### 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 Patrick’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>41 Yamala Street PO Box 1496 Emerald QLD 4720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Max Martin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phone:** 0749822485  
**Fax:** 0749824229  
**Email:** spe@rok.catholic.edu.au  
**Website:** [www.stpatricksemerald.com.au](http://www.stpatricksemerald.com.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>612</td>
<td>Prep to Year 7</td>
<td>Catholic Primary Co-educational</td>
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</table>
**Distinctive Curriculum Offerings**

St Patrick’s is a three stream school, with two year levels this year having four classes. The school also has very strong Prep enrolments. A school based ‘You Can Do It’ program and ‘Peer Support’ program have been implemented across all year levels.

St Patrick's has strong ties with Marist Secondary College Emerald and many joint curriculum and community activities and functions are coordinated between both schools.

The school is also strongly tied to the St Patrick’s parish community.

St Patrick’s has a very strong P.E. program which includes after school training, interschool and inter town sporting competitions.

The school has an in-class music program which is run by a music specialist and an instrumental music program which is very popular with our school band performing in town and regional eisteddfods.

**Extra Curricula Activities**

St Patrick's School has an instrumental music program which is offered from year 4 to 7. St Patrick's has a junior and a senior band. Both compete in local and regional eisteddfods.

Junior touch football is also coordinated through the school with many teams playing touch football from year 4 to 7 on a Wednesday evening. This competition is run in conjunction with the Emerald Touch Association.

The school is involved in the Central Highlands' Eisteddfod. The children participate in choral and verse speaking competitions.

Year 5, 6 and 7 children are involved in camps to Bundaberg and Canberra/Sydney respectively. These provide the children with experiences that cannot be provided in our local community.

In school athletics training is provided during terms 2 and 3 for interested children. This takes place during lunch times.

St Patrick's School is a member of the Capricornia RREAP and receives funds to assist with implementing educational programs, school camps and school resources.

St Patrick’s School offers a before school choir program which is conducted by our music specialist.

St Patrick’s has both a junior and senior choir.

Our children attend Arts Council performances across the year and for one week in Term 2 and Term 4, all classes attend dance sessions with instructors from ‘Footsteps’ dance company.

School chess training is also offered during lunch times.

This year a Chess Club was introduced for the students during lunch time. The students have enjoyed this experience and the opportunity to participate in an interschool Chess competition.

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

St Patrick’s school board and teaching staff have developed a master technology plan.

The school has two modern computer labs, one of which is situated in the school’s library. All classrooms, including our Prep classrooms, are equipped with interactive whiteboards and data projectors. Digital cameras are also accessible by teachers and two mobile interactive whiteboards are available for classroom use.

All classrooms have at least two computers set up for children’s use and these have internet access.

A class set of Flip cameras is also available for use by children.

A three class set of mini iPads is currently being used for classroom studies across all Learning Areas and are also accessible in our library.
Social Climate

St Patrick’s employs one full-time learning support teacher who works closely with staff, families and our children to implement individual and classroom-based programs that support learning. The ‘You Can Do It’ and ‘Peer Support’ programs are incorporated into the school curriculum and school life for every child.
A school counsellor is employed for two days each week and works extremely well, addressing children’s needs.
A 'Mini Vinnies' group which is lead by our Year 6 children addresses social justice issues in our community.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies
(What the school does to promote cyber safety)

St Patrick’s has implemented Diocesan policies on Acceptable Use Agreements for students and staff. The school regularly communicates to parents/carers and the school community about cyber safety issues. Our local police on a yearly basis come and speak with our Year 6s and 7s on cyber safety. We also have a policy in place to deal with the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices. Our school has a social/emotional learning program, ‘You Can Do It’ in place to assist our children in guarding against bullying at school. Children are instructed on cyber safety during their weekly computer study lessons with a specialist IT teacher. All staff is kept up to date about developments in this area. All Diocesan and school policies are reviewed on a regular basis at St Patrick’s, Emerald.

Strategies used for involving parents in their child’s education

The Parents and Friends Association meets every first Tuesday of the month and plays a very active role in developing our school environment and resources.
St Patrick's School Board meets every third Tuesday of the month and develops policies and procedures that assist in the successful operation of our school.
Diocesan Parents and Friends and Board conferences are offered each year and are well attended by our members.
Many parents/carers are involved in training sporting teams which compete in town competitions. Parents and carers are encouraged to be involved in the year 5, 6 and 7 annual camps.

Reducing the school’s environmental footprint

St Patrick’s has several classes involved in maintaining gardens at school which produce vegetables for our tuckshop.
Our senior and junior toilets use rainwater for flushing purposes.
All classrooms and learning areas have reverse cycle air conditioners and these are set to the most energy economical temperatures.
Recycling bins provided by our local council are used in all lunch areas at St Patrick's.
The school's oval is watered by bore water.
Hand dryers in boys' and girls' toilets operate on cold air.
Characteristics of the Student Body

Mining and agriculture form the basis for our community. Many of our families also work with government departments. Often, the climate has a significant impact on our community in regard to the agricultural industries. Enrolments are currently quite stable and our school population can at times be quite transient. St Patrick’s has a high number of ESL enrolments. A full time ESL teacher is employed to work with these children.

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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>11.58</td>
<td>0.39</td>
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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>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>%</td>
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<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.

$117,500

### MAJOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

- ICT particularly in regard to interactive whiteboards training and using iPads.
- Writing, Spelling, History, Geography and Mathematics in-services for all teaching staff by DCEO consultants.
- In-services on the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
- Faith and spiritual development as part of our Bishop's Inservice day which is held yearly.

### 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

98.40%

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

78.89%

### 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

Data is used to drive quality teaching practice. Students have continued to achieve good results in Year 3, 5 and 7 testing with most students achieving at or above expected levels. Standardised reading testing is completed on all students to track their progress and give teachers direction for their planning. St Patrick's will continue to use this data to identify areas of need within the school by way of resourcing and professional development.

Student Attendance

Average student attendance rate (%)

93.3%

Describe how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is quite low. Families are contacted if non attendances are frequent and unexplained.

Value Added

The story of distance travelled

St Patrick’s Emerald Year 3, 5 and 7 classes performed quite well if not better than last year across all the tested areas. Literacy skills, in particular reading, spelling and visual literacy were addressed and programs put in place across the school to improve the children’s learning. There has been a consistent emphasis placed on the teaching of reading, comprehension and spelling. The teaching of text types has been more defined at St Patrick’s. Steps have been taken to address the need for children to be more competent with their calculator and mental mathematical skills.
The story of where you are going

The formulation and implementation of a whole school literacy program including guided reading, text type writing and spelling across the school.
Calculator skills, mental computations and problem solving in mathematics.
Integrating technology across all Learning Areas. Continuing with the development and implementation of a whole school Technology Plan.
The use of interactive whiteboards and iPads for all classrooms has been seen as an important initiative at St Patrick’s to enhance our children’s learning.
A scope and sequence for the teaching of computer studies is being developed and is seen as a priority.
The importance of continuing with a whole school music program is seen as a priority.
Funds have been acquired to purchase musical instruments to further develop our instrumental program at school.
Introduction of a debating program for our Year 6 and 7 children from Term 2 and a lunch time chess group for all children.

Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction

Families and the wider community on the whole, appear happy with the education St Patrick’s School is providing for their children.
Our School Board and Parents and Friends Association work well with the staff of St Patrick’s to provide a holistic education for our children.