



Teaching Challenging Transforming

# ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING – 2012

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

School Name **St Vincent's Primary School**

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## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School is located in Fairway Drive Clear Island Waters, a short drive from the site in Surfers Paradise where the school was founded in 1946 by the Sisters of Mercy. We continue to be guided by the Mercy values - known in the school as Mercy Qualities. Today St Vincent's is a modern co-educational facility educating children from Prep to Year 7. It is one of two parish schools that are an important and integral part of the ministry of the Surfers Paradise Catholic Parish.

At St Vincent's we offer quality, inclusive education, in the Catholic tradition. We are committed to the spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, cultural and physical development of the whole person. St Vincent's has a strong focus on the pastoral care of students, quality teaching and learning and the provision of a range of extra-curricular activities.

We offer superb facilities including an extensive IT network, state of the art Resource Centre, large oval, tennis courts, covered courts and well equipped and resourced classrooms. We are blessed to have a dedicated staff, passionate about teaching children, as we strive for high quality teaching and learning. We promote parental involvement in the school and encourage the parents to be a part of their children's education.

## School Profile

St Vincent's Primary School Clear Island 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 796

Total Enrolment 796 Girls 388 Boys 408

## 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 2012.

St Vincent's is an inclusive Catholic school and is open to children from families who share our values and vision. The school continues to have strong demand for positions in Prep. School wide around 90% of our students are of the Catholic Christian tradition.

A small number of students (around 1%) have identified as indigenous. The school caters for the needs of 8 students with verified disabilities and a small number of students (around 3%) who have a language background other than English.

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	6%	16%	38%	40%
Australian Average	25%	25%	25%	25%

At the completion of primary school, students transition to a range of state, Catholic and independent secondary schools.

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- \*Religious Education, Prayer and Liturgical Celebrations
- \*Cultural Literacy with Italian for Years 2 to 7
- \*Restorative practices, Friendly Schools and Families (an anti bullying programme)
- \*School sport programme for Years 5, 6 and 7 that allows students to experience and participate in a wide range of different sports
- \*Swimming programme (Year 1 - 6), Surfing for Year 7
- \*Camp program for children in Years 4, 5, 6 and trip to Canberra and skiing/snowboarding for Year 7
- \*Public Speaking Lessons
- \*Choral 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
- \*1 to 1 Laptop Programme (from Year 5)
- \*Arts Productions - Musical and Wakakirri Performance
- \*Digifest (celebration of children's e-learning)
- \*Music Day 'Camp' and Tour for band students
- \*'Crack the Code' - programme written and overseen by Speech Therapist to enhance early literacy
- \*Wipe out Waste programs

## Extra curricula activities

### Extra curricula activities

\*Minnie Vinnies (junior branch of St Vincent de Paul), \*Runners Club (2 mornings a week), \*Instrumental Program offered to students from Years 4-7 (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), \*Kids Connect

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

St Vincent's aims to prepare our students to be 21 century citizens. Information and Communication Learning Technologies are an integral part of our way of learning and teaching at St Vincent's. All teaching staff have been issued with their own laptop and all areas of the school have wireless connectivity. Each learning area has an interactive whiteboard. Staff members have committed to using the extensive range of digital resources in which the school has invested .

### Resources include:

- Computers, data projectors and/or interactive whiteboards in teaching areas
- A 1 to 1 Student Laptop Program from Year 5
- A bank of 250 computers available to for use by Prep - Year 4 students
- A bank of iPads used for Guided Reading and Literacy Groups in Prep to Year 3

The use of ICLTs at St Vincent's is embedded into all subject areas. A core part of the programme is to ensure that students are aware of the rights and responsibilities of being a digital citizen. Each year the community celebrates children's learning and participation in Information and Communication Technologies at Digifest.

## Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

At St Vincent's School we strive to create a school climate that addresses and respects the needs of the whole school community. It is regularly commented on, by visitors to our school community, that there is a welcoming and friendly atmosphere generated by the staff, parents and students of our community.

Our Pastoral Care Policy outlines a Whole-School approach to establishing and maintaining a school climate that is characterised by fairness, charity and a sense of belonging. It is underpinned by our Mercy Qualities and all members of the community are encouraged to accept that their rights are accompanied by responsibilities.

Our Pastoral Care Policy includes proactive measures to address bullying and student behaviour. All students participate in the Friendly Schools and Families Programme - an anti-bullying programme that develops social skills and the ability for students to identify bullying and what they should do.

