

# Annual School Report

Aspect Western Sydney School

2024



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# All about Aspect

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## Our vision

The best opportunities  
for people on the  
autism spectrum.

## Our mission

We work with people of  
all ages on the autism  
spectrum, delivering evidence-  
informed solutions that are  
person-centred, family focused  
and customer driven.

## Our values

We are passionate  
about people, about  
being positive, and about  
what's possible.

## Our work

We focus on the strengths and interests  
of people on the autism spectrum

We work in partnership with people on the  
spectrum, their families and  
their communities

We work to understand people on the  
spectrum from their perspective

Our approach is autism-specific

Our research focuses on best practice

We expect positive change and progress

Together we can achieve positive outcomes.

Our purpose  
**a different  
brilliant®**

Understanding,  
engaging and celebrating  
the strengths, interests  
and aspirations of people  
on the autism spectrum.





# Aspect's approach to supporting students on the autism spectrum

Drawing on more than 55 years of expertise, Aspect schools deliver specialised, evidence-informed programs designed for children on the autism spectrum. We take a person-centred approach, learning how each student experiences the world and using their strengths, interests and aspirations to shape tailored supports.

Our practices are guided by the latest evidence, informed by input from the student and their support network, and are continually refined to meet each student's unique needs.

## Message from the Principal

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In presenting the 2024 annual report I would like to acknowledge the Dharug people, the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which our campuses are located.

Aspect Western Sydney School provides education for 142 students (116 boys and 26 girls) on the autism spectrum across our 14 sites. Class groups are small, with a high teacher to student ratio and a teacher's aide appointed to each class. In 2024, 96 primary age students were enrolled at the main school site at Wetherill Park and across our 8 primary satellite classes. Additionally, there were 46 students from years 7 to 12 attending our 6 high school satellites classes located in mainstream secondary schools across Greater Western Sydney.

I would like to congratulate the Aspect Western Sydney School community for their resilience, determination and support in 2024 as our school community made significant improvements and refurbishments across our main site classes located at Wetherill Park.

The quality of education and relationships with existing and new supporters and community groups has also contributed to increased opportunities that we have provided for our students across 2024. Aspect Western Sydney School particularly appreciates and acknowledges the close working relationship with our colleagues in the local Catholic Schools Diocese of Parramatta and Department of Education Schools. Feedback gathered through the school Perspectives survey undertaken in 2022 and again in 2024 enabled collaboration for the development of the 2024 school improvement plan. This feedback will inform planning in the areas of leadership, teaching and learning and wellbeing.

Our school proudly adopts a comprehensive approach to education for students on the autism spectrum known as Aspect's Approach. This person-centred approach focuses on meeting individual needs. Our education programs engage, celebrate and utilise the strengths, interests and aspirations of our students.

Our staff are committed to continual improvement and we work closely with families and the wider community to support students. I would like to acknowledge the dedication, passion and care that the staff at Aspect Western Sydney School demonstrate every day in the pursuit of quality education for our school community.



**Shane Morris**  
**Principal**

# Student outcomes and results

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Each student has an individual plan that outlines their strengths and interests as well as information about how to provide effective support. The profile includes areas for development, particularly related to autism-specific areas of learning: social communication, social interaction, and sensory processing which are integrated into the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) curriculum - the Key Learning Areas (KLAs). The school has a multi-disciplinary team approach which sees teachers, support staff and therapists working collaboratively with families to develop the best possible outcomes for the students.

## Literacy and numeracy assessments

For NAPLAN results, please refer to My School website [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au)

The school administers assessments each year to help inform practice and monitor students' literacy and numeracy progress. This includes some standardised testing as well as assessments tailored to the needs and abilities of our students.

## Post school destination

Most students who left school, following completion of their school education, have either secured part time employment or are looking to join the workforce.

Eight year 12 students attended work experience during the year and four were successful in gaining School Leavers' Employment Support funding via the NDIS.

## Senior secondary outcomes

Record of School Achievement	Higher School Certificate
8	8

In 2024, 100% of year 12 students (8 in total) received a Higher School Certificate (Life Skills). Four students completed statements of attainments for either Certificate II / Certificate III.

The school offered six Stage 6 Life Skills NESA-developed courses, three TVET courses were offered by the host school.

