

December 2021

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Briony Carman

**For service to Lutheran education
1997– 2021**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Briony Carman to Lutheran education for 24 years.

Briony Carman commenced her service in Lutheran education in 1997 at Unity College, Murray Bridge, SA. There she commenced with the first group of Year 8 students as the Head of Middle School. In addition to Head of Middle School, she was Sub-School Leader and Subject Coordinator. At the end of 1998, she was appointed Acting Principal for 1999. Briony served in leadership through the growing phase of Unity College for eight years.

In January 2005, Briony began in her role as Head of Middle School at Concordia College. Her experience of building a school from the ground up at Unity brought many insights, a strong sense of collaboration and an understanding of the complexity of schools. Above all, Briony understood the importance of building positive relationships within the school and broader community. Briony brought these important values and experiences to her new position at Concordia College and shaped the Middle School to become a caring and compassionate school.

Briony significantly shaped the approach to pastoral care and introduced restorative practices which focuses on improving relationships while emphasising individual responsibility. This continues to be the College approach to building staff and student efficacy. Briony demonstrated a passion for working with young people in a fair, relational way so that they felt listened to and understood the outcome at the end of the process.

Briony always encouraged young people to make wise decisions by working with them. She has always believed that teachers, leaders, students and parents should work in partnership. In her experience a much better outcome is achieved in this way as genuine behavioural change is often the result.

In 2006 Briony introduced the Year 9 Ambassador Program – a leadership program for Year 9s where students apply to be leaders without having to be elected. This approach offers students the opportunity to fairly experience leadership through merit and self-determination. This process has been extremely successful and marked a greater focus on student voice.

Briony ensured the expansion of the Middle School to include Year 7 students was successful through carefully planning and embedding a supportive and caring environment. She was instrumental in supporting the new structure of six classes in each year level, while working alongside colleagues with a shared passion for education as well as Christian values.

Briony has maintained a teaching load. She is a passionate Food Design teacher and enjoys sharing her food creativity, knowledge and skills with Year 8 and 9 students.

Briony embodies the College motto in all her interactions with staff, parents and students and has acted as a role model and mentor for many current college leaders. She has a gentle and reassuring nature and is never 'too busy' to have a conversation with someone. She takes the time to get to know every staff member and develops strong relationships with students. She is a passionate educator, especially in the area of Middle Schooling.

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

Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt
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