# 2014 School Reporting - Primary

## The Schools 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 Francis Catholic Primary School</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>Francis Way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Watt (Acting Semester 1)</td>
<td>PO BOX 3506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorrie-Ann Columbus (Acting Semester 2)</td>
<td>Tannum Sands QLD 4680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone: (07) 49733600</th>
<th>Email: <a href="mailto:info@sfts.rok.catholic.edu.au">info@sfts.rok.catholic.edu.au</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fax: (07) 49733611</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sfts_principal@rok.catholic.edu.au">sfts_principal@rok.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website: stfrancis.qld.edu.au</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolments:</th>
<th>Year Levels Offered:</th>
<th>Type of School:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>334</td>
<td>Prep - 6</td>
<td>Primary</td>
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Curriculum Offerings

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

St Francis opened in January 2005. A strong emphasis is placed on developing an ethos of compassion and care and opportunity for educational excellence in a Christian environment. A Franciscan Spiritually is adopted with a culture also embracing the Indigenous heritage of this region. The school is 2 streams with 15 classes (3 x Year 2 classes). All classes including Prep have a philosophy where we build on a child’s capability, potential and individual intelligence. The school is participating in the Greater Teacher = Greater Results where we are further developing a feedback culture within the school.

Extra Curricula Activities

- Instrumental Music and the Performing Arts culminating in a whole school musical performance every 2nd year
- Choirs, Instrumental Music and School Band
- Extensive sports program for teams, individuals and whole school
- Outdoor Education including camps, swimming, life-saving, excursions
- Extensive Environmental Science and Sustainability Education
- Information Communication Technologies as integrated learning
- Activities to build community

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

ICTs are fully integrated across all areas of learning from Prep – Year 6
Desks, Laptops, IPads and IWBs are available and are used in all learning with students
Learning Support and Extended Learning Programs are supported using ICT tools
St Francis has a specialist Science Room, Environmental Hub and Performing Arts program where tools of ICT are integrated
Classes are exploring the use of 21st Century Fluencies: Solution Fluency, Creativity Fluency, Collaboration Fluency, Media Fluency, Information Fluency all integrated with ICT

Social Climate

- Life-long Learning and Meaning for Life emphasis
- Active Parents and Friends’ body
- Close Parish partnerships
- MJR, Kids Matter, School Counsellor, Daniel Morecombe Curriculum, Life Education Van and Healthy Harold
- Whole school emphasis on promoting caring values and relationships
Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies

Our school has implemented Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements for ICT for students and staff. The school regularly communicates to parents and the school community about cyber safety and issues through newsletters and guest speakers. 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 programs in place to assist students in guarding against bullying at school, e.g. National Day Against Bullying. The school community is kept up-to-date about developments in this area. All Diocesan and school policies are reviewed on a regular basis. In relation to the 21st Century Fluencies, all students have been through digital citizenship lessons.

Strategies used for involving parents in their child’s education

- School Board
- Active Parents and Friends’ body
- Parent Volunteers in class for reading, literacy, numeracy, art etc.
- Tuckshop
- Parents as sporting coaches
- Various Parent task groups (grounds, active community, uniform, welcoming)
- Working Bees
- Social Activities for Parents – meet and greet morning tea, welcome BBQ and Disco, Masses and liturgies involving parents
- Parent Induction Sessions

Reducing the school’s environmental footprint

St Francis has a Sustainability and Environmental focus that are deemed very important to our school. We have established an Environmental Hub supported with grants to the tune of approx. $300,000. This includes:
- Science Rooms
- Outdoor Open Classroom
- Wetland area with a large learning platform
- Environmental Science facility full equipped for sustainability initiatives
- Greenhouse and garden beds
- Pristine bush, river and coastal environment which is fully utilised by the students

Characteristics of the Student Body

Students are generally drawn from middle income working families. An increasing number of families are joining our community coming from diverse cultural backgrounds. The school has experienced steady growth and huge transience due to growth in Industry in this area. The amount of families moving to the area has slowed down and enrolments have been steady.
## 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>27</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### 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>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>%</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.

$71,300
MAJOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Major Professional Development Initiatives:
- 21st Century Fluencies
- Zones of Regulation
- Developing a Feedback Culture (Greater Teacher = Greater Results)
- Franciscan Intellectual Traditions and Franciscan Spirituality
- Bishop’s In-service
- Religious Education
- Curriculum Development in various learning areas
- Early Years
- Assessment and Reporting
- Consistency of Teacher Judgement
- Student Protection
- Extended Learning

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

97.94%

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year

86.11%

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

Despite the challenges of a transient community, the school has seen a steady and consistent level of improvement over recent years with a growth in results of over 70% since 2011. Across Years 3 & 5 results are generally above State Average and very close to National Average. The improvement in our student outcomes have come from; a consistent staff without too many changes, the development of a moral purpose within the school focusing on improving literacy and numeracy, as well as the introduction of a school musical in 2011, as The Arts have such a significant impact on the learning development of children.

Student Attendance

Average student attendance rate (%)

91.81%

Describe how non-attendance is managed by the school

Class Electronic Roll
Notification to Office Staff of non-attendance
SMS sent to parents for unexplained non-attendance
Notes in school diaries

Value Added

The story of distance travelled

Being opened for 10 years now we have transitioned into a consolidated school with magnificent resources to enable future growth. The culture of compassion and love is embedded. The characteristics, values and example of St Francis permeate all school relationships. Academic performance is excellent showing a steady trend of improvement while not hindering child’s spontaneity creativity and individual intelligence. Staff professional standards are monitored, supported and self-evaluated. The professional standards of this staff are exceptional. Professional development, team sharing and mentoring/coaching programs are extensive and eagerly embraced within a culture that supports distributive leadership.
The story of where you are going

At St Francis, there are a few overarching goals that see us heading into the near future.

1. 21st Century Fluencies – after the initial trail with Champions in 2015, St Francis will become a school that is fluent in using 21st Century Fluencies to best support our students as 21st Century Learners and prepare them for jobs/careers into the future.

2. Greater Teacher = Greater Results – this will enable the community of St Francis to focus on developing a feedback culture between all stakeholders within the school. This in turn will show incredible growth and success in all areas of school life.

3. Authentic Christian Witness – for our lives at St Francis to be an authentic Christian Witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ by nurturing our Catholic Culture and Franciscan Identity

4. Environmental – to continue to follow Francis of Assisi’s example and care abundantly for God’s creation through the continuation of our sustainability and environmental focuses.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

- The Parents and Friends Association at St Francis focuses on building Community within the school via strengthening harmonious parent/school relationships, and fundraising initiatives, for the benefit of all students.
- From a P&F (parent) perspective, St Francis Catholic Primary school provides a holistic education for each individual incorporating National curriculum, Catholic ethos, plus specialist areas of Performing Arts, Music, PE and ICT.
- St Francis School has an open door policy for parent communication and there is a positive parent and teacher “vibe” within the school
- St Francis School’s Leadership, P&F and School Board are aware of the need to evolve and improve as a school entity to ensure quality education continues at our school.
- The School Board has a history of providing strong support for the principal and a forum for robust discussion of a broad range of school issues.
- The current Board continues to play an important role in supporting the Principal and staff of the school by promoting Catholic education and specifically St Francis within the community, and maintaining the unique spirituality and character of the school
- The structure and function of the St Francis School Board provides a valuable opportunity and effective means for parents to be involved with these important aspects of the school