## 2014 School Reporting - Primary

### The School Story

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System:</th>
<th>School Name:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Catholic Education Office - Rockhampton</td>
<td>St Brigid’s Emerald</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Based Contact Person:</th>
<th>Address:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal’s Full Name:</td>
<td>Gregory Highway South Emerald Q 4721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mick Roach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Phone: (07)49820411
Fax: (07)49820422
Email: sbe@rok.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.sberok.catholic.edu.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolments:</th>
<th>Year Levels Offered:</th>
<th>Type of School:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>151</td>
<td>P-6</td>
<td>Primary</td>
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Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

St Brigid’s Catholic Primary School was opened by the Rockhampton Catholic Education Office in 2014. The school operates under the Charism of the Brigidine Sisters, evident in the school motto, Gentleness and Strength. St Brigid’s currently has 151 students enrolled from Prep to year 6. As a new school the growth is very strong from the lower grades. The school has 2 classes in Prep, 2 classes in year one and composite classes from years 2 to 6. St Brigid’s enrolments are made up of families from rural, mining, small business and town service backgrounds. A strong sense of community is a feature of St Brigid’s with links to other catholic schools in town, St Patrick’s Parish and many other community organisations. St Brigid’s offers a strong Physical Education program as well as co-curricular opportunities such as music programs, verse speaking and choir.

Extra Curricula Activities

- All students are involved in school liturgies and masses throughout the year
- Students compete in speech and choir sections of the Central Highlands Eisteddfod
- Students are encouraged to gain representation in local and regional sporting teams
- Students participate in fundraising projects for Caritas and other charities close to the school community
- ICTs are incorporated into the curriculum across all year levels. Interactive data projectors are installed in every classroom
- Students attend performances by visiting groups eg. Arts Council, authors, artists, musicians
- Students attend sessions from visiting coaches such as NRL Development, AFL Queensland, QRU, QLD Cricket, QLD Tennis and the Greg Norman Foundation
- Students volunteer at the River Pantry for those less fortunate
- Assist the Neighbourhood Centre in varied appeals
- The town Easter float parade

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

St Brigid’s school has a range of aids that assist with teaching and learning using technology. Interactive data projectors, laptop computers, iPads and interactive TV’s. The school newsletter is electronic, emailed to families fortnightly along with a text messaging service that sends reminders to families regarding upcoming events or important news.

Social Climate

St Brigid’s school is a family oriented and happy community with a focus on Gentleness and Strength – compassion and resilience. Through the continued efforts of staff and families the school has quickly become a friendly place and a supportive community. Close relationships with the other Catholic Schools in Emerald and working with the government and independent schools in the area has seen wonderful working relationships form across students and staffs. A close link with St Patrick’s parish and the involvement of our school community in mass, morning teas and special events has further developed the schools place in the Emerald Catholic community. Personal reflection and development initiatives such as Bucket Filling and Making Jesus Real (MJR) are implemented across the school. The Parish priest plays an integral part in the school community with regular classroom visits and reflection time with the school staff. Counselling services are provided through Centacare, diocesan services and the Royal Queensland
Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies
Along with the Queensland Police Service and Diocesan personnel, St Brigid’s are proactive in educating students on cyber safety and anti-bullying strategies.

Strategies used for involving parents in their child’s education
At St Brigid’s the parent body are involved in the school community through a number of initiatives.
- Family and Community Engagement Network (FACE) – parents are involved in assisting the school with resourcing, pastoral care, catering and much more
- Fortnightly e-newsletter
- School Board membership
- Parents are encouraged to meet with teachers on a regular basis in order to maintain a strong connection between school and home
- Parents are encouraged to be involved in classroom activities where possible
- Parent volunteers coordinate and run the tuckshop
- School catered volunteer morning teas

Reducing the school’s environmental footprint
St Brigid’s engage in recycling practices. The school has a selection of worm farms to assist in the reduction of waste. Excess food scraps are sent home with families for their chickens. The school gardens are predominantly native flora, which assists with water conservation.

Characteristics of the Student Body
The students at St Brigid’s are from a broad range of families generally belonging to one of four demographics; Rural, Mining, small business and town services. The remote location in Emerald Queensland ensures the town is self-sufficient thus creating a wonderful country town atmosphere. In the school’s inaugural year many students with different stories from varied walks of life combined to form the first student body. The result was a group of compassionate and hardworking students with high levels of determination and resilience. Once an itinerant area, Emerald has settled post mining boom and the school community is a reflection of that. Large growth of the student body during the first year is expected to continue over the coming years resulting in a two stream school by 2020.
Staffing composition, including Indigenous staff

Workforce Composition of all teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Indigenous Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Qualifications of all teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification – highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Percentage of staff with this Qualification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral / Post-doctoral</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor degree</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>%</td>
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Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

**TOTAL FUNDS** expended on teacher professional development according to Australian Government Quality Teacher Program reporting requirements.

$17,800

**MAJOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

St Brigid’s staff members engage in wide and varied professional development. Religious Education, curriculum initiatives and development, behaviour management and educational advances are just a few.
The percentage of the TEACHING STAFF INVOLVED IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

100%

**Average staff attendance**

Average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to 5 days

99.42%

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year

95.24%

**School Income**


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

**National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Results**

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, and 7 are available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being able to access NAPLAN data.

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**

Our school motto “Gentleness and Strength” is central to all things at St Brigid’s. At St Brigid’s the education of the whole student is the focus. The Educational and spiritual development of the students is the priority.
Student Attendance

Average student attendance rate (%)

94.3%

Describe how non-attendance is managed by the school

3 straight days of unexplained absences results in a phone call from the administration team.

Value Added

The story of distance travelled

The story travelled is only a small one at St Brigid’s. 2014 being the first year many different students from different settings, at varying levels with different stories came together. Creating a supportive and nurturing environment to promote academic achievement is the primary focus. Developing each student from their current level focussing on literacy and numeracy, based on data collection was the priority.

The story of where you are going

The major focus at St Brigid’s over the upcoming years are spelling and reading. The current focus on assessing student progress and initiating programs to develop each child will continue. The school has implemented, among other things, the use of DRA testing and data to inform the teaching and monitoring of reading across all year levels. St Brigid’s have invested in ongoing professional development focussed on the Art and Science of Teaching using proficiency scales and creating teacher checklists to ensure best practice.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

So early in the life of the school no formal feedback and evaluation has been conducted. Self reviews and goal setting from teachers ensures their practice and the school’s practice is reviewed each semester. Parent and teacher meetings are regularly encouraged to continue open and honest communication across the school.