

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Early Learning to Year 10



Henderson College



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2025 school year was guided by our theme, *"Faith, Hope, Love,"* which was reflected throughout the life of the College in learning, relationships, service and community. Throughout the year, students were encouraged to grow not only academically, but also spiritually, socially and emotionally within a supportive Christian environment.

A significant highlight of 2025 was the completion and establishment of the Henderson College Early Learning Centre (ELC). This marked an exciting milestone in the growth of the College and reflected our commitment to providing a strong Christian educational foundation for families from the earliest years of learning. The development of the ELC required significant planning, collaboration and support from many members of our College community.

Throughout the year, there was a continued focus on relationship building, student wellbeing and strengthening positive school culture. We recognised the importance of students feeling connected, supported and known, and this remained central to many aspects of College life.

Camps, excursions and co-curricular opportunities continued to play an important role in student development. In particular, the Year 9/10 Camp was a highlight of the year, providing opportunities for challenge, teamwork and personal growth while strengthening relationships between students and staff.

Across the College, staff continued to work collaboratively to strengthen teaching and learning programs, support student growth and create engaging classroom environments. We remained committed to supporting students academically, socially and spiritually as they developed the skills and confidence needed for the future.

I would like to sincerely thank our dedicated staff for their ongoing professionalism, care and commitment to our students and families. I also thank our parents, School Advisory Council and Adventist Schools Victoria for their continued support of Henderson College throughout 2025.

Mrs Devena Obst
Principal



An aerial photograph of the Henderson College campus, showing various school buildings with red and grey roofs, green lawns, and blue shade sails. A large red rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the title 'A BRIEF HISTORY' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

A BRIEF HISTORY

Henderson College is a co-educational Early Learning to Year 10 school operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church as part of the worldwide network of Adventist Christian Schools.

Established in 1951, Henderson College proudly celebrates 75 years of Christian education, faith, learning and community in 2026. Beginning at Havilah Crescent off Fourteenth Street before relocating to its current Cowra Avenue, Irymple campus in 1981, the College has continued to grow and evolve while remaining grounded in its Christian values and commitment to holistic education.

Situated on 20 acres in partnership with the Mildura Seventh-day Adventist Church community, Henderson College provides a welcoming and contemporary learning environment featuring modern learning spaces, innovative technology, a large indoor stadium, undercover basketball and netball courts, dedicated Creative Arts facilities and growing Early Learning opportunities. As the College continues to develop, it remains committed to providing engaging, high-quality learning experiences that support students academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically.

For 75 years, Henderson College has been a community where students, staff and families learn together, care for one another and grow in faith and purpose. The College continues to honour its rich history while looking forward with hope, excellence and a commitment to nurturing future generations.

In 2025, Henderson opened the first faith-based Early Learning Centre in the region and the first kindergarten attached to an established school. Offering three and four-year-old Kindergarten and long day care, the centre will provide young learners with endless opportunities to grow their curiosity and a smoother transition into Foundation. This exciting addition strengthens Henderson's commitment to lifelong learning within a connected and caring Christian community.

From Early Learning to Year 10, Henderson College welcomes families seeking a strong sense of community, a nurturing faith-based environment and a strong partnership between school and home.





OUR HEART

VISION

WE GROW ... in faith and learning
WE SHARE ... in our faith through service
WE TRUST ... in God

MISSION

Henderson College is a Seventh-day Adventist learning community where students are inspired to discover a faith in God and develop their God given gifts.

VALUES

Our school values are motivated by the overarching value of love and are evident in actions of service. Henderson College has four core values, and they are embedded within our logo and Vision statement: Respect, Compassion, Integrity and Success.



Our Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

All children and young people who come to Henderson College have a right to feel and be safe. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people by providing child-safe and child-friendly environments both physically and online, where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and can actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We have zero tolerance for child abuse and other harm and are committed to acting in our students' best interests and keeping them safe from harm.

Henderson College regards its Child Safety responsibilities with the utmost importance. It is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintaining a child-safe culture.

Each member of the Henderson College community has a responsibility to understand the important specific role that they play individually, and collectively, to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all students are at the forefront of all that they do, and every decision that they make.

These Child Safety processes and procedures are outlined in the Duty of Care, Child Protection and Child Code of Conduct policies. All are available on the school website: <https://henderson.vic.edu.au/>

During 2025, our school continued the partnership with Real Schools to professionally develop and grow our capabilities and practices collectively by positively restoring relationships through Restorative Practices.

