



# Peregrine School

## Annual Report

### 2021

## Vision

Our vision is to be a community that empowers and enriches the lives of our students every day.

## Guiding Principles

To live our vision, we foster:

- **STRONG, POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**  
These are at the heart of wellbeing and engagement in learning.
- **RESPECT FOR OTHERS**  
This requires that we hold the integrity of difference in all that we do.
- **THE CAPACITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE**  
This is strengthened when there are real and constant opportunities to explore, take risks and contribute.

## Guiding Values

- **COMMUNITY:** connectedness and relationships
- **COURAGE:** strengthening capacity
- **LEARNING:** intrinsic in all of us and inherent in every experience
- **INCLUSIVENESS:** the integrity of difference
- **INNOVATION:** striving for improvement and being open to change

# School philosophy



## 2021 Annual Report

This year has been another of exciting leaps and bounds both in educational programs and the development of facilities at the school. The year has been sprinkled with COVID challenges throughout to keep us on our toes. 2021 continued in the same vein as 2020 with coronavirus causing disruption around the world. The Pandemic forced us to cancel many of our camps, excursions and even a conference we were due to host. Although much of our program had to be reimagined or refined, flexibility remains our middle name and we focused on providing the best program we could within the constraints of international turmoil.

### Introduction

In the year of our 21st birthday, Peregrine is evolving into a school with a successful tradition of developing graduates with self-discipline, a zest for life and a strong ethical compass. Our staff's desire to see our young people excel, and to work constantly and committedly towards that end guarantee that our students all have a sense of belonging and a place within the school community.

Peregrine is committed to staying small so that our teachers can develop strong and meaningful relationships with all our students. We pride ourselves on our knowledge of our students and our capacity to help them become self directed learners.

### School Vision

In staff meetings we have been looking at the school's vision and purpose, with a particular focus on community and the ways in which we actively build this aspect of the school's ethos. From morning meetings to lunches, to jobs and mixed age classes, everything plays a part in connecting students to each other across the school. It is a constant challenge to be aware of the impact that seemingly small decisions can make on the strengthening or weakening of community.

**Peregrine**

The word "Peregrine" is written in a large, bold, dark grey sans-serif font. The letter "P" has an orange dot at its top-left corner. The letter "e" has a green dot at its top-right corner. The letter "r" has an orange dot at its bottom-left corner. The letter "n" has a green dot at its bottom-right corner. The letter "i" has a green dot at its top-right corner. The letter "e" has an orange dot at its bottom-left corner.

## 21st birthday

2021 was our 21st birthday and the first year that we had a K to 10 group; so much cause to celebrate. The school is growing up and we continue to realise the exciting potential that an alternative educational setting can offer. In 2021 our enrolments were constant and our waiting lists extensive. Our 21st birthday celebrations in May were a great way to showcase our progress whilst simultaneously allowing us time to reflect on our achievements over the years. Many hugs, much laughter, good food, massive cake, thought provoking chats and a representation of current and past families made for a great celebration of 21 years of Peregrine. After much work and a massive finish to the term, somehow the weather gods smiled upon us and the celebrations began. Prayer flags were printed, leaf name tags were produced, speeches were given, maps and programs were used to aid guests, accolades were awarded, trees were planted, faces were painted, treasure boxes were investigated, timelines were explored, sausages and curries were eaten, bookmarks were made, tours of the workshop and bush were given, interviews were listened to, videos were watched, coffee was patiently waited for, biscuits and pizza and bookmarks were sold, displays were viewed, photographs were taken, songs were sung, memories were discussed at length and cake was consumed. The event was filled with music, games, delicious food, performances and an array of incredible student works and student-run stalls.

It was an emotional time for our long term staff to listen to the stories of our past graduates and learn what a difference the school has made in the lives of many of our alumni.



## **Teacher standards and qualifications 2021**

All teachers are registered with the Teachers Registration Board of Tasmania.

