



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2025

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As part of its funding agreement with the Commonwealth Government, Pulteney Grammar School is required to make specific ‘School Performance Information’ available to the school community. This information is communicated through the School’s official channels and is also accessible via the School website.

The following provides a detailed response under the headings mandated by the Commonwealth Government and relates to the 2025 school year.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Kelly Arnold, Governance, Risk and Compliance Officer at kelly.arnold@pulteney.sa.edu.au or (08) 8113 5656.

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PULTENEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2025

This report outlines the key achievements of 2025, reflecting the strength and value of the Pulteney Experience. As we continue to strive for excellence in all areas of teaching and learning, our commitment remains clear: to provide every child with a meaningful, lifelong education.

Founded in 1847, Pulteney Grammar School is proud of its history as one of Adelaide’s oldest schools, uniquely located in the heart of the city. A co-educational independent school, it focuses on personalised learning, academic excellence, and equipping every student to thrive with confidence, compassion, and purpose.

Pulteney is a vibrant and inclusive community where students are known, valued, and guided to become the best versions of themselves. Our responsive, research-informed approach to learning empowers students through real-world projects and innovation. Each learner is mentored and supported by dedicated teachers, strengthened by strong partnerships with institutions such as Adelaide University, a robust curriculum, and state-of-the-art facilities.

Wellbeing is central to every stage of the Pulteney journey, supported by inclusive pastoral care. We take pride in our award-winning Performing Arts faculty and outstanding sports programs, including senior coaching opportunities, both of which contribute to the depth and fulfillment of student life.

Specialist lessons begin early, supporting children’s development in language, mathematics, social skills, and academic achievement, laying a strong foundation for life beyond school.

ENROLMENTS (R-12)

Total Enrolments (R-12)	862
Girls	377
Boys	485
Non-Binary	0
Full-time equivalent enrolments	862
Indigenous Students	0.58%
Language other than English	15.20%
Student Attendance Rate	92.01%

PULTENEY'S STRATEGIC INTENT



1. AN INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Engagement
with learning



Essential
life skills



A global
perspective

2. EMPOWERED, MOTIVATED, AND RESILIENT STUDENTS



Confidence



Resilience



Independence

3. AN OUTSTANDING TEACHING AND LEARNING EXPERIENCE



Mentorship



Personalised
attention



Support

4. SKILLED, PASSIONATE, AND COMMITTED STAFF



Wellbeing



Excellence in
education



Diversity

5. COLLABORATIVE AND CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS



Social ties



Collaboration



Global
connection

6. A HIGH-PERFORMING ORGANISATION



Operational
excellence



Values and
experiences



Innovation

TEACHER STANDARDS & QUALIFICATIONS

In addition to these formal qualifications all staff complete mandatory RRHAN Certification training and First Aid, and teaching staff hold the required qualifications for Teacher Registration in South Australia, including a South Australia Working with Children Check. In 2025, Pulteney continued to provide extensive opportunities for all staff to participate in Professional Learning, including ongoing integration of Information and Communications Technologies, differentiation and personalisation of pedagogies, wellbeing education, assessment and curriculum.

QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHING STAFF

Qualification	No. of Staff
Undergraduate Degree	100
2nd Undergraduate Degree	24
Undergraduate Diploma/Certificate	2
Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate	11
Postgraduate Masters	36
Postgraduate Doctorate	3

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION, INCLUDING INDIGENOUS COMPOSITION

Teaching Staff	113
Full Time Teaching Equivalent	97.95
Non-Teaching	55
Full-Time Non-Teaching Equivalent	45.05
Indigenous Staff	0



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Pulteney maintains a consistently high level of student attendance, reflecting the strength of our student support, wellbeing programs, and the genuine sense of belonging students feel at school each day.

In 2025, the average student attendance rate was 92.01%, indicating that, on average, students attended school on more than 9 out of every 10 days.

Regular attendance is vital for academic success, social development, and a strong connection to school life. At Pulteney, we believe that students thrive when they feel known, valued, and supported

and our high attendance rates reflect this commitment.

We foster a positive school culture where students are eager to attend, supported by:

Strong relationships with teachers who take the time to know each student and guide their learning.

Comprehensive wellbeing and pastoral care programs designed to support students' social and emotional development.

A safe, welcoming, and engaging environment where students feel happy, connected, and motivated to learn.

To ensure timely and accurate attendance records, the School offers multiple channels for notifying student absences. If a student is absent without explanation, a text message is sent to the parent or guardian by 10.00am, followed by a phone call if required. Longer-term absences are coordinated through communication with the relevant Head of School.

Pulteney's commitment to student wellbeing, connection, and engagement continues to underpin our strong attendance outcomes.

	REC	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Overall % Attendance	94.79	93.88	94.09	92.42	93.75	92.70	92.56
	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	
Overall % Attendance	90.83	92.01	91.36	89.65	92.37	90.64	

STUDENT OUTCOMES IN STANDARDISED NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY TESTING (NAPLAN)

Each year, all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 participate in the **National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)**. These Australia-wide assessments are designed to measure essential skills in **reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy**. NAPLAN provides data to schools about student progress and achievement in foundational areas of learning.

The assessments help identify the proportion of students meeting or exceeding national benchmarks and assist in tailoring teaching to support continued student growth.

NAPLAN PARTICIPATION RATES 2025

Pulteney Grammar School	99%
All Australian students	95%

Performance of Pulteney Grammar School students compared to all Australian students.

