



St Peter's Catholic Primary School Rockhampton

2024 Annual School Report



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

353

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 quality education and is supported by 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 can 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 www.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 piano lessons available
- School Masses
- Artist in residence culminating in a "Celebration of Learning"
- 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 each other 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 with 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. These are supported by the school's part time Counsellor. The school community is kept up to date with 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 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 environmental 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 2024 was 89.68%.

Management of non-attendance

Parents are required to inform the school of student absences. This can be done through the Parent Orbit app, 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. Cases of prolonged absence will be investigated by the leadership team with a member contacting the family.

Staffing Information

Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	First Nations Staff
Headcounts	28.00	23.00	1.00
Full-time equivalents	25.40	13.74	0.53

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 final two days training in the Berry Street Educational Model. This is to imbed trauma informed behaviour management and wellbeing practices within the classroom.

- Staff worked with St Vincent de Paul and engaged in a social justice program to build their capacity in helping those less fortunate.
- 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.
- Our school has been 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.

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 \$35,570.00.

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 90.95%.

The percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was 94.00%.

School Income

<http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

(The School information below is available on the My School website).

Find a school

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Sector ☐ Government ☐ 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 prioritise improved student learning outcomes through a strong focus on everyday learning practices that result in NAPLAN success. A key driver of this improvement has been the targeted professional development of staff, particularly through the implementation of the Maths Project and the ongoing support of our dedicated literacy coach. These initiatives have strengthened teacher capacity and fostered consistent, high-impact teaching strategies across all year levels. Staff remain committed to using reliable data sets—including NAPLAN, DRA, and A–E Reporting—to inform instruction and monitor student progress. The collaborative approach to professional learning through Professional Learning Communities ensures that research-based strategies are embedded in classroom practice, equipping students with the essential skills and confidence to thrive in both literacy and numeracy. At St Peter's, the commitment to continuous improvement and evidence-based teaching remains central to our mission of achieving strong learning growth for every student.

Strategic Improvement Progress and Next Steps

Strategic progress in 2024

Promoting dialogue in classrooms

In 2024 teachers developed opportunities to promote dialogue and discussion within the classroom to build on students' understanding of Gospel stories and Jesus' message. Staff participated in PD and training to become confident in asking questions to promote discussion, inferences, and explanations.

Prioritising the Curriculum

Throughout 2024, staff were to prioritise the curriculum using Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum. This was done through planned meetings each term with the Assistant Principal Curriculum and the school literacy coach focusing on English and Maths. Through this, they reviewed units of work to ensure content is prioritised through student learning and time allocations are met whilst ensuring 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.

Strategic Priorities for 2025

Guide Communities

In 2025 We will continue our wellbeing journey with a focus to refine our behaviour management processes through trauma informed practices, aligning our Culture of Care guidelines with our current practices. Further, we are aiming to strengthen our assessment of Religion to ensure it is given equal priority as other subjects through training with the FiARE Team and APRE.

Empowering Staff

To support staff and improve students' outcomes, staff will be involved in a coaching and mentoring program run by our school literacy coach in 2025, helping to build staff capacity and confidence and in turn raise student achievement.

Inspire Together

To transition to planning, teaching and assessment with the Australian Curriculum Version 9 for the areas of Science and Technology. Through PD, staff meetings and training, staff will work with the Assistant Principal Curriculum on creating new units of work and building assessments that align with V9 of the Australian Curriculum.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

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 the number of volunteers within the classroom and more open communication between staff and parents. These findings were backed up by the satisfaction survey administered in 2024 which is similarly supported by satisfaction surveys administered in 2022, 2020, 2017 and 2015 confirming a history of high rate of satisfaction with the school, its curriculum priorities and communication processes.