



St Joseph's Catholic School, Stanthorpe

Catholic co-educational school of the Diocese of Toowoomba

Annual Report 2017

Address	100 High Street Stanthorpe QLD 4380		Phone number	07 4681 5900	
email	stanthorpe@twb.catholic.edu.au		Principal	Andrew Kendall	
Year levels	Prep-Year 12		Enrolment	393	
Co-educational or single sex				co-educational	
Boarders	no	Outside hours school care	no	Vacation care	no
Contact person for information about the school and school policies			Andrew Kendall		

The school's mission:

Preamble to Mission Statement

We at St Joseph's School create community through sharing of faith, living out Gospel values and accepting change as part of renewal. Within our Catholic Christian community, we work together to encourage all members to develop their individual gifts, to deepen their personal spirituality and to recognize and celebrate the giftedness of others.

Mission Statement

"St Joseph's School offers an holistic education within a Catholic Christian ethos whilst developing and valuing the uniqueness of the individual as we encourage each student to become a life-long learner."

Consequences Statement

As a School founded by the Sisters of Mercy, the charism of Catherine McAuley calls our community to "act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with their God" (Micah 6:8). Inspired by their example and in keeping with the Gospel ideal, we encourage the following characteristics:

- Holistic
- Catholic Christian Ethos

- Valuing the uniqueness of the Individual
- Becoming a lifelong learner.

Distinctive curriculum offerings

- Our school has implemented an integrated approach to the education of our students in line with the syllabus documents developed by the Queensland Studies Authority and ACARA.
- Early Years students are provided with authentic and innovative learning experiences delivered by dedicated and experienced staff who plan for the needs of individuals, incorporate skills such as creative thinking and problem solving, and use the latest technology in their classroom.
- Prep to Year 2 classes are smaller size to provide more teacher time per student.
- A Reading Improvement Strategy has been implemented from Prep to Year 3.
- All Primary students participate in Digital Technology lessons.
- Secondary students are grouped in year levels for pastoral care home rooms.
- All students in Years 7-12 are issued with a computer device to assist with the integration of ICTs.
- All Primary students have one to one access to laptops and iPads.

Extra-curricular activities

St Joseph's Stanthorpe offers students a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Some of these are:

- Eisteddfod entry for individuals and class groups in Speech, Drama, Music and Italian
- District Lecturette competition
- Horizons Trip for top ten performing academic students in Year 11 and 12 to Brisbane
- Excursions are arranged that enhance the learning of our students to Local, District and Regional centres including:
 - o Jondaryan Woolshed
 - o Girraween National Park
 - o Local Museum and Art Gallery
 - o The Science Centre
 - o Queensland Museum
 - o State Parliament House
 - o The State Library
 - o Empire Theatre Performances
 - o QPAC Performances (Brisbane)
 - o University of Southern Queensland – careers day
 - o Brisbane Writers' Festival
 - o Local kindergartens
- Camps in Years 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11
- Retreats for Years 3 – 12 (Real Talk)
- Participation in a range of National Academic Competitions – Geography, Mathematics and English
- Mathematics Olympiad
- Affiliation with Border District and Granite Belt Sports Associations that ensure opportunities for our students to trial in all Queensland School Sport events
- Science Challenge
- Optiminds
- Robocup
- Darling Downs Mathematics Teams Challenge
- Young Winemakers Program
- Incursions in the Primary including Qld Ballet Workshops, Shake 'n' Stir Theatre and Forensic Science
- Various sporting activities including:
 - o School, district and Darling Downs swimming, cross-country, athletics
 - o Winter & summer sports district teams
 - o South East Queensland Futsal competitions

- o Football, Rugby League, softball and netball competitions
- o Queensland Independent Secondary Schools Netball Titles and Confraternity Rugby League

Social climate (including pastoral care and student behaviour support)

St Joseph's is a Catholic co-educational school that caters for students from diverse backgrounds. The Primary campus has 230 students and the Secondary campus 163 students. As a School founded by the Sisters of Mercy, life at St Joseph's School is shaped according to our six Mercy Values: Respect for Human Life, Dignity, Compassion, Service, Options for the Poor, Mercy & Justice.