1 BEd, Dip Teaching (Early Childhood),

1 Bachelor Natural Environment and Wilderness Studies (Hons), Grad Dip Ed (Early).

1 BA, Grad Dip of Ed (primary)

1 BEd, Assoc Dip Music,

1 Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Hons),

1 BA, Dip Ed

1 BA (Hons), Dip Ed

1 Bach of Psych Science, Bach of Fine Arts (Contemporary Music) (Hons), Grad Dip of Ed (Primary)

1 Grad Dip in Teaching and Learning, Bach of Behavioural Science (Psychology and Criminology) Master of Social Science in Didactics, BA (Social Science of South America)

1 B Ed (Kindergarten/ Elementary)

1 Master of Digital Design, Grad Dip of Education (Senior Years), Bach Applied Theatre (Double Theatre major)

1 B Ed, Associate Diploma of Childcare

1 BA (Hons) Master of Teaching (Primary)

1 B Ed (Secondary - Visual Arts)

1 BA, Higher Diploma of Education (HED), Further Diploma of Education (FDE)

## **Memberships**

In 2021 we continued our membership with Future Schools Alliance. As a member school of FSA, we are part of a global collaboration of educators working to explore and promote future focused learning.

Although all the member schools of the FSA have unique educational perspectives, each of the FSA schools have a desire to explore transformation and make changes in the way that schools provide education to our students. As a member group of the FSA in 2021, we attended professional learning online, took part in virtual school tours and had a collegial visit from the conveners of the Alliance. Central to our membership is our desire to implement student driven change and differentiation across the school. Through attending professional learning, live online events and school visits, the FSA is supporting us with implementing this goal.

Our other membership as a school is with ADEC. We have been members of the Australian Democratic Education Community for many years now. Along with other member schools and individuals, ADEC is for those who are interested in progressive and alternative education. 2021 was our year to host the Annual Conference, but once again COVID caused us to postpone. Hopefully 2022 will be the year we finally get to host the ADEC conference.

## **New Library System – AccessIt**

Peregrine now has a library website full of resources for students, staff and families. Students can borrow, write reviews and find books that are appropriate for their reading level. Our books have been catalogued and other school resources have been catalogued and added to our inventory. Students now have access to all our books as well as access to the Storybox Library.

## Attendance Data

### Semester 1 2021

Student attendance rate		Percent <sup>1</sup>
All students		91%
Indigenous students		-
Non-Indigenous students		-
Student attendance level (proportion of students attending 90% or more of the time) <sup>2</sup>		Percent <sup>1</sup>
All students		66%
Indigenous students		-
Non-Indigenous students		-

## School Attendance

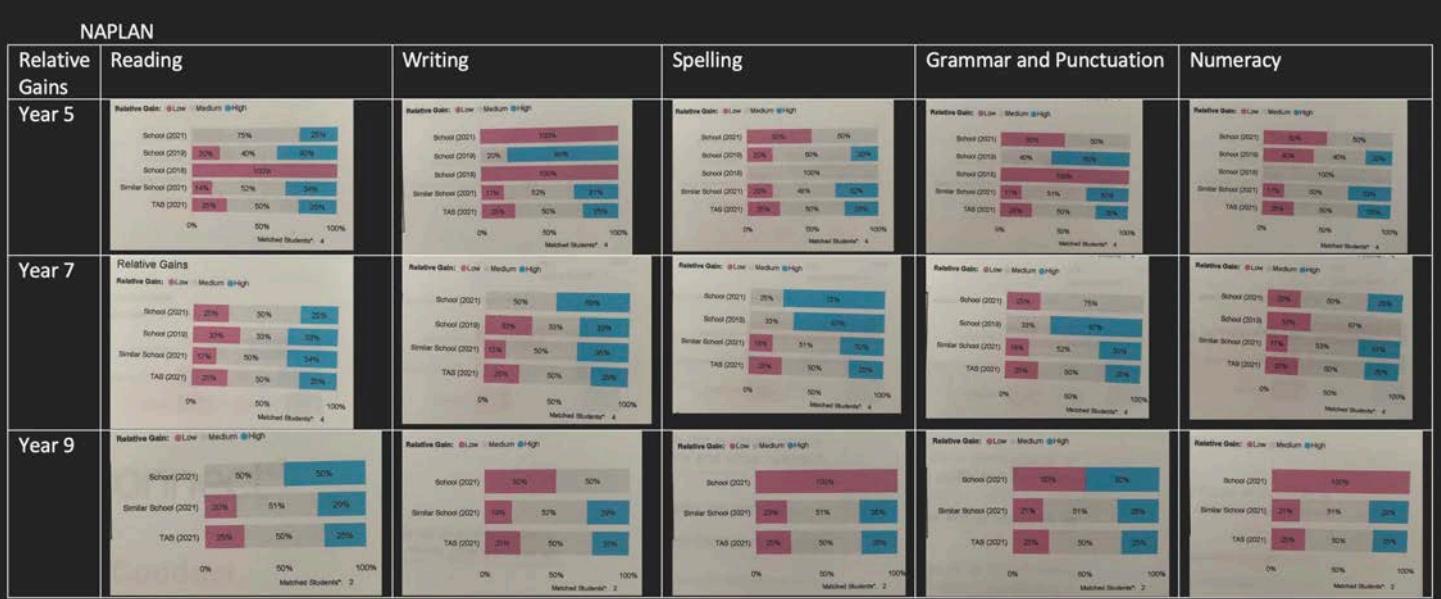
1 When a school's results are unavailable or there are fewer than, or equal to, five Indigenous or non-Indigenous students, a dash '-' will be displayed. This is to protect the privacy of students.

