



Brisbane
Catholic
Education

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ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING – 2017

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

SCHOOL PROFILE

School name St Rita's Primary School

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Principal's foreword

St Rita's is a Catholic co-educational primary school for students from Prep to Year 6. Our school is located in the Redlands bayside suburb of Victoria Point in a pleasing physical environment of landscaped grounds and contemporary learning and teaching spaces. As a Catholic parish school we promote a welcoming and vibrant community where respectful and positive relationships are fostered with our parents, carers, staff and the St Rita's parish community. Our ministry is expressed in our Vision and Mission statement, as we strive to be a community built on Knowledge Truth and Love by coming together each day to Know More, Do More and Be More. Our school is well-resourced, providing optimal conditions for learning and teaching. Through extensive technology resources, our teachers implement an engaging curriculum using contemporary learning strategies. Specialist teachers in Student Support, Library Resourcing, The Arts, Physical Education, and Japanese, along with choirs, drama, environmental and social justice groups, provide a rich variety of learning opportunities. Student well being is promoted by implementing a targeted range of programs that promote social and emotional learning, personal safety and protective behaviours, and personal development. Parent partnership within the school community is welcome and greatly strengthens our continuous improvements for learning and school achievements. This report provides an overview of the 2017 school year at St Rita's.

School facts

St Rita'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: 534 Girls: 262 Boys: 272

Characteristics of the student body

St Rita's School had 22 classes across 7 year levels from Prep to Year 6. With three classes of each year level with the exception of Yr 2 where there were four classes due to the high demand for places in that cohort. There was a relatively even mix of gender in each class throughout the school, with a slightly higher number of boys.

As a Catholic School, the religious background of our students is mostly Catholic, but includes families from other Christian denominations and a small number of families from other world faith traditions.

St Rita's is an inclusive school community that welcomes cultural and social diversity. 2% of students come from a non English speaking background and 2% are from Indigenous backgrounds.

Our families predominantly live in the Redlands area covering Victoria Point, Thornlands, Redland Bay, Mt Cotton, Coochiemudloo Island and Stradbroke Island.

Our students enjoy the outdoors lifestyle that living in the Redlands promotes and are active in local sporting clubs and community groups – eg. environmental, music and dance.

Social climate

Student well-being is promoted at St Rita's by implementing a coordinated and targeted range of programs well supported by research that promote social and emotional learning. These include ARK (Awesome Rita Kids) program providing a daily check in check out process recognising positive behaviours across all year levels, Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation training for Year 6 students. Peer Mediators support and assist with students experiencing difficulties and/or isolation in the playground settings. St Rita's has implemented PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) since 2014. Inclusive in these processes are the explicit teaching of expected behaviours through the schoolwide matrix for expected behaviours. PB4L also promotes consistent responses to problem behaviour, including bullying and individual acknowledgments of consistent appropriate behaviour with the Rita's Awards.

Should bullying be identified, parents are contacted and all reports of bullying and / or bully-type behaviour are investigated. The school leadership, teachers, parents and students involved in the bullying episode, work through a process to determine a response that will replace the bullying behaviour with positive behaviours and provide support for those affected.

St Rita's held a 97.5% retention of students in 2017 with an attendance rate just below 90%.

Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

Staff at St Rita's are committed to providing quality learning and teaching programs for all students. A comprehensive Religious Education program for Prep-Year 6 students is developed, based on, and validated with, the Brisbane Catholic Education Religious Education Guidelines. Australian Curriculum based programs from Prep-Year 6 are created using the Effective and Expected practices from Brisbane Catholic Education and best practices in pedagogy for planning.

We have a strong Early Years Program that has an emphasis on the Five Contexts for Early Learning. A project to accelerate literacy learning was established in 2017, using evidence-based practices growth for Prep to Yr 2 students.

The Student Support Team oversees class intervention programs to support and extend students with unique learning capabilities. Extensive technology resources enables the general capabilities for ICLT to be embedded within our curriculum. Specialist teachers support our curriculum offerings through The Arts, Physical Education and Japanese through a specialist subjects program.

Curriculum - our extra curricula activities

Examples of groups or activities offered during 2017 for enriching student's learning and interests include:

Senior and Junior Choirs

Creative Kidz on Stage - including wind, percussion, guitar and keyboard lessons

Lunch time clubs; Drama; Mini Vinnies Social Justice Group; Peer Mediation; Rita's Rangers

Environment & Sustainability; Chess; Book Club; Coding Club

Academic Enrichment; ICAS competitions and Future Problem Solving

Sport: Interschool Sports - for Years 5-6; School Carnival and Representative Sport - Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming Lessons (Prep - Year 6), District Trials

Book Week and Book Fair whole school activities

Buddy Classes and School Camps (Years 4-6)

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Interactions with parents at Parent/Teacher Interviews, community events and information evenings reveal that parents value the holistic education and community spirit that St Rita's provides.

