

ANNUAL REPORT

WISDOM THROUGH FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE



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Vision

Playford College is an Islamic independent co-educational school nurturing young Australians holistically, responding to their spiritual, academic and physical needs, while providing opportunities to reflect the teachings of the Holy Prophet and the Ahlul Bayt in our contemporary society.

Misson

As a community that is rooted in the Islamic tradition, we aim to contribute to our local and wider communities, through providing experiences that nurture holistic development. Thus, we consider the spiritual, mental and physical dimensions of our existence. We seek to illuminate the world by applying the teachings of the Holy Prophet and the Ahlul Bayt.



Message from Leadership







Racha H Makki Deputy Principal

In 2024, Playford College celebrated another impressive year.

Most **impressive** was the learning and teaching program. The progress of students academically, spiritually, socially and physically was evident through the school's assessment procedures but also in objective measures like SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education) and NAPLAN (National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy).

The College was proud to announce that all Year 12 students gained their SACE. Moreover, the Year 12 results were very **impressive** because the Dux of Playford College received a raw ATAR of 99.45, while 4 students gained an adjusted ATAR of 99.95. These were outstanding results for a young school in the northern suburbs of Adelaide.

The College was also delighted to be interviewed by the Weekend Australian because of the **impressive** improvement of our NAPLAN results.

Learning progress in schools does not only happen because of the attitude and achievement of students and the support of families but the biggest factor is the staff. Playford College was blessed in 2024 to recruit **impressive** staff who were dedicated, knowledgable, professional, passionate, caring and student focussed. The culture of learning and the precious relationship between students and staff was a joy to witness.



Also **impressive** were the provision of state-of-the-art Secondary facilities and enhanced resources which were facilitated by the supportive and visionary Playford College Board of Directors. For a young school which opened in 2017, Playford College was pleased to be able to offer modern and appealing buildings, grounds and facilities to our students, families and staff. The Board of Directors, under the leadership of Dr Abdul Musa, was visionary, diligent, hardworking and dedicated in looking to the future while maintaining its role of governance and overseeing finance.



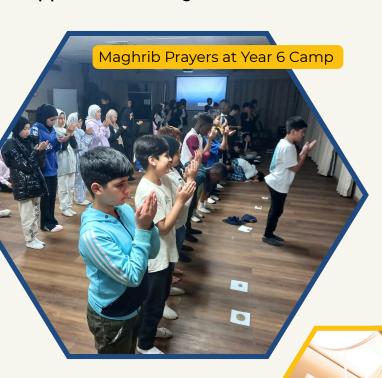


As an Islamic school, Playford College believed that an imperative component of school life during 2024 was the development and nurture of faith. Faith was encouraged through daily prayer, halaqas (gatherings or study circles to learn about Islam and the Qu'ran), classroom devotions, Illumination lessons (religious education), Qu'ran reading and memorisation and the celebration of many events on the Islamic calendar. This comprehensive and **impressive** approach and dedication to faith nurtured our young Muslim Australian students with their identity. Significant events included Hajj re-enactment, Prophet Muhammad's birthday week, Muharram program and Ramadan

celebrations.

The co-curricular and extra-curricular program in 2024 was very **impressive**. Playford College participated in many interschool sporting opportunities with great success and sportsmanship. The PE/Sports program was strong in Primary and Secondary and the range of sports was often supported by expert staff and new resources with extra funding from the Sporting Schools initiative.

Likewise, the engaging learning beyond the classroom with incursions, excursions and camps was exceptional. Observing Year 3's holding Guinea pigs, Year 4 students cooking fish at a campfire in a First Nations/Indigenous way, Year 5s riding a horse for the first time, Year 6s exploring the River Murray, Year 7s understanding democracy while in Canberra, Year 8s surfing and body boarding in the sea, Year 9s appreciating Kangaroo Island, Year 10s learning to ski and Year 12s preparing for the gruelling year ahead at their Retreat were a joy for us. The skills learned were significant, as were the opportunities to grow teamwork, resilience, courage and safe risk taking.

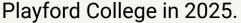




Year 7 Canberra Trip

During 2024, we were always grateful for the impressive support of our families who helped with homework, supported uniform and punctuality at drop off and collection of students, attended meetings and checked school posts via the newsletter and other social media. The partnership between home and school remained strong. Highlights for us included the wellattended Mothers' and Fathers' Days breakfasts and classroom visiting. Once again, the College Iftar Dinners and Primary End of Year Celebration were 'sold out' events. Attendance at the Year 6 and Year 12 Graduations was excellent.

The Playford College staff regarded colleagues as family and team members. This strong culture encouraged our impressive staff to 'go out of their way' to support, encourage, challenge and give every opportunity to each student while also looking after colleagues. The Administration, Finance, Business, Maintenance, SSO and IT staff were very much part of the family. We were sad to say 'Goodbye' to a few staff but thrilled with the new staff who will join





Message from the Chairman of Playford College Board



Dr Abdul-razaq Musa Board Chairman

Playford College: Shaping a brighter future.

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

I am delighted to present the Chairperson's Report for Playford College for the 2024 academic year. This annual report highlights our achievements and progress, reflecting the strength and spirit of our school community.

