



SCHOOL PROFILE

School name Mater Dei Catholic Primary School

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Contact person Donna Jones

Principal's foreword

Hidden in the leafy suburb of Ashgrove West, Mater Dei offers a co-educational, contemporary learning and teaching environment filled with joy and laughter. Our school's motto "Caritas" – Care and Concern for Others permeates all aspects of school life. We provide an academically rigorous curriculum where passionate and dedicated teachers know and expertly guide every child in making progress and achievement of individual learning goals. We are unreservedly committed to academic excellence in literacy and numeracy and are equally dedicated to the arts, technology, languages and sports. Innovation unleashes the extraordinary and Mater Dei students are encouraged to be bold, curious, creative and independent thinkers. We are a hope-filled community where Gospel values (influenced by the charisms of the Marist Fathers and Sisters of Charity) weave between and among our relationships and daily experiences. We also acknowledge and support the primary role of parents in the education of their children and together we strive to create a welcoming, caring, and positive environment at Mater Dei.

School facts

Mater Dei Catholic Primary 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: 276 Girls: 147 Boys: 129

Characteristics of the student body

Our student body consists of several catholic families who have had a long association with Mater Dei including parents and grandparents who also attended our school as students. Many of our children come from a middle to high SES background and are well travelled. They are highly motivated and achieve excellent results in their learning. Mater Dei offers two classes for each year level up to Year 4 and one year level each for Years 5 and Year 6 totalling 12 classes at the school.

Social climate

At Mater Dei we pride ourselves as being a warm, welcoming and inclusive community. We achieve this through a number of initiatives such as:

1. Implementing the 'Play is the Way' Program which assists in developing strong, emotional and social capabilities and resilience in our students. This program is taught across the whole school during three designated sessions each week. There has been a strong commitment to parent education in this area as well;
2. Further developing our five behaviour expectations which are explicitly taught in an ongoing manner throughout the year;
3. Acknowledging special milestones in the lives of our children such as Celebrations of welcome, farewell and graduation as well as regular recognition of student achievement, effort and behaviour at school assemblies; and
4. Engagement in leadership opportunities where our Year 6 students are provided with multiple opportunities to lead sporting, social and academic undertakings at the school. Mini-Vinnies is another opportunity for our Year 5 and 6 students to lead the school in raising awareness for those less fortunate than us.

Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

Our dedicated staff pride themselves in delivering the Australian curriculum using contemporary, evidence-based pedagogies that support the individual learning styles of all students. Specialist teachers teach Japanese (LOTE), Physical Education and The Arts and expand on classroom programs by focussing on specific skill development. Our curriculum incorporates the Learning Areas of Religion, Maths, English, Science, The Arts, Technology, LOTE, Health and Physical Education, Geography and History. Each unit is planned collaboratively with differentiated learning outcomes to cater for individual differences, preferences and needs of our learners. Our students' learning is supported by a variety of mobile digital devices in Prep to Yr 3 and a 1-1 laptop program in Years 4 to 6. A weekly onsite technician maintains our digital devices and network. Our students also have access to a contemporary Resource and Media centre supported by our Teacher- Librarian.

Curriculum - our extra curricula activities

Mater Dei offers a range of extra curricula activities for our students to engage in such as:
Inter school sport participation- Gala Sport, Zone and District competitions in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics, Netball, Soccer, AFL and Touch football.
Instrumental Music program offered to students from Years 3 to 6.
Chess, Dance and Speech & Drama (supported by the school's P&F).
Public Speaking, Debating and Opti-minds.
Reader's cup, UNSW Science, Maths and English competitions.
Camps Year 4 & 5 and Year 6 trip to Canberra.
School Choir.
Minni-Vinnie's Junior branch of St Vincent de Paul (Years 4 -6). Outreach to our local Respite Care Centre.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

During 2016, our parents, staff and students engaged in the 5 year cyclical External Review Process. The following statements are some of the commendations from this review process:

1. There is a strong sense of welcome, inclusiveness and hospitality experienced by parents. It was noted that the Class Parent contact system is an important part of contributing to the welcoming of families.
2. There is a strong connection between Parish and School and that this needs to continue to be fostered.
3. Parents indicated that they choose to send their children to Mater Dei because they identify with the essential elements of Catholic Education.

