



**St Joseph's School, NORTH  
IPSWICH**

# Annual Report 2021

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

# Contact information

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<b>Contact person</b>	Nic Constable (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.

St Joseph's School has served the North Ipswich community since 1913. In 2021 we celebrated 108 years of quality Catholic education. Our mission is to create a community which nurtures its members to grow and live a Christian life both locally and globally while providing opportunities for holistic growth and inspiring self-directed and lifelong learning. The school motto translates as 'To Work and To Pray'. St Joseph's, part of the community of schools known as Brisbane Catholic Education, values building and nurturing relationships with God and community members, respect for individuals, quality learning and teaching, preferential options for the needy and the traditions and contributions of past generations.

The curriculum is based on the Australian Curriculum documents with emphasis on early years literacy, inclusive education practices and technology. Various music opportunities are available to students, and their social development is nurtured by a community and programs committed to the healthy development of each child. The spacious site allows significant areas for outside play and learning and physical activity. Co-curricular activities include band, choir, school camps, biennial Canberra tour, excursions and incursions, interschool and representative sport, Reader's Cup, Wakkakirri and local eisteddfods.

### School progress towards its goals in 2021

Goal	Progress
By the end of Term 4 2021, we will have introduced a structured, research based synthetic approach to reading in each Prep to Year 2 classroom. Teachers will be provided with ongoing professional learning and purposeful resourcing for students.	Achieved
By the end of 2021, our staff and students will have deepened their spiritual and theological capacity so that they have a greater understanding of what is being taught in Religion and our Catholic faith.	Achieved
Initiate and embed a St Joseph's Living Well Program which seeks to enhance the full participation and enjoyment of school life for all, so that each person is provided with opportunities to flourish.	Partially Achieved

Through the introduction of the Synthetic Phonics approach from Prep to Year 2, we experienced pleasing growth both in student achievement and in the progression of teach capacity to establish impactful reading cycles. The work undertaken in Teaching and Learning this year not only sets a culture of high expectation upon our English Short Cycles, it has provided us with another data set to analyse our response to student need.

Staff have engaged wilfully and reflectively in Professional and Personal Learning opportunities in order to prepare Religion units of work that seek to deepen the impact of the curriculum and the various Religious Life of the School elements that are imbued throughout the lived experience of St Joseph's. We were able to engage our Parish Priest to construct and facilitate an aligned spiritual retreat which also sought to support the spiritual growth and awareness of each staff member.

While we were successful in providing a multitude of wellbeing and participatory opportunities for staff, students and their families at St Joseph's, many of our health restrictions limited the number of opportunities available to us. As a staff we see enormous value in reviewing, consolidating and enhancing this early work in 2022 so that we can more fully achieve this goal.

### **Future outlook**

In 2022, we will continue to develop teacher capacity towards embedding, extending and enhancing a tailored Prep to Year 3 focus on Synthetic Phonics as a complementary goal to our Annual Plan.

By the end of 2022, our school will have a distinguishable and effective approach to teaching Reading, embedded in classes from Prep to Year 6, and responsive to the patterns and trends found in timely data collection and analysis phases.

We will focus on deepening community processes to embed an authentic approach to refining student leadership as we collaboratively develop a school focussed framework for enhancing wellbeing within our community.

# Our school at a glance

## School profile

St Joseph's 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	360	165	195	15

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

St Joseph's North Ipswich is situated in the Ipswich area where most of our students come from middle socio-economic, English-speaking families. Most students were born in Australia but respect the diversity of other cultures. Our students are fortunate to have families and a community that values the importance of education.

They are co-operative, enthusiastic learners with many demonstrating great effort in academic pursuits, sport and the arts. Extracurricular activities are prevalent among the student body with many having private music, drama and dancing lessons, as well as playing various sports. Most of our students continue their secondary education at local Catholic high schools

## Curriculum implementation

### Curriculum overview

The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration (December 2019) emphasises the importance of promoting equity and excellence so that all students have the opportunity to be successful learners and confident, creative individuals in order to become active and informed citizens. Our vision is for a world-class education system that encourages and supports every student to be the very best they can be, no matter where they live or what kind of learning challenges they may face (Alice Springs Education Declaration, 2019).

At St Joseph's Primary School, teachers use the Australian Curriculum and the Brisbane Catholic Education Religious Education Curriculum, from Prep to Year 6 to plan learning, monitor, assess and report student progress and support student wellbeing.

The curriculum emphasises the importance of knowledge, understanding and skills in all learning areas:

- Religion
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS P to 2: History and Geography; from Year 3 adds Civics and Citizenship; from Year 5 adds Economics and Business)
- The Arts (5 subjects: Dance, Drama, Music Media, Arts, Visual Arts)
- Technologies (Design and Technologies, Digital Technologies)
- Languages (Auslan) in Years 5 & 6.

The curriculum identifies general capabilities that describe the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that students need to develop to live, learn and work successfully in a changing world.

These include critical and creative thinking, literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology capability, ethical understanding, intercultural understanding and personal and social capability. Three cross-curriculum priorities provide global, national and regional dimensions to develop students' knowledge understanding and skills relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia, and Sustainability.

Our school learning community values contemporary pedagogies to promote the experience of rich inquiry-based teaching and learning which is differentiated to meet the needs and interests of our students. Continuous monitoring of student progress in all learning areas is reported to parents via interviews, formal written reports, portfolios and Celebrations of Learning. As a Catholic Christian community, we educate all to live the gospel of Jesus Christ as successful, creative and confident, active and informed learners empowered to shape and enrich our world.

### **Extra-curricular activities**

- Instrumental music tutoring: piano, violin, guitar, strings.
- Sacramental Program through the Parish.
- Sporting organisations running programs after school (Auskick).
- Outside School Hours Care.

