Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

The following report provides some of the data which may be used to better learn more about our school-St Joseph’s. Whilst we are very proud of our tradition as a school that values both the academic and social growth of the children, there are many facets that make this possible. St Joseph’s is a Catholic School with an enrolment of 641 students from Prep to Year 6. The school’s motto of ‘Jesus in each other’ is central to the way in which we teach the children to relate to each other. Whilst I hope the readers of this information below gauge some knowledge of our school one can only achieve a real understanding by visiting us and witnessing what occurs here first hand. For this reason I invite any interested families to visit us to see our wonderful facilities and meet the people who form this community.

School Profile

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School 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 641

Total Enrolment 641

Girls 341

Boys 300
Characteristics of the student body

We have an outstanding group of young people who make up our student body. Most live within this parish and have established good relationships both in and out of school. We support children from a variety of cultures and offer them quality education within a safe and happy environment. Our older students are our school leaders and support the staff in different aspects of school life. Our Buddy program sees students from different year levels interacting closely across the school. The good behaviour and care of each other shown by our students is a feature of St Joseph's children.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

St Joseph's offers a wide variety of subjects. The basic core skills are covered in English, Mathematics, History and, Science. Religious Education is provided to all students as an integral part of our curriculum and ethos of our school community. The curriculum is diverse, to provide a range of learning opportunities and cater for the individual style of learning that each child possesses. Proudly we offer all students the opportunity to participate and excel in all subjects, in our instrumental music and choir programs, school musicals and concerts, sport at school, district and regional level. Our highly trained teachers, teacher aides, office staff, cleaners and grounds staff comprise a team of dedicated people working together in the best interests of all students. Our specialised staff offer diversity in programs catering for differences in learners' needs in learning difficulty, extension and enrichment. Other subjects taught at St Joseph's include Art, Drama, Library, Music, Health & Physical Education (H.P.E) and L.O.T.E (Language other than English); Japanese. Children from Years 1 to 6 learn L.O.T.E.

In addition, children from Years 3 to 7 who qualify are able to take part in an Instrumental Music Program which is held in school time. This includes Woodwind, Brass and Percussion and a Beginner's Band as well as an Advanced Band. Students from Year 1 are able to access our School's Strings Program, and eventually join our School Orchestra. Children may also join a choir in any Year level. Students who wish to learn the piano, guitar and voice are also provided that opportunity. Our school competes in local competitions in various sports such as Soccer, Rugby League, AFL and Netball.
Extra curricula activities

Our students are able to participate in the following extra-curricular activities:

• Parents may nominate for their children to enter these competitions
  (Year 2– 6) University of New South Wales – Mathematics, English, Spelling, and Writing Competitions
• Choir for Prep-2, Junior & Senior Choir, Boys Performance Group
• Aus Kick Football Program, Senior Basketball
• Soccer Skills Program (Qld Roar)
• Interschool Sports Competitions
• Sports rotations with a local cluster of schools
• Highland Dancing
• Instrumental Music
• Tennis and basketball

Children may also participate in Chess, Science, Sewing Club, Garden Club

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

ICT is integral to most aspects of students learning at St Joseph's. This has become increasingly so with the installation of interactive whiteboards and data projectors in all classrooms. With this technology now available to teachers, children are being exposed to an enormous variety of teaching tools and experiences available through the internet. In addition to this, the school has a well-resourced computer bank as well as laptops available for classroom use. Banks of iPads are used to support teaching in the lower school. A One to One laptop program began from Year 4 in 2015. These technologies are used to enhance students own IT skills. Almost all areas of the curriculum are being supported by the use of ICT. As you walk in any classroom the children are likely to be working on an interactive program, viewing information downloaded for teaching a specific topic, creating documents for assignments etc. ICT is very much part of our children's future and is already an indispensable aid to supporting the learning of our children who are being exposed to these technologies as part of normal life. Many of our classrooms have REDCAT Hearing Systems installed to better support all children but most specifically children with mild hearing impairment.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Joseph’s caters for children from many and varied backgrounds, ability levels and cultures. All children are treated equally and given equal opportunity in their educational and extra-curricular activities. Ethnic backgrounds and religion are always taken into account when planning special occasions that may involve particular religious celebrations. St Joseph’s has clear guidelines for responding to any incidents of bullying or general misbehaviour.

We draw our enrolment predominantly from the suburbs of Bracken Ridge and Bald Hills, but children also travel distances to attend our school, attracted by our academic reputation and quality education. Over the past year our school ran a number of programs to help students and parents. Our Guidance Officer offered Community sponsored Protective Behaviour Workshops, Positive Parenting Programs. Funds and support were provided for students to be involved in "Joey's Juniors", "Friends", "Seasons" and Circus skills.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parents have the opportunity to feedback to the school leadership their satisfaction or otherwise on a range of issues. This can be done directly to the school verbally or feedback via survey. It can also occur through the School Board or the Parents and Friends Association. Similarly, staff is provided the opportunity to raise concerns with leadership staff through regular communication. Feedback from each of these sources and from the students in our care is invariably very positive. St Joseph's has a wonderful community spirit and this is reflected in how staff, parents and students relate to each other. This reputation of St Joseph's as a school that cares is part of the reason why the school is always at its enrolment capacity.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

St Joseph's School actively welcomes parents' involvement within the school and their child's education. Teachers are happy to give interviews at any suitable time but an appointment must be made. Parent-teacher interviews are also requested following reports each Semester. At the beginning of the year, a Parent-Teacher Information Evening is held where the teacher will give an overview of the curriculum for the year, the organisation of the class is discussed, procedures explained and parents are informed of excursions etc that they can expect their child to be involved in during the year.

• Parents and Friends Association (P & F)-St Joseph’s School has an active Parents and Friends Association which always welcomes new members. Through our P&F we raise much needed funds for equipment, resources and computers and major projects like our Fete are significant fundraisers.

• School Board supports policy development at St Joseph’s

• Tuckshop:
Our school Tuckshop is open 4 days a week and is run by a convenor, supported by parents and friends

**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>46</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>37.6</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<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>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>2</td>
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Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2014 was $55,000. The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- The teaching of Guided Reading
- Teaching of Maths
- Introduction of the LIFE Learning Management System
- Catering for differing abilities
- Introducing the new Australian curriculum
- Catering for different special needs
- Introduction of Religion Guidelines

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 96.42% in 2014.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2013 school year, 97% of staff were retained by the school for the 2014 year.

Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole School Attendance Rate</th>
<th>94%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Attendance Rate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Policy and practice to manage student attendance

School attendance is mandatory unless a reason for absence is provided by parents. Parents are contacted via a text messaging system in the event of unexplained absences. If absences are regular, meetings are held with the parents to address any concerns.

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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