



SCHOOL PROFILE

School name Our Lady of Dolours School

Postal address 2 Willcocks Street, MITCHELTON, QLD, 4053

Phone (07) 3355 7763

Email pmitchelton@bne.catholic.edu.au

School website www.ourladyofdolours.qld.edu.au

Contact person Brett Kitchener

Principal's foreword

Welcome to Our Lady of Dolours School. We are a small school community in the north west suburb of Mitchelton. Our charism is grounded in the formative work of the Our Lady of Dolours Parish, the spirituality of St Benedict and the Sisters of The Good Samaritan of The Order of St Benedict who founded the school in 1951. These find expression in the house names of Nugent, Benedict and Samaritan.

Our school motto, Living, Loving and Learning in Christ draws upon the Good Samaritan charism and is enacted each day with students who are encouraged to Act responsibly, Be respectful and Strive to achieve in order to make a difference in their world.

Our students individual learning journeys are measured in many ways and in a variety of formats. We have a staff of dedicated teaching professionals, leading learning, catering for individual needs and setting high standards for all students.

We encourage positive participation by all members of the school community.

School facts

Our Lady of Dolours School is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational or Single sex

Year levels offered: Primary Secondary P-12

Total student enrolments: 188 Girls: _____ Boys: _____

Characteristics of the student body

Students of Our Lady of Dolours School predominantly come from relatively high socio economic background. At Our Lady of Dolours, we have a population of a little more than 180 students from Prep to Year 6. We cater to a diverse range of learners and learning needs including students with special talents and those with special educational needs. In 2017 we had 9 students with verified disabilities including ASD, Social Emotional Impairment and Speech Language Impairment. There are a variety of student learning needs outside verified needs and our school has a responsive learning support team that focuses its energy on early intervention through the development and implementation of programs that build student learning. Our school has a low population of English as a Second Language students and no children identifying as Indigenous students. Given the school's proximity to the Enoggerra Army Barracks, we have high number of students from Defence Force families. This enrolment fluctuates anywhere from 20 to 35 students and in 2017 we had 30 students enrolled. We employ a Defence School Transition Aide to support these students and families.

Social climate

Our Lady of Dolours is a small school in an intimate setting. We strive to provide a positive and welcoming environment and a place that promotes personal growth and self esteem for all. Parents and visitors to the school frequently comment on this friendly and welcoming atmosphere. They report a love of the small school 'feel' and community atmosphere. Classrooms surround a common courtyard where students gather to eat, and participate in a variety of learning activities. This means that students are well known to one another and to the teaching and support staff. Pastoral Care is structured so that all students have the opportunity to mentor younger students, to reflect on the school values and to participate in activities that foster justice, wisdom and compassion. Our Buddy Program program involves the older students buddying younger students which in turn supports the growth of nurturing relationships. Our Pastoral Parent Program fosters a climate of welcome and inclusion for all families with many opportunities available for everyone to develop social connections and life long friendships. Our school does not tolerate bullying or harassment in any form. All reported incidents of bullying and harassment are taken seriously and will be investigated. Reported incidents may come from parents, student and staff.

Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

Our Lady of Dolours School offers a vibrant educational curriculum from Prep to Year 6. Our teachers plan, teach and assess student learning according to the Australian Curriculum. Our dedicated and professional teachers embrace curriculum and system changes as they are made and engage in professional learning and development to ensure they can provide quality learning opportunities for all.

We value the contribution to learning from our team of specialist teachers who share their talents with our students. In 2017 the specialist lessons at OLD are timetabled for Visual Arts, Music, Dance, Technology, LOT (Japanese) and Physical Education across Prep - Year 6. The school engages the expertise of an Instrumental piano, keyboard and guitar teacher to provide parents with the option of private tuition for their children. We offer a comprehensive focus on ICLTs incorporating information literacy, development of computer skills and online communication and its associated behaviours. In 2017 our Year 4 - 6 students embraced a 1-1 iPad program.

We also ensure an early intervention screeners process in Prep and Year 1.

