



St Francis de Sales School, Clifton

Catholic co-educational primary school

Diocese of Toowoomba

Annual report 2018

Address	PO Box 27 Meara Place Clifton QLD 4361		Phone number	07 4697 3366	
email	clifton@twb.catholic.edu.au		Principal	Brendan O'Reilly	
Year levels	Prep-Year 6		Enrolment	61	
Co-educational or single sex				co-educational	
Boarders	no	Outside hours school care	no	Vacation care	no
Contact person for information about the school and school policies			Brendan O'Reilly		

The school's mission

St Francis de Sales School, Clifton is a Catholic school dedicated to the total education of each child in an atmosphere created through Christian values.

Distinctive curriculum offerings

- curriculum is implemented as per ACARA and QCAA documents
- Religious Education follows the Toowoomba Religion Curriculum and Toowoomba Catholic Schools guidelines, with the twin dimension of Religious Education and the Religious Life of the School
- Music, Drama and Physical Education
- "You Can Do It!" program
- integration of ICT across the curriculum

Extra-curricular activities

St Francis de Sales School offers the following extra-curricular activities

- School/Parish liturgies
- Family Sunday Mass
- Mission Week activities
- Mini Vinnies group
- School/interschool athletics, swimming, cross country, rugby league, soccer and netball
- Participation in sporting gala days with local schools
- Gardening club
- Book Week activities
- School play
- Entertain residents of senior citizens' hostel
- Bush dance
- Speech competitions
- Involvement in community events such as the Clifton Show and Anzac Day march

Social climate (including pastoral care and student behaviour support)

St Francis de Sales School is proud of its welcoming and inclusive nature. The school strives to care for every individual in the school community. Students, parents and staff support each other in many ways. We help and support others by listening, talking, offering assistance and guidance.

The school has a student behaviour support plan endorsed by the school parent community. This forms the basis of how bullying is managed in the school.

The aim of St Francis de Sales School is to develop a mutual respect and understanding for all by caring for others. The pastoral program is supported by the "You Can Do It!" program. Students are recognised for their efforts in building community through this program at assemblies held each Friday.

Characteristics of the student body

The three composite class groupings at St Francis de Sales School accommodate both boys and girls. The composite groupings include a Prep/Year 1, Year 2/3 and Year 4/5/6.

The school community consists of students from a wide variety of socio-economic and religious backgrounds, enriching the inclusive nature of the school. 7% of the enrolment are Indigenous. According to the 2018 My School website, the Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) value for the school is 986 (1000 is the average) taken from student background information. The distribution of students in the top quartile of social advantage is 7%, the bottom quartile is 24% and the other middle quartiles are 33% and 36%.

Parent/carer involvement

The involvement of parents in their child's school life is vital. We believe parents are their children's first educators. At St Francis de Sales School, parental involvement is encouraged as a partnership in the education of our young people.

The Parents and Friends Association (P&F) at St Francis de Sales is actively involved in the decision-making process especially the establishment of goals and policy through a process of discernment.

We encourage parents to take a keen interest in the school and to support the school community by becoming involved on a regular basis. Listed below are some areas in which parental support is particularly appreciated.

- listening to children read
- assisting in the tuckshop
- Friday afternoon assembly
- classroom activities
- Parents and Friends Association

We urge parents to continue to be actively involved in the education of their child/children at home as well. The single most important way parents can do this is to model positive attitudes towards school and learning.

Open lines of communication are viewed as being an important part of the school community. Effective communication is facilitated in a variety of formal and informal situations such as parent/teacher interviews, school newsletter, private Facebook community page, letters home, P&F meetings, Open Days and during a range of school events and social functions.

Parent satisfaction is gauged through input received through P&F meetings and school surveys.

In addition, Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office administers a parent, student and staff satisfaction survey each year, and any areas for improvement identified in this is addressed in the Annual Action Plan. Parental input into the operation of the school is always welcome.

School income by funding source

School income reported by the financial year accounting cycle using standardised national methodologies and broken down by funding source is available via the *MySchool* website at www.myschool.edu.au.

Staff

Workforce composition

	Total teaching staff	Total non-teaching staff	Indigenous staff
Headcount	8	4	0
Full-time equivalents	5.1	2.3	0

Teacher qualifications

Qualification	% of teaching
Doctoral / Post-Doctoral	0%
Masters	20%
Bachelor Degree	80%
Diploma	0%
Certificate	0%

Average staff attendance

96%

Staff retention

92%

Professional Development (participation and expenditure)

The following information is an overview of staff participation in professional development at St Francis de Sales School for 2018. In 2018 approximately \$5,000 was spent on professional development. Other professional development was supported through funding from Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office.

Professional Development opportunities included

- Religious Education
- Learning Support education
- Literacy: Reading Improvement Strategy
- Workplace Health and Safety
- First Aid
- Numeracy workshop
- Student Protection
- Behaviour Management
- Principal forums
- Religious symposium

Student attendance

Average whole of school student attendance rate (expressed as %)

94.8%

Student attendance for each year level (expressed as %)

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Average student attendance rate
95.3%	95.0%	95.0%	96.0%	90.1%	95.3%	95.6%	94.8%

Description of how non-attendance of students is managed by the school

The roll is marked at 9.00am every day. If a child is not present, the teacher informs the School Officer: Administration. The parents are phoned in the morning if there is an unexplained absence.

If a child is to be absent, the parents are requested to phone the school or inform the child's class teacher beforehand.

Children, who leave during the day for whatever reason, are signed out by their parent/guardian. This information is then entered into the roll. Parents are requested to sign their child/children in when a child is a late arrival.

Should there be prolonged absences, a meeting with the classroom teacher and/or the principal is required.

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results

Year 3 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	447.4	429.9	433.8	100%
Writing	409.6	397.7	407.1	100%
Spelling	418.6	410.8	417.6	100%
Grammar and Punctuation	437.5	429.4	431.8	100%
Numeracy	412.1	399.2	407.7	100%

Year 5 test results				
Focus	Our school average	State average	National average	Percentage of students at or above the national benchmark
Reading	397.8	506.1	509.3	88.9%
Writing	447.4	454.0	464.7	88.9%
Spelling	477.0	496.5	502.4	100%
Grammar and Punctuation	485.9	501.0	503.8	100%
Numeracy	477.1	487.5	494.0	100%

Parent, staff and student satisfaction

Each year St Francis de Sales engages in data gathering from parents, staff and students to assist it in evaluating the effectiveness of its educational program.

Materials provided by Research Australia Development & Innovation Institute (RADII) are used. Part of the RADII process is the collection of data regarding the overall satisfaction of parents, staff and students. Overall satisfaction response for 2018 are shown below.

Parents

92% of parents satisfied with children's educational progress at the school.

100% of parents satisfied that school's educational progress enable children to learn.

Staff

89% of staff satisfied overall with educational progress of students.

100% of staff satisfied that school's educational programs enable students to learn.

Students

93% of Years 5 & 6 students satisfied with their learning at this school.