



2023 COMPLIANCE REPORT

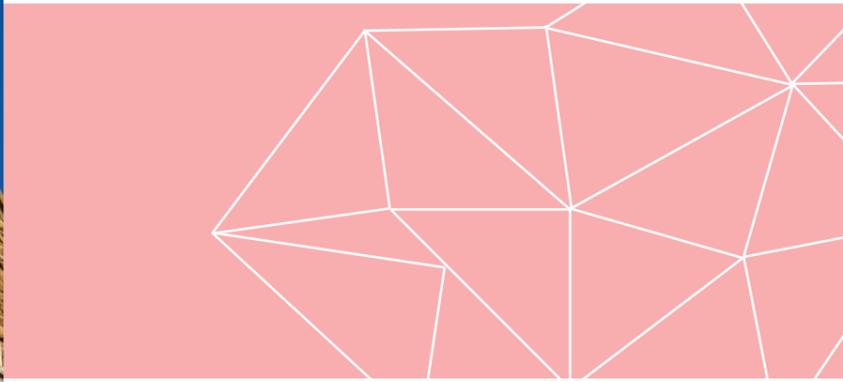


**ST DOMINIC'S
PRIORY COLLEGE**

EDUCATING GIRLS. INSPIRING CONFIDENCE



EDUCATING GIRLS
inspiring confidence



SCHOOL FEATURES

St Dominic's Priory College is a Catholic school educating girls from Reception to Year 12 in the Dominican Charism.

The College is committed to inspiring confidence in its students, ensuring excellence in their chosen fields. With a population of 671 students and 88 staff, our Community is diverse, reflecting the composition of Australia's multicultural demographic.

Our campus is located five minutes north of the city centre in a quiet corner of North Adelaide. Founded in 1884 by Dominican Sisters from England, it has in common with Dominican Schools around the world, a long tradition of teaching and learning. The Dominican motto of 'Truth, and the pursuit of truth wherever it is found' is seen as essential to its philosophy of learning. Acting on that truth in outreach to the neighbour is the desired outcome of this pursuit. The opportunity to nurture character and confidence is enhanced by the school's moderate size. Education at St Dominic's is based on a deep respect for the unique qualities and gifts of each child.

The College has an outstanding reputation in South Australia for the quality of its students' educational achievements across a broad range of learning areas. St Dominic's is committed to providing a balanced education where physical, intellectual and emotional growth are seen as complementary. Joy and enthusiasm are valued in the school's daily life and a wide range of co-curricula activities foster these goals.

The report presented here is a requirement of the Commonwealth Government as outlined in the *Schools Assistance Act 2008*. St Dominic's Priory College reports this data with pride in the significant achievements of staff and students.

It is presented under three headings: *Professional Engagement*, *Student Learning Outcomes* and *Satisfaction*.

We acknowledge St Dominic's Priory College is situated on Kurna Land and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.



STUDENT COHORT

ENROLMENTS

In 2023 a total of 671 students were enrolled at St Dominic's Priory College. Of these, 3 students identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and 5 were enrolled as International Students. Further, there were 79 students who received support for a disability as identified under the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD). Year level enrolments for 2023 as per the August census are reflected in the table below.

YEAR LEVEL	STUDENTS	YEAR LEVEL	STUDENTS
Little Doms	11	Year 7	77
Reception	24	Year 8	78
Year 1	20	Year 9	64
Year 2	22	Year 10	82
Year 3	27	Year 11	79
Year 4	27	Year 12	71
Year 5	43	SECONDARY TOTAL	451
Year 6	46		
PRIMARY TOTAL	220	COLLEGE TOTAL	671

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

St Dominic's Priory College maintains a high level of student attendance. In 2023, the average student attendance rate was 92.64%

The College provides multiple channels by which student absences can be notified. When a student is absent without explanation, a SMS text message is sent to the Parent or Guardian seeking clarification of the reasons for the absence as well as a follow up phone call when necessary. If needed, a letter is forwarded to families to clarify any unresolved absences. In addition, absences are monitored by Year Level Coordinators and the Deputy Principal, who work in partnership with parents/guardians to maximise the wellbeing of students.

