



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School North Rockhampton

2021 Annual School Report



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School, North Rockhampton

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

Principal

Mr Michael Roach

Address

390b Feez St
North Rockhampton Qld 4701

Total enrolments

512

Year levels offered

Prep – 6

Type of School:

Co-educational

School Overview

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School is a co-educational, three-stream school catering for approximately 500 students from Prep to Year Six. The school boasts an onsite Kindergarten, ensuring successful transitions for our youngest learners. Additionally, we offer a Vacation/Outside School Hours Care program to all enrolled families. First established in 1901 by the Sisters of Mercy, the school was relocated in 1981 to its present site which services the newer suburbs of North Rockhampton. With St Anthony of Padua as our patron saint, we are called to follow his example and to live out our school motto "By Word and by Deed". This challenges our community to be people of practical faith, living the Gospel values and embracing learning in all aspects of life. Holy Family Church is close by and provides us with a visual reminder of our faith. We have a strong partnership with our local parish and are actively involved in community life.

Our students are at the centre of everything we do. The children are encouraged to realise their potential through learning and teaching that is challenging and based on positive values. We pride ourselves on offering an environment where children play, learn and grow in a nurturing and faith-filled culture that supports each child's academic, emotional and spiritual development. Our teaching staff collaborate to deliver high quality teaching and learning programs that are supported by many co-curricular activities. Education of a child is a partnership between families and school, and we welcome and encourage family involvement at St Anthony's.

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

Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

St Anthony's caters for the education of students from Prep to Year 6 across 22 classes. The school offers a distinctively Catholic curriculum which includes the formal study of Religion complemented by experiences of liturgy and prayer. Students at St Anthony's benefit from the expertise of specialist teachers in Health and Physical Education, Visual Arts and Performing Arts. The school is committed to student wellbeing and has processes to provide emotional support to students, including the full time position of Student Wellbeing Coordinator.

Extra Curricula Activities

Instrumental Music: Students have the opportunity to join the instrumental music program offered by the school. Lessons in percussion, strings, woodwind, brass, guitar, keyboard and piano are offered.

Sport: Students in Years 5 and 6 participate in interschool sports (rugby league, netball, football, AFL, tennis, lawn bowls and hockey). All students attend weekly physical education lessons and, where eligible, compete at a district and regional level in selected disciplines. Students have the opportunity to represent St Anthony's in the Diocesan Challenge Cup (rugby league and netball).

Excursions: Students across all year levels are given the opportunity to access local community facilities, events and people to support their learning. Year 5 and 6 students attend annual camps.

Competitions: Students are provided with opportunities to participate in a range of school, local and national competitions e.g. University of NSW English, Maths, Science, Writing and Spelling competitions. Teams of students represent the school in various local competitions such as the Glenmore Maths Challenge and Reader's Cup.

Visiting Presentations: The school accesses cultural presentations such as Arts Council Shows, musicals and author visits, all of which support and enhance student learning.

Celebrating Special Events: Students participate in weeks of celebration including "Catholic Education Week", "Book Week", "Under 8's Week", "Science and Numeracy Week".

Indigenous Cultural Group: The school's Indigenous Education Liaison Officer works with local Indigenous peoples to provide cultural expression for our Indigenous students. These experiences address art, dance and music (didgeridoo) and the students share their learning in performances throughout the year both in the school and wider community contexts.

Personal, Social Development Education: The Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum, the Real Talk Program and Unleashing Personal Potential provide learning experiences which enhance the social and emotional wellbeing of students across the school. The Student Wellbeing Coordinator assists students through a range of varying supports.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

St Anthony's School continues to value the important role technology plays in providing a relevant and quality 21st century education. The implementation of the 1:1 computer policy in Year 6, the updated technology room and the purchase of laptops and tablet devices have increased student access to technology as a tool for learning and communication. Programs such as Beebots, Probots, Dot and Dash, WeDo2 and EV3s have been implemented across the school from Prep to Year 6. Daily, teaching staff integrate the use of smartboards, tablet devices and software programs into the teaching and learning that occurs in their classrooms.

Social Climate

Student Wellbeing: St Anthony's provides professional counselling services to students for four days per week. A Student Well-Being Coordinator is employed fulltime to assist students in developing social skills and resilience.

Religious Education: Through the Religious Education Program opportunities occur for all stakeholders to reflect on and explore their life experiences in the light of Christian traditions, beliefs and practices so that they participate and contribute effectively within classrooms, school, church and community contexts.

