students collaborated with like-minded peers from diverse schools, engaging in captivating problem-solving challenges and mathematical games aligned with the Australian Curriculum proficiency strands.

The Secondary English Department held its first High School Oratory Contest on 22 May 2023 during Education Week, featuring 22 student speakers. The event, attended by all students from Years 7 to 12, was both educational and inspiring. The contest revealed emerging talents, with several students surprising the audience with their impressive speaking abilities and confidence.

This year's Science Week, themed "Innovation: Empowering Future Industries," saw our students dive into a variety of creative projects, utilising materials sourced from their own backyards. Science Week offers our students a chance to foster creative thinking, engage in hands-on activities, and collaborate with peers. The innovative exhibits they presented were a testament to the dedication and effort they put into their work. It was especially rewarding to see them confidently explain their projects to younger Primary School students, showcasing how the event also helped to enhance their communication skills.



The highly anticipated Battle of Speakers contest was a huge success, showcasing the oratory talents of our students. Held in Term 3, this event drew enthusiastic participation from students across various year levels, eager to demonstrate their public speaking skills. The audience, comprised of students, teachers, and parents, was captivated by the quality of the speeches and the passion with which they were delivered. The event not only highlighted the students' speaking abilities but also their capacity to engage with complex topics and present them in a compelling manner.

Camps and Excursions

The College organised several camps and excursions designed to complement classroom learning with real-world experiences. These activities not only provided students with educational enrichment but also gave opportunities for personal growth, resilience building, and fostering stronger bonds among peers. Highlights included trips to local historical sites, nature reserves, and educational camps that emphasised environmental stewardship and team building exercises.

Our Year 7 students had an exceptional start to their Secondary School journey with a three day camp in Doxa during the first week of the school year. This camp provided a valuable opportunity for the students to bond with their peers as they transitioned into a new phase of their education. The camp experience set a positive tone for the year, fostering a sense of community and belonging among the students as they embarked on their secondary school adventure. Our Year 8 students visited Ilkuka Retreat and Camp in Shoreham on the beautiful Mornington Peninsula.

The incredible 5-day camp to Canberra with our Year 9 students was a true testament to the power of experiential learning and the impact it can have on our students' growth and understanding. An integral part of the camp was the infusion of Islamic values and spirituality, enhancing the experience with a profound sense of purpose.

The Year 11 and 12 Visual Communication and Design (VCD) students participated in an excursion to the "Melbourne Now" exhibition and Top Designs, two of Melbourne's most prestigious showcases of contemporary art and design. This excursion provided the students with a unique opportunity to explore innovative design concepts and creative works from leading artists and designers.

Sports and Physical Education

The 10th Annual Sports Carnival was a standout event, bringing together students, staff, and the broader school community. The day was filled with fun and competition, featuring activities such as egg and spoon races, bean bag bucket throw competitions, and a highly anticipated Fun Run. The event also included house competitions, with Marwa House winning the House Trophy for the third consecutive year. The Carnival was not only a day of sports but also a fundraiser for the earthquake appeal, demonstrating the College's spirit of service and compassion.

The Bachar Houli Cup is always an exciting time of the year for our students to compete in an AFL tournament. The program is designed to provide Muslim students attending Islamic schools the opportunity to participate in an organised interschool sports football program.

Leadership Programs

Students at Al Siraat College participated in a variety of enriching activities that enhanced their learning and leadership skills. The Student Representative Council (SRC) was particularly active this year, organising events that encouraged student involvement and leadership development. These events included organising charity fundraisers, hosting student forums, and leading school-wide initiatives aimed at promoting school spirit and a sense of community.

In addition, the College's leadership programs empowered students to take on roles that prepared them for future responsibilities. The leadership team provided mentoring and opportunities for students to develop essential skills such as public speaking, event management and teamwork.



