



# Aquinas Catholic College Menai

## 2024 HSC Newsletter



I am delighted to share with you the wonderful achievements of our Aquinas Catholic College students in the 2024 Higher School Certificate.

I warmly congratulate the Class of 2024 on their exemplary results and significant accomplishments during their time at Aquinas. An analysis of our HSC results by Catholic Schools New South Wales has identified Aquinas as having learning growth (value added) above typical when compared to similar students in other New South Wales Catholic Schools, for the fifth consecutive year. It has been inspiring to witness our students' teamwork and mutual support, which have driven both individual and collective performance improvements. As a result, many students have experienced remarkable learning growth.

The exceptional results have rewarded the sustained effort, collaboration and perseverance demonstrated by our students and staff. The HSC results are also a testament to our strong learning culture (our Enlivened Learning philosophy fosters a growth mindset in uniting faith, wellbeing and learning), to our supportive families and wider community, and to the outstanding teaching and learning provided by our staff.

As a non-selective school, Aquinas Catholic College consistently achieves excellent results - evidence of our desire that all students reach their full academic potential and our strong commitment to quality teaching, wellbeing and continual improvement.

Aquinas Catholic College encourages all students to be the best they can be and our graduates enter the next phase of their lives as confident, resilient and compassionate young people with a strong sense of hope who are 'Enlivened by the Spirit'. We are immensely proud of the Class of 2024 and we wish them the very best for their future endeavours. Congratulations students, staff and parents!

*James Clancy* - Principal

# 2024 Highlights



149 HSC students



134 ATAR students



97.6 Top ATAR



47 Distinguished Achievers



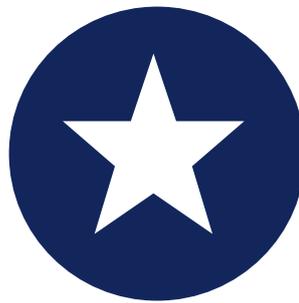
75 Merit List mentions



9 NESA Showcase nominations



1 All Round Achiever



1 NSW State Ranking



2 Sydney Diocese first placings



86% of courses above state average



92% of results Bands 4-6



40 VET qualifications achieved

# Academic Performance Highlights



**Edgar Bo**  
College Dux  
Outstanding Learning  
Growth



**Jesse Georges**  
College Dux  
All Round Achiever  
Outstanding Learning  
Growth



**Erin Southall**  
6<sup>th</sup> Place  
New South Wales  
Community & Family  
Studies  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**David Taseski**  
1st Place  
Sydney Catholic  
Schools  
Mathematics  
Advanced



**Ivan Kuptsov**  
1st Place  
Sydney Catholic  
Schools  
Russian Continuers



**Rhianna Ayoub**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Xara Chamoun**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Mia Christiansen**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Bailey Duncan**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Pericles Leftakis**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Vanessa Massih**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Joshua Messina**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Cameron Morel**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Samantha Paton**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Olivia Richard-  
Preston**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth



