



## ISLAMIC SCHOOL OF CANBERRA

***Respect - Honesty - Acceptance - Responsibility – Trustworthiness***

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Registration No 22837

## Annual Report - 2023



## Principal's Foreword

This annual report highlights the most significant things we did in 2023. The school witnessed so many positive changes and progress at all levels this year.

We constantly monitor our students' learning outcomes and, alhamdulillah, we are satisfied of their progress and achievements. We work continuously on our students to help them achieve academic excellence in both secular and religious education. We aim to prepare them for success in this life and the Hereafter insha'a Allah.

The school planned many activities, events and projects in 2023. We are progressing very well towards achieving our goals, alhamdulillah. I would like to thank the parents for their support and involvement. Also, a big thank to the school staff for their dedication and commitments. Inshallah, with parents' support and cooperation, we will always achieve better results and outcomes.

**Dr Mahmoud Eid**  
School Principal

## Governance

Our school board comprises of the following members:

- **Dr Rafiqul Islam:** Chairman
- **Dr Ismail Hossain:** Deputy Chairman
- **Dr Majharul Talukder:** Secretary
- **Mr Kamruzzaman Morol:** Treasurer
- **Dr Mohammad Nurruzzaman:** Member
- **Br Ahmadullah Sadi:** Member
- **Dr Saif Dewan:** Member
- **Mr Hassan Hafizur Rahman:** Member
- **Mr Kamal Mahmud:** member

The School Board meets a minimum of six times a year.

## School's Progress Towards its' Goals

The Islamic School of Canberra teaches students from Kindergarten to Year 10. We are hoping to start year 11 / 12 in 2025 insha'a Allah.

Students at the Islamic School of Canberra experience all aspects of the Australian National Curriculum in engaging and innovative ways. Students experience:

- Internet skills (research and online learning) and collaborative IT activities
- Fully functioning Science laboratory
- Art and Design space
- Several play areas catering for several sports
- A Learning Centre (Library)
- Variety of consistent excursions / incursions to support learning programs
- Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) are developed and provided for students who require assistance within subject areas.
- Creative class work and innovative assessment activities.
- Use of PAT-R (Literacy) and PAT-M (Numeracy) online diagnostic testing
- Use of ACER diagnosing tests.

The Australian National Curriculum is taught at the Islamic School of Canberra with a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy.

### **School Curriculum**

Literacy is a significant developmental process which incorporates the ability to communicate effectively within a broad range of diverse contexts. This is particularly relevant in our school context, given the large number of our students are of Language background other than English (90%). ISC endeavours to design and implement a curriculum that assists students in better understanding of language choices, based on the audience and the purpose. ISC ensures that all teachers see literacy teaching as their prioritised responsibility and work towards raising the school's literacy standards.

Numeracy is a combination of skills which apply mathematics to meet the demands of school, personal, home, social and work life. Students require a broad range of knowledge, skills and understanding to apply mathematical skills in a variety of situations. ISC teachers use wide range of teaching tools and methods to cater for the numeracy demands of students with different needs. This is reflected in our students' performance in numeracy. Our numeracy classes are fun and motivating and a joyful experience for our students.

Islamic education program at school includes Islamic studies, Quran recitation and memorisation. Our teaching staff help students learn to read the Quran in Arabic and to cultivate an understanding of the verses they memorise and recite.

The Islamic studies curriculum provides opportunities for students to explore their faith and how to apply it in their lives. Islamic studies curriculum weaves universal moral values of respect, honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, and acceptance. Daily afternoon Salah is an important feature of the school's religious and spiritual life.

Students and Staff gather in the prayer room for collective prayer in the afternoon while enjoying personal moments of supplication and reflection. The congregational prayer of Friday is a highlight of the week as students look forward to the inspiring words from the Imam who delivers the Friday speech.

ISC offers Arabic language as its language other than English according to the Australian Curriculum. Arabic language teaching is embedded in a wide range of mediums such as interactive activities, songs, internet resources and a variety of media on the following strands: communication and understanding.

Arabic teachers take all students backgrounds (language and culture) into consideration when they plan, teach, and assess Arabic language.

