## 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 Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Biloela</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: Brett Wyatt</td>
<td>66 Rainbow St Biloela QLD 4715</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone: 07 4992 2353</th>
<th>Fax: 07 4992 2364</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:sjbi@rok.catholic.edu.au">sjbi@rok.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.sjbirok.catholic.edu.au">www.sjbirok.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
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| Total Enrolments: 286 | Year Levels Offered: Prep to Year 6 | Type of School: Co-educational |
**Curriculum Offerings**

**Distinctive Curriculum Offerings**

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, as a community, models itself on Jesus Christ. As we strive for excellence in education, we encourage one another to develop as Christian people, doing our best for God and country. We strive to answer the call to be active participants within our School community, sharing our gifts and respecting one another.

St Joseph’s is growing into a double stream school, with two streams in the lower year levels and greater than single classes in most upper school year levels.

**Extra Curricula Activities**

St Joseph’s has a proud tradition of sporting prowess and is heavily involved in district sport. Many students represent St Joseph’s at a school, district and regional level.

Our instrumental music program involves students from Year 3 to 6 with tuition in a variety of instruments. The school also has junior, intermediate and senior choir groups. Each year, the students perform in a whole school musical.

A large number of our students perform in the Biloela Eisteddfod in class groups, small groups and as individuals. The school enters a number of groups in the verse speaking, choral and band sections. Students are involved in a number of service and community activities each year. These include support for the local ANZAC day services, Heart and Cancer Foundations, St Vincent de Paul and the Biloela Show.

Other similar activities include performances for and interaction with the residents of Wahroonga Retirement Village and members of our local Catholic Parish.

**How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning**

St Joseph’s promotes the use of technology within the school community to enhance student learning. A range of devices are in use including interactive whiteboards, desktop computers, laptop computers and IPADs. These devices are embedded in the delivery of the curriculum. Teachers are provided with professional development opportunities to enhance their skills in the use of technology and the benefits for student learning. The school encourages the use of technology to improve communication between the school and the wider community. Our school newsletter is e-mailed to parents on a weekly basis.

**Social Climate**

St Joseph's is committed to providing a child-safe environment by employing relevant practices and policies.

In addition to Sunday Mass, students participate in a regular class masses and hymn practice.

St Joseph’s has a behaviour management program which focuses on positive practices and whole school bullying preventative measures. Within this approach the Making Jesus Real program is a focus and is used to promote Gospel Values and positive student relationships.

**Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies**

St Joseph’s has behaviour management procedures which have been developed in collaboration with the wider school community. These procedures define expectations and procedures for general student behaviour, bullying as well as cyber bullying. The school takes part in cyber safety promotional activities and students are taught how to interact safely in the cyber world.
**Strategies used for involving parents in their child’s education**

The Parents & Friends’ Association and School Board exist to provide parents with the first opportunity to support their child’s education. These groups meet monthly. All parents are encouraged and welcomed in classrooms to assist where possible. These include the sharing of expertise and assisting in weekly tasks such as reading, maths and art groups. Parents are invited to participate and assist with day excursions and school camps which take place in Years five and six. Many parents assist with the implementation of the school sporting carnivals and team events. Parents also support students who are selected for district teams. The annual St Joseph’s School Ball receives a high level of parent support and involvement and is a significant annual event for the school community. Working bees and fundraising activities are used by the P&F Association to further include parents in supporting their child’s education.

**Reducing the school’s environmental footprint**

St Joseph’s school takes every opportunity to promote an awareness of the need to reduce the current impact our society has on the environment. Within the classrooms students are taught about the need to care for our environment and we also take part in a number of whole school activities to promote a further awareness. These activities include weekly nude food days, caring for the school chickens, school gardening club and school vegetable garden. A Year 6 environment group has built a chicken enclosure to harvest eggs. One of our key school rules is to respect our environment.

**Characteristics of the Student Body**

St Joseph’s school is located in the town of Biloela in Central Queensland which is well known for its diverse range of industrial projects. Industrial projects within the local area include a number of mines, a power station, meat works as well as agriculture. Many parents work in a role which involves shift work. These industrial projects have also led to a number of new families relocating to the area for work and with this the school has seen enrolments increase. The school has a significant number of students for whom English is a second language. The school has students from a variety of backgrounds including students from Brazil, Philippines, India, Sri Lanka, Africa and Vietnam. Supporting ESL students is a priority for the school.

**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>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>7.26</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral / Post-doctoral</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor degree</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
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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.

$57,600

**MAJOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

St Joseph's School took part in many major professional development initiatives in 2014. These included the Bishop's In-service Day, Reading In-service, Literacy and Numeracy Blocks, Godly Play workshop, Charism Awareness and a Mentoring program for graduate teachers.

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

98.28%

### Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year

87.27%

### School Income

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

(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/](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

St Joseph’s is a school which values the importance of students experiencing success in the classroom. The school acknowledges data driven teaching and learning in order to assist students in meeting learning goals. NAPLAN is a standardised assessment tool which allows staff members to meet the needs of individual students and cater specifically to deficits in student learning. Differentiated curriculum is a priority and the school will continue to develop skills in this area.
**Student Attendance**

Average student attendance rate (\%)  
90.7%  

Describe how non-attendance is managed by the school  
St Joseph’s school maintains attendance records for all students, recording data daily. Parents are formally notified of total days absent for each semester in the student reports. Parents are asked to inform the school regarding reasons for non-attendance. The school newsletter is used to communicate school information to parents regarding attendance guidelines.

**Value Added**

The story of distance travelled  
The area of numeracy and literacy was a focus for 2014. We aimed to improve the level of student achievement through our introduction of a whole school approach to all aspects of numeracy and literacy. Staff development in 2014, in the teaching of reading assisted our focus. Data to assess trends was gained through the use of the DRA reading assessment tool. This data was then used to set learning targets for students. The Parents & Friends’ Association continued to spend significant funds on technology resources to improve learning outcomes across all curriculum areas. The P&F committee have earmarked future funds to support our desire for continued improvement. The staff had opportunities each term through staff meetings and individual meetings with members of the leadership team to provide feedback on all school related issues and directions. Staff members were heavily involved in the organisation of curriculum programs which included student learning needs in information sharing and decision making.

The story of where you are going  
The leadership team at St Joseph’s reviewed data received through standardised testing, such as NAPLAN and DRA assessment to establish curriculum goals. Our emphasis in the 2014 school year was on improving the students’ reading ability. St Joseph’s is a National Partnership school in the area of reading, which allows us to focus and monitor our future success. We continued to improve student achievement in NAPLAN results and were identified as one of the few Queensland schools to achieve high gains in NAPLAN results. St Joseph’s endeavours to provide specific professional development to take place as the year progresses in learning areas requiring improvement. Our goals over the next few years include adopting a whole school approach to teaching and learning across all cohorts. This includes the development of reading and spelling groups determined by DRA and WTW data and the implementation of whole school literacy and numeracy blocks.
Staff members have opportunities each term through staff and individual meetings with members of the leadership team to provide feedback on all school related issues and directions. They are heavily involved in the organisation of curriculum programs which include student learning needs in information sharing and decision making.

The parent body are involved in the future direction of the school through the P&F Association and the School Board. Parents are invited to provide formal feedback through the School Renewal Process and discussions on the annual School Strategic Plan.

The student body is represented by the student council. The principal meets weekly with the student council to discuss any student concerns and/or feedback.