**Marcus  
Wongoemar**  
Outstanding  
Learning Growth

# HSC Showcases and Exhibitions



**Jake Alam**  
SHAPE Nomination  
Industrial Technology-  
Timber Products &  
Furniture Technologies



**Rhianna Ayoub**  
SHAPE Nomination  
Industrial Technology-  
Timber Products &  
Furniture Technologies



**Michael Davis**  
SHAPE Nomination  
Industrial Technology-  
Timber Products &  
Furniture Technologies



**Antonio Dominici**  
SHAPE Nomination  
Industrial Technology-  
Timber Products &  
Furniture Technologies



**Bailey Duncan**  
SHAPE Nomination  
Industrial Technology-  
Timber Products &  
Furniture Technologies



**Grace Judge**  
CALLBACK Nomination  
Dance



**Goran Kocankoski**  
SHAPE Nomination  
Industrial Technology-  
Timber Products &  
Furniture Technologies



**Mali Willoughby**  
Sydney Catholic Schools  
Visual Arts Showcase



**Kayla Puse**  
ART EXPRESS  
Inclusion  
Visual Arts

**'The Things We Frame'**  
Painting

**Artist Statement**

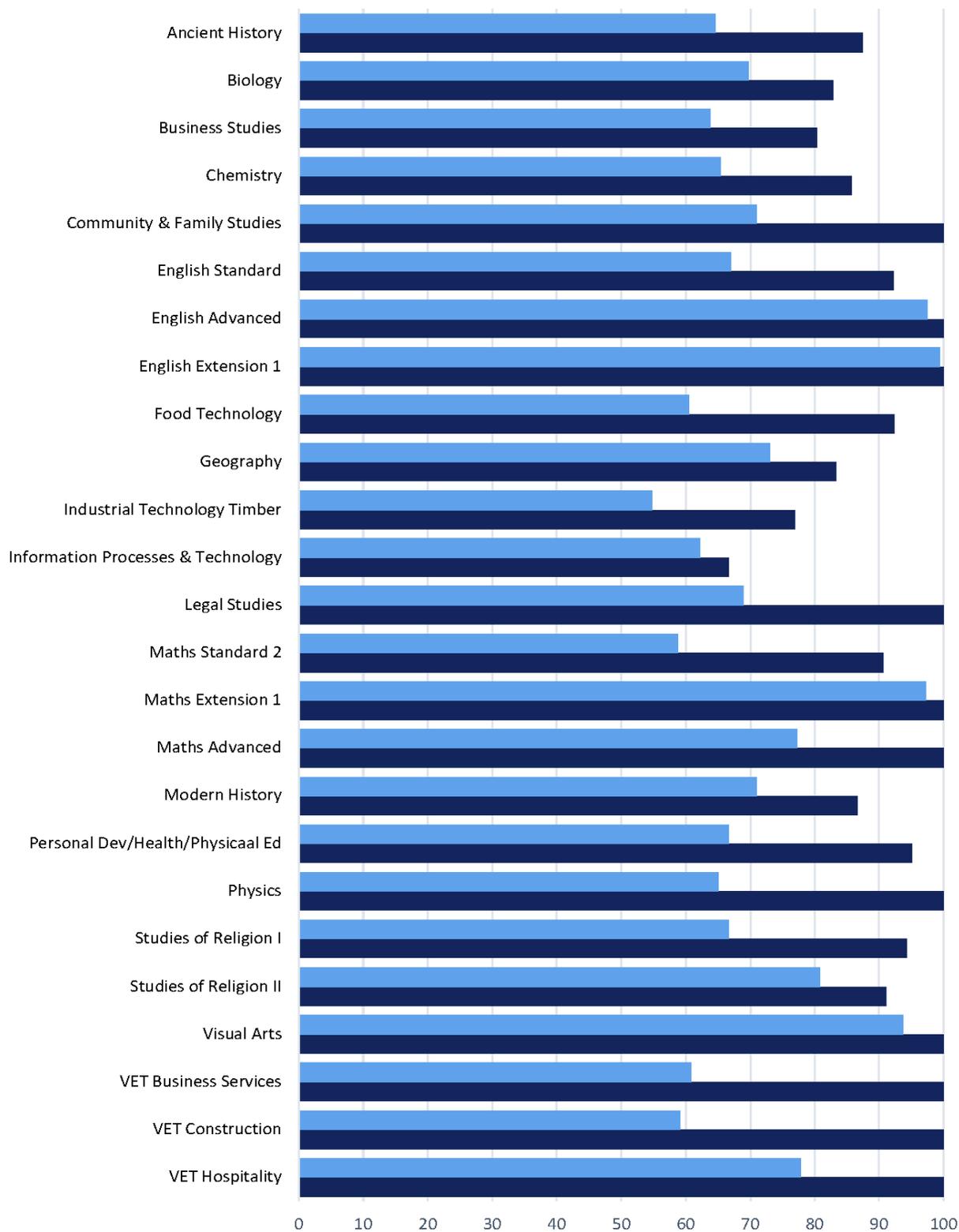
My body of work explores the framing that takes place in our lives; both through a camera lens, and of the pictures we put on our shelves. My work addresses the shift from the careful curation of photos in the past, each precious shot captured through my mother's eyes of her children, to the current digital age where everything is documented, but often without the same level of intentionality.

By weaving embroidery thread into my artwork, I trace the journey of a captured moment, travelling from the photographer and into the moment, making it alive over time and fostering our human tendency to reminisce. Inspired by the warm and nostalgic paintings of Amelia Rozear, the mellow colours aim to depict the haziness of the past through the lens of the photographer, who decides what is in the picture, and what is left for us to fill in with our own memories.



# Excellence in HSC Courses

Bands 4, 5 and 6 Results: Aquinas Catholic College V New South Wales  
(Courses with a minimum of 5 students)



# Distinguished Achievers

Students who achieved the top bands (Band 6 or E4 in one or more courses)