Curriculum - our extra curricula activities

Year 6 Social Justice Evening for Vinnies Winter Appeal, Walk for Water, Annual Catholic Campaign, School Choir: We sing at local events and competitions and every term for the Children's mass. Zone Sports: include Netball, Soccer, Touch Football, AFL, Athletics, Swimming, Cross Country, Kilometre Club and Fitness and Fun, Active Travel, Buddies Program; Chatting Children: Oral Language Program; University of NSW Academic Competitions; Piano, Keyboard and Guitar Lessons (Private); Yr 6 trip to Canberra, Chess Club Sporting Schools Program (Gymnastics), Eco Council (Student Sustainability Group)

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school is high with enrolment applications for Prep exceeding our student capacity. Parents readily give strong positive feedback about Our Lady of Dolours as a school and as a Catholic learning community, via survey responses, emails to school, verbal commendations and messages through the Parents and Friends Association. Many new families enrolling at Our Lady of Dolours note community sentiment and positive comments and feedback from existing families as one of their reasons for seeking enrollment at our school. There is an overall feeling and a widespread view that the school offers a supportive environment and that the staff are committed, caring, responsive and respectful of students and parents. Parents agree that the learning environment is supportive and most inclusive and believe that Our Lady of Dolours School should continue in its quest to achieve excellence in student learning. Through a process of Professional Learning and goal setting in collaboration with the Principal, staff report that they generally feel supportive and trusted to fulfill their responsibilities in the context of their work.

Parent engagement

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SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements against 2017 annual plan

Our collective goals for 2017 have been important touchstones in the community and many achievements have occurred in relation to these. Teacher capacity has been built through the delivery of professional learning and with the support of a co Teacher and PLL to assist in short term planning cycles. All teachers have demonstrated professional growth in terms of understanding of the pedagogy and assessment practices in English and particularly in writing, in line with our Excellent Learning and Teaching Smart Goal. Formation of staff and Students and enhancement of the Catholic identity of the community has occurred. Christian Meditation has continued as a daily focus and practice within the community. After Initiating the engagement with Catholic Earth Care and Guymer Bailey Architects regarding a Laudato Si approach to whole school Master Planning, significant dialogue has occurred with a steering committee of staff, parents and external professionals. Staff dialogue has commenced with professional learning in term 4 and plans for this to continue in 2018 with parents and students beginning this important process also.

Future outlook

Our future aspirations at Our Lady of Dolours School are to:

Nurture a learning culture that empowers and enhances individuals through the development of a shared and common language of learning.

Grow the engagement, progress, achievement and well being for all students at Our Lady of Dolours.

Strengthen school structures and processes for enhancing the Catholic Identity of Our Lady of Dolours School.

Initiate and grow a culture of Ecological Conversion within the Our Lady of Dolours community through people and capability.

Ensure management and accountability of resources through stewardship.

Nurture and maintain relationships that result in the positive health and wellbeing of all within the Our Lady of Dolours community.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Whole school attendance rate			96.00	%
Prep attendance rate	96.00	%	Year 4 attendance rate	97.00 %
Year 1 attendance rate	95.00	%	Year 5 attendance rate	94.00 %
Year 2 attendance rate	96.00	%	Year 6 attendance rate	97.00 %
Year 3 attendance rate	95.00	%		

Management of non-attendance

As a small community, relationships are very positive whenever non-attendance is an issue this is able to be discussed with all necessary stakeholders.

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	483.74	431.30	534.65	505.60
Writing	442.68	413.60	497.39	472.50
Spelling	449.56	416.20	513.74	500.90
Numeracy	445.85	409.40	512.91	493.80

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	18	13
Full-time equivalents	13.90	6.17
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	0	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	
Masters	5
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	4
Bachelor Degree	9
Diploma/Certificate	

Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2017 was \$ 14,308.1 .

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

English

Writing - Expected and Effective Practices, Model of Pedagogy, Gradual Release of Responsibility, Context Text Model.

Religion - assessment in religious education.

Average staff attendance rate The staff attendance rate was 97.55 % in 2017.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2016 school year, 79.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2017 year.

SCHOOL INCOME

School income by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the MySchool website at <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>'

Find a schoolSearch website

Go

School sector ^

All

Government

Non-government

School type ^

All

Primary

Secondary

Combined

Special

State ^

All

NSW

Vic

Qld

SA

WA

Tas

NT

ACT

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