Community and Cultural Events

In 2023, Year 12 students from Al Siraat College had the privilege of participating in a Harmony Day Lunch at the Mill Park Police Station. This event provided a valuable opportunity for our students to engage with local law enforcement officers and celebrate the cultural diversity within our community. The lunch fostered meaningful conversations about inclusion, respect, and understanding, reinforcing the importance of harmony and unity in our society. It was a memorable experience that highlighted the strong relationship between the College and the local police, promoting mutual respect and collaboration.

Students engaged in a series of impactful community and cultural events, highlighting our commitment to inclusivity and cultural awareness. Students participated in the annual Multicultural Day, where they celebrated the rich tapestry of cultures within the school through traditional performances, cuisine, and attire.

Interfaith Program

As part of the Interfaith program, students from Al Siraat and St Monica's College participated in a memorable excursion to St Patrick's Cathedral and the Islamic Museum of Australia, creating a unique opportunity for cultural exchange and learning. Interfaith initiatives at Al Siraat College were pivotal in fostering understanding and respect among students of different faith backgrounds. The College hosted interfaith dialogue sessions and participated in community events that celebrated cultural diversity. These programs helped students appreciate the values of empathy, respect, and peace, which are core to the College's ethos.

Al Siraat was delighted to host St Monica's College as part of an enriching interfaith program during the year. The primary goal of this collaboration is to strengthen ties, encourage dialogue, and promote peace among individuals from diverse faiths.

As part of the interfaith exchange, a select group of Al Siraat students had the opportunity to visit Xavier College in Kew to partake in a cricket training session. The program aimed to build bridges between different faith communities, promoting peace, tolerance, and a deeper appreciation of shared values.

Al Siraat College students actively participated in the Carnival of Connections, an event held in collaboration with the Whittlesea community. The Carnival, designed to celebrate and strengthen community ties, provided an excellent platform for our students to contribute their time and energy through volunteering.

Incursions and Information Nights

The Year 10 and 11 students participated in the Road Smart Interactive incursion. The program is aimed at educating students about the role we all play in addressing road trauma in a very engaging and interactive experience using the latest immersive technologies.

Throughout the year, the College hosted numerous incursions and information nights, providing students and parents with valuable insights into various academic and extracurricular opportunities. These sessions included guest speakers from various fields, workshops on study skills and exam preparation, and presentations on career pathways. Information nights were also crucial in engaging parents with the school community, ensuring they were well informed and involved in their children's education.

Al Siraat College continues to thrive as a center of learning and community, offering students a well rounded education that prepares them for both academic and personal success. The events of 2023 have not only enriched the lives of the students but have also strengthened the sense of community within the College, setting a strong foundation for the coming years.

The secondary school finished off the year with its Awards assembly. Students were acknowledged for their tremendous efforts in 2023 for both individual achievement and collective success. The College looks forward to continuing this journey of growth, innovation, and excellence in 2024.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

2023 was a remarkable year for the Junior School at Al Siraat College, filled with enriching experiences and memorable events that contributed to the holistic development of our students. The year began with a vibrant sense of anticipation and enthusiasm. Both students and staff embraced the new academic year, seamlessly settling into their routines and building new connections. The positive energy throughout the junior school was palpable, creating an environment where students were eager to learn and explore.

Our dedicated teachers and staff invested considerable effort in preparing and planning to ensure a welcoming atmosphere that nurtures creativity, curiosity, and a passion for learning. As you walked through the junior school halls, it was inspiring to witness the high level of student engagement and their eagerness to dive into new experiences.

We also hosted our annual "Meet and Greet the Teacher" sessions, where we had the pleasure of welcoming the parents of Primary students from Years 1 to 6. It was heartening to connect with our school community and start the year on a positive note.

The year was marked by numerous excursions, incursions, student leadership initiatives and exciting school events that kept our young learners engaged and motivated.

Sports and Physical Education

In 2023, the Junior School at Al Siraat College placed a strong emphasis on sports and physical education, recognising the importance of physical activity in the overall development of our students. Throughout the year, students participated in a variety of sporting events and activities designed to promote fitness, teamwork, and a love for sports.

