

November 2019

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Rhonda Mallinder

For services to Lutheran schooling 1991 – 2018

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Rhonda Mallinder to Lutheran schools for 27 years.

Rhonda joined Luther College as a teacher of Physical Education and Sport in 1991. She brought eleven years of teaching experience and her reputation as an elite athlete. Students were inspired by her renown as a great Australian cross-country runner.

Rhonda's students were blessed by all she modelled – resilience, self-discipline, grit and tenacity, an incredible work ethic, a solutions focus and a never ending quest for improvement. They loved her knack of making concepts easy to understand, her availability to them, her genuine interest in them, and her commitment to providing detailed, effective feedback.

Whether students encountered Rhonda the teacher, home group counsellor, sporting event coordinator or learning leader, they encountered someone who cared deeply – someone who understood the interdependence of care and learning. It was teaching and pastoring with dedication, compassion and selflessness that won her such widespread respect and regard.

Rhonda was also a great team player, a valued colleague and long-term friend of many staff members. Her generous spirit, her willingness to share ideas and to help others develop professionally and personally was deeply appreciated.

Rhonda's faithful, conscientious and dedicated service to Lutheran education has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt Executive Director Lutheran Education Australia

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