



**Catholic  
Education**  
Diocese of Cairns

*Learning with Faith and Vision*

## St Joseph's Parish School, Weipa

<b>Motto</b>	Bringing Faith and Learning to Life
<b>Address</b>	Boundary Rd, Rocky Point, WEIPA QLD 4874
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<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au">http://www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au</a>
<b>Total Enrolments</b>	136
<b>Year Levels Offered</b>	P-6
<b>Student Population</b>	Co-Educational
<b>Principal</b>	Megan Pearce
<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Dariusz Osinski
<b>Parish Number</b>	(07) 4069 9346





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### About our School

Established in 2016, St Joseph's Parish School is the first Catholic school in Weipa. Set in a mining town on the Western side of Cape York Peninsula, St Joseph's Parish School has at its very heart, the values of Humility, Justice and Compassion just as Jesus showed. With a current enrolment of 130 students, St Joseph's has a welcoming 'small school' atmosphere, where every student is known and valued. St Joseph's purpose-built design boasts a contemporary and innovative learning environment with all classroom learning areas flowing into a central open space.

St Joseph's provides an Authentic Catholic Education with a strong focus on Social and Emotional development through the lens of the Catholic Faith. We strive to live out the Gospel values in our daily lives and challenge all school members to make a positive difference to the lives of others. The St Joseph's Parish School Charism, 'The St Joseph Way', is embedded into all facets of school life, is lived, modelled and articulated by every member of the school community.

St Joseph's Parish School provides a safe, stimulating learning environment and where each child has the opportunity to achieve their potential. It has a group of highly dedicated and motivated parents and carers who genuinely assist with the provision of the best educational environment possible for their children, through their hard work and commitment. Learning is supported by dedicated staff who have a desire to see all students grow in their learning. By using research-based practices together with high levels of technology, student learning outcomes are maximised for all students.

We are committed to join with parents, families and the community in partnership for the education, development and formation of our young people. Our school community works together to provide students with a quality education that will equip them with knowledge, skills and spiritual foundations needed to become well-rounded, active participants of society.

### Characteristics of Student Body

- 136 students
- 22% aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Approximately 90% of students come from dual income families. The majority of families work for RIO Tinto or contractors who work for the mine. Other parent occupations are in education or health.

### School Annual Improvement

#### Priority 1: Enhancing Catholic Identity

Smart Goal: By the end of 2021 St Joseph's community will devise strategies that will nurture A Post Critical Belief to assist in developing a Recontextualised Catholic Dialogue School. This will be evidenced by:

1. Nurturing the prayer life of the school and provide a variety of experiences measured by achieving a minimum of a 2.5 visibility score for the elaborations: PWP 1.4, 2.1, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 3.2 and 3.3.
2. Creating Year Level Religion Curriculum overviews that integrate the Religious Life of our school, Indigenous Australian spiritualities and other learning areas.
3. A minimum of one trialled and reviewed learning cycles for each year level.

#### Priority 2: Data Literacy

Smart Goal: By the end of 2021 St Joseph's will achieve competency in the relevant analysis and interpretation of data to inform decision making in Attendance, Reading and Well-being. This is evidenced by:

1. Reading - 85% above NMS and effect size growth greater than the Australian effect size.
2. Attendance - 80% of students will attend min of 90% or more
3. Well-being - 85% of students will feel safe and happy at school as identified by the Diocesan Wellbeing survey.



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### Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

At St Joseph's School, learning is based on the holistic development of each child – physically, emotionally, socially, academically and spiritually. We, as a learning community, are always looking for opportunities to grow, so that individually and collectively we become the best that we can be.

St Joseph's is fully engaged in the Australian Curriculum and provides rich, purposeful learning across all subject areas.

- Religious Education
- Mathematics
- English
- English
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
- Science
- Technology
- The Arts
- Health & Physical Education (HPE)
- Languages Other Than English (AUSLAN)

Some areas of specific and significant importance at St Joseph's Parish School include:

- Religious Education - Our core subjects include Religious Education which involves a formal study of Religion in the Catholic Tradition guided by the Archdiocese of Brisbane's Religious Education Curriculum.
- Student wellbeing is a high priority at St Joseph's and focusses on providing students with the foundations for emotional development and learning. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is explicitly taught using the You Can Do It program. This program is designed to teach protective behaviour, social and emotional learning, bullying prevention and child protection, creating a cohesive foundation for a safe and protective school.
- Intensive intervention support in Reading. Every student's progress in reading is closely monitored and intervention provided. Reading intervention programs -Mac Lit, Mini Lit, Initial Lit and Pre-Lit.
- E-Learning delivered via 1:1 student access to digital devices in classrooms P-6
- ICT assistant and tech support visiting twice per term.
- Strong emphasis on implementing the Digital Technologies curriculum through Lego Robotics, Sphero Robotic Balls and Bee Bots to teach Coding and Programming. Our school employs a STEM support teacher half a day each week to support teachers with planning and resourcing.
- The school engages a teacher librarian who visits for 2 weeks each term. The Librarian works with students in teaching research skills, internet safety as well as introducing students to a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction literature.
- Specialist teachers for Physical Education, Visual Arts and Performing Arts
- AUSLAN is taught to students in P-6
- Spelling Mastery a research evidence-based program is implemented in Years 2-6

The learning across all Learning Areas is enhanced and enriched through the integration of key events throughout the school year. This includes various visiting school performances, involvement in activities such as ANZAC Day March, Under 8s Day, Book Week, Catholic Education Week, NAIDOC Week and various feast days in the church calendar. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is taught and integrated across all year levels. School camp is held for Year 6. A Swimming program is run in Term 3 which culminates in a swimming carnival.



