

**Holy Spirit School, NEW  
FARM**

# **Annual Report 2021**

**Brisbane Catholic Education is  
a faith-filled learning community  
creating a better future.**



**Brisbane  
Catholic  
Education**

teaching • challenging • transforming

# Contact information

<b>School</b>	Holy Spirit School
<b>Postal address</b>	36 Villiers Street, NEW FARM, QLD, 4005
<b>Phone</b>	(07) 3358 2344
<b>Email</b>	pnewfarm@bne.catholic.edu.au
<b>Web pages</b>	Information about the school can be found at <a href="http://www.holyspiritnewfarm.qld.edu.au">www.holyspiritnewfarm.qld.edu.au</a> Additional information about Brisbane Catholic Education schools is located on the <a href="#">Brisbane Catholic Education</a> website.
<b>Contact person</b>	Michael Hopkinson — Principal

## Principal's foreword

The 2021 Annual Report presents information for reporting requirements and informs the wider community of our school's operations and achievements through the year. The report includes information on the school's profile, curriculum delivery, social climate, school funding, workforce composition and student performance.

Holy Spirit is a Catholic Parish Primary School situated in the vibrant inner-city suburb of New Farm. Most families reside in the suburbs of New Farm, Teneriffe and Newstead and come from a range of socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. Holy Spirit School is a welcoming, inclusive faith community embracing hope, quality teaching and learning, tolerance and understanding of difference. At present our enrolment is around 280 students. Our school caters for two classes in each year level from Prep-Year 6. Refurbished, air-conditioned classrooms with interactive whiteboards are available throughout our school. A refurbished library provides a 21st century learning hub for students in our school. Our school has use of wireless technology throughout all buildings and grounds of the school. An interactive playground including digging patch is a highlight during lunchtimes. Our parent community is engaged in the life of the school; working in partnership to provide the best opportunities and resources for all children. The school provides a range of extra-curricular activities that work and interact with community groups in the local and wider community. We believe in providing a harmonious and productive learning environment that caters for the intellectual, emotional, social, physical and spiritual formation of each child so they can develop holistically into happy, productive and successful members of society who live our school motto: 'To Know what is Right'

### School progress towards its goals in 2021

Opening of a school prayer garden responding to the need for a contemplative and contemporary space within the school grounds has been a key focus for the school. Parents, students and staff worked together with landscape gardeners resulted in a space which reflects a recontextualised Catholic perspective. The prayer garden also includes a statue of Catherine McAuley and Jesus allows students to see visual symbols connected with the school's Mercy charism.

Commitment to implementing the Numeracy strategy and using monitoring tools to measure student progress continues to be effective. All elements of the goal were achieved. Embedding Positive Behaviour4Learning within the school and classroom was supported through a consistent focus across each year level identified for all staff at the beginning of each week and at assembly.

Targeted recycling throughout the school and education connected to using identified bins has been implemented throughout the school. Regular meetings of the Laudato Si Committee resulted in the construction of a vision statement highlighting our commitment to the environment.

## Future outlook

The school will move into a new phase under a new principal in 2022. The current principal Kim Davis took leave for semester 2 and was appointed to St Joseph's Corinda as principal from 2022 onwards. Mr Brett Kitchener was acting principal in Terms 3 and 4. Embedding a contemporary approach to the Catholic worldview and identity through teachers having access to high quality learning in RE teaching and a focus on quality assessment allowing students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the RE Curriculum is a future goal. A review and update of the School Vision and Mission statement will occur in 2022. These will form part of the annual plan in 2022. Celebrating the school Mercy charism through formation for teachers and students is a target for 2022.

Completing the 1:1 device program for students in Years 3-6 was the goal in 2021 responding to feedback from parents/caregivers following the Alternative Education Provisions. This will be complete in 2022. A school wide approach to improving writing structure was undertaken by embedding an evidence-based approach to this area of literacy. The 7 Steps to Writing will form the basis of this. Plans to promote Positive Behaviour for Learning will continue in 2022.

# Our school at a glance

## School profile

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

**Coeducational or single sex:** Coeducational

**Year levels offered in 2021:** Primary

**Student enrolments for this school:**

	Total	Girls	Boys	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
2021	280	159	121	3

Student counts are based on the Census (August) enrolment collection.

Holy Spirit School is a culturally and socially diverse school community despite being in the high-socio economic suburb of New Farm. The majority of students live locally in New Farm, Newstead and Teneriffe with a few families living further out of the city and their parents working locally. 79.3% of students are Catholic. With a contemporary approach to Middle Schooling, there has been an increase in students completing their primary education at Holy Spirit School. Most students leaving Holy Spirit School transition to Catholic secondary schools with the majority enrolling in All Hallows' School, St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace and St Laurence's College.

