

## **Report to the General Synod on the Operations and Finances of King's College for the Period Ending 31 December 2020**

### **The College**

King's College is now in its 125<sup>th</sup> year of existence as an independent, day and boarding school in Auckland for boys in Years 9 to 13 and girls in Years 11 to 13.

The College roll at December 2020 was 1099, which is an increase of 10 from the same time in 2019.

### **Governance**

The governance of the College has remained largely the same since our last report at the end of 2019. The only change is the resignation of Mr Lachie Johnstone in January 2020. He is replaced by Professor Prasanna Gai who joined the Board in January 2020. There have been no changes to the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Governors still has three standing sub-committees: Audit and Risk, People and Remuneration and Property. These committees assist in streamlining and improving Board processes and decision-making, which has accelerated change in the College.

### **Finances**

The College remains in a sound position financially, with improving annual operating cash surpluses and no debt.

Despite challenges with a Covid impacted year, the College's annual operating cash surplus (EBIDA) in 2020 achieved budget at \$3,500,000.

The sale of three hectares of land on Mangere Road to Kainga Ora has provided funding for three significant projects. These are the purchase of 1.5 hectares of land and the Clubhouse from the Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Course, ensuring that all buildings in the College are no longer earthquake "prone", and the construction of staff residences and other buildings to replace those sold with the Mangere Road land.

In addition to these projects, planning for the new Performing Arts Centre is almost complete and the intention is to start construction in late 2021. This building will be funded by a mixture of fundraising and College operating cash flow.

### **Staffing**

Overall, the College continues to attract a high standard of applicants for any vacancies that have arisen. Roll growth has meant several new staff needed to be appointed and changes to our House Managers and 24/7 Health Care Programme has seen more support staff appointed in this area. Covid brought New Zealanders home and many are attracted to teaching, making it easier to recruit great staff.

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## **Chaplaincy**

Our Senior Chaplain, Reverend Warren Watson, resigned and finished at the College at the end of Term 1, 2020. We have appointed Reverend Gareth Walters as our new Senior Chaplain. He is ably assisted by our Assistant Chaplain, Reverend Onosai Auva'a. The Voyager and Community Service programmes continue to engage a large number of our students in Chapel outreach activities.

## **Facilities**

The Property Committee of the Board of Governors has continued with its focus on the Master Property Plan with initial investigation work on projects that will follow the Performing Arts Centre. These include an expanded Dining Hall and a Student Service Centre.

There is also a priority to improve the academic areas to support the College's current developments in teaching and learning.

As mentioned under the Finance section, the sale of the Mangere Road land has also allowed for the construction or improvement of several buildings, including two new Day Houses, expanded boarding facilities (35 beds) to house Parnell students in the old Averill Boarding House, eight new staff residences and earthquake strengthening.

## **Academic Programme**

King's College has produced excellent results in 2020. The overall University Entrance pass rate was at 94%. Of note were the girls taking the NCEA pathway whose University Entrance pass rate was 100%. Fourteen students gained an Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award, including two 'Top in the World' awards. Forty NCEA Scholarships were gained, as well as five Outstanding Scholarships. Referring to our A level results, 50% were at the highest attainable grades of A\* or A. Excellence and Merit Endorsements continue to rise. King's continues to have student representation on the Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Economics New Zealand Olympiad teams.

When you combine this with the busyness of an 'all rounded education' our students have performed exceedingly well. Both the ERO and MNA review of King's College this year were very positive about the teaching and associated student learning taking place.

Throughout 2021 - 2022 we are continuing to progress the following educational innovations:

- Keeping abreast of and having input into the changes to NCEA
- A focus on assessment and reporting
- Adjustments to the Junior curriculum

## **Chapel at King's College**

Found in the heart of the school community is the King's College Memorial Chapel. The role of the Chapel is central to the College's goal of delivering an all-round education to Kings' students in the area of Christian spirituality and worship in an Anglican setting. To serve as an image of what we offer, we have been exploring the metaphor this year of 'acorns growing into oaks', since our College driveway for the last 100 years has been flanked by oaks that came from the very acorns that Bishop Selwyn planted at the Mission Station, in Waimate North.