By the grace of Allah (swt), 2024 has been a year of remarkable accomplishments across academics, co-curricular activities, sports, debating, community service, and student and staff wellbeing. Each step forward brings us closer to our vision of fostering a learning community that instils pride in our students' heritage and confidence in their Australian Muslim identity.

The Playford College Board and school leadership have worked collaboratively to ensure a safe, nurturing environment for our students. I am grateful for the respectful and dynamic partnership between the Board and leadership, underpinned by the dedicated contributions of each Board member and school leader.

In 2024, we celebrated significant milestones, including the completion of Stages 3 and 4 of our Master Plan. This included the opening of a state-of-theart two-storey building and a dedicated sports zone, enhancing our students' learning experience and providing modern resources for their academic, spiritual, and social growth.

community Our commitment to remains Annual engagement strong. Mothers' and Fathers' Day Breakfasts have become cherished traditions, with parents' active involvement playing a vital role in our appreciate We deeply success. continued support and partnership.

Annual ts have parents' e in our your

Fathers' Day: Classroom Visiting

7

While we celebrate these achievements, we also recognise areas for growth, such as adapting to change, exploring new initiatives, and addressing specific school needs. Looking ahead, we are dedicated to evolving to meet the changing needs of our students and community, ensuring Playford College remains a beacon of excellence and innovation.

We extend heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2024 for their outstanding achievements in both academic and non-academic pursuits. Your success enhances Playford College's reputation as a centre of excellence in Elizabeth.

My sincere thanks go to the School Principal, Deputy Principal, Business Manager, teaching and non-teaching staff, students, parents, and the wider community for their unwavering dedication. I also express gratitude to my fellow Board members—Vice Chair Mr. Mohsin Mirza, Mr. Salih Al-Rashid, Mr. Syed Asad Ali Naqvi, and Mr. Sam Tripodi—for their years of service and invaluable contributions.

This report offers a snapshot of what makes Playford College exceptional, but it cannot fully capture the countless hours and steadfast commitment of our leadership, staff, students, parents, and Board. Together, we are advancing our shared vision of academic excellence and holistic development.

As we move forward, let us continue to uphold the values of excellence, integrity, and inclusivity that define our school. May Allah (swt) guide us in achieving our goals for Playford College.



Faith at Playford College



Abrahim Al-Zubeidi Head of Illumination

At Playford College, our mission continues to centre around a holistic education grounded in Islamic tradition. Our God-centred philosophy, 'The Flower of Faith', remains the foundation of all teaching and learning. It guides our community, educators and students alike, toward growing in knowledge, character, and a deeper relationship with God.

This journey is made real through our **impressive** pedagogical model, 'The Tools of Gardening'. We begin with God, deliver knowledge purposefully, allow space for inner reflection, and support students' growth; spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally. Education here is not transactional; it's transformative.







Our **impressive** character development program, Journey to Simurgh, continues to support students in recognising their education as part of a broader, lifelong journey to God. Through this lens, learning becomes a spiritual act; one shaped by reflection, self-awareness, and moral development.

In 2024, we continued to align our curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment with these values. Our classroom experiences are rooted in Islam, yet attuned to contemporary realities. Our use of Halaqa, inspired by the Prophetic practice of sacred dialogue, encourages thoughtful dialogue and reflection on modern issues. Assessments are seen not simply as academic measurements but as checkpoints along a student's spiritual and educational path.

The Quran remains central to our approach, with an emphasis on recitation, memorisation, and understanding. These areas are continually refined to meet student needs and ensure meaningful engagement with the divine message.

Highlights and Milestones

This year, Playford College made meaningful strides in staff development and community engagement:

- Staff presented at the 7th Annual Islamic Schooling Conference, sharing our educational practices with a national audience.
- A large delegation of staff attended the conference to deeper professional learning and represent the College.
- Through our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of South Australia, more staff enrolled in the Graduate Certificate of Islamic Education, further strengthening our academic foundations.
- During Ramadan, we were honoured to welcome Sayed Ali Imran, whose visit provided spiritual enrichment to both staff and students. We also hosted Shaykh Ibrar and Sayed Ali Al Talaqani, who offered valuable insights on Islamic education and spiritual development.





Celebrating Faith and Community

At Playford College, our school calendar is more than a schedule of events; it is a sacred rhythm that anchors our journey to God. Each occasion is an opportunity for the school community to reflect, connect, and grow spiritually together. Key moments of reflection and celebration included:

- Ramadan Iftar dinners brought families, students, and staff together in community and faith
- Hajj Day allowed students to meaningfully engage with the pilgrimage experience.
- Muharram commemorations led by students honoured the sacrifices of Karbala.
- For the Prophet Muhammad's Birthday, we held a themed week focused on kindness, love, and emulating the Prophetic character through reflective and creative classroom activities.

As we reflect on 2024, we are proud of the **impressive** progress made and the spirit of growth that continues to shape our community. Playford College remains committed to a spiritually grounded, academically excellent, and authentically delievered Islamic education; nurturing the next generation with faith, purpose, and heart.









