

St John the Baptist

Catholic Primary School



2020 School Performance Report

This report is a requirement of the Commonwealth Government as outlined in the Schools Education Act 2013.

Introduction

St John the Baptist Catholic School is a coeducational school catering for students from Reception to Year 6. The school is a welcoming, vibrant, faith filled community, where we work together with families to grow each child's educational and spiritual development, inspired by the service of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop. Our school motto "In Omnibus Caritas" (In All Things Love) is a guiding principle in all that we do.

The Australian Curriculum is implemented at St John the Baptist Catholic School from Reception to Year 6 which sets the expectations for what students are taught across the various learning areas. The learning progress of each child is monitored, supported and developed and continuous feedback is provided to each student and their family.

Social and emotional learning is taught explicitly across the school. We wrap our students in a Circle of Care which includes support from a school chaplain and school counsellor.

Extracurricular activities include opportunities for students to excel in the sporting arena, as well as the expressive and performing arts and music.

As a Catholic School we look forward to working in partnership with families, building a cooperative relationship between home and school to develop thriving, capable learners.

Student Enrolment Numbers

For the 2020 Year our enrolments were as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Reception	35	38	73
Year 1	26	28	54
Year 2	27	23	50
Year 3	20	24	44
Year 4	17	23	40
Year 5	12	16	28
Year 6	17	16	33
Totals	154	168	322

In 2020, the percentage of Indigenous Students was 0.01% and the percentage of Students with Disability was 22%.

Student Attendance & Management of Non-Attendance

Student Attendance is managed and recorded using SEQTA Teach and SMS texting systems. Student absence is monitored closely and followed up as necessary. Parents are encouraged to ring the school (8218 3300) or SMS (0409 793 402).

Dealing with Non-Attendance of Students

1. Parent rings/SMSs the school and reports the absence
2. We ask for the student's name, class and reason for absence
3. Class teachers are informed
4. It is cross referenced with the Absentee Roll Class List and those names that are not entered into the system are done so by the office

We ask that parents ring in before 9.30am with the absence information.

We ask that the teachers have their absence list completed by 9.15am.

For long term absences parents are required to write a letter to the class teacher and Principal informing the school of the absence and the length of absence.

Unsatisfactory reasons for absence are referred to the Leadership Team via the teacher. The Leadership Team will then contact the family. If any child/children's attendance is deemed unsatisfactory the Principal will follow up with the relevant authorities.

Student Attendance by Year Level

In 2020 the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted our student attendance levels.

Year Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Reception	85.10%	94.84%	93.72%	94.43%
Year 1	78.54%	93.22%	93.12%	93.09%
Year 2	83.60%	94.49%	94.55%	94.77%
Year 3	83.69%	93.75%	94.78%	94.16%
Year 4	84.33%	94.33%	95.30%	94.68%
Year 5	86.54%	96.32%	96.66%	95.94%
Year 6	84.06%	95.09%	92.33%	91.48%
Averages	83.36%	94.42%	94.20%	94.09%

Post School Destinations

Our post school destinations for Year 6 students are Cabra Dominican College, Sacred Heart College (Middle School), St Mary's College, St Michael's College, Immanuel College, Emmaus Christian College, Plympton Primary and Plympton International School.

Human Resources

In 2020, St John the Baptist Catholic School had a total of 27 teaching staff (made up of 25 females and 2 males) and 18 non-teaching staff (made up of 11 females and 7 males).

In 2020, no staff member identified as Indigenous.

Staff Qualifications

In our school, we are very fortunate to have staff committed to lifelong learning. The breakdown of qualifications of St John the Baptist Catholic School staff are as per table below:

Certificates	10%
Graduate Certificates	27%
Diplomas	30%
Bachelors	67%
Masters	12%
Lead Teacher	0.2%

We have a number of staff members with two or more qualifications in education and associated studies.

NAPLAN

The Australian Government requires schools to publish NAPLAN Data Comparison results to their community each year.

Our teachers use the data from the National Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing to design learning programs which will further support all of our children, wherever they may be on their learning journey.

In 2020 our school was to take part in online NAPLAN testing but on 20 March Education Ministers met and decided that NAPLAN will not proceed in 2020.

