

Investigator College

School performance report for 2023



YOUR BEST SELF

Under the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (the Regulation), Subdivision H (60) – ‘Making information publicly available annually’ we are required to report on the following school performance measures:

- (a) contextual information about the school, including characteristics of the students at the school.
- (b) teacher standards and qualifications (as mandated in the State or Territory in which the school is located).
- (c) workforce composition, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander composition.
- (d) student attendance at the school, including: the attendance rates for each year of schooling; **and** a description of how non-attendance is managed by the school.
- (e) student results in NAP annual assessments.
- (f) parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school, including (if applicable) data collected using the National School Opinion Survey.
- (g) school income broken down by funding source.
- (h) for a school that provides secondary education:
 - (i) senior secondary outcomes, including the percentage of year 12 students undertaking vocational training or training in a trade and the percentage of year 12 students attaining a year 12 certificate or equivalent vocational education and training qualification; and
 - (ii) post-school destinations.

Contextual Information about the school, including characteristics of the students at the school

Investigator College is an Independent College located in beautiful Victor Harbor on South Australia’s Fleurieu Peninsula. Investigator College has earned a reputation for academic excellence and outstanding student wellbeing, catering for students from ELC to Year 12. Investigator College exists to provide each student with the opportunity to be their very best self. Growing each year, everything that we do at Investigator College is an investment in wellbeing, community and the future, as we shape happy, confident and well-rounded young adults who are equipped and empowered to make lasting, positive change on the world.

During the 2023 School year, Investigator College emphasised the development of character strengths, resiliency, gratitude, and growth mindsets through its participation in the Positive Education Schools Association (PESA). The College also places a strong emphasis on respect for oneself, others, the environment and animals.

Junior School

From Reception to Year 6, our 2023 curriculum emphasised the development of key skills and the building of core knowledge that drives capability in learning for the future. Beginning with a focus on literacy (reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy (Mathematics) as the cornerstones, offering a full range of specialised subjects to each learner, including Science, History, Geography, Music, the Arts, Health and Physical Education and Japanese.

In 2023 Environmental Science was a focus throughout our Junior School, with all year levels engaging in regular trips to our EcoCentre at Currency Creek, including an immersive program of activity in Year 3 through the Currency Creek Custodians Program.

In 2023 Robotics and Coding was also taught as a specialist subject throughout the Junior School, with both Vex Robotics and OzBots used to facilitate digital literacy and vital skills for harnessing technology as a tool for learning.

Secondary School

During 2023, our Secondary School was split into two sub-schools, Middle School (consisting of students in Years 7 to 9) and Senior School (consisting of students in Years 10 to 12), with a curriculum that provided boundless opportunity for student agency and exploration, within an environment of safety, encouragement and support.

From increased decision-making in core studies through subject choices and electives, to comprehensive co-curricular programs that allowed each learner to broaden their horizons beyond the classroom, the College offered variety and unique learning opportunities for each student in 2023. Students continued to build on the foundation of core knowledge and skills acquired in the Junior Years, while broadening the areas of study to open a diverse range of future pathways.

Throughout 2023, core subjects in Year 7 and 8 were complemented by an extensive array of semester-long Friday afternoon electives, made available through our Investig8 Program. In 2023, Investig8 programs on offer included arts and textiles, camping and outdoor skills, debating/public speaking, electronic music production, lego robotics, media production, mindfulness and personal wellbeing, photography, multicultural and skills based cooking, sailing, creative writing, sustainability, sports science, golf, football, basketball, volleyball, musical theatre, surfing and community service.

In Year 9, as students progressed upward in their learning, the subjects that had to be taken as 'core' lessened, making room in the study load for deeper engagement with specialist subjects. Each learner was able to choose specialist subjects to complete their study load, varying between a semester (two terms) and a full year in length. This allowed students to immerse themselves in diverse subjects and discover their true passions and potential pathways for the future, all within a supportive and engaging learning environment.

This equipped students with the skills of creative and analytical thinking, encouraging them to take bold steps while prioritising their personal wellbeing and interpersonal connections. Our emphasis on these values prepared our students for their Senior Years of schooling and a successful future post school.

In 2023, our Year 9 students also participated in the The Rite Journey program, designed to support students in managing the transition from child to adult, acknowledging and celebrating each individual's shift into adulthood, offering conversations and experiences to guide such a transition, fostering connections with positive adult role models, educating and including parents/carers in the process, connecting students with their strengths and building self-awareness.