The percentage figure for the average student attendance rate, as detailed below, shows the proportion of days that each student, on average, attends school throughout the year. The larger the percentage, the smaller the number of days that students are absent from school.

YEAR LEVEL	ATTENDANCE %	YEAR LEVEL	ATTENDANCE %
Reception	93.67%	Year 7	94.10%
Year 1	92.02%	Year 8	93.02%
Year 2	91.57%	Year 9	91.44%
Year 3	93.20%	Year 10	92.23%
Year 4	94.02%	Year 11	92.24%
Year 5	92.14%	Year 12	92.36%
Year 6	94.48%		

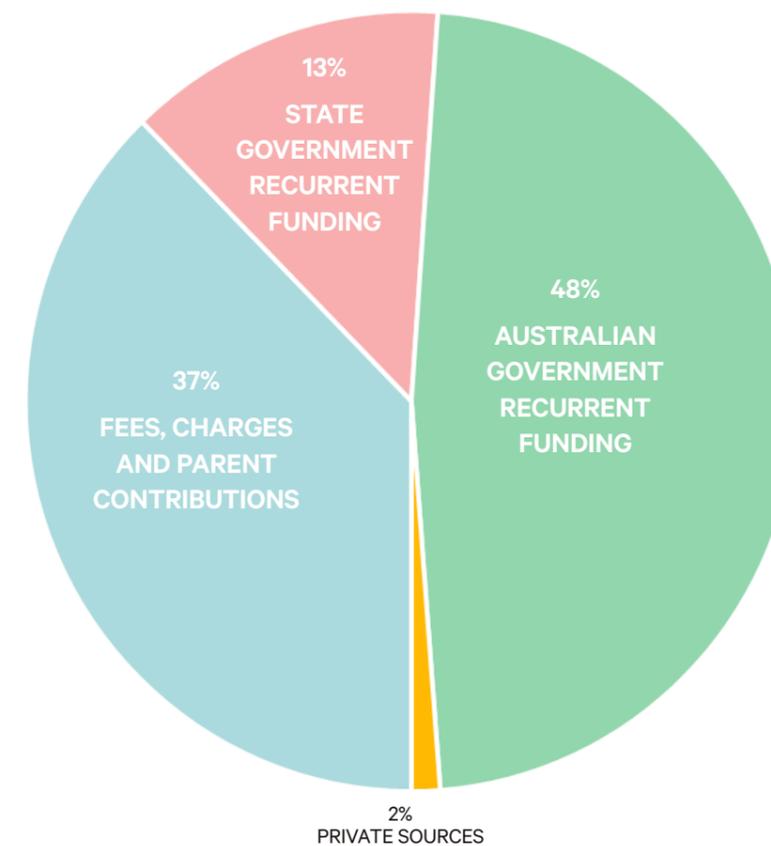
Based on the number of school days that students are required to attend against those taken as absence.



FINANCE

As an Independent Catholic School, the primary source of funding for teaching and learning programs comes from Parent contributions such as Tuition Fees and charges. Both the State and Commonwealth Governments also provide grants which are managed diligently to ensure the ongoing financial viability of the College:

NET RECURRENT INCOME 2023





STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

St Dominic's Year 12 students of 2023 achieved overall outstanding results. Thirty-eight percent (38%) of the Year 12 class achieved an ATAR score of 90 and above (top 10% in the State). Twenty percent (20%) achieved a score of 95 and above (top 5% in the State). Seventy-three percent (73%) of students were offered their first preference for University admission.

