



**Brisbane
Catholic
Education**

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ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING - 2014

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

School Name St Vincent's School

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Contact Person Kerry Rowlands - Principal

Principal's Foreword

Introduction

Welcome to the St Vincent's Catholic Primary School 2014 Annual Report. This document provides information, facts and figures across a range of areas of school life from which we hope you gain a sense of our school community. Further information can be accessed from our website and weekly newsletters.

St Vincent's is an inclusive, Catholic learning community where staff, parents and students develop positive relationships to enhance student learning. Our guiding values, known as our Mercy Qualities form the basis of all policies and guide relationships in our school. The staff of St Vincent's are experienced, student focused and community orientated. They are passionate about teaching children and strive for high quality teaching and learning. All staff members are active in pursuing ongoing professional development. We promote parental involvement in the school and encourage the parents to be a part of their children's education. St Vincent's provides a range of opportunities to explore and extend learning experiences so that children can achieve in a variety of academic, sporting, cultural and social activities.

Our facilities include an extensive IT network, state of the art Resource Centre, large oval (with lake), tennis courts, covered courts and well equipped and resourced classrooms. St Vincent's is committed to continuous review and improvement and strives to provide a happy, safe and engaging learning environment for all students.

School Profile

St Vincent's 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 for this school 817

Total Enrolment 817 Girls 391 Boys 414

Characteristics of the student body

St Vincent's is located in Clear Island Waters and draws students from the surrounding suburbs.

Enrolments remained consistent throughout 2014. A small number (around 1%) of families have identified as indigenous. The school caters for the needs of a number of students (around 1.5% of the student body) with verified disabilities and a small number of students (around 3%) for whom English is a second language. Nearly 90% of students are baptised Catholic with this figure being much higher in the early years where there is strong demand for enrolment.

Our student community is drawn from families that are representative of the broader community. This is evidenced by The Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA).

	Bottom quarter	Middle quarters		Top quarter
St Vincent's students	5%	21%	35%	39%
Australian Average	25%	25%	25%	25%

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- *Religious Education, Prayer and Liturgical Celebrations
- *Cultural Literacy with Italian for Prep to Year 6
- *School Wide Positive Behaviour, Restorative practices, Friendly Schools and Families (an anti bullying programme), Daniel Morcombe Safety Programme
- *School sport programme for Years 5 and 6 that allows students to experience and participate in a wide range of different sports as well as Winter Sports' Competition
- *Swimming programme (Year 1 - 5), Surfing for Year 6
- *School, Catholic and regional carnivals
- *Camp program for children in Years 4 and 5 and trip to Canberra and skiing for Year 6
- *Public Speaking Lessons
- *Choral Speaking Choirs that participate in Gold Coast Eisteddfod
- *School choirs including a Boys' Choir
- *Early Years Arts Programme
- *Days of Celebration - eg Under 8's, World Environment Day, Book Week, Harmony Day
- *Seasons for Growth Programme for children experiencing grief and loss
- *Games factory lessons conducted by Guidance Counsellor
- *1 to 1 Laptop Programme (from Year 4)
- *School Musical (every two years)
- *Student led lunchtime games

Extra curricula activities

*Runners Club (2 mornings a week), *Instrumental Program offered to students from Years 3-6 (at an additional cost), *School Disco, *School Musical, *Speech & Drama lessons (at an additional cost), *Lunch Club (conducted by Community Liaison Person), *Digifest (celebration of students' e-learning), *Dads & Kids Camp Out

The following activities are offered before and after school for an additional cost to parents. They take place in either the parish hall, school grounds or classrooms:

*Art *Tennis *Dancing *Auskick *Cricket *Soccer *Piano Lessons *Physical Culture *Karate
*Cheerleading

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Learning Technologies are an integral part of our way of learning and teaching at St Vincent's. The school continues to expend considerable funds in this area. The programme was extended to Year 4 in 2014. Staff members have committed to professional learning in a 1 to 1 situation.

Resources include:

- Computers, data projectors and/or interactive whiteboards in classrooms/Multi Media Room/Library
- A 1 to 1 Student Laptop Program from Year 4
- A bank of 30+ computers available to P-3 year levels
- A bank of iPads used for Literacy Groups in Prep to Year 3
- A bank of iPads used for students with disabilities

Other key digital resources that are utilised in classrooms to assist student learning include the Bug Club and Sunshine reading programs and Studyladder, all of which can be accessed from home.

The use of ICTs at St Vincent's is embedded into all subject areas rather than the traditional approach of 'computer lessons'.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Vincent's strives to create a school climate that respects and cares for all members of the community. We promote and teach our core values, known as Mercy Qualities. The Community Liaison teacher co-ordinates support for new families and families who are experiencing grief, loss or illness. She also co-ordinates 'parent reps' who organise social events for each class.

