



San Damiano
College
YARRABILBA

Annual Report 2021

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



**Brisbane
Catholic
Education**

teaching • challenging • transforming

Contact information

School	San Damiano College
Postal address	980-1040 Yarrabilba Drive, YARRABILBA, QLD, 4207
Phone	(07) 5670 7000
Email	syarrabilba@bne.catholic.edu.au
Web pages	Information about the school can be found at sandamianocollege.qld.edu.au Additional information about Brisbane Catholic Education schools is located on the Brisbane Catholic Education website.
Contact person	Peter Edwards — 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.

San Damiano College is a new Catholic secondary school located in Yarrabilba which opened in 2021 with a Year 7 cohort of students. The college will add a year level each year until 2026 when we will cater to students from Years 7 to 12.

San Damiano College is a school where all students are welcome, known by name and are cared for. With our College Values of Community, Respect, Resilience and Service to Others it is our priority to provide a nurturing and supportive learning environment.

At San Damiano College, we are committed to:

- Service and Justice
- Continued Learning
- Resilience and Diligence, leading to Humility
- Teaching with Passion and Professionalism
- Demonstrating Respect, Showing Dignity to all
- Being the best we can be.

San Damiano College is located in the "Education Precinct" of Yarrabilba, a master planned Lendlease estate. The college is located across the road from the state secondary college and is adjacent to expansive playing fields. San Damiano College shares a close relationship with St. Clare's Primary School and is a member of the St. Maximillian Kolbe Parish of Marsden.

School progress towards its goals in 2021

San Damiano College, in our initial year, identified its key goals across three areas: Catholic Identity, Teaching & Learning, and Our People.

Catholic Identity

Creating a Catholic Culture and Building a Contemporary Catholic Community were identified as key goals for 2021. These goals were achieved by:

- Through sharing the Franciscan story, and our own stories
- Explicit teaching of Catholic rituals and traditions

- Connections with St. Maximillian Kolbe Parish
- School Retreat
- Liturgy and Prayer highlighted on school assemblies
- Professional Development opportunities for staff
- Initiating social justice activities for our students
- Building connections with St. Clare's Primary School.

Our second key area for 2021 focused on Raising our Baseline Data for Literacy and Numeracy. This was achieved by:

- Building staff capacity to interrogate and use data effectively
- Use PAT M, PAT R and WAT data to plan for our students' diverse needs
- Use data to identify target intervention teaching programs and strategies such as our Intensive Literacy Program and LEAP Maths.

Our third key area focused on Building Resilient People through:

- Participating in The Resilience Project once a fortnight in a dedicated lesson
- Explicitly teaching Resilience and Resilience strategies as part of the Pastoral Care program
- Daily gratitude, empathy, and mindfulness training.

Future outlook

For 2022, San Damiano will continue to focus on Creating a Catholic Culture. To do this we will:

- Embed our Franciscan traditions across all curriculum areas
- Form connections with our new Parish Priest
- Participate as a member of Franciscan Schools Australia
- Consolidate and grow our relationship with St. Clare's.

Learning and Teaching will continue to be a major focus for San Damiano College in 2022. The improvement of our written literacy will be highlighted this year. To do this we are:

- Undertaking professional development on data interrogation
- Writing on demand for our students
- Explicit writing strategies taught in all classes
- Development of a College Literacy Plan.

Improving the use of data will also be a focus for our college in 2022. This is being achieved by:

- Development of a College Data Plan
- Improving staff efficacy in data triangulation to inform teaching practices.

Another focus for San Damiano College for 2022 is the creation of expert teacher teams across all curriculum areas. We are achieving this by introducing a Parallel Teaching Model where two teachers have formed a partnership in two core classes for both Year 7 and 8 and are delivering two lessons simultaneously, in a parallel model. The aim is for this model to cater for our diverse learning needs in the classroom.