Impressive Academically

2024 Achievements

Playford College students experienced **impressive** progress during 2024. This academic progress was measured in many ways including:

- Impressive Year 12 results where all students achieved their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). The Dux of the College received the highest raw ATAR ever by a Playford College student with an outstanding score of 99.45.
- We were also so proud of four Year 12 students who gained an adjusted ATAR of 99.95 and were thrilled that all students who applied for University had a high enough ATAR to gain a place.
- The College was the only Independent school in South Australia to be mentioned in the Weekend Australian for the improvement with NAPLAN results. **Impressive!**
- Pleasing progress with Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) data.
- The increasing number of Secondary students who gained Scholarships based on their **impressive** results with assessments throughout the year.
- The increasing number of Secondary students who were accelerated in certain subjects.
- Excellent progress with reading levels and writing skills.







Impressive Spiritually

Throughout 2024, students at Playford College continued to grow in knowledge, character, and faith. Our approach to education, grounded in the Islamic tradition and guided by our Flower of Faith philosophy, supported the development of the whole student; spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, and socially.

In Illumination, our focus this year was on the centrality of language in nurturing a relationship with God, the Holy Prophet (saw), and the Imams (as). Students explored Qur'anic phrases, stories, and sacred vocabulary, using them in reflective writing and classroom discussions. This emphasis helped deepen their sense of connection to the Divine and gave them language to express their inner states and spiritual aspirations.

Students also demonstrated clear progress in critical thinking and dialogue. Through Halaqa sessions and class discussions, they learned to question meaningfully, engage with others respectfully, and relate their learning to their lived experiences. Many showed increased maturity in how they reflected on ethical dilemmas and applied Islamic principles to real-world challenges.

In the realm of prayer, we observed stronger commitments to performing salah with focus and intention. Students began taking greater ownership over their worship spaces; preparing for prayer thoughtfully, leading prayer respectfully, and maintaining the etiquette of presence and humility before God. We thank the work our families do at home, outside of school, that supports the learners ongoing commitment to prayers.







Our pastoral care program played a vital role in this growth. Students participated in various excursions, relationship-building activities, and informal halaqas that nurtured peer connections and trust with staff. These moments, often shared over meals, reflective walks, or quiet conversations, allowed students to feel seen, heard and supported in their personal journeys.

Together, these developments reflect a deepening of our students' faith, a maturing of their self awareness, and a growing capacity to walk their path to God with sincerity, insight, and responsibility.

Visiting Scholars

In 2024, Playford College was blessed to host a number of **impressive** visiting scholars who enriched our spiritual and intellectual environment. Their presence served as a reminder that knowledge in the Islamic tradition is not merely transferred; it is embodied, lived, and shared with sincerity.

Sayed Ali Imran delivered a focused program for students centred on the Night of Decree (Laylat al-Qadr). Through guided reflections and spiritual insights, he helped learners understand what makes this night sacred, offering practical ways to prepare for it and internalise its significance. His sessions cultivated reverence and a sense of purpose during the blessed nights of Ramadan.



Impressive Physically

In 2024, Playford College continued to strengthen its commitment to the physical development of students through an enriching and diverse Physical Education program. Across both Primary and Secondary schools, students actively engaged in a wide range of sports that not only developed their athletic skills but also fostered teamwork, resilience, and a love for healthy competition. Playford College delivered an **impressive** performance, proudly securing 1st Place during the Year 7/8 5-A-Side Soccer Competition and showcasing not only athletic talent but also sportsmanship and school spirit.

Throughout the year, students enthusiastically participated in sports such as basketball, soccer, netball, AFL, volleyball, and cricket, among many others. The breadth of sports offered ensured that every student could find a physical activity they enjoyed, encouraging participation and excellence across all levels.



One of the highlights of the year was Playford College's outstanding performance at inter-school sporting events. Notably, our students competed in the prestigious Bachar Houli Cup, an AFL competition designed for Islamic schools.

Our annual Sports Day continued to be one of the most anticipated and celebrated events on the calendar. With vibrant house colours, enthusiastic participation, and excellent organisation, the day was a true celebration of physical effort, unity, and fun.

We were also grateful for the continued support of the Sporting Schools program, funded by the Australian Government, which enabled us to offer specialist coaching and equipment to enhance the student experience. In addition, we sincerely appreciated the leadership and energy brought by student mentors from Seda College, who served as role models and motivators throughout the year.

Through these initiatives, Playford College has proudly built a culture where physical education is valued, celebrated and continually improving, an **impressive** journey that reflects our holistic approach to student development.



Impressive Staff

Playford College students, families and colleagues were blessed by our **impressive**, dedicated, passionate, nurturing, inspiring, resilient, hard working and collegial staff during 2024. Highlights, like the impressive Year 12 and improving NAPLAN results do not happen without quality teachers. The College continued to celebrate the Admin, Finance, HR, SSO, Maintenance and Transport teams who supported the teachers to deliver the curriculum effectively.

We farewelled Business Manager, Fiona Evans and Head of Primary, Mick Emmet, who both contributed strongly, generously and effectively during their time with the College and we expressed our gratitude for their service. We were pleased to recruit Mark Clayton as our new Business Manager.