This partnership is aligned with our Christian values and expectations, and supports the data evidenced needs highlighted in our annually completed surveys.

SCHOOL ADVISORY

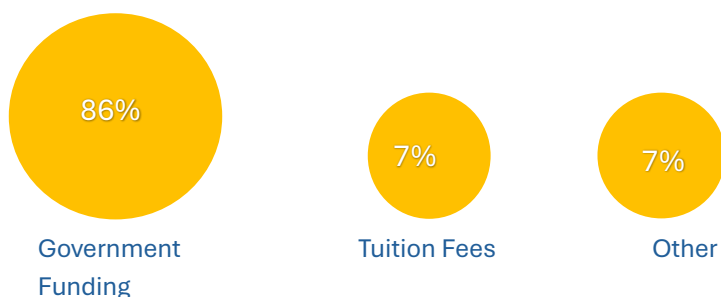
Henderson College is operated by Adventist Schools Victoria Ltd, a division of the Seventh-day Adventist church. A Henderson College Advisory School Council, appointed by the Company's Board of Directors, provides advice for the Principal to consider, in the management of the school. The School Advisory Council consists of fifteen members.

The broad functions of the School Council are to:

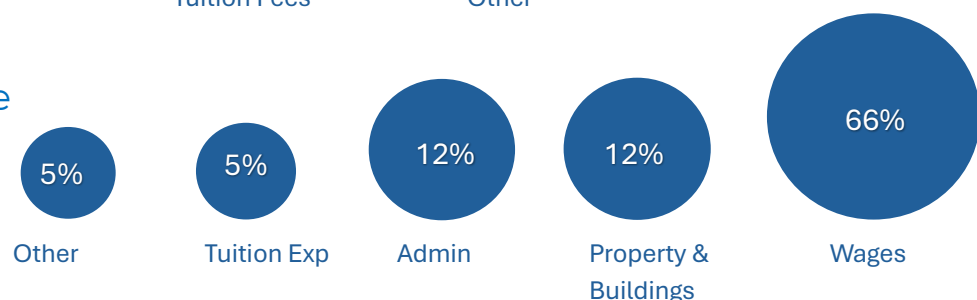
- Establish the direction and vision through the school's strategic plan.
- Plan for and ensure financial sustainability.
- Provide and allocate resources to support the goals and objectives of the strategic plan.
- Monitor and review the progress of the school against its goals and objectives.
- Develop and review school policies.
- Maintain the school facilities, the buildings, and the grounds.

Henderson College is a not-for-profit organisation that seeks to responsibly manage its finances to support the ongoing development and enhancement of College facilities, buildings and programs. While the College aims to achieve a positive annual operating result to reinvest into future growth and improvement, the 2025 financial year concluded with a deficit following challenges in operating costs.

Income



Expenditure





PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Teacher Qualifications

Henderson College staff come from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

The teaching staff at Henderson College during 2025 consisted of 17 female teachers and five male teachers. 77% of the teachers were full time teachers while 23% worked part time.

The College also employed 14 other teacher support staff who worked on a part time basis with individual and small groups of students to support their learning program.

Staff Retention

Staffing remained stable with a committed team of educators, support staff and administrative personnel.

Staff Professional Development

Excellence in staff is a core priority for Henderson College. We recognise that quality educational outcomes are driven by excellence in teaching, learning and wellbeing provided by the highest quality, motivated teaching, and educational support staff.

Professional learning continued to be prioritised through a range of opportunities focused on data triangulation, differentiated instruction, spiritual development, trauma-informed practices and restorative practices for establishing and maintaining positive relationships.

The total expenditure on Professional Development in 2025, including direct provider cost, travel and meals was \$72,190

AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING	Number
Subscriptions to Professional Magazines	
Protecting Children Mandatory Reporting	All Staff
Child Safe Training	All Staff
First Aid Training	All Staff
Mathematics	1
Christian Schools Australia	1
AI in Education	1
Vex Go Technology	1
Winning Over Angry Parents	1
Real Schools	All Teachers
Child Link	2
MARAM	1
EduTech	5
Adventist Schools Victoria Annual Conference	All Staff
Marketing Summit	2
Food Handling	1
Risk Management	All Staff
Early Learning	1
ASV Principal Meetings	1
ASV Leadership Meetings	1

“ Our dedicated teachers
 deliver engaging, relevant
 learning experiences that
 build critical thinking,
 creativity, and
 collaboration.”