The Australian National Curriculum provides syllabus documentation for the teaching of Arabic. Students are assessed according to the Achievement standards within this documentation. It is expected that students complete work to demonstrate not only level of achievement but to also engage in the reading of Quran.

### **Characteristics of the Student Body**

Our students come from different ethnicities and cultural backgrounds. Many of them are of ESL background despite they were born in Australia. English is a second language for many of them at home.

### **Student Numbers Since 2018**

2018	229
2019	276
2020	271
2021	265
2022	306
2023	359

### **Class in 2023**

<b>Class Name</b>	<b>Number of students</b>
K	29
1	43
2	46
3	30
4	29
5	30
6	30

7	49
8	30
9	25
10	18
Total - 12 classes	359

### List of excursions, incursions and camps

#### Incursions

- **Student of the Week All Years**
- Questacon Year 3 to 6
- Fire ACT – Kindy
- Primary camp - Kianniny

#### Excursions

##### Term 1

Year 10 - Tidbinbilla  
Year 9 Cotter Dam

##### Term 2

Year K and 1 National Museum

##### Term 3

Regional Athletics Carnival  
Year 4 and 5 Cricket  
Aussie of the Month Citizenship Ceremony  
Year ½ Featherston Gardens  
Year 1A National Arboretum  
Year 2 and 3 National Arboretum  
7A and 7B Bounce

##### Term 4

St Edmunds Athletics Year 4 to 10

#### Sports clinics

Volleyball K to 8  
Softball Year K to 8  
Soccer Year K to 8

### List of Enrichment Activities

- Aussie of the Month
- Student of the Week
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Cross Country
- Chess Year 5 to 10
- NRMA Drivers Course – Year 10

- Eid Kringle
- Harmony Day
- Ramadan Art Competition
- Ramadan Islamic Studies Competition
- 100 days of Kindy
- NAIDOC Day
- Order of Australia Association – Awards
- Kindy Fire and Rescue

### **Quran Memorisation**

Advanced and Intermediate program for students willing to participate

### **Curriculum Offerings**

Below is a summary of our curriculum offerings:

- Integration of ICT into classroom activities in all learning areas.
- Arabic classes
- Islamic Studies Program
- Quran Classes
- Outdoor and indoor education visits from qualified trainers and professional sports people
- Life Education & Social Skills Programs
- Elective subjects
- Differentiated teaching across the school

### **Extra Curriculum Activities**

- Excursion/ Incursions
- Visual Arts program
- National Numeracy and Literacy Week activities
- Special Ramadan Program: Quran Competition
- Iftar Night
- Hajj week
- Footy day and other sports activities
- Primary and Secondary Athletics Day
- Parent teacher info nights
- Character Day –students dressed up as their favourite book character for the day.

### **School's Social Climate**

Our students come from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The beauty of our school's social climate is due to this diversity.

Our school policies pay special attention to students' wellbeing, emotional and physical development. Our behaviour policy and junior and senior behaviour charts address challenging

behaviour issues and at the same time we reward and encourage positive behaviour. The school has a strict approach in dealing with bullying incidents. We run workshops on “bullying” to all our students in the school.

### **Involvement of Parents in their Children’s Education**

Parents play an important role in the education of their children. The school encourages the parents to be more involved in the education and behaviour of the students. Such parent involvement has positive effect on improving students’ behaviour. We also encourage parents to participate in different school activities such as open day function, teachers / Parent Information Sessions and/or interviews throughout the year to establish positive parent / teacher relationships.

Our parents are always informed about different school activities throughout newsletters, emails, parents’ portal, messages, google classroom software and telephone calls. Parents are most welcome to make any suggestions or feedback for improvement. We hope to create a strong partnership with the parents to improve our practices.