Interschool Sport Victoria (ISSV) provided students with the opportunity to participate in a structured sport competition played between schools. The interschool sport program enhanced the physical activity component of the school's health and wellbeing program.

In Term 2, our Year 6 students experienced their first taste of competition, participating in the School Sports Victoria (SSV) matches across three different sports: AFL, Netball, and European Handball.

The Annual Sports Carnival was a highlight of the year, bringing together students, staff, and parents for a day of friendly competition and school spirit. Students participated in various track and field events, showcasing their athletic abilities and teamwork. This event also included a Fun Run, where students ran to raise funds for a charitable cause, demonstrating their commitment to helping others while staying active and healthy.

In addition to the carnival, the school hosted several basketball matches throughout the year, where students had the chance to compete and hone their skills in a supportive environment. The opening of the new multipurpose court further enhanced the sports program, providing students a space to enjoy soccer, netball, cricket, and basketball.

Camps and Excursions

Excursions were an essential part of the Junior School curriculum, providing students with real world learning experiences. The Year 2 students had an exciting visit to Cook's Cottage, where they explored the historical significance of Captain Cook's voyages and their impact on Australian history. This hands-on experience helped students connect their classroom learning with Australia's colonial past.

Our Year 3 students visited the Royal Botanical Gardens in the city during last week's Reconciliation Week 2023 where they developed a greater understanding and respect for the local Aboriginal culture of the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which Melbourne is built upon. Our students learnt about some of the unique cultural practices of the Kulin Nations of Melbourne and examined the sustainable land practices used by Aboriginal people across Australia.

Our Year 6 students learned about Pablo Picasso and the art form he became known for cubism. Cubism is a style of art that originated in Paris around 1907 and is most closely associated with the art of Pablo Picasso.

Our Year 3 students enjoyed a visit from Mrs Sargood, a lovely character from the 19th century who took our students back in time. Mrs Sargood from the National Trust provided the students with a special “olden day” classroom experience right here at Al Siraat College. Mrs Sargood also taught them how to write in “old fashion” cursive style handwriting using a copper plate and ink pot.



Environmental Activities

The school observed World Environment Day by engaging students in activities that highlighted the importance of environmental conservation and sustainability. Environmental Student Leaders from Years 5 to 8 assisted Lalor Landcare with restoration work at Edgars Creek, part of the Victorian Volcanic Plain. Additionally, during NAIDOC Week, students participated in an Aboriginal Art experience, creating artworks that reflected their respect for and understanding of Aboriginal culture and traditions.

Our Year 3 students joined the expert educators at CERES on a journey towards zero waste where students explored the impacts of waste, discovered solutions to reduce waste and demonstrated ways to turn waste into a valuable resource. The educators guided students through problem solving and action planning to create change within their school community and explore solutions to move towards zero waste at school or home. During the excursion, the students understood waste as a problem that contributes to pollution/climate change.

Year 2 students explored why Earth is uniquely suited to support life within the Solar System, focusing on its temperature, atmosphere, and water cycle. During an engaging incursion, they participated in hands-on activities, learning about planetary rotation and orbit, measuring temperature with thermometers, and experiencing air pressure firsthand.

Academic Achievements

The Junior School students displayed their scientific curiosity at the Primary Science Exhibition, where they presented projects and experiments to peers, parents, and teachers. From robots to solar cookers, and water filters to Madinat Al Mustaqbal (City of the Future), the exhibition was a testament to their creativity and enthusiasm for science. This event not only fostered collaboration and community spirit but also inspired everyone to think beyond the ordinary, highlighting the importance of nurturing young minds for a brighter, innovative future guided by our future Islamic leaders.

Seven teams proudly represented our College in the Tournament of Minds 2023 Competition at La Trobe University. The challenge includes a Long-Term Challenge, where students creatively communicate their solutions within predefined parameters like limited materials and complex criteria. Additionally, they

participated in an unseen Spontaneous Challenge, requiring a rapid interchange of ideas and strong group cooperation skills. Our students were able to take the challenge and explore the possibilities of ideas which aim to develop them as problem solvers, communicators, thinkers and work collaboratively as a team.



