

## Vision Statement

Growing in Wisdom, Learning to Love

## Principal's Message

Litchfield Christian School is a campus of NT Christian Schools, and strives to be 'a Christian community, learning together to live life as God intended, offering hope for the world'.

Litchfield Christian School offers quality educational facilities in a spacious and attractive natural bush environment. The school is uniquely placed to take advantage of its rural location in both academic and extra-curricula activities. The school is currently developing specialist middle school subjects focusing on rural and environmental areas.

Litchfield Christian School offers parents an Early Learning Centre option for providing pre-school education and care for 3, 4 and 5 year old children. This has been a highly successful program and it continues to strengthen as it serves as an integral part of the school community. The school is currently in a period of modest growth, as families in the rural area of outer Darwin are attracted to the unique look and feel of the school environment and the strong sense of vision engendered from school leadership and governance. Litchfield Christian School has been an integral part of the wider rural community over the last decade and will continue to have a positive impact and significant presence into the future.

As a Christian school community, we endeavour to nurture children as learners in many ways, always striving to open them up to life, to loving, to serving, to understanding, as God would have us do. Some of these aspects of the life of our school are difficult to measure. This review is only part of the picture.

Colin Smith  
Principal

## School Profile

✓ Student profiles – gender, age, range in each year level, class arrangements.

### Classes

Class	Boys	Girls
Transition / Year 1	11	8
Year 1 / 2	10	13
Year 3 / 4	15	11
Year 5 / 6	12	7
<b>Primary Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>39</b>
Year 7	9	4
Year 8	2	7
Year 9	3	7
<b>Middle School Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>

✓ Teaching and learning initiatives – curriculum, pedagogy, programs, take-up of special funding programs.

During 2010, the school continued to build on the solid foundation of Biblically-based curriculum units already in place. At every level, teachers design curriculum materials based on the NT Curriculum Framework and the NTCSA Essential Learnings overview. This ensured that relevant and age-appropriate curriculum was presented to all our students and also that curriculum was designed with a clear Christian perspective in mind.

The development of core learning skills across the curriculum continued to be an important focus in all classrooms and at all levels. The many different types of literacy and numeracy learning, the acquisition of important social and interactional skills and the further growth of a service-to-others perspective formed the basis of curriculum initiatives throughout the year.

Additional programs, including A Sound Way literacy program, Athletics and Accelerated Reader, were part of a rich curriculum mix. Students with special needs were catered for and supported by the programs coordinated by our Special Ed Department which included the valuable work of our teacher-aides. Programs used included Toe-By-Toe, Easyread computer program, and Fitzroy Reading Scheme.

✓ School leadership and school decision-making process

Through the NTCSA System Office, a framework for School Improvement and Renewal (SIRF), created by the Catholic Ed System Office, was adopted for use in all NTCSA schools. This framework incorporates elements of school leadership review and reflection and outlines the different people involved in decision-making within the school including School Council members, school staff, teachers, parents and students.

The following is a list of the capital improvements made to the school during 2010

- Completion of Library / Resource Building

- Undercover walk ways
- Car park improvements
- Concrete Pathways throughout the property
- Bird Aviary
- Development of gardens throughout the property

The following is a list of capital improvements we plan to make in 2011

- Chicken pen and run
- Junior Primary Sand pit and Sensory Garden
- Bush land cleaned up and all dangerous/threatening trees to be removed
- Eating area for Middle School Students
- Vegetable garden
- Shade Sails over new playground areas
- New classrooms for middle school

✓ **Current conditions of school buildings and facilities**

The condition of school buildings and facilities is very good. During the year repairs were carried out to doors, locks and floor coverings. Air conditioners in all rooms were serviced and in a number of cases replaced. Irrigation facilities were repaired, upgraded and extended.

✓ **List of any critical incidents that have taken place over the past 12 months**

N/A

## **Staffing Information**

✓ **Teacher retention**

At the end of 2010, 3 teachers left. 2 left to pursue different careers away from teaching. 1 left to be more available to support their growing family.

✓ **List of all staff members**

2010 staff consisted of the following:

- Brenton Bartsch
- Janice Bartsch
- Vicky Beasy
- Mitchell Bateman
- Crystal Briscoe
- Linda Broad
- Yurika Castle
- Rebecca Cholmondeley
- Trish Davis
- Kerith Donnan
- Kayley Fry
- Joanne Hardy
- Cathy Hogden
- Lydia Hunter
- Ashlee Kirkham
- Cat Klinkenberg
- Chris Kleefsman
- Jey Lamech
- Emily Leach

- Kirsten Leslie
- Becky Myers
- Colin Smith
- Merran Smith
- Anita Tilyard
- Delphine Twine
- Linda Wilson
- Jo-Anne Wright

Male teachers	- 2
Male non-teaching staff	- 2
Female teachers	- 8
Female non-teaching staff	- 7
ELC Staff	- 8

#### ✓ List of teachers' qualifications – general

All teachers employed at Litchfield Christian School during 2010 are registered with the Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board NTTRB. Every teacher has the required qualifications, for their registration with a minimum of a 4 year teaching degree.

#### ✓ Teacher participation in professional learning activities

On average, each teacher attended 8 days of professional training and development. On average non-teaching staff attended 3 days training of professional training and development.

#### ✓ Average expenditure per teacher on professional development.

On average \$750 was spent per teacher on professional development during 2010.

## Highlights

2010 was an exciting year for the Litchfield Christian School. Together we worked on building relationships within our school families and developed many ideas for our school name to spill out into the wider community, putting our school on the map.

Some of the many highlights for our school were as follows.

