

March 2018

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Claire Barber

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1992 – 2018**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Claire Barber to Lutheran education over a period of almost 27 years.

Claire commenced her service in Lutheran schools in 1992 when she joined the staff of St Peters Lutheran College, Indooroopilly Qld, as a child care assistant in the Outside School Hours Care facility. She served continuously at the college until her retirement in 2018. Claire's name has been synonymous with the OSHC facility and her many years of splitting her days between early morning and afternoon shifts showed her dedication and commitment to her profession. Claire grew the service from a small After School community to one which now excels in its quality. St Peters OSHC and Vacation Care outshines its competitors and its highly regarded reputation is well known, a tribute to Claire's tireless dedication.

To the numerous families who have used the Outside School Hours Care facility over the years, Claire has been a mother and grandmother figure. She has been firm but fair with each child, earning their respect and that of their families. Claire looked after each child as her own, and even in the growing complexities of the job, she kept children at the core of her work.

Claire consistently chose her staff well. They admired her and she nurtured their work ethic with high demands and expectations, but also with empathy and understanding. Claire was always willing to listen and give support. She would also confront the challenging issues and not shy away from having the difficult conversations when needed.

There is no doubt she genuinely cared for the students and her staff and they always knew that she has their best interests at heart. Claire's unwavering Christian faith supported and drove the way in which she lived her life, in the decisions she made and the way in which she treated others.

The St Peters community has been blessed and incredibly privileged to have had the opportunity to know and work with Claire and are thankful for all that she has contributed to the college over the decades.

Claire's faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service at St Peters Lutheran College, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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