

School Name St Vincent's Primary School

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Contact Person Kerry Rowlands - Principal (David Boulton - Acting Principal)

## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

Welcome to the St Vincent's Catholic Primary School 2015 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, 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 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 761 Girls 384 Boys 377

## Characteristics of the student body

St Vincent's Primary School is located in Clear Island Waters and draws students from the surrounding suburbs. With Year 7 moving to secondary schooling, enrolments showed an expected decline in 2015 (P-6 761) when compared with 2014 (P-7 814). A small number (1.31%) of families have identified as indigenous.

The school caters for the needs of a number of students (around 1.6% of the student body) with verified disabilities and a small number of students (around 3.3%) for whom English is a second language. Nearly 90% of the students are baptised Catholic.

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

	Bottom Quarter	Middle Quarters	Top Quarter
School Distribution	4%	19% 34%	43%
Australian Distribution	25%	25% 25%	25%

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

\*Religious Education, Prayer and Liturgical Celebrations

\*Cultural Literacy with Italian for Prep to Year 6 \*School Musical every two years

\*School Wide Positive Behaviour, Restorative Practices, Friendly Schools Plus (anti-bullying program), Daniel Morcombe Student Protection Program \*Games Factory lessons conducted by school Guidance Counsellor

\*School Sport program for Years 5 and 6 allowing students to participate in a wide range of sports as well as a Winter Sports' Competition \*Swimming program (Years 1-5) \*Surf Life-Saving for Year 6

\*School, Catholic and Regional Carnivals

\*Camp program for children in Years 4 and 5; trip to Canberra and skiing for Year 6

\*Choral Speaking Choirs that participate in Gold Coast Eisteddfod

\*Music Program \*School Choirs including a Boys' Choir

\*Days of Celebration e.g., Book Week, Day for Daniel, Harmony Day, World Environment Day

\*Seasons for Growth Program for children experiencing grief and loss \*Targeted small group social skills

\*selected class group relaxation \*Sunshine Space \*Parent Forum - Resilience and Anxiety

\*1 to 1 Laptop Program (from Year 4)

\*Student led lunch-time games

## Extra curricula activities

\*Runners' Club (2 mornings a week).

\*Instrumental Band Program is offered to students from Years 3-6 (at an additional cost)

\*School Disco \*School Musical (every two years)

\*Speech and Drama lessons (at an additional cost)

\*Lunch Club (conducted by Community Liaison Person)

\*Dads' and Kids' Camp Out

The following activities are offered before or after school for an additional cost to parents, taking place in the parish hall or the school grounds or in 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 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. Staff members have committed to professional learning in a 1 to 1 context. Resources include:

\*Computers, data projectors and/or interactive whiteboards in classrooms/Multi-Media Room/Library

\*A 1 to 1 Student Laptop Program from Years 4-6

\*A bank of 30+ computers available to P-3 year levels

\*A minimum of 8 iPads per class in P-3 used for Literacy Groups

\*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, Sunshine Reading Programs, IXL (supporting Maths 3-6) and Studyladder, all of which can be accessed from home. The use of ICLTs at St Vincent's is embedded into all subject areas rather than the traditional approach of having '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 outline a whole school approach to establishing and maintaining a positive school climate. This includes proactive measures to address bullying and student behaviour by using Friendly Schools Plus Program, Restorative Practices and the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum.

The school is organised into three clusters (P-2, 3-4, 5-6) with a member of the Leadership Team supporting each cluster. This model supports the pastoral care of students and families.

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

At St Vincent's External Review held during 2015, parent focus groups spoke of the strong community spirit in the school and the high level of professional and pastoral support provided for their children. Parents described the teachers as very approachable and accessible. A strong family spirit was seen to be evident and an ethos of service and giving instilled in the students. Feedback from parents during enrolment processes is overwhelmingly positive. New parents speak of the school's positive reputation within the community.

Staff indicated that there were high levels of professional trust, respect, accountability and support for one another in an environment that was team oriented. Staff valued their growth as professionals.

Students spoke very positively about the school and their classroom experience. They were enthusiastic about the extra-curricular activities available. Students have an obvious respect for their teachers and felt they could engage with them in very positive ways. Students also valued the new Leadership Program, the student council and the Canberra trip.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

St Vincent's actively welcomes the involvement of parents within the school and their child's learning. A well-planned, comprehensive induction program has been developed for parents of new students in Prep. Parents are invited to an orientation night in their child's classroom at the beginning of Term 1. They receive formal, written reports in Terms 2 and 4 and are offered parent / teacher meetings in Terms 1,2 and 4.