STUDENT PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS



School Program

Henderson College continued to acknowledge that student learning and well-being are intricately linked. Hence, both continued to be essential priorities throughout 2025.

It was our aim that learning not only enabled each child to reach their full potential but that a seamless transition of learning continues for students as they progress from one year level to the next.

Primary Schools Studies

The Curriculum Framework for Foundation to Year 6 includes the following Learning Areas:

- Bible
- English
- Physical Education
- The Arts: *Music, Drama, Visual Art*
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen & Garden Program
- Mathematics
- LOTE
- Digital Technologies
- Integrated Studies: *Science, SOSE, Technology, Health and KS:CPC.*

Secondary Schools Studies

- Bible
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Inquiry Based Learning Electives
- Design Creativity and Technology / STEM
- Health and Physical Education
- HASS
- Digital Technologies
- Careers
- LOTE
- The Arts: *Music, Drama, Visual Art, Media*

Student Enrolment

Our official enrolment at the 2025 census was 229 students from Foundation to Year 10.

2025	229 Enrolments
2024	222 Enrolments
2023	222 Enrolments

Attendance Management

Attendance of students has been a focus as disengagement has risen for school age children. Engaging students into learning and motivating them has continued to be challenging.

The College liaises with parents to manage absences electronically on a daily basis and provides support to students and their family through regular contact from Home Room Teachers and/or Student Welfare personnel.

ROLL GROUP AVERAGE ATTENDANCE			
YEAR	%	YEAR	%
Prep/1P	83	Year 7	87
Prep/1M	85	Year 8	83
Year 1/2	90	Year 9	84
Year 3/4	87	Year 10	78
Year 4/5	89		
Year 5/6H	88		
Year 5/6D	90		
Average			86%

Student Learning, Leadership and Achievement

Student Learning, Leadership and Achievement

Henderson College remained committed to providing a holistic education that nurtures students academically, spiritually, socially and physically. Throughout 2025, students were encouraged to pursue excellence across a broad range of learning experiences, leadership opportunities and co-curricular activities.

Academic tracking data demonstrated strong growth in literacy across the College, with students from Prep to Year 9 achieving an average literacy growth of 1.14 years during the school year. Specialist literacy intervention programs delivered particularly strong outcomes, supporting many students to successfully transition

back into mainstream learning programs. Literacy results highlighted significant improvement in spelling and continued strength in reading skills across the College.

Students also participated in a wide range of sporting opportunities throughout the year, representing Henderson College at district, regional and state levels across a variety of disciplines. These experiences provided valuable opportunities for students to develop resilience, teamwork, perseverance and school pride while celebrating personal and team success.

Student leadership continued to be a key focus in 2025. Through Student Representative Council initiatives, class leadership opportunities, chaplaincy programs, community service activities and College events, students were encouraged to develop confidence, responsibility and a heart for service. These experiences supported the College's commitment to preparing young people to lead with integrity and positively contribute to their communities.

While numeracy outcomes identified opportunities for further improvement, the College responded by strengthening intervention and extension pathways, ensuring all students are supported and challenged to achieve their personal best. The ongoing use of academic tracking, targeted intervention programs and collaborative teacher practice continues to support the College's focus on growth and achievement for every learner.

National Benchmarks

The College's 2025 NAPLAN results reflect continued growth in student achievement across a number of literacy domains. Analysis of longitudinal student data indicates that cohorts generally demonstrate positive progress in Reading, Writing and Spelling as they move through the College, with a growing proportion of students achieving in the Strong and Exceeding proficiency bands.

Spelling continues to be a particular area of strength, reflecting the impact of the College's deliberate focus on literacy instruction and intervention programs. Reading outcomes remain positive, with students demonstrating strong foundational literacy skills and continued development in comprehension and higher-order reading skills.

Writing results indicate steady improvement across year levels, with many students achieving within the Strong proficiency band. Ongoing work to strengthen writing stamina, structure and written communication remains a focus of classroom practice.

