



Catholic Education

Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

Mount St Bernard College, Herberton

Motto	Luceat Lux Vestra 'Let Your Light Shine'
Address	15 Broadway, HERBERTON QLD 4887
Postal Address	PO Box 14, HERBERTON QLD 4887
Phone Number	(07) 4096 1444
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Email Address	office@msb.qld.edu.au
Web Site	http://www.msb.qld.edu.au
Total Enrolments	164
Year Levels Offered	7-12
Student Population	Co-Educational
Principal	Ian Margetts
Parish Priest	Rev Fr Michael Szymanski
Parish Number	(07) 4091 1125





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About our School

Mount St Bernard College is located at Herberton, on the Atherton Tablelands. Established in 1921 by the Sisters of Mercy as a day and boarding school, the College enjoys a proud history and a rich tradition.

The Sisters of Mercy began their educational ministry in the Herberton district over 100 years ago with the opening of St Patrick's Parish Catholic primary school in 1910. Responding to the changing educational needs in far north Queensland, the original Sisters of Mercy Boarding School, St Mary's Cooktown, was moved to Herberton in 1921. The Sisters of Mercy gifted the college to the Diocese of Cairns in February 2006 and it is now administered by Cairns Catholic Education Services.

As a Catholic school, Mount St Bernard College is open to all who support its values and are seeking a holistic education. The College serves local students from the Tablelands district. With Boarding facilities on-site, Mount St Bernard College also reaches out to students from the remote communities of Cape York, the Gulf of Carpentaria, the Torres Strait, Northern Territory & Papua New Guinea.

As a coeducational boarding school, the College enrolment reflects a broad spectrum of cultures and experiences. Mount St Bernard College strives to enable its students to develop a broad range of skills enabling them to become the persons God created them to be.

Small class sizes and excellent pastoral support allows Mount St Bernard College to provide meaningful, personalised pathways for students in a well-supported environment.

Characteristics of Student Body

Students come from far and wide to study at Mount St Bernard College.

- Student population at the end of 2020 was 164 students
- 34% are 'day' students from Herberton, Atherton, Ravenshoe and surrounding areas
- 66% are 'boarding' students from the Cape, Torres Strait, Northern Territory and Papua New Guinea
- 76% of students identified as Indigenous

School Annual Improvement

Priority 1: Mercy Charism

Smart Goal: Promote and enhance Mercy charism with staff, students and greater community

Priority 2: Writing

Smart Goal: Increased effect size in NAPLAN writing (Year 7-9) to 0.6

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

The Mount St Bernard College curriculum has been designed to provide diverse pathways to meet the wide ranging of needs of the students we serve. We offer a broad curriculum intended to contribute to the deep learning and holistic development of students. Core classes in the junior secondary are purposefully grouped to provide opportunities for extension or learning support

Years 7 to 10 curriculum program includes core subjects Religion, Mathematics, Science, English, Humanities and Health and Physical Education. Year 7 & 8 students' study 'elective' subjects on rotational basis in areas that include Digital Technologies, Visual Art, Food & Textile, Industrial Technology and Music and in Year 9 & 10 they are able to choose from an extensive list that includes these areas as they explore in more depth their interests and possible career pathways.



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In response to the needs of individuals and their breadth of aspirations, a Mount St Bernard College senior (Years 11 & 12) education program can help prepare young people for direct entry into the world of work or lay the foundation for tertiary studies. A range of Vocational Education & Training (VET) offerings complement the academic curriculum.

MSB is renowned for its expedition program in Years 9 & 10. Individuals have an opportunity to challenge their comfort zone and develop traits of self-reliance, leadership and teamwork through these outdoor education experiences

Extra Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular activities throughout 2019 included;

- Student Leadership
- Sporting opportunities - local competitions as well as regional, state & national representative opportunities
- Expeditions
- Art Club
- Chess club
- Liturgies
- School bands
- Choir
- Youth Forums
- Rosies Outreach Program
- Homework Club
- Gym & Yoga clubs

In addition to this, the boarding house runs an extensive program to cater for individual students' interests.

Social Climate

Mount St Bernard College is a school in the Mercy tradition. As a Catholic school, the values of Mercy education - love, respect, participation, service and personal best effort - have endured as proud traditions at the heart of the life of the College.

Mount St Bernard College is committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for students and staff where students have opportunities to engage in quality learning experiences and acquire values supportive of their lifelong wellbeing.

