

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS AND COMMUNITY

JUNE 2023



## Contextual Information

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School is a co-educational primary school from Kindergarten to Year 6, serving families within the north-eastern suburbs of Perth in the Mercy tradition. Situated next to St Gerard Majella Church, the school is committed to providing an outstanding faith-filled education to all in a safe, secure and caring environment. Members of St Gerard's Catholic Primary School live out the School Motto of 'Truth, Love and Mercy', where each person is encouraged to develop their full potential as a living witness to Christ.

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School is committed to developing the whole child. This includes the intellectual, physical, social, emotional and faith development of all and is accommodated through the differentiated learning programs offered.

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School aims to meet the learning needs of a diverse multicultural cohort of students which is reflected in the learning programs. This begins with a play-based emphasis in the early years and moves into the purpose built, flexible, open classrooms from Year 1 to Year 6, particularly supporting students where English is an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D).

All elements of the school are designed to strengthen and enhance learning opportunities across all curriculum areas, to promote collaboration, foster creativity and problem-solving skills and drive a strong focus on literacy and numeracy.

Contemporary resources and excellent facilities are a feature of the school environment. With upgraded playing facilities, nature play areas and sporting fields, students learn both indoors and outdoors. Teachers are well supported with the latest teaching tools and resources, including technology, to deliver a curriculum that is relevant, and student centred.

Learning areas offered by specialist teachers include Physical Education, AUSLAN, Science, HASS, Performing Arts and Health. This is further supported by the school's homework club and many extra-curricular opportunities in sport, music and service.

The staff aim to work with each family as valued partners in their child's education to meet the needs of all whilst at St Gerard's Catholic Primary School.

The Australian Government accountability regulations require schools to report information on school performance to their community. The headings listed below are the mandatory areas that are required to be reported on annually to members of our School Community.

## St Gerard's Catholic Primary School Data 2022

Teacher Qualifications	<p>All teaching staff members are registered with the Teachers' Registration Board of WA and all staff have their Working with Children Check.</p> <p>The following is a breakdown of qualifications of Teaching Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masters Degree (7 Staff Members)</li> <li>• Bachelor of Arts / Education / Science/ etc. (16 Staff Members)</li> <li>• Graduate / Diploma in Education (5 Staff Members)</li> <li>• Diploma in Education / Teaching (3 Staff Members)</li> <li>• Certificate of Instructional Leadership (2 Staff Members)</li> <li>• Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Studies (2 Staff Member)</li> </ul>																		
Workforce Composition	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Teachers</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Male</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Full Time</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Part Time</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Non-Teachers</u></th> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Full Time</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Part Time</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There are no indigenous Staff</p>	<u>Teachers</u>	Male	Female	Full Time	2	9	Part Time	0	4	<u>Non-Teachers</u>			Full Time	1	4	Part Time	1	5
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Student Attendance	<p>Compulsory Years PP- 6 = 197 students Average Attendance Kindy to Year 6 = 91.54%</p> <p>The average attendance percentage for students:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Kindy = 89.3%</td> <td>• Year 3 = 91.34%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Pre-Primary = 91.87%</td> <td>• Year 4 = 92.27%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Year 1 = 91.34%</td> <td>• Year 5 = 91.48%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Year 2 = 91.23%</td> <td>• Year 6 = 93.48%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Student attendance is monitored on a daily basis and if a student is not at school without an explanation a SMS message is sent to the parent in the morning. Extended absence is reported to the leadership team who may wish to follow-up by contacting the parent. Written explanation is required for absence and if not forthcoming a proforma is sent home requiring a written reply. If attendance becomes prolonged, then the school principal and/or social worker may request an interview with the parents.</p>	• Kindy = 89.3%	• Year 3 = 91.34%	• Pre-Primary = 91.87%	• Year 4 = 92.27%	• Year 1 = 91.34%	• Year 5 = 91.48%	• Year 2 = 91.23%	• Year 6 = 93.48%										
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Post School Destinations	<p>From a total of 17 Year 6 students;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 – Aranmore Catholic College</li> <li>• 1 – Greenwood College</li> <li>• 1 - John Septimus Roe College</li> <li>• 1 - Kingsway Christian College</li> <li>• 1 – Mercedes College</li> <li>• 15 - Mercy College</li> <li>• 1 - Morley Senior High School</li> <li>• 4 – Servite College</li> <li>• <b>25 students in total graduated from St Gerard's Catholic Primary School in 2022</b></li> </ul>																		

## Summary of NAPLAN Annual Assessments

At St Gerard's Catholic Primary School, we use our NAPLAN data to evaluate our programs, align whole school initiatives and focus on individual students to ensure that everything we do is driving student growth and development and all resources are supporting our goals.

