Introduction:

St Vincent’s School Clear Island Waters is a Catholic Primary Co-educational School located on the Gold Coast in Fairways Drive, Clear Island Waters. St Vincent’s is a member of the Brisbane Catholic Education community of schools, within the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Student enrolment at 30 June 2008 was 755 full time equivalent students.

Street Address:
50 Fairways Drive
Clear Island Waters QLD 4226

Postal Address:
PO Box 6574
Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9726

Telephone:
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(07) 5572 1688

Fax: (07) 5575 4338

Email: probina@bne.catholic.edu.au

School Leadership Team:

PRINCIPAL: Mrs Kerry Rowlands
A.P.R.E.: Mrs Vicki Johannes
A.P.A.: Mrs Christine McLeish
A.P.A & ICLT Co-ordinator: Mr Chris Clurey

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings:

St Vincent’s School Clear Island Waters offers the latest in teaching and learning, technology, extra curricular activity, and the benefits of being a high quality inclusive Catholic school. We offer our students a rounded education that encourages personal growth based on Christian values. We encourage students to develop knowledge of other cultures, languages, environmental and social issues.

Learning programs are designed to provide each student with multiple opportunities to become reflective, self-directed lifelong learner.

Within the curriculum at St Vincent’s School Clear Island Waters the nine Key Learning Areas are addressed:
- Religious Education
- Science
- Studies of Society and the Environment
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Technology
- Languages Other Than English
- Mathematics
- English

Within the context of these key learning areas the following distinctive curriculum offering are included:

- Inclusive Education by specialist teachers
- Information Literacy
- Music (3-7) by specialist teacher
- Health and Physical Education (P-7) by specialist teachers
- Languages Other Than English (Japanese) by specialist teacher
- Public Speaking (Yr 6) by specialist teacher
- Performing Arts (P-2) by specialist teachers
- Camps Yrs 4-7
- Canoeing Yrs 5-7 by trained staff
- Sport Yrs 5-7
- Swimming P-7
- Kids Connect

The school is widely recognised for its excellence in the area of The Arts with 13 classes participating in the Gold Coast Eisteddfod in 2007 as well as many individual students entering other sections of the competition. The school band participated in various competitions in 2007 and our school choir entered the competition for the first time. Students also participate in the AB Paterson Speech Competition. The school also stages a musical every 2 years.

Extra Curricular Activities:

- Speech and Drama
- Instrumental Music
- Choir
- Recorder Ensemble
- Interschool Sport
- Musical every two years
- Digifest
- Wakakirri
- Runner’s Club

The following activities are also available at the school at an additional cost.

Instrumental Band Program
Participation in this program is open to students in Years 4-7. The aim of this program is to give students the opportunity to learn a musical instrument which provides ensemble/concert band experience thus developing performance skills. This complements classroom programs in the development of music throughout the school and extends the dimension of the school music program.
Lessons, conducted weekly, and in school time, are of half an hour duration, and are in groups of three to eight students. There is also a band rehearsal every week before school.

**Speech and Drama**
A qualified Speech and Drama teacher is available for small group tuition (in school time) for students from Year 3. This program aims to encourage and develop in each student, an awareness of effective communication skills and appreciation of language. It further aims to develop self esteem and confidence through lessons that are stimulating, interesting and enjoyable.

**Chess**
Chess is taught in the library one lunch time each week.

**Art**
Art lessons are available after school.

**Tennis Lessons**
A tennis coach is available for group lessons before school.

**Dancing**
Dancing classes are held in the school hall after school.

**Auskick**
Auskick is offered on the oval after school for a 10 week programme during the year.

**Soccer**
Soccer is offered on the oval after school for a 6 week programme during the year.

**Piano Lessons**
Piano lessons are available after school.

**Social Climate:**
At St Vincent’s School we strive to create a school climate that addresses and respects the needs of the whole school community. Students are encouraged to accept that their rights are accompanied by responsibilities.

Our Behaviour Management Program outlines a Whole-School approach to establishing and maintaining a school climate that is characterised by fairness, charity and a sense of belonging.

We employ a “wrap-around” approach to the management of individual issues – an approach that emphasises a team approach and collegial support for staff and a whole-school ownership of challenging issues.

