

St Peter's Catholic Primary School Rockhampton

2023 Annual School Report



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Rockhampton

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

Principal

Peter Smith

Address

170 Upper Dawson Road
Rockhampton QLD 4700

Total enrolments

350

Year levels offered

Prep – Year 6

Type of School:

Co-educational

School Overview

St Peter's Catholic Primary School is situated in Allenstown, Rockhampton, in Central Queensland. St Peter's is a two-stream, Prep to Year Six school, with a current enrolment of approximately 350 students. The school was founded by the Presentation Sisters in 1934 and we continue their proud tradition of bringing the message of Jesus' love to the community. Our motto is 'Called to Serve' and our holistic approach to learning aims to create in our students a strong sense of self and a proactive commitment to social justice, peace and equity. Our mission is to provide a faith community witnessing to the values of Christ where each person is respected and works in partnership to nurture love and learning for the good of the whole community.

For this to be achieved, the partnership that exists between school and home must be one of support, encouragement and love. We encourage our parents to become part of the everyday life of the school and to encourage learning by taking an active part in the children's education. The Parents and Friends Association encourages active involvement by providing educational opportunities for parents and social functions for families.

St Peter's strives to ensure that all children reach their full potential. Our staff is dedicated to offering a quality education and is supported with well-resourced facilities. The school also offers a variety of cultural and sporting opportunities to allow the children's many and varied gifts and talents to shine.

St Peter's is proud of its Catholic tradition and endeavours to instil in our children Jesus' message of love, by encouraging them to 'Make Jesus Real' through their everyday dealings with others. We have a close association with our parish and families have the opportunity to be involved in class and youth masses on a regular basis.

St Peter's offers an excellent After School Hours Care service Monday to Friday. We also work in partnership with a number of sporting organisations, offering our facilities for them to run coaching clinics on a regular basis after school.

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

Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

St Peter's Catholic Primary School is a two-stream from Prep to Year 6. The Australian Curriculum is embedded into our everyday teaching and we also offer Religion as an additional curriculum subject. St Peter's is dedicated to ensuring that every child's educational needs are met to the best of our ability, thus assisting them to reach their full potential. Therefore, all of St Peter's staff members are engaging in best practices to enable differentiated learning.

Extra Curricula Activities

- Outside School Care program and facilities
- Music & HPE Specialist teachers
- Instrumental Music Program for all Year 4 students and optional for students in Years 5 & 6
- Musical Gala evening every two years
- Junior and Senior Choirs
- Junior and Senior Signing Choir
- Individual keyboard lessons available
- School Masses
- Biennial Artists in Residence Program culminating in an 'Arts in the Dark' display night
- Biennial specialist dance lessons culminating in a 'Dance Spectacular'.
- Cultural classes for all students
- Harmony Day & NAIDOC Celebrations
- NAIDOC Mass • Chess Club and competitions
- Under 8's Day celebrations
- Book Week and Premier's Reading Challenge
- Interschool sports of Hockey, Netball and Rugby League
- National Simultaneous Story Time.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

St Peter's encourages the integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) into all learning areas. The school continues to invest heavily into resourcing ICT, not only with hardware, but ongoing professional

development of staff. The school employs a part time IT technician to maintain our growing ICT resources. Currently the Years 4 - 6 classes are involved in a one to one Chromebook program, with Year 5 & 6 students allowed to take the devices home. Every Prep and Year 1 class also has 10 iPads at their disposal and the Year 2 & 3 classes have 20 iPads per class, each with wireless keyboards. Each classroom has a television with wireless capacity to project work from computers and iPads and a Phonak microphone system. All classes have Seesaw to document their learning and communicate with parents.

