



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wandal

2019 Annual School Report



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

System

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

Principal

Kellie Jenkinson

Address

4 Herbert Street
Wandal
Rockhampton 4700

Total enrolments

321

Year levels offered

Prep – Year 6

Type of School:

Co-educational

Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

The students (Prep - Year 6) undertake formal study of Religious Education (school-based religion programme), as well as experiences of liturgy and prayer.

- Curriculum offerings – English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, Languages other than English, Technologies and the Arts learning areas are fully accredited and aligned with ACARA.
- Behaviour support programme encourages personal responsibility for behaviour and learning
- LOTE: all students in P to 6 participate in Japanese lessons.

Extra Curricula Activities

- Community/parish involvement: Mini Vinnies, NAIDOC Week, Anzac Day and performances for aged-care facilities and parish events.
- Support for the wider community: Caritas, St Vincent de Paul, The Mary MacKillop Foundation, and the Queensland Cancer Council.
- Cultural activities: eisteddfod participation (speech and vocal choirs); instrumental music, dance performances, Arts Council performances, interschool chess competitions.
- Instrumental Music Programme: Year 4 students receive lessons and participate in band rehearsal in partnership with The Cathedral College. Instruments are provided for the first year of this programme. Students in Years 5 and 6 are provided with the opportunity to continue participating in this programme.
- Sporting activities: school and district athletic carnivals, cross country, interschool hockey, netball, touch football and rugby league.
- Class excursions: students are provided with a broad range of activities to enhance their classroom learning. All activities are planned to be relevant, well organised and accessible.
- Students in their last year of primary school participate in a school camp which has, as its focus, the further development of leadership skills.
- Competitions: students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of regional, state and national competitions designed to enhance their learning experiences e.g. Writing, Science, Mathematics etc.
- Parish-based sacramental programmes: working in conjunction with the parish, students and families from St Joseph's Wandal are supported in their preparation for the sacraments of Penance, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- Liturgical celebrations: students participate in a variety of parish, diocesan, regional and school-based liturgical celebrations.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

At St Joseph's Wandal, we encourage technological literacy. As a school community, we foster the knowledge, skill processes and attitudes to positively interact in an information and technology-rich environment. Through our teaching and learning programmes we empower our learners to be discerning users of technology and information resources, guided by the values of Catholic Education.

Social Climate

Strategies to Promote a Positive Culture

At St Joseph's Wandal, we acknowledge that our mission is to respond to the developmental needs of each member of the school community, recognising that all individuals have inherent rights and responsibilities.

- Religious Education is an integral part of school life at St Joseph's Wandal. The school motto, 'To Love is to Serve' provides a daily challenge for all members of our school community to live a life of service.

- St Joseph's Wandal offers the members of our school community access to a school counsellor who is based at school two days per week.
- Student leadership is encouraged and fostered through sporting occasions, public speaking opportunities, peer support, mentoring and charitable fundraising ventures.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies

Pastoral Care is the observable expression of an attitude of Christian concern and care for each other. The St Joseph's Wandal school community values and fosters an environment of pastoral care. We believe that in a community that provides a strong sense of well-being, belonging and security, students and staff are given every opportunity to be affirmed in their dignity, confirmed in their own sense of self-worth and assisted to grow to their full potential.

This culture promotes positive relationships and assists in reducing the occurrences of bullying and anti-social behaviour. Incorporated into our curriculum programmes are activities designed to support the social/emotional well-being of our students. St Joseph's Wandal has implemented Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements for students and staff and has appropriate guidelines in place for the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices. All Diocesan and school policies with regards to anti-bullying and cyber safety are implemented and regularly reviewed.

Strategies for involving parents in their child's education

The Parents and Friends Association is an integral part of the St Joseph's Wandal school community providing the organisational structure to assist with the necessary participation of parents in the life of the school. This translates into significant involvement in many projects designed to enhance the learning environment for all.

