Holy Name Primary School, Toowoomba

A Catholic co-educational school of the Diocese of Toowoomba

“Let’s Journey Together! Let’s Make A Difference!”

Our Mission

Holy Name Primary School is:

- A faith community
  Holy Name Primary School is a faith community, including students, parents, carers, teachers, staff, pastor, parish members and support staff from the Catholic Education Office. We follow Jesus’ way. The spirit of Christ’s teaching is reflected in all aspects of school life. Worship is a central function of Holy Name Primary School. Prayer and celebration of the liturgy are extremely important to us because they are celebrations of our relationship with God and they build up the spirit of our community.

- A place where we continue to live out the Mercy values
  The spirit of Catherine McAuley and the Mercy order founded by her continues to be a significant influence upon the culture and community of Holy Name Primary School by explicitly living out the values of hospitality, compassion, excellence and justice.

- A place of learning
  Holy Name Primary School is a place of learning that is inclusive and outreaching and focuses on the total development of each child - spiritual, moral, social, emotional, physical and intellectual.

- A welcoming and caring community
  Holy Name Primary School is a place where partnerships are developed. Respect, compassion, appreciation, humour and dedication underpin these partnerships. We acknowledge that parents are the primary educators of their children. Parents are encouraged to actively participate in the life of the
school. Shared leadership operates at Holy Name Primary School, utilising the gifts of all to support the needs of the school.

- **People of hope**
  We are committed to social justice and ecological principles. Holy Name Primary School’s community has a focus on service in order to make our world a better place.

- **Journeying Together**
  Ultimately, Holy Name Primary School aims to promote the success of students who are passionate about our world and the future. The achievements and behaviours of the students of Holy Name Primary School are the definitive measure of our success. We recognise and celebrate learning as a life long journey.

**Together we offer:**
- A strong Catholic tradition
- A sense of belonging
- Experienced and compassionate staff
- Pastoral care and leadership programs
- Innovative curriculum programs
- A focus on positive thinking and behaviours
- A genuine teaching partnership with home and school
- Mutual accountability
- Environmental responsibility
- Community responsibility

**Distinctive Curriculum Offerings**

Holy Name Primary School is in the Diocese of Toowoomba. It upholds the Catholic ethos and has a religious education program that is integral to the distinctive extra curriculum offered at Holy Name.

- The Arts - Music, Dance (Footsteps dance company)
- Sport - After School Soccer, Basketball and AusKick, baseball (these activities are co-ordinated by the various sporting bodies of Toowoomba)
- Instrumental Music program
- Specialist Science Teacher for students from Prep to Year 7
- Specialist teacher for Extension and Enrichment Program
- Implementation of current curriculum as per ACARA, QSA and Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Education Office guidelines


**Extra-Curricular Activities**

- Outside School Hours Care program
- Holy Week Liturgies
- Mission Week activities and liturgy
- Celebration of Catherine McAuley Feasts - 10th May Catherine McAuley Day (Est of the Mercy Order in Qld) / 24th Sept is the feast of Our Lady of Mercy (Est in Dublin) 29th September is Catherine McAuley's birthday / 11th November is the anniversary of her death
- Family Sunday Mass per term
- Weekly Class Liturgies
- Sports participation: swimming carnival, cross country, athletics, netball, touch football and visits by representatives from various sporting groups that work with students
• NAIDOC Week – Indigenous Cultural Day
• Life Education Visits

Social Climate

Our social climate at Holy Name Primary School is tied directly to our school’s Positive Behaviour Management Policy. This policy is the cornerstone in assisting students to fully engage in the life at Holy Name Primary School.

The Catholic tradition demands that each person be treated with reverence and dignity because each person is made in the image of God. The Holy Name Positive Behaviour Policy gives expression to and promotes Gospel values as hallmarks of all relationships. We endeavour to develop an atmosphere of care within our school community. In this way, self-esteem is enhanced, belonging is promoted and trust and risk-taking are accomplished. We promote:
• Care for God and God’s creation
• Care for ourselves
• Care for each other
• Care for our learning
• Care for our school

At Holy Name School we are committed to relationships that are life-giving, where rights of all individuals are upheld and respected, this is signified by positive social behaviour and personal responsibility. As such, all members of the community will strive to respect the rights of others and work towards self-management. Members will learn from the experiences of living with the consequences of their own behaviour choices. In this way students and staff can engage in quality teaching and learning opportunities.

Parental Involvement

The Parents and Friends’ Association plays a significant part in the school community. Meetings are held monthly and information pertaining to dates, minutes and reports are contained in the school newsletter. Our P&F Association also supports the school through fund raising activities and social occasions.

Reporting to Parents

Holy Name Primary School forwards student results to parents twice a year. Parents / guardians can be requested for an interview with the school teacher / principal if needed. Parents also have the opportunity to request an interview for explanation of their child’s progress.

In the second semester parents / guardians receive via postage results of the NAPLAN testing. These results are posted on the Diocese of Toowoomba Catholic Education and school’s website as part of government compliance.

Further information about our reporting system can be also found in the Parent Handbook.

Staff Composition
## Workforce Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Total Non-teaching Staff</th>
<th>Indigenous Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Teacher Qualifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>% of Teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral / Post Doctoral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Degree</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please refer to the staff list [www.hntwb.catholic.edu.au/documents/staff.html](http://www.hntwb.catholic.edu.au/documents/staff.html) on our school website for full details of Staff Qualifications.

