

Son Centre
Christian College
Annual
Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2021

AGM 19 May 2022



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Background and Context

Son Centre Christian College was founded in 1993 as Son Centre Christian School. It began as a Prep to Grade 6 primary school in buildings at John Knox Presbyterian Church, with 46 students and two teachers.

The school moved in 1995 to its current location, a beautiful rural environment located on 25 acres at 141 Aerodrome Road, approximately five kilometres from central Swan Hill.

The school provides a Christ-centred, Bible-based curriculum in partnership with its parent community. Students are encouraged to live out a faithful Christian response in all that they do in their lives.

The school proprietor is Son Centre Christian School Ltd, whose members are both parents and non-parents who are committed to Christian education. The company members elect a Board, chaired by Warrick Grey, which governs the school.

All staff members at Son Centre are experienced and fully qualified in their areas of employment. They exemplify Christian morals and values within the workplace and broader community, each expressing a personal Christian commitment.

Enrolment for 2021 was 37 students from Prep to Grade 6 and the school was led by Brett Allen as Principal.

Mission, Vision, Motto and Values

Mission

To partner with parents to provide quality education based on Christian beliefs, values and practices within a caring, secure and supportive school community.

Vision

To see each student able to reach their God-given potential and become a transforming influence within their community, nation and beyond.

Motto

Learning to Make a Difference

Values

<u>Honouring Christ:</u>	We place Jesus Christ at the centre of all that we do
<u>Partnering with families:</u>	We work in cooperation with parents and guardians
<u>Building community:</u>	We seek to ensure everyone knows that they belong
<u>Desiring excellence:</u>	We strive to do the very best that we can in all things
<u>Serving others:</u>	We develop and celebrate everyone's God-given potential

Our Common Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Annual General Meeting of Son Centre Christian School Ltd

7pm Thursday 20th May 2021

Son Centre Christian College, Aerodrome Road, Swan Hill

MINUTES

Welcome

Warrick Grey Chairman

Devotion – John 3:16-17

Reflection on the 1956 Olympic Games – “The Friendly Games”.

If you don't offer a solution, you are part of the problem.

Present/Apologies

As recorded in the attendance book.

It was resolved to accept the apologies.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – Thursday 23rd July 2020

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true and correct record

Matters Arising from Minutes – none

It was agreed that the order of the items on the agenda be adapted to allow for discussion of the reports and to take questions regarding the opportunity to work with Chairo Christian School.

Election of Auditor

It was resolved that MGR Accounting be elected as auditor for 2021.

Moved Chris Lewis Seconded Maria Faraci

Election of Board Members

One eligible nomination has been received to fill Board of Directors positions.

- Helen Tilbrook

Financial members of the association only, who are not employees of the association were eligible to vote.

To be elected, nominees need at least 60% of the votes to be in favour.

Leanne McCann and Chris Lewis acted as scrutineers

Following the ballot, it was determined that the nominee had received the requirement and therefore were duly appointed to the board.

All voting slips will be shredded.

Reports

The following reports were presented as laid out in the booklet which was circulated prior to the meeting.

Principal's Report

Brett Allen

- 2020 – year of change.
- Two new staff arrived and three long-term staff members left.
- The impacts of government restrictions on the school community were significant. Students throughout the state were noted to have experienced a deficit in learning. However, in-school assessments of students at Son Centre show that impact to have been less. Some students do have gaps and measures have been put in place. This is a testament to staff/parents and students.

- Government expected teachers to pivot learning between online and in-person, sometimes with as little as 48 hours' notice.
- Online learning highlighted IT needs at school and at home.
- 92% attendance was still achieved across the year.
- Students are all happy to be back on-site after home schooling which is a testament to the strong school community.

Financial Report

Chris Lewis

As presented in the AGM booklet and via power-point during AGM

Receipt and adoption of audited financial accounts for 2020

It was resolved to accept the financial report as written and to receive and adopt the audited financial accounts for 2020.

Moved Chris Lewis

Seconded Maria Faraci

Chairman's Report

Warrick Grey

A power point presentation about the discussions and proposal to work with Chairo Christian School was shown.

