St John of Kronstadt ACADEMY

School Annual Report 2025 (based on 2024 data)

Where there is no struggle, there is no virtue

Welcome from Head of Academy

In January 2024, the St John of Kronstadt Academy opened as Queensland's first Orthodox school and Australia's first classical Orthodox school. Opening with 12 students, the Academy embarked on the huge task of implementing a form of education that lasted for over 2000 years but that is only now being recovered in Australia.

To most people, the term 'classical education' is unknown and may be assumed to be just another educational approach such as Montassori or Steiner. However, the move to 'classical' is far more than a different philosophical interpretation of education, it is a return to the real purpose and objectives of education – wisdom, virtue and eloquence.

Opening a new school is always going to be a challenge and more so when trying to recover a lost tradition. Despite those challenges, it was extremely satisfying to watch our Grade 2/3 students immersing themselves in the voyage of Odysseus in the Odyssey, to enter the world of C S Lewis' Narnia and for our Preparatory students to learn Latin chants and ancient Greece.

Our first year has been a steep learning curve for staff, students and parents alike and there is much that we have learned during this opening year that will enable us to refine and grow the quality of classical education we offer to our students.

I would like to thank all the staff, students and families of our opening year and all those who have enabled the Academy to open through their continued commitment and support.

Fr Stephen David

Head of Academy

OUR VISION

Our vision is simple yet profound: TO CULTIVATE SAINTS and position the Academy as the leading classical Orthodox Christian Academy in Australia.

Shaping the loves of our students is our prime objective and that starts and ends with love for God as revealed through His church: Father, Son and Holy Spirit and love for our neighbour made in the image and likeness of God.

OUR MISSION

The Academy provides a classical Orthodox education that develops Christian wisdom, virtue, and eloquence leading students toward theosis through Christ and the Saints. Our education is anchored in the seven liberal arts, the great books, the study of Latin and Greek and instruction in the Orthodox Christian faith and liturgical services. We achieve this by nurturing the souls, bodies, hearts and minds of our preparatory to Grade 6 students to create lifelong learners and critical thinkers who contribute to church, society and who seek and love God with their whole being.

The Academy serves Orthodox families and the broader Christian community of the Brisbane region. As we grow, we will continue to offer a truly Christian environment with classically trained teachers, small classrooms and a personalised teaching focus. With a strong emphasis on working closely with parents and students, we highlight the inter-connectivity of all things in God's creation. The aim is for our students to understand what it means to be human, made in the image and likeness of God. We fully enculturate the whole child while structuring our student's learning around the liturgical year.

Academy Information

School Sector:
Independent

Year Levels Offered:
Preparatory to Grade 3

Co-educational or Single Sex:
Co-educational

Characteristics of the Student Body:
The Academy's first intake of students in 2024 opened with 12 students and ended with a total of 14 students. This consisted of 9 boys and 5 girls across Prep – Grade 3. Students came from diverse cultural backgrounds including Serbian, Middle Eastern, Russian and Australian. 13 out of the 14 students came from Orthodox Christian families.

Total Enrolments:
14

Workforce Information

Workforce Composition, Including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Staff:
The Academy employed two full-time teachers to teach composite classes – Prep/1 and Grade 3/4. It also employed four other full-time staff for the positions of Head of Academy, Chief Financial Officer, Administration and Personal Assistant. Part-time and casual teachers were employed from time to time to fill vacancies in specialist areas such as Latin and HPE.

Qualifications of all Teachers:

Qualification	Detail the number and/or the percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school who hold this qualification
Doctorate or higher	0
Masters	2
Bachelor	2
Diploma	0
Certificate	1

Funding Information

Please refer to the My School website http://www.myschool.edu.au/ for financial information.

Social Climate

Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction with the School

92% of staff reported feeling "fulfilled and supported" in their role at the Academy, citing the school's future direction, culture, and high standard curriculum as key strengths.
(Source: Internal Staff Survey, July 2024, 100% response rate)

94% of parents said they were "very satisfied" with the Academy, highlighting the school's focus on classical learning, virtue formation, and faith-aligned vision.
(Source: Parent Feedback Survey, Term 3, 2024, based on 85% participation rate)

Student Outcomes

Please refer to the My School website http://www.myschool.edu.au/ for relevant attendance data.

A description of how non-attendance is managed by the Academy:

The Academy monitors attendance on a daily basis with a weekly report produced to identify any consistent issues. The Academy's attendance policy states that where a student has taken two or more unauthorised leave days (absent days without a justifiable reason) then a letter is sent out to the parents to remind them of the attendance policy and requirements. Where the issue persists i.e. further unauthorised absences, then a meeting is organised with the parents to work through the issues in a productive manner.

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