



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wandal

2022 Annual School Report



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Wandal

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

Principal

Bernadette Brennan

Address

4 Herbert Street
Wandal Qld 4700

Total enrolments

351

Year levels offered

Prep – Year Six

Type of School:

Co-educational

School Overview

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a Prep to Year Six co-educational school with an enrolment of approximately 350 students, located in the Rockhampton suburb of Wandal. St Joseph's Wandal was established by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1912. The school offers a quality Catholic education influenced by the charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and enacted through the school motto, 'To Love is to Serve'. Close links with the Cathedral Parish of St Joseph are maintained through school masses and celebrations.

Following a period of building and refurbishment, our school provides beautifully designed facilities and learning spaces where staff and students have access to the latest technology. The staff at St Joseph's is committed to providing the best possible learning environment for all students. In addition to our quality academic programs, our students are able to participate in a variety of academic, cultural and sporting activities. An Outside School Hours Care program provides leisure-based learning activities for children in a caring environment. We value the experience and rich culture that our students and their families bring to the learning environment, and opportunities are provided for the sharing and incorporation of this lived experience to inform and enrich our learning community. Our partnerships with families are strong and support successful learning for every student.

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

Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

Students at St Joseph's Wandal explore teaching and learning programs in all learning areas. Specialist teachers provide learning opportunities to all students in the areas of The Arts, Physical Education and STEM (Science, Technologies, Engineering and Mathematics). The prayer and liturgical life of the school are enhanced through whole school and class level experiences. All learners are supported to accept personal responsibility in both behaviour and learning.

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 Rockhampton Food Bank.

Cultural activities: Speech and vocal choirs that performed at school for the community, instrumental music lessons and performances, and visiting Arts performances.

Instrumental Music Program: 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 program. Students in Years 5 and 6 are provided with the opportunity to continue participating in this program.

Sporting activities: School and district athletics and cross country carnivals, school swimming carnival, interschool hockey, netball and rugby league, touch football and oztag teams in community competition.

Class excursions: Students are provided with various 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 that 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. QAMT Maths Teams Challenge.

Parish-based sacramental programs: 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 various 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 interact in information and technology-rich environments positively. Through our teaching and learning programs, we empower our learners to be discerning users of technology and information resources, guided by the values of Catholic Education.

We have one to one Chromebooks in most classes. Digital pedagogies are embedded throughout the school, and robotics, coding, 3D printing, Google Classroom and Seesaw for Education enhance the learning experiences of all students.

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 school community members 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 three 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 visual 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 sense of self-worth and assisted in growing 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 programs are activities designed to support the social/emotional wellbeing of our students. St Joseph's Wandal has implemented Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements for students and staff and has appropriate guidelines for using mobile phones and other electronic devices. All Diocesan and school policies regarding 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 parents' necessary participation in the school's life. 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 community members 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 various 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 informed of school and community activities through the weekly newsletter. Social interactions allow students, parents, friends, and staff to gather informally as a 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 their responsibility as cocreators for its future
- providing learners with knowledge and understanding in environmental education, creational spirituality and sustainable living practices through all 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
- introduction of the school-wide recycling system that incorporates general waste, recycling, food waste and composting

- involvement with the Rockhampton Regional Council's waste facility staff to review and implement greater sustainable practices.

Characteristics of the Student Body

Students at St Joseph's Wandal come from a variety of backgrounds with a diverse range of experiences that enhance our community. Students come from a variety of faith backgrounds, and while most students do not come from language backgrounds other than English, a small group of students come from Malayalam, Vietnamese or Nepalese backgrounds. Approximately 7% of students identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. St Joseph's Wandal has a broadly stable population, with most students completing all primary school at the school.

Average student attendance rate (%)

The average student attendance rate for 2022 was 88.66%.

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 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 contact the family. Truancy has not been identified as a problem at St Joseph's Wandal.

Staffing Information

Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	30.00	26.00	2.00
Full-time equivalents	24.10	17.38	1.13

Qualifications of all teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	4%
Masters	8%
Bachelor Degree	88%
Diploma	
Certificate	

Major Professional Development Initiatives

- Trauma-informed practices education – Berry Street Education Model
- Enhancing Catholic School Identity
- Religious Education – Dialogue in a Catholic School and Religious Life of the School
- Professional Learning Communities - focus on monitoring and improving student learning
- Professional goal setting for teaching staff to improve student learning outcomes
- Curriculum planning and implementation
- 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 teaching Numeracy and Literacy.

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 \$40,500.

Average Staff Attendance and Retention

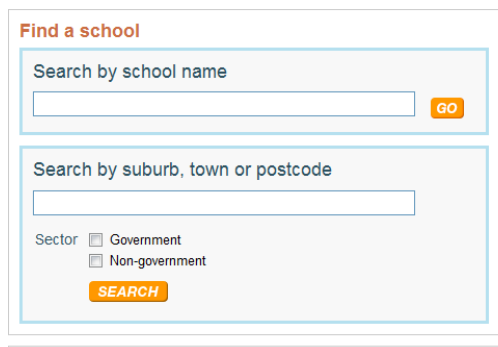
The average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to five days, was 87.90%.

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was 96.77%.

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

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 is committed to improving student learning through effective data gathering and analysis, responsive teaching catering to our diverse learners, and fostering a culture where learning success is celebrated. The teaching staff and leadership team are a thriving professional learning community that 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 2022

School strategic priorities for 2022 were set following examination of various data sources that documented student improvement in 2021. It was determined, through a range of indicative data collection and through staff, parent (P and F meetings) and school board dialogue, that in 2022, the following three priorities will be the focus of enhancing learning and wellbeing:

Whole School Literacy Goal: will engage with a wide variety of texts, allowing them to grow as readers, developing fluency and acquiring effective strategies. 80% of students will make at least one year's growth as identified using DRA.

Whole School Mathematics Goal: All learners will grow as mathematicians, exploring the 'big' ideas of number. 85% of students will achieve Stanine 5 using PAT Maths. Additional collaboratively developed tracking of numeracy (big ideas in number) through teacher-devised and moderated assessment tools used throughout the 2022 year.

Whole School Mission Goal: All learners will develop strategies to improve their social and emotional wellbeing.

Strategic Priorities for 2023

The strategic priorities for 2023 were developed based on reflection of the 2022 goals and their outcomes. The priority is to develop the child as a learner holistically, and these have been developed through a range of data collection and in conjunction with staff, the school board and parents and friends of the school community.

Catholic Identity Strategic Priority: To create opportunities through dialogue for students to have a deeper understanding of why/how Catholic Social Teachings and Catholic Tradition are interconnected.

Goal: To represent an understanding of the Catholic Social Teaching Principles in symbolic ways that are personally meaningful and relevant to each class.

- To identify the Catholic Social Teachings in everyday experiences and create change based on a See/Do/Act model
- To identify the Catholic Social Teachings in Scripture and engage in dialogue, examine the meaning for the people of that time.

Teaching and Learning Strategic Priority: To embed learner dispositions in teaching and learning practices.

Goal: Students will be able to describe the school's learner dispositions and identify strategies that support the development of these dispositions.

Pastoral Support and Wellbeing Strategic Priority: To enhance and support student wellbeing.

Goal: To increase staff knowledge of trauma aware practices to promote social and emotional wellbeing and to introduce initial strategies to become a trauma informed school.

Leadership, Partnership and Resourcing Strategic Priority: To enhance family engagement within the school community to enhance student outcomes and school culture.

Goal: Explore ways to enable families to engage with their child's learning and be involved with school activities.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

St Joseph's Wandal gathers indicative data to gauge parent and student satisfaction in various 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.