# Staffing

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## Teacher accreditation

Level of accreditation	No. of teachers
Conditional	3
Provisional	6
Proficient Teacher	32
Highly Accomplished Teacher (voluntary accreditation)	0
Lead Teacher (voluntary accreditation)	0
Total number of teachers	41

## Workforce composition

Composition of Aspect Western Sydney School staff is documented on the My School website [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au)

### Workforce composition

Teaching staff	41
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	31.7
Non-teaching staff (including classroom support staff)	58
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	33.5

At our school we welcome staff and students from all backgrounds and religions. Aspect Western Sydney School welcomes Autistic and neuro-diverse staff who's lived experience helps to support our students. We strongly encourage applications from Autistic teachers and other staff.

Two of our staff members have identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. We strongly encourage applications from First Nations teachers and other staff.

# Student attendance



## Student attendance rates

Kinder	79%	Year 7	78%
Year 1	87%	Year 8	79%
Year 2	80%	Year 9	93%
Year 3	87%	Year 10	85%
Year 4	87%	Year 11	91%
Year 5	89%	Year 12	82%
Year 6	85%	Whole school	85%

In 2024, 85% of students attended school each school day on average. This was a small increase in comparison to the daily attendance in 2023.

## Management of non-attendance

Aspect has a student attendance procedure, which all schools follow.

All unexplained absences are followed up each day by the school administration team using a variety of methods including SMS messages, email and phone calls. If a student is absent for more than three days without explanation this will be referred to the Principal who will continue to monitor absences and will initiate appropriate action to check on the welfare of the student and family, which may include notifying relevant authorities.

Repeated unexplained absence or absence of concern may need to be reported to Family and Community Services.

Where unsatisfactory attendance is identified, a student attendance improvement plan is formulated in collaboration with the student and their parent/guardian. The plan is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.



## School policies

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The following school policies and procedures are publicly available on the [website](#):

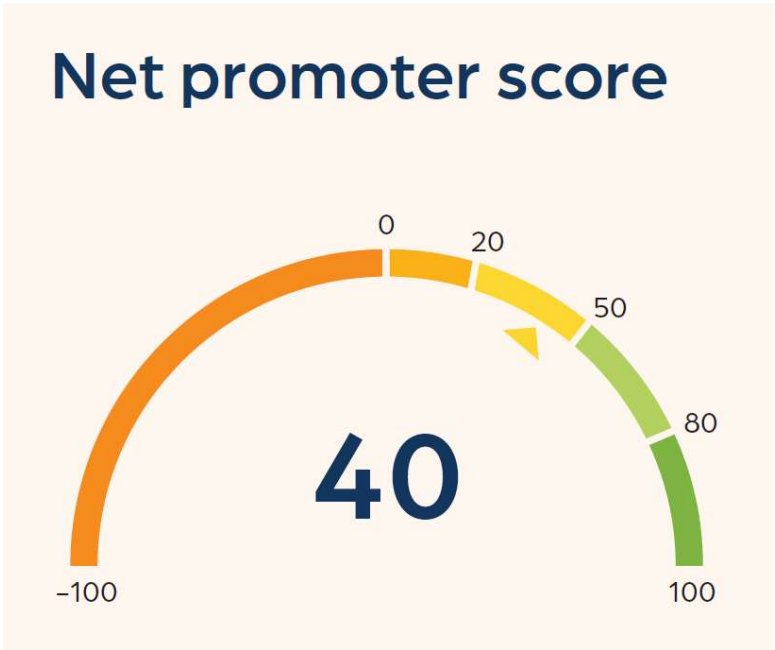
- Suggestions, compliments and complaints
- External whistleblowing
- Enrolment
- Child protection and safeguarding
- Discipline & Positive Behaviour Support
- Anti-bullying

# Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Aspect schools participate in the Association of Independent Schools Perspectives survey biannually to support school improvement and celebrate success. In 2024, the net promoter score was 40, indicating the majority of families would recommend Aspect Western Sydney School because the school provides a high-quality education that meets families' expectations and makes them feel proud and confident in their choice.

77% of parents reported that students feel valued, accepted, and connected to trusted adults at the school. Respect is a core value and helps create a safe environment both in and out of the classroom. The school celebrates cultural diversity, fostering understanding and ensuring all students are treated equally, regardless of their background.

