Caring brother excels

Michael Robinson is an all-rounder in the truest sense. In his final year at St Ignatius’ College he was a school leader, indicating the respect and esteem in which he is held by students and staff.

He has excelled academically, receiving a certificate of excellence every year of secondary school and has completed his Australian music exams from preliminary to grade five, receiving honours or above for each exam.

Michael was involved in cross country, football and cricket, including representing the college at the Australian Jesuit Cricket Carnival, and has played hockey and coached a junior school hockey team for three years.

He actively participated in days of reflection and student Masses; attended a Kairos retreat; and joined the Jarrumwani Immersion program to Daly River.

Michael has been extensively involved in a number of community initiatives including as a cadet for St Johns Ambulance Service and voluntary work at Novita Children’s Services and St Patrick’s Special School.

He is also a ‘young carer’ who assists in the care of his sister, Adria, who has severe intellectual disability and a degenerative neurological condition. His other sister Olivia is in year 9 at the college.

Michael says one of his proudest moments is when he delivered a speech at the Rector’s Assembly in 2014 on his role as a young carer – something that has had an impact on the entire school community in raising awareness and opening the door for other students to access support.

In November 2014, Michael was nominated by the principal of St Patrick’s Special School for the National Youth Award for Leadership and Courage in recognition of his work.

In September 2015 he was appointed to the Youth Advisory Group at the Women’s and Children’s Health Network.

“Michael has embraced all the elements of an Ignatian education with great passion,” college rector Fr Rob Davoren SJ said at last year’s speech night.

“His contribution to, and many accomplishments in all areas of College life and beyond, are indicative of his perseverance and resilience and his commitment and determination to give of his best. He exhibits a strong desire to give back to the community and typifies the college ideal of ‘men and women for others’.”