

SCHOOL PROFILE

School name St Joseph's School

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Principal's foreword

St Joseph's Catholic School is located on 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. The Presentation Sisters, accepted the invitation, and in later years, the Marist Brothers and the Christian Brothers also ministered here. 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.

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: 108 Girls: 53 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, Kandy Kids, Gundoo 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 52% Indigenous students. The majority of the Indigenous students live in Cherbourg (100% indigenous community), with the remainder from the surrounding areas. 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 Murgon High 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 and these underpin 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 and October, Book Week Celebration, Fete, Celebrations for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparents Day, Sorry Day, NAIDOC, National Simultaneous Storytime, Music Count Us In and Nano Nagle, Marcellin Champagnat, Edmund Rice and 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. This includes the use of Respect Club at break times to educate and assist students to make correct behavioural choices. We use the strategy of restorative practice to restore relationships and promote positive changes in the future. 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 5&6 Leadership Program, Year 5 and 6 Relationships and Sexuality Education Program; Prep-6 Physical Education program

In English, 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 or require extension learning.
- 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.
- context/text reading and learning with learning intention and success criteria

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.

Curriculum - our extra curricula activities

St Joseph's support a program for Indigenous students once per week called Junior Police Rangers. The students are transported on the St Joseph's bus following the sessions and to organised excursions. This program is run by a local elder, engaging students in activities and education based on the Indigenous culture.

A Respect Club during break times assist students to learn what respectful behaviour is and how to engage in a appropriate ways.

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 community complementary opinion of the school's 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 the St Joseph's Community.

Parent engagement

We acknowledge that parents are the first educators of their child 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 at Cherbourg. We seek parental assistance with reading, tuckshop, sporting teams, general classroom assistance and guest speakers. 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. Their ongoing support has seen many changes in the school, including air conditioning and technology.

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements against 2017 annual plan

St Joseph's has met its 2017 goal. We have implemented targeted strategies to develop student capacity and enhance literacy and numeracy standards. We provided additional support in English blocks to support students learning.

St Joseph's engaged in professional development in literacy to build teacher and student capacity, the continued use of data walls, effective and expected strategies, targeted teaching, a positive growth mindset strategy and collective responsibility for all students.

Future outlook

St Joseph's, continuing success in 2016, has placed them in a great position in 2017 to reach predicted goals in literacy.

We continue to improve our reading levels and are moving to our expected targets. Many strategies were implemented to enhance this, such as guided reading, silent reading, targeted support, continued development of our effective and expected strategies, daily writing and reading to learn strategies to compliment the context text model.

To ensure we reach our goal, we continue to improve our learning environment and encourage students to approach learning with a positive mindset.

We are creating inviting indoor and outdoor areas for students to engage in learning.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Whole school attendance rate			89.7	%	
Prep attendance rate	88.6	%	Year 4 attendance rate	90.0	%
Year 1 attendance rate	86.0	%	Year 5 attendance rate	93.1	%
Year 2 attendance rate	88.0	%	Year 6 attendance rate	93.6	%
Year 3 attendance rate	88.6	%			

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. In the situation of prolonged absence, the school contacts the parent/caregiver. A plan of action is developed by the school and the family to support a higher rate of attendance.

We communicate on our advertising board, Facebook and newsletters, the high percentages of student attendance.

NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	338.3	431.3	447.9	505.6
Writing	291.9	413.6	398.9	472.5
Spelling	309.7	416.2	427.5	500.9
Numeracy	297.7	409.4	433.4	493.8

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	16	13
Full-time equivalents	17.60	8.06
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	Less than 5	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	
Masters	4
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	3
Bachelor Degree	16
Diploma/Certificate	

Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2017 was \$ \$16,441. .
The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

Staff attended:
Michael Fullan's coherence framework.
Lyn Sharratt learning walk and talks.
Hidden Histories for Indigenous understanding.
David Hornsby's phonics in action and context.
Natasha Reid assisting students to self regulate.
PM Benchmarking analysis.
Reading Our Way.
Trauma Informed Practice with Anna Nuyens.

Average staff attendance rate The staff attendance rate was 98.4 % in 2017.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2016 school year, 89.66 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2017 year.

SCHOOL INCOME

School income by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the MySchool 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 'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'

Find a school **Search website**

Search by school name or suburb Go

School sector	School type	State
All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Primary <input type="checkbox"/>	NSW <input type="checkbox"/>
Non-government <input type="checkbox"/>	Secondary <input type="checkbox"/>	Vic <input type="checkbox"/>
	Combined <input type="checkbox"/>	Qld <input type="checkbox"/>
	Special <input type="checkbox"/>	SA <input type="checkbox"/>
		WA <input type="checkbox"/>
		Tas <input type="checkbox"/>
		NT <input type="checkbox"/>
		ACT <input type="checkbox"/>

School financial information is available by selecting 'Finances' on the top menu on the school's entry web page.