School Name: Mater Dei Catholic Primary School

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Contact Person: Madonna Sleba

Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

Mater Dei Catholic Primary School was established in 1951 in Ashgrove West, approximately 8km west of Brisbane's central district. Mater Dei prides itself on the spirit that can be found in our students, teachers, sporting teams, achievements, friendships and approach to learning. We are a co-educational school with a current enrolment of 320 students from Prep-Year 6. The school community seeks to uphold its motto of ‘Caritas’ by caring for self, others, and the world as individuals and community. Mater Dei provides a high quality learning environment where student learning is dynamic, motivating and meaningful and where learning for all is lifelong and life-giving. We acknowledge and support the primary role of parents in the education of their children. Together we strive to create a welcoming, caring, and positive environment. To further enhance the Australian curriculum Mater Dei offers a range of extra-curricular activities such as debating, speech and drama, an instrumental program, Readers Cup, dance, chess, Optiminds and extra sports initiatives such as AFL and soccer clinics.

School Profile

Mater Dei Catholic Primary School 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: 316  Girls 154  Boys 162

✘
Characteristics of the student body

Mater Dei Catholic Primary School student body is made up of many families who have had a long association with the school and also embraces new families into its school population. Many of our children stem from dual parent families and are well travelled. The students are highly motivated and achieve high results in their learning. The school celebrates and embraces the strong partnership between home and school. Mater Dei offers two classes for each year level up to Year 4 and one year level each for Year 5 and Year 6 students giving a total of 12 classes in the school.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Mater Dei Catholic School staff pride themselves in offering a curriculum based on high-yield teaching strategies and is presented in a way which takes account of the individual learning styles and rates of students. We have specialist teachers in subject areas such as Japanese (LOTE), Physical Education and The Arts who expand on classroom programs and focus on specific skill development.

Learning Area Programmes are developed for Religion, Maths, English, Science, The Arts, Technology, Japanese, Health and Physical Education, Geography and History. Each unit is planned collaboratively and modifications are made to cater for individual differences, preferences and needs.

Other curriculum offerings to support student learning include:
Play is the Way Program; 1-1 laptop program in Years 4-6; Variety of portable technology devices are provided for Prep - Yr 3; well resourced school library with teaching librarian; an inspiring and active religious life within the school and parish community.
Extra-curricula activities

To further enhance the Australian curriculum Mater Dei offers a range of extra-curricula activities such as:
Minnie Vinnie's Junior branch of St Vincent de Paul (Years 4-6). Participation in inter school sport, Gala
Sport, Zone and District competitions in swimming, cross country and athletics, Netball, soccer, touch
football; Buddy program for children in Prep and year 1; instrumental music program offered to students
from Years 3-6. Dance and Speech and Drama school conducted by the P and F; Public Speaking and
Debating; Opti-minds; Reader's cup, UNSW Science, Maths competitions; Camps Year 4 & 5; Year 6 Trip
to Canberra.
The emphasis at Mater Dei is about participating and 'having a go'.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

As a community of contemporary learners, learners are supported through the provision of technologies
and pedagogical practices that engage, challenge and empower students. Students in years P-3 have
access to and regularly engage with I Pods, I Pads, Lap tops and the media room. Students in years 4-6
have a 1-1 laptop program. All classrooms have interactive white boards. Appropriate, state of the art
ICT infrastructure is networked throughout the school and surrounds.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

1. The 'Play is the Way' Program assists us in developing strong emotional and social capabilities and
resilience in students. This program is taught whole of school during three designated sessions each
week. There has been a strong commitment to parent education in this area as well.
2. Our five behaviour expectations are explicitly taught in an ongoing manner throughout the year. This
addresses the school's response to bullying, including a whole of school two week focus on anti-bullying.
3. Celebrations of welcome, farewell and graduation mark the milestones of student participation in school.
As well, regular acknowledgment of student achievement, effort and behaviour occurs.
4. Leadership opportunities: Year 6 students are given the opportunity to take leadership roles in sporting
social and academic undertakings of the school.
5. Regular assemblies to keep students informed of happenings within the school.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

During 2015, parents were surveyed in relation to the Internal Cyclical Review Process. The survey results indicated the following:
1. There is a strong sense of welcome, inclusiveness and hospitality experienced by parents. It was noted that the Class Parent contact system is an important part of contributing to the welcoming of families.
2. There is a strong connection between Parish and School and that this needs to continue to be fostered. Parents indicated that they choose to send their children to Mater Dei because they identify with the essential element of Catholic Education.
3. Work is well on the way to Master Planning and use of school facilities. Plans for New Toilet block for students and admin building were approved for building in 2015.

In 2015, staff were also surveyed. Staff recognise that the professional learning is clearly focused on student learning and well being, the school identifies priorities for professional learning based on student learning needs.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

We have a strong culture of parental involvement in all school activities. We have a very active P&F group and social events are very well attended by both parents and children.
We encourage parents to take a keen interest in our school and are most welcome and encouraged to become involved on a regular basis in the following: Parent / Teacher Meetings, Development of Whole School Renewal Plan, Take an active role in Parents & Friends.
Parent Information Evenings, Assisting with Tuckshop, Listening to children read and support through our 'Multilit' program, Volunteer in classrooms, Class Contact Parents, Assist with special day activities Support with inter school sport swimming, Cross Country and Athletics carnivals Assist with fundraising eg: Music in the Moonlight, Trivia night, Mater Dei Race Day, Assist in helping to develop grant applications, Sustainability Festival.

Staff Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualifications of all teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Number of Teaching Staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
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Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2015 was $56,897.84. The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

In 2015 the Mater Dei staff engaged in Professional Learning for: Student Protection Training, Workplace Health and Safety Training, Religious Education Curriculum, Play is the Way, First Aid and CPR Training, Online Learning Management System, Spiritual Formation, AITSL - Performance and Development of Teachers, MiniLit and PreLit programs, Hearing Impairment, Literacy Project, The Arts Curriculum, DELT - The Learning Collaborative, Student Wellbeing, Maths Curriculum, Coaching, LOTE Curriculum, Technology Curriculum, Teacher Librarian Network Days.

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.

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 95.75% in 2015.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2014 school year, 86.4% of staff were retained by the school for the 2015 year.

Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Attendance Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole</td>
<td>96.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>97.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>96.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>96.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>95.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>97.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>97.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>96.00%</td>
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Policy and practice to manage student attendance

Class rolls are marked twice a day, once at the commencement of the school day and once immediately after lunch (1:50pm). If a student is going to be absent from school, parents are required to notify by writing to the class teacher or by phoning the absentee line. If a student is absent without an explanation from school after the third day, a phone call is made to the parents. We have a well-organised sign in and sign out procedure for students arriving late to school or who need to depart school early.

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/.

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