



**Catholic
Education**
Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Good Counsel Primary, Innisfail

Motto	Seek, Learn and Serve
Address	96 Rankin Street, INNISFAIL QLD 4860
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Phone Number	(07) 4061 2994
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Email Address	principal.innisfail@cns.catholic.edu.au
Web Site	http://www.gcps.qld.edu.au
Total Enrolments	311
Year Levels Offered	P-6
Student Population	Co-Educational
Principal	Mr Liam M Kenny
Parish Priest	Fr Kerry Crowley
Parish Number	(07) 4061 6633





About our School

Good Counsel Primary School is located close to the heart of Innisfail, at 96 Rankin Street.

Innisfail is the Cassowary Coast's largest town, with a population of approximately 10,000. The township is picturesquely situated at the junction of the North and South Johnstone Rivers, about five kilometres from the coast. Innisfail is 90km south of Cairns along the Bruce Highway, making it easily accessible by car, bus or train.

As the largest non-government primary school in the Innisfail district, Good Counsel Primary School offers parents real choice. Together with our sister Catholic primary schools - St Rita's at South Johnstone, St John's and St Clare's to the south at Silkwood and Tully, and St Rita's to the north at Babinda - our schools are well known for being inclusive, welcoming to all, and surprisingly affordable. Students are attracted to GCPS from throughout the Cassowary Coast, from as far south as Tully and Mission Beach, to Babinda in the north and East Palmerston to the west.

Catholic primary school students receive enrolment priority at Good Counsel College which is located directly across the street and close to the Innisfail CBD, making the transition to the College from Good Counsel Primary seamless.

Students take part in specialist Physical Education programs and an excellent range of sporting activities year-round, including Netball, AFL, Cricket, Rugby League, League Tag, Touch Football, Soccer, Athletics and Futsal. Cultural engagement is emphasised with specialist programs in The Arts, Instrumental Music and School Choir.

Spiritual development, focused on a faith-filled and values-based education, offers a strong foundation for a life of worth, not merely a life of work. Opportunities abound in mission and justice, moral and spiritual growth, and are fostered throughout the school.

Good Counsel Primary is a melting pot of cultures, religions, backgrounds and abilities. The school community is welcoming to all, caring and friendly.

In 2020 GCP was staffed by a Principal, APRE/APA, LST, CST, School Counsellor, Specialists - HPE, The Arts, ILO, Teacher Librarian, 14 classroom Teachers, Student School Officers, Librarian, Administration Officers, IT Technicians and various Ancillary Staff (Tuckshop Convenor, Groundsman, Cleaner).

GCPS 2020 enrolment of 311 students. 14 classes are offered from Prep to Year 6.

Forecast enrolment to begin 2021 is 324 students

Characteristics of Student Body

- Indigenous – 17.4% (54)
- Students with Verified Disability (SWD) – 3.8% (11) - 3 awaiting verification
- English as Second Language ESL – 15.1% (47)
- National Consistency Collection of Data NCCD – 20.9% (65)
- School Socio-economic status - 88
- We have 230 families with
 - 48 families accessing Health Care Card Concession
 - 12 families accessing Financial Hardship Concessions

ENROLMENT TREND - GCPS

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
321	321	295	318	310	280	305	310



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Cultural diversity

- Indigenous - Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or both
- Chinese (Cantonese)
- Hmong
- Punjabi
- PNG
- Indian (Malayalam)
- Irish
- Tongan
- New Zealand
- Italian
- Spanish

School Annual Improvement

Priority 1: Data Analysis to improve student outcomes

Goals: By the end of 2020 all teaching staff will use and analyse data to inform effective teaching of writing (measured through English)

- Justin Caban (Term 1, Week 0) - Presentation: Schema, Morning Routines into writing pedagogical approaches to writing (creativity vs mechanics), Spelling Mastery
- Justin Caban (Term 3) - Workshop Demonstration: Writing lessons across all year levels
- Gloria West (Term 1, Week 0) - Workshop: Ps to 2s Spelling in the Early Years
- Gloria West (Ongoing throughout 2020) - Guided reading to writing across all year levels
- Staff Meeting: (Early Term 1) - complete self-assessment tool in digital/data literacy
- Staff Meeting: (Term 4) - review self-assessment tool in digital/ in Term 4

Data Literacy

PLTs –teachers to use and analyse writing data to identify gaps in student learning, plan and implement learning sprints and monitor improvement over time (BI Tool, NAPLAN, OARS, SRS, Teacher Assessment)

Successfully implemented with teachers being made more aware of writing needs and processes to improve through targeted teaching.

Priority 2: Catholic Identity

Goals: By the end of 2020, teachers of Religion will know their Year Level Curriculum Content, plan and teach rigorous Learning Cycles with Assessment, considering multiple perspectives (multi-correlations), and aligned to the Achievement Standard.