Facilitated by teaching staff, in conjunction with experts from The Rite Journey team, the program included time and freedom to discuss and unpack gender-specific issues, as well as opportunities to explore and address the physical, social, psychological, emotional and spiritual changes happening in students' lives in a safe and structured way. The program also aimed to help students understand that individual rights should be balanced by reciprocal responsibilities and service to others.

In 2023, we provided students with the opportunity to pursue the broadest possible range of post-school pathways, offering students the ability to study English, literary studies, general mathematics, mathematical methods, specialist mathematics, agriculture, biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, economics, tourism, geography, legal studies, modern history, design, technology and engineering, digital technologies, physical education, health and wellbeing, visual arts, music, drama, food and hospitality and Japanese.

From the attainment of strong ATAR scores, entry into leading universities and seamless entry into the workforce, our Senior Years subject offerings throughout 2023 provided access to a broad range of graduate pathways. Students worked alongside key members of our teaching staff to set the course for their future.

Teacher standards and qualifications (as mandated in South Australia)

At Investigator College, every teacher is enlisted with the South Australian Teachers Registration Board, which includes mandatory training in Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect - Education and Care training (RRHAN-EC) as part of the registration process. Additionally, all College employees are required to undergo a Working With Children Check, in accordance with the Child Safety Regulations 2019.

Furthermore, the College has a comprehensive training regimen for all staff, which includes a robust Child Safe Program requiring all employees to complete specialised Child Safe training. The regime also includes a three-year cyclical program of online RRHAN training and in-house first aid training. These programs are required to be completed for all teaching and non-teaching staff.

Below is a table which outlines the qualifications of the staff that were employed at the College during the 2023 school year. Some staff have multiple qualifications.

Teaching/ Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Early Childhood Education • Bachelor of Education • Bachelor of Teaching • Bachelor of Special Education 	31
Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Environmental Management • Bachelor of Environmental, Park Management and Biodiversity • Bachelor of Natural Resource Management • Bachelor of Science (Environmental) 	4
Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Health Science • Bachelor of Applied Science • Bachelor of Science • Bachelor of Science (Honours) • Bachelor of Science and Education 	9
Music <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Music • Bachelor of Music Education 	2
Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of Arts • Bachelor of Arts (Honours) • Bachelor of Visual Arts 	6
Bachelor of Commerce	2
Other Qualifications including Certificate and Diploma	20
Masters	6
Post Graduate Diploma	1

Workforce composition, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander composition

In 2023, the College did not have any staff who were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander employed at the College.

Student attendance at the school - attendance rates for each year of schooling

2023 student attendance data is outlined below:

Prep	93.05%	Year 6	88.30%
Reception	87.68%	Year 7	88.28%
Year 1	90.51%	Year 8	86.90%
Year 2	91.40%	Year 9	87.47%
Year 3	91.35%	Year 10	84.87%
Year 4	90.01%	Year 11	85.88%
Year 5	90.97%	Year 12	86.54%

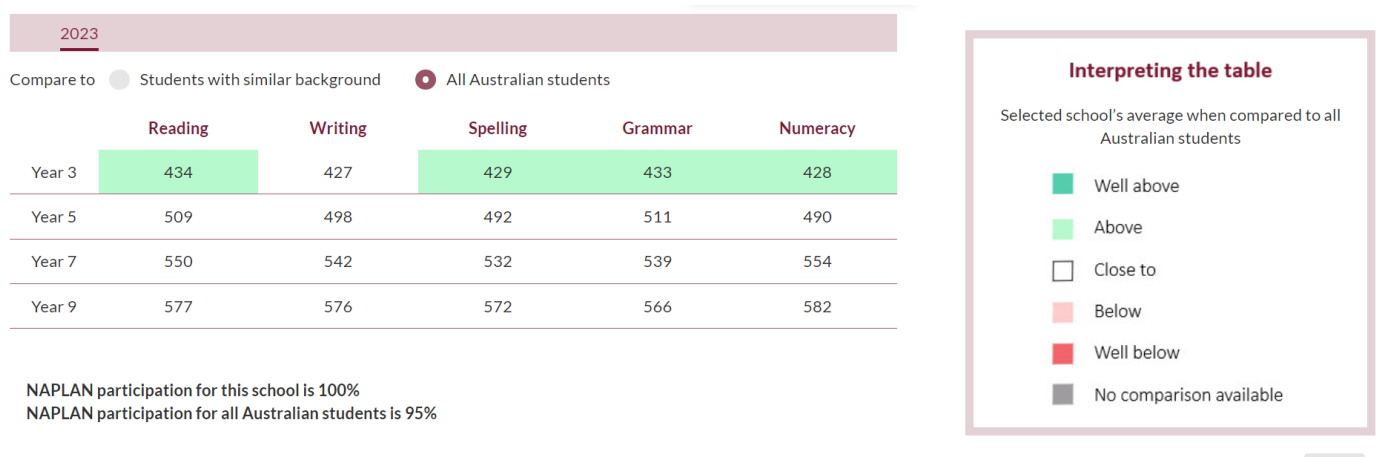
Student attendance at the school – how non-attendance is managed by the school