Our School Wide Positive Behaviour Policy and Anti Bullying Policy outlines a whole school approach to establishing and maintaining a positive school climate. It includes proactive measures to address bullying and student behaviour by using Friendly Schools Programme, Restorative Practices and the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum.

The school is organised into three clusters (P-2; 3-4, 5-7) with a member of the Leadership Team that supports each cluster. This model supports the pastoral care of students and families.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Feedback from parents when enrolling is overwhelmingly positive. New parents speak of St Vincent's positive reputation in the community and existing parents speak of the positive culture evident, the care for the students and the quality of the teachers. Many letters from parents are received at the end of each year commending the work of the staff and school.

The 2014 staff survey reported that staff generally found St Vincent's a well resourced, supportive, collegial place to work. They rate interpersonal respect, job efficacy, support and resourcing highly.

Student voice data was gathered from several classes. On the whole students were happy in their classes and at the school.

Parent involvement in their child's education

St Vincent's school actively welcomes the involvement of parents within the school and their child's education. A well planned and comprehensive induction program has been developed for parents of new students in Prep. Parents are invited to a orientation night in their child's classroom at the beginning of Term 1. They receive formal written reports in Term 2 and Term 4 and are offered parent teacher meetings in Term 1, 2 and 4. Parents are invited to class masses, whole school assemblies and liaison group assemblies as well as Days of Celebration. Teachers invite parents to assist with excursions, reading, craft and extracurricular activities including sporting carnivals, competitions and celebrations of learning. Fathers are invited to breakfast before Father's Day and join their child's class for part of the morning session. There is an annual Dad and Kids' Camp over at school. Each year the Principal conducts parent forums around a specific topics.

St Vincent's has a small but active P&F body that promotes a number of both social and fundraising opportunities for parents. St Vincent's Night relies on the participation and engagement of the parent body.

Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	45	17
Full-time equivalents	40.3	13.4
Indigenous		1

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level
Doctorate	
Masters	18
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	27
Bachelors Degree	53
Diploma/Certificate	2

Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2014 was \$ 65000

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

- *Key teacher involvement in professional learning and planning for Visible Learning Plus programme
- *Key teacher involvement in professional learning and planning for Positive Partnership programme
- *Religious Education (unit planning)
- *Spiritual Formation of staff (Catching Fire)
- *Teacher planning sessions
- *School wide positive behaviour support
- *Cyber safety - Brett Lee

School Income by Funding Source

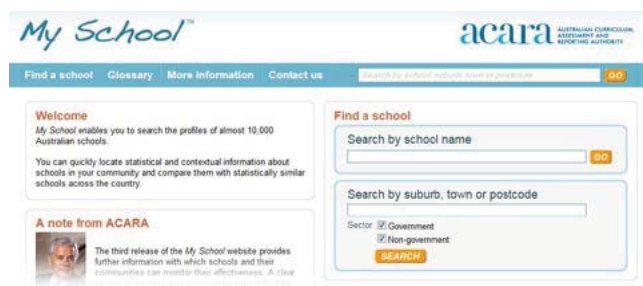
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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.

Where it says 'Search by school name', 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.



Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 96.23 % in 2014.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2013 school year, 100 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2014 year.

Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	93	%
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Prep Attendance Rate	N/A		Year 4 Attendance Rate	93	%
Year 1 Attendance Rate	93	%	Year 5 Attendance Rate	94	%
Year 2 Attendance Rate	94	%	Year 6 Attendance Rate	93	%
Year 3 Attendance Rate	94	%	Year 7 Attendance Rate	93	%

Policy and practice to manage student attendance

St Vincent's is a welcoming school community. Regular attendance at school is essential to assist students to maximize their potential. Items in the school newsletter remind parents of the importance of attendance. Parents are asked to contact the school by phone or e-mail if their child is absent. Class rolls are marked twice daily and a member of the Leadership Team checks on attendance reports on a regular basis. If a concern is identified, the school works with the student, parent and class teacher to improve attendance. The number of days absent is reported on the child's report card in Term 2 and Term 4

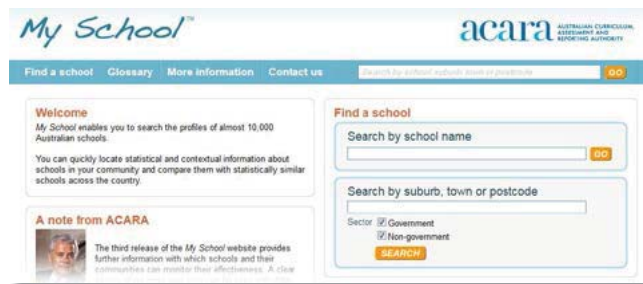
The Guidance Counsellor is available to work with the family to address any issues if required. If unexplained absenteeism continues, support would be sought from the Student Protection Officer from Brisbane Catholic Education.

Reminders about the procedures, including absenteeism, late to arrive and early to leave, are placed regularly in the newsletter to inform and remind the community.

Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.



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