## Curriculum implementation

### Curriculum overview

Holy Spirit School follows the Australian Curriculum including the following key learning areas: English, Maths, Science, HASS, HPE, ICLT, Technologies, The Arts. Specialist teachers in Art, Drama, Music, Mandarin and HPE offer specialised programs in these subjects. Religious Education is taught following the approved program ratified by Brisbane Catholic Education. All students in Prep-Year 6 participate in Swimming, Dance and Gymnastics programs.

Additional support teachers working across the school allow for individual, small group and whole class intervention and differentiation to meet the needs of all learners.

The support team collaborates with external providers and professionals to respond to individual needs of students in the school context.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

- Buddy system operates throughout the school
- Middle School students participate in a variety of leadership opportunities including leading assembly, student forums, representation at community events and formal committees
- Private instrumental music tuition is available for students in Prep-Year 6
- Private coaches are available for tennis, fitness club, drama, dance, chess and boxing.
- Community sports groups offer the following programs throughout the year – Rookies to Reds, Auskick, Brisbane Roar, Net Set Go
- Lunchtime Clubs include: basketball skills, rugby skills, maker space, dance, Lego, Glee, science
- School Choir is open to students in Years 3-6
- Participation in interschool competitions occurs in swimming cross, country, athletics
- Students in Year 5 and 6 participate in school camps. In 2020 year 5 attended a camp at Currimundi and year 6 went to Emu Gully.

### **How information and communication technologies are used to assist learning**

The access to a variety of information technology proved advantageous during Alternative Education Provisions offered online during the lockdown due to Covid-19. All students who needed a device were provided one to use at home in order to provide continuous quality education. All classes have access to iPads or MacBook Airs as well as interactive technology through Apple TV. Technology is embedded within the curriculum and skills and capabilities are taught across subject areas. Teachers have used robotics to enhance learning within their classrooms.

## **Social climate**

### **Overview**

Holy Spirit School implements a variety of strategies to ensure a harmonious school environment. A Positive Behaviour for Learning matrix enables teachers and parents to teach and demonstrate expected behaviours in various spaces throughout our school. Focussed learning activities connected with Program Achieve allow students to learn how to get along with others, develop persistence, confidence, resilience and organisation in order to be successful learners. Students are explicitly taught how to identify bullying and what to do if they experience this behaviour. An annual "Say No to bullying" Week includes activities, outside providers and multiple opportunities for students to identify unacceptable behaviour. A focus on the "friendly five" people students can turn to for support is undertaken each term with teachers explicitly using the Recognize, React Report posters displayed in each classroom.

### Parent, student and staff satisfaction

The tables below show selected items from the Parent/Caregiver, Student and Staff BCE Listens Surveys.

#### BCE Listens Survey - Parent satisfaction

Performance measure	
Percentage of parents/carers who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	2020
This school helps my child to develop their relationship with God	98.0%
School staff demonstrate the school's Catholic Christian values	98.0%
Teachers at this school have high expectations for my child	84.3%
Staff at this school care about my child	98.1%
I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns	92.3%
Teachers at this school encourage me to take an active role in my child's education	88.5%
My child feels safe at this school	98.1%
The facilities at this school support my child's educational needs	86.5%
This school looks for ways to improve	90.4%
I am happy my child is at this school	92.3%

#### BCE Listens Survey - Student satisfaction

Performance measure	
Percentage of students who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	2020
My school helps me develop my relationship with God	94.7%
I enjoy learning at my school	97.5%
Teachers expect me to work to the best of my ability in all my learning	100.0%
Feedback from my teacher helps me learn	95.0%
Teachers at my school treat me fairly	95.0%
If I was unhappy about something at school I would talk to a school leader or teacher about it	80.0%
I feel safe at school	98.8%
I am happy to be at my school	95.0%

#### BCE Listens Survey - Staff satisfaction

Performance measure	
Percentage of staff who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	2020
Working at this school helps me to have a deeper understanding of faith	87.5%
School staff demonstrate this school's Catholic Christian values	95.8%
This school acts on staff feedback	82.6%
This school looks for ways to improve	95.7%
I am recognised for my efforts at work	75.0%
In general students at this school respect staff members	95.8%
This school makes student protection everyone's responsibility	100.0%
I enjoy working at this school	100.0%

<sup>#</sup> 'Agree' represents the percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement.  
DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

## Family and community engagement

Holy Spirit School engages families in the learning process through communicating and sharing insights into learning experiences happening at school. Newsletter articles provide tips on supporting learning. Inviting parent experts to provide information connected with curriculum focus areas has continued in 2021 following the initiative of the Parents & Friends Association. Volunteering at tuckshop, sausage sizzle or class excursions was positive prior to the impact of Covid when many of these activities were cancelled. Online models of parent meetings has increased engagement of parents. A number of experts offered parenting tips related to behaviour, gaming and technology and supporting maths learning.