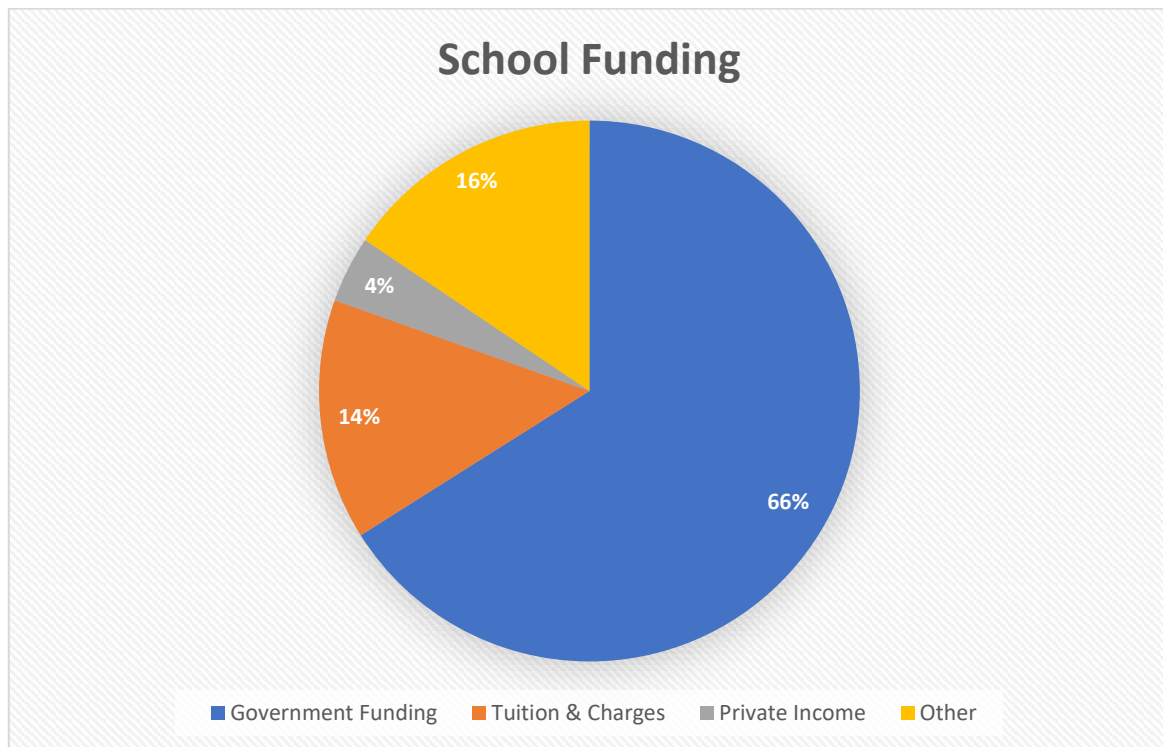
In light of the impact of COVID-19, this decision was made so that school leaders, teachers and support staff could focus on the wellbeing of students and prepare for the continuity of education.

School Funding

As a Catholic School we rely on the prompt payment of school fees to assist with the operation of the school. The school receives its income from three main sources:

- Government Funding
- Tuition and charges
- Private Income

The graph below shows the school income broken down by Government, Fees and Other. In 2020, in recognition of families continuing to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) announced a number of initiatives to reduce the financial burden. This included fee free tuition for all Reception students joining the 2020 mid-year intake at a Diocesan school.



Value Added Programs

St John the Baptist Catholic School offers many educational experiences and celebrations that provide special opportunities for students, staff and the wider community.

St John the Baptist offered the following programs for the benefit of students in our school:

- Playgroup
- Little JB's - a transition program that is run over two terms immediately prior to children starting in Reception. It involves the children attending one session per week, where they engage with children that they will journey through their primary schooling with. It is aimed at children becoming familiar with the school surrounds, their peers and staff.
- Buddy classes
- Educator support – for students identified as requiring additional support
- Literacy Intervention Program
- Mini Lit Program
- Toe by Toe Program
- Sensory Movement Support
- Wellbeing Program – wellbeing days at the beginning of the school year, whole school social-emotional language
- School Chaplain
- School Counsellor

Our Catholic Identity

Close connections between our Parish and our school are fostered through Leadership attending Parish Pastoral Council and Sacramental Team meetings. Our Parish Priest attends our School Board meetings. As a school we support the family focused, parish based, Sacramental Programs for the Plympton Parish.

In 2020 no Sacramental Program was undertaken due to COVID-19.

Monica Conway and Maria Burgess from Catholic Education South Australia visited our school and spoke to the Leadership Team about the Catholic identity at St John's.

We celebrated Catholic Education Week with the theme of Raising Hearts & Minds. Events were limited due to the prevalence of COVID-19. Students designed a Raising Hearts & Minds Poster which was exhibited in our School Reception and we held various activities throughout the school for different year levels.

