Holy Cross Catholic Primary School is a co-educational Catholic school established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1890. We are the parish school of Lutwyche Catholic Parish incorporating Holy Cross, St. Anne’s and Holy Rosary churches.

Holy Cross Catholic Primary school celebrated 125 years of catholic schooling in 2015; a long and rich history of education.

We aim to provide an inclusive, quality Catholic education for all our students and work to ensure that each student reaches their full potential by providing a supportive environment in which to learn.

We provide a strong focus on expected and effective learning and teaching practices in Literacy and Numeracy. We also emphasize other aspects of the curriculum through specialist classes in Italian, Art, Music and Physical Education.

Our school is renowned for the community support of our Parents and Friends Association who work in partnership to develop a spirit of community that supports families as children make their way through the primary years of their education.

This report provides a snap shot of our community's achievements in 2017.

School facts

Holy Cross School is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

- Coeducational: X
- Year levels offered: Primary X, Secondary, P-12
- Total student enrolments: 216, Girls: 101, Boys: 115
Characteristics of the student body
The student cohort at Holy cross School reflects the diversity of the Australian population particularly as it is reflected in our catchment suburbs which are mostly within the northern 10km ring of the Brisbane CBD.

While the majority of our students are Catholic, children of other Christian and religious traditions, whose families share our values and support our ethos, are also enrolled at our school.

Families who commute to the city from suburbs further north and north-west are also present in our community as rail, road and bus links serve Wooloowin and Lutwyche en route to the CBD.

Our student population is arranged into three sporting and pastoral Houses - McAuley, Ambrose and MacKillop. These inspirational house patrons reflect the history of our school and catholic education in Australia.

Our school motto, "With God for Others" and our school Vision and Mission are compass points for creating a supportive Catholic Christian community in which positive relationships are nurtured and fostered, where relationships are reconciled and where outreach to others occurs.

Strong and responsive Pastoral Care is supported by all staff and a part-time Pastoral Worker and Guidance Counsellor. Recent student behaviour support surveys and student surveys indicate that students hold a positive view that Holy Cross is a safe and supportive environment.

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning framework supports our behaviour policies and response to bullying. This framework is based on the assumption that appropriate social skills can and should be taught so that our students can enjoy the positive experiences of inclusion, friendship, cooperation and support for others which are a characteristic of Christian life.

Our student behaviour plan ensures that students are aware of the expectation of all in our community that we will be "safe and respectful learners".

Social climate
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Curriculum - our distinctive offerings
Holy Cross School focuses on developing the whole child including their academic, spiritual, social and emotional development. Our school embraces the Brisbane Catholic Education Learning and Teaching Framework and the many aspects of Delivering Excellent Learning and Teaching strategy as a starting point for developing learners and their capabilities. This framework provides a lens to view the Australian Curriculum documents and the Brisbane Catholic Education Religion curriculum as we strive to provide an education which, in partnership with families, will enable our students to grow as people of faith reaching their full potential as Life Long Learners. All elements and subjects of the Australian Curriculum are taught at Holy Cross. Literacy and Numeracy are a major foci and we ensure a broad curriculum with specialist class lessons in Art, Music, Italian and Physical Education.

Group instrumental music lessons and band are also offered for students from Year 4 onwards. Our chess and robotics clubs are available for students after school. Our Positive Behaviour for Learning and Bounce Back resource provide for the development of resilience and appropriate social skills.
Curriculum - our extra curricula activities

Extra Curricula Activities provided at Holy Cross include:
- Zone 6/ City Districts sports events - Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country
- Chess Club
- Tennis
- Mini Vinnies Group
- Senior Choir
- Junior Choir
- Private Music Tuition
- Concert Band
- Dance Cart in 2017

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction can be gauged by the evidence in survey and available data and anecdotal responses. The high attendance rate of students and the higher than average results from student surveys are indicators of the strong satisfaction and engagement of students. Staff surveys also indicate higher than average satisfaction with their work. Positive feedback is provided through the Parents and Friends Association as a forum for discussion around Annual Action Planning.