### **Reporting to Parents**

We report students’ progress in several ways:

- Individualized meetings or phone calls with parents to discuss their children’s performance
- Parent/teacher interviews throughout the year
- Interim reports in Terms 1 & 3 to keep the parents updated on their children’s work habits, and progress.
- Formal semester reports twice a year at the end of semesters 1 & 2

### **Communication with Parents**

We maintain communication with parents in many ways:

- Parent/teacher information sessions and interviews
- Our school’s website
- Our school’s newsletter
- Through sending memo’s and letters
- Emails
- Individual appointments
- Phone calls and messages
- Open days and different school functions and activities
- Parents’ portal

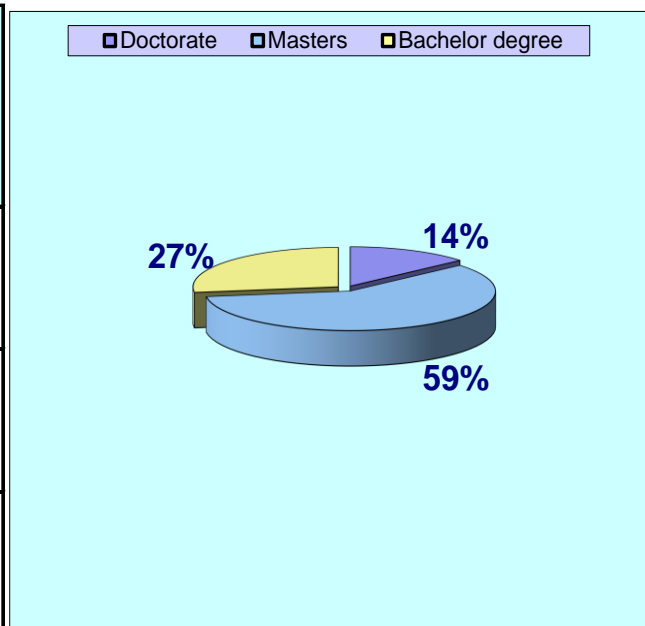
### **Staff Composition**

All our teachers are qualified with TQI registration. They all are required to attend internal and external professional learning to update themselves on different education matters.

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff 22	Non-teaching Staff 13	Indigenous Staff 0
Full-time	20	11	0
Part-time	2	2	0

### Qualifications of teaching staff

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	3
Masters	13
Bachelor degree	6



### Staff Professional Development

The main staff professional development initiatives were mainly on:

- Numeracy



- Literacy
- Australian Curriculum
- First Aid, Asthma and Anaphylaxis
- Leadership
- Staff & Wellbeing Development

#### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year 87% of staff was retained

#### Average staff attendance

For all staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 90%

#### Student Attendance – 2022

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage was 84%.

#### Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Attendance is marked every period for Secondary students. For primary students it is marked twice at the beginning of the day and in the middle of the day. We address the attendance issue in assemblies and send letters home in addition to messages and telephone calls. Parents are required to provide the office with an explanation to justify any absence or with a medical certificate. Meetings with concerned parents are organised to further educate them on the importance of regular students' attendance and how that is related to students' achievement levels.

## Student Wellbeing Programs and Initiatives

### Goals and Intended Outcomes for Students

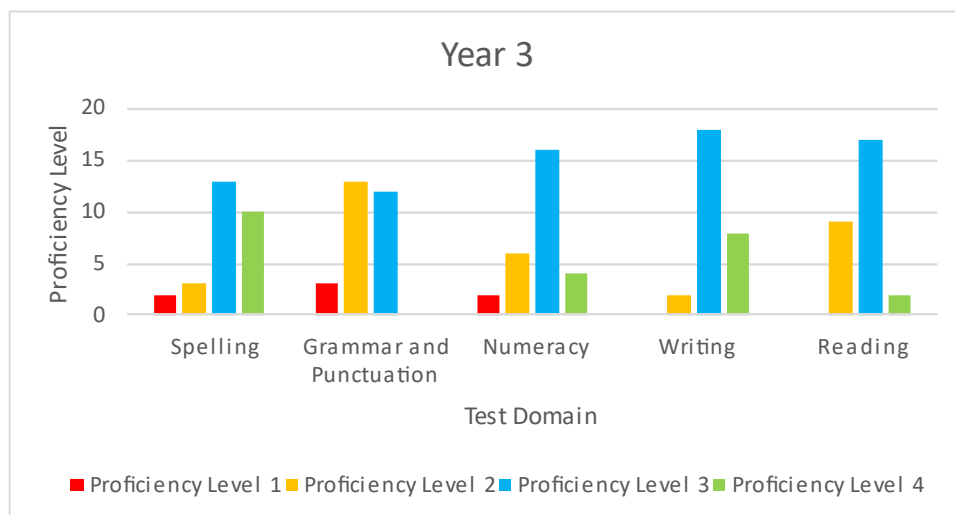
- Provide them with strong pastoral care
- Strengthen their well-being
- Expand their leadership skills and involvement in decision making
- Prepare them as life-long learners
- Promote positive education among our students
- Develop awareness of their role in their local communities and the society at large and help them integrate in a multicultural and multiracial Australian society.