Two students' from Year 5 received distinction for demonstrating exceptional eloquence and creativity in presenting their views on crucial subjects in the prestigious Parliament Prize Competition. Their recognition as 'Highly Commended' places them in the top 10% of their respective categories, showcasing their outstanding capabilities and accomplishments in the prestigious Parliament Prize competition, an annual event hosted by the Victorian Parliament. The competition provides students with a platform to articulate issues that matter to them and share their perspectives on what they would convey to parliament if they were Members of the Parliament.

Our Year 2 students are using Bee-Bots in Technology to enhance their understanding of location in Maths. Bee-Bots are engaging, programmable floor robots designed specifically for Lower Primary students, featuring a child-friendly interface that teaches control, directional language, and basic programming skills. The students have been exploring the various functions of the Bee-Bots, planning and creating tasks for them to perform. Through this hands-on experience, they have learned to follow and describe algorithms, incorporating sequences of steps, branching, and iteration, while developing their problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

Book Week at our school is always a highlight, brimming with excitement, imagination, and the joy of reading. This year's celebrations were particularly special as we focused on Islamic stories, bringing our rich cultural and religious heritage to life for our youngest learners. Students from Years 3 to 6 were invited to create hats representing their favorite books or beloved characters, adding a creative twist to the festivities. The Islamic Reading Sessions were a resounding success, leaving our young learners with lasting memories. These sessions not only celebrated the joy of reading but also reinforced the importance of storytelling in preserving and passing down our cultural and religious values. As we continue to foster a love for literature

in our students, events like these remind us of the power of stories to inspire, educate, and unite our community.



Community and Cultural Events

Cultural Day celebrations were another significant event in 2023, where students and staff dressed in traditional attire, shared cultural foods, and participated in activities that celebrated the diversity of the school community. This event highlighted the importance of understanding and appreciating different cultures, fostering a sense of unity and inclusiveness. The students were able to infuse our Islamic Values into their selection of cultural dress. Our staff also got into the spirit with some great examples highlighting the rich cultural diversity of the Al Siraat community.

A significant cultural achievement this year was "The Golden Age" production performed by our Primary School students. This captivating performance celebrated the contributions of the Islamic Golden Age to world history, showcasing the students' talents in drama, music, and storytelling. Through nasheeds, poems, and acts, the production educated the audience about the rich history of Islamic civilisation, reflecting the College's commitment to integrating cultural heritage with academic learning.

"The Golden Age" performance also highlighted the school's values of embracing multiculturalism and fostering a deep understanding of Islamic heritage. The students also had the opportunity to present their production on stage at SalamFest, in front of a live audience that included notable delegates such as Vivienne Nguyen, Chair of the Victoria Multicultural Commission. The event was a proud moment for the College, emphasising cultural diversity and unity.



The Parents and Friends Forum (PFF) at Al Siraat College plays a vital role in fostering a strong sense of community within the school. Serving as a bridge between families and the school administration, the PFF actively supports various school initiatives and events, contributing to a positive and inclusive school environment. Through their volunteer efforts, fundraising activities, and collaborative projects, the PFF helps enhance the educational experience for students while also providing a platform for parents to engage more deeply with the school community. Their commitment and dedication make a significant impact on the overall wellbeing and success of the College.

The Junior School at Al Siraat College experienced a vibrant and dynamic year in 2023. Through a variety of events, excursions, and activities, students were able to develop academically, physically, culturally, and socially. These experiences have helped to shape them into well-rounded individuals, ready to take on future challenges with confidence and compassion. The school community looks forward to continuing this journey of growth and learning in the years to come.

LEARNING ENRICHMENT

Over the past three years, the number of students with additional needs at the College has increased, leading to a rise in referrals and support cases. In response, the College is committed to providing tailored support for students with additional needs and creating opportunities for gifted and talented students to reach their full potential. Our focus is on enriching the learning experience for all students.