- Complete and upload the GCP Religion yearly overviews that identifies the deep and surface learnings, content descriptions, scripture, prayer and the context specific considerations (RLoS, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, other learning areas).
- All teaching staff were released for a day for formation and knowledge of the RE curriculum, with a particular focus on deep and surface learnings.
- Teachers access the data on the diversity of religious/cultural background of the students in their class and use this information as a resource for classroom learning and understanding.
- Quick 5 minute theological discussion/quiz/pair share /reflection to spark teacher interest and develop theological knowledge and understandings including ECSI language (to follow regular Staff Meeting Prayer).



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

The school offers students an excellent academic education in all key learning areas. Social and Emotional Learning is an important part of daily learning and Morning Routine has in 2018 embedded into daily classroom learning. Students from Prep to Year 6 have specialist lessons in Health and Physical Education and the Arts (Term 1 Music, Term 2 Visual Art, Term 3 Dance and Term 4 Performance).

A number of our students participate in the Instrumental Music Program with Mr Nathan Wiltshire and others have private piano tuition based at the school.

Many GCPS students take advantage of skills training after school- Rugby League, Netball, Fitness, Tennis, Soccer and AFL. Robotics and Coding Club can be accessed before school or specified lunch times and the library can be utilized every lunch time. Students this year showcased their extra- curricular skills at our Talent Expo with items including Martial Arts, Dance, Speech and Drama, Instrumental items and vocals. The School Choir performs throughout the year and Mini Vinnies students keep Social Justice issues in the forefront of our thinking.

Extra Curricular Activities

The following are important characteristics of the school's overall extra- curricular offerings:

- School Choir
- Instrumental Music Lessons
- Curriculum focussed excursions
- Mini-Vinnies Student Committees
- Student Council Executive
- Mathematics Olympiad Competition
- Year 6 Charters Towers- Longreach Outback Camp
- Year 5 Tinaroo Camp
- Year 4 Tableland Excursion
- Prep - Year 3 Local curriculum-based excursions
- School Rugby League teams 10- 12-year-olds
- School Futsal teams Junior and Senior
- School Netball teams Junior and Senior
- After school Sporting skills programs (Rugby League, Soccer and AFL)
- Tech Heads and Mini Bots - extension robotics, coding and circuit design
- Extension Groups for creative thinkers
- Drumming club



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Social Climate

Good Counsel Primary has a culture of being welcoming to all in its community, where each person is viewed as important and valued. The school prides itself on encouraging its students to be self-disciplined and providing an environment where students can learn without disruption. Students are encouraged to maintain appropriate standards of behaviour and to respect the rights of all individuals - "Each child has the right to learn". A school Behaviour Plan has been developed and key behavioural expectations are reinforced to support a positive learning environment in each classroom.

During 2020 we as a community highlighted the importance of our historical story and developed our GCP values based on the guiding values of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict-

"Welcome all as we would welcome Christ"

"Be compassionate to the person in need"

"Serve God by being neighbour".

GCPS draws its student population from the surrounding Cassowary Coast Region, with families choosing a Catholic education and travelling from as far as Mission Beach to the south, East Palmerston to the west and Babinda to the north.

Good Counsel recognises the importance of parents as the first educators of their children and actively encourages parental involvement. Through the Parents and Friends Association, parents have a role in determining future direction for the school. Parents are also encouraged to assist in classrooms so that children can enjoy their presence at school and play an active role in assisting with student reading, literacy, mathematics and technology rotations. Meet and Greet Nights are organised by the Parents and Friends Association and have been very successful opportunities for families to meet and mix socially. These nights are combined with the Student Council Discos and Games nights that promote and celebrate the importance of families spending time and having fun together. Unfortunately in 2020 these activities were cancelled due to the Covid 19 Restrictions enforced on School Gatherings.

The school is in very close proximity with Good Counsel College and shares a combined Schools Board made up of a cross section of Parents from the Schools' communities. The Board assists the Principals in the development of policy and in the future educational directions of the schools. Given this relationship, Good Counsel Primary is ideally placed for those families looking for a linked Prep - Year 12 education for their children.

Parent Engagement

At Good Counsel Primary we encourage strong parental involvement in the life of our school. We believe that children more easily achieve their true potential when parents feel comfortable being an active part of school life.

Each of us has different gifts to share and generous sharing enriches our school and benefits each individual - both adult and child. Staff at Good Counsel Primary are always happy and open in their sharing with parents. In partnership, parents and teachers, feel it is important to share not only the aspects of what is being done but also the how and why. Parents want the best education for their children and our Teachers are willing to work diligently to assist in this process. In 2020 parents were imperative during "At Home Learning" during Term 2. They took on the role of supervising teacher during remote learning. This was pivotal as students were required to complete daily lessons remotely and daily 'check ins' took place with their class teacher.