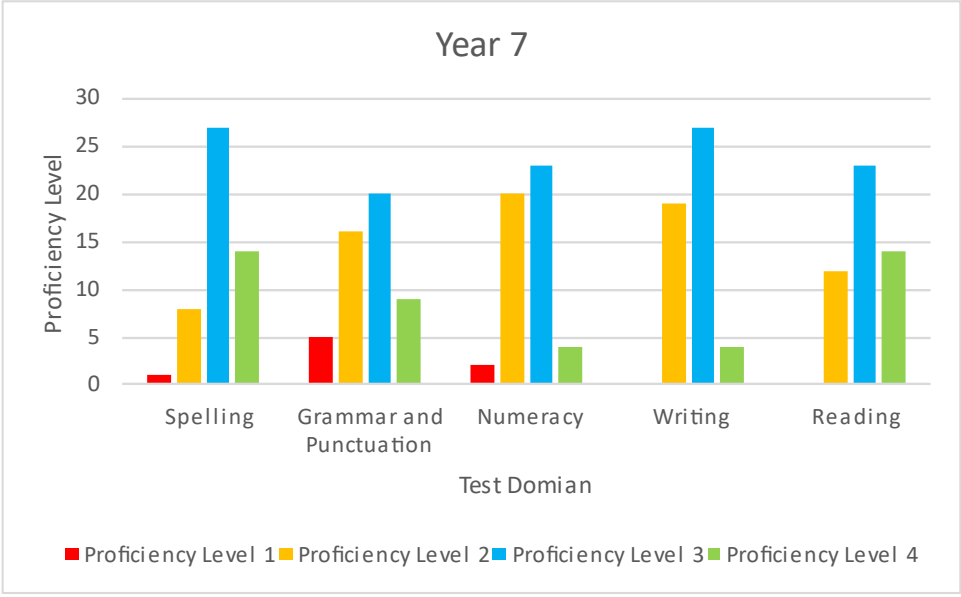
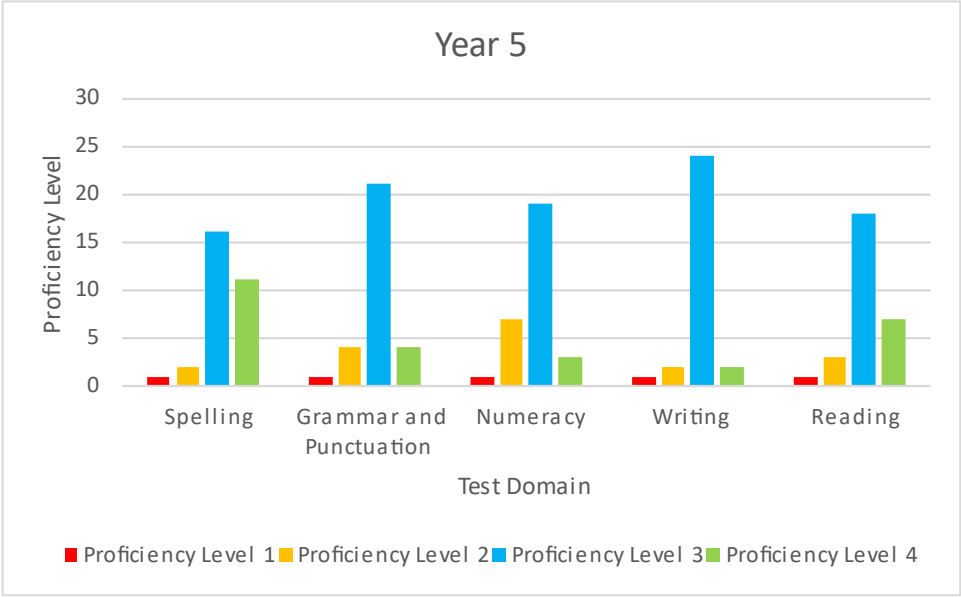
**In order to achieve the above outcomes, we organised some activities. Below is a list of most of those activities:**