### Literacy

In 2022, the NAPLAN data for St Gerard's Catholic Primary School was taken from two sources, the My Schools website and the Power BI application. The My Schools website shows that the Year 3 and 5 cohorts are 'close to' the achievement of students from similar backgrounds in all aspects of literacy and numeracy NAPLAN data. In comparison to All Australian Students, the Year 3 cohort are 'above' in reading, spelling, grammar and numeracy, and 'well above' in writing. The 2022 Year 5 cohort are 'well above' All Australian students in reading, writing, grammar and numeracy, and 'above' in spelling.

The majority of students in both Year 3 and 5 are above the National Minimum Standard for all areas of literacy. In writing, 96% of students are above the National Minimum Standard in Year 3, and 96% of students in Year 5 are above National Minimum Standard for spelling. It is interesting to note that there are whole school approaches in these two modes of literacy, which may be having a positive impact on the data.

In 2022 the school appointed a Leader of Literacy to support all teaching and non-teaching staff to develop in evidence-based, best practice pedagogy relating to Literacy instruction. Furthermore, the introduction of Student Learning Meetings in Semester One has provided an opportunity for all teachers to meet regularly with the Assistant Principals to analyse data (individual, class, whole school), discuss learning programs and undertake coaching. An ongoing focus will be to investigate a whole school approach to Guided Reading, to see if improvement will occur in this area.

### Numeracy

In 2022, the NAPLAN data for St Gerard's Catholic Primary School was taken from two sources, the My Schools website and the Power BI application. Our Year Five data results indicate there has been growth in academic achievement in the Mathematical Learning Area. 100% of our students have achieved the National Minimum Standard in Year 5. Our Year Three data results indicate that the majority of students are above the National Minimum Standard for Numeracy.

The My Schools website data shows that the 2021 Year Five cohort of students have improved their results between the two consecutive NAPLAN over the Numeracy domain. This data is not available for the current cohort of students as NAPLAN was not administered in 2020. The data indicates the school has consistently performed over the last five years in supporting students at this level to achieve consistent progress.

A Leader of Numeracy was appointed in 2021 to drive school improvement in this Learning Area. An area of future focus will continue to be on building the mathematical language to support students understanding of mathematical questions and to build the students' capacity in the four mathematical proficiencies of Fluency, Understanding, Problem Solving and Reasoning.

With continued strong enrolments of new arrivals and families with English as a Second Language, the students' results through the NAPLAN Assessments are reflective of the students' developing English as a Second Language.

## Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction.

The work of creating a positive school culture by the staff is an ongoing focus at St Gerard's Catholic Primary School. This is centred in Christ and well founded in the Mercy Charism and traditions. Community satisfaction is gauged through surveys, interviews, and enrolment data.

The benefits to our students' learning, created through improvements to the physical environment of the School continue to help shape many positive learning experiences for our students. Support structures are in place to enable students to build on their individual ability level and gain the required literacy and numeracy skills to operate successfully. This is measured through a range of diagnostic, summative and formative assessments along with observations and anecdotal evidence. Ultimately, it is through quality relationships with staff that students can learn to their full potential.

Again in 2022, the learning opportunities within the classroom were supported by the wide range of extra-curricular activities that are offered, including special celebrations such as Harmony Day, Mothers' & Fathers' Day celebrations, liturgies and sacramental events, excursions, sports training, after school sports and Homework Club. Each were taken on enthusiastically by the students and their parents. To support our families, translators were engaged on occasions where required but always offered. EAL/D Learning Plans and EAL/D Reports were also produced.

In 2021 the school community completed the NSI School Climate Survey. This survey is conducted by an independent body and targets three subsections of the school. These include,

1. School Staff
2. Student Voice
3. Parent Community,

The results of this thorough data collection process were outstanding, and the following areas were highlighted as areas of strength.

- Inclusion for all;
- Celebration of our faith traditions;
- Student engagement and learning;
- Staff relationships with students and families;
- Support for families in need.

The following areas were highlighted as areas of growth.

