



**Catholic
Education**
Diocese of Cairns

Learning with Faith and Vision

St Joseph's Parish School, Weipa

Motto	Bringing Faith and Learning to Life
Address	Boundary Rd, Rocky Point, WEIPA QLD 4874
Postal Address	PO Box 1409, WEIPA QLD 4874
Phone Number	(07) 4214 6600
Email Address	secretary.weipa@cns.catholic.edu.au
Website	www.stjosephsweipa.qld.edu.au
MySchool Profile	https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/51503
Total Enrolments	117
Year Levels Offered	P-6
Student Population	Co-Educational
Principal	Ms Megan Pearce
Parish Priest	Fr Dariusz Osinski
Parish Number	(07) 4069 9346



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 117 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 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

Male	Female	Unspecified	ESL	% Catholic	% First Nations	% NCCD	ICSEA
63	54			39.4%	17.9%	21.4%	974

Enrolment Trend:

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
130	158	138	136	126	117

School Annual Improvement

Smart Goal 1: In 2022 SJW will continue to develop and implement a comprehensive staff formation plan that provides a strong foundation for personal, spiritual and theological growth of staff connected directly to their personal and professional lives.

CES Strategic Direction: Encounter Catholic Identity The formation of staff and students through a Catholic lens and furthering our understanding of First Nations cultures and ways of knowing, being and doing.

CES Priority Areas:

Priority 1. Encounter Our Catholic Education community experiences a Catholic Faith formation that deepens our understanding of the Church's mission, and which invites an encounter with the person of Jesus.

School Effectiveness Framework Domain:

- Lived and Celebrated Catholic Identity
- Systematic Curriculum Delivery
- Targeted Use of School Resources
- Effective Pedagogical Practices

Smart Goal 2: In 2022, SJW will undertake the ground work needed to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan that fosters and promotes the knowledge, appreciation and respect for the rich social and cultural diversity that exists within our school and wider community.

CES Strategic Direction: First Nations Perspectives Understand the cultures of the First Nations peoples and provide learning environments which are culturally safe and embrace culturally responsive and high impact pedagogies, with a strong emphasis on engagement, wellbeing and success.

CES Priority Areas:

Priority 3. First Nations communities and families are honoured, their cultures and beliefs respected, and our schools committed to Closing the Gap imperatives for every First Nations student.

School Effectiveness Framework Domain:

- Analysis and Discussion of Data
- Culture that Promotes Learning
- Targeted Use of School Resources
- Expert Teaching Team
- Effective Pedagogical Practices
- School Community Partnerships

Smart Goal 3: By the end of 2022, SJW will establish a Response to Intervention framework that underpins the way teachers plan for and target their teaching to continually adjust to the progress individuals are making so that every student, including high-achieving students, are engaged, challenged and learning successfully.

CES Strategic Direction: Engagement Wellbeing & Learning Consistent planning and teaching that is responsive to students and the context in which they live and learn.

CES Priority Areas:

Priority 3. Learning and Teaching Documentation The Catholic Education Community co-creates consistent system Learning and Teaching documentation.

Priority 6. Workforce Every student benefits from inspiring, engaging, and highly professional teachers, school and CES leaders and support and professional staff.

School Effectiveness Framework Domain:

- Expert Teaching Team
- Systematic Curriculum Delivery

- Analysis and Discussion Of Data
- Targeted Use of School Resources
- Effective Pedagogical Practices

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
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
- Science
- Technology
- The Arts
- Health & Physical Education (HPE)
- Languages Other Than English (AUSLAN) P-2 (SPANISH) 3-6

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.
- Specialist teachers for Physical Education, Visual Arts and Performing Arts.
- AUSLAN is taught to students in P-2 and Spanish is taught to students in 3-6.
- Spelling Mastery a research evidence-based program is implemented in Years 2-6.

In 2022 we established a Year 5/6 Learning Hub where along with strong foundations in Literacy and numeracy we have introduced integrated learning approach to further engage and extend our students. This has been so successful that we have had a growth in the numbers in the top end of the school and will continue to run with the Senior Hub Structure for 2023 and beyond.

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 in term one and for Year 5 in term three. A Swimming program is run in term 1 which culminates in a Swimming Carnival. Cross Country is held at the beginning of term 2 and our Athletics Carnival is held at the end of term 2. Throughout the year we have many sporting clinics including AFL, Cricket, NRL, Netball and Hockey. We join with other schools in the area to compete at Gala Days.

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. The local PCYC visit our school twice a week to participate in organised sport and games.

Our Student Service Club meets fortnightly to coordinate lunch time activities that the student body have nominated for the term.