The St Joseph's Wandal School Board is a pastoral board functioning under a shared wisdom model. A pre-service workshop is held annually allowing members of the community to gain insight into its responsibilities.

The significance of parents being involved in student learning is acknowledged and encouraged. Parents are welcomed into the school and classrooms to assist and support in a variety of activities.

Ongoing liaison between staff and parents is vital. Strategies include parent-teacher information evenings and interviews, parent/teacher interviews and end-of-semester Report Cards. Parents are also kept informed of school and community activities through the weekly newsletter.

Social interactions allow students, parents, friends and staff to gather informally as community.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

St Joseph's Wandal is actively promoting sustainable futures by:

- Fostering in learners an appreciation of creation as a gift, their relationship with it and responsibility as co-creators for its future
- Providing learners with knowledge and understandings in environmental education, creational spirituality and sustainable living practices through all Key Learning Areas
- Developing in learners the knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and commitment to initiate individual and collective responses that are environmentally, morally and ethically responsible
- Inspiring learners to actively decrease their ecological footprint and increase their spiritual one, as creatures made in the image and likeness of God
- Promoting awareness and respect for cultural diversity, spirituality, values and the traditions of other cultures, especially our own Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Characteristics of the Student Body

Students at St Joseph's Wandal come from a variety of backgrounds and have lived a diverse range of experiences to offer to our community.

Average student attendance rate (%)

93.63 %

Management of non-attendance

Parents/carers are advised via the School Handbook and Parent Information Evenings to contact the school via phone, email, school app or in person should their child be absent. Text alerts are automatically sent each morning to families of children who are absent from the school but have not notified the office. Should there be a prolonged absence of three days without confirmation from the parents/carers, the school will make contact with the family. Truancy has not been identified as a problem as St Joseph's Wandal.

Staffing Information

Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	24.00	20.00	1.00
Full-time equivalents	19.90	12.45	1.05

Qualifications of all teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	4.17 %
Masters	4.17 %
Bachelor Degree	83.33 %
Diploma	8.33 %
Certificate	

Major Professional Development Initiatives

- Australian Curriculum development
- Assessment and reporting in light of the Australian Curriculum
- Student Protection and Protective Behaviours
- Workplace Health and Safety procedures and protocols
- Whole school focus on the teaching of Numeracy particularly in the early years
- The importance of the early years of education, with a focus on the Prep year
- Religious Education including faith formation opportunities.

The percentage of teacher participation in professional development was

100%

Total funds expended on Professional Development

\$ 108,500

Average Staff Attendance and Retention

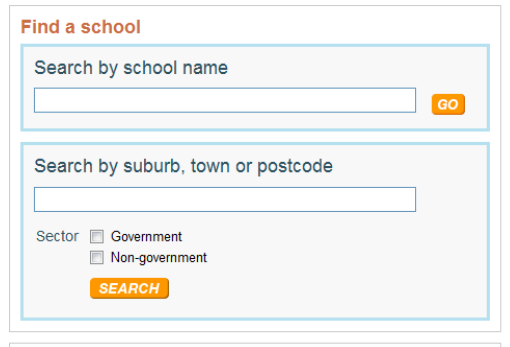
96.80 %

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was
85.71 %

School Income

<http://www.myschool.edu.au>

(The School information below is available on the My School website).



Find a school

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GO

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Sector ☐ Government ☐ Non-government

SEARCH

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Results

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for Years 3 and 5 are available via the My School website at www.myschool.edu.au.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

Key Student Outcomes and Value Added

St Joseph's Wandal has a commitment to improving student learning through effective data gathering and analysis, responsive teaching catering to our diverse learners and the fostering of a culture where learning success is celebrated. The teaching staff and leadership team are a successful professional learning community, who see that working and learning together is the most effective way to improve learning outcomes for all students. At St Joseph's Wandal, we believe that high expectations for all learners are vital. We also believe that a vibrant and engaging learning environment that explores the Australian Curriculum using a variety of quality resources provides our learners with the best opportunity for success.