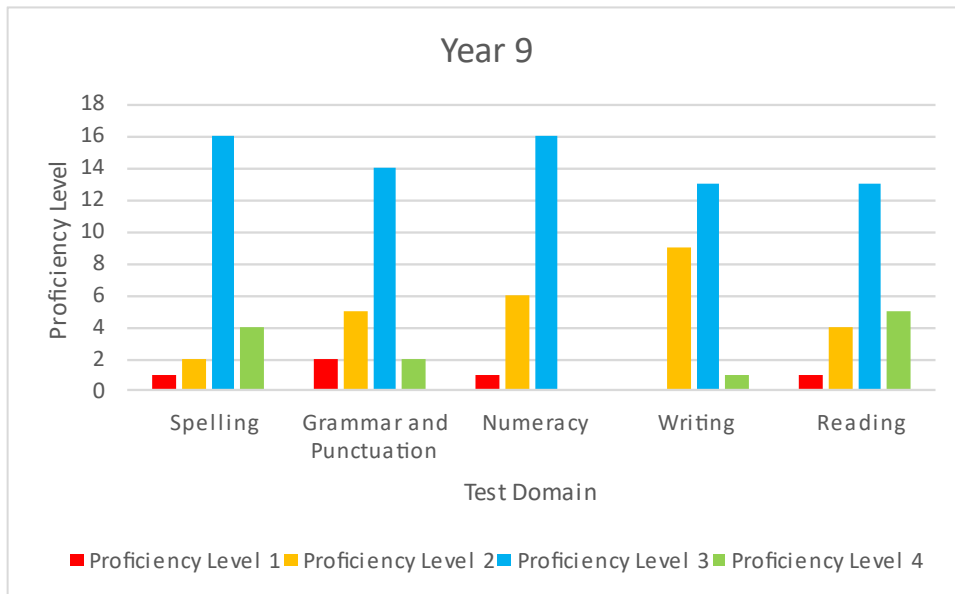
- SRC forum and school captains
- Student iftar day
- Eid festival
- Aussie of the Month
- Student of the Week
- Jump Rope For Heart
- Cross Country
- Chess Year 5 to 10
- NRMA Drivers Course – Year 10
- Eid Kringle
- Harmony Day
- Ramadan Art Competition
- Ramadan Islamic Studies Competition
- 100 days of Kindy
- NAIDOC Day
- Order of Australia Association – Awards
- Kindy Fire and Rescue
- Teachers Day

## NAPLAN TESTING – SUMMARY REPORT

Alahmdulillah our NAPLAN results for 2023 are very good. The graphs below show students results as per year levels







## Improvement Plan

- Monitoring students' performance on regular and constant basis
- Purchasing required resources to improve literacy and numeracy learning outcomes
- Enhancing teachers' pedagogical skills and professional capacity through targeted professional learning development
- Enhancing problem solving skills in Numeracy through analysis of students' performance
- Continuous curriculum development to identify gaps and areas of strength /weakness considering NAPLAN and ACER diagnosing tests results
- Identify weakness points based on NAPLAN results then work with students at both class and individual levels.
- Prepare ILPs for struggling students to help them catch up with their peers.

