



Teaching Challenging Transforming

# ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING – 2013

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

School Name St Agatha's School

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## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

Our school was established in January 1925, and was originally staffed by the Presentation Sisters until 1990. Brisbane Catholic Education now administers our Parish school, as we continue to provide high quality teaching and learning in an inclusive environment in our local community.

the students who attend St Agatha's School work with teachers who provide a caring and supportive atmosphere. They form a part of a supportive community which will prepare them to live with joy and confidence in a changing world. The high quality of educational experience for students at this school is due to year level team based planning, assessment and monitoring of student learning and progress and the participation of staff in whole school quality professional development.

As Principal, and as a former pupil of St. Agatha's School, I am proud to be leader of a community school which vibrantly engages students in their learning and promotes Catholic family values in a supportive and nurturing environment. We have a proud history and tradition of caring for our community.

## School Profile

St Agatha's is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational ☒ or Single Sex ☐

Year levels offered: Primary ☒ Secondary ☐ P-12 ☐

Total student enrolments for this school 350

Total Enrolment 350 Girls 217 Boys 133

## Characteristics of the student body

Our student body is comprised of primary aged children from the Clayfield Parish and surrounding suburbs.

Our students, staff and parents are committed to achieving their academic best in all curriculum areas. They are motivated and enthusiastic in their learning, and with the support of their parents and teachers, these high quality outcomes are achieved.

Our female students complete their primary schooling from Prep to Yr.6 at St Agatha's, with the majority of students then choosing nearby St Rita's College for their Secondary Education. Our male students have historically left St Agatha's school after completing Yr. 4 to enrol at Religious Institute Schools nearby, e.g.. Gregory Terrace, Padua and Nudgee College.

Our students enjoy and consistently participate in our extra curricular activities offered by the school, e.g. Drama, Music Robotics, Art, Tennis and Chess. These activities supplement the many activities our students engage in outside school hours.

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

One to One Laptop Programme for Yrs. 4, 5, & 6

One to One iPad Programme for Music

Choir

Robotics

Italian - Yrs. 5 & 6

Music

Visual Arts

Drama

Dance

Readers' Challenge

Netball

Thinkers' Club

Writers' Club

Australian Football

Cross Country

Inter school Swimming

Inter school Athletics

## Extra curricula activities

Chess Club  
Instrumental Programme  
String, Brass and Percussion programme  
Speech & Drama tuition and eisteddfods  
School Band  
Senior and Junior Choir  
Tennis  
City District Sports

## How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

St Agatha's School offers a 1-1 laptop programme for students in Yrs. 4, 5, & 6. We provide learning anywhere, anytime for all students which will enhance learning opportunities and engage students in authentic learning activities.

Interactive white boards are in use in all learning areas, including our Performing Arts Centre. This technology provides a visual enhancement for all learners, and is used across all curriculum areas.

An effective and efficient wireless network enables access to a large range of online educational technologies.

All students have access to their own e-mail account which provides another way of interacting with the teacher and with each others.

All teaching staff has a designated laptop for teaching use and lesson preparation as well as recording assessment data.

## Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Agatha's school is supported by energetic groups involving parents and community members, who operate effectively. These groups, i.e. School Board and Parents & Friends Association contribute highly to school community building, school parent dialogue, and the ongoing renewal of the school. Strong links exist at St Agatha's school, and these are continually fostered between the school, local and wider Church. These strong links significantly enhance the school and the local Church community, and are supported and valued by all stakeholders.

The school has a strong culture for formal and informal community relationship building opportunities. A variety of well planned activities are offered and these are always well engaged. Parents hold many social functions that achieve the outcomes of community building and student social support.

St Agatha's school does not tolerate bullying and promotes safe behavior practices in all classes.

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

There are high levels of staff involvement with students and their learning at St Agatha's school. This includes the pastoral and community life of the school.

Each year we participate in a process of Internal Validation through which a number of priorities are examined to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement. This process offers all parents the opportunity through printed surveys to give feedback on the areas specified.

Up to 40% of families responded to these surveys providing effective comments and feedback which helps form the basis of our school planning.