St Joseph's offers a unique school character with a strong sense of community for students from Prep to Year 12. Our Pastoral Care program incorporates a variety of age-appropriate programs. In conjunction with our policies and procedures including our bullying policy, St Joseph's School aims to develop a school environment where young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful whilst providing our students with skills to develop resilience and effective social relationships.

St Joseph's is a relatively small school. Therefore, it is able to offer small classes with a wide range of subjects and a wide range of co-curricular activities – an education as individual as each child.

St Joseph's is able to offer the children of the Granite Belt - at any level - relevant, practical and personal guidance that will help to develop his / her potential academically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. This is supported by:

- A Pastoral program from Prep to Year 12
- Internal support networks through Senior Leaders, a Middle Leader Pastoral and Guidance Counsellor
- External support networks – Granite Belt Support Services, TCSO Inclusive Education team
- Primary and Secondary Learning Support Teachers, who facilitate IEP and other support meetings
- Careers and pathways planning – University of Southern Queensland
- Work placement and work experience – for IEP students as a career pathway tool
- SBA program – offered to Year 10 -12 students

Characteristics of the student body

The student body comprises of:

- 59.3% Catholic religious, 14.0% other Christian denominations
- 4.3% recognized as Indigenous
- 10.2% of the student population have a disability
- 4% of the student population are in the care of the state
- 0.5% of the student population are English Second Language

Parent/carer involvement

There are numerous opportunities for parents to become involved in the life of the school community. Some of these are:

- Volunteer readers in Primary classes
- Assistants at sports days and swimming lessons
- Masses and Liturgies
- School Board
- Finance Committee
- Parents & Friends Association
- Tuckshop (Primary & Secondary) Committees
- Fundraising Sub-Committees

Communication is fostered by the fortnightly electronic newsletter and jottings in the Border Post. The school also utilises Parent Paperwork, which enables broadcasts to be sent home to parent email addresses, as well as student slips. There also a Primary Newsletter sent to parents every two weeks. Parents are always welcome at St Joseph's School.

School income by funding source

School income reported by the financial year accounting cycle using standardised national methodologies and broken down by funding source is available via the *MySchool* website at www.myschool.edu.au.

Staff

Workforce composition

	Total teaching staff	Total non-teaching staff	Indigenous staff
Headcount	35	15	0
Full-time equivalents	31.3	10.3	0

Teacher qualifications

Qualification	% of teaching
Doctoral / Post-Doctoral	0%
Masters	18%
Bachelor Degree	78%
Diploma	11%
Certificate	0%

Average staff attendance

94%

Staff retention

78%

Professional Development (participation and expenditure)

2017 School Budget Allocation: \$17, 304.66

The following information is an overview of staff participation in professional development at St Joseph's for 2017:

- QCAA workshops for the new QCE and ATAR

- Prep to Year 3 Reading Improvement Strategy
- Beginning Teacher Induction and Formation
- Senior and Middle Leadership Formation
- Accreditation to teach in Catholic schools courses
- Student Protection and Code of Conduct training
- Office 365 & Live Tiles
- Resuscitation and First Aid courses
- Various educational workshops, seminars and conference

Student attendance

Average whole of school student attendance rate (expressed as %)

92.4%

Student attendance for each year level (expressed as %)

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Average student attendance rate
93.2%	91.8%	92.3%	92.9%	94.5%	93.3%	93.0%	93.0%

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Average student attendance rate
94.6%	91.5%	89.2%	89.4%	90.0%	90.1%	91.5%

Description of how non-attendance of students is managed by the school

Absent students are entered into our School Management System Database. Daily roll marking occurs each morning in Reporter Pro and each lesson in First Class Web (Years 7 – 12 only).

If the absence is unexplained, the parents receive an SMS message or follow up phone call as needed.

Attendance records are collated each term and if attendance is below 90% and absences are without satisfactory explanation, Parent Paperwork is completed with an email sent to parents to inform them of the level of attendance and to raise their awareness. If necessary, this is discussed by the relevant Assistant Principal Administration – Primary or Secondary in a parent meeting.

