



Teaching Challenging Transforming

# ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING - 2013

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

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## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

The St. John's College School Report 2013 gives a snapshot of the goals, achievements and general school operations. The report covers many areas of the school's functioning and its directions for the future.

St. John's has been operating as a secondary school for 74 years and has a long history of outstanding and extraordinary achievements during this time. As a Catholic school, St. John's College prides itself on inclusive and holistic education, which promotes the integration of faith, life and culture.

The 2013 report, although impressive in itself, should always be viewed in an historical context, and in the light of this, we are proud to present a report that indicates continued growth and development, and significant achievements that represent many years of quality educational practices as a Brisbane Catholic Education Office school.

## School Profile

St. John's 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 599

Total Enrolment 599 Girls 292 Boys 307

## Characteristics of the student body

Enrolment catchment areas according to demographic studies and the analysis of current year 8 enrolments (2013) show core catchment areas stretching over the Northern part of the Sunshine Coast Region. 60% to 70 % of enrolments come from Catholic Primary schools in the area or other catholic Schools in Qld and Interstate. 30- 40 % of enrolments are from State Primary Schools. 17% of enrolled students live in the Nambour area with another 25% of students living in Bli Bli, Palmwoods, Buderim and Mudjimba.

The school is Master Planned as a four stream Year 7 (2015) to Year 12 College. Since 2008, there has been a steady increase in enrolments to current figures of 600 in 2013. This will obviously change with the move of Year 7 to secondary in 2015. The projected figures in 2015 are a school population of 745.

The trends show a consistent Catholic population of around 70% with an increase in enrolments of "Other Christian". The 2013 Year 8 enrolment intake was 70% Catholic. St.John's recent history would indicate that Indigenous enrolments have been around 1% of the cohort. Enrolments of students with disabilities account for 5% of the student population and the college is well known through the Sunshine Coast for its care and support of all children with disabilities.

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

St. John's College curriculum offerings are in keeping with a contemporary secondary school:

- \* The Year 8/9 (Middle School) offerings enable students to experience all subjects on offer in the middle school, with students gifted in music and language encouraged to study these subjects continuously during these early years. A transition program for Year 8 is in place in the first two weeks.

- \* A significant feature of the middle school curriculum is the Multi-media studies where students are engaged in web design, game design and animation.

- \* Health and Physical education is compulsory in years 8- 10 with an Outdoor Education elective in Year 10

- \* Literacy and Numeracy skills are incorporated across all subject offerings, not confined to English and Maths respectively.

- \* Graphics is a very popular subject in year 8 - 12 especially with the extensive use of contemporary CAD programs.

- \* Year 10 is being developed as a transition year for Senior school and as such we offer courses and have developed assessment that will help with this transition. Students in year 10 are introduced to Math B, Physics, Biology and Chemistry, Study of Religion, Outdoor Education and Certificate I Courses.

- \* Year 11 and 12 subject offerings are many and varied, and as a smaller school we pride ourselves in an extensive offering of subjects in both OP and Non OP pathways.

- \* Senior students are involved in Certificate Courses, work placement, Traineeships and TAFE courses as well as University Head-start courses.

## Extra curricula activities

St. John's offers a variety of opportunities for students to participate beyond the classroom: \*Cultural:- Chamber Orchestra- Debating- Drama-- Musical- Public Speaking Performance Art; Instrumental Music- Instrumental Ensembles- Big Band- Other Musical Ensembles Roaar Arts - Theatre sports - Mural Projects and an Australia wide, student run Film Festival. Students also have opportunities to perform in concerts, competitions and various College and Public Functions. Sporting: A wide variety of sports are offered depending on student interest and needs. Inter-school Competitions exist for:- Rugby Union- Netball- Basketball- Waterpolo- Australian Rules- Soccer. Students may also compete in Knock-out Competitions for Cricket - Futsal - Australian Rules - Netball. The College conducts Annual Swimming, X country & Athletics carnivals from which school teams are selected to compete at zone & independent schools' carnivals.

Committees provide opportunities for students to become involved in Liturgy, Magazine, the Environment, Social Action, the Arts and Peer Support and St. Vincent de Paul groups.

