



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Clermont

2016 Annual School Report



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

The School's story

System:

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

Principal:

Matthew Anderson

Address:

**50 Box Street
Clermont
Queensland 4721**

Total enrolments:

112

Year levels offered:

Prep to Year 6

Type of School:

Co-educational

Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

St Joseph's School was established in 1900 by the Sisters of St Joseph. The school currently caters for 112 students; Prep to Year 4 in single class groups and Year 5/6 in a composite class. St Joseph's is a family-oriented school which emphasises care and concern for the individual. A wide variety of curricular and co-curricular learning experiences are offered to students including the school arts program, choir, chess club, robotics, garden club and after-school sport.

Extra Curricula Activities

- All students are involved in school assemblies, liturgies and masses throughout the school year. These twice-weekly occasions provide opportunities to celebrate, commemorate and remember significant events in the community life of our school.
- Students compete in the Speech and Choir sections of the Central Highlands Eisteddfod each year.
- Sporting Schools program is conducted by trained staff members and involves students in sport and physical activities outside of school hours.
- Students are encouraged and supported in gaining representation in local and regional sporting teams. These students are able to develop skills in a variety of sports at differing levels of attainment.
- Each class participates in fundraising for projects organised by the social justice group. Funds are raised for Caritas and other charities. Senior students are involved in Meals on Wheels deliveries and visit the Aged Care home throughout the year.
- An environmental group consisting of staff and students from all year levels meets regularly in lunchtimes to participate in environmental projects in the school grounds and in the local area.
- All students from St Joseph's and two small country state schools participate in a small schools' network through the swimming carnival in January and the Athletics carnival in June each year.
- ICTs are incorporated into the curriculum across all year levels. Interactive Whiteboards are installed in every classroom. 35 iPads complement curriculum delivery and each student in Year 5/6 has a school funded chromebook for individual use.
- Senior students participate in leadership development programs throughout the school year, beginning with a leadership camp that precedes the school leadership speeches and election. The students are involved in on-going self-esteem and initiative activities, goal setting and reflection.
- Classroom learning is extended through Science Day, Bookweek, Under 8's Day, National Reading Day, and by participation in various community events such as Coal and Gold Festival, National Tree Day and Clean-Up Australia Day.
- All students attend workshops presented by sporting organisations: ARL Development, Auskick and QLD Sport and Recreation.
- Outdoor education is promoted, with the Year 4/5 biennial camp, as well as the year 6 leadership camp. Both camps make use of the local Outdoor Education facility at Camp Fairbairn.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

St Joseph's has a range of ICT hardware that assists in the teaching of technology. We are well equipped with electronic whiteboards, laptop computers and iPads. ICTs are incorporated into the curriculum across all year levels. Interactive Whiteboards are installed in every classroom. 35 iPads complement curriculum delivery and each student in Year 5/6 has a school funded chromebook for individual use. We deliver the school newsletter electronically, which is well-received by families. The school's website is a wonderful place for current and prospective parents to find information about the school. This website is also used as the gateway for students to access their school email address. Our school has a dedicated laptop lab, with enough laptops for each class member. Our Technology Scope and Sequence document identifies specific skills and knowledge across all year levels, which assists the sequential development of each student's technology skills.

Social Climate

St Joseph's provides a family-oriented school which emphasises care and concern for the individual. The teacher-pupil ratio makes for an intimate school environment. Through the sustained efforts of staff, parents, students and members of the parish community, the parish and school have strong links. The school provides the venue for several parish events including the annual fair and several community concerts. We actively work to build a faith community which demonstrates the love of Jesus Christ through respect for and service of others. Feast Days, Harmony Day and World Environment Day and NET team visits are some of the many opportunities afforded our students. Personal and Social Development Programs like 'You Can Do It' , 'Peer Support' and 'Making Jesus Real' are implemented school wide. These programs complement the School Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures to build student resilience, foster appropriate codes of behaviour and proactively counteract bullying. The Campus Minister plays an essential role in the support of families and students and in providing a tangible link with the Parish and wider community.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies

Internet safety is embedded into our Technology Scope and Sequence. It is also explored in-depth in our Child Safety Curriculum which is delivered annually. Our school rules and behavioural guidelines promote positive behaviour in students and communication between parents and the school is very important.

Strategies used for involving parents in their child's education

The weekly e-newsletter is an important forum for the communication of information from the school to parents, students, staff and community. The Classroom Comments Section of the e-newsletter contains student observations and reflections on the learning achieved each week. Each teacher maintains a KIT (Keeping in Touch) booklet or note which provides correspondence between teacher and parent/caregivers on a daily and weekly basis. Parents are encouraged to be involved in the activities and decision-making processes through several groups in the school including; Parents and Friends, Tuckshop Committee, Fundraising, Playgroup. The School Board has an active role in policy development and implementation and strategic planning at St Joseph's. Parents are encouraged to be involved in classroom activities where possible. This includes providing assistance in Art activities, Literacy Rotations, Maths activities and at sporting events. Parents are encouraged to meet with teachers on a regular basis in order to maintain a strong connection between school and home.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

We engage in recycling practices, whereby foodscraps are used to feed our chickens. We also grow a selection of fresh vegetables to distribute amongst the school community. Our student toilets use tank water for flushing. The school's gardens are of predominately native flora, which assists water conservation. Each classroom has a recycling bin as well as a general rubbish bin.