Supporting Students with Additional Needs

The College prioritises supporting students who face challenges in literacy and numeracy. For students identified with additional needs, reasonable adjustments are made to their learning environment to help them succeed. An Individualised Learning Plan (ILP) is developed for each of these students, incorporating structured and explicit teaching strategies in either small group or one-on-one settings.

Students referred to the Learning Enrichment Team for learning difficulties are first screened using the Language Assessment CELF to determine the level of need before a full Speech Assessment is considered. Our process includes class observations, ongoing discussions with teachers, data analysis of learning outcomes, and follow-up communication with parents for further external assessment when necessary. Specialist reports from these external assessments, along with recommended strategies, are reviewed and discussed with relevant teachers to ensure the best support for these students. To facilitate this process, the Learning Enrichment Team has created an online professional recommendations plan, making it easier for all staff to access and implement these strategies.

Individual Learning Plans (ILPs)

The ILPs are designed by teachers to enhance students' learning competence and confidence. Each plan takes a holistic approach to the student's education, tailored to their individual needs, developmentally appropriate, and future-focused, building on the student's strengths and potential. The ILPs are regularly reviewed, monitored, and communicated with parents throughout the year to ensure ongoing progress. For students with sensory impairments, teaching techniques are adjusted to improve curriculum access, with additional support provided through collaboration with visiting teachers, parents, and carers. Once students demonstrate sufficient progress in their learning outcomes, they may be exited from the Learning Enrichment Program.

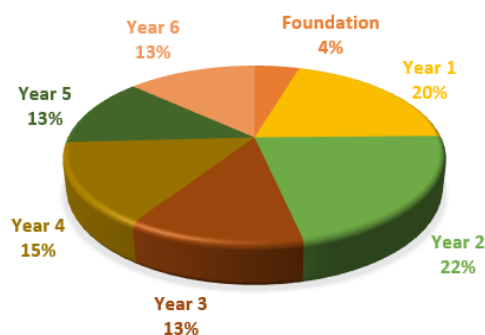
Learning Enrichment Program

The Learning Enrichment Program is structured to provide continuous support for students needing intervention, with a primary focus on literacy skills - reading, writing, comprehension, grammar, and spelling. Students are withdrawn from their regular classes for 30-45 minute sessions, held 2-3 times per week. During these sessions, the Learning Enrichment Team works with groups of 4-5 students over a 12-14 week period, regularly reviewing their progress in literacy. Math intervention is provided in collaboration with homegroup or subject teachers, offering in-class support for students in upper primary and secondary.

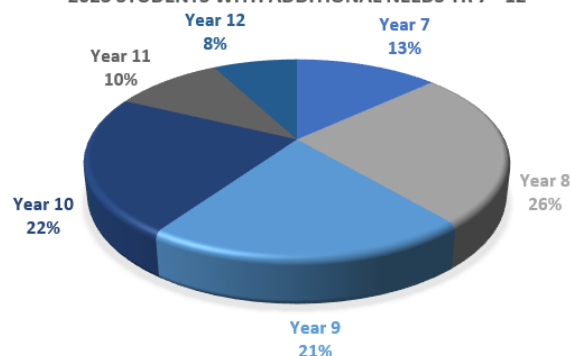
Learning Enrichment Accelerated Program (LEAP)

For students identified as gifted and talented, the College offers the Learning Enrichment Accelerated Program (LEAP). This program is designed for students who are academically strong, highly motivated, and possess an excellent work ethic. LEAP provides a challenging curriculum with rigorous, accelerated content and inquiry-based learning, aiming to extend and enrich students in key areas such as English, Mathematics, Humanities, and Science. Entry into LEAP is selective, based on ACER – HAST, standardised assessments, and interviews, and is available to students in Years 7 through 9.

