



St Joseph's School, Millmerran

Catholic co-educational primary school

Diocese of Toowoomba

Annual report 2020

Address	PO Box 77 25 Walpole Street Millmerran QLD 4357		Phone number	07 4695 1349	
email	millmerran@twb.catholic.edu.au		Principal	Lawson Short	
Year levels	Prep-Year 6		Enrolment	50	
Co-educational or single sex				co-educational	
Boarders	no	Outside hours school care	no	Vacation care	no
Contact person for information about the school and school policies			Lawson Short		

The school's mission

With St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and St Joseph as our guides, we at St Joseph's Primary School promote high levels of learning for all students. St Joseph's is a place where students live according to the example of Jesus as conveyed through the Gospels. At St Joseph's we value justice and peace for all by living, loyal, respectful diligent, patient and faithful lives.

We value LIFE and embrace ...

- positive relationships by moulding compassionate and forgiving individuals.

We value LOVE and believe that...

- Jesus is the centre of our community.
- children will grow in the knowledge of God's love for them and see God in everything by their love and concern for others.

We value LEARNING and foster...

- the whole person in becoming a life-long learner.
- education as a combined venture – child, parents, teachers and the parish community.
- an inclusive environment that ensures individuals reach their full potential.

Distinctive curriculum offerings

Lower primary (Prep-year 3)

Our lower primary students are currently taught in a Prep - 1 classroom and a Year 2 - 3 classroom. We value play based learning and our aim is to provide a hands on, holistic educational experience that sparks a love of learning in young minds. This is embodied throughout all curriculum areas.

We provide flexible learning spaces that are used to enable our students to be successful learners.

We acknowledge and understand that every child learns differently therefore we provide personalised learning goals for all students to achieve their potential.

We have adopted a specialised program for understanding and regulating emotions and through other learning frameworks, we consciously encourage a growth mindset where mistakes are welcomed as an integral part of the learning process.

Our targeted perceptual motor program supports students in developing their gross and fine motor skills and provides an opportunity to interact with children from other classrooms.

Upper primary (Years 4-6)

Our upper primary students currently learn in a multi-age classroom catering for Years 4, 5 and 6. We provide flexible learning spaces that allow the students to learn in a way that suits them best. Being a multi-age class, we are uniquely placed to adapt learning according to the needs and abilities of each student - supporting learning where extra support is needed and challenging those who can extend their thinking.

We focus students on having a growth mindset and we encourage them to be courageous in learning from their mistakes. Students are inspired to become independent learners and be responsible for their own learning by setting personal learning goals.

Our upper primary students participate in a perceptual motor program every morning that builds core strength and gross motor skills.

School camp is a special activity which allows our upper primary students to build resilience, and further develop their teamwork abilities and leadership skills.

Extra-curricular activities

As a small rural school, our team of dedicated staff work hard to ensure students are afforded opportunities to participate in co-curricular activities wherever possible. These activities allow students to have new experiences and develop skills and talents in areas which are an extension of classroom activities.

We aim to offer experiences in the arts, sport, community service, academic extension and social justice.

Extra-curricular activities include

- participation in a wide spectrum of sporting activities including the opportunity to participate in representative teams through Darling Downs School Sport
- Mini-Vinnies activities including fundraising and outreach to our local aged care facility
- class excursions and Year 5/6 Camp
- celebration of Under 8's Day
- celebration of special feasts, liturgies and Masses

- high level of participation in our local ANZAC Day commemorations.

Social climate (including pastoral care and student behaviour support)

St Joseph's is a family orientated school that fosters a climate of meaningful learning, love and pastoral care. We believe that the success of each student comes from a strong, supportive partnership between parents, teachers, students, the Parish and the wider community. We promote Christian values to teach students to care for and respect each other. We aim to create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment where students are valued and can reach their full potential.

In conjunction with the Parents and Friends Association the school hosts functions such as BBQs, discos and working bees. Fundraising ventures include the St Joseph's School Horse Sports Day. All these activities contribute to a rich and inclusive social climate at St Joseph's.

Student behaviour

At St Joseph's there is a Student behaviour support plan in place to deal with support the development of appropriate behaviours and to address inappropriate student behaviour.

Parent/carer involvement

The Parents and Friends Association provides both moral and financial support to the school. An open-door policy is adopted giving the parents the opportunity to be involved in their children's education.

Parents are involved in the following ways.

- parent information evening at the beginning of each school year
- twice yearly parent-teacher face-to-face reporting
- parent helpers - sporting events, tuckshop, swimming
- monthly P&F meetings
- attendance at formal assemblies, Masses, Liturgies and other special celebrations
- as parent helpers during Literacy Blocks

School income by funding source

School income reported by the financial year accounting cycle using standardised national methodologies and broken down by funding source is available via the *MySchool* website at www.myschool.edu.au.