MP Tony Piccolo appreciated our impressive support staff during SSO Week



Our wonderful Secondary Staff on Sports Day



Impressive School Community

Playford College parents appreciated their relationship with the staff and assisted with punctuality to school, homework, correct uniform and attendance at parent/teacher interviews and other gatherings. Fathers and mothers were celebrated at their special days with classroom visiting and a delicious breakfast. Numbers to these events are increasing significantly

every year.













Secondary School
End of Year Awards Assembly

Iftar Dinner

Impressive Wider Community

Playford College continued to celebrate the support of the wider community in the life of the school, including:

- Impressive politicians and community leaders who visited in 2024. We were delighted to welcome Premier Peter Malinouskas, Mayor Glenn Docherty, local members Matt Burnell and Lee Odenwalder, other MPs Tony Piccolo, John Gardner, Josh Teague and Mira El Dannewi and Councillors Marilyn Baker, Akrim Arifi, Chantelle Karlsen and Zahra Bayani during Book Week to read to our Primary students.
- The support of the City of Playford to create an **impressive** Pedestrian Actuated Crossing between the College and Dauntsey Reserve.









- Final year Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy and Social Work students from Flinders University who supported students in the school and families at the Community Hub.
- The City of Playford Mobile Library which visited every 2 weeks.
- The impressive support for the Community Hub was extensive and included AnglicareSA, Hippy Australia, Uniting Communities, New and Emerging Communities (UC), Community Connections (UC), Morella Community Centre, Sets program (UC), SSTARS, The One Box, Playgroup SA, Flinders Uni, Talking Matters, Toy Well Toy Library, Words Grow Mind, Green Adelaide, Family Connect, Good360, Save the Children, Library Services (City of Playford) and Oz Harvest. These agencies supported our families financially, socially, culturally and helped prepare them for future opportunities in the wider community.





- CITE (Centre of Islamic Thought and Education), at UniSA, continued to influence the teaching of Islamic pedagogy within the staff and were appreciated.
- The College appreciated the continued relationship with, and support from, Northern Adelaide Senior College.
- The Association of Independent Schools SA continued to provide excellent advice in many aspects of school life.





Impressive Camps + Excursions



Impressive Facilities

The College continued its **impressive** restoration of the Durrington Road site to modernise a 1970s government school into a visually appealing and functional facility for the students and staff, including:

- Playford College welcomed many distinguished guests, community members, students and staff to the Official Opening of the Imam Ali building by Matt Burnell, on March 8th, 2024. All who were present celebrated this impressive new facility comprising six classrooms as well as Art, Digital Technology and Woodwork learning spaces. Playford College students were blessed with the 'state of the art' facilities in which they learn. During the ceremony, Chairperson of the Board, Dr Abdul-razaq Musa, also opened the Sports Zone which students appreciated.
- The impressive upgrade of the Library created more room, attractive spaces and extra areas for books and resources.
- The upgrade of the student walkway and enlarged verandahs created an impressive and welcoming entrance to the school.
- The renovation of the Primary boys' toilet created a more hygienic space.
- The new Sports Shed enabled Primary and Secondary sports equipment to be stored and accessed properly.
- The installation of solar panels on the Secondary buildings was environmentally and fiscally responsible.
- The bituminising of the service area on Dauntsey Road allowed for safer access.
- The upgrading of the main carpark enabled more staff to park safely.
- The artificial turf area between the COLA and Primary playground created another eating and play space.



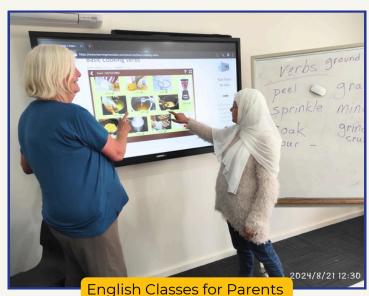


Impressive Community Hub

The Community Hub, based at 15 Dauntsey Road, continued to flourish during 2024. The Hub, under the leadership of Zeenat Charoliya, flourished with an impressive program comprising English lessons (including child minding), play group (supported by Anglicare and Flinders University students), parenting conversations, citizenship preparation, cooking and sewing classes and much more. Playford College was well known in the community because of its Community Hub.











Workforce

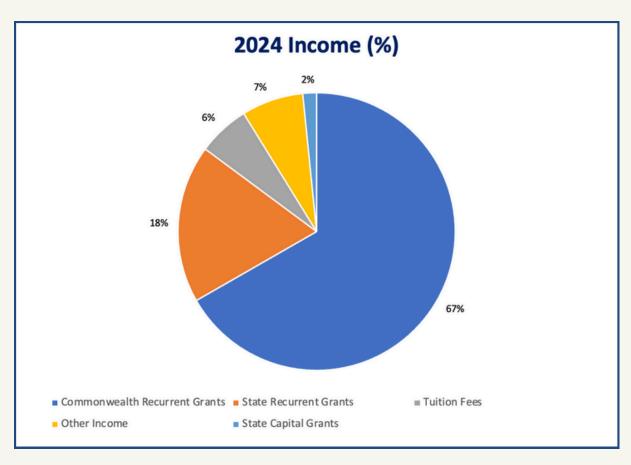
2024 Workforce					
	Head Count	FTE	Absenteeism		
Teaching Staff	53	45.5			
Non- Teaching staff	50	30			
Total	103	75.5			