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results

Year 3 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	456	424.9	431	100%
Writing	406	402.4	413.6	100%
Spelling	403	408.8	416.1	96%
Grammar and Punctuation	428	436.8	439.2	100%
Numeracy	423	402.2	409.4	100%

Year 5 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	505	502.7	505.6	97%
Writing	459	461.4	472.5	94%
Spelling	489	496.5	500.9	94%
Grammar and Punctuation	480	496.0	499.3	89%
Numeracy	491	490.4	493.8	100%

Year 7 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	535	450.3	544.7	91%
Writing	533	502.5	513.0	91%
Spelling	553	546	549.6	94%
Grammar and Punctuation	553	537.9	541.6	97%
Numeracy	564	549.2	555.3	100%

Year 9 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	603	574.9	580.9	100%
Writing	583	538.6	551.9	78%
Spelling	588	576.9	581.5	100%
Grammar and Punctuation	610	573.5	574.1	89%
Numeracy	601	585.1	592.0	100%

Apparent retention rates for Years 10 and 12

Year 10		Year 12		Year 10-12
Year	Year 10 enrolment	Year	Year 12 enrolment	Apparent retention rate %
2011	34	2013	25	74%
2012	34	2014	27	79%
2013	36	2015	33	92%
2014	37	2016	23	62%
2015	38	2017	24	63%

Year 12 outcomes

Number of students awarded a Senior Education Profile (SEP)	24
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)	23
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA)	1
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications	3
Number of students who are completing or have completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT)	3
Number of students who received an Overall Position (OP)	18
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)	0
Number of students who completed Year 12 and received a statement of results (Senior Statement) only	24
Percentage of students who were awarded at least one of the following: QCE, VET (including students who participated in a SAT), IBD	100%
Percentage of students who applied for and received an offer of a tertiary place through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC)	92.9%

Value added

School administration and staff continually monitor and evaluate the academic performance of all students. Their individual educational needs are identified and strategies applied. This has seen individual student academic results progress over a number of years and has enabled St Joseph's to offer a personalised education program particularly for all students.

St Joseph's School implemented for the first time in 2011 a 1-to-1 Laptop program Secondary students. This program enables the School's to achieve a 1:1 ratio of computers to students and continues for all Secondary students. In addition, the School has invested funds into Primary Campus IT, with laptop upgrades across middle Primary and the provision of a 1:1 ration in Years 5 and 6. Younger students also have access to devices in each classroom.

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are able to access vocational pathways such as apprenticeships and traineeships, providing opportunities for a smooth transition into the workforce. St Joseph's School has the one of the highest rates of School-Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship (SBAT) uptake in the diocese.

St Joseph's offers a progressive educational experience within a caring supportive environment. The Catholic ethos, expressed through our Mercy Values, values and celebrates the unique attributes of all, and is recognisable throughout the school. A comprehensive Religious Education program provides students with the opportunity to know, understand and develop their faith. Each student is challenged to contribute to God's creation in a way that leads to personal growth and is life giving.

Year 12 post-school destination

This information is published by 30 September each year.

School renewal and improvement

Overview of procedures

St Joseph's engaged in the Excellence in Catholic Education (EiCE) school improvement process that has been in place in Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic schools since 2012. EiCE involves the school reflecting on its effectiveness, making plans for improved teaching and learning and acting upon those. EiCE envisages the school taking five years to work its way through 24 components in the four areas of Catholic Life and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Leadership for School Improvement; Strategic Resourcing.

In 2017, the EiCE components on which our school focused were:

- 2.6 Professional Learning
- 4.4 Stewardship
- 1.4 Partnership with Parish

Parent, staff and student satisfaction

Each year St Joseph's engages in data gathering from Parents, Staff and Students to assist it in evaluating the effectiveness of its educational program.

Materials provided by Research Australia Development & Innovation Institute (RADII) are used. Part of the RADII process is the collection of data regarding the overall satisfaction of parents, staff and students. Overall satisfaction responses for 2017 are shown below.

Parents

94% of parents satisfied with children's educational progress at the school.

97% of parents satisfied that school's educational program enable children to learn:

Staff

97% of staff satisfied overall with educational progress of student:

99% of staff satisfied that school's educational programs enable students to learn:

Students

87% of Years 5 - 6 students satisfied with their learning at this school.

83% Years 7 - 12 students satisfied with their learning at this school.