



## ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, Narrabeen

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

St Joseph's Catholic School is a co-educational school for children from Kindergarten to Year 6. The children are encouraged to embody in all their relationships and their learning our school motto "Build in Love".

At St Joseph's we balance children's academic, social, physical and spiritual growth. We aim to develop each child's strengths and develop them as the basis for a lifelong love of learning. We have high expectations in all aspects of teaching and learning at St Joseph's. Outstanding literacy and numeracy programs are a feature of the school with close monitoring of each child's learning being a key element.

We strongly emphasise student pastoral care and leadership with programs such as Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL), Peer Support and Buddy Programs. Our children follow closely our school rule of being "Safe, Respectful Learners".

The success of St Joseph's lies in the positive partnership that we have developed between the parents, teachers and students. Our community actively supports the school and the children in our care.

Michael Gallagher  
Principal

### WELCOME

St Joseph's is a Catholic parish school that recognises each child as being unique and formed in the image of God. We are a school community where a friendly, trusting collaboration between Principal, Parish Priest, Teachers and Parents is fostered for the ongoing development of each individual.

Diverse curricula activities initiated and maintained by a team of caring and dedicated education professionals, well maintained grounds and facilities and parent involvement combine to produce a dynamic learning community.

Based upon our school motto "Build in Love", our students are invited to engage in social justice programs. In doing so, we give expression to our Catholic beliefs by making relevant connections to the contemporary world.

#### Our Vision is:

Inspired by our motto, "Build in Love", we at St Joseph's School, Narrabeen, a Catholic community of learning, are committed to providing our children with a challenging education in a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment.

#### Our Mission is to:

**BUILD A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY** whereby we

- Teach, model and uphold Gospel values and the traditions of the Catholic Church.
- Guide children in their spiritual journey through a developmental, religious education curriculum.
- Provide opportunities for children to develop a personal relationship with Christ.
- Celebrate successes and sacramental moments.
- Encourage children to be reflective and prayerful.
- Develop a reverence for the earth and its resources and of all creation.

**PROVIDE A CHALLENGING EDUCATION** which

- Is child centred and holistic (spiritual, emotional, intellectual, physical and cultural).
- Prepares children to face the future with a positive attitude and outlook.
- Utilises an integrated curriculum which allows children to reach their full potential.
- Equips children with the skills required to be productive in the wider community.

**NURTURE A SAFE, INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT** by instilling the core values of Community, Respect, Compassion, Stewardship. Through these values we aim to develop partnerships between, child, parent, staff, parish and community.



# HISTORY



St Joseph's is a school with a long history. The school was established in 1939 by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict.

The values that these foundation sisters instilled in this community are still evident. A sense of welcome, inclusion, humility, service, care of our environment and respect for all are the very features that define a Benedictine spirituality and are still named by the community as defining characteristics of the school. Our school lives out its commitment to give children an experience of being part of an authentically Catholic community.

## CATHOLIC LIFE AND MISSION



As a Catholic school our religious life is central in our day-to-day activities. Each class begins the day with prayer. This is the time to stop, listen and talk with God. All classes have a dedicated sacred space that acts as a focus for daily prayer.

**Catholic Worldview** is the lens through which Catholics view the world. It is a tangible expression of our call to Catholic discipleship. Catholic Worldview pervades all aspects of the school's life including its policies, practices and procedures.

Our students are taught the concept of service learning; social justice is not just about raising money to send to the missions but it is about understanding at a deeper level our obligation to make life better for others. The social justice concept of "See, Judge and Act" is linked to the idea of "Head, Heart and Hands". As well as action we need to have a change of heart and learn about how we might bring about change.



## CURRICULUM

The curriculum offered by all systemic schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay is based on Board of Studies syllabuses.

These syllabuses clearly identify the Outcomes (the targets of each course) which provide detail of what students will be expected to know, understand and do at the end of a specific stage of learning. Teachers respond to syllabuses by designing teaching programs that take account of resources, expertise, school priorities and most importantly, student learning needs.

Ongoing assessment for learning enables teachers to make professional judgments about student achievement and to adjust the teaching program to support each student's learning. Regular and specific feedback is provided for both students and parents to further support effective learning.

### There are seven Key Learning Areas: (KLAs)

- Religious Education
- English
- Mathematics
- Human Society and its Environment
- Science and Technology
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
- Creative Arts

### The primary curriculum is organised into Stages:

Early Stage 1: Kindergarten  
Stage 1: Year 1 and Year 2  
Stage 2: Year 3 and Year 4  
Stage 3: Year 5 and Year 6

Most students will be working towards the outcomes for their Stage. Some students will be working towards outcomes that are above or below their Stage.





# TEACHING AND LEARNING

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay exist to educate and form children in Catholic discipleship by offering them experiences of following Jesus as members of a Catholic community.

Our role as a Catholic School is to support parents in nurturing each child's faith and moral development.

We use the Religious Education Curriculum K-12 that has been developed by the Broken Bay Catholic Schools Office in consultation with Bishop Peter Comensoli. With careful reflection and guidance the children are led to new insights about their faith.

We celebrate our faith together through prayer, liturgy and the sacraments, special days and events are celebrated through Masses, class liturgies and assemblies.

## PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING

Providing a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment for all our children is our school's commitment. At St Joseph's we have a range of strategies to ensure this commitment.

- Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)
- Reward System
- Kinder Buddies
- Peer Support
- Seasons for Growth
- Anti-Bullying
- Counselling
- Social Emotional Learning



## CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

As well as the day-to-day activities that take place in the classroom, there are many other opportunities for students to become involved in throughout the year.

- Cyber Safety and Anti Bullying awareness events
- Public Speaking
- Debating
- Gifted programs
- Music, Senior Band and Creative Arts performance
- Swimming Carnival
- Athletics Carnival
- Cross Country Carnival
- Gala Days

Competitions in sport and academics provide pathways for state and national level.



# OUR FACILITIES

St Joseph's Catholic School is a modern education facility with seven well-appointed classrooms. Every classroom has at least four new computers and an interactive whiteboard. The school has a well-resourced library as well as a modern and well utilised computer lab.

Before and After School Care is provided onsite in a dedicated Out of Hours School Care room. This is a service provided to the students enrolled at St Joseph's by an external provider with a fee associated. OOSH operates between 6:45am–9am and 3:05pm–6pm Monday to Friday. Bookings are advised, although some casual places may be available.

## PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School community strives to live out its vision statement, Build in Love, in our daily lives. We are members of a Catholic community and are invited to become fully involved in all aspects of school life.

Parents are acknowledged as the primary educators of their children and are invited to enter into meaningful partnerships with the school and wider parish community.

The Parents and Friends' Association (P&F) is the primary parent body within the school community. The P&F has roles in areas such as social event organisation, educational support and welcoming new families within the school.

Being a small school we are proud of the sense of community we have built amongst all members including the parish and wider community. This sense of community is seen as what makes St Joseph's a unique school in the local area.

St Joseph's is part of the wider Parish community. The connection between school and church goes back to 1939 when they were both housed in the one building. Many of our parishioners are past pupils of St Joseph's and still have a close connection with the school.

## ENROLMENT

At St Joseph's we are happy to consider applications for enrolment at any time. We follow enrolment procedures as set out by the Broken Bay Diocesan Enrolment Policy. A copy of this policy is available from our website.

### CATCHMENT AREA

The Catchment Area for St Joseph's includes the areas of Narrabeen, South Narrabeen, North Narrabeen, Elanora Heights, Warriewood and parts of Collaroy.



### St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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