Ecological sustainability and stewardship of the earth are embraced by our school community. We have demonstrated this through a variety of initiatives including recycling 10c containers, reducing waste, having a worm farm, vegetable garden and a butterfly garden. We have garden to market stalls held seasonally. All these follow the principles of Pope Francis' "Laudato Si" care for the common home. Our local parish Men's Shed made a sign for our Butterfly Garden, a further parish/school relationship builder.

Social Justice initiatives involved the students raising funds and awareness for Catholic Charities and Project Compassion. The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal and the Moore Street Homeless Day Centre Winter Appeal were supported through families donating items. Our Year 6 students baked cookies to be part of the Christmas Hampers.

Daily class prayer occurred, and staff gather weekly for prayer that is led by a staff member. Year level teams prepared and celebrated a Liturgy or Mass each term with their students. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents or families were unable to attend. We celebrated our Feast Day differently this year with our Mass livestreamed to classrooms from our school hall due to the pandemic and social distancing restrictions. Classes also participated in activities in their classrooms to celebrate St John the Baptist. Mary MacKillop's Feast Day was commemorated by a Liturgy and the students wearing something brown.

Our teachers continued to engage in Professional Learning in Religious Education through completing Catholic Professional Formation units and some continuing with subjects in the Graduate Certificate in Religious Education.

Year 4 students participated in the Religious Education Literacy Assessment Tool (ReLat) testing. This test occurs annually for all Year 4 students in Catholic schools to assess some of the basic knowledge taught in Religious Education lessons.

Our Year 6 Social Justice Captains helped raise funds for various charities with a Crazy Hair Day. They helped raise awareness and participated in RUOK? Day and Come Sit with Me, aiding student wellbeing.

We also remembered the fallen by holding a Remembrance Day ceremony and laid a wreath for the soldiers who gave their life protecting us. In previous years we have had students participate in the ceremonies for Anzac Day and Remembrance Day at Glenelg but due to the pandemic they were cancelled.

The Arts Program

In 2020, our school continued to provide opportunities to those children with a talent in the Arts. We have an instrumental program that offers drums, piano, voice and guitar. Approximately 50 children participate weekly in private tuition on our school site, this was sadly interrupted by the pandemic. We have 2 choirs – Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir and a Year 3/4 Choir. Our Catholic Schools Music Choir participated in a video performance at Sacred Heart College for the Catholic Schools Music Festival.

Our students participate in a weekly Expressive Arts lesson where they are involved in a wide range of musical activities, including playing instruments, moving, listening and dancing.

Sports Program

At St John the Baptist Catholic School we offer a wide variety of After School Sports to suit varying skill and interest levels. Players rely on the generosity of parents who become registered volunteers in order to coach these teams. Students have the opportunity to participate in the following sports at local ovals and recreation centres:

- Basketball
- Soccer
- AFL
- Netball
- T-Ball
- Volleyball
- Lacrosse
- Master Blaster Cricket
- Cricket (B & C Grade)

The students are able to participate in a number of Catholic and SAPSASA sporting events. There were students who went on to participate in various SAPSASA State Carnivals.

We continue to investigate further sporting opportunities that can enrich what we already offer to all of our students.

Community Surveys

During 2020, the school administered online surveys. The following surveys were undertaken:

- Learning Conversations
- Out of School Hours Care (OHSC)
- Swimming Feedback
- I love St John's because....
- Catholic Education South Australia Pulse Student Survey

Staff were surveyed about the process for Learning Conversations in Week 9 of Term 3. Staff overwhelmingly agreed that having everyone in the same location was a positive change and they would like this to format to continue.

Out of School Hours Care conducted a survey garnering parent feedback. 100% of families surveyed replied yes to the option of a holiday club. This will be explored with the service provider, Camp Australia. Further feedback centred on Homework Club and the options for snacks offered. The service Director will continue to work on these areas.

Staff and parents were surveyed regarding the positive and negative impact of swimming lessons for the students. Cost to parents is currently \$63/child which is in addition to tuition fees. The overwhelming response to the swimming experience was positive and it is a valued part of the school's program. Feedback suggested consideration be given to the timing of the week. Interestingly of the families that responded, 60% of children are already involved in swimming lessons.

Parents were also surveyed about what they loved about St John the Baptist Catholic School. The results were positive, overwhelmingly demonstrating that the school community were caring and supportive and the families were happy with the staff support they were receiving.

In Week 5 of each term students are required by Catholic Education SA to undertake a 'Pulse Check in'. The survey is designed to monitor student wellbeing and engagement in school, providing a voice to students and feedback to the school about areas students are thriving in and areas the school could be better supporting the students.