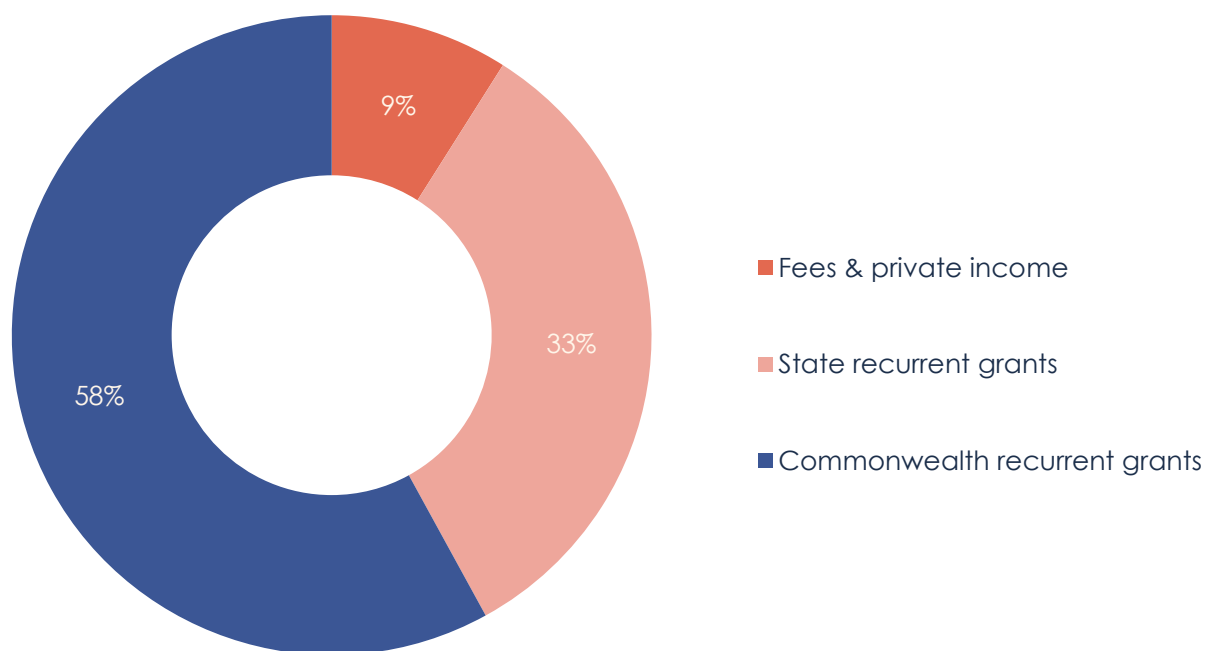
According to 73% of parents, teachers understand what interests their children. The school demonstrates a strong understanding of each student's interests, academic strengths, and areas for growth. Teachers incorporate this knowledge into their teaching, using a variety of activities and approaches to make learning engaging and meaningful. By creating lessons that spark curiosity and align with students' interests, they ensure a supportive and effective learning experience.



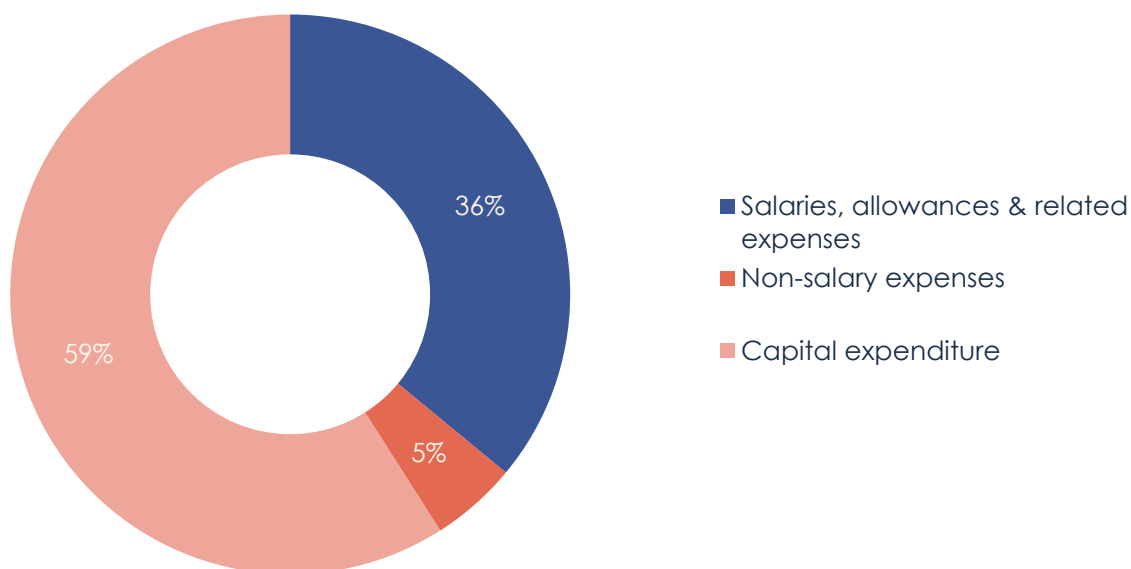
## Financial information

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### Recurrent/capital income



### Recurrent/capital expenditure





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