2023 STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS F - YEAR 6



2023 STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS YR 7 - 12



COLLEGE CURRICULUM

As part of our commitment to ongoing school improvement, the College conducts regular reviews of our curriculum. An overview of our curriculum can be found on our website, www.alsiraat.vic.edu.au. For further details, we encourage you to contact the College directly. Being an Islamic school, we place great importance on integrating, infusing, and extending Islamic teachings across all subject domains, ensuring a comprehensive Islamic educational experience.

THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

To ensure students' progress is carefully monitored, students in Years Foundation to Ten undergo continuous assessment across all areas of the Australian Curriculum. We maintain a robust reporting system that keeps both students and parents fully informed of their learning progress.

In addition to ongoing assessments, we implement standardised assessments on an annual basis, covering key areas such as reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation, vocabulary, writing, science, general abilities, and numeracy. These standardised assessments, coupled with the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), provide a comprehensive evaluation of students' skills and knowledge.

To support students who may face challenges in literacy or numeracy, we provide regular and targeted intervention lessons delivered by qualified staff from our learning enrichment team. In-class support is also offered by our trained teaching assistants, ensuring that students receive the necessary assistance to work towards achieving the required benchmarks.

Furthermore, we offer specialised programs across Years 7-9 to cater to both academically driven students and those who may be disengaged from their learning. These programs create an inclusive environment that responds to the unique needs of individual learners, fostering their growth and success.

As part of our commitment to preparing students for their Senior Years, we offer Year 10 students the opportunity to enrol in one VCE subject, which they complete in Year 11. This early exposure to VCE subjects enhances their preparedness for the remaining VCE offerings in Years 11 and 12.

Our Senior students also have access to a broad range of VCE and VCE VET subjects. These subjects adhere to the guidelines set by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and undergo regular audits to ensure alignment with the requirements for the VCE certificate. This comprehensive offering enables our students to explore diverse pathways for further education beyond Year 12. For more information about these pathways, please refer to the VCE section of this report.

STUDENT RESULTS IN NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (NAPLAN)

Our students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 actively participate in the annual NAPLAN testing. This assessment provides a valuable benchmarking opportunity, allowing us to identify areas for improvement and provide targeted interventions when necessary. Our dedicated teachers meticulously analyse NAPLAN data, identifying strengths and weaknesses at each Year level. This information guides our teaching strategies and curriculum development.

In 2023, the NAPLAN participation rate for all Australian students was 95%, whereas for our College it was sitting higher at 98%.

Total number of students who participated in the 2023 NAPLAN:

Year 3: 123 students	Year 7: 120 students
Year 5: 117 students	Year 9: 77 students

Please note in 2023 the NAPLAN scale was reset. This means that we can't compare NAPLAN achievement prior to 2023 to that from 2023 onwards. Individual student results are now reported against proficiency standards to provide clear information on student achievement. The results are classified into one of 4 proficiency levels: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support. The comparisons for each of the assessed domains at a State level, are presented in the tables below:

Reading	Needs Additional Support	Developing	Strong	Exceeding
Year 3	3.3%	12.2%	68.3%	16.3%
State	6.3%	20.0%	50.0%	21.2%
Year 5	0.9%	15.4%	62.4%	21.4%
State	4.3%	14.6%	54.5%	24.4%
Year 7	3.3%	14.2%	61.7%	20.8%
State	6.3%	19.6%	51.1%	21.2%
Year 9	3.9%	25.0%	47.4%	23.7%
State	7.8%	23.8%	47.9%	18.3%

Writing	Needs Additional Support	Developing	Strong	Exceeding
Year 3	2.5%	9.0%	79.5%	9.0%
State	3.9%	13.7%	70.6%	9.5%
Year 5	0.0%	12.0%	74.4%	13.7%
State	5.1%	18.3%	60.4%	14.0%
Year 7	1.7%	24.2%	60.0%	14.2%
State	6.5%	23.1%	51.4%	17.2%
Year 9	3.9%	28.6%	48.1%	19.5%
State	8.1%	25.9%	44.5%	19.3%

