



St Anne's Catholic Primary School Sarina

2020 Annual School Report



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Sarina

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

Principal

John Ballinger-Oches

Address

3 Range Road
Sarina Qld 4737

Total enrolments

158

Year levels offered

Prep-Year 6

Type of School:

Co-educational

School Overview

St Anne's Catholic Primary School is located in the coastal town of Sarina about 30 minutes south of Mackay. It provides students from Prep to Year Six with a contemporary and well-balanced Catholic education and enjoys a strong partnership with the parish community at St Michael's. The student population remains relatively stable at approximately 160 students. Founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1925, their traditions are embedded in the life of the St Anne's. The school is well known for its family atmosphere. This is due to the welcoming nature of the students, staff and parents and the fact that emphasis is placed on the importance of family. The Mission Statement stresses the need for partnerships to be forged between family and school. Parents are encouraged, as partners in this educational enterprise, to contribute time, energies and talents to furthering the aims of St Anne's Catholic Primary School. The motto "Faith and Knowledge" summarises two key aspects of our learning community. Over recent years extensive building and refurbishment has been completed and state of the art facilities ensure students and staff have the resources and space they require to maximise learning outcomes. In addition to our quality academic programs, students are able to participate in a range of academic, cultural and sporting activities.

More information on our school can be accessed from myschool.edu.au

Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

St Anne's Catholic Primary School, established in the Mercy tradition, has a strong rapport with St Michael's Parish. Catholic ethos is embedded in our curriculum offerings with Religious Education being one of our Learning Areas. St Anne's is moving towards being a single stream school.

Extra Curricula Activities

At St Anne's, we believe that many experiences allow students to develop skills in an exciting and dynamic environment while building skillsets in the areas of getting along, persistence, organisation, resilience, and confidence.

During 2020 many impacts were felt across the whole school due to COVID-19. Many extra-curricular activities which would normally be part of our vibrant community were put on hold, in line with government guidelines, as we navigated the pandemic. The following list is small due to this and had little room for parental participation or engagement.

Each term students are selected to participate in Extended Learning Days, which, offer challenging activities aimed to extend knowledge and experience.

Religious: Parish Masses, Catholic Education Week, Feast Day Celebrations, Sacramental Program, Hymns, Outreach to Seafarers, Outreach to St Vincent de Paul Society, Outreach to Caritas, Mission Fair.

Educational: Under 8s Week, ICAS Competitions, Book Week, Extended Learning Days (Year 6), Safety Circus (Personal Safety), Regular Adopt-A-Cop visits, School Camps for Years 5 and 6

Cultural: Remembrance Day, NAIDOC Week Celebrations, Sarina State High School and the St Patrick's/Mercy College band and choir and annual end of year performance are some of the cultural pursuits of the school.

Physical: Swimming Program.

Environmental: Reef Guardian School, Year Level Gardens, Chicken Pen, recycling initiatives, Specialist Teachers – Visual Arts, Music and Physical Education lessons.

Student Physical & Mental Health: This is an important aspect of our school and we participate in daily Brain Breaks where the students consume a healthy mid-morning snack. Students participate in daily meditation and families have access to a qualified counsellor, on a weekly basis. Lunchbox Club and Social Skills Education continue to be strong areas assisting students with particular needs. The Responsible Thinking Program is also employed to assist in this area. As well, we participate in the Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum annually.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

All learning spaces at St Anne's have interactive whiteboards and most have Vivis; these are used to enhance teaching and learning processes. Teachers also have exclusive use of laptops and iPads to further enhance effective pedagogy. This year, more Chrome Books and teacher laptops were purchased to improve the ratio of devices to

students. ICTs are embedded in our curriculum offerings as well as various associated skills being taught to students from Prep to Year 6. This year we had the services of a Technology Assistant at the school. We also had a subscription to Sunshine Online, MathsOnline, Matific and the Fitzroy Readers, Ed Alive, Firefly, Spelling City, Study Ladder and Reading Eggs to assist students to use multimedia skills for learning. Scootle is used as a resource to complement learning in all areas. Classes are also using Overdrive and SORA to enhance the reading program. Classes also further developed skills around the Google Suite of Apps.

