



Singleton Christian College

Annual Report 2011

Positive by Choice

The following report is prepared according to the College's Annual Reporting policy and the NSW Government's Education Act. It provides general information to the community about the Colleges performance in Academic and Financial terms. More specific information can be obtained by contacting the College directly.

About Singleton Christian College

Singleton Christian College is located on the New England Highway on the southern boundary of Singleton. Singleton is a town of just over 20,000 people in the heart of the Hunter Valley of NSW. The main industry in the district is mining, with coal mines close by which support many of the families within the College community. The Lone Pine Army Base is also located nearby.

Singleton Christian College is a Christian Schools Australia school offering Christian education from Pre-Kindergarten through to Year 12. The vision of the college is to see young people who are equipped spiritually, socially, academically and physically, fulfilling their God-given purpose and being a positive influence on the world in which they live.

The Primary school section of the College began in 1988 while the Secondary section started in 2004 progressing through to its first Year 12 class in 2009.

Transition to school is supported by the Pre-Kindergarten program, providing two days a week of schooling in the year prior to normal school entry. Throughout their primary years, students develop their Literacy and Numeracy skills, while also exploring a range of other subjects and developing gross motor and fine motor skills. In Years 7 to 10 students prepare for the School Certificate with the usual mandatory subjects as well as electives in Years 9 and 10. English and Maths are studied in the traditional pattern over Years 11 and 12, while two elective subjects each year are focussed so that both the Preliminary and HSC courses are completed in the one year. This allows for a much less stressful approach to the HSC.

This report contains information about the progress of the College throughout 2011. It also contains a summary of some of the College policies.

Parents and Friends Association Report

The purpose of the Parents & Friends Association of the College is to give the opportunity to all parents to provide a positive contribution to the education of the students. This is achieved through a variety of means including social events, communication about education issues and fundraising.

In 2011 Singleton Christian College the Parents and Friends Association provided morning teas for the parents. A 'Learning Ladder' presentation resulted in enough sales to receive a few books that were donated to the Library. These morning teas provided a focal point for fellowship for parents and also a good place for new families to get to know the rest of the College community.

In May and September, the P&F conducted Mothers Day and Fathers Day stalls as a service to the primary students to buy presents for their parents. The money from these stalls was used to support various College initiatives, including a cash donation for an Award on Presentation Day, two lockable noticeboards to display information and student work and the Father's Day Breakfast.

From Term 2, the P&F conducted a Fruit and Vegetable fundraiser, providing healthy, reasonably priced fruit and vegetables for the College families each week. An Easter Hot

Cross Bun fundraiser was also carried out earning enough profit to allow the P&F to provide the College with their Fun Run and Athletics Carnival Sausage Sizzle requirements.

The P&F also provide the College with a brand new Singleton Christian College branded Marque worth \$2000 thanks to a cash donation from Coal & Allied.

Student Council Report

The Student Council worked well together in 2011 to raise money and also to participate in the development of the College.

Again in 2011, the student leaders from the three high schools in Singleton joined forces to assist in preparations for the Singleton Professions Forum. This gave an opportunity for our senior students to work with students from the other two high schools. It also allowed them to meet representatives from various professions and find out more about what they do in their professions. This also gave us, as student leaders, an opportunity to engage in hands on event management. The leaders from our College also attended a "Leadership Day" at Government House in Sydney.

Being a small school there are many opportunities for students to be involved in representing the school at sporting and cultural events. This has helped to develop a strong sense of community amongst the students. A great example of this was the very successful sausage sizzle and games afternoon organised by the Student Representative Council to raise money for the annual sponsorship of the College's Compassion child.

Our Student Representatives have very ably chaired several College functions and commemoration services during the year.

Professional Teaching

Singleton Christian College in 2011 employed 11 full time and 5 part time staff in teaching or teacher aide roles. The College regards very highly the level of training and qualification of its staff and teachers are appropriately trained in accordance with NSW government requirements.

Summary of Teacher Standard	No. Teachers
(i) Having teacher education qualifications from a higher education institute within Australia or as recognised with the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines	13
(ii) Having a bachelor degree from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lacking formal teacher education qualifications	0
(iii) Not having qualifications as described in (i) or (ii) but having relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate knowledge relevant to the teaching context. Such teachers must have been employed to 'teach' in NSW before October 2004 (either on a permanent, casual or temporary basis), and as a 'teacher' during the last five (5) years in a permanent, casual or temporary capacity.	0

Staff attended various in school and off campus training throughout 2011.

