

**LEA SERVICE AWARD**

*Chris Chapman*

**For service to Lutheran education  
1983 – 2022**

The Lutheran Church of Australia gratefully acknowledges the dedicated, loyal and diligent service of Chris Chapman over 39 years to St Peters Lutheran College, Indooroopilly.

Chris started teaching at St Peters in 1983 as an English / Social Science teacher. Over the ensuing years, as the curriculum landscape changed, he has taught various iterations of these subjects as well as Political Studies and Christian Studies. In the latter part of his career, Chris focused on what has become his passion: History. He is finishing his career as a pivotal teacher in this subject, bridging the link between Junior and Senior History and inspiring an ongoing interest in history for students in Years 8, 9 and 10. For nearly four decades of service he has delivered engaging education and compassionate pastoral care to students in his charge at St Peters Lutheran College Indooroopilly.

Chris' contribution to education at St Peters has been the embodiment of enthusiasm for his subject area as well as for the holistic development of young people's minds. He has strived to bring history alive for his students, fostering empathy for the lives of people in the past through a variety of resources and experiences. As a genuine historian, he has curated a range of primary resources such as letters and photos for student use; and he has devised creative and immersive simulations. All this so that students might gain real insights and genuinely appreciate that History is more than a subject; it is something that has affected, and continues to affect, real people. These activities have enriched the educational experience of students in his classes and of life in the wider College.

Since 1984 Chris has been instrumental in developing the College's rainforest into an amazing natural learning environment, a remarkable resource for an inner-city school. His classes in the rainforest have enriched students' lives and sparked curiosity and wonder in so many young people.

Chris has also been instrumental in the spiritual development of generations of students at St Peters. He has made important contributions to Chapel services by writing, directing and performing dramas and skits, all aimed at making the message of Christ more accessible for students. He has been an exemplary Christian role model for the student community.

Not only have students admired Chris as a role model, his colleagues too have been blessed by Chris' example; by his sincerity and his generosity with his time, his knowledge and his unique skills. Chris has enthusiastically led primary students through his beloved rainforest, inspiring wonder and the importance of stewardship of God's creation; the earth and its resources, for the next generation. He has stepped in without hesitation to take a duty or a class for a colleague under pressure, responding immediately to the needs of his peers. He is an inspiring and compassionate leader in the St Peters community. His work at the College has made it a better place for students and staff alike.

Chris' faithful and conscientious service to our Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service in 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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