Grammar & Punctuation	Needs Additional Support	Developing	Strong	Exceeding
Year 3	5.7%	31.7%	55.3%	7.3%
State	10.4%	29.7%	47.8%	9.7%
Year 5	5.1%	19.7%	63.2%	12.0%
State	7.1%	23.4%	54.2%	13.0%
Year 7	4.2%	17.5%	63.3%	15.0%
State	8.1%	24.0%	52.5%	13.7%
Year 9	6.5%	35.1%	39.0%	19.5%
State	9.9%	29.6%	44.3%	14.1%

Spelling	Needs Additional Support	Developing	Strong	Exceeding
Year 3	4.1%	19.5%	58.5%	17.9%
State	9.0%	26.0%	44.9%	17.7%
Year 5	1.7%	6.0%	54.7%	37.6%
State	6.9%	20.0%	49.2%	21.7%
Year 7	0.0%	10.8%	53.3%	35.8%
State	6.6%	18.5%	51.2%	21.8%
Year 9	2.6%	13.0%	55.8%	28.6%
State	6.9%	19.2%	53.2%	18.5%

	Needs Additional Support	Developing	Strong	Exceeding
Year 3	4.1%	27.6%	61.8%	6.5%
State	7.1%	21.2%	54.6%	14.7%
Year 5	5.1%	26.5%	59.8%	8.5%
State	7.1%	20.4%	57.1%	13.2%
Year 7	5.0%	20.8%	67.5%	6.7%
State	7.3%	21.5%	55.8%	13.6%
Year 9	10.5%	26.3%	56.6%	6.6%
State	7.9%	23.3%	56.0%	10.6%

As can be seen through these tables, Al Siraat College has performed quite strongly in almost all Year Levels and domains of learning as compared to the rest of Victoria. The number of students needing additional support is much less in comparison to the State.

The table below shows the average student results at Al Siraat College for 2023 for each Year level and across each assessed domain. The areas in green indicate that our average in this section was higher (dark green =much higher) in comparison to all Australian students. Likewise, the non-highlighted areas indicate that the averages for the College are similar in comparison to all Australian students.

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	424	438	427	423	412
Year 5	507	514	531	508	487
Year 7	555	555	571	554	541
Year 9	575	580	590	565	558

- Well above
- Above
- Close to
- Below
- Well below

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

At Al Siraat College, we recognise the importance of regular school attendance in ensuring students’ academic success and overall wellbeing. Attendance is marked daily and meticulously recorded using SEQTA, our school’s Learning Management System (LMS). This system allows for accurate tracking and management of student attendance data.

For students who arrive late, a sign-in procedure is in place to ensure their attendance is recorded accurately. In cases of absence or repeated lateness, the school follows up with students and their families to address any issues and support improved attendance.

We take student attendance seriously, understanding that absenteeism can significantly impact a student’s learning and academic progress. Consistent attendance helps students build a strong educational foundation and supports their academic progress. The school’s attendance data is regularly monitored for analysis. The student attendance record assists teachers to keep track of their students’ attendance. We are pleased to report that overall student attendance has improved compared to the previous year. This improvement reflects the combined efforts of our students, families, and staff in prioritising consistent attendance and fostering a supportive school environment. Table shows the attendance rates for all year levels for 2023. Total number of students when the attendance report was generated at the end of school year was 1288.

Year Level	Number of students	Percent present
Foundation	140	89.16
1	112	90.84
2	115	90.80
3	121	91.16
4	116	90.85
5	116	92.45
6	101	91.51
7	121	91.65
8	104	90.76
9	79	89.88
10	78	90.86
11	47	93.78
12	38	93.18
Average percent present	1288	91.29

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

The Senior School is committed to provide students with a holistic education and give them opportunities that maximise student learning and achievement. A wide range of subjects are offered to cater to the diverse individual needs of students. Our average study score increased and all of our students have secured a place at a tertiary institution of their preference.

