

December 2022

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Darren Pope

**For service to Lutheran education
1990 – 2022**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Darren Pope to Lutheran education for 32 years.

Darren commenced his service in Lutheran education in 1990 when he started teaching at Faith Lutheran College, Tanunda, South Australia. After twelve years he moved into a teaching role at Pacific Lutheran College, Caloundra, Queensland. In 2005 Darren commenced at Faith Lutheran College Redlands, where he served in leadership roles for thirteen years, including Director of Students and Head of Secondary School. In 2017 Darren was appointed as the Director of Leadership and School Improvement for Lutheran Education Queensland, before joining Concordia Lutheran College as the Learning Enrichment Coordinator in January 2020.

During his service at Concordia Lutheran College, Darren was an integral part of the teaching and learning program. As both a classroom and homeroom teacher, he demonstrated his passion for lifelong learning and his dedication to improving student outcomes through a commitment to quality teaching and learning practices. As the Learning Enrichment Coordinator, Darren undertook a review and restructure of the Senior College Learning Enrichment Program and worked tirelessly to develop a structured and inclusive program. Darren worked in collaboration with classroom teachers to create a learning environment where an individual student's needs were known and facilitated. Darren was tasked with undertaking a review of boarding at Concordia and also assisted with the College's after-school study program, offered to both our day and boarding students.

In his role as Director of Leadership and School Improvement at Lutheran Education Queensland, Darren worked collaboratively with schools across Queensland. He was also part of the National Leadership Team where his enthusiasm and passion for supporting leadership in schools was greatly appreciated.

Darren sees it as his vocation to serve, connect and partner with students, staff and families through the development of authentic relationships. With his positive, calm and collegial manner Darren has developed outstanding working relationships with the students and their parents and he is a much respected and valued colleague. His strong faith and deep understanding of the Lutheran ethos and his demonstrated dedication to Christian servant leadership has touched many members of the College and he will be sadly missed by the Concordia Lutheran College community.

Darren's faithful and conscientious service to his 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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