School Name: St Ita’s Regional Primary School

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Contact Person: Mrs Maureen Thomas

Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

St Ita’s Catholic Primary School is a collaborative and nurturing learning community which seeks to be inclusive of all. Our community is vibrant and positive with an active and supportive parent body and an enthusiastic and dedicated staff. At St Ita’s we offer quality learning experiences that focus on our core business of improving learning outcomes while catering for the different learning needs of each student so that they successfully engage in lifelong learning.

The school is located in a bushland setting by the Brisbane River and close to the West End cafes and restaurants, Southbank cultural precinct and the city centre. The school is within walking distance of the Eleanor Schonell Bridge and the University of Queensland.

St Ita’s was founded by the Ursuline Sisters in 1919 and the school’s vision and mission reflects the spirit of the Ursuline tradition "Serviam" - follow the teachings of Jesus, respect the individual and the environment, strive for unity and aim high in all we do.

The school enjoys quality facilities with a large grassed and tree shaded playing field on the river bank, swimming pool complex, air-conditioned classrooms and newly constructed Library, covered PE area, Prep precinct, administration block and multi-purpose rooms for art and music.

School Profile

St Ita’s is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational [✓] or Single Sex [ ]

Year levels offered: Primary [✓] Secondary [ ] P-12 [ ]

Total student enrolments for this school 414

Total Enrolment 414 Girls 234 Boys 180
Characteristics of the student body

Our students come from a diverse range of cultural backgrounds. The West End area has historically been a centre for the Greek community and this is reflected in the enrolment of a significant number of families of Greek heritage. Currently 52 students receive ESL support. The students come from the local surrounding suburbs - Dutton Park, Highgate Hill, West End, Fairfield, Yeronga and Annerley. The majority of students are very involved in extra curricular activities including the Arts (music, speech & drama, dance, visual arts) and a wide variety of sports.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

St Ita’s School offers a diverse and dynamic curriculum within a Catholic Faith context promoting Gospel values, lifelong learning and the pursuit of personal best. The curriculum is developed with reference to the Brisbane Catholic Education Learning and Teaching Framework and the Australian National Curriculum. Teachers plan a differentiated curriculum to cater for individual learning needs. Distinctive curriculum offerings include Visual Arts, Drama, Music, French, Physical Education Program including Dance, Perceptual Motor Program, UQ Sports Program (netball, beach volleyball, T-ball, football), and Get Set Go Program (swimming, ball skills). Debating and Tournament of Minds are also offered to the students in Yrs 6 and 7.
Extra curricula activities

St Ita’s School employs specialist teachers and support staff to provide opportunities for students to engage in a wide variety of extra curricula experiences within and outside of school hours: Instrumental Music (Strings, Wind, Percussion, Piano), Band, Choir, Chess Club and Games Club, Speech and Drama, Visual Arts, Swim Club, Intraschool, Interschool, District, State & National Sport, Soccer/AFL/Aussie Hoops clinics.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Students live in a technological world where ICTs are integral to everyday situations. Students independently and collaboratively work in online and stand-alone environments across a range of learning contexts. Students make use of a range of tools including computers, ipads, IWBs, video and digital cameras, ipods and a range of functions and applications to inquire, develop new understandings, transform information and construct new knowledge for a specific purpose or context. Students are educated to develop and apply ethical, safe and responsible practices when working with ICTs.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

As a Catholic Christian community we strive to be a learning community that embraces the principles of Respect, Responsibility, Forgiveness, Reconciliation and Equity. St Ita’s School provides programs within the teaching and learning curricula which support the spiritual, social and emotional development of each student. These programs include Senior Student Leadership; Peer Mediation; Program Achieve: You Can Do It (Early Years); Circle Time; Class Meditation; Buddy Classes; Pastoral Care, Environment, Media & Social Justice Student Ministries; Play is the Way (“The Games Factory”); Rock and Water; Restorative Practices; School Wide Positive Behaviour; Counselling Service for students. ‘No Bullying’ posters are prominently displayed with strategies for reporting. Our behaviour policy states: ‘We will not tolerate bullying. We can do something about it. Remember that every reported incident will be investigated and it is right for you to tell someone if you, or your friends, are feeling bullied or unsafe.’
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Feedback from parents, students and teachers is a valued element of our school's ongoing review process. Opportunities for feedback are provided through the School Board, P & F Association, Student Council and staff meetings. The annual internal school review process focuses on gathering information around specific components within the four priorities of the BCE Strategic Renewal Framework 2012-2016. The following statements are taken from Internal School Review surveys:

"We are absolutely delighted with St Ita's. We find it to be a very compassionate and supportive school where children are encouraged through instruction and example to respect and care for one another. This is such a wonderful opportunity for children to develop strong and positive social skills and understand the need to participate positively in their community. We have also found that St Ita's and the staff provide an interesting, stimulating and varied curriculum. We were very impressed with the recent composition of the school song - what a great opportunity for the children to be involved in the creation of music."

Parent involvement in their child’s education

The partnership between home and school is valued and nurtured through parent representation on the School Board, P&F Association, classroom volunteer program, parents as guest speakers at staff meetings, assemblies and in classrooms, class/school liturgies, sports carnivals, social events e.g. school fete, Trivia Night, Movie Night, Disco, Mothers' Day & Fathers' Day events, school concerts, art shows and displays of learning. Communication to parents is conducted via parent/teacher interviews, class newsletters & blogs, school eNews, parent/class representatives, school website and the annual cyclical review process.

### Staff Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Qualifications of all teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2012 was $36,333.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- Contemporary teaching workshops (ICT)
- Peer Coaching
- Student Social/Emotional programs - Play is the Way, Program Achieve, School Wide Positive Behaviour
- First Steps - Writing
- Staff Spiritual Formation Programs
- National Curriculum (English & History) implementation

School Income by Funding Source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

‘Find a school’ text box.

Where it says ‘Search by school name’, type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select <GO>. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school’s My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting ‘School finances’ in the menu box in the top left corner of the school’s entry web page.

Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 97.28% in 2012.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2011 school year, 98% of staff were retained by the school for the 2012 year.

Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole School Attendance Rate</th>
<th>95.3%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Attendance Rate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>96.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

If a child is absent, the parent or carer is asked to notify the school by letter or phone as soon as possible.

If a child is absent without any communication from the parent or carer the school office contacts the parent or carer by phone. Continued unexplained absences are communicated to the principal who then contacts the parent or carer.

Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

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