## How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

All staff have been provided with personal lap-tops to implement new learning strategies and aid their own professional learning, preparation and teaching.

\* All students are issued with laptop computers under our 1 to 1 program.

\* Extra lap-tops have been provided for some class rooms and the provision of three modern desktop computer labs enable high end use with Multimedia and CAD programs

\*Provision of smart boards has been made in a number of classrooms, especially in Maths rooms.

\* All classrooms are equipped with either data projector or large screen TV with simplified connections for data, digital display purposes

\* Wireless network is established across the school campus.

\* Students have access to Maths Online program and On-Line tutoring 6 days a week as well as student work-spaces, cloud based collaboration and storage.

\* Significant staff professional development in ICLT pedagogies.

\*Staff use a range of Web 2.0 Tools in their learning activities and a recently integrated LMS

\*Several subjects such as Graphics, Multi-media and ICT are all major ICLT based

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

The social climate of the school is characterised by a warm, welcoming and friendly community in the tradition of Good Samaritan schools. We endeavour to live by the twelve values of the Good Samaritans: Listen, Balance, Compassion, Community, Healing, Prayer, Humility, Hospitality, Stewardship, Partnerships, the Word of God and Peace. Inclusivity is an integral part of our pastoral approach.

The college is proud of its "Buddy" system where Year 12 students take on the care of one or more Year 8 students. The Welcome BBQ in week 3 of the year is a highlight of this system where all buddies engage in activities after school and parents join students for a BBQ and introductions. The connections made are strong and lasting. The college has planned for a strengthening of this "Buddy" system with the involvement of Year 11 students with Year 7 students on their arrival in 2015. Much of this good work enables students and teachers to counter and reduce incidents of bullying and strengthen respectful relationships.

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Indications from Parent surveys, Parents and Friends Association and the College Board meetings, suggest that there is a high degree of satisfaction with the College. Parent participation is always a good indicator of satisfaction with the school and St. John's has a culture of participation and support that seems to strengthen every year. Indicative of this support are impressive crowds for Trivia Night fund-raisers, the Year 11/12 Hospitality nights, Year 10 Dance, Year 12 Graduation, attendance at sporting and cultural events, Relay for Life, Welcome BBQ and many other events. Parents at St. John's often write meaningful thank you letters, e-mails and cards to staff of the College and are generous in their support and provision of morning tea for teachers at times during the year.

The support of the Parents & Friends is generous and exemplified by the provision of a boardwalk to our ovals, contributions to the oval upgrade and new bus and anticipated shade cover in 2014. Parents are also generous with their time in contributing and participating in School Cyclical Reviews, Leadership Team appraisals and being panel members for staff employment interviews.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

Parents at St. John's are encouraged to be participants in their child's education through:

- \* Participation in Parents and Friends meetings and Board Membership

- \* Attendance at and organisation of Welcome BBQs, Community Eucharistic Celebrations, Parent /Teacher/Student Interviews, Tuck-shop duty, Social Gatherings, Parent Support Group and Sporting & Cultural activities, and the "Back to School" mornings.

Parents are kept up to date and informed through the College Newsletter, e-mailed to Parents each week. Contact with Parents is made by e-mail, Twitter, Facebook, phone and formal and informal meetings and Information Nights.

Parents are also encouraged to contribute to the Cyclical Review process and contribute opinions on a number of issues. Parents are encouraged to contact the school at any time and are welcome to attend assemblies and other gatherings.

## Staff Profile

| Workforce Composition | Teaching Staff | Non-teaching Staff |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Headcounts            | 49             | 30                 |
| Full-time equivalents | 43.6           | 22                 |
| Indigenous            |                |                    |

## Qualifications of all teachers

| Highest level of attainment       | Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Doctorate                         |   |
| Masters                           | 25%   |
| Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate | 47%   |
| Bachelors Degree                  | 42%   |
| Diploma/Certificate               | 0.5%  |

## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2013 was \$ 60,000

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

LMS - Learning Management System

MSD - Transitioning students with Extra Needs to the workforce

Conferences - CASPA, ACE, Positive Schools, Bullying, Ignite, Vocational Education, APCSC, QSA