Questions were taken:

Would there be Son Centre input at governance level?

Yes, there would be representation from Son Centre on the Chairo Board.

Why would Son Centre remain a separate entity?

This is due to SES rating and associated funding. If Son Centre merges with Chairo, their rating would apply and there would be a loss in funding in the order of \$2-300,000.

Therefore, for viability Son Centre will remain separate.

Who would own the buildings and land?

Eventually Chairo would take ownership – a timeframe for this is written into the agreement.

Who is responsible for employment?

Chairo Board would have ultimate responsibility. The selection and interview process would be conducted in conjunction with Son Centre community.

An advantage of a merger means that Son Centre would have access to the Chairo system and pool of staff and there would be an obligation to secure staffing at Son Centre.

Chairo's AGM will be held next week and their association also needs to agree. Chairo also need to change their constitution.

A special meeting will be called at Son Centre to vote, possibly in September/October 2021. VRQA will make their decision after both Chairo and Son Centre agree and not before. Both parties are aiming for a start date of the 1st January 2022. Pro Legis (legal team) have advised this time frame is workable.

The day to day running of Son Centre would remain the same, with the Principal and staff having authority to manage school operations. There is no expectation for this to change. The main change is at governance level.

The physical distance means that a local group at Son Centre is extremely important.

Details are still being worked through regarding association membership.

The Board are open to questions at any time throughout the year and communication/general information will be sent out.

If school associations don't agree, there will still be assistance available from Chair, for example: - ongoing IT support.

Son Centre community encouraged to be in prayer prior to any further meeting to seek God's will as this is His school.

It was resolved to accept the reports as presented.

Moved Anthony Williamson Seconded Melodie Townsing

Next Meeting –TBC

Close – the meeting was closed in prayer 9.15pm

Chairman's Report

"Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:35

Among the many things that COVID-19 has brought us is the awareness that things can change in an instant. The plans we'd made for today can be thrown out the window before the day has even started, let alone the plans for tomorrow or next week. Despite this, our Board continues to plan for next year and the next five years.

The Bible verse immediately prior to the one above gives us the answer to be able to handle such unpredictability. "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:33

This has always been our Board's primary goal, to seek and follow His guidance first, in every aspect of governing what is His school. Despite the many surprises that have come our way this past year, none of them has caught God by surprise and He has continued to give us all the things we need.

Our Board included Helen Tilbrook, Leanne McCann, Chris Lewis and Hayden Price. These people have continued to seek first God's kingdom and righteousness, and they have governed the school under His leadership. Helen resigned near the end of 2021 after 10 years of servanthood as our Board secretary. Although she will be greatly missed, she assured us that she is contactable if we need to make use of her experience and knowledge at any time, and Leanne stepped up to take on the role of secretary.

Our desire to merge with Chairo Christian School hit a legal roadblock in 2021 so, rather than pursuing this path, we entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Chairo instead. This basically gives us access to many things that Chairo has, including policies, IT support and marketing advice, while still maintaining our independence. We have seen the benefits of this in our new IT system that mirrors Chairo's and in our new Facebook page that they helped to set up and monitor. This MoU with Chairo is an excellent result for us after many years of searching for another school to partner with.

Our principal, Brett Allen, announced that his retirement would be at the end of 2021. Words can't explain how honoured we feel to have had him leading our school over the past two tumultuous years, and we thank him for the work he's done to keep the school going through the COVID-19 closures and also prepare for the next stage of Son Centre's journey.

That journey for us continued with the search for our new Principal. Christian Education National was engaged to help us with the process, as appointing a principal is the single biggest and most important decision our Board will ever make. As a result, we had Kristy Wilson ready to take over when Brett finished at the end of the year.

We will continue to seek God first, trusting that by doing so we will be given all that we need. We have had this proven to us last year, as we have year after year. We look forward excitedly to whatever the year ahead has in store.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

Warrick Grey
Board Chairman

Principal's Report

What a challenging year 2021 turned out to be! Nevertheless, amidst the highs and lows, I'm confident that people will long remember how care was expressed and experienced across the school community.

