

School Name Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School

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## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Primary School is a co-educational Catholic school in the western Brisbane suburb of Darra. In 2015 the school had 543 students enrolled in 21 classes from Prep to Year 6. OLSH school has an ethos based on Gospel Values. Our focus is showing respect for each other. We are a multicultural community that celebrates the richness of a variety of cultures.

The school provides a diverse range of experiences to ensure our children are happy, engaged and interested in learning. Parental involvement is regarded as an integral part of a child's development, so the school embraces parental support in both the operational and organisational aspects of the school.

This report provides an overview of our 2015 school year, in accordance with the government reporting requirements. 2015 was a successful year at the school with growth in the school population and improvement demonstrated in student learning. The school continued to allocate considerable amounts of funding to improve learning areas, resources and technology in the school as well as supporting staff professional learning in a number of different areas in 2015. The building program continues in 2015 with the completion of a new three storey building with 7 GLAS and provision for future library plus the commencement of a the refurbishing of Block A and the two new additional GLAS.

## School Profile

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational  or Single Sex

Year levels offered: Primary  Secondary  P-12

Total Student Enrolments 543

Girls 269

Boys 274

## Characteristics of the student body

Students at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School come from diverse backgrounds. Approximately 33% of students speak a language other than English at home. A distinguishing characteristic of the multicultural nature of our school is the richness of cultures. Students live this out through acceptance and tolerance of others and a celebration of the existing cultures within our school community. As a Catholic community we embrace our heritage and shared cultures in the light of Gospel Values. Many students come from homes and families where education is highly regarded and valued. Students are encouraged and supported to achieve their full potential. The majority of our students participate in various extra-curricular activities. These activities include sport, music and cultural pursuits. A large number of students participate in specific cultural and language education schools on the weekend.

While it has been stated that our school is multicultural in nature, the majority of students have Anglo-Saxon heritage with English as their first language. Many of these students reside in the affluent centenary suburbs of western Brisbane where both of their parents work, often in professional occupations. The diversity of our school is continuing with a large number of students now residing in the Forest Lake and Richlands catchment areas.

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

The curriculum taught follows syllabus documents written by the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority and Brisbane Catholic Education's Religious Education. In 2015 the school continued to implement the Australian Curriculum.

The staff prepare School Based Curriculum documents appropriate for our school. They are drawn from the syllabus documents and guide teaching and learning at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

The School endeavours to modify its teaching programs in order for students to achieve outcomes. In doing this, it is recognised that students have different rates of learning, different styles of learning, different cultures, different prior learning and different motivations.

The teaching staff at OLSH have continued their commitment to cater for the varying academic ranges and needs of the students.

2015 saw the introduction of enhancement teachers into the school. This saw three experienced teachers collaboratively working with class teachers to enhance the classroom learning. Experienced school officers support teacher and students both within the classroom and in individual situations.

In 2015 OLSH once again entered the Opti-MINDS competition with students achieving outstanding results.

OLSH has a specialist Art teacher, Music teacher, Drama teacher and Physical Education teacher who teach each class individually each week. A religious sister works in our school as our School Welfare Worker.

## Extra curricula activities

Interschool Sport / Catholic Schools Sports carnivals  
Opportunities for regional/state sport selection; Swimming Lessons; Fitness Club  
School Choir & School Musical  
School Camps  
School /Class Liturgies; Mini-Vinnies  
Whole School / Class Mass  
Instrumental Music, Drama Lessons  
Art Club  
Canoeing  
Opti-MINDS

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

At Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, we believe that in the natural Learning and Teaching process. Technology is not something that is outside or dominates this process but is an integral tool that supports and enhances Learning and Teaching within and outside the School community. For teachers, using ICLT is a necessary part of enacting the whole curriculum - during planning, implementation, assessment and reporting. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School uses ICLT as an integral tool to engage students in understanding concepts and processes in more depth and to enable them to demonstrate their understanding, fit classroom learning to particular student needs and interests, and to extend the reach of the classroom across space and time

## Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

Children learn best when their spiritual, physical, social and emotional needs are met. Pastoral Care permeates all aspects of school life and expresses itself in quality relationships and the sense of belonging to our school community. Sister Sue Walpole is our School Pastoral Worker. She is available to both students and parents in a personally supportive and confidential way. Sr Sue organizes and presents Virtues Assemblies in order to teach the children about Christian virtues in a creative and fun-filled way. Our school implements the "Friendly Schools" program and "Beating Bully Bulldozer" program as a preventive to response to bullying.