\* Notional Band 6

<b>Alam, Jake</b>	Business Studies Mathematics Standard 2	<b>McInerney, Elisabeth</b>	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
<b>Allen, Rachael</b>	Ancient History	<b>Messina, Joshua</b>	Mathematics Standard 2 Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
<b>Apomayta, Mia</b>	Biology Mathematics Advanced Mathematics Extension 1 Studies of Religion I	<b>Noyes, Logan</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Baranovskiy, Michael</b>	Mathematics Extension 1 Mathematics Extension 2 *	<b>Page, Ryan</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Blagojevic, Alyse</b>	Studies of Religion II	<b>Parkinson, Oliver</b>	Mathematics Advanced Mathematics Extension 1
<b>Bo, Edgar</b>	Mathematics Extension 1 Mathematics Extension 2 * Modern History	<b>Perry, James</b>	Business Studies Personal Development, Health & Physical Education Studies of Religion I
<b>Bold, Holly</b>	Mathematics Standard 2	<b>Puse, Kayla</b>	Community & Family Studies English Advanced English Extension 1 Studies of Religion II Visual Arts
<b>Boon, Stephanie</b>	Community & Family Studies	<b>Roberts, Mia</b>	Community & Family Studies Studies of Religion II
<b>Brassington, Nicole</b>	Mathematics Standard 2	<b>Salib, Scarlett</b>	Community & Family Studies
<b>Brown, Zoe</b>	Food Technology	<b>Sinikoski, Jordan</b>	Ancient History
<b>Cashman, Madison</b>	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education	<b>Smith, Ethan</b>	Mathematics Standard 2 Studies of Religion I
<b>Chamoun, Xara</b>	Business Studies English Advanced	<b>Smith, Ruby</b>	Modern History Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
<b>Christiansen, Mia</b>	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education	<b>Southall, Erin</b>	Community & Family Studies Mathematics Standard 2 Personal Development, Health & Physical Education Studies of Religion II
<b>Corcoran, William</b>	Mathematics Standard 2	<b>Spicak, Maddi</b>	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
<b>Davis, Michael</b>	Mathematics Standard 2	<b>Straatman, Cade</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Dominici, Antonio</b>	Industrial Technology – Timber Products & Furniture Technologies	<b>Sweeting, Lachlan</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Faber, India</b>	Mathematics Standard 2 Studies of Religion II	<b>Taseski, David</b>	Mathematics Advanced
<b>Georges, Jesse</b>	Business Studies English Advanced Mathematics Advanced Personal Development, Health & Physical Education Studies of Religion II	<b>Thomas, Mia</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Huopainen, Amber</b>	Mathematics Standard 2 Personal Development, Health & Physical Education	<b>Triantos, Parris</b>	Business Studies Modern Greek Beginners Studies of Religion II
<b>Issa, Maria</b>	Community & Family Studies	<b>Trinder, Sophie</b>	Community & Family Studies
<b>Kuptsov, Ivan</b>	Russian Continuers	<b>Tzanis, Athan</b>	Mathematics Extension 2 *
<b>Leftakis, Pericles</b>	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education	<b>Wightman, Ryan</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Lo Russo, Isabella</b>	Community & Family Studies	<b>Woelms, Brianna</b>	Mathematics Extension 2 *
<b>Massih, Vanessa</b>	Community & Family Studies Studies of Religion II	<b>Wongoemar, Marcus</b>	Music 1
<b>Mastroianni, Marcus</b>	Mathematics Advanced	<b>Xiros, Nathaniel</b>	Mathematics Standard 2 Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

# Honour Roll



**Edgar Bo**

Economics  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Mathematics Extension 2  
Modern History  
Studies in Catholic Thought  
ATAR 97.6



**Jesse Georges**

Business Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced  
Personal Development, Health &  
Physical Education  
Studies in Religion II  
ATAR 97.6



**Erin Southall**

Community & Family Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Personal Development,  
Health & Physical Education  
Studies of Religion II  
ATAR 96.75



**Mia Apomayta**

Biology  
Chemistry  
English Advanced  
English Extension 1  
Mathematics Advanced  
Mathematics Extension 1  
Studies of Religion I  
ATAR 96.2



**Kayla Puse**

Community & Family Studies  
English Advanced  
English Extension 1  
Mathematics Advanced  
Studies of Religion II  
Visual Arts  
ATAR 95.6

# Honour Roll



**Joshua Messina**

English Advanced  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Modern History  
Personal Development, Health  
& Physical Education  
Studies of Religion I  
**ATAR 93.35**



**Parris Triantos**

Business Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Advanced  
Modern Greek Beginners  
Studies of Religion II  
**ATAR 92.8**



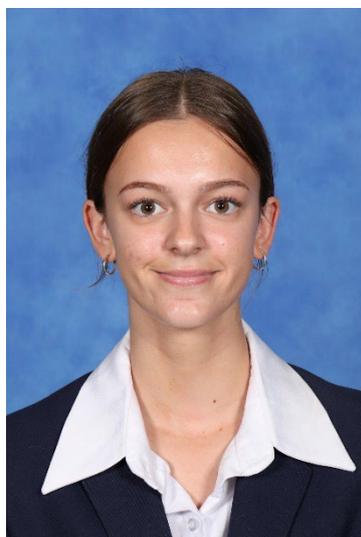
**Ruby Smith**

Biology  
English Standard  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Modern History  
Personal Development, Health &  
Physical Education  
Studies of Religion I  
**ATAR 92.65**



**Amber Huopainen**

English Advanced  
Legal Studies  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Personal Development, Health &  
Physical Education  
Studies of Religion II  
**ATAR 92.25**



**Mia Roberts**

Biology  
Community & Family Studies  
English Advanced  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Studies of Religion II  
**ATAR 92.05**



**Xara Chamoun**

Business Studies  
English Advanced  
Food Technology  
Mathematics Standard 2  
Studies of Religion II  
**ATAR 91.35**