



**Catholic
Education**
Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Mother of Good Counsel School, North Cairns

Motto	Honour and Truth
Address	394 Sheridan St, NORTH CAIRNS QLD 4870
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Phone Number	(07) 4053 9700
Email Address	secretary.nthcairns@cns.catholic.edu.au
Website	www.mogc.qld.edu.au
MySchool Profile	https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/47833
Total Enrolments	353
Year Levels Offered	P-6
Student Population	Co-Educational
Principal	Ms Ruth Mallon
Parish Priest	Fr Roy Neervelil
Parish Number	(07) 4053 1179



About our School

Mother of Good Counsel School is a parish-based, co-educational school situated in the north of Cairns. Mother of Good Counsel School provides a quality learning environment for children, in particular endeavouring to retain the 'small school' atmosphere, where every student is known and valued. We provide up-to-date learning resources and facilities, and are proudly staffed by experienced and professional teachers whose pedagogical frameworks are grounded in current research.

The School was founded in 1936 by the Sisters of Mercy and has since grown to accommodate a population of approximately 350 children. The Mercy tradition of actively displaying Christ's 'loving kindness' is evidenced in the school's awareness and support of community and international concerns.

Mother Of Good Counsel School's commitment to educational excellence is reflected in its strong focus on student well-being, and success in achieving good outcomes for its students. This is due to the high calibre of programs, dedicated staff and encouraged strong parental support.

Characteristics of Student Body

Male	Female	Unspecified	ESL	% Catholic	% First Nations	% NCCD	ICSEA
154	199		4	54.4%	2.5%	13.9%	1095

Enrolment Trend:

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
369	374	372	362	369	353

School Annual Improvement

Priority 1: Pedagogy

By the end of 2022, explicit teaching will be goal driven and understood, so that learners have a known purpose for what they are learning, how they are learning, and how they will know success as learners. Positive behaviour supports will be engaged for learning and teaching.

Priority 2: Writing & Spelling

By the end of 2022, Mother of Good Counsel students will achieve Benchmark Targets above National Minimum Standard +1, and growth greater than the Australian Effect Size, for Yr 3 (95%) & Yr 5 (93%) students. Growth in writing, for every student, will be tracked using the Writing Gain Tool. Weekly spelling post-tests will be completed with 85% accuracy.

Priority 3: Data Literacy

In 2022, staff will utilise a number of platforms that enable them to engage regularly with data. They will competently analyse and discuss data, to inform teaching and learning for each individual student.

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

Preparing for our future:

Mother of Good Counsel School has adopted strategies and access to online learning resources, to engage and lead students in the classroom. Students use iPads and Chromebooks, as learning tools in all year levels, to enhance quality education and diverse needs. A one to one iPad program begins in Year 2 and is proving successful in engaging students' learning and providing for the diverse learning needs of students. We are providing our future citizens with capabilities to enhance their learning as independent and discerning participants in our community.

Social and Emotional Learning:

Explicitly taught through the Second Step, Friendology and Zones of Regulation programs, Social and Emotional Learning enhances essential life skills for individual and social development. This whole school approach, includes Parent and Staff Educational Programs and a variety of opportunities through a tiered support approach which includes support programs for parents, run by our qualified staff.

Camps & Excursions:

Our Year 4 & 6 students participate in a 3 day camp, where they embed their teamwork and co-operation skills, while facing individual challenges. Year 5 students experience a number of excursions throughout the year, that support their classroom learning, social, personal and leadership development.

Specialist Opportunities:

- The Arts - Prep to Year 4 engage weekly with The Arts teacher, with opportunities to grow in confident performance skills.
- Japanese - Years 5 & 6 participate in weekly Japanese lessons, while also learning about the culture of Japan.
- Phys Ed - Prep to Year 6 improve their skills and fitness through specialist Phys Ed lessons, which culminate in a variety of school based carnivals (Cross Country, Athletics, Swimming) and some interschool competitions.
- Hip Hop Dance - All students enjoy a Hip Hop Dance program that is conducted through an external provider. The Hip Hop presentation event is always a highlight!
- Instrumental music - Lessons are available at school, through an external provider: guitar, violin, voice.
- Sacramental Program - Organised through the parish, all students are invited to participate in this program, which is supported through the Religious Education program.

Extra Curricular Activities

Offered for students across year levels, are:

- Before & After School Sporting Opportunities - Tennis, Basketball, Soccer, AFL - available through our external partnerships with various clubs and organisations
- Interhouse and district sporting carnivals
- Public Speaking competitions
- Involvement in local spelling, reading and writing competitions
- Coding Club
- Hip Hop Dance
- Drama Club
- Student Leadership Program
- Camps and Excursions
- Buddies Program
- Instrumental Music

- Choir

Social Climate

Mother of Good Counsel School has a warm, friendly environment. Mother of Good Counsel strives to foster successful learning based on both the Gospel Values and the tradition of the Mercy Sisters, standing firm in its capacity for effective, life-giving relationships with collaboration involving all those within its school community.