- Bush Festival – held in June catered for up to 600 people coming through our property enjoying the fantastic atmosphere created by our hard working families.
- Evening Rural Christmas Market – 2<sup>nd</sup> annual November event. Hosting up to 66 stall holders catering for nearly 1000 shoppers. \*
- Athletics Carnival – fantastic day for our entire school from ELC – Year 9 walked to the local oval and competed in many different events over the day. A huge portion of our parents involved themselves in both assisting with the events and being spectators.
- Swimming Carnival – A huge percentage of our parents and families attended this day time event in November. We enjoyed cheering and chanting as a whole community as we watched the skills the children had recently learnt from their swimming lessons at the beginning of term 4.

## Student Welfare

### ✓ SRC

During 2010 LCS had a Student Representative Council that met once a week. This group was made up 12 students, 2 from each year, 4, 5,6,7,8 & 9.

### ✓ Peer Support programs

Buddy program – Year 6 students were partnered with a student from the transition class. They met in a formal setting once a week with a structured program and also made themselves available to one another during recess and lunch times.

A mixture of students from years 6 – 9 met each Tuesday lunch time and had a short Bible study together and a time of sharing.

### ✓ Awards

LCS offer incentive awards to all students from ELC – Year 9 throughout 2010

- 5 mini classroom merits gives the student the thrill of visiting the Principal and then to receive a 'Principal's Award' at assembly.
- "IVI Awards" I'm Very Impressed, are awarded by the Principal for particularly impressive, behavior, work or attitude.

At the end of 2010 the local community and Government groups offered sponsorship of a range of literacy, mathematical, sports, and encouragement awards. These were awarded at our end of year celebration evening.

### ✓ Student leadership

The SRC are an active group of leaders within the school community and take on many roles throughout the year.

- Day to day chores, emptying bins, feeding the chickens, assisting with lunch time library club etc.
- Working with teachers and leading small groups of younger children.
- Leading assemblies
- Organizing and running fundraising events.

## Teaching and Learning: Student Outcomes

### ✓ Average student attendance

- On average 111 students were in attendance on any given day during 2010 at LCS.

✓ Proportion of students meeting national literacy and numeracy benchmarks for their year at 3, 5, 7 and 9

	Yr 3		Yr 5		Yr 7		Yr 9	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
<b>Reading</b>	100%	75%	100%	93%	100%	93%	N/A	100%
<b>Writing</b>	100%	75%	100%	93%	89%	80%	N/A	90%
<b>Numeracy</b>	100%	87%	100%	100%	76%	100%	N/A	100%

### Early Learning Centre (where applicable)

The Litchfield Christian School Early Learning Centre provides long care hours, catering for children aged between 3 and 5 years old from 7am – 5.30 Monday to Friday. During 2010, 10 Children were enrolled full time and 27 were enrolled on a part time basis.

At the Litchfield Christian School Early Learning Centre, we believe that every child has worth regardless of ability or background. As God's image bearer every child is given opportunity and support to develop their uniqueness. Children are encouraged to reach their God-given potential. Children are taught to respect and value themselves and others. Children whose personal acceptance is never in doubt.

### Preschools (where applicable)

✓ Where applicable

N/A

### Student Retention

✓ Secondary Only

N/A

✓ Proportion of year 9 students retained to year 12

N/A

✓ Median score of year 9 and 10 students doing standardised tests

Please see NAPLAN results. NAPLAN was the only standardised testing undertaken in 2010 for year 9 students.

✓ Academic achievement including median year 12 results and academic and non-academic pathways

N/A

### Policy Development and Review

During 2010 NTCSA engaged a policy development officer to review and develop policies, guidelines and supporting documents for the Association. These documents inform and sit alongside individual school policies.

Policies that were developed and approved by the Board in 2010 are:

- Policy Development Policy
- Unpaid Leave Policy
- Paid Personal and Carer's Leave Policy
- Long Service Leave Policy
- Parental Leave Policy

Policies that were developed largely during 2010 but were approved by the Board in early 2011 are:

- Conflict Resolution Policy
- Students with a Disability Policy
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy

Policies that were developed largely during 2010 but are yet to be finalised are:

- Child Protection Policy
- Mandatory Reporting Policy
- Response to Allegations of Misconduct by Staff Policy
- Bullying and Harassment Prevention Policy
- Recruitment, Selection and Screening of Staff Policy
- Stewardship Policy
- Guidelines for Staff-Student Interaction
- Guidelines for Camps and Excursions

Existing Policies that are currently under review are:

- Policy – Child Safety and Protection
- (draft) Library Policy
- Teaching of Creation Policy
- Appraisal – Teaching and Capacity Building Process
- Fee Billing and Collection Policy
- Smoking and NTCSA Schools Policy
- Camps and Excursions Duty of Care

Current Board Policies are available to all staff via the NTCSA Intranet. At this moment in time NTCSA policies are not made generally available to the public, though after this current process of policy development and review has concluded appropriate policies will be made available more generally. All policies are made available within the community and to the public on request.

## **Parent Involvement**


During 2010 School Council made themselves readily available to speak face to face with parents in both, formal and informal settings. Council reported on a general happy and contented community. Parents, Wider community and students expressed their appreciation of excellence in LCS teachers and Staff. The vast majority of the community

## Financial Summary

Private Income - \$ 394 511  
Recurrent Government Income - \$ 1 043 703  
Capital Grants - \$ 250 000

## School Self Assessment Future Priorities

During 2010, the school undertook to review its performance and set appropriate goals against SIRF (School Improvement & Renewal Framework). In 2011, the school will be responding to 2 areas of SIRF – Christian Identity and Teaching & Learning.

<p>The information in this report has been verified and the priorities endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer of NTCSA</p>	
<hr/> <p>Chief Executive Officer</p>	
<hr/> <p>Date</p>	