All Primary staff (Years 3-6 x 5 teachers) were trained through the National Partnerships Government Initiative in "Reading to Learn"

Staff attended various Professional Development days specifically targeted to their Key Learning Area. All staff (13 teachers) attended one day at the THACCCSA (Taree, Hunter and Central Coast Christian Schools Australia) Annual Conference and Training Seminar. This conference focused on Spiritual Development and Curriculum. At this conference specific workshops were attended by staff according to their area of teaching whether it be related to the Stage they were teaching or the KLAs of English, Maths, Science, HSIE, PHDPE, Technology and Applied Studies, Creative Arts and Language.

All Staff attended one day at the University of Newcastle for their annual "Quality Teaching" Teachers Day, participating in various workshops related to the Australian Curriculum as well as Pedagogy and Strategies for teaching specific gender.

All staff attended one week of Professional Development throughout the July break. The focus of each day included Student Welfare, Whole School Literacy Approach, Reporting and Assessment review of current policies, Positive Behaviour Management and Pastoral Care and Differentiating the Curriculum. These days were facilitated by consultants from AIS.

Two staff were trained in “Seasons For Growth” and this programme was implemented in both the Primary and High School in 2011.

Staff also attended a number of PD opportunities pertaining to their individual KLA or grade taught, throughout the year including:

- Special Education with AIS -2 days-(1teacher)
- Jolly Phonics training-1 day (2 teachers)
- Minilit training - 2 days (2 teachers)
- New scheme teacher attended AIS accredited course for beginning teachers- 3 days-(1 teacher)

The retention rate for staff from 2010 into 2011 was 73%. Replacement teachers were employed as a result of timetabling & elective choices. The total number of days teachers were away was 77.5 which takes into account both sick days and leave without pay taken by teachers throughout the year. This is an average of 1.6 days per week in total which translates to an attendance rate of 97.4%.

Student Enrolments

Singleton Christian College is committed to enrolling students whose parents seek a Christian Education and who are supportive of the College's ethos and Statement of Faith. The full enrolment policy can be found at the end of this document.

Overall College enrolments submitted at the August census date in 2011 totalled 148 students (96 primary students and 52 high school students). The student population represents the full range of academic ability and during 2011 there were no Full Fee Paying Overseas Students.

81% of students enrolled at Singleton Christian College resided in the Singleton Postcode area (2330). Most of the remaining 19% of students came from the Greta and Branxton areas.

The average number of students absent per day was 7.23, which represents an attendance rate of 90.51%. Parents are asked to inform the College of the reasons for absences. If a note is not received then the College posts out a list of the absences and provides a form for parents to detail the absence reasons and return it with the students to school.

Table 1. gives details of the enrolments for each cohort.

Table 1. Attendance Rates for Each Cohort, 2011

Year Group	Attendance Rate	Year Group	Attendance Rate
Kindergarten	91.07%	Year 7	90.62%
Year 1	91.67%	Year 8	85.16%
Year 2	94.15%	Year 9	86.23%
Year 3	92.27%	Year 10	89.95%
Year 4	93.11%	Year 11	92.75%
Year 5	93.54%	Year 12	87.69%
Year 6	88.44%		

College Performance in State-Wide Tests and Examinations

Naplan

The NAPLAN Tests were conducted in May of 2011 and a summary of the results is outlined in the table below. A detailed analysis of the results of the State-Wide Tests and Examinations was conducted.

Year 3 NAPLAN Tests- 12 students sat for all Literacy and Numeracy Tests

Year 5 NAPLAN Tests- 16 students sat for all Literacy and Numeracy Tests

Year 7 NAPLAN Tests- 12 students sat for the Literacy Tests and 11 students sat for the Numeracy Tests.

Year 9 NAPLAN Tests-6 students sat for the Literacy Tests and 5 students sat for the Numeracy Tests.