Social Climate

Strategies to Promote a Positive Culture

As a Catholic school, our values are embedded in our curriculum and permeate through all aspects of our school life. Visitors and families often comment upon the friendly and caring environment that exists. Evidence of this is seen in our day-to-day interactions and networks with other schools and in our strong relationships within our parish and wider community. At St Anne's we invite and challenge learners to be and become reflective and self-directed as together, we journey with Christ in our ever-changing world. Religion is a distinct Learning Area. Our Religious beliefs are also integrated throughout all other learning areas and the life of the school. A qualified counsellor provides support to the students, staff and families in a manner which enhances the ethos of the school and contributes to the goals of Catholic Education. Support staff from Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton visit staff and students to further enhance our Catholic school identity. Our School Counsellor works three days a fortnight and is very well utilised throughout the school implementing individual, small group and class programs in addition to formal counselling services. Regular school assemblies are important in developing the social and cultural life of the school and are led by year six students. St Anne's encourages a growth mindset in all learning areas; students understand that mistakes are valued thus contributing to a positive learning culture.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies

Our school has continued to implement Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements for students and staff with respect to ICTs. The school regularly communicates to parents and the school community about cyber safety issues. We also have appropriate policies in place to deal with the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices. Our school has social/emotional learning programs in place to assist students in guarding against bullying at school and accesses professionals to assist. The school community is kept up to date about developments in this area. All Diocesan and school policies are reviewed on a regular basis. As well, we tap into local and national people who assist us in delivering these messages to students and their families. As a community we also highlighted anti-bullying through signing a pledge and participating in the National Day of Action Against Bullying & Violence.

Strategies for involving parents in their child's education

Our School Board and P&F Association are two organisations that contribute in a very positive way towards the effective running of our school. The School Board works effectively in relation to school policy and in providing solid support for the principal. The P&F Association is active within the school and wider community aiming to build parent engagement and raising much-needed funds for the school. The 'Just One Thing' campaign continues to ask families to list ways they can be engaged in the life of St Anne's. Communication with parents is regular and varied – these include weekly newsletters, emails, SMS, school website, Facebook page and some classes produce newsletters.

During 2020 many impacts were felt across the whole school due to COVID-19. Many strategies for engaging parents, that would normally be part of our vibrant community, were put on hold, keeping in line with government guidelines. The following list is small due to this and had little room for parental participation or engagement.

Our school very much encourages parents to attend information sessions provided by the school and as well inviting participation and engagement through the following:

Social: Fundraising, Tuckshop, End of Year Concert, Mother's Day and Father's Day Stalls

Religious: School Masses and Liturgies, Feast Day Celebrations, Mission Fair, Sacramental Programs

Committees: P&F Association, School Board, Year 6 Graduation, Grants Committee

Educational: Under 8s Week, School Camps, Book Week, Art and Craft, Excursions, Classroom Helpers

Partnerships: Following Parent Information Nights for each year level (by Zoom in 2020), our school offers Student-Led Interviews (Parent/Carer, Teacher & Child) at the end of Terms 1 and 3 and written reports at the end of Terms 2 & 4

Other: Book Fair Involvement, Book Week.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

St Anne's is almost a fully refurbished school and therefore old buildings with a 'heavy environmental cost' are few. St Anne's is an established Reef Guardian School where issues relating to the reef receive direct classroom teaching. There are practical strategies which the school has employed such as a chicken pen, year level gardens, monitoring of waste and turning off lights and air-cons when leaving a room. We have reduced paper consumption by embracing different methods of delivering notes and newsletters. We have successfully implemented online procedures around ordering both tuckshop and student uniforms to assist in reducing our environmental footprint.

Characteristics of the Student Body

St Anne's Catholic Primary School is located in the coastal town of Sarina. The school itself is physically situated behind St Michael's Church on Range Road, Sarina. The student population of the school remains stable. St Anne's is the only Catholic school in this district with students from other religious denominations also enrolled.

The district economy revolves around the sugar industry, power alcohol distillation, coal mining, export of coal, some light industry associated with the rail transport of coal from the adjacent hinterland, small crops, and the usual commercial enterprises associated with a small rural community. The major industries are impacted heavily upon by supply and demand factors with this community swinging from periods of relatively stable employment and income to rapid unemployment and loss of income.

In combination with this, the school population also includes a proportion of children of various cultural backgrounds including Indigenous and other nationalities; with some families speaking their language of origin at home.

Average student attendance rate (%)

The average student attendance rate for 2020 was 93.05%.

