

December 2017

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Brian Ahern

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1993-2009 and 2016-2017**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Brian Ahern to Lutheran schools for 20 years.

Brian commenced his service in Lutheran education in 1993 when he was appointed to the staff at Luther College, Croydon Vic. He served at the college until the end of 2009 and during that time held various leadership roles. After a short time away from Lutheran education, in 2015 Brian moved to Lakeside College at Pakenham Vic. He served at Lakeside until his retirement in 2017.

Brian is an experienced and passionate educator. His classes were always rigorous and sought to give students strong foundations in all areas of study.

Brian has a special gift in teaching Christian Studies, a gift through which he has graciously blessed the schools in which he served. He tirelessly advocated for the subject and for exemplary teaching within this key learning area. His deep theological understanding built the understanding and capacity of students and staff alike.

Brian epitomised true servant leadership. When a job needed doing, Brian was the person to ask as he would willingly, and without complaint, take on an additional load when the need arose.

We are reminded in 1 Corinthians 13 that *love is patient and kind*. Brian's character and approach to his students and colleagues reflected this verse. He was always patient when speaking, showed support in love and advocated firmly for what is right.

Lutheran schools are greater for Brian's service and he leaves a wonderful legacy which will bless students for years to come.

Brian's faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service in Lutheran education, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

ACN 143 905 373

197 Archer Street
North Adelaide SA 5006
T 61 8 8267 7318
F 61 8 8267 7320
E lea@lutheran.edu.au
www.lutheran.edu.au