Social Climate

Strategies to Promote a Positive Culture

St Peter's is a faith community witnessing to the values of Christ. We respect each person and work in partnership to nurture love and learning for the good of the whole community. St Peter's is a Catholic school that prides itself on promoting the Gospel values of sharing, caring, loving and forgiving. The whole community works in partnership to develop open and positive relationships between all and in doing so, helps to create a safe and positive atmosphere for children to learn. The school has formal policies and procedures in place to support this 'culture of care' and the staff work wholeheartedly to be inclusive of all. Our Year 6 Student Leaders organise Pastoral Care Groups each fortnight with a mix of students from all classes from their sporting house. This is a great opportunity for the students to get to know students throughout the school. Each week there is a Making Jesus Real theme. This is a focus for the students, and it is celebrated weekly with awards recognising students who have displayed this quality. Year 5 & 6 classes have buddy classes with the Prep and Year 1 students to develop relationships that are fostered throughout their time at St Peter's.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies

St Peter's has implemented Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements of ICT for students and staff. 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 a number of social/emotional learning programs in place to assist in protecting students against bullying at school. These are supported by the school's part time Counsellor. The school community is kept up to date about developments in this area. All Diocesan and school policies are reviewed on a regular basis with the school board. Information nights are provided for parents about cyberbullying and how to support their children with the appropriate and safe use of technology.

Strategies for involving parents in their child's education

- Parents and Friends including a Food Day Committee
- P&F organise a family function each term
- Parents are involved in their children's Personal Learning Goals
- Parent volunteers encouraged in classrooms
- School Board
- Weekly class newsletters communicated to parents to keep them informed of class happenings
- St Peter's website
- Extensive use of the Seesaw app for students learning
- Parent in-servicing on reading, spelling, oral language and phonics
- Parent information evenings
- Caulfield Cup Fundraising Committee.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

- Recycling Program throughout the school with all classes recycling
- Paper Cut monitoring system installed on all copiers and printers to reduce waste
- Promotion of 'nude food' days to limit waste
- Vegetable garden and a weekly garden club • Solar Panels installed on the roof • Modern watering system.

Characteristics of the Student Body

While many of our families are predominately of Anglo-Saxon heritage, the diversity of the school community continues to increase with around 10% indigenous background and 5% from sub-continent Southeast Asian heritage. Our parents value Catholic education and support the school through the fees and by contributing their energy, time and ideas through parent groups to benefit all students. We acknowledge Harmony Day each year to celebrate the diversity and richness of Australia's cultural heritage. We have currently over thirty Indigenous students who are supported in their learning by an Indigenous Teaching Assistant and staff from our Catholic Education Office. We celebrate NAIDOC each year with cultural presentations by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups.

Average student attendance rate (%)

The average student attendance rate for 2023 was 88.92%.

Management of non-attendance

Parents are required to inform the school of student absences. This can be done through Parent Lounge email, Seesaw or more traditional methods such as phone, email to teacher/school or note. If a child's absence has not been explained by 10am, caregivers are sent a text notifying them of the absence. If a child is absent for two days without parental contact the school would contact the family to determine the reason for the absence.

Staffing Information

Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	26.00	22.00	1.00
Full-time equivalents	23.70	13.82	0.66

Qualifications of all teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	
Masters	
Bachelor Degree	100 %
Diploma	
Certificate	

Major Professional Development Initiatives

- Staff completed the first two days training of the Berry Street Educational Model. This is to imbed trauma informed behaviour management and wellbeing practices within the classroom.
- Staff engage in a diocesan supported monitoring learning growth that provides an opportunity for teachers to work with staff from local Catholic primary schools to monitor and discuss their practices and student achievement in a special subject area.
- Teachers spent two days working with Angela Ehmer on reading and writing.
- Our school is implementing Promoting Literacy Development throughout the early years with the support of a literacy coach.
- First aid and anaphylaxis training is offered to all staff at St Peter's.
- All staff attend the Bishop's Inservice Day to support their personal faith journey and support classroom practice. St Peter's Catholic Primary School Rockhampton.

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 \$53,200.