We endeavour to nurture the development of the whole child - academically, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. Through our Positive Behaviour and Relationship Plan, we aim to foster healthy relationships between students and teachers through the promotion of restorative practices and social and emotional well-being. Self-discipline is encouraged, as is respect for the rights of others. Parent involvement is considered a key element in creating a positive approach to behaviour management and support.

Active participation in church events, responding to local community needs (such as assisting the Rosie's outreach) and participating in CARITAS and Catholic Missions projects ensures that the School upholds the Christian values that are an integral part of Mother of Good Counsel's culture. Our strong focus on student well-being has continued to grow. A tiered approach to intervention has been established, designed to assist children on their journey towards achieving success beyond primary school:

Tier 1 Support (Classroom Teacher): Second Step Program, Friendology Program, Zones of Regulation Program, Circle Solutions & Christian Meditation.

Tier 2 Support (Classroom Teacher + Specialised Wellbeing Teacher Support): Social Skills Groups, Circle Solutions & Mentoring.

Tier 3 Support: Student Counsellor access.

Parent Engagement

Our MOGC Connect group welcomes all in our community.

Our school believes in the strength of working together. Many information sessions are held, and we call for parent feedback throughout the year:

- Information evenings
- Parent Surveys
- Parent / Teacher nights
- Parent / Teacher interviews
- School Newsletters and Facebook Page
- Social Functions
- Parents involved with reading and classroom activities
- Weekly Assemblies
- Class Masses and Liturgies of the Word
- Curriculum Updates
- Programs for parents re Cyber Safety; Bringing Up Great Kids; Circle of Security

Mother of Good Counsel School has a number of community partnerships in place. The School has participated in local charities and speaking competitions, as well as supporting local sporting associations through participation in events. Our outreach has grown to include visits to entertain and engage with elderly people in our community.

Parent Satisfaction

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with parents of Mother of Good Counsel School (North Cairns) commencing 11 July 2022 and concluding 22 July 2022. Survey responses were received from 117 out of a total of 462 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 25.3%. Mother of Good Counsel School (North Cairns) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 81% (4.04 out of 5).

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

Staff Reporting

Qualification Highest level of attainment	Doctoral / Post-doctoral	Masters	Bachelor degree	Diploma	Certificate
Number of staff with this qualification		4	26	4	5

Workforce composition	Headcount	FTE (Full-time equivalent)
Teaching Staff	31	25.73333
Non-Teaching Staff	14	10.68026
Indigenous	1	0.87763

Professional Development	
Funds expended	\$13177.32
Staff Involved	100%

Major Professional Development Initiatives

It is crucial that teachers are confident, competent and knowledgeable in the teaching tools they implement. A considerable amount of the School budget is dedicated to teaching and classroom resources that support effective pedagogy, which is promoted within the School. Our staff have been involved in:

- curriculum based professional development
- opportunities for collegial and research based discussions and decision making
- mentoring and coaching around effective pedagogies
- opportunities to improve data analysis for improved student achievements
- workplace health and safety training
- ongoing experiences with using new technologies to enhance learning

The School often initiates its own professional development based on specific goals and needs e.g. Writing / Spelling, Circle Solutions, Social & Emotional Learning, Assessment, Data Analysis, Student and Staff Wellbeing etc. The professional development of staff focuses on improving wellbeing and outcomes for children. Mother of Good Counsel has directed much of its staff professional development to keeping teachers and school officers abreast of research based best classroom practices regarding pedagogy and student engagement.

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	96.17%
Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous year	75.86%

Staff Satisfaction

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with staff of Mother of Good Counsel School (North Cairns) commencing 11 July 2022 and concluding 22 July 2022. Survey responses were received from 37 out of a total of 50 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 74%. Mother of Good Counsel School (North Cairns) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 84% (4.19 out of 5).

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

Student Reporting Data

Average student attendance rates

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
91.11%	88.18%	89.14%	88.00%	87.72%	87.26%	87.42%	88.40%

How non-attendance is managed by the School

The school requests that parents phone or send information via the Parent Portal, prior to, or on the morning when students are absent. This information is then relayed to teachers.

If students are absent with no notification from parents, the child is marked as an unexplained absence and an SMS is sent to the primary carer, alerting them that the child is an unexplained absence at school for that day.

As part of our data analysis, we are looking more closely at attendance data and alerting parents if non-attendance is impacting student performance.

Student Satisfaction

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with students of Mother of Good Counsel School (North Cairns) commencing 11 July 2022 and concluding 22 July 2022. Survey responses were received from 76 out of a total of 95 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 80%. Mother of Good Counsel School (North Cairns) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 81% (4.04 out of 5).

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

NAPLAN

NAPLAN results are available from My School Website:

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/47833>

Funding Reporting Data

School funding breakdown is available from My School Website:

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/47833>