



SCHOOL PROFILE

School name St Joseph's School

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Principal's foreword

St Joseph's Catholic School is located in Angel Avenue, Murgon, a three hour drive from Brisbane. In 1936, Father James Cullen, the Parish Priest of Murgon and the surrounding district, commenced the process of starting Catholic education in Murgon. They were assisted by the Presentation Sisters and in later years Marist Brothers and Christian Brothers. At St Joseph's Catholic School we offer quality, inclusive education, in the Catholic tradition. This provides equity of opportunity for all to participate in the experience of life long learning.

The strong sense of community reflects our values of Nurture, Respect and Faith and promotes a sense of integrity, justice, and personal fulfilment that encourages children to grow socially, emotionally and cognitively by personal growth and renewal.

In our faith community the individual's potential for learning is nurtured, the Christian story is embraced, faith

is celebrated in prayerful and reflective ways, and the children discover a belief in their own capacity to contribute to the Church and society.

Welcome to St Joseph's Catholic School Community.

School facts

St Joseph's School 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: 110 Girls: 55 Boys: 55

Characteristics of the student body

The town of Murgon is situated in the South Burnett region, approximately three hours' drive from Brisbane. It is on the fringe of the Wide Bay electorate. St Joseph's is a single stream school, Prep to Year 6.

Our Prep enrolments traditionally include enrolments from the following: Murgon C&K, Murgon Childcare and Learning Centre and Like Home Early Learning Centre.

St Joseph's is a multicultural school with 6 different cultures present, including Aboriginal, Filipino, Thai, African, Indian and Italian. There are 51% Indigenous students. The majority of the Indigenous students live in Cherbourg (100% indigenous community), with the remainder from the local Murgon area. St Joseph's attracts students from a wide area including, Proston, Wondai, Goomeri and Tingooora.

At the completion of Year 6, the majority of students will transition to the local Murgon senior school, with the remainder travelling 40 minutes by bus to St Mary's Catholic College, Kingaroy.

Social climate

St Joseph's has a strong pastoral care program, creating a climate and environment that supports positive and enriching relationships with the community. We live by the values of Nurture, Respect and Faith which underpins our social, emotional and cognitive learning.

Many strategies have been implemented for the holistic development of every child. These include: Kids Matter, Buddy System, Recognition of Student Achievement, Acknowledgement of birthdays, Acknowledgement of Country at all gatherings, Daily School Prayer, Daily recognition of Mary during the month of May, Book Week Celebration, Fete, Celebrations for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparents Day, Sorry Day, NAIDOC, Nano Nagle, Marcellin Champagnat, Edmund Rice, St Joseph's Feast Days, Year 6 Leadership Day, Year 6 Reflection Day, Cherbourg Family BBQ's, Parent Information Evening BBQ, School Immersion Programs with connected High Schools, Cherbourg Police Rangers, Daily Circle Time and Mindfulness.

At St Joseph's we foster the Positive Behaviour for Learning Program which approaches behaviour from a learning aspect using positive approaches. The use of Respect Club at breaktimes to educate and assist students to make correct behavioural choices. We believe the best way to deal with inappropriate behavioural choices is to work together with parents, students and staff.

Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

Religious Education: prayer and liturgical celebrations; Arts Program; Cultural Literacy: Indonesian; Extension and Support Teacher; Life Education Van; 1-1 laptop program Year 2 - 6; iPads Prep -1. Year 6 Leadership Program, Year 5 and 6 Relationships and Sexuality Education Program; Prep-6 Physical Education program

In literacy, St Joseph's use many strategies to enhance learning including:

- additional teacher support in literacy blocks at least three times per week.
- targeted support for students who are experiencing learning difficulties.
- withdrawal of students with a learning level of greater than one year behind the cohort for intensive teaching sessions.
- guided reading three times a week, supported by leadership to enhance reading levels.
- learning to read strategies in all literacy blocks to improve reading outcomes.

In Mathematics, St Joseph's uses the strategy of reteach and enrich, where an additional teacher is present three times per week to extend the students who have grasped the concept from the previous week, while the class teacher, reteaches the previous concept.

Each month student's engage in a Indigenous Cultural lesson, which connects to the curriculum, allowing the transmission of culture and assist in the understanding of many of the aspects relevant to the Indigenous culture.

Curriculum - our extra curricula activities

St Joseph's support a program for Indigenous students once per week called Rangers. The school hosts a program run by a local elder, where the students engage in activities and education based on the Indigenous culture. The students are transported on the St Joseph's bus after the sessions and to organised excursions.

A girls club is conducted by St Joseph's, where senior girls are immersed and taught skills of cooking, sewing, knitting and craft.

A Respect Club is conducted to assist students to learn what respectful behaviour is and how to engage in a respectful way.

Each term, each class visits the local aged care facility to connect with the elderly.

Interschool and Interhouse sports: opportunities for district, regional, state and national representation in a variety of sports.

Book Fair; Maths and English Competitions held by UNSW; Camps - Year 3-6 including Canberra every two years; P-2 excursions per year level; Prep - 6 Cherbourg Ration Shed excursions; Brisbane Qld Catholic Netball Competition.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

Parent satisfaction appears to be quite high, with many parents expressing their satisfaction with the school. This feedback is expressed to St Joseph's staff through verbal discussion. The feedback from parishioners expressing the communities complementary opinion of the schools forward direction, has been positive.

