Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

St Sebastian's is a Catholic, inner city primary school, offering the benefits of small classes for children from Preparatory through to Year 7. We have a current enrolment of approximately 260 students, in 12 learning groups. St Sebastian's School has an active parent community who support, both financially and socially, our school.

St Sebastian's has been operating as a high quality, inclusive, coeducational Catholic school for 75 years. Our beautiful school setting reflects the high standard we aim to achieve in all key learning and teaching areas. As well, St Sebastian's School leads with innovative ways in using technology to enhance our teaching and the student's learning.

As a school community, we are very proud of the high standard of effective learning and teaching that reaches out to educate each child, not only academically and physically but socially, emotionally, and spiritually in a caring Catholic environment.

School Profile

St Sebastian'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 256

Total Enrolment 256 Girls 136 Boys 120
Characteristics of the student body

St Sebastian's School has an inclusive coeducational enrolment policy. The student populations has 31 students who have English as a Second Language, 2 Indigenous students, and 8 students verified with a disability.
Most students completing Year 7 attend Girls - Our Lady's College and All Hallows' College
Boys - St Laurence’s College and St Thomas Moore College

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Apart from the eight regular Key Learning Areas, we also
• Have an extensive Instrumental Music Program
• Chess Lessons and an annual chess tournament
• Participation in Opti-Minds Challenge (formerly Tournament of Minds
  * Lego Robotics lessons
  * Participation in Robotics competition
• Participation in Catholic and some State Zone sporting events
• Close links with the local RSL eg Leading the community in the local Anzac Day March
• Support the Parish Sacramental Program
• Support the local chapter of St Vincent de Paul by having regular collections for appeals for the needy and the senior students belong to Mini Vinnies organisation.
• Have a camping program including an outdoor education leadership camp for Years 5/6 students and an annual trip to Sydney and Canberra for our Year 6/7 students
• Extensive leadership program based on servant leadership
Extra curricula activities

- On site Outside School Hour Care – both before and after school.
- Instrumental Music lessons
- Chess lessons

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Each classroom is resourced with an interactive whiteboard and teacher laptop. Teachers have attended inservices on the use and best practise of these resources to enhance student learning outcomes. Staff have investigated the use of ipads and itouches to assist meeting the individual learning needs of the students in their class. The school has developed flexible learning spaces and with full wireless access throughout the school. The ratio of students to devices is under 2:1. All students in a class at any one time can access a laptop or netbook if needed. Students use technology to present their learning outcomes, examples of these include the use of digital cameras, educational itouch apps, animation, powerpoint, and photo stories etc.

Many classes use blogs and other forms of interactive ICLT for class communications. Our school website is used by students and parents to access homework, research links, class newsletters, class celebration and parent information.

The school subscribes to an interactive Mathematics program, Reading Eggs and Bug Club all of which can be accessed by students from school and home.

The focus is on student-centre activities and interactive learning.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Sebastian’s School implements a social well-being program throughout all year levels. Program Achieve - You Can Do It Education! introduces to the 5 Keys for Success - Getting Along, Confidence, Organisation, Resilience, Persistence. The school also implements the ‘Friends’, social emotional learning program. Through this positive approach to relationship, bullying issues are named and addressed. Students are encouraged to ‘talk about it’. Circle time is used in class groups to facilitate this ‘talk about it’ attitude.

These programs give a framework to the other regular school activities such as Buddies; Inter-school sport; Leadership program for Years 6 and 7; Assemblies addressing our school belief and values; School rules and our Vision for Learners and Learning.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

St Sebastian’s has recently participated in internal and an external review. From this review it was evident that St Sebastian’s School had noteworthy involvement from the Parish Priest, teachers, staff and parents. Their enthusiasm for the work of the school and their appreciation and support is evident. We had have positive feedback in the form of email, newsletters and parent comments from secondary schools about our students’ successful integration into their secondary studies. Please contact the school if more information is required about our policies and procedures.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

Parent involvement in the students’ education and the general life of St Sebastian’s Primary School is both highly valued and a crucial component of the educational team working together for the education of each child.

We are fortunate to have very generous parents who willingly offer their time, energy and money to support the school. Parents may be involved in the life of St Sebastian’s in a variety of ways - including of the School Board and Parents & Friends Association or on a more casual basis in a variety of roles eg: fete and art show committees, social activities, tuckshop rosters, classroom representatives and helpers, and various committees working with the school staff to provide the best possible teaching and learning opportunities for their children. Parental involvement is welcome and encouraged.

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>22</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>5.4</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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2012 was $26 000.
The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

As a community of faith, with our core business being learning and teaching, the staff of St Sebastian’s School has focused on several key renewal areas which add value and interest to what the students learn.
All that we do stems from our school mission, our values and belief about learning and teaching and our School Renewal Plan. Key elements of our plan undertaken this year have seen our staff undertake significant professional learning commitments and many hours of planning, organisation and professional development. Teachers attended 7 Professional Development and Planning Day. Some initiatives include:

- Maths
- Inquiry Approach to planning
- *Australian Curriculum
- Assessment for learning and cooperative year level planning
- *First Aid

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 98.15 % in 2012.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2011 school year, 100 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2012 year.

Key Student Outcomes

| Whole School Attendance Rate | 92.8 % |
| Prep Attendance Rate         | N/A    |
| Year 1 Attendance Rate       | 89.9 % |
| Year 2 Attendance Rate       | 94.8 % |
| Year 3 Attendance Rate       | 96.9 % |
| Year 4 Attendance Rate       | 93.6 % |
| Year 5 Attendance Rate       | 89.6 % |
| Year 6 Attendance Rate       | 90.7 % |
| Year 7 Attendance Rate       | 86.8 % |
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

Track and record attendance

- Identify absences quickly. Parent notification expected
- Follow-up promptly
- Document actions
- Send clear messages to students and parents that attendance is vital to good education.

St Sebastian's aim to develop a positive school culture by having a welcoming, safe and supportive school environment that promotes student engagement with learning, student wellbeing and positive relationships. Positive home-school partnerships are encouraged and nurtured.

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/.

To access our NAPLAN results, 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 whose NAPLAN results 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 able to access our NAPLAN data.