NB School attendance data for Term 3 2021 has not been published due to extensive COVID-related disruptions during this period for a number of jurisdictions.

NB No state-wide lockdowns occurred in Semester One.

## Student Achievement

NAPLAN 2021: Years 5, 7 and 9 relative gain



# Peregrine

## Grade 10 Graduates

2021 was also the graduation of our first cohort of grade 10 students. Matilda, Ailbe, Seth, Liam, Jet, Hugo, Jeremy, Caitlin and Xavier all left us at the end of their Grade 10 year to go onto college or TAFE. Students were guided in their vocational and career options through our Pathways after Peregrine career guidance. This year the Grade 10 students have had the opportunity to attend 'taster' sessions at Hobart College, Elizabeth College and Hobart TAFE. to see the facilities, meet staff and get a sense of which courses are right for them. As part of the transition to college, students attended information sessions to help them make selections for future studies. Of the Grade 10 cohort, some chose Elizabeth College to continue their studies, some chose Hobart College and some chose the TAFE (Vocational Education) option.

The students celebrated the end of their learning journey with us with a graduation night held at the Cygnet Town Hall to coincide with the end of year performance. Most of our graduates had been with us since primary school, and Matilda had been with us since Pre-Kinder, so it was a magic moment to see these Graduates commence their journey out into the real world. The Graduates were sent off with a Guard of Honour and the appropriate music choice 'We are the champions'. We're certain these students have a great future ahead and look forward to seeing them out in the community and visiting the school again!





## Buses

In order to transport our growing school population, we finally invested in our own bus fleet. We purchased a Toyota Coaster (21 people) and a Toyota HiAce (12 seats). Both these vehicles have already become a valuable part of our program and are allowing us to go places at times that would otherwise be prohibitive. Glenn, Georgie and Imogen are all now licensed to drive the bus and our bus fleet is allowing us to get out into the community more and expanding our ability to deliver our curriculum.



## Management Committee

Peregrine is officially governed by the elected Management Committee of our not-for-profit incorporated association, and it oversees and supports the running of the school. This committee is made up of staff, parents and interested community members. Their role is to use the philosophy and vision that underpins the school in order to have input into the long term strategy for the school and to approve and monitor the budget for the school. The Management Committee representatives are elected from our AGM, where all parents have an opportunity to be elected to the committee. This year the committee was composed of parent volunteers, staff representatives and community members. Thanks to Imogen, Sadie, Valerie, Phoebe, Marian, Paola, Piero and Angie for the hard work and dedication they have given to their roles over their time on the Committee.



## Facilities

As the number of enrolments continues to expand (capped at 120), our facilities continue to develop. This year was our first full year utilising our new high school building, midway through the year our hard surface court above the Seniors Building was constructed and also our School Oval underneath the high school building was rebuilt. Our old oval (which has been virtually unusable during the winter months, as it was underwater) has been reconstructed to make a bigger, more sustainable and essentially more usable playing space. The new oval, extended and shaped to drain adequately is already a much needed asset in our Physical Education Program.

As the school grows and develops, we continue to multipurpose many of our learning spaces. This year, the Falcon and Fledgling groups were working in the EY building, the Swift Parrots were working in the old school building, the Applied Learning Group were in the Loft, and the Seniors in the new high school building. 2021 was the first year that we had a dedicated STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) space in the old school building. This area was a hub of exploration for those students who like exploring broken laptops, 3D printers, drones, GoPro Cameras, microscopes, robotics, construction sets, simple machines, circuits, construction sets and a Makerspace. It was a much loved and much utilised space.