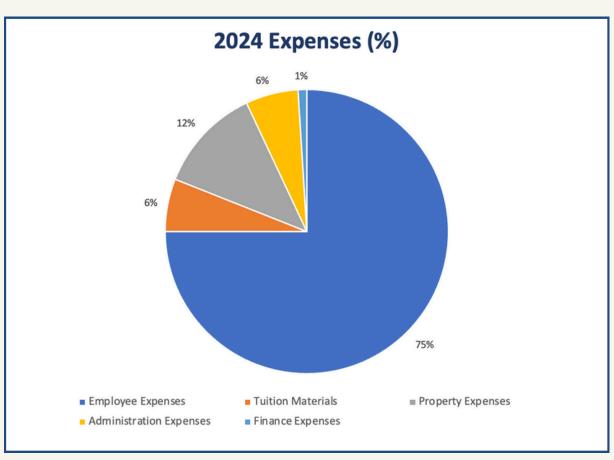
2024 Teacher Qualifications				
No. of Teachers	Qualifications			
1	Doctorate PhD			
20	Master of Education			
24	Bachelor Of Education			
8	Special Authority to Teach			





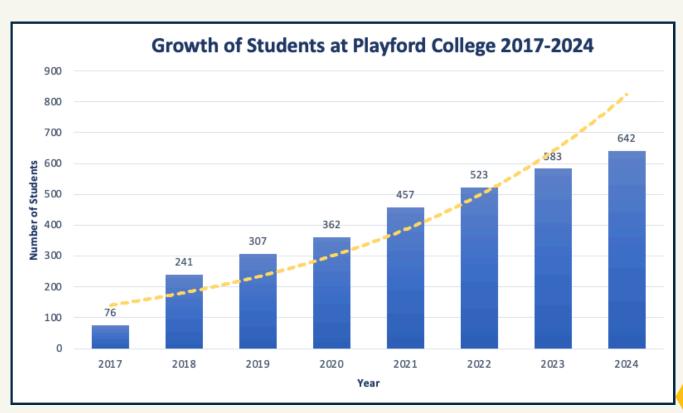
School Budget





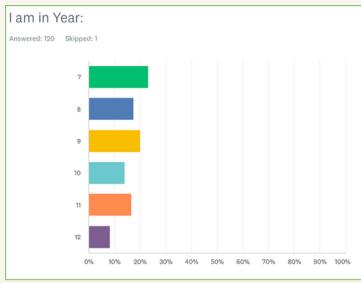
Student Growth

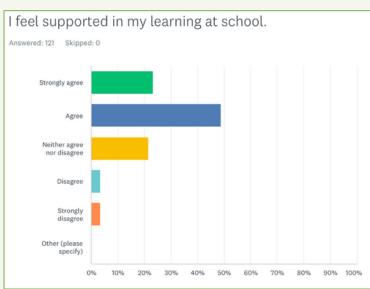
2024 Enrolments					
Year level	Male	Female	Total		
Foundation	20	30	50		
Year 1	25	30	55		
Year 2	31	28	59		
Year 3	24	51	75		
Year 4	21	27	48		
Year 5	19	29	48		
Year 6	28	37	65		
Primary Total	168	232	400		
Year 7	28	25	53		
Year 8	18	34	52		
Year 9	20	10	30		
Year 10	24	18	42		
Year 11	11	23	34		
Year 12	19	12	31		
Secondary Total	120	122	242		
Whole School	288	354	642		