Mount St Bernard College values respect, participation and personal best. Students are supported to respect themselves, fellow students and adult members of the school community. Respect is experienced in positive relationships, affirming language and peaceful actions. Respect for school facilities and the surrounding environment is also promoted. Importantly, student respect for the purpose of school is observed in students' positive engagement in their learning.

Bullying behaviours are proactively addressed by MSB's structured development of students' Social Emotional skills. Mount St Bernard College's Student Wellbeing Team respond to individual bullying incidents to both support students subjected to unwanted and inappropriate behaviours and assist students engaging in bullying behaviours to address their inappropriate attitudes and actions. Wellbeing support in Boarding School Wide Positive Behaviour Support is designed to facilitate high standards of behaviour so that learning and teaching can be effective and students can participate positively within our College community.

A school-wide positive behavior lesson is taught each week in all year levels to support students to make good choices. A social emotional learning program is also implemented in Year 7-10 for 1 lesson per week.



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Parent Engagement

We are committed to building strong partnerships with parents through regular contact and encouraging open relationships between staff and parents supportive of students' growth and learning.

This is assisted by formal structures that included in 2020:

- Community visits
- The College newsletter, with editions each fortnight helps the parent and family community maintain awareness of upcoming events, celebrate student and community achievements, stay informed of emerging developments in education
- The college Facebook page is very popular and a wonderful source of information. Many families access this regularly.
- Mount St Bernard College has a Parents and Friends Association which meets once per term. Meetings are advertised in the newsletter. Parents are invited to attend or join the group regularly.
- Termly College Board meetings
- Regular Parent / Teacher Interviews following reports

Support for our Boarding families to engage with the College included;

- School representatives visited Cape, Northern Territory and Gulf communities.
- Many families visited and stayed in our 'Transition House'. From here families were able to spend time with their children as well as attend classes with them.

A specially designated position, Transition Officer, support students transitioning into school and liaising with families as well as an Indigenous Liaison Officer who supported indigenous students and made regular contact with families.

Parent Satisfaction

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

- 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	1	24	6	3

Workforce composition	Headcount	FTE (Full-time equivalent)
Teaching Staff	32	30.40
Non-Teaching Staff	61	49.54
Indigenous	6	4.74

Professional development	
Funds expended	\$12,878.00
Staff Involved	100%

Major Professional Development Initiatives

Professional development activities in 2020 included:

- Senior Leader Curriculum Professional Learning Network
- First Response First Aid Course
- Library Assistant Professional Learning Network
- Cluster Meeting Dynamics
- E-Learning Forum
- Rheumatic Heart Disease 2 day workshop
- QCAA Lead EA Script Selection and Marking
- Bronze Medallion
- QCAA Subject Specific Collaborations days
- NCU Copyright for Educators
- ETAQ English external exam webinar - Diving Deep into External Assessment
- QCAA Physics collaboration
- Wound Management: A Practical Guide Seminar
- QCAA collaborative moderation day - Geography
- SIS Office 365 Training
- Softlink's Oliver v5 & ClickView User Conference: Community & Collaboration
- Positive Schools Conference
- Mental Health in Schools Conference
- Positive School, Mental Health & Wellbeing Conference
- QCAA Confirmer Training
- NAPLAN online Training
- VET Coordinator Meeting and Career Pathways Meeting
- TREWTH conference



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- Counsellor Peer Support Day
- Nurturing the Mercy Charism

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	71%

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:

YR 7	YR 8	YR 9	YR 10	YR 11	YR 12
88.53	87.5	89.23	89.71	88.59	68.74

How non-attendance is managed by the school

Parents are encouraged to contact the school on the day that a student is absent. If students are absent without notification, a Mount St Bernard College staff member telephones parents on that day.

Mount St Bernard College has a proactive Wellbeing Team who monitors and supports student attendance. Individual students at risk through non-attendance are counselled and supported to maximise their participation.

Boarding students have regular roll calls. If a boarding student is unwell they remain in the Morrissey Boarding House or in the Health Centre.

Year 10 to 12 Apparent Retention Rate: 65.2%

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.



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NAPLAN

Reading, Writing & Numeracy Results - Year 7, 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 9, 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	\$4,851,039
State/Territory Government recurrent funding	\$880,926
Fees, charges and parent contributions	\$71,181
Other private sources	\$168,972
Total gross income (excluding income from government capital grants)	\$5,972,118

Deductions 2020

Income allocated to current capital projects	\$80,400
Income allocated to future capital projects and diocesan capital funds	\$0
Income allocated to debt servicing (including principal repayments and interest on loans)	\$364,962
Subtotal	\$445,362
Total net recurrent income	\$5,526,756