

School Name St Bernard's School

Postal address 1823 Logan Road, UPPER MT GRAVATT, QLD, 4122

Phone (07) 3849 4800 Fax (07) 3349 1436

Email pupmtgravatt@bne.catholic.edu.au

School website www.stbernards.qld.edu.au

Contact Person Patricia McMahon, Principal

Principal's Foreword

Introduction

St Bernard's Catholic Primary School, commenced by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1955, shares in the education mission of the church as part of the Upper Mt Gravatt / Wishart Parish.

As students are at the heart of all activities the school's vision is that learning is child-centred where children are prepared as life-long learners to meet challenges as compassionate Christian members of the community. Our mission is to develop and nurture an environment where children learn about themselves, their world and God by working in partnership with families, staff and the parish community.

All members of our community are encouraged to value the diversity of each person and to experience and live a Christian life in the Catholic faith.

Our school motto - 'Your Light Guides' - describes both the path to life as shown to us in Jesus Christ as well as the guiding light of knowledge.

Each year priorities from our School Renewal Plan are developed, implemented and communicated to the parent body throughout the year according to the emerging needs of the school.

School Profile

St Bernard's 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 377 Girls 187 Boys 190

Characteristics of the student body

Of particular note regarding the student body is its multicultural nature. Many students are from families who have English as their second language or, if not, their third language. They bring a diversity of cultures to the school community thus creating a vibrant group.

Within the student body there are students from differing religious backgrounds. This adds to the richness within their class and across the school. Some activities throughout the year acknowledge and value this diversity.

With the location of the school at the intersection of two (2) busy roads with close proximity to both the South-East Freeway and Gateway Motorway, there are students who travel considerable distances to attend the school. The school is located within a growth area of the city with increasing enrolment numbers in the lower school. An additional characteristic of the school is that there are more boys at the school than girls, and this is also evident in Years 5 and 6.

As Clairvaux MacKillop College is located adjacent to the school many students undertake their secondary education at this College. Many students have older siblings attending Clairvaux MacKillop College.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

While religious education is a priority the Key Learning Areas of English, Maths, Science, Health and Physical Education, History, Geography, Art (Prep - Yr 4), Music Education (all years), and LOTE (Japanese Yrs 5 and 6) are taught.

Information Communication Technologies are integrated throughout all curriculum areas and across all year levels. An I.T. teacher supports the development of both teacher and student skills. First Steps - Reading and Writing in-services continue to be undertaken by teachers as an additional way of improving teaching pedagogy.

Part-time teaching staff are also employed in the areas of Library, ESL (English as a Second Language), Support Teacher Inclusive Education, Guidance Counselling and Literacy Support. A part-time School Chaplain, Federally funded as part of The National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program, supports all students.

An outdoor education program is undertaken by Year 6 students. All year levels participate in a dance program in term 3.

Swimming, across a 6 week block, takes place for each year level in each of Term 1 and Term 4.

Much emphasis has been given to a Visible Learning approach to engaging students in their learning. Students set a goal for the next step of their learning, when this is achieved another goal is then added. Learning Powers (dispositions) displayed in each room assist each student on their learning journey.

Extra curricula activities

Instrumental music / band program / Guitar

Junior and Senior choirs

Netball

Touch football

Soccer

Cross-country training

Workshops, such as badminton and gymnastics, are in addition to those from various sporting codes

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Data projectors and laptops in each classroom

Electronic Interactive Whiteboards in each classroom

ICLT lessons in computer lab with specialist teacher

Whole school wireless network

Integration of ICLT learning activities across all Key Learning Areas and embedded in planning

Creation of Learning Objects and multimedia projects

Flexible use of laptops with students - with 1:1 laptop program commencing in Year 4

Phonic Ear devices in every classroom

Banks of iPads are utilised when required by classes in addition to banks of laptops across each year level.

Robotics activities for students, with coding also taught in the upper year levels.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Bernard's is a welcoming community with many families of various cultural backgrounds. Staff are highly supportive of the school as both a learning environment and a community. Community activities occur throughout the year, such as, P & F Association and School Board monthly meetings, Welcome BBQ, Working Bees, Spring Fair, Trivia Nights, Student Discos, Easter, Christmas, Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day celebrations, Harmony Day recognition, morning teas after class celebrations, annual Athletics, Swimming and Cross-Country carnivals, Band introduction and performance nights, Under 8's Week, whole school assemblies.

With the employment of a part-time Guidance Counsellor and part-time School Chaplain (Federally funded) there is much support for both students and parents. Other pastoral activities for families occur as needed. Positive Behaviour 4 Learning throughout the school is used, with friendship group activities supporting some students. Playground data informs activities. No bullying actions are accepted and are dealt with as soon as becoming evident.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Satisfaction of the school is gathered by various methods. Data gathered from internal reviews and during an external review of the school provides valuable information indicating a high level of satisfaction by parents, teachers and students in the upper year levels. At Parent/Teacher information evenings and parent/teacher interviews information is gained. Parents and Friends Association and School Board meetings are utilised to gain information. Student Council (Year 6) meetings are also utilised to gather information. Constructive comments by school community members highlight areas requiring attention. Parental support of the school is high with each class having at least one parent class convenor. Interaction by staff with parents is demonstrated by various means with teachers attending Working Bees attending school community events, and working on stalls at the Spring Fair with other parents. Feedback regarding policy development is also regularly sought.