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### Extra Curricular Activities

St Joseph's encourages students to participate in a range of activities that are available at lunch time, in school time, before and after school.

Some of the activities on offer are:

- Sport coaching sessions
- Choir
- Drama Club
- Art Club
- Code Club
- Readers Cup Challenge
- Swimming lessons
- Cultural Experiences, Technology Workshops, Science, Art
- Under 8's Day
- Visiting school performances
- School camp for students in Year 6.
- Retreat for students in Year 5 and Year 6
- Science Expo - Visiting Scientist
- The Arts Expo held biannually
- Pre-Prep Transition program in Term 4 for school readiness.
- Participation in Premier's Reading Challenge
- Annual initiatives/activities for National Science, Literacy & Numeracy Week
- Annual celebrations for NAIDOC Week
- Annual celebrations for Book week
- Annual initiatives/activities for Catholic Education Week
- Various fundraising events run by the students to support local charities.

### Social Climate

St Joseph's Parish School has a warm, friendly community that strives to foster successful learning based on both the Gospel Values and academic achievement. Our school is a learning community which places emphasis on enabling its students to seek spiritual, academic, creative and physical excellence in order to achieve their potential with dignity, respect and responsibility towards themselves, others and the environment.

Our school follows the St Joseph School Positive Behaviour Plan, created in consultation with the school community, clearly outlining school rules and expectations. Staff encourage children to persist with their learning when it is difficult. There is a strong focus on creating strong positive relationships and culture for learning. St Joseph's School community nurtures the whole child and all students benefit from access to the following:

- School Counsellor
- Learning Support Teacher
- Curriculum Support Teacher
- Parish Priest
- APRE
- School Masses
- P&F activities
- Close relationships with neighbouring schools
- Adopt-a-Cop



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### Parent Engagement

Parents at St Joseph's engage in learning and are involved at a high level in a variety of ways.

- Parent-staff-student social events
- Fortnightly newsletter
- Facebook page
- Assemblies each Friday morning
- Parent surveys
- Parent/teacher interviews
- School Mass
- Classroom Liturgies
- Classroom assistance
- Mother's and Father's Day celebrations
- Working bees
- Parent volunteer's induction program
- Community events such as wear Red for Daniel Day
- Open nights/days
- Parent participation in sporting events and extra-curricular events

Parental Involvement is very positive, productive and is very much valued. We have a very supportive Parents and Friends Association who focus on parent engagement as well as involvement.

Parents are provided with four opportunities for formal reporting on student progress, two being interviews and the others written. Teachers are available to meet with parents when needed at other times.

### Parent Satisfaction

The Annual 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 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	2	9	5	0

Workforce composition	Headcount	FTE (Full-time equivalent)
Teaching Staff	11	11
Non-Teaching Staff	12	7.19
Indigenous	0	0

Professional development	
Funds expended	\$48,800.00
Staff Involved	100%

### Major Professional Development Initiatives

The staff at St Joseph's School are committed to school improvement and student learning.

It is crucial that teachers are confident, competent and knowledgeable in the teaching tools they implement. There is a considerable amount of the school budget 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 planning and judgements
- Mentoring and coaching around effective pedagogies
- Opportunities to improve data analysis for improved student achievements
- Ongoing experiences with using new technologies to enhance learning
- Workplace Health & Safety
- First Aid and CPR
- Mandatory Student Protection
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Digital technologies
- Coaching
- Essential Skills for Classroom Management & Classroom Profiling
- NAPLAN Analysis
- Consistency of Teacher Judgement
- Reading Assessment and Reporting
- Writing Report Card Comments



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## 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	96%
Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year	45%

## 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
89.86	92.78	92.78	87.3	88.92	94.84	91.27

### How non-attendance is managed by the school

Parents are encouraged to contact the school by telephone or email on the day that a student is absent. If the school is not contacted, and the reason for the absence is not known, the school will contact the parents. Following the marking of the roll each morning, unexplained absences are actioned by the school administration officer. If parents have not contacted the school prior to the completion of the roll, a phone call is made and the reason recorded. A Sign-in Register is used for students who arrive late and depart early from school.

The school has processes and procedures in place to address lateness and non-attendance. If there is a pattern of non-attendance, parents are contacted to discuss any issues or concerns regarding the student. St Joseph's school community is educated in the importance of attendance and the correlation between academic success. Weekly newsletters identify current attendance for each class and there are many incentives put in place to improve attendance.

### 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 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	\$2,681,937
State/Territory Government recurrent funding	\$511,861
Fees, charges and parent contributions	\$333,323
Other private sources	\$100,275
<b>Total gross income (excluding income from government capital grants)</b>	<b>\$3,627,396</b>

### Deductions 2020

Income allocated to current capital projects	\$55,462
Income allocated to future capital projects and diocesan capital funds	\$0
Income allocated to debt servicing (including principal repayments and interest on loans)	\$282,502
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$337,964</b>
<b>Total net recurrent income</b>	<b>\$3,289,432</b>