



**St Mary's School,
BEAUDESERT**

Annual Report 2021

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



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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.

St Mary's Primary School is situated in the township of Beaudesert about an hour's drive from Brisbane. The school was established by the Mercy Sisters over 100 years ago and run by them until 1996, when the first lay principal was appointed, but maintains a very close relationship with St Mary's Parish. We have recently completed the refurbishment of our administration building, additional learning areas and this construction work will allow future growth from St Mary's present two-stream arrangement to cater for three streams. We are a well-resourced school, fully airconditioned with modern technology in classrooms.

We work in close partnership with McAuley College, our Catholic Secondary College in the Beaudesert community. The current enrolment is approximately 330 students and continues to grow. Our students are drawn from the surrounding areas of Beaudesert township, Kooralbyn, Rathdowney, Mt Tamborine, Kerry, Cedar Grove and Cedar Vale. We have a predominantly middle to lower socio-economic clientele and a number of Indigenous and children with diverse learning needs. We employ specialist teachers in the areas of music, drama, instrumental music and HPE. The school community celebrates Eucharist once a week with the children taking an active role in the preparation and celebration. The many and varied talents of our students are used to reach out to the greater community through Caritas - Project Compassion and local community events.

Vision: To inspire future generations to lead hope filled lives of influence as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Mission: The community of St Mary's, inspired by the Mercy tradition, believes in an education that nurtures a child's academic and personal growth. We are a welcoming community that encourages service to others through living the gospel values of Jesus. We Belong - we are collaborative and flexible learners who value the unique qualities of ourselves and others. We Grow - we aspire to be innovative and creative individuals leading our own learning journey. We Serve - we find strength in each other as we enrich our world serving in the light of Christ.

Values: *Excellence* - inspired by our Catholic tradition and Mercy formation, we strive to be our best selves. *Integrity* - as witnesses to the Good News we are called to love one another in the image of God. *Justice* - as people of faith, we foster respectful relationships, advocating and empathising with those at the margins. *Hope* - empowered by the spirit, we embrace the future with confidence and hope.

School progress towards its goals in 2021

Through the commitment and dedication of our students, staff and community members, in 2021 we accomplished several important achievements, while continuing to work towards ones to be achieved.

Our Annual Goals are designed to be aspirational.

Goal	Progress
Advance the Enhancing Catholic Schools Identity Project using imaginative, intuitive and future orientated inclusive actions, while remaining faithful to the Catholic Traditions.	We successfully completed the community surveys which has provided evidence and information to respond and continue in 2022.
The goal under the strategic domain of Diversity and Inclusion was to embrace innovative, inclusive and reflective practices that inform our impact on learner progress and performance i.e. development of assessment capable learners.	We successfully achieved improved datasets based on year level targets. This identifies continued work required in Reading in 2022.

Future outlook

The explicit improvement agenda for 2022 will focus on gaining improvements in reading comprehension and overall learning progression, student attendance including student well-being.

Goal	Timeline
In the area of Catholic Identity to re-interpret our understanding of Catholic faith in a contemporary, diverse and changing world.	This will run throughout 2022 with Professional Development opportunities each Term.
We aim to collaboratively build capacity of teachers through a whole school approach in order to move towards consistent practices for the teaching of reading based on research.	Plan, monitor and review through 2022.
In the strategic area of Wellbeing we wish to develop and implement a school based Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) Response cycle linked to the school's Behaviour Matrix.	Estimated time of completion Semester One 2022.
To ensure Organisational Effectiveness we aim to develop, monitor and share our Explicit Improvement Agenda with staff, parents and students	Opportunities for engagement with all parties will be available throughout 2022.

Our school at a glance

School profile

St Mary'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	338	167	171	17

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

Students at St Mary's come from the Beaudesert township and surrounding Scenic Rim areas. The children bring with them a genuine enthusiasm for learning and they share excitement in their successes and learning progressions.

The teaching and parent body of St Mary's is very proud of every child and celebrates these achievements through various formats - academic, sporting and service awards at assemblies and awards evenings. There are approximately similar numbers of boys and girls across each year level in the school population. We have two classes for each year level with our year sixes having three smaller sized classes.

Enrolments are increasing across all year levels and we anticipate that in future years we are heading towards three classes across each year level.

Curriculum implementation

Curriculum overview

St Mary's covers all areas of the Australian National and BCE Approved RE Curriculum within our curriculum programs. We continue to have special and targeted focus on Literacy and Numeracy achievements. Staff and physical resources are directed towards this to strive for successful learning progressions for all students in these areas.

St Mary's has completed an upgrade of our IT network installing a wireless system that enables staff and children quick and reliable internet access across the school. Information and communication technologies are important tools to support our learning and teaching programs. Classrooms have a range of networked projection devices, interactive projectors, and this infrastructure along with associated hardware such as I pads, laptops, digital cameras etc. support the learning of our children.

We have a well-resourced multipurpose facility in our Gallagher Centre which is the centre of various learning programs. We have an Arts teacher who teaches Drama, Music, Media Arts and Dance. St Mary's has a strong tradition of involvement in many sports. Our Health and Physical Education program promotes a healthy lifestyle and opportunities for the children to participate in inter-school sports.

Extra-curricular activities

- Catholic outreach programs in line with our Social Justice teachings.
- Piano and instrumental tuition through private lessons.
- Interschool Sports and after school training.
- Beaudesert Little Athletics is conducted on St Mary's school grounds.

