



## SCHOOL PROFILE

School name St Mary's School

Postal address PO Box 166, LAIDLEY, QLD, 4341

Phone (07) 5465 1240

Email plaidley@bne.catholic.edu.au

School website www.stmaryslaidley.qld.edu.au

Contact person Craig Cronan - Principal

### Principal's foreword

St Mary's School is a Catholic Archdiocesan co-educational primary school located in the fertile Lockyer Valley at Laidley. Laidley is just over an hours drive South-West of Brisbane and can be accessed via the Warrego Highway. Our school is located in a growing area that includes the suburbs of Hatton Vale, Grandchester, Summerholm, Glenore Grove, Kensington Grove, Brightview, Forest Hill and the Laidley Valleys. St Mary's School is located in the heart of Laidley with an amazing outlook over fields of cultivation up into the Mulgowie Valley. At present St Mary's has an enrolment of 314 students from Prep to Year 6.

St Mary's School is regarded highly for its focus on the individual and especially that each student is respected and valued. Our school culture is built around the understanding of respect. Respect for self, respect for others and respect for the environment in which we live and learn. It is these values that translate into the relationships between students, staff and parents. This culture of respect and being valued is strengthened through the modelled leadership of the school.

### School facts

St Mary's 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: 289 Girls: 147 Boys: 142

## Characteristics of the student body

St Mary's Catholic Primary School student body is represented by boys and girls aged five to thirteen years old. In 2016 the school had an enrolment of 289 students. The school is situated in the Lockyer Valley and students live on farms or in the town itself. The student body consists of students from a diverse range of backgrounds. Approximately five per cent of our students identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. This range of backgrounds provide an environment that is rich with culture and diversity. At St Mary's we have students with a variety of faiths including Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican and Uniting Church. The interests of the students at St Mary's are many and varied. Many students enjoy outdoor activities relating to gardening, football, netball, equestrian pursuits. There are also students who show a keen interest in the arts. St Mary's has formed a Mini Vinnies group. Consisting of students from Yr 4 to Yr 6. At St Mary's the school curriculum is aligned to the National Curriculum and is specifically framed to meet the needs of the students in each class. It is focused on meeting the student's academic, spiritual, physical and social needs through a range of student-directed and teacher-directed learning experiences. These prepared learning experiences consider the needs of the individuals at St Mary's and are aimed to be meaningful, fun, challenging, play-based, integrated and flexible. In accordance with the Brisbane Catholic Education Guidelines, we aim to build "foundations for learning" which for this group means they aim to help those in need within their school and local community.

## Social climate

The St Mary's Learning Community prides itself on being supportive and welcoming. These attributes guide the interactions between students, staff, parents and the wider parish community. St Mary's is a Kidsmatter School and implements Kids Matter, Staff Matters and Sustainability Matters. Students, staff and parents have opportunities to be involved in pastoral care projects and activities such as: Buddy Groups, The Virtues Program, Catholic Mission Appeal, St Vincent De Paul and St Mary's Care and Concern. St Mary's philosophy is based on respect and as this is the case does not tolerate bullying and promptly addresses disrespectful behaviour. St Mary's uses support staff to proactively support students with Positive Behaviour Support.

## Curriculum - our distinctive offerings

At St Mary's the school curriculum is aligned to the National Curriculum and is specifically framed to meet the needs of the students in each class. It is focused on meeting the student's academic, spiritual, physical and social needs through a range of student-directed and teacher-directed learning experiences. These prepared learning experiences consider the needs of the individuals at St Mary's and are aimed to be meaningful, fun, challenging, play-based, integrated and flexible. Throughout 2016, staff at St Mary's actively participated in professional development that enhanced student learning and development. This professional development broad ranging across the curriculum and included the areas of Mathematics, Literacy, History and Social and Emotional well being. In accordance with the Brisbane Catholic Education Guidelines, we aim to build "foundations for learning which are life long and life giving".

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

At St Mary's School we provide a number of different activities that compliment the day to day teaching of students. These activities are an important part of school life here at St Mary's and would often not happen if it weren't for the generosity of many staff, parents and other community members. These community contributors through their willingness, generosity and talent allow our students to experience a wide range of other activities. We acknowledge their gifts and talents and thank them sincerely for their support. These activities include choir, chess club, inter-school sport, speed-soccer, cross country, athletics, swimming, Auskick, dance and homework club.

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

Overall Parents, Students and Staff are highly satisfied with the St Mary's Learning Community and this is shown through the highly positive feedback received through the St Mary's P&F, St Mary's School Board and also reflected through Internal and External Reviews. Each year we host a School Renewal Dinner to gain feedback from parents on components that were being reviewed. This review process was outstanding and all parents present were able to share their thoughts and discuss them fully whilst also having the opportunity to contribute to the overall rating of each component. This process is a means of collecting constructive, quality feedback. Students also have a voice through the Student Leadership Committees and also through the School Renewal Process. It is through everyday engagement and more formal settings that we are able to gain a good picture of the high level of student satisfaction.