Reading 2011

Year	Average Score (School)	Average School (National)	% above National Minimum Standard
Year 3 2011	366	416	92
Year 5 2011	501	488	81
Year 7 2011	524	540	75
Year 9 2011	527	580	33

Writing 2011

Year	Average Score (School)	Average School (National)	% above National Minimum Standard
Year 3 2011	358	416	67
Year 5 2011	479	483	88
Year 7 2011	468	529	38
Year 9 2011	518	566	17

Spelling 2011

Year	Average Score (School)	Average School (National)	% above National Minimum Standard
Year 3 2011	335	406	58
Year 5 2011	487	484	88
Year 7 2011	504	538	67
Year 9 2011	546	581	50

Grammar and Punctuation 2011

Year	Average Score (School)	Average School (National)	% above National Minimum Standard
Year 3 2011	362	421	67
Year 5 2011	492	499	81
Year 7 2011	523	532	83
Year 9 2011	557	572	67

Numeracy 2011

Year	Average Score (School)	Average School (National)	% above National Minimum Standard
Year 3 2011	410	398	92
Year 5 2011	477	488	88
Year 7 2011	530	545	82
Year 9 2011	514	583	20

School Certificate Tests

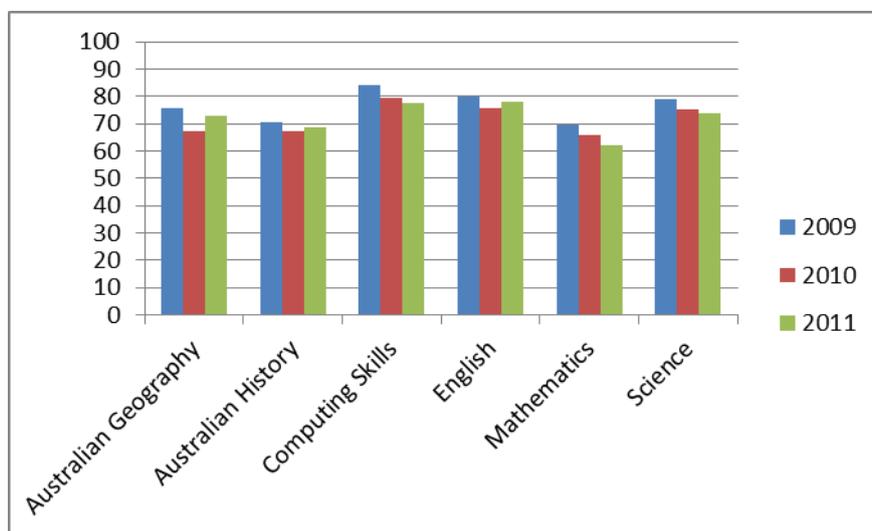
The College's Year 10 class of 9 students achieved pleasing results in their School Certificate exams which were held in November, 2011. Table 6 shows the College average for each subject in comparison with the state average.

Table 6. School Certificate Average Marks for Year 10, Singleton Christian College, 2011 in Comparison to the NSW State Averages

Subject	SCC	State
Australian Geography	72.78	72.15
Australian History	68.89	72.42
Computing Skills	77.67	79.20
English - literacy	77.89	77.34
Mathematics	62.00	70.88
Science	73.67	75.44

A comparison of the School Certificate results from 2009 to 2011 are recorded in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Comparison of Singleton Christian College School Certificate Results, 2009 to 2011



Higher School Certificate Tests

There were 4 students in our Year 12 cohort who completed their HSC in 2011. Courses were completed through Distance Education offered by Camden Haven High School and Northern Beaches Christian School as well as at Singleton Christian College. Some subjects were achieved in the traditional Stage 6 format while some were undertaken as compressed or focussed subjects. The students studied a wide variety of courses including: English Advanced, General Mathematics, Mathematics, Design & Technology, Modern History, Ancient History, Biology, Economics and Hospitality. Many of the classes had minimal students and for reasons of privacy it is not appropriate to divulge their class averages. All of the students received their Higher School Certificate.

Progress Towards Improvement Targets Identified for 2011

- To continue to reach into the Singleton community through more involvement by our Creative Arts students in community events and outreaches

The College was actively involved in the community throughout 2011, with the Whole School (K-12) staging a showcase of Creative Arts talent. The day involved class groups, small groups and individuals showcasing their performing arts talent as well as a display of visual arts talent from every student in the school for parents, friends and the extended community to enjoy. Invitees included local aged care units, local Pre-schools and Day care centres.