The way that staff members and students managed the complexities of moving in and out of remote learning was a credit to the passion and commitment of every staff member, the grit and perseverance of every student, and the patience and partnership of every family. The whole Son Centre Christian College community upheld one another with hope, hard work and encouragement.

The school and wider community generously contributed to the upgrade and additions to the library, and the continuation of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program supported the health and wellbeing of all students. Other highlights of the year included camps and excursions, fundraising events and competition Futsal, plus the beautiful way that new students were warmly welcomed at the beginning and during the year.

All events, activities and programs were delivered through the sterling efforts of many people and were a terrific expression of Son Centre's dedication to quality care and learning. The commitment of so many people was certainly on display as everyone worked together to ensure that quality learning could continue for every student.

It is important to recognise the significant difficulties and suffering experienced in 2021 due to COVID-19. While 'suffering' is perhaps a dramatic word, the school community, standing strong together and growing, actually provided evidence, as Paul says in Romans 5:3-5, that 'suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope'.

In a year when not much went according to the plans of board members, staff members, parents and students, the fact that God is the Sovereign One who was, is and will always be, in control of things was a great source of hope and comfort. God lovingly held the school community in his hands throughout this difficult season and will continue to guide us into a promising future together.

It is a great honour for me to recognise and thank Angela King, Brett Allen and Maria Faraci for their years of service to Son Centre. Their tireless work in leading and supporting the school community, particularly during the pandemic, was a blessing to everyone. We thank them for their commitment, sacrifice and love for the school, and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Kristy Wilson
Principal

School Compliance Report

This report has been prepared, using 2021 data, for publication to meet the requirements of Victorian and Commonwealth Law. The information included is publicly available on the school's website and a hard copy can be requested from the school office.

Composition of Staff

The number of staff members employed within the school to appropriately cater for the needs of students and their families in 2021 was as follows:

3 full-time teachers (including the principal)

1 part-time teacher

2 part-time administrative staff members

1 full-time teacher aide

1 part-time learning support staff member

Note: the school did not have any Indigenous personnel.

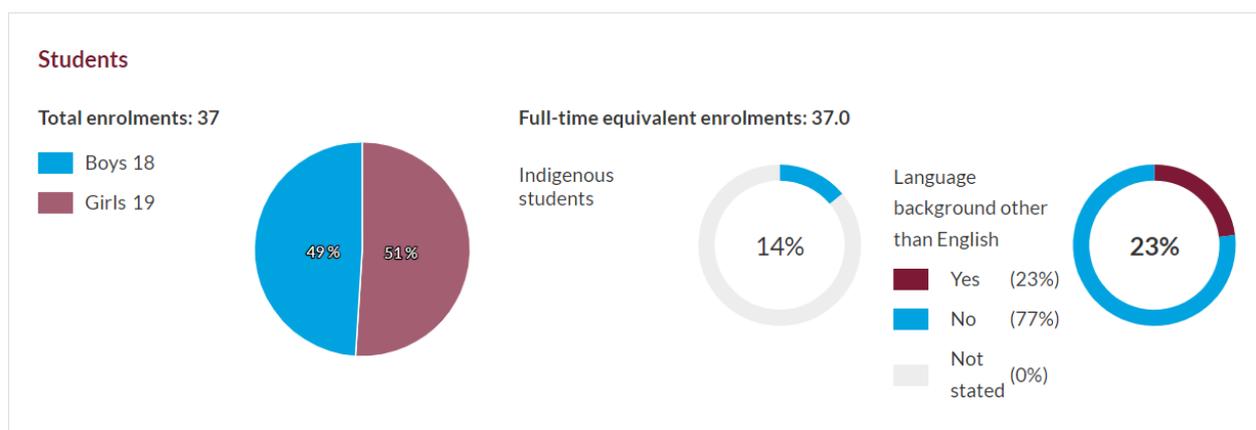
Teaching Qualifications

All of our teachers are accredited with the Victorian Institute of Teaching and have provided satisfactory police record checks.

