St Joachim's Catholic Primary School

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Contact Person: Chris Thomas - Principal

Principal’s Foreword
Introduction

Brisbane Catholic Education (BCE) emphasises the importance of regular school reporting by schools to their local community on school progress and achievements. Such reporting addresses the relevant Non-State Schools Accreditation (NSSA) Board's requirement for school improvement.

This annual report presents the school's distinctive curriculum offerings, extra-curricula activities and how Information & Communication Technologies are used to assist learning. This report further describes parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school, social climate and how parents are involved in their children's education. The annual report includes information regarding the My School Website which presents the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results.

As a school community we are very proud of our achievements and I would like to congratulate all members of the school staff and parent body who contribute to the effectiveness of our great school.

If you have any questions regarding this report I would be more than happy to be contacted.

Chris Thomas
Principal

School Profile

St Joachim’s 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: 307

Total Enrolment: 307  Girls 167  Boys 140
Characteristics of the student body

In 2014 the school consisted of two classes from Prep to Year 4; 1 class in Year 5; and 1 composite class in Year 6/7.

In 2014 80% of the student population at St Joachim’s were Catholic, 5% were from other Eastern Orthodox Churches, 4% Anglican and the remaining 11% from other Christian and non-Christian faith traditions. The students come from a range of cultural backgrounds including Australian Indigenous cultures.

The students at St Joachim’s thoroughly enjoy their learning and actively take part in all aspects of the school. All students were involved in specialist lessons of library, dance, HPE, music and Italian. Students represented the school at ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies, sporting and academic events. The Year 4 -7 students are involved in inter-school sport during the second and third terms. Students also participated in UNSW ICAS Competitions.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Religious Education
St Joachim’s Catholic School has a contemporary religious education program that aims to develop children’s religious literacy. The program enables children to learn about the Catholic and wider faith traditions, and to use this knowledge to reflect upon their own spiritual growth.

Cultural Literacy and Languages
A high quality Italian language and culture program is provided for all students from Prep to Year 7.

Dance
A high quality dance program is provided for all Prep to Year 7 students.

Gifted and Talented Program
St Joachim’s has developed a clear process to identify and support students who demonstrate learning outcomes well above their year level. The Support Teacher Inclusive Education works with the class teacher to differentiate the curriculum to meet the needs of the students.
Extra curricula activities

Music
An instrumental program, including private and group lessons, is offered to children from Prep to Year 7. Guitar, violin, band and piano instruction are all offered. All Year 3-7 students are invited to join the school choir.

Camp
Students in Years 5, 6 & 7 attend a school camp.

Health and Physical Education
Year 3-7 students are involved in an inter-school sport competition with a number of other local Catholic schools. Sports include: netball & league tag. The HPE program includes swimming, athletics, cross-country, soccer, league tag, AFL and handball.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are valuable tools that are used to enhance student learning outcomes at St Joachim's. The school provides ongoing professional learning opportunities to assist teachers to embed ICTs into the curriculum. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard and ultra-short throw interactive data projector.

All students have access to ICTs to engage in the Australian Curriculum and further enhance their knowledge, skills and values across all ACARA Learning Areas.

At St Joachim's teachers provide opportunities for students to engage with ICTs including notebook computers, iPads, iPods, interactive whiteboards, online tools and so much more. Learning to use the technologies are not an end in themselves; they are the vehicle for learning in a contemporary world.

Each classroom has high speed wireless internet connection and has a bank of desktop computers and printing facilities.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Joachim's is a Catholic school that was established by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1938. It is a Christ centred Catholic community that seeks to develop each person to their full potential “for the greater glory of God” (our school motto). Our school is a caring learning environment that boasts a professional staff, who assist students to grow to their full potential. St Joachim’s School is supported by the extensive resources of the Brisbane Catholic Education Office to provide a broad curriculum choice with emphasis on individual potential and ability.

St Joachim’s has a positive approach to developing a supportive learning environment (behaviour management). Peer Mediation & Circle Time are two initiatives supporting the pastoral care of our students. Our school has clear school behaviour management procedures that also define how the school responds to bullying. Our procedures are located on the school's website.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parents, students and teachers at St Joachim’s are encouraged to provide the school with feedback. The Parents and Friends’ Association is a regular forum for the discussion of school issues and parents are also encouraged to maintain regular contact with their child’s teacher. Each year the school undergoes an internal school renewal process which offers the school community the opportunity to provide detailed feedback on the level of satisfaction with the school.

Parents, students and staff report that our school is a welcoming and inclusive environment where all are accepted.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

• Parent-teacher evenings, parent-teacher interviews
• Open classroom invitations to parents
• Parents and Friends’ Association
• Pastoral School Board
• Perceptual Motor Program
• Parent ‘support a reader’ program
• Student wrap around meetings
• Classroom parent helpers
• Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings
• Cyclical review involving parent feedback

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>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</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>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2014 was $48,355.97. The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics
- Curriculum Differentiation
- Gifted and Talented Education
- Teaching students with learning disabilities
- Child Protection
- Spirituality & Religious Education
- Kids Connect - Information and Communication Technologies
- Contemporary Learning - embedding Information and Communication Technologies

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, 100% of staff were retained by the school for the 2014 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>96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>97 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>95 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>94 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>97 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

Students who are absent for an extended period of time are required to have the written permission of the school principal. Unexplained absentism is followed up by the school admin staff.

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.