Characteristics of the Student Body

Enrolments at St Joseph's are drawn from three types of demographic which interconnect in a unique way in Clermont and the surrounding area; the mining industry and support facilities, the rural sector including grain and cattle and the independent business and services sector. There are financial, emotional and social impacts on individual families in each sector. Common to all is the impact of change and the need to develop respect and resilience. With the diversity of employment in the area, the range of cultural backgrounds at St Joseph's is increasing. New families on permanent and temporary visas are enrolling their children at St Joseph's. These students contribute through their language, life experiences and cultural histories to the diversity of St Joseph's. The school community continues to be

enriched by the vitality and vibrancy of our rural students. With a number of proposed mining ventures close to Clermont, it is predicted that the population of the town will stabilise in the short term. Further growth is expected as new nearby mining ventures are developed. The mobility of the mining workforce in addition to the fluctuations of the rural industries will continue to have consequences for the level of enrolment and student mobility at St Joseph's.

Staffing composition, including Indigenous staff

Workforce Composition of all teachers

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	11	10	0
Full-time equivalents	9.2	3.45	0

Qualifications of all teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	
Masters	
Bachelor Degree	100 %
Diploma	
Certificate	

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

TOTAL FUNDS expended on teacher professional development according to Australian Government Quality Teacher Program reporting requirements.

\$ 30,200

MAJOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Leah O'Neill – Mathematics In-service – Problem Solving Strategies

Fr. Richard Leonard

Bishop's In-service Day

Early Years In-service, Rockhampton

Professional Learning Teams – twice a term

Various Rockhampton DCEO Curriculum Personnel for in-services

The percentage of the **TEACHING STAFF INVOLVED IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

100%

Average staff attendance

Average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to 5 days.

98.12 %

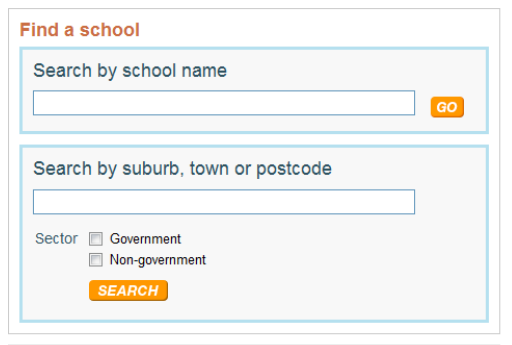
Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year

80 %

School Income

<http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

(The School information below is available on the My School website).



The screenshot shows a search interface titled "Find a school". It contains two main search sections. The first section is "Search by school name" with a text input field and a "GO" button. The second section is "Search by suburb, town or postcode" with a text input field. Below this, there is a "Sector" section with two radio buttons: "Government" and "Non-government". At the bottom of the second section is a "SEARCH" button.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Results

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, and 7 are available via the My School website at www.myschool.edu.au.

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 NAPLAN data.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

Key Student Outcomes

Our school motto, 'Faith in Christ - Our Teacher' is central to everything we do at St Joseph's. At our school, we aim to develop within our students the ideals of academic excellence, love of God, self and others and respect for the environment. At St Joseph's, we see the education of our students as a dynamic partnership between the home and school. Parental support is integral to help maximise student achievement. Inspired by the person and teaching of Jesus Christ, we serve the community of Clermont, by providing:

- Life-long faith education
- Religious education
- Relevant, holistic, quality education to assist all in their search of meaning for life

Student Attendance

Average student attendance rate (%)

92.9 %

Describe how non-attendance is managed by the school

Parents are asked to inform the school of any student absences. 3 days unexplained absences are met with a phone call from the administration.

Value Added

The story of distance travelled

In 2016, the Teacher Capability project and funding replaced the GT=GR project. As a school, we again used PLT's to drive educational change. The 2016 focus was to embed current literacy practices (WTW, Daily 5 and CAFÉ) into our school-wide culture. Another focus was to enhance the way we teach and engage students in writing and also to analyse our school-based approach to Mathematics instruction. Several PD opportunities, along with the PLT's will be used to assist in improving educational outcomes for students. Diagnostics assessment tools (DRA and NAPLAN data) as well as school-developed assessment tools will be used to both track student progress and measure impact.

The story of where you are going

In 2017, the focus will be to commence a program of improvement in mathematics and numeracy. We will use Mathematics Assessment Interviews (MAI) to diagnostically assess students in years 1 to 4. The data will then be interrogated to find out where we are at in our mathematical achievement. This will be used to inform current practice and provide a focus for teachers to provide more individualized instruction based on the cohorts needs and abilities. Mathematics programs, approaches and pedagogical strategies will be analysed and an appropriate response will be implemented based on current needs and future trends. All staff will be engaged in professional development in this learning area in accordance with our elected mathematics program. Peer observations will also be utilized to implement change and improvements in mathematics pedagogical approaches. Our past focus on literacy improvement will continue through continuing our consistent practice in (WTW, Daily 5 and CAFÉ). To build on this success we will be implementing the 7 Writing Traits to encourage consistency amongst our teaching staffs approach to teaching writing.

A future strategy is the consistent implementation of our current focusses and agendas for improvement. Our staff turnover rate dictates that we need strategies that ensure there is continued succession of our current practices. There will be a continual reiteration and revision of our practices to ensure it is current and consistent amongst continuing and new staff alike. Any significant impact on our educational outcomes will become apparent in years to come. Therefore continual appraisal of current practice is a key component for our future strategies.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

In 2016, the school underwent the Enhancing Catholic School's Identity Project (ECSIP), staff, student and parent responses were requested. The data was accumulated and in 2017 the results will be interpreted and an action plan to respond to findings will be implemented. The Board developed a 3 year Technology Plan to ensure St Joseph's Clermont remains current and viable within a 21st century curriculum. The Board also assessed draft policies developed by our District Office and provided necessary feedback. The Board and P&F members developed fundraising guidelines for the school. Our P&F meetings, provide parents a forum to discuss any concerns that are general in nature. The P&F runs the tuckshop and organises fundraising during the year. The P&F continuously deliberates on the dissemination of these funds for school resources; maintenance and major projects.