



**Catholic
Education**
Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Good Counsel Primary School, Innisfail

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Motto | Seek, Learn and Serve |
| Address | 96 Rankin Street, INNISFAIL QLD 4860 |
| Postal Address | 96 Rankin Street, INNISFAIL QLD 4860 |
| Phone Number | (07) 4063 0600 |
| Email Address | principal.innisfail@cns.catholic.edu.au |
| Website | www.gcps.qld.edu.au |
| MySchool Profile | https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/47832 |
| Total Enrolments | 332.8 |
| Year Levels Offered | P-6 |
| Student Population | Co-Educational |
| Principal | Mr Liam 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 2022 GCP was staffed by a Principal, APRE/APA, Leader of Diversity, Leader of Curriculum, School Counsellor, Specialists - HPE, The Arts, ILO, Teacher Librarian, 14 classroom Teachers, Student School Officers, Library assistant, Administration Officers, IT Technicians and various Ancillary Staff (Tuckshop Convenor, Groundsman, Cleaner).

GCPS 2022 enrolment of 332 students. 14 classes are offered from Prep to Year 6.

Characteristics of Student Body

| Male | Female | Unspecified | ESL | % Catholic | % First Nations | % NCCD | ICSEA |
|------|--------|-------------|-----|------------|-----------------|--------|-------|
| 155 | 177.8 | | 21 | 44.1% | 8.3% | 12.9% | 1010 |

Enrolment Trend:

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| 305 | 278.2 | 321 | 311 | 325 | 332.8 |

School Annual Improvement

Priority 1: Data Analysis to improve student outcomes

By the end of 2022, all students will demonstrate growth in writing measured through the analysis of data to inform the explicit teaching of writing.

Strategies

- High expectations, targeted support through intervention and extension.
- Morning Routines.
- Embed Literacy Block – guided reading and writing.
- Synthetic Phonics P-2.
- Spelling Mastery 3-6.
- Upskilling new teachers and school officers in Spelling Mastery and Synthetic Phonics.
- Regular professional development including lesson modelling and feedback sessions to support new and continuing teachers.
- Training 24/7 to build capacity around links between English plans and Morning Routine.
- Training 24/7 to work with teachers in the use of writing blocks and blanks.
- Writing assessments for consistent teacher judgement and collaborative planning.
- Collaboratively clarify, document, and implement an explicit and agreed practice that will be evident in every classroom.
- Use differentiation to ensure that every student is engaged, challenged, and learning successfully.

Priority 2: Catholic Identity

By the end of 2022, all teachers will build capacity in the teaching of the Religious Education Curriculum. (This is in light of having so many new staff to the School and year levels.)

Continue to build awareness of the GCP Values, foundation History, Charism and School's Catholic Symbols in Morning Routine slides.

- Welcome all as we would welcome Christ.
- Be compassionate to the person in need.
- Serve God by being neighbour.
- Promote Social Justice initiatives throughout the year – Mini Vinnies Conference and assemblies.
- Student Leaders to explicitly share aspects of GCP Values, History, Charism, and social justice initiatives at student led assemblies.
- Teachers utilise the data on the diversity of religious/ cultural background of the students in their class and use this information as a resource to promote better learning and understanding of one another within the school's Catholic Identity.

Strategies

- Staff PGIAP to include a formation plan in the area of RE.
- Encounters, professional learning and experiences: Fr. Richard Lennon, Twilight retreats/ Scripture PDs.
- I&O team to assist teachers in PLTs with planning and assessing Religion.
- Continued experiences and encounters for teachers and school learning officers.
- Staff to articulate the values and the Charism of GCP (Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict), with consideration of our current students' diversity of religions and cultures.
- Combine the SEL awards with Charism Value Awards.

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

Good Counsel Primary 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 been 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 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

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 2022 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.

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.

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
- 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

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with parents of Good Counsel Primary School (Innisfail) commencing 14 July 2022 and concluding 5 August 2022. Survey responses were received from 111 out of a total of 408 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 27.2%. Good Counsel Primary School (Innisfail) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 86% (4.31 out of 5).

- Best practice areas include: Leadership, Resources, Learning + Teaching, First Nations, Bullying + Behaviour Management, Improvement Processes, Catholic Identity + Religious Education, Safeguarding Children.

Staff Reporting

| Qualification Highest level of attainment | Doctoral / Post-doctoral | Masters | Bachelor degree | Diploma | Certificate |
|---|--------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-------------|
| Number of staff with this qualification | | 1 | 23 | 6 | 2 |

| Workforce composition | Headcount | FTE (Full-time equivalent) |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Teaching Staff | 29 | 24.2 |
| Non-Teaching Staff | 26 | 15.97787 |
| Indigenous | 2 | 0.88157 |

| Professional Development | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Funds expended | \$39162.09 |
| Staff Involved | 100% |

Major Professional Development Initiatives

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

- Training 24/7 - Grammar, Phonic Lessons, Morning Routines
- Pedagogical approaches to writing
- Spelling Mastery
- Writing Moderation
- Writing- sentence structure
- Spelling/ Guided Reading Coaching- Gloria West
- First Aid Training
- Digital/ Data Literacy
- Integrated planning
- Professional Learning Teams with a focus on analyzing Reading and Writing Data
- School improvement and school effectiveness
- Religious Education- Fr Richard Lenard
- Religious Education- ACU Online sessions
- Social emotional learning and wellbeing
- Engage upload- training
- NAPLAN Analysis
- Learning Support- Student Data
- Student Reporting
- Data Reading cards
- Training 24/7 Unit writing
- Clarity- In the Classroom
- MTSS- Behaviour Support Plan
- QLD College of Teachers- Professional Standards
- Student Protection Training
- WHS Training
- Leading with Integrity Program
- Enhancing Catholic School Identity
- Teaching of Rigorous Learning Cycles
- Diversity of Religious / Cultural Backgrounds
- CES- Strategic Directions
- V 9 Mathematics

| Attendance and Retention | |
|--|--------|
| Average staff attendance rate for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to 5 days | 96.46% |
| Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous year | 80.77% |

Staff Satisfaction

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with staff of Good Counsel Primary School (Innisfail) commencing 11 July 2022 and concluding 5 August 2022. Survey responses were received from 40 out of a total of 58 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 69%. Good Counsel Primary School (Innisfail) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 90% (4.51 out of 5).

- Best practice areas include: Safeguarding Children, First Nations, Resources, Bullying + Behaviour Management, Staff Engagement, Leadership, Catholic Identity, + Religious Education, Improvement Processes.

Student Reporting Data

Average student attendance rates

| Prep | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 | Total |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 87.67% | 87.56% | 88.93% | 87.29% | 86.04% | 89.59% | 87.87% | 87.86% |

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 contacted 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

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with students of Good Counsel Primary School (Innisfail) commencing 11 July 2022 and concluding 5 August 2022. Survey responses were received from 83 out of a total of 101 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 82.2%. Good Counsel Primary School (Innisfail) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 86% (4.32 out of 5).

- Best practice areas include: First Nations, Learning + Teaching, Leadership, Resources, Improvement Processes, Safeguarding Children, Catholic Identity + Religious Education.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN results are available from My School Website:

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/47832>

Funding Reporting Data

School funding breakdown is available from My School Website:

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/47832>