



Gulf Christian College Ltd

A.C.N. 099 043 384

Gulf Christian College Report Card 2024

(January to September)

SECTION A: DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Summarised Information

School sector:	Independent
College address:	Brown Street, Normanton, 4890
Postal address:	PO Box 210, Normanton QLD 4890
Phone:	07 4745 1180
Website:	www.gulfcc.qld.edu.au
Total enrolments:	As at August 2023 a total of 71 students.
Year levels offered:	Prep to Year 9
Co-educational or single sex:	Co-educational

INTRODUCTION

The information included in this report card is intended to be of interest to parents and the community so that they can make informed choices about schools. It is designed to provide an insight into the school's culture, values and emphasis and give an indication of how the school is performing in academic and extra curricula activities. Gulf Christian College has a strong association with Nambour Christian College which is located on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland.

LOCATION & DETAILS

Gulf Christian College is a co-educational school located in the Gulf Country region of northern Queensland, Australia, just south of the Gulf of Carpentaria, on the Norman River.

CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENT BODY

The College has continued to focus on ensuring that there is a majority Indigenous student cohort within its community, to align with our Constitutional objectives. Enrolment trends in the College have reduced since Nov 2022, due to some families and staff relocating out of



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town. Enrolments noted in our Commonwealth Census in 2023 were 71 students.
Enrolments as at 16/10/2023 are 76 students.

At Commonwealth Census - Enrolments for 2023 were 71 students from Prep to Year 9

Female – 33 students

Male – 38 students

Prep & Year 1 – 11 students

Year 2 to Year 3 – 14 students

Year 4 to Year 5 – 16 students

Year 6 – 6 students

Year 7 to Year 9 – 24 students

Indigenous Percentage – 78.9%

RELIGION & AFFILIATIONS

Gulf Christian College is an independent inter-denominational Christian school. The College holds memberships with Associated Christian Schools (ACS) and Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ).

DISTINCTIVE CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

Gulf Christian College has continued to advance its mission to be recognized as a Christian College where opportunities are created for students through quality education, founded on Christian values and cultural heritage in partnership with staff, parents and the community.

Gulf Christian College provides a balanced curriculum based on the current Australian curriculum subjects. The curriculum is developed around multi-media learning. Students in Prep to Year 9 participate in English, Mathematics, Science and History studies as core subjects. They are also taught Physical Education, The Arts, Information Technology and Media. The Indigenous Language Program was introduced to the College for 2020/2021, being taught from Prep to Year 2.

Middle School students in Years 7 to 9 are provided with opportunities to participate in rotational subjects, including Manual Arts and Food Technology and Design. Students in Year 7 to 9 also are provided the opportunity to participate in a boarding preparation and transition program called 'Beyond Horizons', which includes travel to and lesson integration in a large school community for 2 weeks each year. Unique to our College is the opportunity for students to participate in cultural studies from local Indigenous people.



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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We continue to develop extra-curricular activities. Listed below are current programs.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Years 7, 8 and 9 travelled to Peace Lutheran College in Cairns as a part of the Beyond Horizons Program. Each program runs for two weeks, with 2 trips per year offered to Middle School students. The purpose of the program is for students to join the curriculum program and extra-curricular boarding program provided there. This offers them a boarding experience in preparation for their future senior schooling options.

As well as being part of a large College, this also provides them with involvement in a broader community, enabling them to participate in excursions, outdoor education and other weekend activities in the Cairns region.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

The Gulf Christian College is committed to being involved in the Community. The College participates in many local community events, including:

- 1. Normanton Rodeo and Float Competition*
- 2. Normanton Annual Rodeo and Show*
- 3. ANZAC Day March and Ceremony*
- 4. Kickstart Program (overseen by Bynoe)*
- 5. Hosting school teams visiting the local community to assist with youth development and Christian influence. Teams: Nambour Christian College Year 9 Students (next year will see the return of students from Tyndale Christian School, Adelaide)*
- 6. NAIDOC week activities*
- 7. Carpentaria Kindergarten visits*
- 8. Remembrance Day Celebrations*
- 9. Seniors Luncheon*
- 10. Clean Up Australia Day*
- 11. Bookfairs*
- 12. CDP Jobs program*
- 13. Day for Daniel*
- 14. Go Gulf Program*
- 15. JCU Occupational Therapy students*
- 16. Topology – music and song writing organisation*

The College is committed to being involved in any and all community events where possible. This has resulted in the positive reputation of the College within the community.



