



St Joseph's School, Millmerran

Catholic co-educational primary school

Diocese of Toowoomba

Annual report 2017

Address	PO Box 77 25 Walpole Street Millmerran QLD 4357		Phone number	07 4695 1349	
email	millmerran@twb.catholic.edu.au		Principal	Luke Barrett	
Year levels	Prep-Year 6		Enrolment	64	
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			Luke Barrett		

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

At St Joseph's the nine Key Learning Areas are taught from Prep to Year 6. These include the ACARA and QCAA syllabus documents for Mathematics, English, Science, Humanities and Social Studies, The Arts, Health and Physical Education and Technology (Design and Digital). The study of Religious Education is the ninth key learning area.

In addition, students are encouraged to participate in the following

- International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
- Sports Coordinator oversees school sport program and Physical Education lessons
- participation in a wide range of sporting activities at the school
- Whole School Literacy Blocks (Prep – Year 6)
- PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) to begin each day
- Learning Support program to provide for the special needs of all children, including students with additional learning needs.

The school incorporates technology in the teaching and learning program. There is provision of a bank of laptops in each classroom from Prep to Year 6 to cater for integration of ICT in all key learning areas. Two laptop banks are available for use by all students, one to one capability is provided for Years 3 to 6 and there are 22 iPads for use in Early Years, with a one to one ratio for Prep to 2.

Extra-curricular activities

Students can participate in the following extra-curricular activities.

- religious celebrations - Saint's feasts, Mothers' & Fathers' Day liturgies and school Masses
- St Mary MacKillop fun day
- school musical/ Eisteddfod entry on a biennial basis
- ANZAC day – street parade; choir; schoolwork display
- Under 8's day
- class excursions and Year 5/6 camp (yearly)
- Arts Council performances, Empire Theatre productions
- participation in interschool sport
- school choir
- Kids Connect program
- instrumental music program - private lessons available
- opportunities for cross-school student leadership and involvement, such as peer support and student representative processes.

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.

Strategies to address bullying

At St Joseph's there are Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying policies and procedures in place to deal with inappropriate student behaviour. This includes

- development and monitoring of the school culture to ensure it is based on mutual trust and respect
- implementation of specific policies and procedures that are appropriate to the developmental stages of students
- provision of specific educational programs and resources ie Friendly Schools & Families, Zones of Regulation
- training programs and professional development for members of the school community
- implementation of Restorative Justice
- regular monitoring and evaluation of the school's anti-bullying policies and procedures where allegations of bullying are dealt with through the restorative justice process; this is managed by the principal, class teacher and School Counsellor.
- virtues program is implemented where the value of the individual is affirmed and personal qualities such as compassion, kindness, respect and tolerance are fostered and modelled by staff and students
- a values program is also implemented at St Joseph's using the core values of Mary MacKillop
- school-based programs and activities that promote the skills of communicating, decision-making, interacting, planning and problem-solving for students.

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	6	0
Full-time equivalents	5.1	3.0	0

Teacher qualifications

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

Average staff attendance

97%

Staff retention

100%

Professional Development (participation and expenditure)

2017 School Budget Allocation: \$1,000

The following information is an overview of staff participation in professional development at St Joseph's for 2017.

- implementation of the Reading Improvement Strategy, where teachers from Prep to 4 participated in 4 days of intensive Professional Development
- teachers completed the final year of the 2 year Embedding Formative Assessment PD

Student attendance

Average whole of school student attendance rate (expressed as %): 90.6%

Student attendance for each year level (expressed as %)

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Average student attendance rate
89.4%	90.2%	93.9%	89.8%	89.1%	92.8%	92.2%	90.6%

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
- written notification is required in the following circumstances:
 - 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

Year 3 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	370	425	431	71%
Writing	358	402	413	93%
Spelling	386	408	416	93%
Grammar and Punctuation	329	437	439	71%
Numeracy	385	402	409	85%

Year 5 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	444	502	505	100%
Writing	432	461	472	87%
Spelling	432	496	500	75%
Grammar and Punctuation	409	496	499	62%
Numeracy	450	490	493	75%

School renewal and improvement

Overview of procedures

St Joseph's School engaged in the Excellence in Catholic Education (EiCE) school improvement process that has been in place in Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic schools since 2012.

EiCE involves the school reflecting on its effectiveness, making plans for improved teaching and learning and acting upon those. EiCE envisages the school taking five years to work its way through 24 components in the four areas of Catholic Life and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Leadership for School Improvement; Strategic Resourcing.

In 2017 EiCE components addressed were: social action and justice; students and their learning; curriculum structure and provision.

Parent, staff and student satisfaction

Each year 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 2017 are shown below.

Parents

89% of parents satisfied with children's educational progress at the school.

92% of parents satisfied that school's educational program enable children to learn.

Staff

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

100% of staff satisfied that school's educational programs enable students to learn.

Students

83% of Years 5-6 students satisfied with their learning at this school.