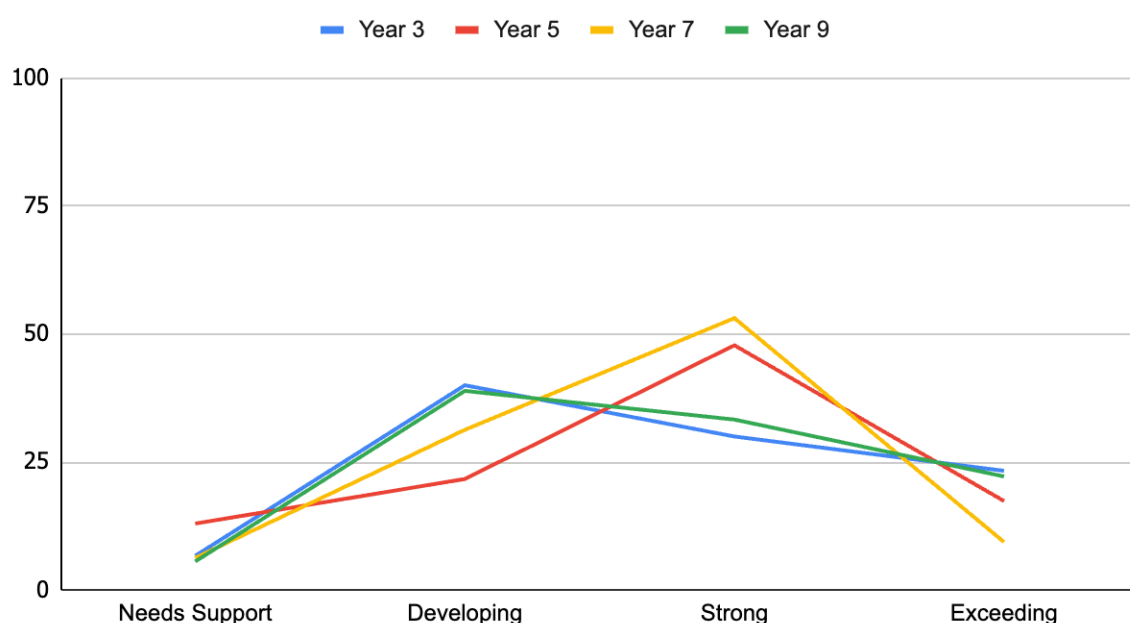
Numeracy outcomes highlight both areas of success and opportunities for further improvement. While many students achieved within the Strong and Exceeding proficiency bands, analysis indicates that numeracy remains a strategic priority, particularly in the middle and secondary years. In response, the College has

strengthened intervention, extension and differentiated learning programs to support student growth and achievement.

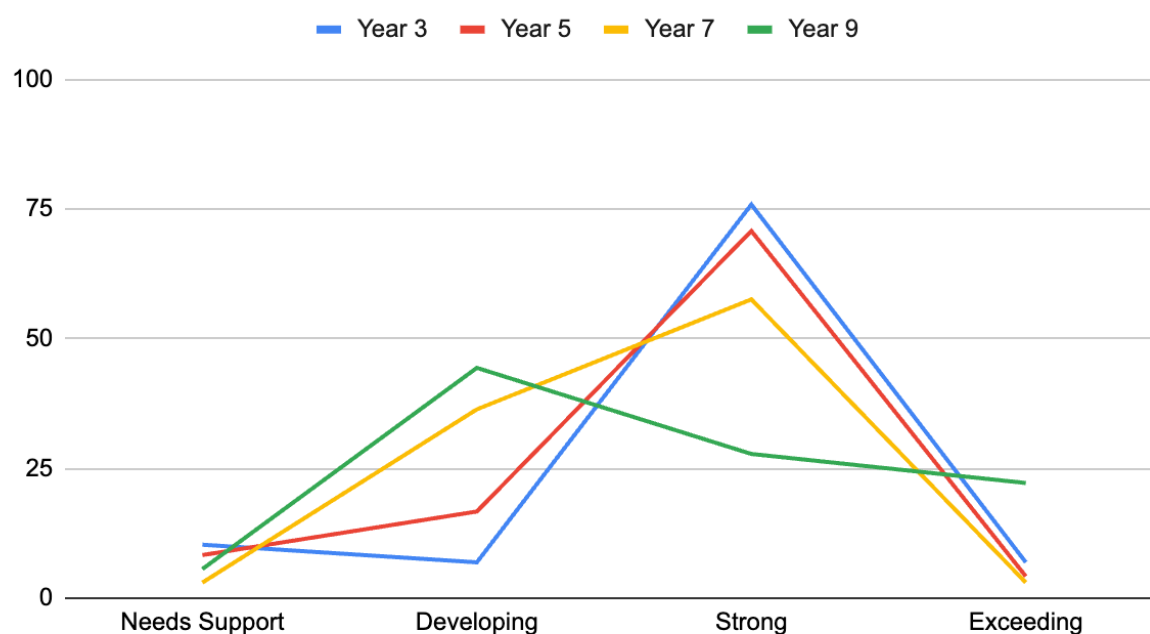
Grammar and Punctuation results demonstrated sound performance across the College and will continue to be supported through explicit literacy instruction and integrated writing programs.