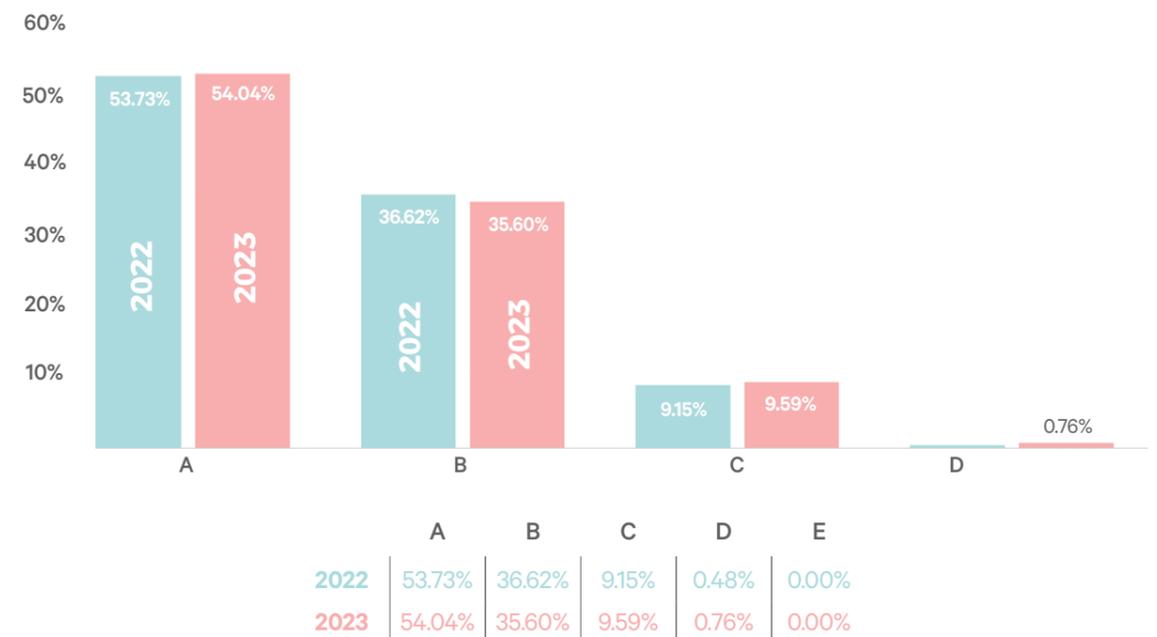
Overall, over 90% of all passes were of A and B grade standard.

Thirteen (13) Merits were obtained in the following subjects: *Activating Identities & Futures, Biology, Child Studies, English, English Literary Studies, Physics, Psychology, Society & Culture, and Visual Arts - ART.*

Thirty-five (35) Senior School students were awarded a VET Qualification.

The full range of subject achievements for 2023 were published in Issue 1 of the 2024 College Newsletter. We extend our congratulations to all Year 12 students of 2023.

YEAR 12 GRADE DISTRIBUTIONS 2022/2023



POST-SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

In January 2024 the following offers were made to our students of 2023:

Total University 96%

Total TAFE 0%



STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

NAPLAN

2023 Results

The 2023 NAPLAN participation for St Dominic's Priory College is 100%, compared with 95% nationally. The table below shows the College's average student results for 2023.

The cell colour shows how the College compares to all Australian students.

	YEAR 3	YEAR 5	YEAR 7	YEAR 9
READING	439	532	571	605
WRITING	444	522	578	611
SPELLING	445	529	579	611
GRAMMAR	429	535	569	603
NUMERACY	393	510	566	596

well above
 above
 close to

Percentage of Students Making Above Average Progress 2019 - 2021

The table below shows the percentage of students at the school who achieved above average progress, compared to students of a similar background and who had the same starting score on their previous NAPLAN test.