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The indication of parent, student and teachers satisfaction can be gauged by the public perception of the school. OLSH School is held in high regard within the community of schools in this area of Brisbane. The school engages the school community in our annual renewal process which allows parents and teachers to review components of school operations. Feedback is generally positive which reflects the professionalism and commitment of the staff of the school. In 2015 the school undertook satisfaction surveys in the four areas of Learning and Teaching of Religion; Student Well-Being and Pastoral Care; Professional Capacity and Learning Environments. The reviews were overwhelmingly positive. On average 80% of participants were either very highly or highly satisfied in these areas.

In 2015 OLSH also undertook a full external review with a reviewing panel of outside facilitators. Included in this review was parents feedback. The independent review showed a high level of parent satisfaction in the school.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School welcomes and encourages parental involvement in their children's education. Opportunities for them to be involved in 2015 include:

Parent-Teacher information sessions beginning of year

Formal Parent-teacher interviews twice a year

Regular School Visits

Parent visit for Learning Journeys

Assistance with reading and maths programs

Involvement in class and whole school excursions

P & F Association meet monthly

Invitation to school assemblies, liturgies, mass and celebrations.

Involvement in fund raising events

Regular class contacts meetings and events

## Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	39	17
Full-time equivalents	32.56	10.24
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders		

## Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	
Masters	5
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	4
Bachelors Degree	27
Diploma/Certificate	3

## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2015 was \$ 16 544.37

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

- School Leadership Courses
- Visible Learning Collaborative
- Catholic Identity Research
- First Aide
- Phonics Development
- Special education
- Autism
- Catering for Children with Hearing Difficulty
- Early Years Development
- PM Bench Marking
- Early Years Literacy

## School Income by Funding Source

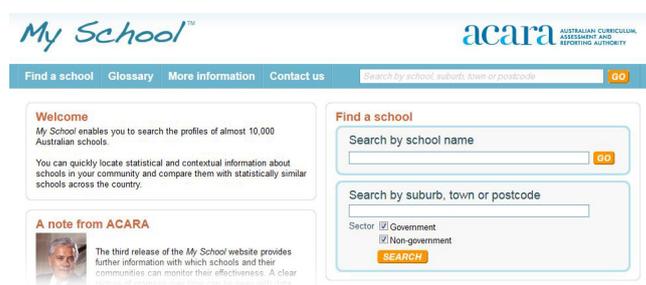
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting 'School finances' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page.



## Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 97.07 % in 2015.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2014 school year, 91.07 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2015 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	95.00 %
Prep Attendance Rate	95.00 %
Year 1 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 2 Attendance Rate	95.00 %
Year 3 Attendance Rate	96.00 %

Year 4 Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 5 Attendance Rate	95.00 %
Year 6 Attendance Rate	97.00 %

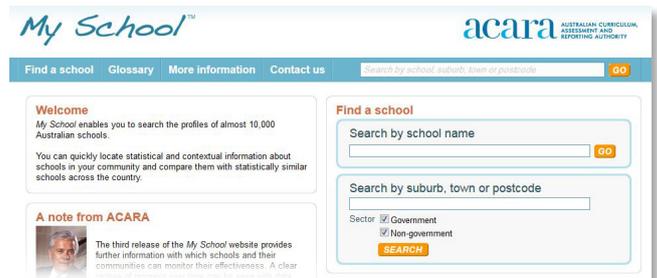
## Policy and practice to manage student attendance

OLSH School is diligent in the management of student attendance. The school uses electronic roll marking for teachers to check student attendance twice a day. Parents of children arriving late or exiting school early are required to use an electronic check in system. Student absenteeism is recorded on student reports each semester and children taking holidays during school time are required to have school approval for this leave. High levels of absenteeism are investigated to see where the school can be of support in ensuring all children are attending school regularly.

## Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.



The screenshot shows the My School website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'My School' and 'acara' logos, and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Find a school' section with a search box and a 'GO' button. To the left of the search box, there is a 'Welcome' section with text about the website's purpose and an 'A note from ACARA' section with a small image of a man.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following

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