Yearly, we review components of our internal school renewal. These priorities cover: Mission and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Professional Practices and Relationships and Strategic Resourcing.

We survey parents, students and teachers to ascertain their satisfaction and these results highlight the dedication and commitment of St Joseph's Community.

Parent engagement

We acknowledge that parents are the first educators and we work in partnership based on mutual support and respect for the benefit of our students. Communication includes: Newsletters, Facebook, electronic notice board, parent information evenings, parent teacher interviews, start of term class newsletters, Cherbourg BBQ's, lunchtime meetings at Cherbourg. We seek parental assistance with reading, tuckshop, sporting teams, general classroom help and guest speakers. A playgroup is in the process of starting to encourage mothers with young children to attend to promote literacy, by modelling effective literacy strategies and communication to the parents and the wider community. St Joseph's extends invitations to all liturgies. For Mother's Day, Father's Day and Grandparent's Day a social event is added to build community. There is a strong parent commitment to the P&F from a dedicated group of parents.

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements - progress towards goals

Goal 2016 #1: A whole school cohesive and integrated approach to the development of Religious Education knowledge, deep understanding and skills for teachers and students.

- St Joseph's has developed a comprehensive Scope and Sequence for Religious Education that was validated during the Validation process in 2016.

Goal 2016 #2: Every student will demonstrate learning progress across the Australian Curriculum and Religious Education Curriculum

- Targeted strategies to develop student capacity and enhance literacy and numeracy standards were implemented; Professional development, data walls, effective and expected strategies, targeted teaching, positive growth mindset encouraged, collective responsibility for all students.

Future outlook

Goal 2017 #1 To develop teacher capacity to plan and deliver, effective and high quality Religious Education that is contextualised, inclusive and develops a common language, ensuring a Strong Catholic Identity within the St Joseph's School Community. We have planned, created and implemented units to enhance our Scope and Sequence including the Catholic Social Teaching elements. Students are engaged in Social Justice education and missions.

Goal 2017 #2 Each learner will progress with at least 60% or greater of all students will reach the expected BCE year end PM benchmark achievement band in reading. There are many strategies that are being implemented which is enhancing the learning of reading throughout the school. Data is being used through PM Benchmarking, Sound letter knowledge, Concepts of Print, PAT-R.

Goal 2017 #3 Enhance school facilities to provide a safe and supportive learning environment. St Joseph's has enclosed the multi-purpose area for sun safe play, purchased more laptops and is in continual renewal based on WH&S inspections.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Whole school attendance rate		91.00	%
Prep attendance rate	84.00	%	Year 4 attendance rate
Year 1 attendance rate	87.00	%	Year 5 attendance rate
Year 2 attendance rate	91.00	%	Year 6 attendance rate
Year 3 attendance rate	93.00	%	

Management of non-attendance

Roles are marked twice a day as per eMinerva. Student absences are noted and parents are phoned to ascertain reason and length of stay away from school. We communicate on our advertising board, Facebook and newsletters the high percentages of attendance. We educate in newsletter the importance of attendance and the impact being absent from school has on student learning. Parents/carers are notified in a letter, when students have had high levels of non attendance.

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	317.06	425.70	457.56	501.70
Writing	349.94	420.50	442.33	475.40
Spelling	303.00	420.10	451.67	492.90
Grammar & punctuation	343.06	436.30	447.33	505.00
Numeracy	310.00	402.20	441.06	492.90

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	13	14
Full-time equivalents	10.0	
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	Less than 5	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	0
Masters	3
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	1
Bachelor Degree	8
Diploma/Certificate	5

Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2016 was \$ 36 951

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

DELT initiatives and strategies with Michael Fullan and Lynn Sharrett. David Hornsby teaching phonics through text.

Average staff attendance rate The staff attendance rate was 97.80 % in 2016.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2015 school year, 86.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2016 year.

SCHOOL INCOME

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/>

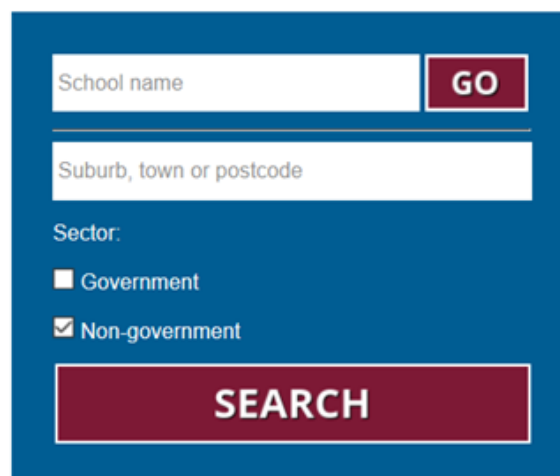
To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'Find a school' text box.

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.

Find a school



The screenshot shows a search interface with a dark blue background. At the top, the text 'Find a school' is displayed. Below this, there are two input fields: 'School name' and 'Suburb, town or postcode'. To the right of the 'School name' field is a red button with the text 'GO'. Below the 'Suburb, town or postcode' field, the text 'Sector:' is followed by two radio button options: 'Government' (which is unselected) and 'Non-government' (which is selected with a checkmark). At the bottom of the form is a large red button with the text 'SEARCH' in white capital letters.