The following teachers, full-time or part-time, were part of the 2021 school year:

- Brett Allen Dip. Teach
- Angela Broad B. Teach.; Dip. Ed. (Prim.)
- Jonathan Dickinson Dip. Ed (Prim)
- Sharyn McCann B.Ed. (Prim.)

Student Characteristics



Source: <https://myschool.edu.au/school/46324>

Parent, Student and Staff Satisfaction

At Son Centre, we highly value the opinions and feedback of our parents/guardians, students and staff members. Their responses help us review and refine our educational programs and also better provide for the social, emotional and spiritual welfare of our students.

We recognise the essential educational partnership that exists between home and school and therefore invite regular responses from our school community. These responses are gathered in a variety of ways, including during parent-teacher-student interviews and school events and through regular home/school communication. Being a small school with a close-knit school community, we have the advantage of regular interaction with all stakeholders regarding a wide range of school-related matters.

We have also participated in the Lead School Effectiveness Surveys in past years and are committed to engaging the school community using a similar format in 2022.

Student Achievement of National Benchmarks

Each year, all students in Grades 3 and 5 are required to sit the NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy.

The table below indicates the percentage of students in Grades 3 and 5 at Son Centre Christian College who have reached or exceeded the National Minimum Standard over the past few years.

2021	Grade 3	Grade 5
Reading	100%	100%
Writing	100%	100%
Spelling	100%	100%
Grammar & Punctuation	100%	100%
Numeracy	100%	100%

Note: NAPLAN was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19

2019	Grade 3	Grade 5
Reading	100%	100%
Writing	100%	100%
Spelling	100%	100%
Grammar & Punctuation	100%	100%
Numeracy	100%	100%

Student Attendance

The table below indicates the attendance rates at each year level for 2021.

Prep	86%
Grade 1	97%
Grade 2	93%
Grade 3	96%
Grade 4	94%
Grade 5	94%
Grade 6	97%

At Son Centre, we place a high priority on communicating effectively and promptly with all of our families. This is in line with one of our core values of 'partnering with families' and impacts the way in which we respond to families in relation to student attendance.

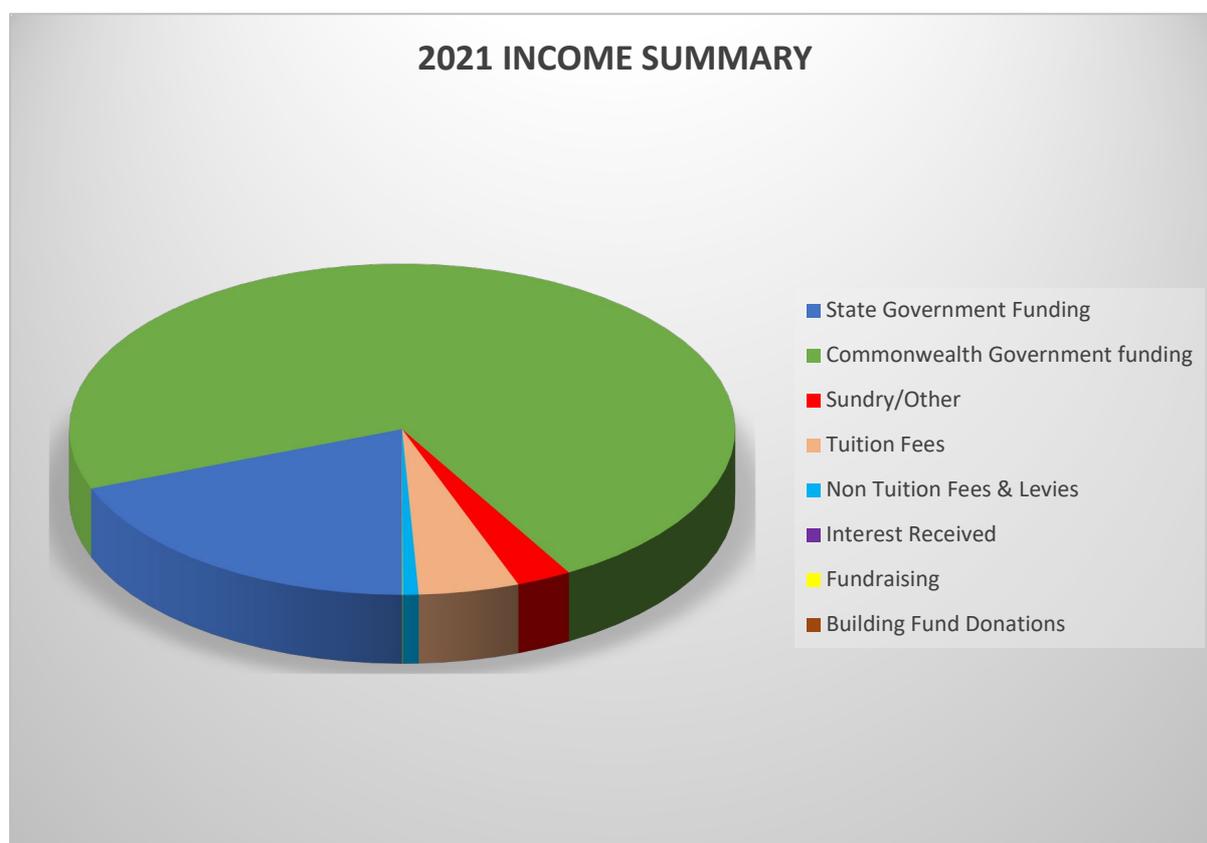
Student attendance rolls are marked electronically at the start of, and during the course of, the school day. The school follows up on unexplained/non-validated absences, notifies parents of unsatisfactory attendance, records details of unsatisfactory attendance in student files and reports full and part days of absence (other than acceptable absences) on semester reports for all students.