At Investigator College, we strongly believe in the collaboration between parents/caregivers and the College to ensure that our students are given the best possible learning opportunities to build a strong foundation for their future. Regular attendance at school plays a vital role in maximising the benefits of education. Hence, we consider it a shared responsibility of parents/caregivers, students, and the College to ensure that students attend school regularly and participate in approved learning programs.

As a legal requirement, the College ensures that all enrolled students attend school or participate in an approved learning program and maintain the appropriate attendance records. To support this, we have a comprehensive Student Attendance Policy that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Principal, school staff, students, and parents/ caregivers in maintaining attendance records and ensuring student attendance and participation in approved learning programs.

Student results in NAP annual assessments

The following table provides an overview of our 2023 NAPLAN results:

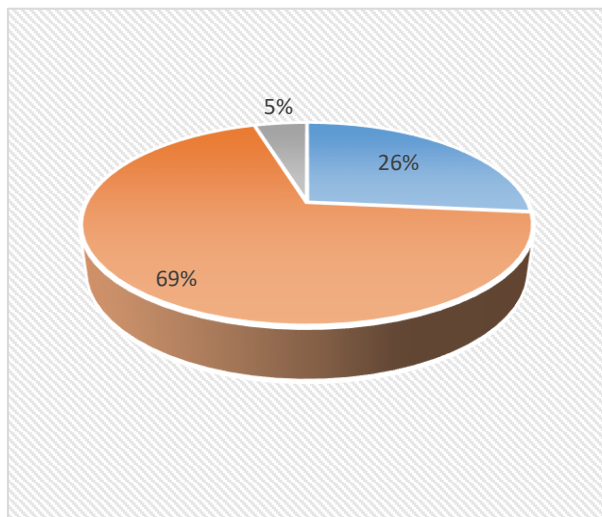


Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Investigator College is committed to upholding positive relationships among students, staff, and parents, and considers it a responsibility to do so. To this end, the College strives for a culture that promotes open communication and active feedback between students and staff, with the goal of promptly and constructively addressing any concerns that arise.

The College values feedback from all stakeholders and provides multiple avenues for gathering it, both formally and informally. In addition to direct feedback to staff, Investigator College also welcomes anonymous feedback through channels such as feedback boxes and surveys.

School income broken down by funding source



2023 Operating Income

Government Grants 69%

Tuition Fees 26%

Other 5%

2023 Senior secondary outcomes

In the 2023 school year, over one-third of our Graduating Year 12 cohort received an ATAR above 80. The highest ATAR achieved was 98.80%. 31% of ATAR-eligible students achieved an Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank (ATAR) of 80 or above and 15% achieved an ATAR greater than 75.

To complement student success in ATAR results, Investigator College also celebrated another highly successful year in Vocational Education and Training (VET), conferring 27 certificates and diplomas in horticulture, land care and ecosystem management through practical courses at its Currency Creek EcoCentre, and a further 25 vocational qualifications through on-campus VET programs in 2023.

Investigator College: 2023 Year 12 Results – Summary

- Dux – Willem Dunkley, ATAR of 98.80.
- Runner-Up Dux – Elliot Shine
- 30% of ATAR-eligible students achieved an ATAR of 80 or above.
- 46% of ATAR-eligible students achieved an ATAR of 75 or above.
- 74% of all Year 12 grades in A or B band.
- 98% SACE Completion.
- 52 VET Certificate or Diploma-level qualifications were completed and conferred.

INVESTIGATOR COLLEGE
June 2024