Parent engagement

Information evenings are held by each class teacher at the beginning of the school year during which the curriculum overview and class procedures are outlined. Each term a curriculum overview, and opportunities for support of students learning both at home and at school is shared with our parent community. Parent teacher meetings are held at the beginning of Term 2, regarding student progress and achievement, and a written report prepared each semester. Curriculum Access Plans are developed in consultation with parents to develop our exceptional learners. There are clear channels developed for communication between staff and parents, and parents are very welcome to support learning in Literacy blocks, Maths activities, or as part of our Literacy support program. The school also appreciates parental support at the Tuckshop, on sports days, and attendance at our weekly assemblies. Parent feedback and input is invited to Annual Planning and Review.
SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements against 2017 annual plan

Our School Annual Plan is published to the community each year. This is then tracked so that our achievements can then be celebrated and future directions set. Some of our achievements against the 2017 plan include:

Success in reaching and surpassing early Literacy Goal in Reading; Embedding BCE Expected and Effective Practices; Review and Revision of Student Behaviour Support Plan; Participation in the Dialogue Schools Project within Brisbane Catholic Education; Monitor and refine planning for classroom teaching of Religion; Resourced and supported uniform, short Term Planning/Teaching Cycles in English; Staff Professional Learning to support Literacy pedagogy to ensure students make the reading/writing connection in English; Increased frequency of data collection and monitoring processes for English in Reading and Writing; Collaborating within and beyond school to enhance practice in English; Professional Development in Design and Technology Curriculum; Increased the ICT support hours to maintain the infrastructure.

Future outlook

In 2018 the Annual Plan points to our future directions. Our goals are:

1. All staff will participate in PD to explore the theoretical basis of a Dialogue School.
2. Provide information for our wider community to engage with a re-contextualised Catholic World View.
3. Maintain the progress of all learners in their reading development and increase the proficiency and levels of mastery in writing in Prep to Year 6. By the end of 2018 - 85% of students in years 3-6 will achieve the Benchmark of 20-24 in their Writing Criteria. By the end of 2018 - 95% of students in Prep – Year 2 will meet the BCE Targets for PM Benchmarks.
5. Staff develop three professional goals which align with the Annual Plan.
6. Enhance the public image and the digital footprint of Holy Cross in the wider community.
8. Staff will increase confidence and digital skill levels to improve access to digital resources for teaching and learning by participating in the Digital Skills Project facilitated by BCE.
Whole school attendance rate | 96.00 %
--- | ---
Prep attendance rate | 95.00 %
Year 4 attendance rate | 97.00 %
Year 1 attendance rate | 95.00 %
Year 5 attendance rate | 96.00 %
Year 2 attendance rate | 95.00 %
Year 6 attendance rate | 96.00 %
Year 3 attendance rate | 95.00 %

Management of non-attendance

Full school attendance is the goal for all our students. School roll is marked electronically twice - 9am and 2pm. Absences must be explained by parents via the school app, phone or email. Unexplained absences followed up by a phone call. Prolonged absences require medical certificate. Members of the Student Support Team follow up any major absences so that parents, staff, medical and allied health professionals can ensure optimum attendance. Absences other than illness explained in writing to the Principal. Early departures, for any reason, parents sign student out at school office giving a reason for the absence. Late arrivals: parents sign student in at reception; late slip is taken by the student to class.

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th></th>
<th>Year 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Aust.</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>Aust.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>467.09</td>
<td>431.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>424.81</td>
<td>413.60</td>
<td>503.43</td>
<td>472.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>422.44</td>
<td>416.20</td>
<td>516.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>429.97</td>
<td>409.40</td>
<td>503.00</td>
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</table>
**STAFF PROFILE**

### Workforce composition

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Teaching staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>15.13</td>
<td>8.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</td>
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### Highest level of attainment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
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</table>

**Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning**

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2017 was $34,081.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- Professional Learning was undertaken in:
  - Planning and teaching using Design and Technology Curriculum
  - Reading/Writing Connections
  - Assessing for short Literacy Cycles
  - Assessment and Moderation in Writing and Religion
  - The BCE Dialogue Schools project
  - Teaching in the classroom: ALP/DAT program
  - Non violent Crisis Intervention
  - Wellbeing and Christian Meditation

**Average staff attendance rate** The staff attendance rate was 97.85% in 2017.

**Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year**

From the end of the 2016 school year, 100.0% of staff were retained by the school for the 2017 year.
School income by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the MySchool website at [http://www.myschool.edu.au/](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 ‘Find a school’ text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select <GO>.

School financial information is available by selecting ‘Finances’ on the top menu on the school’s entry web page.