- Parents & Friends
- Weekly Student Forums
- Wrap-around Meetings
- Mini Vinnies
- Buddy Programme
- Parent Forums
- Outside School Hours Care
- New parent Morning teas each term
• Parent Volunteers encouraged throughout the school
• Guidance Counsellor
  1. running social skills groups,
  2. Parent Information sessions,
  3. Staff Professional Development sessions
  4. and responds to problem situations when they arise

Parent Involvement:

In keeping with our Mission Statement, St Vincent’s School provides opportunities for parents to interact pastorally and socially and to be involved in their child’s education:

• Parent/Teacher meetings
• Parent support in classroom activities and with excursions
• Parents and Friends Association
• Parents are invited to attend children’s assemblies and liturgies
• Assisting with, and attending, school social events for parents e.g. Trivia Night; Dinner Dance and social events for children
• Celebrations of Learning
• Class Liaison Parents
• Parent Liturgy Group
• Meetings with parents, teacher and support staff to plan for children with special needs
• Taskforce groups for particular projects e.g. Project Eskimo
• Assisting in the Tuckshop

In 2007 a goal of both the school and P&F was to engage fathers more in the life of the school. Several functions was organised specifically for fathers and their children including a father / child camp out on the school oval; ‘Movember’ activities and family fun runs. These were highly successful.

Professional Engagement:

Professional Learning: Priorities for professional development in 2007 included -

• Literacy
• Numeracy
• Information Technology
• Personal professional development (aligned with individual staff member’s goals)

In 2007 participation in professional development is supported by a grant of $50000 approx from Brisbane Catholic Education supplemented by $20000 from the school. Professional development of staff takes place on seven student-free days throughout the year as well as on regular school days where replacement teachers are employed.
Teacher Qualifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching Qualification</th>
<th>Number of current teachers qualified to this level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
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<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
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<td>Graduate Diploma</td>
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<td>Masters Degree</td>
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Teacher Retention: Of 33 permanently appointed teaching staff employed in 2007, two did not return in 2008. Of these, three took up leadership positions in other schools (principal, assistant principal, assistant principal – religious education), one accompanied her husband when he took up a principalship and the other resigned to accompany her husband when he was transferred to Sydney.

Average Staff Attendance
96.66%

KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES

Average Student Attendance Rate
93.7%

Reading, Writing and Numeracy Benchmarks

2007 QAS RESULTS

Result summaries of the Year 3, 5 and 7 Reading, Writing and Numeracy Tests, which were conducted by the Queensland Studies Authority in August are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3 Aspect</th>
<th>State Average 2006</th>
<th>St Vincent's Average 2006</th>
<th>% Above National Bench Mark 2006</th>
<th>State Average 2007</th>
<th>St Vincent's Average 2007</th>
<th>% Above National Bench Mark 2007</th>
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<tr>
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<th>Year 5 Aspect</th>
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<th>St Vincent's Average 2006</th>
<th>% Above National Bench Mark 2006</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading &amp; Viewing</td>
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<td>98%</td>
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Parent/Teacher/Student Satisfaction with St. Vincent’s School

St. Vincent’s School has a long and proud tradition of working closely with the local community to improve and deliver quality relationships amongst all stakeholders.

A vibrant and active Parents & Friends meet regularly to plan and deliver activities that respond to parent needs. The meetings provide feedback on initiatives and plans for the year. The parent body strongly support all P&F and school activities. These activities take the form of spiritual and social gatherings, forums and educational sessions. Our parents respond very positively to these and any activity organised is always well attended.

We have an active Student Forum who meet on a fortnightly basis and plan initiatives and activities for student involvement, along with a “Mini Vinnies” group who also generate ideas in response to social justice issues. Our extra curricula activities are also very popular with a large number of children participating in Band, Speech & Drama, Choir, Recorder group etc. School staff work extremely hard to ensure delivery of quality curriculum and extra curricula activities. Every second year we hold a school musical. This is staged with over 70 children from grades 5-7, teachers and school officers volunteer their time over quite a few months to ensure that a quality production is staged. Rehearsals are all done outside of school hours and performances are scheduled over a weekend. All staff embrace celebrations of learning such as Catholic Education Week, Book Week and Under 8s. The efforts put in by school staff is also evidenced by the very high attendance rate of Staff.

St. Vincent’s also takes great pride in the relationship it has with the wider community. We take active steps to foster and nurture our relationship with our Parish. The school also participates in other community activities eg ANZAC Day services.

In summary, St Vincent’s School strives to be the best it can be and has a very positive reputation in the wider community. Any feedback we are given enhances and supports this suggestion. A major source of feedback is provided by parents when enrolling new students. Over 80% of parents comment on the positive reputation of the school within the community as well as personal recommendations from friends. Almost all of our new enrolments are word of mouth recommendations. We are very proud of our School and will continue to seek feedback on ways to improve!

Link to School Goal and Review 2007