



Star of the Sea Catholic School, TORQUAY

Annual Report 2021

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

Contact information

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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.

Star of the Sea, a Catholic primary school in Hervey Bay, has an enrolment of around 340 students. We provide quality education where motivated children who are challenged to do their best. The school achieves its mission by nurturing the spiritual development of all members, motivating the children to participate and feel success in all aspects of education, and working in close partnership with families, parish, and the local community. A caring friendly family atmosphere is present. The guidance counsellor, school chaplain, student support team, and care-and-concern group meet the needs of students and families. Students enjoy extensive grounds in a bushland setting. Star of the Sea Catholic Childcare and After School Care Centre is adjacent to the school. The school has an extensive extra-curricular program. We provide specialist lessons in music, PE, and Chinese. A well-coordinated Camp program gives students from Years 4 to 6 rich educational experiences, while community service activities and an effective student leadership program help develop students into Christian leaders.

School progress towards its goals in 2021

In 2021, Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School continued its whole-school focus on literacy. Following a review of school data, 2021 saw Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School move towards a whole-school focus being spelling. From previous writing analysis spelling was targeted to be improved. There were many professional developments by the Education Consultant for curriculum. This started with teachers planning for short cycle spelling. This was based around building teacher capacity and developing a consistent, evident based and research informed understanding of how to teach spelling.

Our school's charism was further enhanced in 2021 by the introduction of Christian meditation in all year levels. For many, our daily meditation provided staff and students with an important way to cope with the external stresses, while strengthening our own connection with God.

Throughout the year it was decided that there were 3 committees for staff to join, Wellbeing, PB4L and Spelling.

Future outlook

Our 2021 Annual Plan continues on from the work over the past few years. Annual goals and strategies are derived from a review of student performance data, perception data and the bi-annual student, staff and parent satisfaction surveys. This plan should be read in conjunction with Brisbane Catholic Education's Strategic Plan Booklet 2021-2025.

Strong Catholic Identity

Strengthen capacity to lead, engage and teach in a re-contextualised Catholic worldview.

Priorities	Strategies	Success Criteria
<p>Develop a cohesive system-wide approach to formation and meditation for all students and staff.</p> <p>Commence 'Community made for each other'</p> <p>Introduce indigenous perspectives through symbols throughout the school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a whole-school matrix for meditation Engage in PD around enneagram for staff to support collaborative cultures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent meditation practices will be used throughout the whole school All staff will have completed an enneagram

Excellent Learning and Teaching

We aim to inspire a love of learning to maximise learning growth through leadership and teaching practices that engage each learner in deeper learning.

Priorities	Strategies	Success Criteria
<p>Develop a whole-school approach to the teaching of spelling.</p> <p>Develop a whole school approach to the teaching of phonics.</p> <p>See an increase in the effect size of our NAPLAN results for students in Year 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form a Learning and Teaching Committee Develop a P-6 Spelling program that clearly articulates what should be taught across each year level from one year to the next. Introduce effective and expected practices, based on research, in the teaching of spelling across all year levels. Identify best practices for the teaching of phonics across the school. Provide professional development in spelling and phonics for all staff. Implement test savvy practices in the daily routine for students in Year 3 and 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A P-6 Spelling Program will be Developed Consistent approach to teaching spelling will be used throughout the whole school Increased results in effect size across all areas of NAPLAN for students in Year 5.

Building a Sustainable Future

Build sustainability through people and capability to ensure stewardship of resources with transparency, accountability and compliance

Priorities	Strategies	Success Criteria
<p>Plan for career pathways for staff.</p> <p>Develop a revitalisation plan for the grounds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a number of committees for staff to join. Working with the groundsman, develop a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Wellbeing, Learning and Teaching and PB4L Committee will be formed and chaired by teachers

Building a Sustainable Future

Build sustainability through people and capability to ensure stewardship of resources with transparency, accountability and compliance

Priorities	Strategies	Success Criteria
Introduce greater opportunities for parent engagement.	<p>stagged plan for the revitalisation of school grounds and gardens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce guest speakers to present a range of topics throughout the year for our parent body.	<p>other than the Leadership Team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A revitalisation Plan will be developed and stage one will have commenced.• Guests speakers will present at the school throughout the year.

Our school at a glance

School profile

Star of the Sea Catholic 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 331	159	172	19

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

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School is located in the suburb of Torquay, Hervey Bay. The majority of students come from the neighbouring suburbs of Wondunna, Urangan, Kawungan, Scarness, Pialba and Urraween. In 2021, approximately 20% of students at Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School were included in the NCCD. This aligns with the state average and 5.3% are either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Curriculum implementation

Curriculum overview

At Star of the Sea the teachers work from the Australian Curriculum which is provided daily. All students have access to this curriculum. Students are also catered for by differentiation and given support in small groups if needed. At times students can be extended to suit their learning needs.

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities And Social Science (HASS)
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE) – Chinese
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- 1:1 device program

Extra-curricular activities

- Inter-school and Intra-School Sports
- Choir
- Vocal Lessons
- Strings Program
- Brass and Wind Program
- Toast Masters
- Maryborough Eisteddfod
- Chinese Speaking Competitions
- Year 4 – 6 Camp Program
- Year level excursions

How information and communication technologies are used to assist learning

The *Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians* (MCEETYA 2008) recognises that in a digital age, and with rapid and continuing changes in the ways that people share, use, develop and communicate with ICT, young people need to be highly skilled in its use. To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students need the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school, at home, at work and in their communities.