Some of the activities on offer are:

- Sport coaching sessions
- Choir
- Drama Club
- Art Club
- Code Club -robotics
- 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 highlighting Dance and Visual Arts
- 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. We refer to this as the 'St Joseph's Way' with our four school rules - At St Joseph's we are: Respectful, Responsible, Resilient and Ready for Learning.

Staff encourage children to persist with their learning when it is challenging. 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
- PCYC

Parent Engagement

At St Joseph's we value our partnerships with parents and recognise the importance of parent engagement for student success. 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 small but very supportive Parents and Friends Association executive who focus on parent engagement as well as involvement.

Late in 2022 after acknowledging the changing nature of families and schools and evolving ways of working together, we are looking at creating a Parent Engagement Network. This model combines what would have been known as a school board and the school P&F. We plan to have established our St Joseph's Parent Engagement Network by the end of 2023.

Establishing a Parent Engagement Network will assist in:

- developing a positive and affirming community spirit
- supporting the work of the principal and staff
- providing feedback to the principal and staff
- promoting consultation between home and school, parents and teachers
- encouraging parent/family engagement with their child's learning and school life
- deepening parent/family understanding of teaching and learning programs
- promoting the school in the wider community
- the provision of resources to promote the educational program

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

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with parents of St Joseph's Parish School (Weipa) commencing 4 August 2022 and concluding 5 August 2022. Survey responses were received from 55 out of a total of 81 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 67.9%. St Joseph's Parish School (Weipa) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 85% (4.26 out of 5).

- Best practice areas include: Resources, General, First Nations, Learning + Teaching, Leadership, Improvement Processes, Bullying + Behaviour Management, 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		2	11	4	1

Workforce composition	Headcount	FTE (Full-time equivalent)
Teaching Staff	12	12
Non-Teaching Staff	5	4.36841
Indigenous	0	0

Professional Development	
Funds expended	\$15818.53
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
- Whole school faith formation program
- Opportunities for collegial planning
- Mentoring and coaching around effective pedagogies
- Ongoing experiences with using new technologies to enhance learning
- Opportunities to improve data analysis for improved student achievements
- Workplace Health & Safety
- First Aid and CPR
- Mandatory Student Protection
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Digital technologies
- Coaching in Literacy and Numeracy
- Master classes in Science of Reading Pedagogy
- PB4L ongoing training
- Essential Skills for Classroom Management & Classroom Profiling
- Positive classroom behaviour training - Multilit
- Consistency of Teacher Judgement

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	95.55%
Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous year	58.82%

Staff Satisfaction

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with staff of St Joseph's Parish School (Weipa) commencing 4 August 2022 and concluding 5 August 2022. Survey responses were received from 8 out of a total of 18 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 44.4%. St Joseph's Parish School (Weipa) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 81% (4.04 out of 5).

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

Student Reporting Data

Average student attendance rates

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
82.17%	82.97%	84.96%	87.48%	84.87%	85.58%	81.58%	84.37%

How non-attendance is managed by the School

At St Joseph's Parish School our staff recognise the strong link between regular attendance and school success and are committed to maximising the school attendance of our students. Our continued work in partnership with parents has lead to improved attendance over the last 3 years. However in 2022 our school attendance was significantly impacted by illness due to COVID -19.

Attendance related notifications from parents and class teachers are recorded by our school administration staff. 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. The St Joseph's school community is educated in the importance of attendance and the correlation between academic success.

We use a traffic light system that visually shows the current attendance. This is displayed around the School and published in the newsletter each fortnight. Each term parents receive a letter to let them know how many days their children have been absent. This helps parents to identify if their child is attending the recommended 94% and above or not. Weekly newsletters identify current attendance for each class and there are many incentives put in place to improve attendance including:

- Every student has a personalised attendance sticker chart that they keep in their desk.
- Class with the great attendance each fortnight gets to look after our attendance fish (Adam) for the next two weeks.
- Children with 94% attendance and above for the term get to attend the Principal's morning tea - this is where the Principal serves them an amazing morning tea.
- Children who have achieved 94% attendance and above for the Semester receive an Achievement Award certificate.
- Children who Achieve 94% and above attendance by the end of the year receive a medallion.
- Children with 100% for the Year receive a trophy.

Student Satisfaction

MYP Corporation conducted a School Results Survey with students of St Joseph's Parish School (Weipa) commencing 4 August 2022 and concluding 5 August 2022. Survey responses were received from 32 out of a total of 34 eligible respondents. This equates to a response rate of 94.1%. St Joseph's Parish School (Weipa) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 79% (3.94 out of 5).

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

NAPLAN

NAPLAN results are available from My School Website:

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/51503>

Funding Reporting Data

School funding breakdown is available from My School Website:

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/51503>