



**Brisbane
Catholic
Education**

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ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING – 2016

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

SCHOOL PROFILE

School name Our Lady of Dolours School

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Contact person Mr Patrick Davis - Principal

Principal's foreword

Welcome to Our Lady of Dolours School. We are a fantastic small school with great students, staff and families. 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. The early school motto: In all things may God be Glorified, gives expression to the ancient Benedictine philosophy to live by, paying attention to the fullness of life. This finds resonance in the current school motto, Living Loving and Learning in Christ, which draws upon the Good Samaritan charism and is enacted each day with students who are encouraged to be life long learners who care for others, think and learn and act so they can make a difference in their world. We strive to provide innovation through a holistic curriculum which acknowledges that learning is about being enthusiastic, motivated and involved in what you do. Our children have a range of talents and needs and all are at different points on their individual learning journey. This individual progress is measured in many ways and in a variety of formats. We encourage positive participation by all members of the school community by promoting respectful and communication. We have a staff of dedicated teaching professionals, leading learning, catering for individual needs and setting high standards for all students.

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: 97 Boys: 91

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 189 students from Prep to Year 6, these children come from 126 families. We cater to a diverse range of learners and learning needs including students with special talents and those with special educational needs. In 2016 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 (7) and low population of Indigenous students (1). Given the school's proximity to the Enoggera Army Barracks, we have high number of students from Defence Force families. This enrolment fluctuates anywhere from 20 to 35 students and in 2016 we had 30 students enrolled. We employ a Defence School Transition Aide to support these students and families. A small proportion of students leave our school at the conclusion of Year 4 to move onto Religious Institute same sex schools. In recent years our enrolments have not be dramatically impacted by this and as a result we have been able to maintain straight classes right through to Year 6.

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 know 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, students, staff and friends of the school.

Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

Our Lady of Dolours School offers a vibrant educational curriculum from Prep to Year 6 in 2016. Our teachers plan, teach and assess student learning according to the Australian Curriculum and our dedicated and professional teachers embrace the curriculum changes as they are made and engage in professional learning and development to ensure they can provide quality learning opportunities for all children in all areas of the curriculum. Our contemporary curriculum provides rich and purposeful learning opportunities across all areas of learning, optimising student academic success. Students develop the necessary depth of understanding, extent of knowledge and the sophistication of skills expected so that they can move beyond the classroom and make connection within local and global contexts and begin to create personal and social change within their own world. We value the contribution to learning from our team of specialist teachers who share their talents with our students. In 2016 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 2016 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, Optiminds: Commendation Award 2016, 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

Parents are most welcome to be engaged in their child's education. It is actively encouraged by staff and promoted within our school community. There are a range of opportunities for parents to be involved both formal and informal. Formal opportunities include participation in our Parent / Teacher interviews and meetings, Parents and Friends Association or on our School Pastoral Board. Each class has a Pastoral Parent who co-ordinates community building activities for families. Other opportunities for involvement include: Access to the school Website for a look into the learning life of the school; access to weekly school newsletter and term letters from teachers; invitation to complete the homework review survey; parent Education Sessions (1-1 iPad Program Preparation, Life Work in Progress Workshops); Individual Education Planning Meetings; attendance at weekly assemblies; general classroom help and parent participation at school based fundraisers.

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements - progress towards goals

Our achievement against our 2016 priorities have been characterised by the following significant outcomes:

Staff spirituality retreat with a focus on The Good Samaritans including staff participation in GSE Induction. Engagement of staff with the recently validated OLD RE Program which included negotiated planning sessions between teachers and the APRE.

Christian Meditation became a daily focus and practice within the community.

Development and implementation of the OLD Parent Portal.

Initiated engagement with Catholic Earth Care and Guymer Bailey Architects regarding a Laudato Si approach to whole school Master Planning, which in turn informed application to Revitalisation of School Fund.

Development and upacking of the OLD Learning Dispositions.

The development a framework for Good First Teaching in English for all year levels from Prep – 6 for implementation in 2017.

Employment of Co-Teacher to work along side teachers as a means of improving student learning outcomes in literacy.

Weekly support provided by the Primary Learning Leader with classroom teachers for 1 hour. Support provided for short cycle planning with English Curriculum using a Context Text approach.

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

Management of non-attendance

Parents may report an absence by phoning the school. An explanatory note/email is required when a child is absent from school. The note can be sent in prior to a known absence or following any absence, i.e. illness or leave for any reason must be specified. A note is also required if a child arrives late to school or needs to leave early. Class attendance rolls are marked prior to 8:45am each morning and again at 2:00pm. If the school does not receive notification of an explained absence for a student, the school sends a SMS message to parents call to seek an explanation. When teachers are absent from the classroom for what ever reason, the relieving teacher receives a hard copy classroom roll and submits this back to the

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	476.54	425.70	564.79	501.70
Writing	425.96	420.50	493.71	475.40
Spelling	441.93	420.10	518.63	492.90
Grammar & punctuation	509.46	436.30	592.75	505.00
Numeracy	448.39	402.20	539.71	492.90

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	17	14
Full-time equivalents	13.90	5.93
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	8
Diploma/Certificate	

Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2016 was \$ 34002

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

Charism of the Good Samaritan - Enhancing Our Catholic Identity, Context Text Model of Language and Gradual Release of Responsibility Model in Literacy, First Aid Training, You Can Do It Facilitator Training (Selected Staff) and follow up with all staff, Language and Literacy Professional Learning for School Officers, Organisational Coaching and Training - Leadership, Literacy Monitoring Tools Professional Learning, Catholic Identity Leuven Project PL, Moving Student Learning Forward - Focus on Data and Progress (Building Data Walls), Review and Response Processes, Whole School Student Behaviour Support Planning, Supporting All Learners through Good First Teaching, Co Teaching and Co Planning Cycles, Cycles of Action Learning between Primary Learning Leader and Classroom Teachers

Average staff attendance rate The staff attendance rate was 97.34 % in 2016.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2015 school year, 88.4 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2016 year.

SCHOOL INCOME

School income by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>

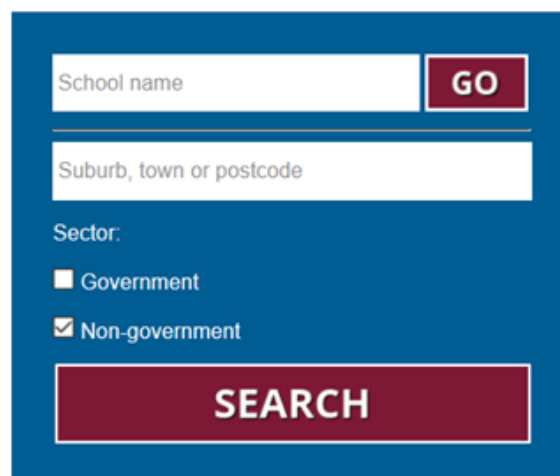
To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting 'School finances' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page.

Find a school



The screenshot shows a search interface with a dark blue background. At the top, the text 'Find a school' is displayed. Below this, there are two input fields: 'School name' and 'Suburb, town or postcode'. To the right of the 'School name' field is a red button with the text 'GO'. Below the 'Suburb, town or postcode' field, the text 'Sector:' is followed by two radio button options: 'Government' (which is unselected) and 'Non-government' (which is selected with a checkmark). At the bottom of the form is a large red button with the text 'SEARCH' in white capital letters.