The College Infants Choir participated in the annual Muswellbrook Eisteddfod involving all schools from the Upper Hunter Region.

The College Primary Choir participated in the 2011 "Festival of Gifts" involving Christian Schools in the THACCCSA Region.

Students from K-6 visited aged nursing homes in the local area to entertain them with their performing arts talents.

The College also actively participated in the Red Shield Door Knock Appeal, raising money within the community.

The high school students participated in Law Week and Drug Action Week presentations at Singleton Public Library.

- To improve Literacy levels K-12 and support Literacy through Reading To Learn and MULTILIT

The College has actively contributed to the improvement of Literacy throughout K-12, through the National Partnerships; with also further improvements to the College's literacy approach across curricula including breakfast meetings held monthly in house to discuss and share information related to the improvement of Whole School Literacy Approach as well as Literacy homework tasks set fortnightly for Years 7-10 in all KLA'S.

The Reading to Learn approach to Literacy was implemented in all primary classes 3-6. MULTILIT was provided by a trained teachers aide to support those students who achieved at or below the minimum standard in the NAPLAN reading test. This programme has had outstanding results in assisting targeted students. AIS have given continual support through training and observation, team teaching and peer modelling and sharing. AIS provided the school with a consultant who regularly visited teachers to support the implementation of Reading to Learn and MULTILIT and ensure its continued implementation.

- To provide Library and Administrative Support to teachers K-12

The college employed a teachers aide to work in the school library five days a week, helping students to borrow appropriate age/reading level books, organising reading promotion initiatives, accessing and covering resources bought with funding from National Partnerships, organising lunchtime activities to promote reading, organising visiting authors to the school and outside visits by the students to participate in local community activities at the Town Library. This person has also supported teachers through help in preparation of lessons through photocopying and binding books as well as sourcing books for particular topics being taught.

- Target and implement extension programme.

The primary coordinator worked with the teachers aide to write an extension programme for targeted students K-2 based on the Blooms/Gardeners Theory. This programme ran for 10 weeks in Term 3 and gave students with varying gifts and talents the opportunity to express and extend their thinking and creativity in a small group situation outside the classroom setting.

- Implement a Seasons For Growth group in the primary and secondary.

Two teachers were trained in the Seasons for Growth Programme and in Term three two groups were involved in the programme.

One group from infants and one from secondary, the programme was set up to help children better deal with loss and grief. (12 children)

Singleton Family Support facilitated the programme with the two trained teachers.

Singleton Family Support sponsored by Singleton Lions Club gave financial and personnel support to the programme. The programme ran for ten weeks.

College Identified Improvement Targets for 2012

- To continue to implement a K-10 Literacy approach to teaching in all Key Learning Areas.
- To continue to support Literacy through the Reading to Learn programme in the upper primary grades.
- To continue to implement MULTILIT with those targeted students who fell at or below minimum standard in NAPLAN as well as other students considered “at risk” in the Year 3-6 cohort.
- To implement Minilit with identified Year One and Two students who are performing below their stage level in Reading.
- To improve classroom pedagogy and raise Numeracy standards in the college through intensive PD with AIS Numeracy consultant.
- To assist teachers in the classroom through Learning Support for those targeted students Years 3-10 who have been identified as performing at one or more stages below their current stage in Literacy and Numeracy and for whom AIS funding has been provided.
- To assist students identified with Special Needs, through discussion and consultation between the Learning Support Team and class teacher. The Learning Support Team will provide support for these students through regular interaction to ensure their engagement in all daily school activities.
- To continue to reach into and support the local community through participation in Council Educational Initiatives, Rio Tinto Coal and Allied Mining Educational Initiatives, local Inter School Sporting events, Community Service to Aged Care and Day Care facilities, Musical performances in the local community eg hospitals and nursing homes.
- To present a ‘Creative Arts Showcase’ K-10 of all students work across each Key Learning Area for the school and the wider community to view.
- To implement a ‘Season’s for Growth’ group to assist children in the understanding and response to grief and loss.
- To continue to improve student behaviour across primary and high school classes so that greater focus on classwork may be achieved.