How information and communication technologies are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are part of the General Capabilities which are a key dimension of the Australian Curriculum. They encompass the knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that, together with curriculum content in each learning area and the cross-curriculum priorities, will assist students to live and work successfully in the twenty-first century.

ICT are therefore integral tools to assist our teachers and children in achieving educational standards in an increasing digital era. We continue to plan ongoing upgrades in our classroom projection devices, laptop fleet, interactive devices such as iPads as well as Virtual Classroom opportunities.

Our upper year level teachers and students use SharePoint and MySite Spaces to collaborate. Parents engage with our school through the Parent Portal and BCE Connect App.

Our school has successfully implemented the NAPLAN online program for a number of years.

Social climate

Overview

St Mary's as a Catholic Christian community has a strong focus, through both words and actions, on pastoral care for students, families and staff. St Mary's utilises the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) program and as such has clear expectations and processes in response to student inappropriate behaviour, bully type behaviours and/or bullying.

Expectations and consequences are made very clear through our St Mary's Behaviour Matrix. Our Student Behaviour Support Plan (available on our public website) provides a more detailed outline. Our PB4L processes and student expectations regarding behaviour are reinforced constantly. We commence the week with a whole school assembly to introduce an expectation and pastoral focus.

These are reinforced by the classroom teachers during the ensuing week. Awards are presented to children who are teacher or peer identified as exemplary in putting these behaviours in practice. Our PB4L Program uses the principles of restorative justice to modify and re-teach appropriate student behaviour.

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# that:	2020
This school helps my child to develop their relationship with God	100.0%
School staff demonstrate the school's Catholic Christian values	97.3%
Teachers at this school have high expectations for my child	98.6%
Staff at this school care about my child	95.9%
I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns	93.2%
Teachers at this school encourage me to take an active role in my child's education	97.3%
My child feels safe at this school	94.5%
The facilities at this school support my child's educational needs	94.5%
This school looks for ways to improve	93.1%
I am happy my child is at this school	94.5%

BCE Listens Survey - Student satisfaction

Performance measure	
Percentage of students who agree [#] that:	2020
My school helps me develop my relationship with God	93.5%
I enjoy learning at my school	94.2%
Teachers expect me to work to the best of my ability in all my learning	98.7%
Feedback from my teacher helps me learn	96.2%
Teachers at my school treat me fairly	97.4%
If I was unhappy about something at school I would talk to a school leader or teacher about it	89.7%
I feel safe at school	89.7%
I am happy to be at my school	92.6%

BCE Listens Survey - Staff satisfaction

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

[#] '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

St Mary's believes that parental involvement through a positive school partnership is critical to maximise their child's education.

St Mary's has a very active Parents Body that supports the school in meeting its Annual Goals and Priorities in numerous ways. Parent engagement is welcome in the classroom as negotiated with the classroom teacher and approved by the leadership team. Parents also volunteer at our school tuckshop, excursions, sports days and various school performances.

St Mary's has a School Advisory Board with parent and Parish representation to support the school in meeting its Annual Goals and Priorities.

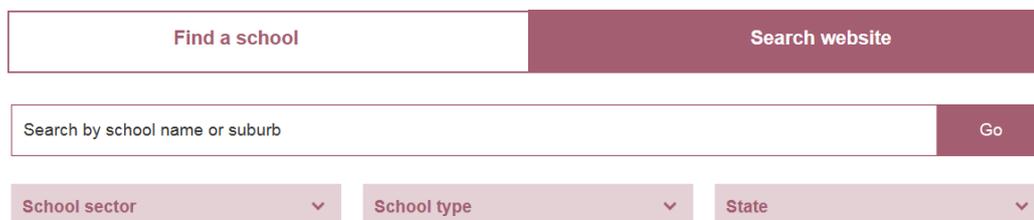
School funding

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	24	24
Full-time Equivalents	21.4	13.9

*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	5
Graduate diploma etc.**	5
Bachelor degree	12
Diploma	2
Certificate	0

*Teaching staff includes School Leaders

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

Professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2021 was approximately \$93,000.

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

- Building our Strong Catholic Identity – faith and spiritual formation and wellbeing
- Driving Excellent Learning and Teaching Initiatives – feedback and differentiation in planning
- Wellbeing – Positive Behaviour for Learning – Major and Minor productive/unproductive behaviours, Tier 1 Universal supports
- Our People – Authentic Learning imperatives by Michael Bezzina.

Staff attendance and retention

Average staff attendance

Description	%
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders	96.6%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 90% 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	92.0%
Attendance rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at this school	89.4%

Average attendance rate per year level			
Prep attendance rate	90.5%	Year 4 attendance rate	92.0%
Year 1 attendance rate	92.0%	Year 5 attendance rate	92.9%
Year 2 attendance rate	91.3%	Year 6 attendance rate	93.1%
Year 3 attendance rate	91.9%		

*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

Student attendance is managed through our school administration system that provides us with accurate and current attendance data. Student attendance is recorded at both AM and PM times. The school uses an automated text program to advise parents if a child has an unexplained absence.

Students, families and carers and staff work together to ensure all students meet the school expectation of 90% or above attendance and zero unexplained absences. St Mary's monitors the student attendance data and responds to any concerning trends regarding student attendance. Further detailed information regarding attendance at St Mary's can be found in the [St Mary's Attendance Policy](#) available on the school website.

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.

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 at the far right of the search 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.