

November 2017

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Elizabeth Newton

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1981-1985, 1987-1989, 1996-2017**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Elizabeth Newton to Lutheran education for 30 years.

Elizabeth commenced her service in Lutheran schools in 1981 as a graduate teacher at Concordia College, Toowoomba Qld. Her subject areas were Geography, History and English. After a year's leave in 1986, Elizabeth returned to Concordia in 1987 where she taught for a further three years before spending some time out of the Lutheran system. Liz rejoined Lutheran education in 1996 at Good Shepherd Lutheran College, Noosaville, where she taught Geography, Ancient History, Modern History, Humanities and English. She also held the position of Year 11 Coordinator until she was appointed to the role of Curriculum Coordinator in 1997, a position that changed to Senior Years Curriculum Coordinator in 2008. Liz served in this position until her retirement in 2017.

Liz's immense passion for working with young people and her love of teaching have been clearly evident throughout her career. Her strong work ethic and commitment to excellence have helped shape the educational institutions in which she has worked. She has invested herself entirely for the good of others and her capacity to give of herself to her students, their parents and her colleagues is unparalleled. Liz's dedication to education and the positive impact that she has had on countless numbers of young people is beyond measure. She has set a shining example to others through the selfless way that she has served through her vocation.

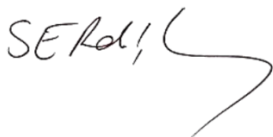
During her time at Concordia College, Liz dedicated much of her time to support the boarders through evening study supervision and weekend sport, as well as many informal counselling sessions. She was also responsible for organising the Year 12 trips. It is little wonder that Liz has been a much loved teacher of her students. This is evident by the number of past students who continue to drop in to visit *Ms Newton* for a chat, often many years after their departure from school.

Liz's involvement in co-curricular activities has included coaching many sporting teams, including hockey and volleyball with several volleyball players going on to represent the region at state level. She also successfully coached QDU debating teams and many public speakers.

In the classroom Liz purposefully developed a positive learning climate and established strong rapport with students. Her interpersonal skills and ability to treat students with compassion and love is to be admired. She demanded excellence and led by example. Liz has been exceedingly generous with her time. Her students and their parents see her as understanding, empathetic and approachable.

Liz has epitomised true servant leadership and shown genuine interest and concern for the welfare of her colleagues. Her wisdom and willingness to listen to the concerns of others have been greatly appreciated. Liz will be remembered for her warmth, generosity, words of advice and her delightful sense of fun and humour.

Elizabeth's faithful and conscientious service to her Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service in Lutheran schools, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.



**Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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