## **Parent engagement**

At St Mary's we recognise that parents are and always will be the primary educators of their children. With this in mind we aim to support, promote and build on this foundation through encouraging parent involvement within the school. At St Mary's we see parents as a key stakeholder in the three way partnership of student education and is, therefore, highly valued and appreciated. Parent help occurs in a variety of ways from direct support in Support-A-Reader, Perceptual Motor Programs, excursion helpers, swimming instructors through to indirect support including book covering, working bees, tuckshop, assistance with Munch and Crunch preparation and assisting with grounds maintenance. Along with these areas the St Mary's P&F also works hard to organise social activities for the St Mary's Learning Community. Parental assistance is both welcomed and encouraged as our school learning environment is enhanced through their ongoing support.

## SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Achievements - progress towards goals**

During 2016 the St Mary's school goals addressed four areas: Mission and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Professional Practice and Collaborative Relationships; and Strategic Resourcing. One of the major achievements celebrated during 2016 for St Mary's was the validation of the Religious Education Program. Another area of progress was the development of Reading and Spelling Data Walls. The establishment of collaborative planning processes informed by formative assessment data to meet the needs of individual students was an area of significant growth during 2016.

### **Future outlook**

The future for St Mary's looks very bright. The Lockyer Valley is an area enjoying consistent population growth and St Mary's enjoys a very positive standing within Laidley and surrounding area. The school has undertaken a number of capital building project over recent years and has the capacity to provide for any foreseeable future enrolment growth. St Mary's will now build on the foundations of the past and continue to implement the Excellent Learning and Teaching Strategy developed by Brisbane Catholic Education. Our goal for 2017 is improving literacy outcomes for all students throughout the school. This challenge aims to address current data gathered from school and regional sources.

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

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

### Management of non-attendance

Staff mark rolls twice a day morning and afternoon in class. Office staff record notified absences as calls are received from parents as this is the expectation of parents if students are away. Parents are contacted on a daily basis for unexplained absences recorded at the morning marking of the roll. Administration and support staff monitor attendance and make contact or meet with families where attendance rates decline.

### NAPLAN results

Average NAPLAN results

	Year 3		Year 5	
	School	Aust.	School	Aust.
Reading	397.81	425.70	464.48	501.70
Writing	407.76	420.50	445.77	475.40
Spelling	376.14	420.10	449.59	492.90
Grammar & punctuation	405.48	436.30	500.30	505.00
Numeracy	382.05	402.20	475.43	492.90

## STAFF PROFILE

Workforce composition	Teaching staff	Non-teaching staff
Headcounts	29	16
Full-time equivalents	24.10	9.75
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	0	

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	0
Masters	3
Post Graduate Diploma/ Certificate	2
Bachelor Degree	22
Diploma/Certificate	2

### Expenditure on and participation in teacher professional learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2016 was \$ 40856

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

One Conference for all staff - \$22076  
 Annual Goals setting with staff - \$7071  
 Role M Maths Professional development - \$1359  
 Positive Partnerships - \$5400  
 Teaching Phonics - \$3150  
 Autism Qld Visit - \$1800

**Average staff attendance rate** The staff attendance rate was 96.51 % in 2016.

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

From the end of the 2015 school year, 75.38 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2016 year.

## SCHOOL INCOME

### 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/>

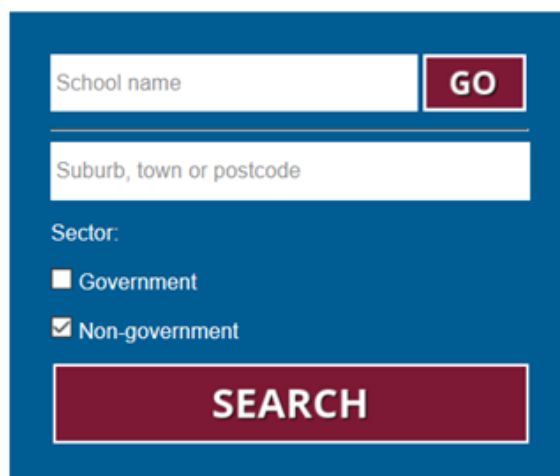
To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'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.

### Find a school



The screenshot shows a search interface with a dark blue background. At the top, the text 'Find a school' is displayed. Below this, there are two input fields: 'School name' and 'Suburb, town or postcode'. To the right of the 'School name' field is a red button with the text 'GO'. Below the 'Suburb, town or postcode' field, the text 'Sector:' is followed by two radio button options: 'Government' (which is unselected) and 'Non-government' (which is selected with a checkmark). At the bottom of the form is a large red button with the text 'SEARCH' in white capital letters.