Religious Education and Faith Development, REAP, Sisters of the Good samaritan

Year 7 to Secondary - Best Practice, Planning, Program Writing

Leadership, Indigenous Education

ASD - Autism PD

Curriculum needs, Formative assessment, Teaching Pedagogy

## School Income by Funding Source

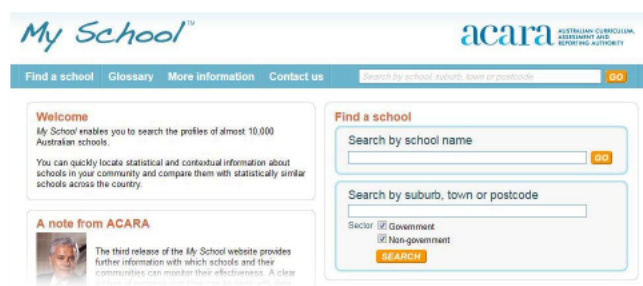
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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 98.47 % in 2013.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2012 school year, 97 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2013 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Whole School Attendance Rate | 92.4 % |
|------------------------------|--------|

|                        |     |                         |      |
|------------------------|-----|-------------------------|------|
| Prep Attendance Rate   | N/A | Year 7 Attendance Rate  | %    |
| Year 1 Attendance Rate | %   | Year 8 Attendance Rate  | 96 % |
| Year 2 Attendance Rate | %   | Year 9 Attendance Rate  | 92 % |
| Year 3 Attendance Rate | %   | Year 10 Attendance Rate | 90 % |
| Year 4 Attendance Rate | %   | Year 11 Attendance Rate | 93 % |
| Year 5 Attendance Rate | %   | Year 12 Attendance Rate | 91 % |
| Year 6 Attendance Rate | %   |                         |      |

## Policy and practice to manage student attendance

St. John's College has a sophisticated attendance marking process that involves a computerised system. Parents can be notified by SMS message, phone call and or email if their child is absent for all or part of the day.

Absence from school must be accompanied by phone notification and a letter from parents/carers on the child's return to school.

Staff of the college who have a pastoral teaching role will contact parents after three days of absence and absences are recorded on all reports, including any absences from major events such as a sports carnival. Attendance is compulsory at all Retreats, sporting carnivals, camps, excursions and other events as deemed necessary by the school. Attendance rates on these days are exceptionally good.

Facebook and Twitter sites are also used to inform parents of upcoming events that require attendance.

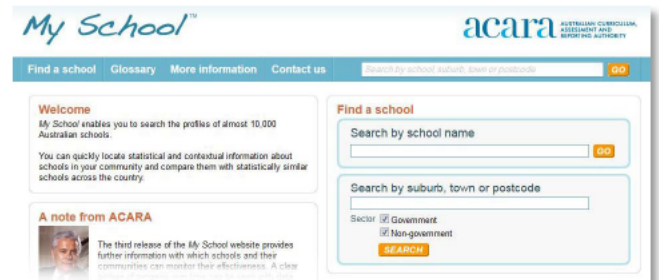
Students on TAFE and /or work placement arrangements are monitored for consistent attendance.

Updated lists of these students are constantly circulated to pastoral care teachers.

## Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9

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/>.



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## Attainment and Achievement – Year 12

### Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 (2011) student cohort. | 104 % |
|---|-------|

## Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2013

(Data are available to schools from the QSA secure website using your existing security code)

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Number of students receiving a Senior Education Profile.  | 106  |
| Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement.   | N/A  |
| Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).  | 78   |
| Number of students who are completing or completed a school based Apprenticeship or Traineeship.  | 9    |
| Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Educational Training qualifications.  | 104  |
| Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12.   | 104  |
| Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).  | N/A  |
| Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.   | 77 % |
| Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification. | 99 % |
| Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.   | 98 % |

## Overall Position Bands (OP)

Number of students in each Band for OP 1 to 25

| OP 1-5 | OP 6-10 | OP 11-15 | OP 16-20 | OP 21-25 |
|--------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| 14     | 20      | 26       | 16       | 2        |

## Vocational Educational Training qualification (VET)

Number of students awarded certificates under the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF).

| Certificate I | Certificate II | Certificate III or above |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 99            | 33             | 19                       |

## Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2013 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be published in September when the information is made available to the school.