In 2023 the College graduated the ninth cohort to complete their secondary schooling at Al Siraat College. We had students successfully complete 16 VCE subjects end of last year. The highest study score was 50. The average ATAR for our students was 78.33 with the highest ATAR being 98. The achieved study scores also guaranteed them a place at their preferred University course.

The destination for post-secondary education included Monash University, The University of Melbourne, , Swinburne University of Technology, RMIT University, Victoria University, Deakin University and La Trobe University.

The destination courses include:

Podiatry (Honours)	Biomedicine
Education (Secondary)	Architectural Design
Law	Cybersecurity/Criminology
Business	Information Technology
Pharmacy	Dermal Sciences
Nursing	Education (Primary)
Psychological Science (Forensic Studies)	Science
Engineering (Honours)	Psychology
Biomedical Science	

SATISFACTION

We value input and feedback of our school community, including parents, staff and students. We believe that an open and constructive communication is essential for creating a supportive and enriching learning environment. The majority of parents expressed high levels of satisfaction with the school, highlighting the Islamic environment, strong academic standards, and the school's commitment to student well-being. Parents appreciated the emphasis on moral and spiritual development alongside academic achievement.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are held twice a year and provide opportunities for face-to-face and online discussions between parents and teachers. Our teachers encourage parents to share their feedback, concerns, and suggestions related to teaching and learning during these meetings. Parents generally rated the teaching staff highly, commending their dedication and professionalism. There was strong support for the curriculum, particularly the integration of Islamic studies with general education.

Student feedback is essential in assessing the effectiveness of learning at school. It indicates that students are having a valuable and enjoyable educational experience. Students reported a high level of satisfaction with their academic experience, particularly appreciating the support they receive from teachers. Many students felt that the school provides a challenging yet supportive learning environment. The teachers encourage them to ask questions and participate in class discussions. Our students provide feedback through surveys and open ended questions. The students value opportunities for collaborative learning and group discussions.

We publish news on all school activities and events and update our website regularly with stories from within the school community. More news from students is reported on a weekly basis throughout the year.

We value the input of our dedicated staff as they are instrumental in shaping the educational experience for our students. Staff welcome confidential and informal feedback. As part of our commitment to their professional development and well-being, we regularly gather feedback to identify areas of concern and opportunities for improvement, especially in the areas of continuous learning, growth, and training. Staff feedback reflected a positive work environment, with many expressing satisfaction with the collegial atmosphere and support. The Islamic ethos of the school was frequently mentioned as a key factor contributing to job satisfaction.

The feedback and concerns shared by our staff are essential to our school's continuous improvement. We are dedicated to addressing these issues proactively and collaborating with our staff to foster an environment that supports ongoing learning, professional growth, and overall well-being. The College is committed to nurturing a growth mindset, encouraging staff to expand their skills and capabilities to excel in their roles. By supporting their professional development and offering growth opportunities, we aim to deliver the highest quality educational experience for our students. The College's Islamic environment, dedicated staff, and strong focus on character development are appreciated. Al Siraat College can continue to build on its strengths and further improve the satisfaction and experience of its community members.

COLLEGE FINANCE

Finances

A summary of our income is as follows:

Income Summary

Income Source	Amount	Percentage
Fees and School Services	\$4,503,577	13.70%
Commonwealth Recurrent Grant	\$15,856,693	48.25%
State Recurrent Grant	\$5,593,374	17.02%
Commonwealth BGA Grants	\$6,123,494	18.63%
Other Government Grants	\$351,970	1.07%
Other Income / Donations	\$435,566	1.33%

Expenditure Summary

Expenditure Area	Amount	Percentage
Salaries and Staff Costs	\$16,763,994	70.06%
Rent	\$1,061,801	4.44%
Stationery, Classroom and Educational	\$1,312,720	5.49%
IT Equipment and Technology	\$1,009,405	4.22%
Site Costs and Essential Services	\$1,921,073	8.03%
Administration and Other	\$1,859,128	7.77%