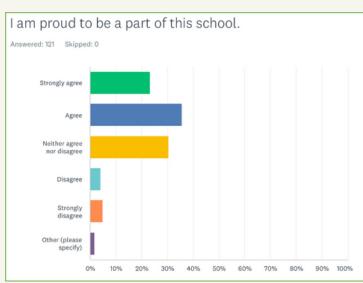


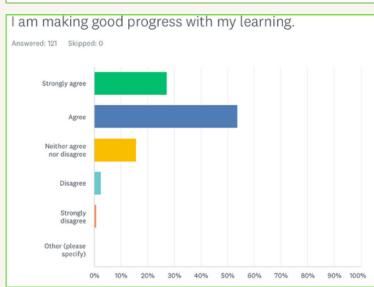
Satisfaction Surveys

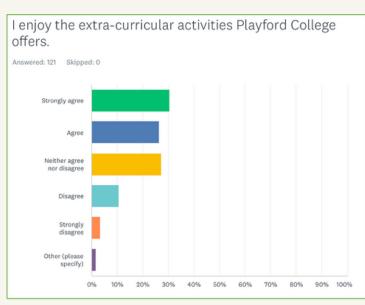
Student Survey Responses

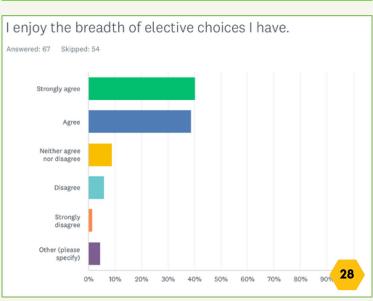




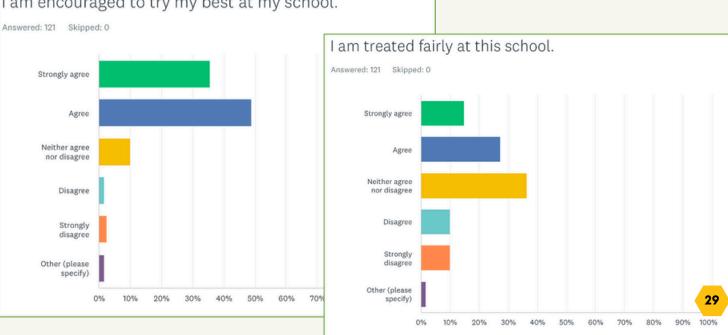




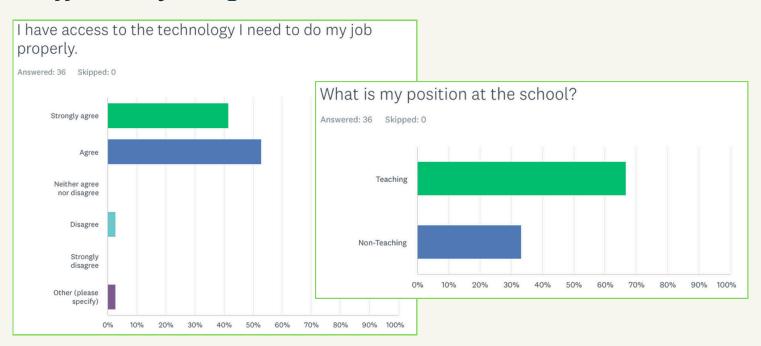




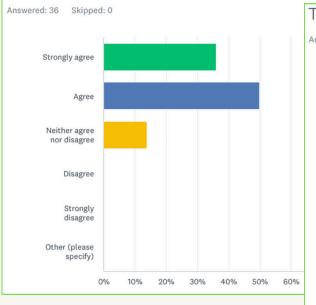


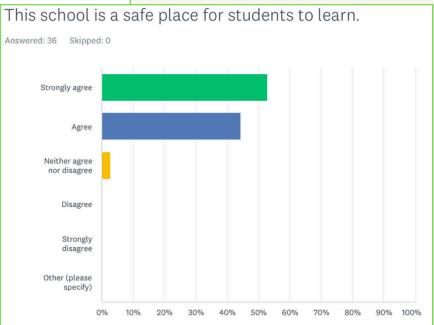


Staff Survey Responses

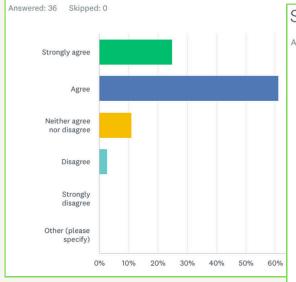


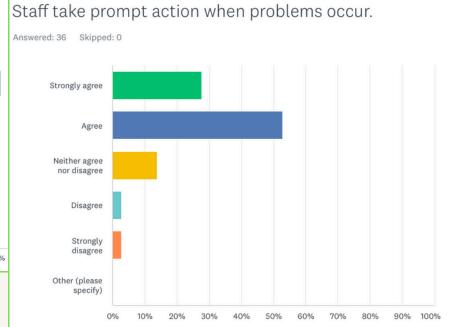
The school clearly communicates its expectations for student behaviour.