Average Staff Attendance and Retention

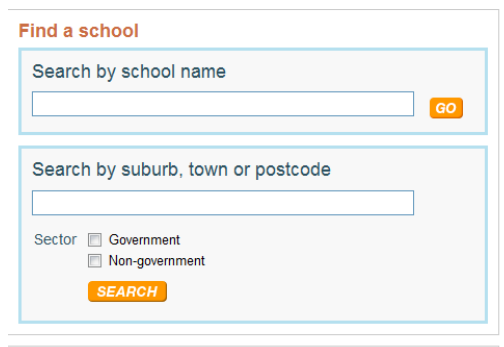
The average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to five days, was 92.38%.

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was 92.86%.

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 main search sections. The first section is "Search by school name" with a text input field and a "GO" button. The second section is "Search by suburb, town or postcode" with a text input field. Below this, there is a "Sector" section with two radio button options: "Government" and "Non-government". At the bottom of the second section is a "SEARCH" button.

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

Vision Statement: St Peter's School aspires to be a community who answers the Call to Serve Christ while inspiring learning together. 'Inspire learning together' is St Peter's school's curriculum core purpose which was developed in collaboration with the Leadership Team, School Board and staff. This core purpose acts as a focal point for many curriculum-based decisions that are made within the school to ensure that we are not only living the school's mission statement but also meeting the learning needs of our students.

Three goals underpin this core purpose:

1. Bring Jesus' values to life by fostering a positive, safe and welcoming community.
2. As a team of learners seek out and engage in meaningful professional learning and sharing that will help us improve as teachers.
3. Use assessment data to develop curriculum approaches that support differentiation of learning.

Strategic Improvement Progress and Next Steps

Strategic progress in 2023

Implement responsive teaching practices

Throughout the year agreed teachers created practices for feedback with students, which were discussed at a whole school level. They were provided with time in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for professional development for effective feedback as well as support ESOs in training of effective feedback. Demo Slams in PLCs helped with sharing and providing feedback strategies. Staff participated in Inquiry Learning PD and were afforded the opportunity to share their planning of learning through allocated time and PLCs.

Developing confidence in staff to guide and discuss Gospel stories

Build a culture with staff through prayer, Gospel discussion in staff meetings and staff participating in professional development. We will work with students through class prayer, and Gospel discussion to encourage dialogue and build upon understanding. The Catholic Identity Team held term meetings which guided the school's processes in building and promoting its faith development.

Ensure wellbeing initiatives are implemented, giving voice to all stakeholders

Through the use of the Berry Street Education Model, St Peter's started to imbed trauma-informed wellbeing initiatives across the school to help build a culture where education can thrive. The development of a wellbeing team will occur in 2024. The team will drive whole school practices to enhance the learning for all students. The wellbeing team will also look at processes for ensuring staff wellbeing as well.

Strategic Priorities for 2024

Promoting dialogue in classrooms

Develop opportunities to promote dialogue and discussion within the classroom to build on students' understanding of Gospel stories and Jesus' message. Staff to become confident in asking questions to promote discussion, inferences, and explanations.

Prioritising the Curriculum

Prioritise the Curriculum using Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum. Review units of work to ensure content is prioritised through student learning and time allocations whilst providing PD to staff to ensure updated curriculum content.

Wellbeing & Partnership

Enhance the safety and wellbeing of all students at St Peter's whilst enhancing, developing and strengthening parent/school relationships. We will promote student wellbeing and learning by embedding a whole-school trauma-informed approach for behaviour management whilst developing greater engagement by parents in readiness to learn, and sustainability practices to improve student learning outcomes.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

In 2020 our school participated in the National School Improvement Tool. There are high levels of trust across the school community. St Peter's is well regarded by parents, staff, and students as a community of care and a school where learning is valued. A deep sense of pride is shared by staff, students, and parents. This is evident in an increase of volunteers within the classroom and more open communication between staff and parents. These findings were backed up by the satisfaction survey administered in 2022 which is similarly supported by satisfaction surveys administered in 2020, 2017 and 2015 confirming a history of high rate of satisfaction with the school, its curriculum priorities and communication processes.

Staff retention at St Peter's is high. Social events are well supported by the entire community. St Peter's is well regarded within the wider community, and this has led to a steady growth in enrolments. We pride ourselves on living out our school motto of 'Called to Serve' every day.