	YEAR 3-5	YEAR 5-7	YEAR 7-9
READING	40%	61%	64%
WRITING	62%	54%	61%
NUMERACY	51%	56%	66%

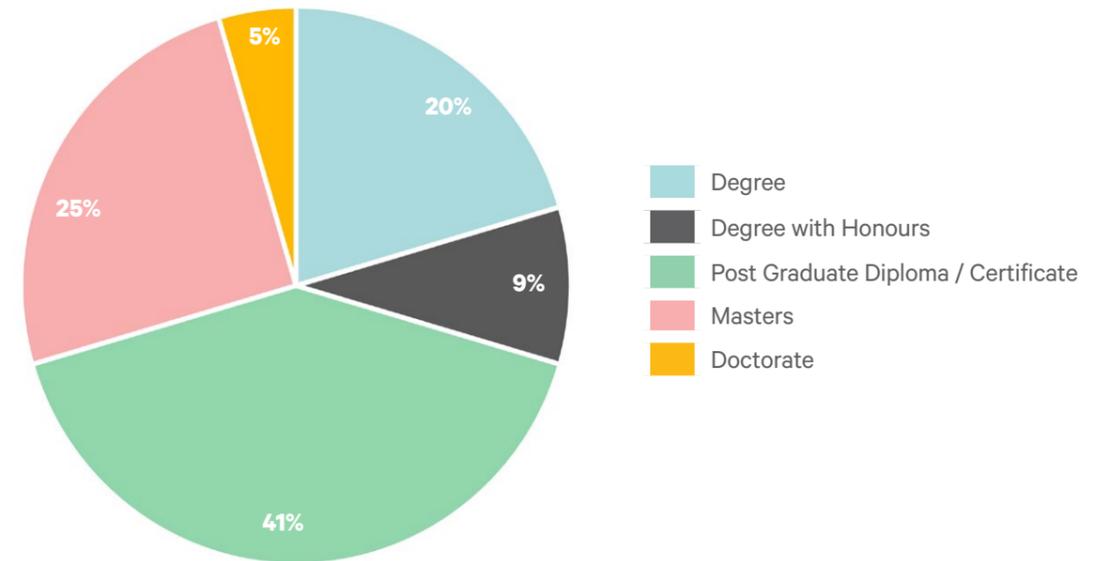
NOTE: There was no NAPLAN in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic therefore, there is no 2018-2020 or 2020-2022 student progress available.



PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

The academic qualifications of our teaching staff is shown in the pie chart below:



In addition to formal qualifications, all staff undergo training in *Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect - Education and Care*, and *First Aid for an Educational Setting*. All teaching staff hold the required qualifications for Teacher Registration in South Australia, and are trained in the Child Protection Curriculum. A wide range of Professional Development Opportunities are made available throughout the year.

COLLEGE STAFF

The St Dominic's Priory College staff comprises of **82 staff**. The number of staff and full-time equivalent as reported in the Non-Government Schools Census for 2023 is shown in the table below.

STAFF PROFILE		FULL TIME EQUIVALENT
Principal	1	1.0
Teaching Staff	63	52.2
Education Support Officers	28	20.8
TOTAL STAFF:	92	74

There are no staff members who identify as Indigenous Australians.

STUDENT SATISFACTION

STUDENT SURVEY

Research indicates a strong positive correlation between student satisfaction and a school's operations. Exiting students' perceptions of school climate are important in understanding ways to improve school quality and satisfaction among students and teachers for future years.

A positive school environment empowers members of the school community to contribute to the ongoing improvement of the school and eliminate negative behaviours. The Exiting Student Survey is designed to provide schools with data useful for fostering a positive learning and working environment that promotes academic success among all students. Initial assessment provides a baseline, and ongoing assessment helps to determine whether programs are effective at improving the school climate, and whether they continue to be relevant for schools over time.

Performance of students is frequently reviewed; however, this only offers a snapshot and can often overlook the range of experiences, values and qualities that make up a school.

AIMS OF THE SURVEY

The survey aims to provide St Dominic's Priory College with the ability to:

- understand graduating students' perceptions and identify areas where there are high levels of satisfaction, and areas in need of improvement;
- determine students' future plans and preferred method of maintaining contact with the College;
- conduct like comparisons of your school to similar schools (e.g., denomination, size, vicinity, sector);
- conduct year comparisons – compare one year to the next to identify changes and improvements; and
- make comparisons across stakeholders (e.g., parents, staff, students, school executives).