Parent involvement in their child's education

Parental involvement at the school is encouraged. Processes to involve parents in their child's learning is frequently initiated by the class teacher with an invitation to an evening information session giving an outline of the coming year. School newsletters are forwarded home each week (either electronically or in hard copy) regarding activities at the school. Class teachers forward home a monthly or term newsletter pertaining to activities of the class. While written communication to parents occurs frequently there are many other informal opportunities to inform parents of activities.

Other ways to involve parents include: class convenor role, teacher availability for other meetings, class newsletters, reading helpers, craft activities, sporting activities or coaching, classroom helpers, homework helpers, assisting on some excursions, group rotational activities, Under 8's Week, and special class events. Parents are also encouraged to join the whole school at liturgical celebrations and to attend regular whole school assemblies or other events.

The School Chaplain co-ordinates the Classroom Convenor parent support activities across the school.

Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	28	17
Full-time equivalents	22.83	9.17
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	1	

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	
Masters	4
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	9
Bachelors Degree	14
Diploma/Certificate	1

Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2015 was \$ 71305

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

Australian Curriculum - English, Maths, Science, History and Geography

First Steps - Reading (continuation) and Writing, and Language in the Early Years

ICLT - Use of interactive strategies in the classroom / integration of activities in KLA's

School Wide Positive Behaviour / Positive Behaviour 4 Learning

Student Reporting and Assessment. Religious Life of the School

Language in the Early Years, and Middle Years Communication

Action Learning - Numeracy, and More Support for Students with Disability

Visible Learning - Language of Learning, better use of data, feedback to students, growth mindset, learning dispositions, and peer Coaching - development.

Further school funding information can be obtained via the My School website at

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

School Income by Funding Source

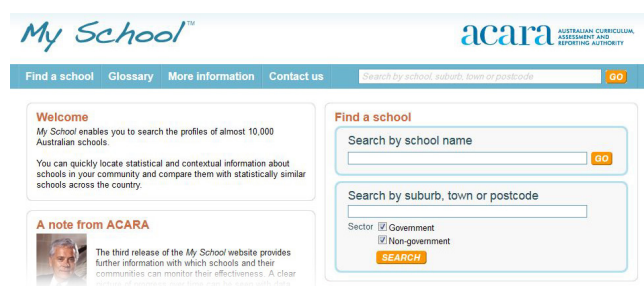
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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 96.74 % in 2015.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2014 school year, 93.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2015 year.

Key Student Outcomes

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

Year 4 Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 5 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 6 Attendance Rate	95.00 %

Policy and practice to manage student attendance

Class rolls are marked electronically by teachers twice daily as per their requirement. The Principal electronically monitors daily roll marking.

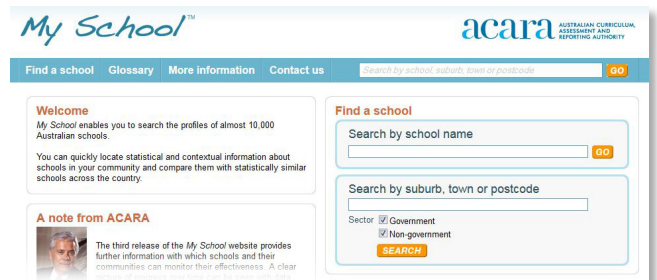
A dedicated School Absentee phone line has been added to school phone system for parents to leave details of student absence. A note is expected to be provided to the class teacher upon the student's return. Phone calls or personal contact is made in first instance with class teacher, and with the Principal if regular absences occur. Regular monitoring of particular students occurs with contact made with parents. If a student is absent on a regular basis a medical certificate is required to be provided by the parent.

Student achievement regarding NAPLAN results can be obtained via the My School website at: <http://www.myschool.edu.au/> .

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 links for 'Find a school', 'Glossary', 'More information', and 'Contact us'. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar, with the text 'Search by school, suburb, town or postcode' and a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Welcome' section with a message: 'My School enables you to search the profiles of almost 10,000 Australian schools. You can quickly locate statistical and contextual information about schools in your community and compare them with statistically similar schools across the country.' To the right of the welcome message is a 'Find a school' section with two search boxes: 'Search by school name' and 'Search by suburb, town or postcode'. Below these search boxes are radio buttons for 'Sector' with options for 'Government' and 'Non-government', and a 'SEARCH' button. At the bottom left of the screenshot, there is a 'A note from ACARA' section with a small image of a man and text: 'The third release of the My School website provides further information with which schools and their communities can monitor their effectiveness. A clear'.

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

'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results 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 able to access our NAPLAN data.