Information and communication technologies are fast and automated, interactive and multimodal, and they support the rapid communication and representation of knowledge to many audiences and its adaptation in different contexts. They transform the ways that students think and learn and give them greater control over how, where and when they learn.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) is important in supporting the learning and teaching at Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School. All resources at Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School are bound by legislation and good stewardship of resources to ensure the appropriate use of ICTs.

Information & Communication Technology (ICT) has become of critical importance to schools in facilitating and supporting learning, teaching and other administrative activities for teachers, students, parents and administrators.

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School has established significant computing and communication resources to support these activities. These resources include:

- All network services, device equipment and software, owned, leased or used under license by Brisbane Catholic Education Centre and Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School;
- Devices maintained by other bodies but available for use through an agreement or agreements with Brisbane Catholic Education.

Social climate

Overview

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School supports the personal and social development of its students, as identified in the Australian Curriculum, by offering an approach to behaviour education through PB4L. Our School Wide Positive Behaviour strategy assists in setting clear, consistent and expected behaviours throughout the school. Our school's Learning Support Team and Wellbeing Committee co-ordinates a number of programs and initiatives to support the social and emotional development of our students. Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School also has a Care and Concern Committee and an extended student buddy program to support in developing a supportive school environment for parents and students.

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 [#] that:	
This school helps my child to develop their relationship with God	100.0%
School staff demonstrate the school's Catholic Christian values	98.0%
Teachers at this school have high expectations for my child	86.0%
Staff at this school care about my child	92.2%
I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns	84.3%
Teachers at this school encourage me to take an active role in my child's education	84.3%
My child feels safe at this school	94.1%
The facilities at this school support my child's educational needs	90.2%
This school looks for ways to improve	91.8%
I am happy my child is at this school	92.0%

BCE Listens Survey - Student satisfaction

Performance measure	2020
Percentage of students who agree [#] that:	
My school helps me develop my relationship with God	80.2%
I enjoy learning at my school	87.2%
Teachers expect me to work to the best of my ability in all my learning	93.6%
Feedback from my teacher helps me learn	88.8%
Teachers at my school treat me fairly	84.8%
If I was unhappy about something at school I would talk to a school leader or teacher about it	74.4%
I feel safe at school	83.2%
I am happy to be at my school	82.4%

BCE Listens Survey - Staff satisfaction

Performance measure	2020
Percentage of staff who agree [#] that:	
Working at this school helps me to have a deeper understanding of faith	83.3%
School staff demonstrate this school's Catholic Christian values	89.2%
This school acts on staff feedback	77.8%
This school looks for ways to improve	97.2%
I am recognised for my efforts at work	73.7%
In general students at this school respect staff members	100.0%
This school makes student protection everyone's responsibility	97.3%
I enjoy working at this school	97.3%

'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

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School values and encourages family engagement. Parents are supported in this by:

- School Board
- School Parents and Friends Association
- Tuckshop Helpers
- Parent helpers in the classroom
- Care and Concern Committee membership
- School social nights

Our school's engagement with the wider community sees our students actively participate in:

- Parish Healing Masses
- Parish Feast Day celebrations
- Fundraising for local charity organisations
- Participation in ANZAC Day marches, Remembrance Day ceremonies and the Whale Festival.

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](http://www.myschool.edu.au/) 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	24	19
Full-time Equivalents	20.3	10.7

*Teaching staff includes School Leaders

Qualification of all teachers*

Highest level of qualification	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	1
Masters	4
Graduate diploma etc.**	0
Bachelor degree	19
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:

- Liz Pashen - Spiritual Information
- Religion – Your Story, Our Story, The Story
- Alfina Russo and Michelle Buiatti – The four spelling knowledges and assisted teachers with planning.
- First Aid & CPR training
- PB4L – Behaviour Management
- Analysis of student data.

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	95.4%

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	92.2%
Attendance rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at this school	89.5%

Average attendance rate per year level			
Prep attendance rate	93.1%	Year 4 attendance rate	90.9%
Year 1 attendance rate	93.9%	Year 5 attendance rate	91.1%
Year 2 attendance rate	93.1%	Year 6 attendance rate	89.7%
Year 3 attendance rate	93.4%		

*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

Our school has a responsibility to record student attendance and respond to instances of irregular attendance. Staff use the eMinerva system to record student attendance and absences. It is important for our school to investigate the patterns and underlying causes of non-attendance so that appropriate strategies addressing the specific types of absenteeism can be implemented.

Our school, and by virtue of their employment, our teachers, are legally required to monitor and record attendance of students in their care on a daily basis, whether absent or present in class, on excursion or at a school-based activity.

Student Attendance Level

Students, families and carers, and staff will work together to ensure all students meet the school expectation of 90% or above attendance and zero unexplained absences.

Absent Categories in eMinerva	Students who are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Not in class, and a notification has not been received from a family or carer, will be marked 'Absent – Unexplained'○ Not in class, and a notification has been received from a family or carer, will be marked 'Absent – Explained'○ If a student has 3 unexplained consecutive days absent the class teacher will contact the parents or carers○ Students who have been suspended will be marked' Absent – Internal Suspension'
Unexplained Absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A notification will be sent to the student's family or carer by approximately 9:30am each day. Class teacher will follow up any unexplained absences by contacting the student's parents or carer

Late Arrivals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students are considered to have arrived late if they arrive later than 8:40am • All students arriving late must be signed in at the office by their parent or carer
Early Departure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child is considered to be an early departure if they leave school prior to 2:55pm • A child leaving early must be signed out at the office by their parent or carer prior to being collected from their class • A parent or carer, after signing the child out, can collect the child from the class or the class teacher may be called by the office and ask for the child to walk to the school office

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.