



**Brisbane  
Catholic  
Education**

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# ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING - 2014

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

School Name St Patrick's Primary School

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Contact Person Mrs Kathryn Fuller - Principal

## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

St Patrick's School, Gympie was a systemic, prep-year 7 Catholic primary school. We strive to give our students the best possible start in life with a values-based education that fosters and applauds the talents and potential of each and every member of the school community. The Spirit of St Patrick's Primary School is underpinned by the values of Compassion, Dignity, Justice, Community and Wisdom.

On Calton Hill in the town centre of Gympie, St Patrick's Primary School offers excellent learning conditions, dedicated and talented staff and well planned facilities in a caring, family-orientated Catholic environment. Our current enrolment is 490 students. St Patrick's Primary School aims to develop students' self worth, social, academic and sporting skills, moral and value awareness and religious formation- all of which work together to help them "Let their light shine", reflecting the school motto. Through the efforts of the combined Parents and Friends Association and with the support of Students' religious education is supported and enhanced by ready access to St Patrick's Church and neighbouring Catholic Secondary College.

All of our students have access to the subjects that are outlined by the Australian Curriculum, Religious Education and a learning environment that nurtures and encourages love, forgiveness, care, respect, wisdom, sensitivity and justice.

## School Profile

St Patrick's 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 490

Total Enrolment 490 Girls 238 Boys 252

## Characteristics of the student body

We have 490 students at St Patrick's Primary School.

Our students come predominately from middle-class families who are very supportive of our school environment. Our School is rich in history with the Catholic Tradition highly valued in the learning environment.

Our Learners are diverse individuals and are capable of achieving success in learning. Learning is grounded in a strong educational framework and our students are able to learn in a safe and supportive environment. Learners at St Patrick's are given the opportunity to contribute back to the community. They are all valued and are treated with dignity and justice and are given opportunities to express and celebrate their faith. Our students have many and varied talents and are engaged in many extra-curricular activities including sport, music, drama and dance outside of the school context.

Of our 490 students, we have 13 students who are verified with a disability. We have 7 students who speak languages other than English and 6 students who have English as their second language. Of our 490 students, 13 are indigenous. Many opportunities are provided for our learners to celebrate the traditions of the various cultures that make up our community.

The majority of our students transition to St Patrick's College at the end of Year 7.

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

St Patrick's Primary School, all teachers in all classes follow the guidelines and Syllabus documents produced by ACARA and the Queensland Studies Authority. All schools in the state use these documents. Our school uses these documents as the basis for producing our own school curriculum programs in all of the key learning areas.

The subjects that we offer at St Patrick's include:

Religion  
English  
Mathematics  
History  
Geography  
Science  
Health and Physical Education  
The Arts  
Technology  
Cultural Literacy and Languages.

ACARA and the Australian Curriculum, and thus, St Patrick's School curriculum, is designed to assist students to become learners well-equipped to be active participants in society in the 21st Century.

AS a result of this societal change, children need to develop new ways of learning and working which embraces the general capabilities and cross-curricular priorities as outlined in the Australian Curriculum.

## Extra curricula activities

A significant number of our students are involved in extra-curricula activities including Parish activities, choir, string ensemble, instrumental music, fitness activities, active after school activities, school camps, art classes, Australasian competitions, local Eisteddfod, interschool sport and inter-house sport activities.

## How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

At St Patrick's Primary School, to assist learning we provide many opportunities and resources to allow students to develop their skills to access appropriately, to use, develop, create and communicate information using technological tools. A wide range of technological tools is provided including digital cameras (still and video), MP3 recorders, USB Microphones, interactive projectors and whiteboards, USB microscopes and software which allows students to edit and produce their work. All students have access to a bank of computers in their classrooms. Students in Years 6 & 7 have access to additional computers in a designated area adjacent to their classrooms.

We endeavour to increase our students' capability by providing them with opportunities to purposefully apply technology to solve problems, analyse and exchange information, develop ideas, create models and control devices. They are also encouraged to discriminate in their use of information and ICLT tools and to be systematic in reviewing and evaluating the contribution ICLT can make to their learning as it progresses. Students are taught how to determine if online information is current, relevant and appropriate and are given opportunities to discuss and demonstrate appropriate online behaviour. We also have four year levels in the school, using the LIFE Learning Management System.

We believe that ICLT use requires that students are able to select appropriate tools and resources and be able to evaluate the usefulness of their choices. In essence, students need to know what aspects of ICLT are available to them, when to use it and why it is appropriate for the task. Resources are available to all students from Prep- Year 7.

## Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Patrick's Primary School exists to assist parents in the important task of educating their children. The school is privileged to be part of the partnership that will contribute to each child's total development. We endeavor to assist in the development of each child's: Self Worth; Social Skills; Sporting Skills; Academic Skills; Behavioral Choices; Moral Awareness and Academic Growth.

We strive to be always willing to discuss any questions or concerns you may have as they arise and provide you with more detailed information if you wish. An essential element in our role of educating the students in our care is to work in partnership with parents. Children will only receive the best possible schooling when home and school work together out of common goals and principles. We encourage parents to be involved in their child's education as much

We have a bullying policy and guidelines for practice which we utilise when dealing with any inappropriate actions between students

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parents are always welcome to take part in school activities and invited regularly to provide feedback to the school via surveys etc on certain aspects of school life. Regular invitations are given to parents to respond to activities that are happening in the school and are consulted heavily when creating the School Renewal and goal setting plans each year.

Most recently parents were invited to take part in School Renewal Planning sessions. Feedback received indicated that parents were very satisfied with the school developments and response to curriculum. Suggestions for further growth form part of our School Plans for 2015.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

Parents are encouraged to be involved in the school through classroom help, library assistance, attendance at school camps etc. There are also specific parent groups and activities to further encourage parental involvement. These include the School Pastoral Board, Pastoral Parent Group, Grant Writing Task-Force, The Parents and Friends Association, School Finance Committee, Parent Information Nights, Social Events and family Masses.

## Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	30	21
Full-time equivalents	26.1	12.9
Indigenous	0	

## Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level
Doctorate	0
Masters	10
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	26
Bachelors Degree	58
Diploma/Certificate	6

## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2014 was \$ 74 695.21

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

Development of ICLT structures to maximize learning within classroom environments.

Pedagogical Renewal in the Geography Curriculum

Familiarization and pedagogical renewal of the Religious Education, Science, Maths and English Australian curriculum

Integration and Development of Visible Learning Strategies

Continue to develop a classroom and whole school environment that will foster a sense of belonging, self-worth, competence, security and a sense of purpose through using Program Achieve.

## School Income by Funding Source

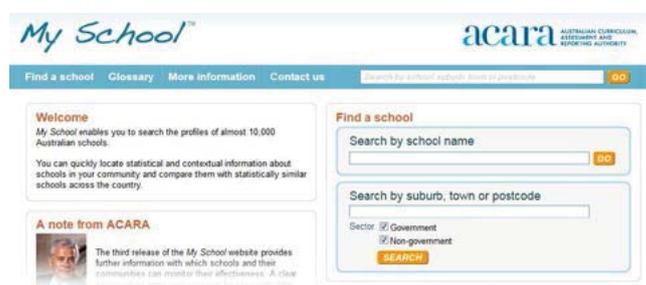
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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 96.59 % in 2014.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2013 school year, 95.5 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2014 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	94	%
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Prep Attendance Rate	N/A		Year 4 Attendance Rate	94	%
Year 1 Attendance Rate	95	%	Year 5 Attendance Rate	94	%
Year 2 Attendance Rate	95	%	Year 6 Attendance Rate	93	%
Year 3 Attendance Rate	95	%	Year 7 Attendance Rate	95	%

## Policy and practice to manage student attendance

All students are expected to attend each school day. The attendance roll is taken twice daily (both in the morning and in the afternoon). Parents are to notify via phone, mail or absentee email address if their child is going to be absent. If any student is absent but we have not been notified of their absence we contact their parents via phone at approximately 9.30am on the morning of their absence.

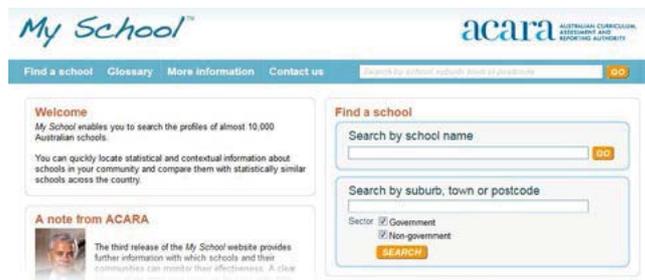
We make regular contact with parents if their child is absent for more than 5 days due to sickness.

Where a family knows that their child is going to be absent for more than 10 school days due to any circumstances, the family is asked to fill in a flexible learning arrangement form. This clearly outlines the work program to be followed in the child's absence and is signed by both the child's parents and the school principal.

## 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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