Management of non-attendance

The marking of rolls is checked on a twice-daily basis. If parents do not notify the school of the absence of their child then they are sent an SMS in line with Catholic Education, Diocese of Rockhampton (CEDR) protocols. Then, on a weekly basis, the APRE looks for trends in absenteeism. The data around this is then discussed at a Leadership Team level.

Staffing Information

Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	16.00	20.00	1.00
Full-time equivalents	12.88	10.53	0.47

Qualifications of all teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	
Masters	
Bachelor Degree	93.75%
Diploma	6.25%
Certificate	

Major Professional Development Initiatives

Our whole focus remains the creation and maintenance of a healthy and positive school environment. Literacy and numeracy are constantly high on our PD and staff meeting agendas. Priorities for 2020 were as follows:

- Student Protection
- Workplace Health & Safety Staff Code of Conduct Technology and compliance
- First Aid refresher
- Gavin Grift: Building Professional Learning Communities
- Bishop's Inservice Day Curriculum initiatives & Priorities: What is God calling me to?
- Consistency of Teacher Judgement – Religion & Spelling
- Understanding Data – Selena Fisk
- Spelling with Chris Topfer
- MiniLit
- NCCD
- Professional Learning Communities
- Priorities for 2020
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Monitoring Learning Growth

The percentage of teachers engaged in professional development was 100%.

Total funds expended on Professional Development

The total of funds expended on teacher professional development was \$24,400.

Average Staff Attendance and Retention

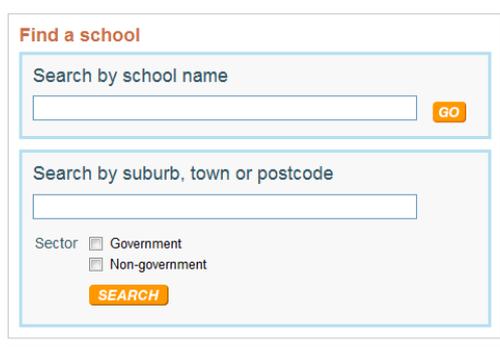
The average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to five days, was 89.55%.

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was 96.42%.

School Income

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

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



The screenshot shows a search interface titled "Find a school". It contains two search boxes: "Search by school name" with a "GO" button, and "Search by suburb, town or postcode" with a "SEARCH" button. Below the second search box, there are radio buttons for "Sector" with options for "Government" and "Non-government".

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Results

In 2020, NAPLAN did not proceed as a result of the disruptions caused by COVID-19. Previous NAPLAN results 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

Our Mission Statement is the driving force behind all decisions we make and the way in which we approach education. We celebrate the God given gifts in our students and our staff and utilise these gifts to inspire learning and excellence in education. We are working towards improving literacy and numeracy through strategic curriculum planning across the year levels to improve performance data. Dr Selena Fisk continued workshopping with staff to analyse previous results and trends to determine whole school programs, early intervention, staff inservice and learning support programs.

We implement CEDR initiatives in a way that best suits our school's needs. We have strong networking opportunities amongst colleagues. Resources are continually updated to accommodate the Australian Curriculum and current pedagogy. We ensure adjustments are provided so all children are able to access the curriculum. Teachers, in all year levels, set high expectations of their students throughout the year.

Strategic Improvement Progress and Next Steps

Strategic progress in 2020

In consultation with the whole staff, the following were collaboratively established as priorities for 2020:

Catholic Ethos and Identity

- To enhance the Catholic identity for students

Effective Teaching and Learning

- To enhance the school wide analysis and discussion of systematically collected data on student learning
- To develop and improve student competency in spelling

Pastoral Support and Wellbeing

- To enhance and support student wellbeing by strengthening/revising behaviour management processes and understandings

Leadership, Partnerships and Resources

- To enhance parent engagement to support improvements in student learning

Strategic Priorities for 2021

In consultation with the whole of staff, the following were collaboratively established for 2021:

- Enhance the Catholic identity for students through the development and implementation of meaningful engagement with our charism, social justice (Catholic Social Teaching) and focus virtues.
- Enhance the school-wide analysis and discussion of systematically collected data on student learning.
- Develop and improve student competency in spelling within writing.
- Enhance and further promote mental health and wellbeing in a safe supportive learning environment.
- Enhance parent engagement to support improvements in student learning.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

Feedback suggests that the school has a good reputation within the local community. The school is well established and has a very good profile within Sarina. The P&F and Board support for the school is very strong and positive. Further substantiation has come through the data from our last Satisfaction Survey and School Review and Improvement Report showing that parents, staff and students are happy with the school.