Class teachers are expected to personally contact the parents/guardians of any students in their class who have been absent for a number of days. This provides both pastoral care support and a further accountability process in relation to the absence. The number of student absences is also recorded in student semester reports.

Income

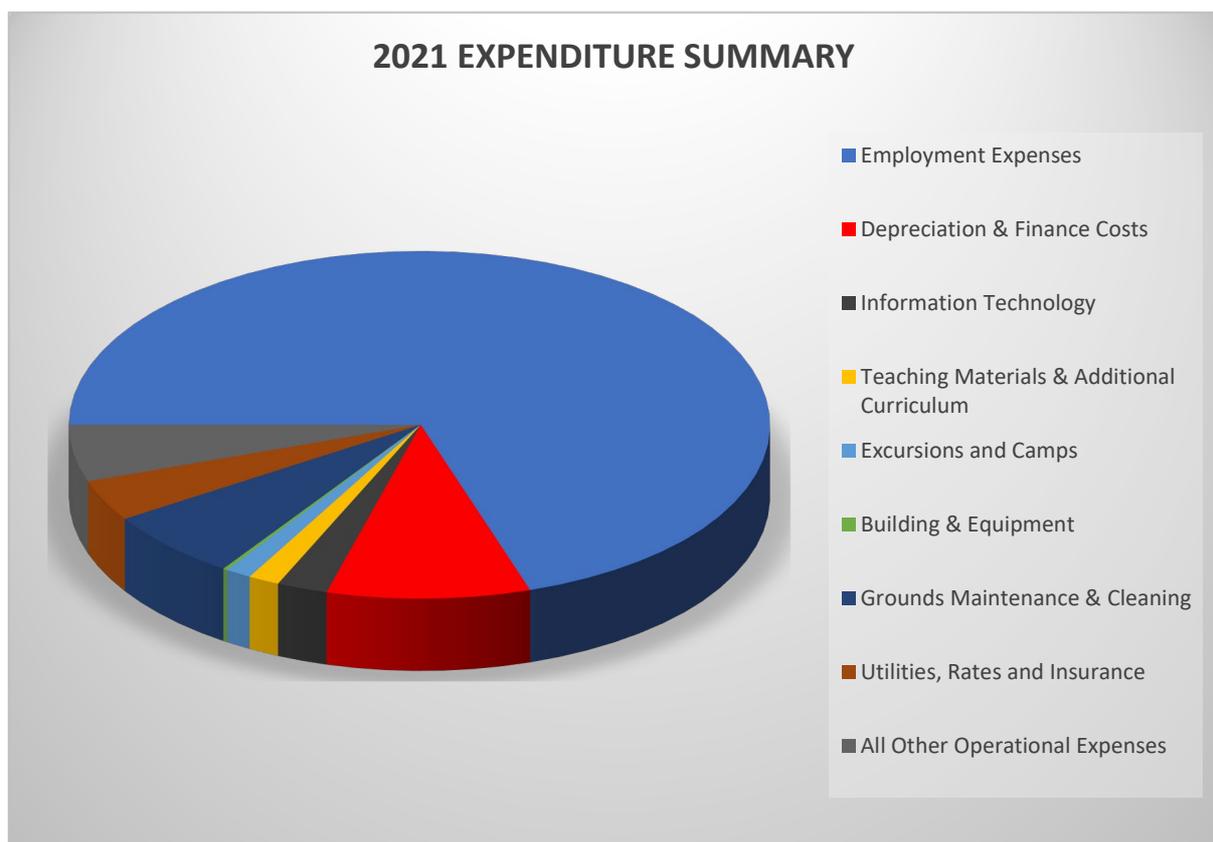
For further information, or for the full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2021, please contact the school office directly on 5032 4199 or at admin@soncentre.vic.edu.au.