Our school at a glance

School profile

San Damiano College is a Catholic secondary school administered through Catholic Education Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Year levels offered in 2021: Year 7

Student enrolments for this school:

	Total	Girls	Boys	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
2021	76	47	29	3

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

San Damiano College opened its doors to students in 2021. As a new school, we are bright and fresh and enthusiastic, much like the population of Yarrabilba itself. Our students have come from an amazing 28 different feeder schools from both within Yarrabilba and the surrounding Logan and Scenic Rim areas. Our parents have commented that what attracted them to San Damiano College for their child's education was that we are a small school with a strong sense of community with a vision to do big things. Our experienced and dedicated team of teachers provide an excellent education for our students, and they do this with care, compassion, and support, highlighting our College Motto of, *We Are One in Love*.

Curriculum implementation

Curriculum overview

San Damiano College has designed a curriculum for Years 7 and 8 that provides the required broad exposure to all learning areas as outlined in the Australian Curriculum. Students study English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, HPE, Japanese, Visual Art, Religion and Design & Technology across each semester from Years 7 to 8.

The following points highlight other key aspects of our Learning and Teaching program:

- Learning is student focused and differentiated.
- Quality learning and teaching is delivered by expert teachers who are responsive to the needs of each individual student in the classroom.
- The teaching of literacy is explicitly and consistently embedded across each key learning area.
- Years 7 to 8 are designed to provide a broad experience of the curriculum as recommended by the Australian Curriculum.
- The curriculum incorporates Religious Education across all year levels; a Pastoral Care Program and a comprehensive co-curricular program to foster the engagement of students and promote service to others.
- Students learn in a technology rich environment supported well by our 1:1 laptop program.
- The College has a comprehensive student support team, working in partnership with our parents to wrap around and support our learners. This includes our APRE, Pastoral Leader, Support Teacher: Inclusive Education, Guidance Counsellor, and Parallel Teachers.

Extra-curricular activities

San Damiano College is a small school achieving big things. This is evident by the comprehensive range of activities embedded within our curriculum, as well as Cultural, Sporting and Service areas. We have embedded a culture of participation and students are celebrated for their contributions to the College and wider community life.

San Damiano College offers an extensive number of opportunities for our students. The list below highlights the activities that we formulated and delivered in 2021:

- Book Week; Readers Cup
- Chess Competition
- Bonaventure Homework Group
- eSports Program and competitions
- Social Skills Lunch Group
- Garden Angels
- Lego Group.

Cultural Opportunities:

- College Choir and Core Choir, performing on school assemblies, Foundation Day and multiple Showcase Events
- Arts Showcase
- Debating Team
- Public Speaking Competition.

Sporting Ventures:

- Southeast Colleges Association (SECA) Competition including the three main carnivals, Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country. As well as an interschool competition on Thursday afternoon across Terms 2 and 3.
- Member of Pacific District, participating in Cross Country and several individual sports, which led to South Coast Regional representation.
- Red Ring Running Club.

Service and Social Justice Groups:

- Project Compassion and Walk for Jamila
- Aboriginal Identity Day
- St. Francis of Assisi Social Justice Gang
- Community Masses, including St. Stephen's Cathedral
- St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal.

How information and communication technologies are used to assist learning

The San Damiano College learning and teaching program is well supported by the suite of applications within Office 365. Our teaching staff utilise Teams and OneNote and the College Portal to keep students connected with their learning. This was well tested and consolidated our practice in 2021 as the College delivered their learning and teaching online during various interruptions to school, including Covid-19 lockdowns and flooding events.

The College uses a range of technologies to keep parents engaged in the learning program and opportunities offered to our students. These include Facebook, fortnightly Sway newsletters and Parent Permission slips. Parents also have access to the Parent Portal.

Social climate

Overview

San Damiano College has adopted the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) Framework as the cornerstone for our student wellbeing approach. The framework has as its foremost principle a positive approach to student behaviour and development. It operates on explicitly teaching behaviours consistently across the whole school establishing clear expectations for student behaviour.

Through quality teaching and learning experiences students are challenged to make positive choices about their education. In fostering right relationships, students are encouraged to reflect upon their actions and grow in their ability to take responsibility for their learning and developing positive relationships.

PB4L has a continuum of behavioural support, acknowledging that our students will need differing levels of interventions and support to be successful at school. Our College expectations are clearly outlined in our College Values and PB4L matrix.