With this in mind, Chapel services include Scripture readings, prayer and singing, along with short, relevant messages that speak to students about everyday life and faith. Services are held for different year groups, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, while there is also a weekly, whole school Chapel Service held in the Great Hall for our 1150 King's students. Regular Sunday House Services and Communion Services continue to accommodate the school community, particularly families, as well.

Central to our music ministry and worship is our organist, Mr Paul Chan, along with our excellent Chapel Choir, which has this year been led by the new Head of College Choirs, Mr Steven Rapanu. Covid-19 has certainly played its part in causing changes to our calendar and the way in which we worship. However, we are pleased to report that during this season we have been able to provide some pre-recorded services online. More recently it's been good to return to normal gatherings, as well as be able to host a steady stream of baptisms and Old Collegians' reunion services, since February 2021.

### **Religious Education**

Religious Education reflects the College's commitment to the spiritual development of our students. At Year 9 and 10, every class explores the basis of our Anglican identity, Christian belief and practice and the questions we all carry. At Year 9, our new syllabus focuses on understanding the core aspects of Christianity, including Jesus' life, His miracles and teachings, together with Jesus' Death and Resurrection. Sometime is also spent introducing world religions and questions of character formation. For the first time, this year, Year 9 students have been drawing on the excellent resource produced by Scripture Union Ireland called *NUA*. *NUA* is an eight-part series that looks at key questions, including 'How did we get here?', 'Is Jesus Fact or Fiction?' And 'What about the Resurrection?' Through our Year 10 RE syllabus, students have the opportunity to build further on this foundation. At Year 10, students embark on a three-fold journey to:

- i. Investigate more about the Anglican tradition
- ii. Explore world religions more widely
- iii. For Year 10 classes, learn the value of 'reflection' by being involved with Community Service during class time and then discussing and evaluating the experiences they have

### **Community Service**

At King's College, Community Service is our 'Christianity at Work' programme. By creating opportunities to engage with the community, we aim to teach students the value of putting faith into action. More importantly, our students learn that freely giving themselves to the service of others is a lifelong and highly rewarding responsibility. This year, our Community Service programme has been affected and some events have had to be either postponed or cancelled. One of these has been the Otahuhu Fun Day, a major local community initiative in South Auckland, which usually sees around 60 King's students helping with rides, stalls, music, setting up and cleaning away afterwards. At the present time, King's students are also involved in several places, such as a 'Reading in Schools' programme in a number of local schools, serving at an after-school programme in Ōtāhuhu and assisting in numerous ways at Middlemore Hospital and in the local South Auckland area. Despite Covid-19, we have been able to be involved in several key fundraising initiatives, including a Runathon held in April this year for two key ministries, Mercy Ships and the St Paul's-in-the Park, Flatbush community outreach.

### **Voyager Programme**

'Voyager' is an extra-curricular, weekly gathering, hosted by the Chaplains in Terms Two and Three. The purpose is to give students the opportunity and space to explore the idea of faith in a safe, open, relevant and respectful way. 'Voyager' this year, set off in May to Muriwai where we enjoyed a three-day camp of fun activities, worship and teaching. Our camp was attended by Liz Alexander, (previously of 'Attitude'), who, as camp speaker, explored with the 30x Voyager students gathered, the challenges we all face as we traverse the difficult terrain of life. The camp was unanimously appreciated by everyone who went. Voyager Camp serves as a natural steppingstone towards Confirmation and since then we have been offering further opportunity to explore faith, on Tuesday evening and Wednesday lunchtimes, to some 25x students. On Sunday, 5 September 2021 we look forward to holding our

annual Confirmation Service, with The Right Reverend, Ross Bay, Bishop of Auckland due to Confirm our cluster of candidates.


The King's College Chaplaincy Team is Reverend Gareth Walters (Senior Chaplain) Reverend Onosai Auva'a, (Assistant Chaplain) plus a wonderful student Sacristan team consisting of 16 Sacristans or Chapel prefects. Along with all of the above areas of involvement, the Chaplains provide pastoral and spiritual support to the students, staff and families that avail themselves of this service.

### **Overall Position**

Overall, King's College is in good heart with a sound financial position. There is increasing roll pressure this year, a full roll for 2022 and 2023 filling fast. We are already taking enrolments for 2024.

We maintain a very good relationship with the church and enjoy our contacts with other church schools and representatives.

We look forward to continuing great progress in the years to come.



Simon Lamb  
**Headmaster**

8 July 2021