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CHAPEL

Weekly chapel services continue to be presented regularly by all class groups and facilitated by the College Chaplain. These were held in the new Cultural Centre at the College, with parents, family members and local community groups attending. Classes are given the opportunity to lead the chapel service once each term.

LEARNING ENRICHMENT

As part of the Learning Enrichment Program within the College, there are a number of initiatives provided to enhance the learning of our students.

- Assessments from external consultants seek to evaluate the learning difficulties of students to provide opportunities to encourage understanding.*
- PAT testing to focus on Mathematics*
- Development of a tracking and recording mechanism for students who are not verified as having an impairment but display other learning and social needs*
- Various technology used by students to assist in their learning, as required*
- Designated Learning Enrichment Centre, designed with withdrawal and quiet areas, sensory areas, small group areas supported by specialist staff.*

NAIDOC WEEK

The theme of NAIDOC week this year was "For Our Elders". Held to increase the awareness and significance of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, students participated in cultural and art activities. Celebrations and activities were held at the College during Week 1 of Term 3, 2023, culminating in a traditional Kup Murri meal, attended and supported by local Indigenous Elders from the community.

SPORT

Opportunities are provided for the Gulf Christian College students to participate in a variety of sports throughout the school year. These sports included NRL, Athletics, Cross country, Swimming, Hockey, Touch Football, Auskick, Rugby, Basketball and other sports when available.

All students participated in swimming lessons during Terms 1 and 4 which will finish with the culmination of the Swimming Carnival on Friday 10 November.

Sporting House Teams of Andy (Gold) and Sorohan (Green) competed in the Interhouse Athletics Carnival, Cross-Country, and soon to be Swimming carnival during 2023.

The GCC Mountain Bike Club commenced, with a high level of participation from both Primary and Middle School students.



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The Karumba Festival of Sport (Basketball and Hockey) allowed students to participate in both junior and senior teams and they achieved well. Our senior team came 1st in Basketball and 2nd in Hockey. Our junior team achieved 3rd place in both Hockey and Basketball. One of our senior students was awarded Player of the Tournament in Hockey and one of our junior students was awarded Most Valuable Finals Player in Basketball. Congratulations students !

A Regional sporting program was continued, with participation in the North West Region.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Bynoe Community Advancement Cooperative Society operates the Kickstart Program at our Fred Edwards Sports Centre. This program provides breakfast, as well as physical activity for students before they start the school day. This is open to all children of school age who live in Normanton, and helps to build relationships and community, while meeting the physical needs of these students.

The College seeks to develop ideas and cultural programs for Middle School students with Indigenous elders and Rangers at Delta Downs.

Other organisations we partnership with include Local Advisory Group on language teaching, Carpentaria Shire Council, Normanton Christian Fellowship, Deadly Choices Team, Carpentaria Land and Sea Rangers, Normanton Stingers Rugby League Club, North & West Remote Health, Gidgee Healing Team, Gulf Schools Management Group, James Cook University OT Department/students, Normanton State School and Calvary Christian College (Townsville).

SOCIAL CLIMATE OF OUR SCHOOL

The College has policies for the protection and welfare of students including Child Protection and Bullying Policies. Engagement with local organisations, Family and Community Engagement Team, Save the Children, North and West Remote Health, Centrecare and Normanton Police continue to engage the community in the life of the College. A Breakfast and Lunch Program is offered by the College to ensure students have the energy to maintain their focus on school activities throughout the day.

Personal Development workshops are organised for Middle School students including specialist input from Allied Health services.

The pastoral care program is refined through the implementation of personal development groups and the engagement of a College Chaplain.

The College provides directed training and support to staff in a program called Real Schools



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“Building a Restorative School Community” where staff, students and families work in partnership to provide a holistic approach for our students in all aspects of their schooling journey.

The Aboriginal Insights Program (an Aboriginal Awareness Program) was implemented for all staff to provide education around how to support the unique cultural environment in Normanton, being a predominantly Indigenous community.