San Damiano College has a clear response to bullying, committed to the prevention of bullying by and of students in our College. The priority in any response to incidents of bullying behaviour is always the wellbeing and on-going protection of those who have or may have been affected by this behaviour. Students and parents are advised to report suspected cases of bullying to a staff member.

Our strong stance on bullying is encapsulated through our College Values of Community, Respect, Resilience and Service to Others.

Family and community engagement

There have been various ways in which the college has connected with our parents and the community.

Some of these parent and community engagement events include:

- School Parent and Student Orientation
- Start of Year Parent Evening
- Semester Genius Hour Showcases
- Grandparents Day
- Foundation Day
- Mother's Day Breakfast
- Father's Day BBQ
- Semester 1 Academic Assembly
- End of Year Arts Evening
- End of Year Awards Evening.

Parent Teacher Student Conversations were also held at the beginning of Terms 2 and 3.

With a range of diverse learning needs and the requirement for academic and social adjustments in their learning programs, the College works closely with parents to provide a support network around each individual learner. At enrolment, students with any significant learning needs, engage in an Enrolment Application Support Process. This has several steps to ensure the College is well placed to support the student and to ensure the parent's aspirations for their child are well aligned with what the College can deliver.

Each classroom teacher takes a clear role in planning learning experiences accessible for each student in their class. Students with disabilities or those with learning difficulties are monitored and evidence is gathered to better inform all teachers around how best to structure the learning so the student can engage to their full potential. This work is done in partnership with the Support Teacher: Inclusive Education (ST:IE). Parents are kept informed of concerns as they are identified, and where required parents engage regularly in review of any adjustments and learning interventions or supports.

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's name or suburb of the school you wish to search.

Find a school	Search website	
Search by school name or suburb		
Go		
School sector	School type	State

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

View School Profile

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

School profile	NAPLAN	Attendance	Finances	VET in schools	Senior secondary	Schools map
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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	10	10
Full-time Equivalents	9.1	8.67

*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	6
Graduate diploma etc.**	0
Bachelor's degree	4
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:

- Staff Induction with a focus on our Franciscan Charism
- Aboriginal Spirituality and Identity
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- PB4L Induction, Review and Upskilling, utilising BCE Education Officers
- All staff trained and accredited in Youth Mental Health First Aid
- All staff are accredited with first aid qualifications and updated CPR.

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	98.92%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

As a new, beginning college, all teaching staff commenced in 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 7-12 was 89.9%

Description	%
The overall attendance rate* for the students at this school	91.37%
Attendance rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at this school	96.02%

Average attendance rate per year level	%
Year 7 attendance rate	91.37%

*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

San Damiano College has a well-developed Attendance Policy. Time is given across key junctures of the College year to remind staff around required practices with regards to the marking of attendance and any follow up required, especially responsibilities linked to the role of Pastoral Care teacher.

The College delivers a consistent message around the priority for attendance, and its direct impact on student learning outcomes. This message is delivered from the very start - beginning with our enrolment interviews, followed by information given at Parent evenings and in newsletter articles, as well as on whole school assemblies. Below are some of the keyways in which the College encourages increased rates of attendance:

- Each student's attendance is monitored by their Pastoral Care teacher. Unexplained absences are followed up and a process is implemented following three days (not necessarily consecutive) of absenteeism.
- Additionally, members of the Wellbeing Team and PB4L Committee monitor patterns of absenteeism and, using a guided series of communication and correspondence with parents and guardians across each key point to address concerns and encourage a change of behaviour.
- An SMS is sent to parent of a student who, on any one day is absent with no explanation; or who arrives late or leaves early. This assists the College in building a strong partnership with parents to address any concerns with attendance.
- At the end of each semester, students who demonstrate outstanding attendance receive a certificate at our Academic Assembly.

NAPLAN

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Year 7 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's name or suburb of the school you wish to search.

A screenshot of the My School search interface. It features a dark red header bar with a search bar on the left containing the placeholder text "Search by school name or suburb". To the right of the search bar are three dropdown menus labeled "School sector", "School type", and "State". A magnifying glass icon is positioned on the far right of the header bar.

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