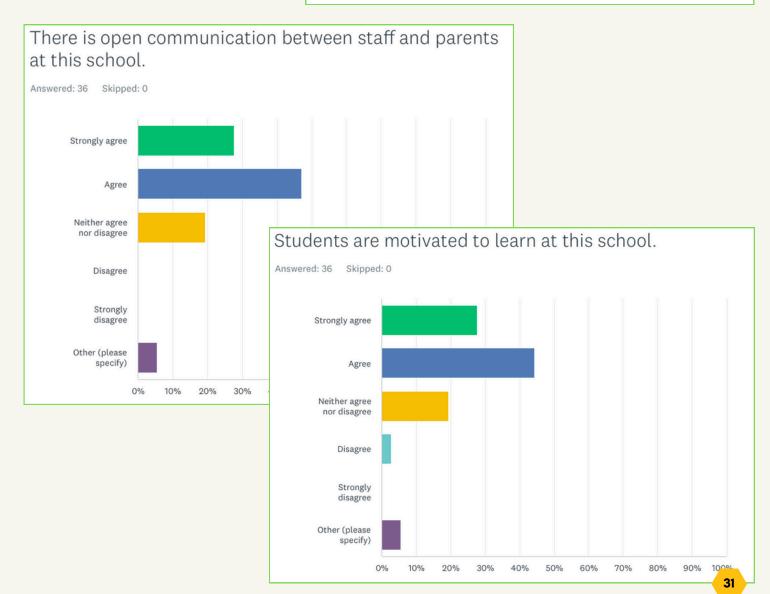


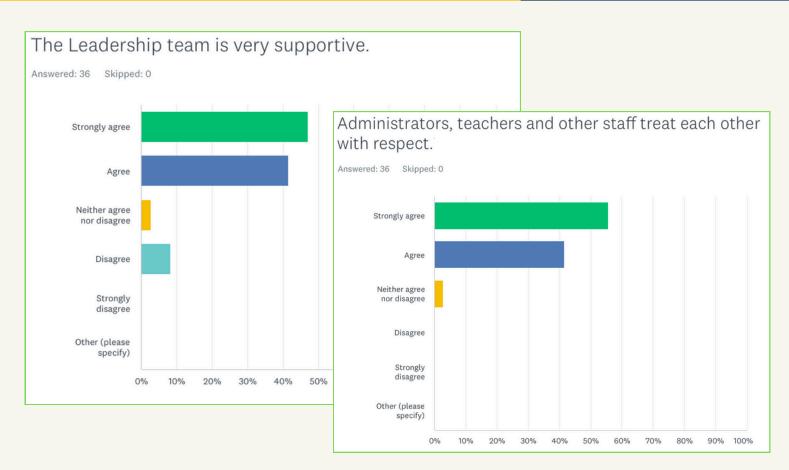


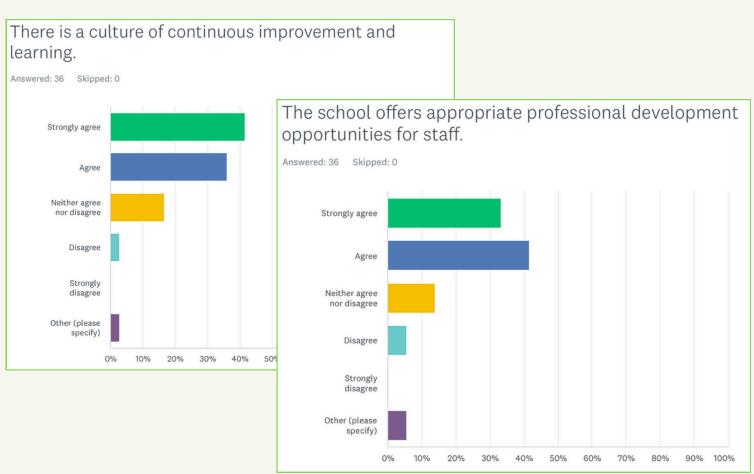
Our school's programs effectively meet the needs of students (such as second language English learners, learning disabilities).