Enrolment Policy

Rationale

Singleton Christian College seeks to work under Biblical principles in partnership with the home to support and extend the training given by parents.

Aims

Enrolment is available to:

- Children of parents seeking to provide an education for their children consistent with the Christian Vision and the Mission Statement of the College and in harmony with the Christian values of the home.
- Children from Christian and non-Christian families with their acceptance of the conditions of enrolment.
- Children who will have turned five years of age on or before 31st July in the year they commence Kindergarten.

All enrolments are at the discretion of the College Directors after consideration of current College situation.

Conditions Of Enrolment

Enrolment at the College is subject to the following terms and conditions:

- That the parents will agree to allow the child to share fully in the life and program of the College, including the devotional activities and doctrinal lessons.
- That the parents will support the Rationale, Statement of Faith (What We Believe), Vision and Mission Statement of the College and order their own lives and home so that the child will be given every opportunity to grow up into Christ.
- That parents undertake to provide the child with all the necessary textbooks and other equipment of a personal nature that may be required to enable the child to benefit from the education offered.
- That the parents undertake to provide the child with the correct uniform approved by the College, and to ensure that the child is always sent to College neatly and modestly dressed in the required uniform.
- That all fees are paid within 2 weeks of the commencement of each term. (Note. In cases where this requirement would cause hardship alternate arrangements may be discussed with the Financial Administrator)
- That the parents will give at least one term's notice of termination of enrolment and failure to do so may render them liable for one term's fees.
- That the College may suspend or terminate enrolment at its discretion for failure to comply with these conditions or other serious breaches of the College's rules and regulations.
- That the parents accept the right of the College to employ such discipline as it deems wise and expedient for the child. In doing so, the parents agree to uphold in every

way possible the College authority and right to administer appropriate discipline in accordance with the policies of the College. Due to the provisions of the Education Reform Amendment (School Discipline) Act 1995, corporal punishment is not to be used in this College as part of its Discipline and/or Pastoral Care Policy.

- By completing these forms, you are giving permission for Singleton Christian College to use all available information in accordance with our Privacy Policy.

Applications

A formal application from the parents is submitted to the College and should include:-

- **Completed Application forms**
- **2 recent school reports (for Year 1 and above)**
- **Up to date immunisation records (years K-6)**
- **Copy of birth certificate**

When the College receives all of the above requirements, the applicant will be contacted for an interview.

Complaints and Grievances Policy

Communication in the College serves the purpose of passing on various types of information such as instructions, advice, answers to questions, opinions, etc. Good communication benefits both the person directly involved and the College community in general. The Complaints and Grievances Policy lists procedures for those in the College community to inform the College about any issues that may be bothering them, while still maintaining positive communication. This policy was reviewed in 2011 and amendments were made. The full text of the Complaints and Grievances Policy is available from the College office during normal office hours.

Student Discipline Policy

The College Discipline Policy gives an outline of procedures and methods used in the disciplining of behaviour and actions that are considered inappropriate for students at the College. This policy was reviewed in 2011 and amendments were made. The full text is available from the College during normal College office hours.

Due to the provisions of the **Education Reform Amendment (College Discipline) Act 1995**, corporal punishment is not to be used in this College as part of its Discipline Policy. Nor does the College implicitly or explicitly sanction the use of corporal punishment on its behalf.

Student Welfare Policy

Student welfare is a strong and vital aspect of Singleton Christian College and pastoral care is infused in all teacher/student interactions. The Student Welfare Policy is available in full from the College office during normal office hours.

Respect and Responsibility

The College actively promotes the “Values for Australian Schooling” and encourages students and staff to apply them throughout interactions between persons in the College with the aim of promoting respect and responsibility.

Biblical Perspective

“Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honour your father and mother- which is the first commandment with a promise-that it may go well with you and you may enjoy long life on the earth. Fathers do not exasperate your children; instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” Ephesians 6:1-4

Aims

- Building up Godly values in the lives of all the children
- To accept children as valuable in themselves and to give them a sense of acceptance
- To be aware that discipline is for the benefit of the child
- To administer discipline in love
- To use discipline as a means of building up a child in order to develop their character positively
- To display forgiveness and love as a motivation of discipline
- To teach self discipline and responsibility for their own behaviour and actions
- To promote honesty, truthfulness and Christ-like character within the College

Code of Conduct

RESPECT GOD

In all you do seek to honour and obey God.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.