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The exiting students at St Dominic's Priory College expressed an overall satisfaction rate of 78%, surpassing the benchmark for Catholic Girls' Schools by 1%. Furthermore, compared to the 2020 results, the 2023 results indicate an impressive 8% increase in satisfaction levels. The percentage figures below represent mean scores for individual items. Students displayed the highest levels of satisfaction with Student Behavioural Values, and the lowest with Technology and Resources.

Percentage scores below indicate mean levels of satisfaction.

THE HIGHEST RATED ITEMS WERE FOR:

- I would recommend St Dominic's Priory College to others (93%)
- St Dominic's Priory College is clearly identified as a Catholic School (92%)
- Keeping in contact with St Dominic's Priory College is very important (87%)

THE LOWEST RATED ITEMS WERE FOR:

- The religious program is encompassing and interesting to students (59%)
- Students at St Dominic's Priory College wear their school uniform with pride (62%)
- Bullying has not been a problem at my school (66%)

SURVEY KEY AREAS INCLUDED

- Guidance and Support
- Learning Opportunities
- Personal Development
- Teacher Quality
- School Curriculum
- School Environment
- Student Behavioural Values
- Technology Resources
- Student Relationships
- Religion





KEY RESULTS

St Dominic's Priory College's results have been analysed for each question and compared to both other Catholic Girls' Schools and the National Benchmark. In order of satisfaction level, the College's key points of difference - outside of those reported on page 15 - are presented below.

KEY AREA	ITEM	NATIONAL MEAN	CATHOLIC GIRLS' SCHOOLS MEAN	ST DOMINIC'S 2023 MEAN
Learning Opportunities	I have been taught to respect individual differences	78% (-8%)	84% (-2%)	86% (+8%)
School Curriculum	My subjects have been interesting and challenging	77% (-8%)	75% (-10%)	85% (+10%)
Learning Opportunities	My teachers have helped me to be responsible for my own learning	75% (-9%)	81% (-3%)	84% (+9%)
Personal Development	I have been encouraged to take part in community activities	76% (-8%)	81% (-3%)	84% (+8%)
School Curriculum	I have been able to make decisions in class using ideas that we have learned	74% (-10%)	74% (-10%)	84% (+10%)
Student Relationships	My classmates have helped me if I did not understand something	78% (-6%)	83% (-1%)	84% (+6%)
School Environment	St Dominic's Priory College has been welcoming to my family	78% (-5%)	82% (-1%)	83% (+5%)
Behavioural Values	Students have shown respect towards staff	66% (-17%)	76% (-7%)	83% (+17%)
Guidance and Support	There are support services that I have been able to easily access	74% (-8%)	81% (-1%)	82% (+8%)
Teacher Quality	My teachers have acknowledged my efforts	72% (-9%)	77% (-4%)	81% (+9%)
Technology and Resources	The technology and other resources have been easily accessible	70% (-4%)	65% (-9%)	74% (+9%)
Religion	I have a much greater understanding of my faith	N/A	63% (-8%)	71% (+8%)

TOP 10 IMPROVEMENTS

St Dominic's Priory College's results have been analysed for each question and compared to its results from 2020. Presented below are the top 10 percentage differences between the College's 2023 and 2020 Student Exiting Survey results.

