

# Not too big and not too small, but just right

EVERY FAMILY considering enrolling their children at St Joseph's is personally taken on a guided tour of the school by principal, Michael Lindsay; not only of its facilities but more importantly, of its community.

"For us, our school community is an extended family, of sorts. One of the things that I believe makes this possible is the size of our school," Mr Lindsay said.

"Indeed, prospective families often comment to me that St Joe's is just the right size: not too big yet not too small either. I am often reminded of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* it seems that for many parents, we are the chair or the bed or the porridge that is "just right".

"In my experience, I have taught in schools with student populations from 1,600 students to here at St Joseph's Atherton with just over 250 students. For me, and for many families I meet with, a school needs to be more than just a mass-provider of education – each person needs to know that they are known and valued as a

part of our community.

"Equally, when a school is too small, many important social dynamics can be diminished, not to mention resourcing being an ongoing struggle.

"In one school I fondly remember teaching in, the headmaster, well-respected for his vision, had a clearly articulated 'cap on numbers'. For him, it was not about taking as many student enrolments as you could because of the increased economy that brings to the school; it was about being big enough to be sustainable while remaining small enough that most people still knew each other.

"St Joseph's is currently growing into a two-stream school and we look forward to a building project in due course to accommodate this growth. At the same time, we value highly what many parents have mentioned as being a strength of this school: not too big yet not too small, just the right size.

"This will remain an important part of our vision for St Joseph's," he said.

*“ St Joseph's is not too big yet not too small, just the right size, according to many parents. Each child is known and valued as a part of the school community, yet because the school is not too small, social dynamics and resources are not diminished.”*



Principal Michael Lindsay values highly that parents feel St Joseph's is just the right size.



**It's what parents of St Joseph's, Atherton say about their 'just right' school!**

**Try it on for size and find the perfect fit for your family.**

Visit St Joseph's to find out more, and enrol now.

**BONUS SPECIAL OFFER: All Prep enrolments for 2017 accepted by the end of Term 3 will receive a FREE uniform shirt and shorts!**



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