## Reducing the school's environmental footprint:

- Installation of LED lighting throughout the whole school continues to reduce the cost of electricity in a significant way.
- The Laudato Si Committee developed the following vision to focus our action:
- For our children to leave HSS with respect for our common home and an understanding that all actions and choices can have an impact and make a difference, no matter how small.
- For students to become green leaders in the community with the confidence to know what is right, and to help lead and inspire others to take action to transform and enrich our world (our common home).
- For the school to include sustainability as one of its key considerations into every decision.

## School funding

### School income broken down by funding source

School income, reported by financial year accounting cycle using standardized national methodologies and broken down by funding source is available via the *My School* website.

### How to access income details

1. Click on the *My School* link <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.
2. Enter the school name or suburb of the school you wish to search.

The screenshot shows the 'Find a school' section of the My School website. It features a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search by school name or suburb' and a 'Go' button. Below the search bar are three dropdown menus labeled 'School sector', 'School type', and 'State'. The 'Find a school' and 'Search website' buttons are at the top of the section.

3. Click on 'View School Profile' of the appropriate school to access the school's profile.

A rectangular button with a red border and the text 'View School Profile' in red.

4. Click on 'Finances' and select the appropriate year to view the school financial information.

The screenshot shows a navigation bar with several tabs: 'School profile', 'NAPLAN', 'Attendance', 'Finances', 'VET in schools', 'Senior secondary', and 'Schools map'. The 'Finances' tab is currently selected and highlighted.

Note: If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a hard copy of the school's financial information.

# Our staff profile

## Workforce composition

Description	Teaching Staff*	Non-Teaching Staff
Headcount	24	11
Full-time Equivalents	19.9	5.9

\*Teaching staff includes School Leaders

## Qualification of all teachers\*

Highest level of qualification	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	3
Graduate diploma etc.**	3
Bachelor degree	15
Diploma	3
Certificate	0

\*Teaching staff includes School Leaders

\*\*Graduate diploma etc. includes graduate diploma, bachelor honours degree, and graduate certificate.

## Professional development

The major professional development areas of learning are as follows:

- Catholic Identity,
- Literacy,
- Numeracy,
- Essential Assessment and
- Positive Behaviours 4 Learning.

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2021 was 100%.

## Staff attendance and retention

### Average staff attendance

Description	%
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders	97.2%

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

From the end of the previous school year, 95% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2021.

# Performance of our students

## Key student outcomes

### Student attendance

The overall student attendance rate in 2021 for all Brisbane Catholic Education schools across years Prep-6 was 92.4%.

Description	%
The overall attendance rate* for the students at this school	95.2%
Attendance rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at this school	85.6%

Average attendance rate per year level			
Prep attendance rate	96.9%	Year 4 attendance rate	96.6%
Year 1 attendance rate	94.4%	Year 5 attendance rate	94.6%
Year 2 attendance rate	95.5%	Year 6 attendance rate	94.3%
Year 3 attendance rate	94.2%		

\*The student attendance rate is generated by dividing the total of full-days and part-days that students attended, and comparing this to the total of all possible days for students to attend, expressed as a percentage.

### Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

The school attendance procedure outlines requirements and the importance of regular attendance at school and the link to learning progress. Electronic rolls are marked twice daily by classroom teachers, once in the morning at the start of the day and again straight after second lunch. As per the procedure, the Administration Support Officer follows up with parents/carers about the unexplained absences. Regular non-attendance is addressed by the leadership team via formal communication with parents/carers. Requirements around attendance are communicated to parents/carers via Parent Handbook and the school newsletter.



## NAPLAN

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 NAPLAN tests are available via the [My School](http://www.myschool.edu.au/) website.

### How to access our NAPLAN results

1. Click on the *My School* link <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.
2. Enter the school name or suburb of the school you wish to search.

A screenshot of the search bar on the My School website. It features a search input field with the placeholder text "Search by school name or suburb". To the right of the input field are three dropdown menus labeled "School sector", "School type", and "State". A magnifying glass icon is positioned to the right of the "State" dropdown.

3. Click on 'View School Profile' of the appropriate school to access the school's profile.

A rectangular button with a thin red border and the text "View School Profile" in a red font.

4. Click on 'NAPLAN' to access the school NAPLAN information.

A screenshot of the navigation menu at the top of a school profile page. It consists of a horizontal bar with several tabs: "School profile", "NAPLAN" (which is highlighted with a white background and a small downward arrow), "Attendance", "Finances", "VET in schools", "Senior secondary", and "Schools map".

#### Notes:

1. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a hard copy of the school's NAPLAN results.
2. The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy ([NAPLAN](http://www.naplan.edu.au/)) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.