Parents are invited to class masses, whole school liturgies and assemblies, year level assemblies and other occasions of celebration such as Shrove Tuesday or the Father's Day Brekkie. Teachers invite parents to assist with reading, craft and extra-curricular activities including sporting carnivals, competitions, fundraising activities, and celebrations of learning. There is an annual Dad and Kids' Camp over at school. Each year the Principal conducts parent forums around 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, held biannually, relies on the participation and engagement of the parent body.

## Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	51	18
Full-time equivalents	46.60	13.08
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders		1

## Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	
Masters	9
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	14
Bachelors Degree	27
Diploma/Certificate	1

## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2015 was \$ 130 000

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

- \*Partnership with Griffith University - Accelerated Literacy Learning
- \*Leuven Project - Catholic Identity \*Jewish Museum (Sydney Intensive)
- \*Literacy Coaching - developing the coaches and coaching / modelling sessions with staff
- \*Key teacher professional learning and planning for Visible Learning Plus program
- \*Religious Education - planning and writing of Religion Units towards validation
- \*School Wide Positive Behaviour Support
- \*Teacher Goal Setting
- \*Spiritual Formation of Staff (Catching Fire)
- \*Cyber Safety

## School Income by Funding Source

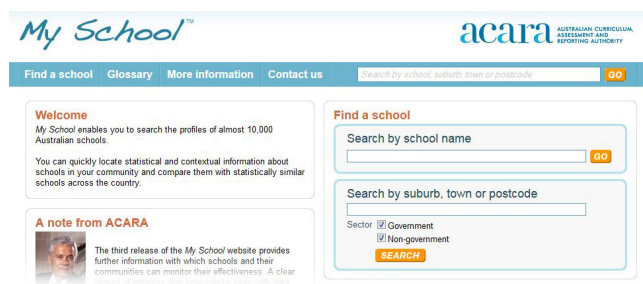
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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.



## Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 95.66 % in 2015.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2014 school year, 100.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2015 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Prep Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 1 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 2 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 3 Attendance Rate	94.00 %

Year 4 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 5 Attendance Rate	93.00 %
Year 6 Attendance Rate	94.00 %

## 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 maximise learning opportunities. Items in the school newsletter remind parents of the importance of attendance. Parents are asked to contact the school by phone or email if their child is absent. Class rolls are marked twice daily. The Leadership Team is kept informed about student attendance patterns and potential concerns. The school works pastorally with the student, parents, teacher and relevant outside agencies when required to resolve issues and to improve attendance.

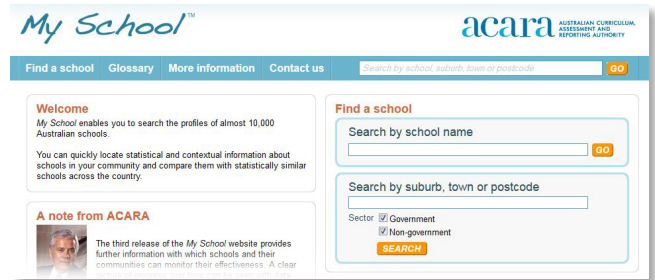
The school Guidance Counsellor is available to work with families when required to address any issues that arise regarding student attendance. Should unexplained absenteeism persist, support would be sought from the Student Protection Officer from Brisbane Catholic Education.

Reminders about the procedures, including absenteeism, late to arrive and early to leave, are placed regularly in the school newsletter to inform and remind. A Bag Tag is used to identify and record students checking in late at student reception.

## 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/>.



The screenshot shows the My School website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Find a school', 'Glossary', 'More information', and 'Contact us'. A search bar is located to the right of the navigation bar, with the text 'Search by school, suburb, town or postcode' and a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Welcome' section with a brief description of the website's purpose. To the right of the welcome section is a 'Find a school' section with two search boxes: 'Search by school name' and 'Search by suburb, town or postcode'. Below these search boxes are radio buttons for 'Sector' with options for 'Government' and 'Non-government', and a 'SEARCH' button.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following

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Type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results 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 able to access our NAPLAN data.