Staff

Workforce composition

	Total teaching staff	Total non-teaching staff	Indigenous staff
Headcount	8	4	0
Full-time equivalents	4.9	2.8	0

Teacher qualifications

Qualification	% of teaching
Doctoral / Post-Doctoral	0
Masters	0
Bachelor Degree	100
Diploma	0
Certificate	0

Professional Development (participation and expenditure)

2020 School Budget Allocation: \$1,500

The following information is an overview of staff participation in professional development at St Joseph's for 2020

- CPR and First Aid
- Planning for Personalised Learning
- NCCD
- Students with a Disability Training
- Student Data Analysis
- Inspire Mathematics Profession Development
- Child Protection Training
- Code of Conduct
- LST PD
- Middle Leader PD
- Wellbeing Training
- Reading Improvement Strategy Training Sessions

Student attendance

Average whole of school student attendance rate (expressed as %):

93%

Student attendance for each year level (expressed as %)

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93%	90%	95%	94	92%	95%	94%

Description of how non-attendance of students is managed by the school

- daily electronic roll is marked at 9.00am each morning by the classroom teacher
- late arrivals immediately present to their classroom and the roll is adapted as necessary
- parents are required to call the School Officer/Administration to notify that their child will be absent and when they expect them to return
- St Joseph's follows the TCSO managing student absence procedure
- written notification is required in the following circumstances:

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Please note: A hardcopy of this annual report is available from the Principal by request.

- explanation of absences from school
- exemption from school activities for medical reasons
- attendance at medical or other appointments during school hours

If unexplained absenteeism parents are contacted by the principal/ office if procedure is not followed.

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results

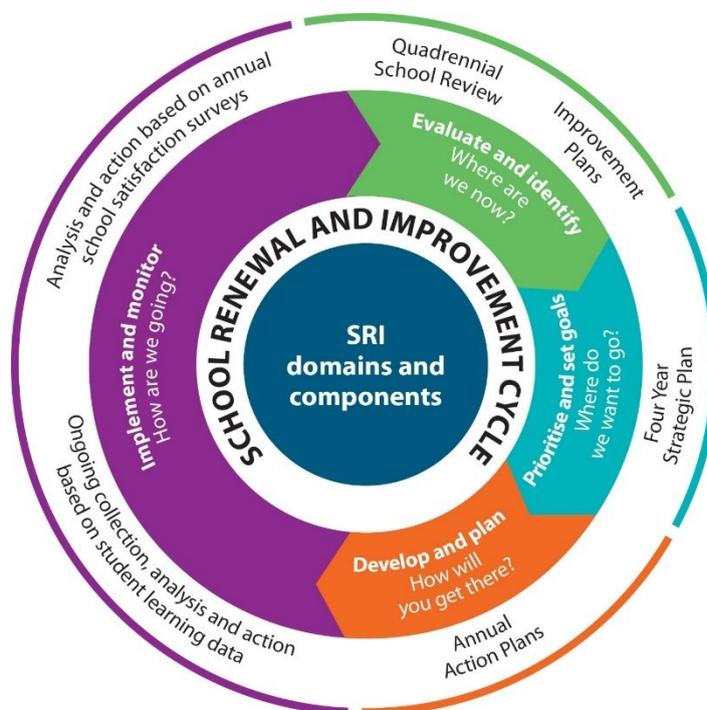
The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) did not occur in 2020 due to COVID-19.

School renewal and improvement

Overview of procedures

Since October 2017, all schools/colleges operated by The Corporation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba, have committed to the Toowoomba Catholic Schools School Renewal and Improvement Procedure (SRIP). This adapted a procedure called Excellence in Catholic Education (EiCE) which had been in place since 2012.

The diagram below shows the elements of the SRIP and the relationship between the elements.



SRIP requires all thirty-one schools/colleges to continually self-review their effectiveness using SRI domains and components and develop and implement strategic and annual action plans as a result. The domains and components describe what TCS believes to be the characteristics of a high-quality Catholic school.

As a part of the SRIP all schools also engage in a TCS Quadrennial School Review (every four years) where a panel external to the school but drawn from senior TCS and TCSO personnel works with the school community to review their effectiveness. The panel consists of three or four members, depending on school size, and the panel spends two or three days in the school. Usually seven or eight schools will be involved in a TCS Quadrennial School Review each year.

In addition to the SRIP, schools are required to undertake the Non-State Schools' Accreditation Board's (NSSAB's) review and report annually to the school community to comply with Regulation s.20(d).

Parent, staff and student satisfaction

Biannually, St Joseph's School engages in data gathering from parents, staff and students to assist it in evaluating the effectiveness of its educational program.

Materials provided by Research Australia Development & Innovation Institute (RADII) are used. Part of the RADII process is the collection of data regarding the overall satisfaction of parents, staff and students. Overall satisfaction responses for 2019 are shown below.

Parents

93% of parents satisfied with children's educational progress at the school.

Staff

100% of staff satisfied overall with educational progress of student.

Students

100% of Years 5-6 students satisfied with their learning at this school.