Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

Mater Dei Catholic Primary School was established in 1951. Mater Dei (Ashgrove West) is approximately 8km west of Brisbane’s central district. Mater Dei prides itself on the spirit that can be found in our students, teachers, sporting teams, achievements, friendships and approach to learning. We are a co-educational school with a current enrolment of 351 students from Prep-Yr 7. The school community seeks to uphold its motto of ‘Caritas’ by caring for self, others, and the world as individuals and community. We aim to create a quality learning environment where student learning is dynamic, motivating and meaningful; where learning for all is lifelong and life-giving. We acknowledge and support the primary role of parents in the education of their children. Together we strive to create a welcoming, caring, and positive environment.

School Profile

Mater Dei Primary 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 357

Total Enrolment 357   Girls 197   Boys 160
Characteristics of the student body

The school has a stable student population. Families tend to have a long association with the school and there is little movement in and out of the community. The majority of children reside in a dual parent household. There are limited ESL and Indigenous students enrolled at Mater Dei. Attendance rates at Mater Dei are consistently high.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Religious Education, Literacy Blocks, Arts specialist, Swimming and Sports program including PE specialist, Japanese classes Years 3-7.
Extra curricula activities

To further enhance the standard curriculum Mater Dei offers a range of extra curricula activities such as: Minnie Vinnies Junior branch of St Vincent de Paul (Years 4 - 7); Participation in Inter School sport, Gala Sport, Zone & District Competitions in swimming, cross country and athletics, Netball, Soccer & Touch Football; Buddy system for children in Prep and Year 1; Instrumental Program offered to students from Years 3-7; Dance School conducted by P&F (toddlers to adults); Public Speaking & Debating, Optiminds; Readers’ Cup; Speech & Drama lessons (private); Piano lessons (private); University of NSW competitions; Camps for children in Year 4, 5 and Year 6; Trip to Canberra Year 7.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

We have a range of digital technologies that are used to assist learning. Teachers have access to their laptops and each classroom is fitted with an interactive whiteboard. Students regularly use iPads and laptops to view, create and produce work as part of their learning experiences. We have a well-resourced media room. As the National Curriculum is embedded in our school programs, teachers are exploring ways to integrate technology as part of the children’s everyday learning experiences.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

1. The introduction of the ‘Play is The Way’ Program in 2013 assists us in developing strong emotional and social capabilities and resilience in students. This program is taught whole of school during three designated sessions each week. There has been a strong commitment to parent education in this area as well.
2. Our five behaviour expectations are explicitly taught in an ongoing manner throughout the year. This addresses the school's response to bullying.
3. Celebrations of welcome, farewell and graduation mark the milestones of student participation in school. As well, regular acknowledgment of student achievement, effort and behaviour occurs.
4. Leadership opportunities, where Year 7 students are given the opportunity to take leadership roles in sporting, social and academic undertakings of the school.
5. Regular assemblies to keep students informed of happenings within the school.
6. Regular visits to the class by the Parish priest.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

During 2013, parents were surveyed in relation to the Internal Cyclical Review Process. The survey results indicated the following:
1. There is a strong sense of welcome, inclusiveness and hospitality experienced by parents. It was noted that the Class Parent contact system is an important part of contributing to the welcoming of families.
2. There is a strong connection between Parish and School and that this needs to continue to be fostered. Parents indicated that they choose to send their children to Mater Dei because they identify with the essential element of Catholic Education.
3. Work is being conducted in regards to Master Planning and use of school facilities. Parents expressed that the state of the toilets needs addressing in future plans.

We have a strong culture of parental involvement in all school activities. We have a very active P&F group and social events are very well attended.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

We encourage parents to take a keen interest in our school and are most welcome and encouraged to become involved on a regular basis in the following: Parent / Teacher Meetings, Development of Whole School Renewal Plan, Take an active role in Parents & Friends, Membership of School Board, Parent Information Evenings, Assisting with Tuckshop, Listening to children read through our 'Multilit' program, Volunteer in classrooms, Class Contact Parents, Assist with special day activities, Support with inter school sport swimming, Cross Country and Athletics carnivals, Assist with fundraising eg: Music in the Moonlight, Trivia night, Mater Dei Race Day, Assist in helping to develop grant applications, Sustainability Festival

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>21</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time equivalents</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</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>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2013 was $64,691.46.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- Words Their Way (Spelling)
- History Curriculum
- Student Protection Training
- Workplace Health and Safety Training
- Religious Education Curriculum
- Play is the Way
- First Aid and CPR Training
- Online Learning Management System
- Spiritual Formation
- AITSL - Performance and Development of Teachers
- Disability Standards
- Visible Learning
- Accessing BCE Digital Library.

The annual internal review process was also conducted in four areas: Religious Identity and Culture, Curriculum Design and Implementation, Professional Learning and Development and Finances and Facilities.

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 96.61% in 2013.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2012 school year, 86% of staff were retained by the school for the 2013 year.

Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole School Attendance Rate</th>
<th>96%</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>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

Class rolls are marked twice a day, once at the commencement of the school day and once immediately after lunch (1:50pm). If a student is going to be absent from school, parents are required to notify by writing to the class teacher or by phoning the absentee line. If a student is absent without an explanation from school after the third day, a phone call is made to the parents. We have a well-organised sign in and sign out procedure for students arriving late to school or who need to depart school early.

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.

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