## Professional Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013 School Budget Allocation</th>
<th>National Partnership Literacy and Numeracy Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$195.25</td>
<td>$39,743.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following information is an overview of staff participation in professional development at Holy Name Primary School for 2013.

The target areas for professional development in 2013 were:

1. ACARA implementation for English, Mathematics, Science and History
2. Diocesan Learning Profile
3. Religious Life of the School – Developing School Charism
4. Student Protection – new changes to legislation, Code of Conduct
5. Literacy Coaching in the development of a ‘Whole School Reading Program’

## Average Staff Attendance

Staff Attendance Rate 96.6%

## Staff Retention

Our staff retention: 85.7%:
Average Student Attendance Rate

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2013 was **92.3%**

Student Attendance for Each Year Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of How Non-Attendance is managed by the School

Procedure for managing non-attendance of students by the school:

**Step 1:** Parents are asked to ring the school office and report absenteeism before 8:00am daily.

**Step 2:** Teachers mark rolls electronically and in hard copy form before 8:40 am daily.

**Step 3:** Teacher notifies school officer and or front office of absentee.

**Step 4:** Office staff contacts parents regarding any outstanding absentees. If parent cannot be contacted, a message is left. School officer makes a record of response.

**Step 5:** Afternoon attendance is recorded each day after lunch. All students leaving the school grounds during the day are recorded on file at the front desk. Parents or guardians must sign students out at the front office. Students are sent to the front office to meet with parent /guardians.

Please also see the link below to our website for further information.


National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3 Test Results (2013)</th>
<th>Our School Average</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
<th>Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td>403</td>
<td>419.1</td>
<td>407.6</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>402</td>
<td>415.6</td>
<td>406.2</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>374</td>
<td>410.8</td>
<td>396.3</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar and Punctuation</strong></td>
<td>388</td>
<td>428.2</td>
<td>419.4</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td>382</td>
<td>396.9</td>
<td>386.2</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Year 5 Test Results (2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Our School Average</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
<th>Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td>481</td>
<td>502.3</td>
<td>497.0</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>469</td>
<td>477.9</td>
<td>469.8</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>469</td>
<td>494.2</td>
<td>485.6</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar and Punctuation</strong></td>
<td>475</td>
<td>500.6</td>
<td>494.8</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td>496</td>
<td>485.8</td>
<td>481.1</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 7 Test Results (2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Our School Average</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
<th>Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td>557</td>
<td>540.6</td>
<td>533.5</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>525</td>
<td>517.0</td>
<td>514.9</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>539</td>
<td>549.3</td>
<td>542.5</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar and Punctuation</strong></td>
<td>543</td>
<td>535.1</td>
<td>531.5</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td>557</td>
<td>542.1</td>
<td>538.5</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Value Added

Our Multipurpose hall is used regularly by external providers, such as Extend Outside School Hours Care and Rata Netball club. The Hall is also utilised by a Martial Arts club four nights a week.

### Early Years

The Early Years playground is utilised by parents and friends of Holy Name School and the Parish. The Mini Murris Group utilises the school grounds and resources providing young Indigenous Children and parents a School Readiness Program.

Students from 4-7 participate in the Annual Optiminds challenge. Students are given many opportunities to participate in Swimming, Athletics, Interschool sport, AFL, Touch Football and Netball.

Throughout the school, students are provided with a variety of excursion opportunities which develop their knowledge and skills in both academic and social settings.

### Excellence in Catholic Education-School Renewal and Improvement Process

School Renewal and Improvement is an on-going process of self-evaluation measured against a commonly agreed set of criteria. It informs action planning at the school level to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement. Above all, Catholic schools must be good schools with a strong learning orientation and a strong sense of purpose. This process provides an opportunity for each school to reflect on 4 Domain areas: Catholic Life and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Leadership for School...
Improvement; Strategic Resourcing. Each of these domains has elements (24 in total) which are reviewed on a cyclical basis and plans for improvement developed if necessary

In 2013, the element of Student Achievement was reflected on, reviewed and strategically planned for.

Parent Satisfaction

Parent and Staff Comments:

“Holy Name offers so much more for students when compared to other big schools in Toowoomba.”
“The school provides programs and challenging learning experiences that motivate learners.”
“There are high expectations for students.”
“I love the small school feel and that teachers know all students.”

Use of Computers

Holy Name Primary school is well equipped with modern infrastructure to assist our teachers to embed Information & Communication Technologies into student learning. The school has a broad wireless network that gives staff and students fast and reliable internet access in all areas of the school.

In addition to the desktop computers that are located in the library and all classrooms, the school also makes use of a significant number of laptop computers to assist student learning. In 2013 the school introduced the use of tablet technology in the form of a class set of the ‘Microsoft Service’. Each classroom is equipped with an Interactive White Board. IPads are used in the area of Learning Support.

Our teachers plan for student learning by making use of the digital curriculum content via the Diocesan Learning Profile. This secure data base caters for planning, teaching, assessing and reporting and ensures our teachers are at the cutting edge in this new age of the digital curriculum.

A hardcopy of this report is available by request from the Principal.