The School Board has completed the development of our school's Vision and Mission statements, which reflects the effective understanding of our school's place in the development of students' learning.

Staff continue to engage professionally in their own learning, which demonstrates high levels of satisfaction with the school.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

Highly proactive and effective processes for communicating and engaging with members of the school community consistently operate at St Agatha's school.

Weekly school assemblies attract large crowds of parents in support of their students.

Weekly school Newsletters are also an authentic source of community information which ensures continued involvement for parents in their child's education.

Each term students celebrate a class Mass or the Sacrament of Reconciliation in St Agatha's Church. The school acknowledges and celebrates the involvement of the whole community in a rich culture of events, rituals and celebrations, often involving the local Church community.

## Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	21	20
Full-time equivalents	18	9
Indigenous	0	

## Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level
Doctorate	0
Masters	5%
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	25%
Bachelors Degree	65%
Diploma/Certificate	5%



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2013 was \$ \$35,000

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

Strengthen the continuity of teaching and learning approaches to enhance the engagement of students across all phases of learning

Provide opportunities to develop the curriculum in the area of Geography

Foster links between our school and the parish and the wider Church

Review our data and evidence-based processes to inform learning and teaching

## School Income by Funding Source

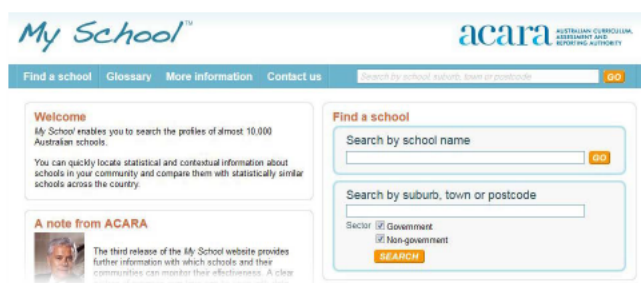
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'Find a school' text box.

Where it says 'Search by school name', type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting 'School finances' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page.



## Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 97.6 % in 2013.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2012 school year, 98 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2013 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	96	%
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Prep Attendance Rate	N/A		Year 4 Attendance Rate	97	%
Year 1 Attendance Rate	97	%	Year 5 Attendance Rate	96	%
Year 2 Attendance Rate	96	%	Year 6 Attendance Rate	97	%
Year 3 Attendance Rate	96	%	Year 7 Attendance Rate	95	%

## Policy and practice to manage student attendance

All students are expected to attend school each day.

Parents of students who are absent are required to use the absentee phone line to inform the school of the student's absence.

This contact number is published weekly in the school newsletter, and each family receives a fridge magnet with this information.

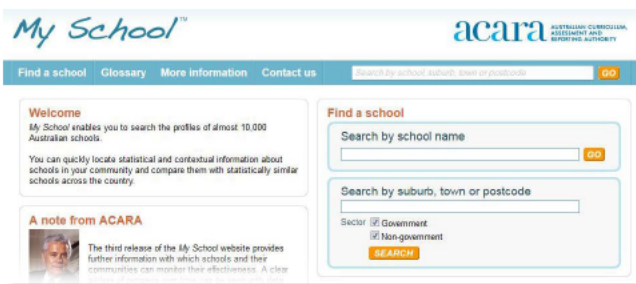
Parents are then contacted if students are absent without the school's prior knowledge.

Parents are also required to provide a written explanation for student absence.

## Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

The image is a screenshot of the 'My School' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: 'Find a school', 'Glossary', 'More information', and 'Contact us'. To the right of these links is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search by school, suburb, town or postcode' and a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, the page is divided into two main sections. On the left, there is a 'Welcome' section with a small image of a person and text explaining that the website provides profiles of almost 10,000 Australian schools and allows users to compare schools. On the right, there is a 'Find a school' section with two search boxes: 'Search by school name' and 'Search by suburb, town or postcode'. Below these boxes are radio buttons for 'Sector' with options for 'Government' and 'Non-government'. A 'SEARCH' button is located at the bottom of this section.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following

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Where it says 'Search by school name', type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being able to access our NAPLAN data.