Strategic Improvement Progress and Next Steps

Strategic progress in 2019

The St Joseph's Wandal staff identified improving student outcomes, especially in literacy, through enhanced teacher analysis of data and the planning and implementation of targeted teaching and learning programmes as a specific area of focus in 2018. There was a specific emphasis on the teaching of English and the core skills of reading and writing. An analysis of available NAPLAN data shows that there were improvements in the areas of reading and writing at both the Year Three and Five level.

To build upon these results, in 2019 we identified our strategic goals as:

- **Whole school approaches for the delivery of Religious Education will be reviewed and aligned with founding Josephite charism.**

As a school we revised and relaunched our school Mission statement which has been circulated widely, ensuring that teaching and learning programmes, initiatives and whole school practices fully align with our mission. A greater emphasis was placed upon Catholic social teachings throughout the 2019 school year, and these have become more fully embedded in our practice. Well-developed links between the school and the Sisters of St Joseph and Josephite Associates have been strengthened and highlighted.

- **The school's ECSIP and Catholic Identity reports will continue to be referred to provide direction and focus for the strengthening of the Catholic Identity of the school.**

A greater emphasis was placed upon celebrating the unique backgrounds, including faith backgrounds of our whole school community. Efforts were continued to ensure a close link exists between the school and the parish.

- **To improve the percentage of students achieving at or above National Minimum Standard in all strands of English and Mathematics.**

Significant efforts have been made over a period of years to increase teacher capacity and student outcomes. 2019 saw above 95% of students in Years 3 and 5 achieving at or above the national minimum standard in reading, with above 97% achieving above the national minimum standard in writing in Year 3. Numeracy results in 2019 saw most students (97.7% in Year 3 and 95.3% in Year 5) achieving above the national minimum standard. Further efforts are required to see this level of achievement in Spelling (Year 3 – 88.4%, Year 5 – 90.5%) and Grammar and Punctuation (Year 3 – 86%, Year 5 – 85.7%).

- **Develop and fine-tune targeted teaching and learning programs (this includes but is not limited to the gathering of relevant data about student achievement)**

Throughout 2019 the St Joseph's Curriculum Framework was drafted and implemented through consultation and feedback. This has allowed us to develop plans and implement procedures in a systematic and unified direction. Emphasis has been placed on data gathering and analysis through collaboration, professional learning communities for staff and a case-management approach to student support.

- **Develop and review policies and procedures surrounding the promotion and maintenance of the health and wellbeing of all in the (school and wider) community.**

Throughout 2019, significant initiatives have been undertaken that focus on the well-being of all community members. The St Joseph's Wandal Reconciliation Action Plan has been completed and published for all stakeholders. A school-based counsellor is available to work with families and students for two days each week.

Strategic Priorities for 2020

Whole school learning goals have been developed as a focus for teaching and learning initiatives in 2020.

- Numeracy – Students will engage in problem-solving tasks using effective strategies and mathematical language
- Literacy – Students will engage in spelling inquiry and pattern finding to develop effective spelling behaviours
- Mission - In 2020 the voice of the student body will inform well-being initiatives and practices.

The 2020 School Improvement Plan outlines the following as our key goals and directions:

- Review (traditions, practices, celebrations and teaching and learning) ECSIP recommendations through a CST lens to enhance dialogue and recontextualisation
- Use data-informed practice to enhance high impact teaching strategies (NASOT) so that every student is engaged and learning successfully in their own way at their own pace

- To enhance student learning and well-being outcomes through deliberate and strategic school community partnerships
- To ensure that all school stakeholders have a shared understanding of and are committed to the explicit improvement agenda.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

St Joseph's Wandal gathers indicative data to gauge parent and student satisfaction in a variety of ways including: P and F, school board and staff meeting agendas and feedback, student feedback, 'school renewal' feedback and online surveys via our school App.