In 2016, our staff also engaged in the External Review cycle through staff meetings and surveys. The Staff recognised that the school prioritises professional learning and focuses on professional learning that meets student learning needs.

Parent engagement

At Mater Dei we have a strong culture of parental involvement in all school activities. We have a very active P&F group and social events are well attended by both parents, staff and children. We encourage parents to take a keen interest in our school and are most welcome and encouraged to become involved on a regular basis in the following activities: involvement in Parent / Teacher Meetings, the P&F, Parent Information Evenings, assisting with Tuckshop, volunteering in classrooms, volunteering as a Class Contact Parent, assisting with special day activities, support at school carnival days for Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics, assisting with fundraising eg: Music in the Moonlight, Trivia night, developing grant applications, and the Sustainability Festival. Active parent engagement in our school is a recognised feature of the Mater Dei community.

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements against 2017 annual plan

Strong Catholic Identity:

Staff formation through participation in BCE's Catching Fire programs.

Excellent Learning and Teaching:

Consistent teaching approaches in the area of reading were adopted.

All teachers engaged with BCE's Effective and Expected practices in teaching literacy as well as the High Yield strategies.

Teachers engaged in annual goal setting specifically targeted against the school literacy goal.

Building a sustainable future:

Support provided for peer mentoring and coaching through observation, feedback, professional dialogue and reflection.

Landscape and Prayer Garden completed.

Construction of the undercover PE area and PE store was completed.

Future outlook

Strong Catholic Identity: To continue to grow the holistic and inclusive formation of all students and staff. To provide effective teaching practice, including monitoring of student progress and enhance student and staff knowledge of the Catholic story.

Excellent Learning and Teaching: 1) To continue to grow the engagement, progress and achievement of all students in their reading and writing. 2) To continue to build capacity in our staff so that they are able to support all students in their learning.

Building a Sustainable Future: Continue to build authentic partnerships and clear communication lines with staff and the parent body.

Continue to monitor and improve health and safety environment. Strengthen processes and systems to support evidence based decision making.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

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

Management of non-attendance

Class rolls are marked twice a day, once at the commencement of the school day and once immediately after lunch (1:50pm). Our process is that if any child remains 'unexplained' on their class roll at 10:00am, an SMS is sent to the child's main contact asking parent/guardians to contact the school immediately. If a student is going to be absent from school, parents are required to notify by writing to the class teacher or by phoning the absentee line. If a student is absent without an explanation from school after the third day, a phone call is made to the parents. We have a well-organised sign in and sign out procedure for students arriving late to school or who need to depart school early.

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	461.73	431.30	565.05	505.60
Writing	424.70	413.60	507.55	472.50
Spelling	422.67	416.20	540.35	500.90
Numeracy	419.27	409.40	531.00	493.80

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	20	13
Full-time equivalents	14.0	12.0
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	Less than 5	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	0
Masters	4
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	4
Bachelor Degree	11
Diploma/Certificate	1

Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2017 was \$ 84,723 .

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

STRENGTHENING CATHOLIC IDENTITY:
Staff Formation -Catching Fire: Keepers of the Flame Year 3 Retreat and Spirit Fire Day
Praying with religious icons and implementation of the recommendations from the RE validation process.
EXCELLENT LEARNING AND TEACHING:
Seven Steps of Writing, Phonics in context and Reading with Year 3 (David Hornsby), Teaching Vocabulary, Precision teaching, Maths Labs with Professor Doug Clarke and Numeracy in the early years.
SUSTAINABILITY AND GOVERNANCE:
Compliance training(Student Protection, Work Place Health and Safety, Code of Conduct, Workplace Bullying)
Development of a school Digital Strategy
Positive Partnership Program

Average staff attendance rate The staff attendance rate was 95.54 % in 2017.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2016 school year, 90.0 % 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-government	<input type="checkbox"/>

School type	^
All	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combined	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special	<input type="checkbox"/>

State	^
All	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NSW	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Qld	<input type="checkbox"/>
SA	<input type="checkbox"/>
WA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tas	<input type="checkbox"/>
NT	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACT	<input type="checkbox"/>

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