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

We recognise the importance of feedback in relation to community satisfaction with the school. Feedback from parents at Parent Teacher meetings, information nights, forums and parent rep meetings indicate a good sense of satisfaction with the school. Feedback from internal review surveys indicate that the majority of parents are satisfied with the school. Parents when enrolling generally comment on the school's reputation in the community. Feedback from siblings enrolments is very positive.

Staff reported that they generally found St Vincent's a supportive, collegial place to work. They appreciated the collegial and leadership support, friendships, the availability of technology and other resources.

It was noted in the report from the external review that the panel spoke to several groups of staff, parents and students who spoke and felt positive about the school.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

We encourage parents to take an interest in our school and they are most welcome and encouraged to become involved on a regular basis in the following:

- \*Contributing to the development of Whole School Renewal Plan
- \*Becoming part of a committee (eg Year 7 to Secondary)
- \*Taking an active role in Parents & Friends
- \*Attending Parent Information Evenings and Parent / Teacher Meetings
- \*Assisting and volunteering in the tuckshop, library and classrooms
- \*Becoming a "Parent Rep" for a class
- \*Assisting with special day activities, sport carnivals and excursions
- \*Engaging in parent forums, providing feedback through online surveys and cyclical review invitations
- \* Supporting the literacy programme

We engage with our parent community through regular newsletters, e-mail, texts as well as postings on

## Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	43	18
Full-time equivalents	39.6	13.2
Indigenous	1	

## Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level
Doctorate	
Masters	20%
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	24%
Bachelors Degree	52%
Diploma/Certificate	4%



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2012 was \$ 84 500

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

Literacy Improvements - all staff completed First Steps Training and prep teachers completed Crack the Code training for implementation in 2013

Religion - preparation for introducing the new curriculum

Australian Curriculum - breaking apart English curriculum and planning

ICLT - integrating into learning

## School Income by Funding Source

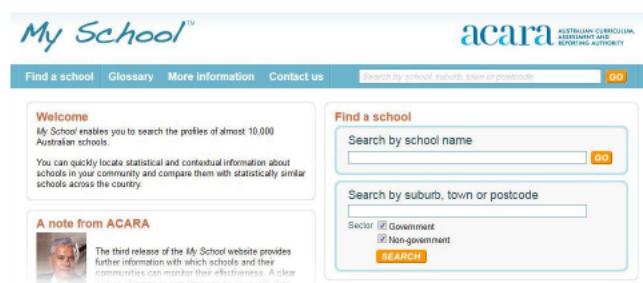
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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 96.28 % in 2012.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2011 school year, 100 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2012 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	93.1 %
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Prep Attendance Rate	N/A	Year 4 Attendance Rate	89.0 %
Year 1 Attendance Rate	94.3 %	Year 5 Attendance Rate	95.4 %
Year 2 Attendance Rate	93.2 %	Year 6 Attendance Rate	93.6 %
Year 3 Attendance Rate	93.6 %	Year 7 Attendance Rate	93.1 %

## Policy and practice to manage student 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. He/She will notify the principal if concerned. The Principal follows up with individual families about these regular unexplained absences and may involve the Guidance Counsellor or other relevant personnel to provide support to help if school attendance has become an issue.

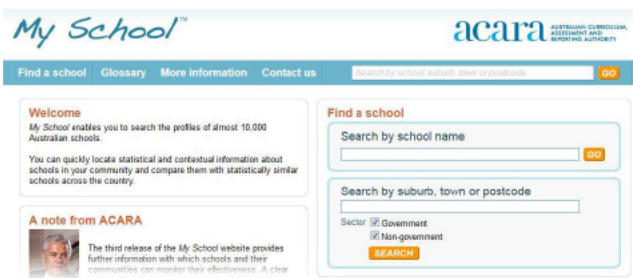
Reminders about the procedure are often placed in the newsletters to inform and remind parents of St Vincent's policy and procedures (including late arrival and early to leave).

Parents of students who will be absent for over 10 days and are not unwell are required to complete relevant paperwork for the absence.

## 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 image shows a screenshot of the 'My School' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: 'Find a school', 'Glossary', 'More information', and 'Contact us'. To the right of the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search by school, suburb, town or postcode' and a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Welcome' section with text about 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 'Government' and 'Non-government'. A 'SEARCH' button is located at the bottom of the search section.

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

'Find a school' text box.

Where it says 'Search by school name', 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.