

St Joseph's School, Boulder Annual Reporting 2022



1. Contextual Information

St Joseph's School is a Catholic co-educational single-stream primary school currently enrolling 240 children from Pre-Kindergarten to Year Six. It is situated in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, located 590 kilometres from Perth. The school is an integral part of the Goldfield's Parish and there is a close working relationship between the parish and the school.

The school was established in the Kalgoorlie Goldfields in 1897 at Kamballie by three Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (Ursula, Martha and Magdalen) who were sent here by Bishop Gibney.

The relocation of St Joseph's School from Wittenoom Street to the Burt Street site in 1996 was the third rebuild of the school in its one hundred year history, the school having been destroyed twice by cyclones in 1903 and 1928. Although the children were in the building when it was totally destroyed by the cyclone in 1903, remarkably none of them were injured. When the school was destroyed a second time in 1928, a former state school building in Brookman Street was used for 20 years until 1948 when a brick building was constructed back on the Wittenoom Street site. This building and the surrounding playground was auctioned and sold in 1995, necessitating the rebuilding of the school on the present site. Practical recognition of the tradition of the Josephites in the school has been made by naming the various buildings at the new school after the Josephite Sisters.

St Joseph's motto - 'Faith - Kindness - Respect' - accurately describes the school's significant history and unique pastoral care that is freely given by all members of the St Joseph's community. We educate the whole child by providing a holistic education. We incorporate many educational strategies aimed at assisting children to realise their full potential and flourish as lifelong learners. St Joseph's is a modern well-equipped school including smartboards, LCDs, Apple TVs and iPads in every classroom. Our school has a warm, intimate and friendly environment where all children are challenged to reach their potential in a Catholic context.

At St Joseph's your child is in the care of our highly professional and dedicated staff. Among our staff our specialist teachers provide curriculum in the areas of Science, Physical Education, Visual Art, Digital Technologies and AUSLAN.

The school has a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy with both learning areas having dedicated time. The school also has a strong environmental focus led by our Student Ministry team who promote being Sun Smart and the our community recycling program.

At St Joseph's School, we offer high-quality early childhood education for children from the age of three years onwards. Our early childhood programs allow children to develop at their own rate, following their own interests with a strong play-based foundation.

Each child is a precious and sacred gift who possesses their own unique talents and abilities. Our program enables our children to experience the joy and wonder of the world in a safe, secure, happy and stimulating environment. Our program takes into account each child's aptitude to learn through a variety of learning experiences, including a balance of teacher-initiated or directed activities and exploratory and investigative play. Children are directly involved and active in their learning; discussing what they know, what they would like to know and what they have learnt.

We believe that all children are strong, competent and unique. We aim to develop a positive attitude to learning and a thirst for knowledge while providing a happy, stimulating and supportive environment where children feel welcome, secure and valued.

The School Advisory Council and Parents and Friends' Association are actively involved in improving resources and facilities for all students. Both bodies are fully supportive of the school and work together towards common goals to assist the school in providing the best possible resources and tools for the teaching and learning programs. The school is particularly proud of the fact that it consistently maintains an environment that is safe, respectful, supportive and attainable for all.

2. Teacher Standards and Qualifications

All of the teaching staff at St Joseph's School Boulder meet the following requirements for employment:

- Meet the requirements of the TRBWA (teachers)
- Hold current Working With Children Checks (all staff)
- All Education Assistants hold qualification of either Certificate III or IV

Collectively, our teaching staff have the following degrees:

4 x Master of Education
6 x Bachelor of Education Primary
8 x Bachelor of Early Childhood Education
2 x Bachelor of Speech Pathology
1 x Bachelor of Business, Finance & Accounting

Relief staff are also required to provide the necessary documents before commencing work at the school. References are checked for all relief staff.

3. Workforce and Composition

St Joseph's School, Boulder has a total of 28 members. This includes:

	Principal	Teachers	Admin and Clerical	Building & Cleaner	Educational Assistant
Full Time Male		1			
Full Time Female	1	11			7
Part-time Male				2	
Part-Time Female			2		4
Two female Indigenous staff were employed for this period					

4. Student Attendance at School for 2022

Non-attendance: All students must provide a written and signed note from their parents stating date and reason for absence. Each term a letter is sent to the parents of students with attendance less than 90%, advising them of their child's attendance percentage and seeking clarification for their absences. Issues with student's ongoing non-attendance is then addressed directly with the parent via a meeting with the teacher and leadership staff with the aim of working with parents to improve attendance. The information below shows the average student attendance during 2022 by year group:

Kindy	79%
Pre-Primary	85%
Year 1	85%
Year 2	87%
Year 3	87%
Year 4	88%
Year 5	87%
Year 6	86%

Average School Attendance Rate – 86%

5. NAPLAN Annual Assessments

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

It is a nationwide measure through which parents/carers, teachers, schools, education authorities, governments and the broader community can determine whether or not young Australians are developing the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

One of the very important pieces of data we gain from the NAPLAN assessments is how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy over time. This shows the rate of

improvement for each individual student, and their cohorts as they progress through primary school. The table below shows the percentage of students at or above the National Minimum Standard in NAPLAN testing from 2021 to 2022. All NAPLAN testing takes place in early May.

Year Level	Year	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
YR 3	2021	100%	100%	95%	95%	100%
	2022	100%	91%	91%	95%	100%
YR 5	2021	95%	95%	90%	95%	100%
	2022	95%	95%	95%	90%	95%

6. Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

In 2020, we conducted an Organisational Health Index (OHI) survey of our staff through McKinsey & Company, scoring 97 out of 100 for overall health, placing us in the top 10% worldwide. This survey is scheduled to be completed again in 2023.

7. School Income

We recommend for details you refer to the St Joseph's Boulder page on the My School Website <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>

8. Post School Destinations

The graduating Year Sixes from 2022 went on to further education at the following schools:

John Paul College, Kalgoorlie
Goldfields Baptist College
Kalgoorlie Boulder Community College

9. Annual School Improvement

In 2022, the school completed the final year of a three-year school improvement, the Fogarty Edvance Programme. In our first year, we implemented research-based, highquality teaching and learning programmes in literacy and numeracy. In our second and final year, we further embedded those programmes. Staff were thoroughly trained in each of the programmes and were supported in classroom by

the leadership team in order to ensure the programmes were meeting the needs of our students. Our school improvement plan covers four main areas:

1. Implementing highly effective teaching and learning approaches and practices across all classrooms to ensure high academic achievement.
2. Improving student engagement and wellbeing.
3. Building staff capacity in teaching, learning and leading.
4. Building an inclusive, Christ-centred community that is welcoming and supportive of students with diverse academic and social needs.

We chose four School Focus Goals for 2022 and these became our overarching aims for the year, allowing us to use common language across the school and engage students to work together, as well as independently, to improve in these areas:

- Celebrate Differences
- Punctuation Matters
- Build Your Maths Vocabulary
- Faith, Kindness, Respect

Tanya Stafford

Principal