Overall, the 2025 NAPLAN results, together with internal academic tracking data, provide evidence that students are making positive progress over time and support the College's ongoing commitment to evidence-informed teaching, targeted intervention and continuous improvement in student outcomes.

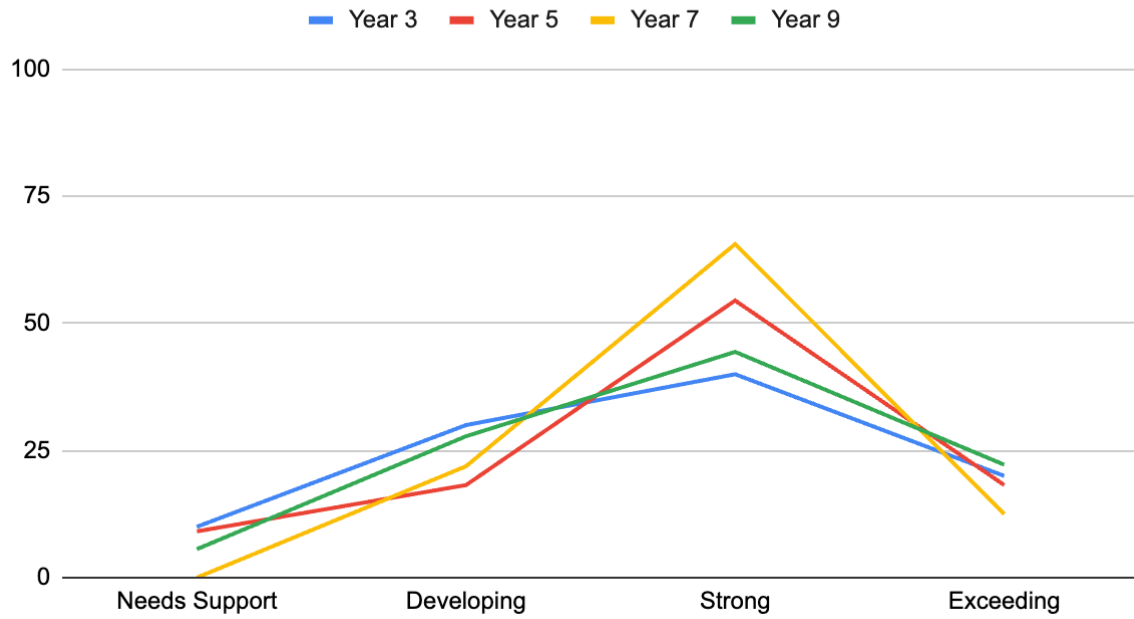
Reading



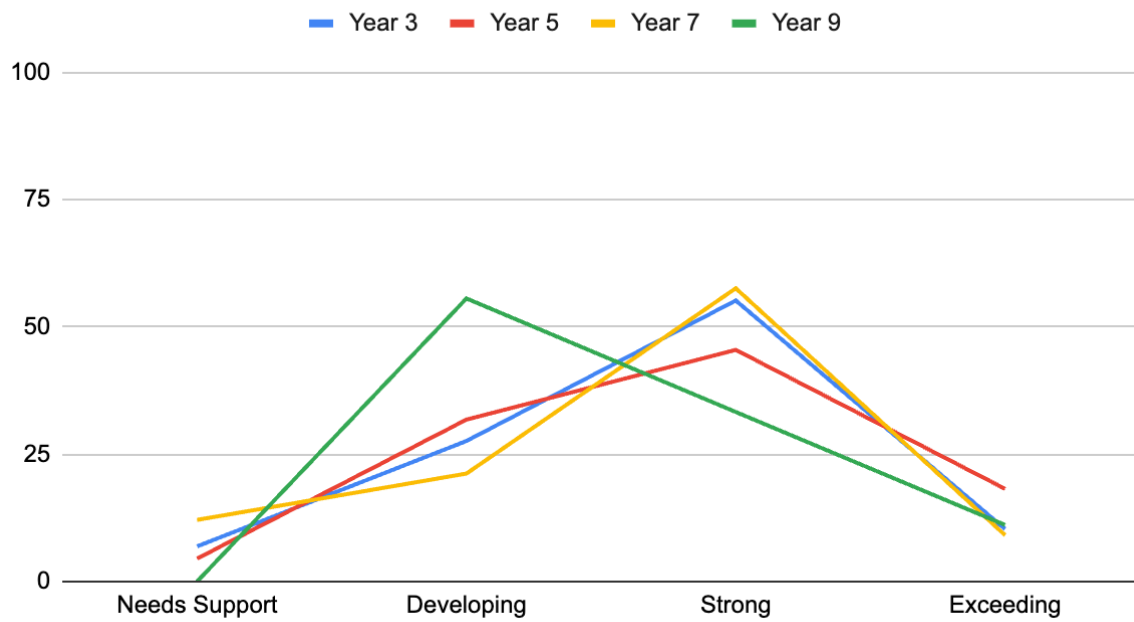
Writing



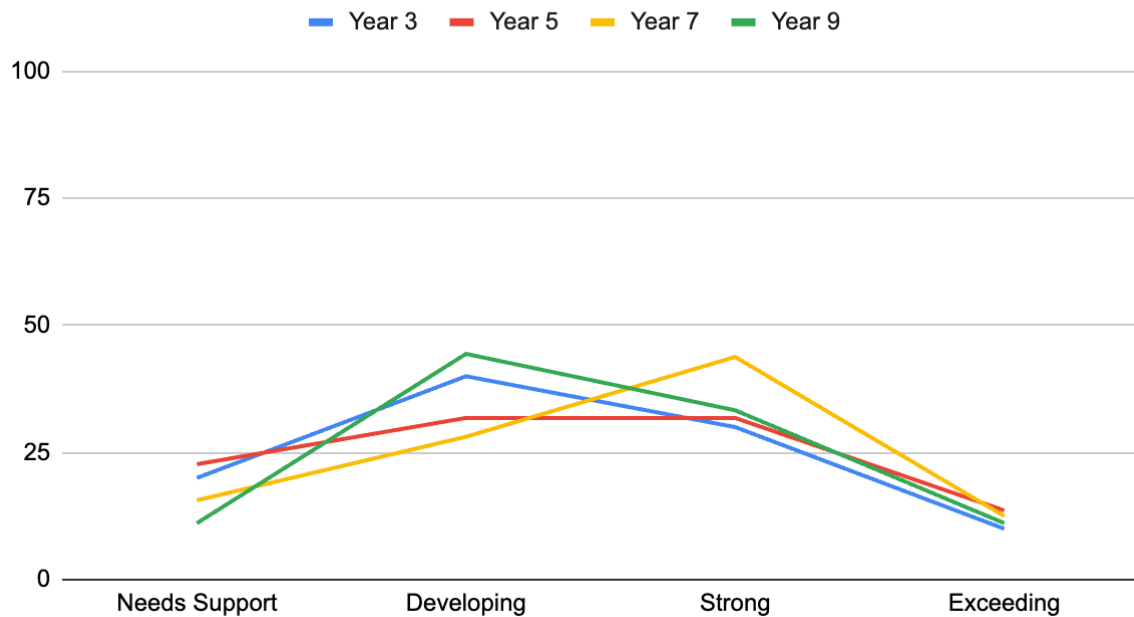
Spelling



Numeracy



Grammar & Punctuation



Value Added Programs

At Henderson College student engagement in additional programs and or events is a continual focus.

Value added programs include:

- Breakfast Club
- Academic Tracking
- Secondary EXAMS
- Clubs – Crocheting, Chapel Band, STEM
- Buddies
- Student Leadership
- Community Service activities
- Chapel and Worship Programs
- Inter-school Sports
- SSV Competitions
- Excursions
- PB4L activities
- Book Week Parade
- Easter Hat Parade
- NAIDOC
- Year 6 Graduation dinner
- Year 10 Graduation dinner
- Learning Support classes
- Extension classes

- Invictus program in Years 7-10
- Inquiry Based Learning activities

These events are important in establishing connections with the extended school community and strengthening the Henderson College culture.