An Employee Assistance Service is offered to all our College staff and includes their immediate families being provided access. We encourage staff to make use of this service and is providing highly affective.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Opportunities exist for parents to become involved at Gulf Christian College. When possible, a number of parents attended the cultural days throughout the year, and many attend the weekly Chapel services as well as other events that are part of the College program. We have a relatively new group that has commenced, the GCC C.A.F.E. meeting (Cultural Advisory and Family Engagement). This group is also utilized as focus groups for specific projects.

PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

Regular opportunities are provided to the parents and staff to meet with the Principal and Management representatives of Gulf Christian College.

From time-to-time parents are contacted to assist with upcoming events and these opportunities are used to gauge parent satisfaction with the College.

CONTACT PERSON FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the College and its policies please contact:

Mrs Helen Potter
Campus Operations Manager
Ph 07 5451 3333; Email business@gulfcc.qld.edu.au

SCHOOL INCOME BY FUNDING SOURCE

For details of College income by funding source, please refer to the Gulf Christian College page on the My School website, accessible by [clicking here](#).



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SECTION B STAFFING INFORMATION

STAFF COMPOSITION - 2023

Teaching Staff – 7 (FTE 7)

Non-teaching Staff – 7 (FTE 6.5)

Indigenous Staff component – 5 (FTE 4.1)

QUALIFICATIONS OF ALL TEACHERS – data in this staffing section not finalised

The qualifications of our teachers are summarised in the table below:

Qualification	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at GCC
<i>Bachelor Degree</i>	<i>100%</i>

EXPENDITURE ON AND TEACHER PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during the year was 100%.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

Curriculum programs training

Learning Enrichment, NCCD & student support webinars

Partnering with Cultural Awareness and School Community organisations

Partnering with Real Schools Program

Workplace Relations

Health and Safety training

Financial functions including debt recovery and payroll training

AVERAGE STAFF ATTENDANCE FOR THE SCHOOL, BASED ON UNPLANNED ABSENCES OF SICK AND EMERGENCY LEAVE PERIODS OF UP TO 5 DAYS

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate from 01/01/2023 to 13/10/2023 was 91%.

PROPORTION OF TEACHING STAFF RETAINED FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

From the end of 2022, an increase from 35% to 42% of staff was retained for the 2023 school year (as at Oct 2023).



SECTION C: KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES

AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE

The overall attendance rate as a percentage as at Semester 1, 2023 was 77.1%, slightly lower than the attendance rate in 2022.

AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE FOR EACH YEAR LEVEL

Year Level	Average attendance rate for each year level as a percentage in Sem 1, 2023
Prep	77.8%
1	73.8%
2	83.2%
3	74.1%
4	80.2%
5	78.4%
6	83.2%
7	83.5%
8	67.9%
9	70.9%

MANAGEMENT OF NON-ATTENDANCE

The issue of non-attendance is managed in a number of ways. Firstly, the College operates a bus which collects students in the morning. When class commences the rolls are marked and those not present are followed up by the Cultural Support Teacher/ Chaplain using various means. An attempt is made to locate the student to ascertain the reason for non-attendance, or visits are made to the family home to discuss with parents the possibilities to assist future attendance.

Student attendance is important in providing new knowledge, learning and socialization for our students, and is therefore seen as imperative to positive student outcomes. FaCE (Family and Community Engagement) provides support to the family and students of the College who may find school attendance difficult. It has been developed by the Australian Government as part of the parental engagement project to strengthen family and community engagement in student learning and the life of the school.



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NAPLAN RESULTS FOR YEARS 3, 5, 7 & 9 IN 2023

NAPLAN testing was conducted online for the second year at the College in 2023 and progressed well. Students were supported throughout this process and achieved well, considering the changes that were made. The 5 curriculum areas within NAPLAN testing include Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy. Some students are exempt for certain areas of the testing requirements.

WRITING				
	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	YEAR 9
Average Score (School)	354	402	410	472
Average Score (State)	404	465	519	554
READING				
	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	YEAR 9
Average Score (School)	323	495	405	469
Average Score (State)	391	486	525	553
SPELLING				
	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	YEAR 9
Average Score (School)	379	439	455	502
Average Score (State)	388	477	530	562
GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION				
	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	YEAR 9
Average Score (School)	336	454	420	442
Average Score (State)	399	489	533	548
NUMERACY				
	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	YEAR 9
Average Score (School)	312	431	446	458
Average Score (State)	394	477	528	554