On the other side of the driveway, the workshop has had a facelift and is looking stunning with its new stairs, doors, glass windows and useable Loft Space. The Workshop has finally become a functional workspace and was kitted out with tools... We now have: a Drill press, Scroll saw, Thicknesser/Planer, Belt Sander, Heat gun, Cordless drills, orbital sanders, Mini Forge and tools, welder, Bench Grinders, pyropens, Dremel, Spanners and socket sets, Jigsaws, vices, air compressor and all the usual hand tools (hammers, chisels, files, screwdrivers, saws, planes).

In another development, the hard surface was poured above the high school building. 'The Slab' as it is now affectionately labelled has seen our breaktime sport thriving. Not a day passes that the students aren't utilising the area for basketball, King Ball, tennis, volleyball, skating, riding bikes etc.





## Wooden Boat Raffle

For many, many years, the school has been reliant on fundraising to keep our doors open. Our Wooden Boat Raffle has been the mainstay of our fundraising, so it was with both joy and trepidation that we laid the Wooden Boat Raffle to rest this year. The first raffle took place in 2003, when the school had under 30 students. The creation of a beautiful huon pine clinker dinghy has been a special part of the school's calendar ever since, and fifteen boats have gone to very excited winners. The wooden boat raffle was a community enterprise, with every family taking it in turns to sell tickets at Salamanca Market on Saturdays and at the Wooden Boat Festival. The funds raised were used to support our low income discount system, to make sure that Peregrine was accessible to as many families as possible.

Now, with the school at 120 students and many families new to the school, the Wooden Boat Raffle is only known to a small number of families. It seems to be the right time to find a new way to unite ourselves as a community, working towards a common purpose. So 2021 became our last raffle draw and we would like to acknowledge the generosity of the boat builders who have provided us with so many special boats - the Wooden Boat Centre, Andrew Denman and Ned Trewartha. We celebrate the teamwork and commitment of families who worked so hard to make sure that our small school stayed afloat. And we thank the thousands of people who have loved the boats and bought tickets year after year - essentially ensuring that we still have a school.



Our first Wooden Boat Raffle 2003



Our last Wooden Boat Raffle 2021



## Staff

As our staffing body becomes larger, it is important that we have a cohesive staff that contributes to group efficacy and commits to our school objectives and philosophy. Employing teachers with a true passion for alternative education and helping all students develop into healthy, happy, respectful young adults remains our goal.

A major tenant of the school's philosophical underpinning is to maintain low teacher to student ratios to provide a tailored and supportive learning environment for our students. The intention is to facilitate the connections between people and foster relationships, so students can gain regular feedback from teachers on their individual learning progress which supports them to gain a sense of competency and the confidence to have autonomy over their learning, when provided with choice in their program. Staff employed need to be good mentors to their students and adhere to best practices around differentiation and student advocacy, employing a range of positive psychology strategies as well as intentional practice that supports students to be self-determined. We are continually seeking to employ a balance of experienced educators and new teachers who support our philosophy and evidence based approach to learning.

At the start of 2021, we welcomed several new staff to the Peregrine team. The Falcons and Fledglings Team consisted of Alice Hayward, Phoebe Burley, Jill Smith and Chris Baczkowski. The teachers were supported by two of our teacher aides, Khot Abit and Monica Vasquez. Swift Parrot staffing was Joss Wyss, Luke Ray and Sebastian Van Loggerenberg with support from Ina Gudelhofer, Louis Gill and Glenn Corner. The Seniors Program was staffed by Belinda Faulkner, Wendy Lee, Mel Lunden, Louis Gill, and supported by Glenn Corner, Ina Gudelhofer, Seb Van Loggerenberg, Jeremy Marcotte, Georgie Butorac, Callum McDonald, Justine Barrett and Suzy Manigian.

Mel Lee remains a valuable and consistent part of our team. Every day Mel prepares nutritious, delicious morning teas and lunches for the entire primary and early years students and staff. Dani, our Office Manager, is another vital cog in our chain. Relentlessly she deals with student injuries, phone calls, parent enquiries as well as the myriad of other responsibilities she holds. Just don't ask to borrow her stapler, she's well aware it won't come back.

Just like any school, staff changes occur for a variety of reasons. Seb and Khot left us and Amy Grego and Rosy Keen joined the team. At the end of the year, Joss, Jill, Mel and Jeremy left for their own personal or professional pursuits. Thanks to all our staff for the amazing commitment to our program, we wish them well on their pathways. Thanks for all their hard work throughout the year and enriching the lives of our student body over the time they were employed.

