



**Brisbane  
Catholic  
Education**

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# ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTING – 2017

## CATHOLIC EDUCATION, ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

### SCHOOL PROFILE

School name Our Lady Help of Christians School

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### Principal's foreword

Our Lady Help of Christians is an exceptional learning community in which all students are nurtured to achieve their potential within a caring Catholic environment. Our Lady Help of Christians is blessed with spacious grounds with unique and varied play and sporting facilities. We have modern air-conditioned classrooms throughout the school, well-resourced to meet the needs of all students. All students and staff have easy access to individual technology in order to support learning. Our school has an outstanding reputation for establishing high expectations and achieving excellent academic results. We provide quality education through an excellence in learning and teaching along with a strong focus on student wellbeing. Our staff are very passionate about developing the academic, social, physical and spiritual whole of the young people in our care. At Our Lady Help of Christians, we have a strong belief that student achievement and student wellbeing work in conjunction, not isolation. Our Lady Help of Christians school effectively implements the latest best practice in teaching. These school-wide teaching pedagogies are implemented through well-structured and focused professional learning for our teachers. The staff are committed to ongoing professional development that creates the best possible learning environment for our learners. Our students are the heart of our school as they demonstrate and share their 'FAITH, COURAGE and ACTION' with their peers and the community.

### School facts

Our Lady Help of Christians 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: 148 Girls: 77 Boys: 71

## Characteristics of the student body

Students attending Our Lady Help of Christians are mostly from the local area, although with our provision of before and after school care, there are some who live further afield and their parents work in this area. Students at the school are for the most part high achievers, and our NAPLAN results demonstrate this. Students are grouped across Prep - Yr 6 in 7 classes. After Year 4, many boys go to local colleges, but may stay, and our school is well-equipped to support them, with spacious green playing areas. Special needs students are supported at OLHC through collaboration between their parents and teachers and other support staff, including school officers. Regular meetings are held with parents to discuss ways to support students, especially those with diverse learning needs. A small percentage of students are from a background other than English, and an ESL teacher supports these students in their learning. A positive behaviour support programme is in place, which has high behavioural expectations of all students, and students are coached and supported to become self-disciplined individuals. Strategies are proactively taught against bullying and cyber-bullying.

## Social climate

Because of the small size of the school, teachers know all the students, students know each other, and parents know each other. Shared values ensure the students feel safe in the school environment. A buddy system supports the youngest children by partnering them up with older students. The school has a virtues programme in place, and these virtues are taught at fortnightly assemblies. The school has a fully-implemented Positive Behaviour Support Programme, which has high expectations of all students for good behaviour. We believe that behaviour is learnt, and therefore needs to be taught both at home and school. Social capabilities are taught in a variety of ways at a whole school, classroom and individual level. At times, some students may need a higher level of intervention and a behaviour plan is implemented to support the child to develop the skills required to be a successful student and learning within a community. Whole school learning includes strategies for dealing with both bullying and cyber-bullying. There is zero tolerance for these behaviour, and if bully-like behaviours are starting, intervention and coaching is swift.

## Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

Our classroom teachers provide excellent development in the Key Learning areas of Mathematics, English, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences and Technology. Pedagogies used reflect researched best practice into what most improves learning outcomes. Mandarin, HPE and Music are taught by specialist teachers. Students have swimming lessons and compete against other schools in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country. There are also opportunities to compete in interschool Gala days in various sports. One term a year we have a dance clinic and in another we employ an Artist in Residence to assist the children with Visual Art. Our school has an emphasis on Sustainability, and we participate in various initiatives e.g. rubbish reduction, school garden, bore water, solar panels, and Active School Travel to promote healthy bodies in a healthy environment.

## **Curriculum - our extra curricula activities**

Our students can learn tennis, guitar, drums, chess, performance arts and French onsite. The lessons are mostly held out of school time. Students may participate in our school choir and compete in competitions. Our Outside School Hours Care Programme offers excellent sporting and creative activities to keep student active and occupied.

## **Parent, student and teacher satisfaction**

Feedback received from the parent body indicates that we have: caring and approachable teachers who know their children and teach them well; students who feel safe because of the strong pastoral care system; support staff who assist the teachers and children with special learning needs; information communication and learning technologies integrated into teaching and learning; supportive, committed and enthusiastic parent; air-conditioned classrooms with resources required for learning; outside school hours and vacation care; a sense of pride in our tidy school and fresh-looking facilities and grounds.

## **Parent engagement**

At OLHC, we believe that parental engagement enriches children's education. Parents are involved through: school board and P&F attendance, sub-committees, working bees and social functions. Parents are welcomed and involved in liturgies and special event assemblies, including class masses, tuckshop, school fete, sporting events, reading support, excursion support, involvement in the school's cyclical review programme and social medial. Our families are also supportive of parent education opportunities offered throughout the year. Healthy lines of communication is the key to our positive parental engagement.

## SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Achievements against 2017 annual plan**

During 2017, major goals for the school were around improving student learning outcomes in reading and in writing. Professional development for all teaching and support staff enabled the implementation of new school-wide pedagogies. Results at the end of 2017 were remarkable, setting our students up well for future success.

### **Future outlook**

OLHC has a bright future with projected growth and development. We are looking forward to continuing to progress our Master Plan to further enhance our facilities. It is proposed to equip progressively more of our learning spaces in a contemporary style, catering for the needs of today's learners. We will continue to focus on best practice pedagogies to drive student achievement and well-being. Our Lady Help of Christians is a wonderful community to be part of and we welcome all new members.

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

Whole school attendance rate			95.00	%
Prep attendance rate	93.00	%	Year 4 attendance rate	94.00 %
Year 1 attendance rate	96.00	%	Year 5 attendance rate	96.00 %
Year 2 attendance rate	97.00	%	Year 6 attendance rate	95.00 %
Year 3 attendance rate	97.00	%		

### Management of non-attendance

Student rolls are marked twice daily online in our eMinerva attendance record. Teachers record late arrivals and early departures, as well as reasons for absences. Parents record student absences on the school's absentee line or by completing a form on the parent portal. From this record, the secretary passes the information to teachers each morning. If no notification has been received, the parents are contacted to ascertain the reason for the absence. Parents wishing to take the children from school for short or longer periods for appointments through to holidays, must write to the Principal and be granted permission for that withdrawal.

### NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	479.45	431.30	460.30	505.60
Writing	421.86	413.60	448.00	472.50
Spelling	441.64	416.20	464.55	500.90
Numeracy	410.36	409.40	458.90	493.80

## STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	18	12
Full-time equivalents	12.02	5.13
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	0	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	
Masters	8
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	1
Bachelor Degree	9
Diploma/Certificate	

### Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2017 was \$ 17000 .

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- Effective and expected practices in the teaching of English and in Literacy
- First Aid training
- Leadership development

**Average staff attendance rate** The staff attendance rate was 98.61 % in 2017.

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2016 school year, 97.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2017 year.

## SCHOOL INCOME

### School income by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the MySchool 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 'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'

Find a schoolSearch website

Go

**School sector** ^

- All
- Government
- Non-government

**School type** ^

- All
- Primary
- Secondary
- Combined
- Special

**State** ^

- All
- NSW
- Vic
- Qld
- SA
- WA
- Tas
- NT
- ACT

School financial information is available by selecting 'Finances' on the top menu on the school's entry web page.