Parental involvement is facilitated through the following organisations and activities:

- Parents and Friends Association
- Combined Schools' Board
- Mother of Good Counsel Feast Day
- Activity Nights (Prep)
- Friday Prayer Assemblies



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

- Mother's Day Morning Tea
- Father's Day Activities
- Parent Information Meetings
- Oral and Written Reports - interviews
- Cultural Theme days
- Grandparents' Day
- Reconciliation Week
- NAIDOC Celebrations
- Class open days
- Camps/Excursions
- Sports days
- Liturgies - both class and whole school
- Christmas Concert
- Under 8's Day and related celebratory days

Good Counsel Primary School has a Combined Schools' Board and a Parents and Friends Association (P&F). The active P&F is involved in facilitating and organising and supporting social functions. The School Board plays an active role overseeing policy development and has input into major building projects and the general strategic direction of the school. The Parish Finance Committee approves and monitors the school budget. The school is involved in parish life through the Pastoral Council and Finance Committee as well as through Sacramental Programs, regular liturgies, masses and class visits by our with our resident Priests.

Parent Satisfaction

The Annual Satisfaction Survey for Parents was conducted and included the school's response to remote learning during Term 2 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions. Feedback was sought regarding general satisfaction. The COVID-19 response feedback included:

- Engagement in remote learning
- The supporting role in their child's education
- Communication
- Wellbeing
- Timely and relevant information
- Skill development through remote learning

The school used this feedback to enhance student learning throughout Term 2.



Staff Reporting Data

Qualification Highest level of attainment	Doctoral / Post- doctoral	Masters	Bachelor degree	Diploma	Certificate
Number of staff with this qualification	0	6	25	16	11

Workforce composition	Headcount	FTE (Full-time equivalent)
Teaching Staff	29	23.20
Non-Teaching Staff	21	13.29
Indigenous	0	0

Professional development	
Funds expended	\$23,748.00
Staff Involved	100%

Major Professional Development Initiatives

The teachers have been involved in professional learning in the following areas:

- Justin Caban-Schema- Morning Routines
- Pedagogical approaches to writing
- Spelling Mastery
- Writing Moderation
- Writing- sentence structure
- Spelling/ Guided Reading Coaching- Gloria West
- Covid- 19- Preparations for Remote Learning
- Digital/ Data Literacy
- Integrated planning
- Professional Learning Teams with a focus on analyzing Writing Data
- School improvement and school effectiveness
- Religious Education- Fr Richard Lenard
- Social emotional learning and wellbeing
- Google Suite
- NAPLAN Analysis
- Learning Support- Student Data
- Student Reporting
- Data Sheets
- Student Protection Training
- WHS Training
- Leading with Integrity Program



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

- Enhancing Catholic School Identity
- Teaching of Rigorous Learning Cycles
- Diversity of Religious / Cultural Backgrounds

Attendance & Retention

Average staff attendance rate for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods up to 5 days	95%
Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year	93%

Staff Satisfaction

The Annual Satisfaction Survey for Staff did not occur in its usual format in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions. Feedback was sought during Term 2 from Parents and used to enhance remote learning.



Student Reporting Data

Average student attendance rates:

Prep	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	YR 6
93.02	94.12	92.89	94.27	91.39	93.84	93.68

How non-attendance is managed by the school

At Good Counsel Primary it is an expectation that parents make verbal or written contact with the class teacher or administration if their child is absent on a particular day. If students have unexplained absences, parents are contacted. Should students be absent for a period of more than two school days in a row the teacher will offer to organise work to be completed at home. If a pattern of unexplained absences occurs then the parents are contact and an interview with the Principal is organised. All class rolls have tables to indicate the variety of reasons that a child could be absent from school on a particular day. These are saved to the data base and stored at Administration. If Indigenous students are away then the Indigenous Liaison Officer will follow up with the family via a phone call. Our Indigenous Liaison Officer meets with the Principal when required to assist with family visits related to truant students.

Student Satisfaction

The Annual Satisfaction Survey for Students did not occur in its usual format in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions. Student input was sought through the remote learning feedback process.



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

NAPLAN

Reading, Writing & Numeracy Results - Year 3, 2020

On 20 March 2020, Education Council agreed that NAPLAN would not proceed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reading, Writing & Numeracy Results - Year 5, 2020

On 20 March 2020, Education Council agreed that NAPLAN would not proceed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Funding Reporting Data

Income 2020

Australian Government recurrent funding	\$3,884,056
State/Territory Government recurrent funding	\$854,368
Fees, charges and parent contributions	\$423,650
Other private sources	\$141,638
Total gross income (excluding income from government capital grants)	\$5,303,712

Deductions 2020

Income allocated to current capital projects	\$33,978
Income allocated to future capital projects and diocesan capital funds	\$0
Income allocated to debt servicing (including principal repayments and interest on loans)	\$192,894
Subtotal	\$226,872
Total net recurrent income	\$5,076,840