Teacher satisfaction with the school is high with the creation of a collaborative culture of professional learning, shared leadership and strengths-based performance development. (2016 BCE Staff Survey showed significant strengths in Engagement, Role Clarity, Student Relationships and Leadership opportunities - compared with other and similar BCE schools). Students take great pride in our school. We receive recognition from the general public for the high standard of behaviour at excursions and sporting events.

Parent engagement

Parents are engaged with their child's education at St Rita's in a spirit of partnership. Involvement occurs through assistance in class activities, class excursions and where needed, school camps. Parents are encouraged to share their expertise from fields of work and professional experience.

The School Parent Network meets each month and in 2017, sponsored a community fete and a Cyber Safety presentation from Susan McLean. As well they promote community events such as the Walk to School Safely Day, Mother's Day Liturgy, Fathers' Day Liturgy, Prep Orientation. A range and variety of communication methods are encouraged - emails, Keep in Touch books, student diaries and regular meetings through the Concern for a Learner processes. Encouragement for participation and partnership is promoted through the weekly school newsletter, Twitter and Facebook and the Parent Portal. Parents are also active on the school board and meet once per month for review and planning.

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements against 2017 annual plan

Teaching and Learning

During semester 2 2017, as a result of data-informed and responsive and targeted learning and teaching in literacy, 84% of P-2 students have met benchmark targets for their respective year levels. Specifically: 74% of Prep students met benchmark target 83% of Year 1 students met benchmark target 94% of Year 2 students met benchmark target.

Religious Education

Improved classroom teaching of religion through effective teaching practice, including the monitoring of student progress and enhancing teacher knowledge of the Catholic story. Through planning with Education Officer Religious Education and APRE, classroom teachers have become more familiar with the Three Worlds of the Text model.

Sustainability - Improved the health and safety environment, and promoted a consistent approach to the continuous improvement of safety culture through training and construction of Critical Management Plan.

Future outlook

SMART Goal for Teaching and Learning in 2018 identified. School's Critical Challenge: To ensure the continued progress of all students through responsive and precise teaching that targets identified needs. Continue the focus on accelerating literacy learning to Year 3 and Year 4 year while maintaining processes for Prep to Year 2.

Engage BCE RE staff, to help develop a formation plan to provide some direction/guidance around a spirituality day and assist in the development of a plan to focus on Prayer and Welcome capacities.

Facilities Refurbishment Plan drafted with main projects identified - Early Years Toilets Block, Block E Toilets, Block D Toilets, External Grounds Work (Overland issues, OSHC maintenance, Environmental Area).

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Whole school attendance rate		94.00	%
Prep attendance rate	95.00	%	Year 4 attendance rate
Year 1 attendance rate	94.00	%	Year 5 attendance rate
Year 2 attendance rate	95.00	%	Year 6 attendance rate
Year 3 attendance rate	94.00	%	

Management of non-attendance

Class rolls are marked electronically twice per day by 9 am and again by 2pm. Data is analysed for late attendance, unexplained attendance/excessive absenteeism. Concerns are addressed through parent/teacher dialogue and/or direct contact with parents. Students arriving late are directed to sign in at school office. This is noted in student data system. Attendance is monitored by class teachers, concerns are highlighted and brought to the attention of the Leadership Team. Parents are contacted and issues discussed. Goals for attendance are agreed on and monitored. Use of the BI (Business Intelligence) Tool by has enabled effective and efficient data analysis for explained/unexplained student absences.

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	400.03	431.30	501.72	505.60
Writing	378.86	413.60	453.37	472.50
Spelling	390.12	416.20	487.47	500.90
Numeracy	407.06	409.40	489.58	493.80

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	45	26
Full-time equivalents	36.97	15.36
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	0	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	0
Masters	8
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	7
Bachelor Degree	27
Diploma/Certificate	3

Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2017 was \$ 142,467 .

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

Continuing with the development of processes for learning improvement in Literacy and Numeracy through coaching and mentoring. Developing and establishing coherent and inspiring practices for classroom learning based on coaching, mentoring and professional feedback. Collaborative planning sessions with Educational Officers and Primary Learning Leader. Data Review days for Prep to Year 2 and Year 3 to Year 6 staff and Education Officers. Excellent Learning and Teaching Strategy through the Accelerate Literacy Learning Project – All teaching staff; PD for Diverse Learners – School Officers. Fr Richard Leonard presentation to all staff.

Average staff attendance rate The staff attendance rate was 96.18 % in 2017.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2016 school year, 95.8 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2017 year.

SCHOOL INCOME

School income by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the MySchool 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 'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'

Find a school **Search website**

Go

School sector ^	School type ^	State ^
All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Primary <input type="checkbox"/>	NSW <input type="checkbox"/>
Non-government <input type="checkbox"/>	Secondary <input type="checkbox"/>	Vic <input type="checkbox"/>
	Combined <input type="checkbox"/>	Qld <input type="checkbox"/>
	Special <input type="checkbox"/>	SA <input type="checkbox"/>
		WA <input type="checkbox"/>
		Tas <input type="checkbox"/>
		NT <input type="checkbox"/>
		ACT <input type="checkbox"/>

School financial information is available by selecting 'Finances' on the top menu on the school's entry web page.