The table below shows the performance of Pulteney Grammar School students as compared to all Australian students in 2025.

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	436	436	416	420	437
Year 5	525	517	524	537	534
Year 7	572	575	556	577	598
Year 9	619	642	599	611	623

Well above Above

PARENT, STUDENT, AND TEACHER VOICE

Teacher satisfaction is determined through the teacher appraisal process, staff meetings, regular Consultative Committee meetings, various surveys on key initiatives, and both formal and informal conversations.

The Principal regularly meets with students and student leaders to discuss their experience of a Pulteney education. Across these discussions, all student groups consistently identify a strong sense of belonging, individual support, and the strength of the school community as defining features of their positive experience.

Further feedback from students is gathered through Student Forum meetings across upper primary, middle, and senior year levels—led by student leaders—as well as regular House meetings. Students in Years 3–12 also participate in the teacher appraisal process by providing thoughtful feedback to support teacher reflection and goal setting.

Parental views are also welcomed and encouraged through telephone, email, interviews, community forums, Parents and Friends meetings, and various school-wide surveys.

SCHOOL INCOME BROKEN DOWN BY FUNDING SOURCE

As an independent school, Pulteney’s ability to deliver high-quality teaching and learning programs, as well as maintain and improve facilities, is largely supported by parent contributions through tuition fees. These contributions form the primary source of funding for both educational programs and long term capital works.

In addition, recurrent government funding from both Commonwealth and State programs provides valuable support, helping to ensure the School remains financially viable to meet the evolving needs of students and staff. All funding sources are managed responsibly and strategically by the

Board of Governors and Business Director to support Pulteney’s continued growth and educational excellence.

The table below provides a breakdown of the School’s funding sources in 2025.

Australian Government Recurrent Funding	19%
State/Territory Government Recurrent Funding	5%
Fees, Charges and Parents’ Contributions	74%
Other Income	3%



SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Class of 2025 results and tertiary destinations

POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

Pulteney's Year 12 cohort for 2025 was 84 students.

- 5 students did not apply for any university/TAFE study
- 4 students pursued/continued their apprenticeship pathway
- 79 students applied to SA, interstate or overseas universities/colleges/TAFE/RTO
- Of the 79 students, 100% received an offer
- Of the 100% of students who received an offer:
- 94.9% were offered their first or second preference

University	Number
Adelaide University	46
Flinders University	13
Interstate/Overseas	8

2025 University Preferences	
First Preference	86.1%
Second Preference	8.8%
Third Preference	3.8%
Fourth Preference	1.3%
Fifth Preference	0%
Sixth Preference	0%



2025 University Preferences	Number
Architecture/Design/Contemporary Art	2
Arts/Advanced/International Relations	3
Business/Innovation & Entrepreneurship/Commerce/Finance/Economics (Tourism, Property, HRM, Sports & Rec Mgt)	7
Construction Management & Economics (Advanced)/Project Management	3
Creative Arts	1
Education	2
Engineering (Mechanical, Civil, Architectural + pathways/flexible entry options)	9
Foundation Studies	2
Health &/or Medical Sciences (Advanced)	3
Information Technology/Computer Science	1
Law/Legal/Criminology	17
Media/Journalism	3
Music/Music Theatre	3
Nursing/Midwifery	1
OT/Medicine/Medical Radiation/Speech Pathology/Paramedics/Prosthetics/ Pharmacy	6
Physiotherapy/Human Movement/Nutrition/Exercise Science/Clinical Exercise Physiology	5
Psychology/Social work	3
Science (Advanced, Biomedical, Biotechnology, Agriculture, Animal, Veterinary Technology/ Bioscience, Marine Biology/Conservation, Space Science)	8

OUTSTANDING RESULTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2025

It is with immense pride that we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Year 12 Class of 2025 on their outstanding achievements.

Top Achievers

DUX OF PULTENEY:

Zilu (Mark) Xu – ATAR 99.95 (perfect score)

PROXIME ACCESSIT:

Guanbo (Jeffery) Wang - ATAR 99.9

Key Highlights

Median ATAR: 89.2

87% of students achieved A Band results
23 SACE Subject Merits awarded across 17 subjects

100% of students achieved their SACE

ATAR Achievements

ATAR OF 95+

An outstanding 26% of students scored above the 95 mark, placing them in the top 5% nationally.

ATAR OF 90+

A high number of students (46%) achieved an ATAR of 90 or above, reflecting the consistent academic strength of the cohort.

Subject Merits Achieved

23 merits awarded to 17 students across the following subjects:

- Accounting
- Business Innovation
- Chemistry
- Dance
- Drama
- English
- English Literary Studies
- General Mathematics
- Integrated Learning
- Japanese (continuers)
- Legal Studies
- Media Studies
- Modern History
- Nutrition
- Outdoor Education
- Physics
- Specialist Mathematics

University Extension Programs

11 students undertook university-level studies through:

Headstart (University of Adelaide)

Extension Studies (Flinders University)

ACHIEVEMENTS:

13 x High Distinctions

7 x Distinction

ATAR Achievements

31 students completed VET qualifications in:

- Allied Health Assistance
- Automotive Service Technology
- Beauty Services
- Business
- Carpentry
- Electrotechnology
- Entrepreneurship and New Business
- Fitness
- Legal Services
- Screen and Media