Pastoral Care/Student Wellbeing

Throughout 2025, the Student Welfare team continued to work consistently to provide support for our school community including students, teachers, and parents. They provided a listening ear for students who either needed someone to talk to and/or support from a significant adult during such a challenging year.

The Student Welfare team also provided support to individuals in times of need whether it be trauma, illness, loss, or other immediate issues. They supported our school's vision to be caring and nurturing. Chaplains also provided a valuable Chapel program each week where students had the opportunity to actively participate.

*“Working continuously to
support our school
community.”*



SCHOOL CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

School Community Satisfaction

In 2025, Henderson College continued to receive strong levels of support and satisfaction from both parents and staff. Parent satisfaction remained high, with over 90% of parents reporting they were satisfied or very satisfied with the College, reflecting confidence in the school's direction, values and educational programs. Staff satisfaction was also positive, with four out of five staff indicating they were satisfied or very satisfied with the College as a workplace.

Survey feedback highlighted the College's Christian ethos, caring culture, welcoming environment, small class sizes and strong staff-student relationships as key reasons families choose Henderson College. Parents consistently identified the school's faith-based approach, supportive staff and individualised care as significant strengths.

Adventist Identity and School Culture

The College's commitment to Adventist education continued to be recognised as a significant strength. Both parents and staff reported strong confidence that the school's vision, mission and Christian values are clearly evident in daily school life. Survey responses indicated that Henderson College continues to foster a positive community culture where students experience a sense of belonging, support and care.

Feedback from the Insight SRC School Culture Surveys further reinforced the College's focus on developing a community of faith and learning that supports students academically, socially and spiritually. The data provides valuable insights that continue to guide school improvement planning and strengthen student wellbeing initiatives.

Communication and Partnerships

Parents reported positive levels of satisfaction regarding the way concerns are addressed by the College, with more than 85% indicating that concerns raised were handled appropriately and in a timely manner. This reflects the College's

ongoing commitment to strong partnerships between home and school and a culture of open communication.

Future Improvement Priorities

As part of Henderson College's commitment to continuous improvement, survey feedback identified opportunities to further strengthen organisational processes, communication consistency and operational efficiency. These areas have informed planning priorities for 2026 and will support the College as it continues to grow and develop, including the establishment of the Early Learning Centre and ongoing enhancement of teaching, learning and student wellbeing programs.

Quality Adventist Schools (QAS) Cyclic Review

As part of its ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, Henderson College continued to work through the Quality Adventist Schools (QAS) improvement cycle during 2025. Guided by the recommendations arising from the 2024 Cyclic Review, the College progressed key strategic priorities aimed at strengthening its Adventist identity, spiritual culture, leadership practices and educational outcomes.

This work forms an important component of the College's Strategic Plan and ongoing preparation for its next QAS Cyclic Review and reaccreditation process in 2029. Particular focus has been given to further embedding spiritual leadership across the College, strengthening governance and strategic planning processes, and ensuring a cohesive approach to nurturing faith, learning and wellbeing throughout the school community.

*“ Guided by the Quality Adventist
Schools framework, we continue to
nurture a community where students
can belong, believe and become,
while pursuing excellence in faith,
learning and wellbeing.”*



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Henderson College continues to align its initiatives with its Strategic Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Priorities for 2026 include:

- Embedding a consistent instructional framework to improve student growth and academic achievement.
- Strengthening pathways between the Early Learning Centre and the College to support enrolment growth and continuity of learning.
- Expanding opportunities for student leadership, service and agency across all year levels.
- Embedding the College Spiritual Masterplan and ABIDE discipleship framework throughout school life.
- Building staff capability and leadership through targeted professional learning and mentoring opportunities.
- Strengthening community partnerships and engagement as Henderson College continues to grow and serve the Sunraysia region.

Conclusion

As Henderson College continues to grow, the College remains committed to providing a Christ-centred education that supports every student to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

Key priorities for 2026 and beyond include the successful integration and growth of the Early Learning Centre, strengthening student wellbeing and learning outcomes, enhancing professional learning and leadership development for staff, and further embedding Adventist identity throughout all aspects of College life.

The College will also continue to progress strategic initiatives identified through the Quality Adventist Schools improvement cycle, ensuring a strong foundation for ongoing growth and preparation for reaccreditation in 2029. Through these initiatives, Henderson College seeks to remain a vibrant community of faith and learning that equips students to serve, lead and make a positive contribution to their world.