Matthew 22:34-49

RESPECT THE STAFF

Follow their instructions, address them politely and seek their help in learning.

Remind your people to submit to authorities, to obey them and be ready to do good in every way.

Titus 3:1

RESPECT YOUR FELLOW PUPILS

Be helpful whenever you can. Don't cause fights and don't do anything that might cause injury. Seek to build up and encourage each other.

Therefore encourage one another and build one another; just as you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

RESPECT THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS

Don't steal or damage anything and be sure to hand in lost property.

You shall not steal.

Exodus 20:15

RESPECT THE TRUTH

Be honest in all situations and never make up lies about others.

Rid yourselves, of all evil; no more lying or hypocrisy or jealousy or insulting language.

1 Peter 2:1

LEARN ALL YOU CAN

Make up your mind to pay attention to your work, join in College activities and develop your skills during your College years.

Pay attention to your teacher and learn all you can.

Proverbs 23:12

LOOK AFTER THE COLLEGE

Take care of the College buildings, furniture and grounds. Keep everything clean and tidy.

EARN THE COLLEGE A GOOD NAME

Dress properly, behave well, respect visitors, do your best in all College activities.

BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME, WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT

Never miss College or any lesson without proper permission and always be in the correct place at the correct time. Always bring the right equipment to each lesson.

HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDE

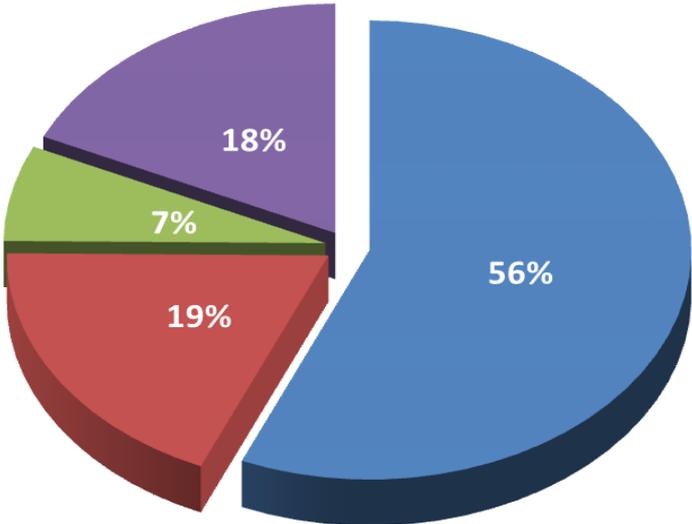
In all you do be gracious and loving, showing Christian qualities.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:5

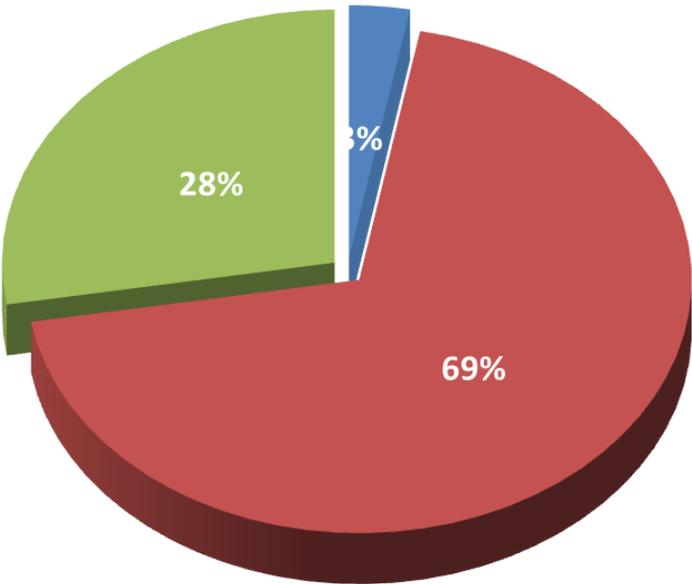
Summary of Financial Information

Income



- Cwth Recurrent Grants
- State Recurrent Grants
- Govt Capital Grants
- Fees & Private income

Expenses



- Capital Expenditure
- Salaries Allowances & Related expenses
- Non Salaries Expenses