Our NAPLAN results in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

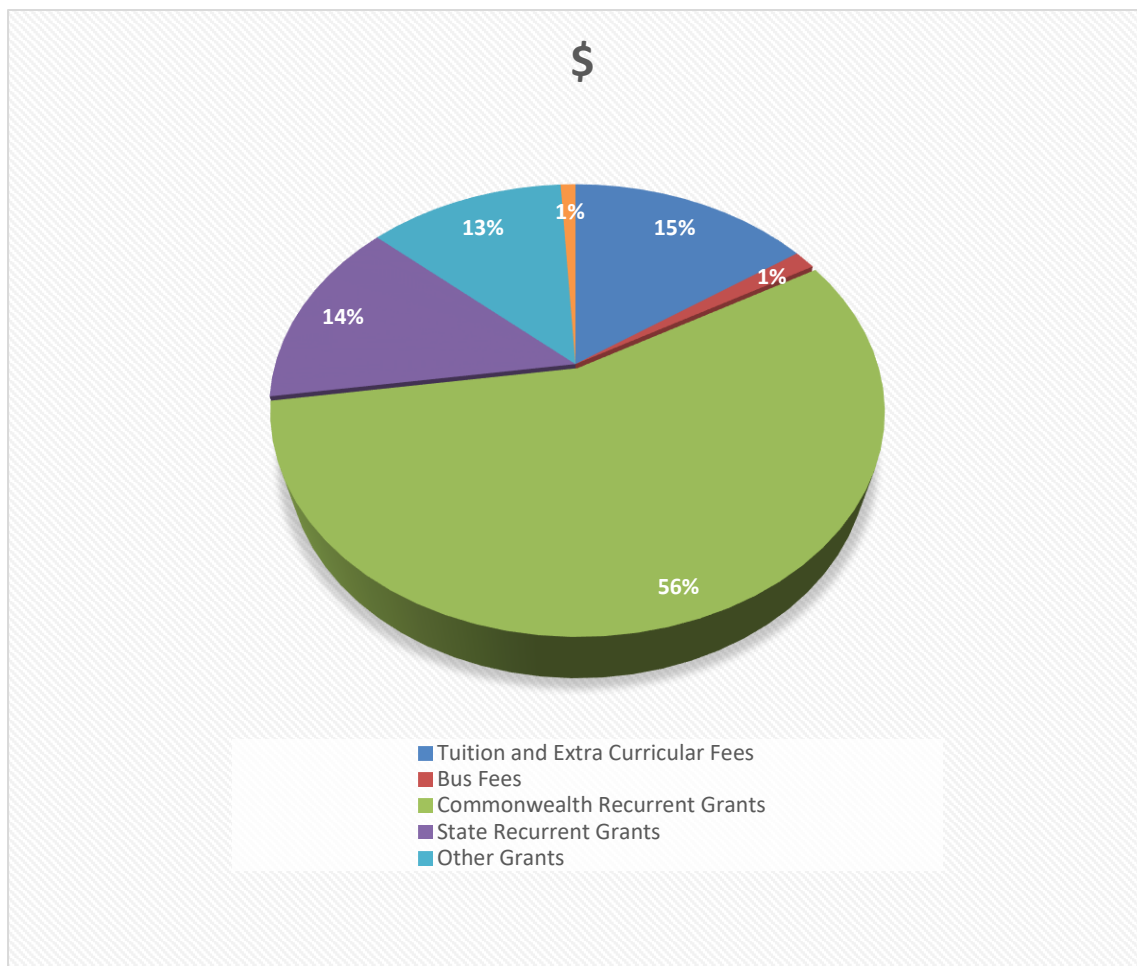
## School Assessments

In Primary, we use a variety of school assessments that assist us with students' performance such as Running Records (reading assessment levels), students' work and teacher anecdotal notes and assessment.

In secondary, teachers conduct mid-term and end of term tests as well as semester exams to check on students understanding and achievement.

## Finance

INCOME	\$	%
Tuition and Extra Curricular Fees	\$ 1,108,040.00	15.28828062
Bus Fees	\$ 101,752.00	1.403932285
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants	\$ 4,056,920.00	55.97571514
State Recurrent Grants	\$ 1,009,692.00	13.93131533
Other Grants	\$ 902,844.00	12.45707053
Other Income	\$ 68,395.00	0.943686106
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 7,247,643.00</b>	<b>100%</b>



EXPENSES	\$	%
Salaries and Related Expenses	\$ 3,221,870.00	59.24087351
Non-Salary Expenses	\$ 2,216,723.00	40.75912649
Total Expenses	\$ 5,438,593.00	100
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	\$ 5,438,593.00	