- Continuing to include all staff in the decision-making process;
- Helping students with difficult social interactions;
- Offering parents the opportunity to connect even more with the school (COVID has impacted this).

The independent body conducting the survey on behalf of the school made a particular point in highlighting the astronomical increase in parent participation from 5 parents in the last survey cycle to over 50 in the current one.

## School Income

Interested parties can view details of the net recurrent income and capital expenditure of St Gerard's Catholic Primary School at [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au) and following the links from the school data tab.

# Annual School Improvement

The following is a summary of St Gerard's Catholic Primary School's 2022 Annual School Improvement Plan, demonstrating the school's strategic direction and progress in these defined areas. A robust evaluation process was conducted by the staff to determine success criteria and to celebrate achievements.

## Staff Formation Planning 2022

- Increase connection with the St Gerard Majella Church and the Parish Priests so we can truly witness our faith and walk together in delivering the mission of the wider Catholic Church.
- Provide opportunities for our students to reflect deeply on the meaning of their lives, in light of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Contribute to the formation and development of our students through a 'good' Catholic education, with particular attention to Christian conscience, virtue and social justice.
- Staff to actively provide witness to the motto of 'Truth - Love - Mercy'. These values are to be communicated through interpersonal and sincere relationships of community members and through individual and collective adherence to the outlook on life that permeates the school.
- Our mercy charism is known by all, and the works of Catherine McAuley are known and lived out through the lives of our students and staff. Embrace Catholic Social Teaching principles.
- Christ centred learning centred on learning about Christ.
- Staff will be welcomed into our school by undertaking the Faith Story and Witness program of St Gerard's Catholic Primary School.

## Catholic Identity

- Our Catholic Identity is lived through the integration of faith, life and culture.
- We provide meaningful opportunities for catechesis through the Word, worship, prayer, retreats, service and community.
- To develop a meaningful relationship between parish and school.
- To ensure that Religious Education is upheld as the number one learning area at our school and is responsive to the needs of all students.
- Increase confidence for teaching, assessing and in Religious Education.
- Use CEWA's mandated RE Curriculum and supporting documents to inform teaching, be responsive to individual needs and provide guidance for assessment and reporting processes.

## Education

- **Curriculum Plan**
  - Develop a common understanding of the planning process to support the learning of every child.
  - Continue to differentiate all aspects of the Learning Cycle to meet the individual needs of every child. This specifically includes EAL/D students, Students with Disabilities, etc.
  - Improve our pedagogical practices to support student learning.
- **QIP**
  - Develop our knowledge of appropriate Early Childhood Education pedagogical practices and promote children's sense of agency in their learning, routines and physical environment.
- **Aboriginal Education Plan**
  - To provide a culturally safe environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives are (embedded, practiced, lived).
  - Staff are confident to teach the aboriginal perspective across all learning areas because their knowledge has increased.

## **Community**

- To partner with and support our parents and caregivers as the first educators of their children.
- To prioritise the wellbeing of our staff, students and families so we can provide an environment that is safe, supportive and pastorally focussed through Christ-like relationships.
- We welcome and celebrate the diversity of each person formed in the image of God and will establish practices and structures that uphold the dignity of EVERY child.

## **Stewardship**

- To ensure all measures of compliance are not only met but used to achieve excellence for our school.
- Provide appropriate facilities for our staff, students, and families to enhance the delivery of a faith filled education of the highest quality.

# **2022 St Gerard's Catholic School Advisory Council AGM**

## **Chairperson's Report.**

I have been reflecting on the things I am most grateful for. Primarily among those is the love and care of the St Gerard's community. A school is a unique environment with hundreds of young developing minds, and as parents, we rely on and entrust teachers and staff of the school to protect and guide our children once they enter the gate.

Our children can only flourish and thrive because of St Gerard's teachers, assistant principals, staff, and the principals' passion and dedication. More importantly, the school's heart and soul can be seen by our children's joys and growing pains as they are shaped, moulded, and encouraged to explore the world through lessons delivered with care and compassion.

As we end another school year, I am blessed and honoured to have worked and collaborated with Mr Bristow, Mrs Meyers, and Mrs Gregory in my role as the Chair of the school's Catholic School Advisory Council. I would also like to thank my fellow council members for their time and input over the past years, and I look forward to working with the Council next year.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and see you in 2023.

Mr Tom Monks

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School Advisory Council Chairperson 2022.