2021 INCOME SUMMARY	INCOME (\$)	INCOME (%)
Tuition Fees	42,753	4.90
Non-Tuition Fees & Levies	6,715	0.77
State Government Grants	167,799	19.23
Commonwealth Government Grants	634,668	72.73
Interest Received	0	0.00
Fundraising	256	0.03
Sundry/Other Income	23,409	2.34
Building Fund Donations	40	0.005
TOTAL	875,640	100%



Expenditure

2021 EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	EXPENDITURE (\$)	EXPENDITURE (%)
Employment Expenses	594,878	69.98
Depreciation & Finance Costs	79,358	9.33
Information Technology	19,837	2.33
Tuition Materials & Additional Curriculum	12,165	1.43
Excursions and Camps	10,067	1.18
Building & Equipment	1,797	0.21
Grounds Maintenance & Cleaning	56,357	6.42
Utilities, Rates and Insurance	32,540	3.83
All Other Expenses	44,918	5.28
TOTAL	850,123	100%



SON CENTRE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL LTD

DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION

The director has determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In accordance with a resolution of the director of Son Centre Christian School Ltd, the director of the company declares that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 13, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:

a) comply with the Australian Accounting Standards; and

b) give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2021 and of its performance for the year ended 31 December 2021.

2. In the director's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15 (2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Director



Date

28-4-2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF SON CENTRE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL LTD

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Son Centre Christian School Ltd, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Son Centre Christian School Ltd has been prepared in accordance with Div 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2021 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Div 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the company's annual report for the year ended 31 December 2021, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Kelly Partners (Bendigo) Pty Ltd ABN 99 657 000 989

1 Somerville Street, Bendigo Victoria 3550

PO Box 793, Bendigo, Victoria 3552

+61 3 5443 8888 bendigo@kellypartners.com.au

kellypartners.com.au

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warren Pollock', written in a cursive style.

Warren Pollock
KELLY PARTNERS
bendigo@kellypartners.com.au

22 April 2022

**Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Son Centre
Christian School Ltd**

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 December 2021 there have been no contraventions of:

- i. any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Warren Pollock
KELLY PARTNERS
bendigo@kellypartners.com.au

22 April 2022

Kelly Partners (Bendigo) Pty Ltd ABN 99 657 000 989

1 Somerville Street, Bendigo Victoria 3550
PO Box 793, Bendigo, Victoria 3552
+61 3 5443 8888 bendigo@kellypartners.com.au
kellypartners.com.au

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