KEY AREA	ITEM	ST DOMINIC'S 2020 MEAN	ST DOMINIC'S 2023 MEAN	IMPROVEMENT
Technology and Resources	The computer resources at St Dominic's Priory College are up-to-date	32%	67%	+35%
Overall	I would recommend St Dominic's Priory College to others	64%	93%	+29%
Overall	Keeping in touch with St Dominic's Priory College is very important	59%	87%	+28%
Technology and Resources	The technology and other resources have been easily accessible	47%	74%	+27%
Guidance and Support	There are support services that I have been able to easily access	58%	82%	+24%
School Environment	I have enjoyed going to St Dominic's Priory College	55%	79%	+24%
Technology and Resources	The resources in my school are of high quality	54%	70%	+16%
Technology and Resources	My teachers have kept up to date with technology	52%	68%	+16%
Learning Opportunities	I feel that I have been motivated to learn at St Dominic's Priory College	63%	77%	+14%
Overall	I am happy to have attended St Dominic's	67%	81%	+14%

A FINAL NOTE:

The data suggests that there has been considerable improvements over time at St Dominic's Priory College. Results indicate significant advancements with **TECHNOLOGY AND RESOURCES** and the **SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**. Students are proud to have attended their school and they would like to keep in contact.

PARENT SATISFACTION

PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Research indicates a strong positive correlation between parent satisfaction and a school's operations. Parents' perceptions of school climate are important in understanding ways to improve school morale, reputation, productivity and overall atmosphere.

A positive school environment empowers members of the school community to contribute to the ongoing improvement of the school. The **Parent Opinion Survey** is designed to provide schools with data useful for fostering a positive learning and working environment that promotes academic success among all students. Initial assessment provides a baseline, and ongoing assessment helps to determine whether programs are effective at improving the school climate, and whether they continue to be relevant for schools over time.

Performance of students is frequently reviewed; however, this only offers a snapshot and can often overlook the range of experiences, values and qualities that make up a school.

AIMS OF THE SURVEY

The survey aims to provide the College with the ability to:

- demonstrate areas in St Dominic's where there are high levels of satisfaction, and areas in need of improvement;
- report on school satisfaction for marketing and other purposes;
- conduct like comparisons of St Dominic's to similar schools (e.g., denomination, school size, vicinity, sector);
- conduct year comparisons – compare one year to the next to identify changes and improvements; and
- make comparisons across stakeholders (e.g., parents, staff, students, school executives).

SUMMARY DATA

The table below presents demographic information about St Dominic's Priory College's respondents.

	Percent of respondents	Number of respondents
All respondents	100%	180
Mothers	74%	133
Fathers	25%	46
Guardians	1%	1
Little Doms	2%	4
Reception	2%	4
Year 1	4%	7
Year 2	3%	6
Year 3	8%	14
Year 4	3%	5
Year 5	7%	13
Year 6	6%	11
Year 7	13%	24
Year 8	8%	14
Year 9	7%	13
Year 10	13%	24
Year 11	11%	19
Year 12	12%	22

Please note: in this report, the mean levels of satisfaction have been calculated by converting parents' responses on the scale of 0 5 (strongly disagree to strongly agree) to percentage mean scores.



PARENT SATISFACTION

Parents at St Dominic's Priory College showed an overall mean satisfaction level of 83%. Compared with the Catholic Girls' Schools benchmark, satisfaction levels for St Dominic's parents were 6% higher. Percentage figures below indicate mean scores for each item. Compared with its results from 2022, St Dominic's Priory College was higher than each of the key areas, and overall, 6% higher than its results in 2022.

Parents at St Dominic's displayed the highest levels of satisfaction with the key area of **School Environment**, and the lowest levels with the key area of **School Curriculum**.

Percentage scores below indicate mean levels of satisfaction.

THE HIGHEST RATED ITEMS WERE FOR:

- St Dominic's Priory College is kept clean and tidy (91%)
- I have access to my daughter's teacher(s) when I feel the need to contact them (88%)
- St Dominic's Priory College is a safe place for my daughter (88%)
- St Dominic's Priory College is clearly identified as a Catholic School (88%)
- Teachers and staff are caring and supportive (88%)

THE LOWEST RATED ITEMS WERE FOR:

- The College provides a wide variety of educational opportunities that suits my daughter's needs (77%)
- My daughter's interests are developed at St Dominic's Priory College (77%)
- The religious program is encompassing and interesting to students (78%)
- The amount of homework is appropriate for my daughter (78%)
- Attending St Dominic's Priory College has enabled my daughter to have a much greater understanding of her faith (78%)
- The resources at St Dominic's Priory College are of a high quality (78%)
- The College provides plenty of opportunities for all students to participate in additional activities (78%)





KEY RESULTS

St Dominic's Priory College's results have been analysed for each question and compared to both other Catholic Girls' Schools Benchmark and the National Benchmark. In order of satisfaction level, the College's key points of difference - outside of those reported on page 19 - are presented below.