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

- FM amplifying systems used in each yearly cohort.
- Smart TVs used across each year level to allow contemporary pedagogy to take place in each year level.
- There is a class set of devices for each Year level.
- Upskilling teachers by using BCE Digital Skills Personnel to assist teachers and to support student transition to their individual 365 accounts.
- The professional use of digital technologies to demonstrate student progression over time.
- Apple TVs in each learning area to assist with connection points between devices.
- Staff have their own device that matches the student devices.
- Reviewing subscriptions to learning resources.

## **Social climate**

### **Overview**

St Joseph's is a very welcoming and vibrant community. The pastoral life of the school is enriched through the Chaplain. There is a very active and supportive Parents and Friends Association that holds special events including the annual fete, discos and Mother's and Father's Day stalls.

Our School Positive Behaviour Plan emphasizes three rules: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Learner. The objectives of our bullying policy are:

- **Prevention:** to actively counter bullying at the school, to provide strategies to resolve conflict and respect differences and promote mental health.
- **Intervention:** to raise awareness among staff, students and parents about bullying, to create a school environment where all students, staff and parents feel safe and welcome and to create a climate where it is okay to talk about bullying and ask for help.

### **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	2020
Percentage of parents/carers who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	
This school helps my child to develop their relationship with God	100.0%
School staff demonstrate the school's Catholic Christian values	98.9%
Teachers at this school have high expectations for my child	94.4%
Staff at this school care about my child	96.0%
I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns	95.0%
Teachers at this school encourage me to take an active role in my child's education	91.0%
My child feels safe at this school	97.0%
The facilities at this school support my child's educational needs	94.0%
This school looks for ways to improve	94.6%
I am happy my child is at this school	98.0%

### BCE Listens Survey - Student satisfaction

Performance measure	2020
Percentage of students who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	
My school helps me develop my relationship with God	77.4%
I enjoy learning at my school	87.4%
Teachers expect me to work to the best of my ability in all my learning	95.4%
Feedback from my teacher helps me learn	88.5%
Teachers at my school treat me fairly	81.6%
If I was unhappy about something at school I would talk to a school leader or teacher about it	70.1%
I feel safe at school	86.2%
I am happy to be at my school	84.9%

### BCE Listens Survey - Staff satisfaction

Performance measure	2020
Percentage of staff who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	
Working at this school helps me to have a deeper understanding of faith	100.0%
School staff demonstrate this school's Catholic Christian values	93.5%
This school acts on staff feedback	63.0%
This school looks for ways to improve	93.3%
I am recognised for my efforts at work	77.4%
In general students at this school respect staff members	77.4%
This school makes student protection everyone's responsibility	100.0%
I enjoy working at this school	96.7%

# '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

Parents and caregivers are actively encouraged to be involved in their child's education. Parental involvement in organisations such as the Parents and Friends Association and the various events such as Sports Carnivals, School Disco, Colour Run and celebrations such as Mother's, Father's and Grandparent's Day is very high.

Parents support all school functions and initiatives and offer substantial monetary support to the many charitable activities undertaken by the school.

Parental support for the tuckshop, uniform shop, working bees and the other school activities is very pleasing. Parents have many opportunities to be directly involved with their child's education. Reading groups, Prep help, sports groups and music groups all benefit from the extensive support of parents. Parents are very supportive of Parent/Teacher meetings and Parent Information Nights and strongly support school policies and initiatives.

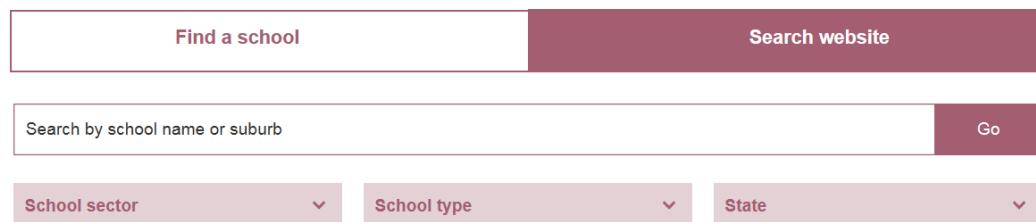
## School funding

### 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.



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



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



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	30	17
Full-time Equivalents	24.9	11.6

\*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	1
Graduate diploma etc.**	1
Bachelor degree	28
Diploma	0
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 initiatives are as follows:

- Training 24/7 (Synthetic Phonics)
- Literacy Monitoring Tool
- Establishing a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum
- Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD)
- BCE Apple Partnership (iPad Program).

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	97.6%

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

From the end of the previous school year, 98% of staff were 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	93.1%
Attendance rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at this school	89.8%

Average attendance rate per year level			
Prep attendance rate	93.5%	Year 4 attendance rate	93.8%
Year 1 attendance rate	91.3%	Year 5 attendance rate	91.7%
Year 2 attendance rate	93.5%	Year 6 attendance rate	93.8%
Year 3 attendance rate	93.8%		

\*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

Brisbane Catholic Education uses a system called eMinerva. Each day teachers mark the roll twice (at 8.40am and 2.30pm) recording students present and those absent. Students who arrive late or leave early are to be signed in by parents at the office. Students are then given a slip to give to the teacher when they enter the room. If parents are picking their child up early, they are to come to the office, sign out their child and wait for their child to come to the office area. All late and early notices are recorded on eMinerva (roll system) by the school secretary.

St Joseph's has continued a student attendance campaign including information on the Parent Portal, statistics on the various school blogs, posters around the school, information on the LED sign and regular attendance data updates.

## 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](#) 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.



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

[\*\*View School Profile\*\*](#)

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



#### 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](#)) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.