Bullying: The school has a set of Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence procedures in place which is used across all year levels. Teachers hold regular classroom sessions on strategies to avoid behaviours that could be interpreted as bullying.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies

All students access specialist E-Safety lessons throughout the school year. The school has implemented Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements for students and staff. The school regularly communicates to parents and the school community about cyber safety issues. There are appropriate policies in place to deal with the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices. The school community is kept up to date about developments in this area. Students participate in awareness raising experiences including the National Day Against Bullying, Student Protection Week and Day for Daniel. All Diocesan and school policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

Strategies for involving parents in their child's education

Catholic School Parents QLD Committee: This parent body provides a vital role in supporting the principal and staff in the educational endeavors of schooling. While there is an elected committee, all parents are invited to attend meetings. This group also plays a role in providing educational opportunities for parents on relevant topics which arise throughout the year.

School Board: The board identifies and addresses the needs of the community through the formulation of policies which guide the direction of the school into the future. **Volunteers:** A large number of parents are involved as volunteers in classrooms, tuckshop, library and other areas as required.

R.E.D. Program: The Read Every Day Program is successful only through the consistent generosity of parents and grandparents who volunteer for the first or last 20 minutes of each day (one or more days a week) to hear students read.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Parents and carers are encouraged to attend regular meetings with their child's teachers so that parents are kept informed of student progress.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

A school wide recycling program aims to reduce the amount of paper and other recyclables sent to landfill. An aluminum can collection bin is available for school use. The use of photocopy paper by staff is limited to specific allocations. The use of air conditioning is reduced in terms two and three and a substantial Solar Panel System was installed which included the facility of storage batteries.

Characteristics of the Student Body

St Anthony's has a very stable school population with most of our students enrolling in the Prep year and continuing through to Year 6. The school provides programming for students of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage, students who have English as their second language and for students who require significant adjustments to meet

their specific learning needs. Parents in the school community work in a wide range of professions and have a variety of socio economic backgrounds.

Average student attendance rate (%)

The average student attendance rate for 2021 was 95.48%.

Management of non-attendance

An absentee SMS system is implemented. Each morning an automatic SMS is sent to parents of absent students when the school has not received parental notification. Students arriving late to school or departing early are required to sign the student register and times are recorded in the school administration system. Parents are required to inform the school with an explanation of the cause of absences. Cases of prolonged absence are investigated by a member of the school leadership team.

Staffing Information

Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	40.00	41.00	4.00
Full-time equivalents	38.10	27.02	2.89

Qualifications of all teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	
Masters	7.50%
Bachelor Degree	87.50%
Diploma	5.00%
Certificate	

Major Professional Development Initiatives

All teaching staff attended the PD days at the commencement of the school year on various topics including: School's Teaching and Learning Framework; Developing Goals and Success Criteria; Using feedback and Classroom Environments. All school staff attended a day on compliance which covered Student Protection, Workplace Health and Safety and Medical In-services. All school staff attended the Bishop's In-service Day and a further professional development day with a Religious Education focus. Angela Ehmer, Literacy Consultant presented workshops to all teachers on Reading.

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 \$47,300.

Average Staff Attendance and Retention

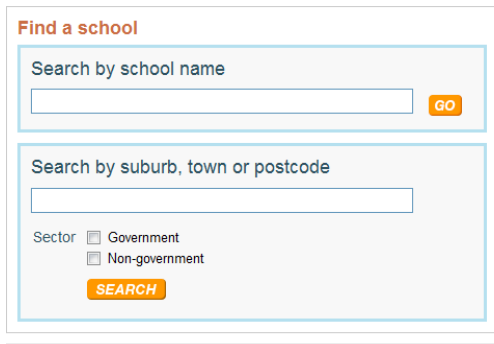
The average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to five days, was 92.59%.

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was 90.48%.

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 "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

The school continues to strive to improve our NAPLAN gains. All staff members are committed to implementing strategies that will support students in their efforts to improve their numeracy and literacy skills. The professional development of teachers and the use of consistent teaching approaches across the school have contributed to steady growth in student outcomes. In the last two years the school has made writing a focus for staff professional development and classroom implementation of high impact teaching strategies. At St Anthony's, the focus continues to be on the identification and application of research-based strategies that provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to be successful literacy and numeracy learners.

Strategic Improvement Progress and Next Steps

Strategic progress in 2021

The Strategic Priorities for 2021 at St Anthony's are as follows

- Development of a whole of school Literacy Block
- Use of Learning Goals and Success Criteria for writing
- Review and update the school Mission Statement

Strategic Priorities for 2022

Our School Improvement Priorities for 2022 are:

- To improve student learning outcomes in Reading
- To develop and implement a whole school data schedule
- Create a Catholic Identity Team
- Develop a Technology Plan
- Develop and foster a partnership with Fransiscan Schools Australia

The above priorities were chosen from data collection and recommendations from the National School Improvement Tool Review.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

Although St Anthony's is a large school there is strong emphasis placed on maintaining a strong sense of community and continuing to promote and support positive relationships between all stakeholders. The school website and social media is continually updated so that visitors can obtain relevant and up to date information. The School Improvement Plan continues to be the focus for staff, parent and student consultation. The fortnightly school e-newsletter and school app provide up to date information on events and happenings around the school.