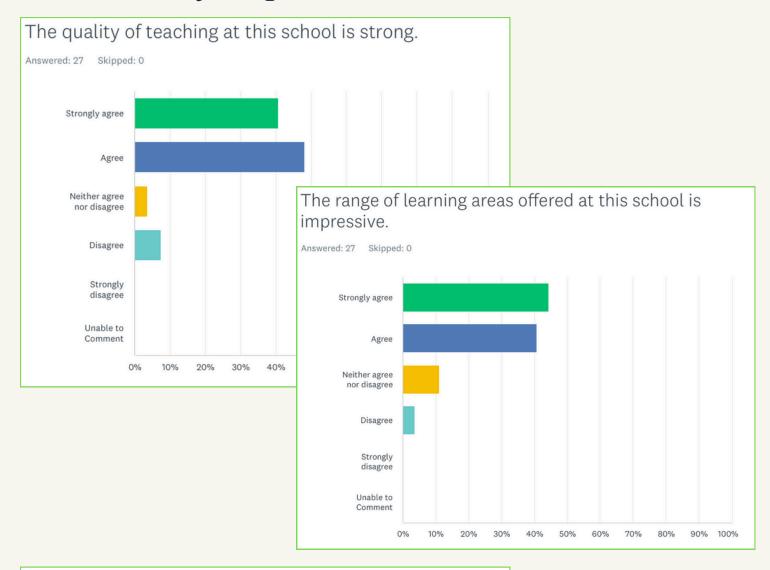




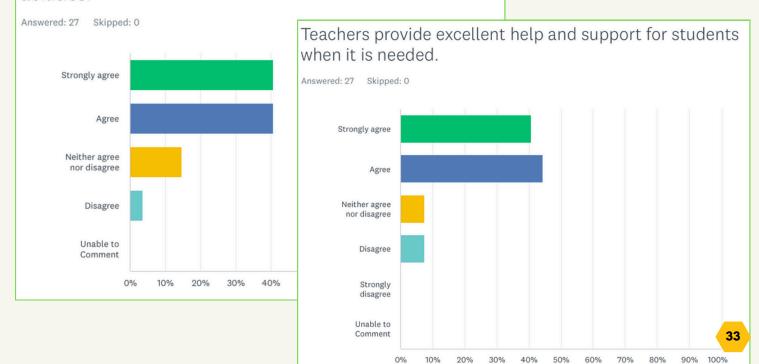


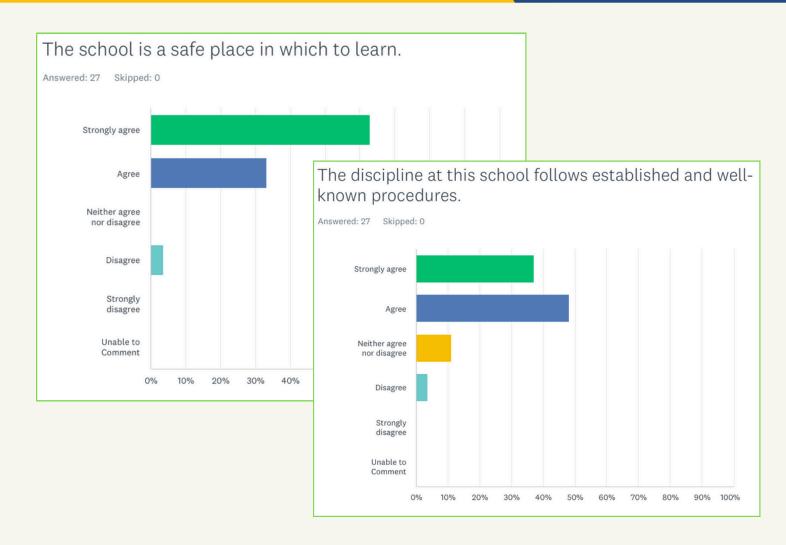


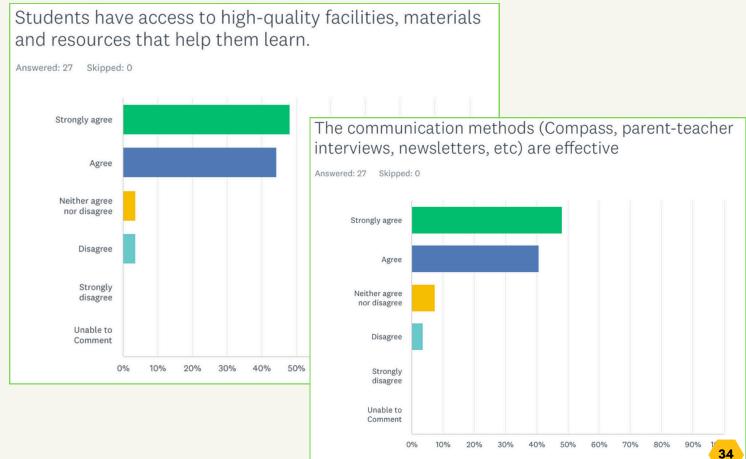
Parent Survey Responses

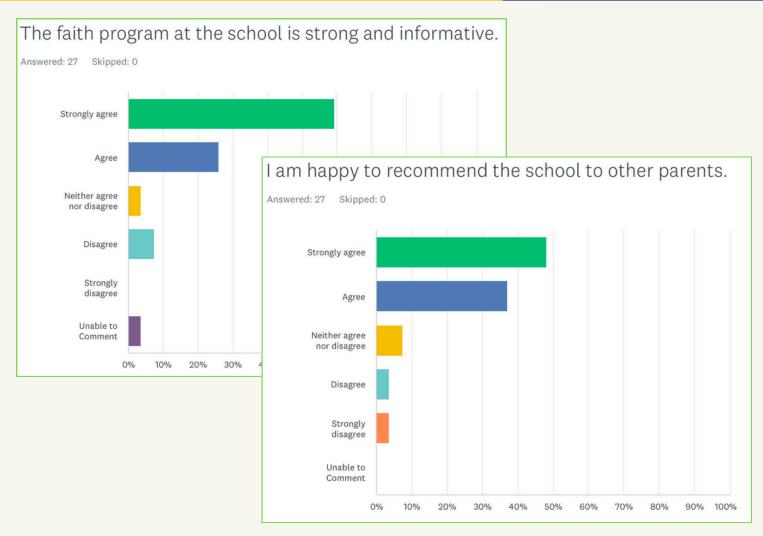


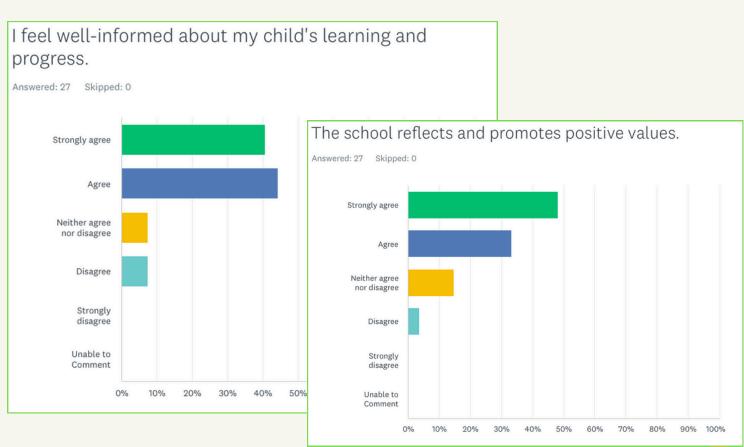
Teachers at this school are keen to help students of all abilities.















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