KEY AREA	ITEM	NATIONAL BENCHMARK	CATHOLIC GIRLS' SCHOOLS MEAN	ST DOMINIC'S 2023 MEAN
Teacher Quality	Teachers recognise my daughter's personal improvement	74% (-12%)	78% (-8%)	86% (+12%)
Guidance and Support	St Dominic's Priory College prepares my daughter well for the transition between years	75% (-11%)	79% (-7%)	86% (+11%)
Learning Opportunities	My daughter is motivated to learn at St Dominic's Priory College	69% (-16%)	75% (-10%)	85% (+16%)
School Environment	St Dominic's Priory College provides an inviting atmosphere to family members	73% (-12%)	80% (-5%)	85% (+12%)
Overall	I am satisfied with the quality of education that my daughter is receiving	70% (-14%)	77% (-7%)	84% (+14%)
Guidance and Support	The College is doing a good job in preparing my daughter for the future	71% (-13%)	79% (-5%)	84% (+13%)
Parent Communication	I feel well-informed about school matters	65% (-19%)	73% (-11%)	84% (+19%)
Leadership and Management	There is effective leadership at St Dominic's Priory College	64% (-19%)	76% (-7%)	83% (+19%)
Religion	Students are encouraged to be part of religious activities outside of the classroom	N/A	78% (-5%)	83% (+5%)
School Curriculum	The standard of schoolwork expected is appropriate for my daughter's age	73% (-9%)	78% (-4%)	85% (+9%)
Technology and Resources	The technology and resources are easily accessible to my daughter	74% (-8%)	75% (-7%)	82% (+8%)
Personal Development	Leadership opportunities are encouraged at St Dominic's Priory College	64% (-17%)	67% (-14%)	81% (+17%)

TOP 10 IMPROVEMENTS

St Dominic's Priory College's results have been analysed for each question and compared with its previous results. Presented below are the top 10 percentage differences between the College's 2022 and 2023 Parent Satisfaction Survey results.

KEY AREA	ITEM	ST DOMINIC'S 2022 MEAN	ST DOMINIC'S 2023 MEAN	IMPROVEMENT
Leadership and Management	Matters are dealt with in an effective manner	67%	81%	+14%
Personal Development	Leadership opportunities are encouraged at St Dominic's Priory College	67%	81%	+14%
Learning Opportunities	My daughter is motivated to learn at St Dominic's Priory College	75%	85%	+10%
Parent Communication	The College offers me opportunities to get involved in my daughter's education	70%	79%	+9%
Teacher Quality	Teachers communicate with me regularly about my daughter's progress.	70%	79%	+9%
Learning Opportunities	I am happy with the learning opportunities my daughter has at St Dominic's Priory College	73%	82%	+9%
Teacher Quality	Teachers recognise my daughter's personal improvement	78%	86%	+8%
Technology and Resources	The resources at St Dominic's Priory College are of high quality	70%	78%	+8%
School Curriculum	St Dominic's Priory College provides a wide variety of educational opportunities that suits my daughter's needs	69%	77%	+8%
Teacher Quality	Teachers are positive and enthusiastic about their teaching	77%	85%	+8%

A FINAL NOTE:

The data suggests that parents are extremely happy with St Dominic's Priory College, and the results are significantly higher than 2022. This is a very positive sign and indicates that the College is moving in the right direction.



**ST DOMINIC'S
PRIORY COLLEGE**

EDUCATING GIRLS.
INSPIRING CONFIDENCE

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