

# St Patrick's Catholic School, Katanning School



## Annual Report 2020

*The following information is a Federal Government requirement and pertains to the 2020 calendar year.*

### **Contextual Information**

St Patrick's Catholic School in Katanning caters for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 and is an integral part of the Katanning community.

Katanning is situated within the Great Southern region of Western Australia, and the town is a regional hub, boasting excellent leisure, and sporting, medical and shopping facilities. The town also has two State Government Primary Schools, a Senior High School and a TAFE facility. The community has a wide diversity of cultural backgrounds.

St Patrick's School is highly regarded by school and parish families and a significant number of the school's students are second, and in some cases, third-generation. St Patrick's School was established in 1926 with the arrival in January of that year, of three Our Lady of the Missions sisters. The school opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 9.00am with 47 pupils, and the first classes were originally located in the Church. The school finished that year with 108 pupils.

The sisters continued to teach in the Church until 1927. By then, three rooms and a verandah were built in the Church grounds, and these were opened and blessed by Archbishop Clune on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1927. These classrooms faced Annie St and were the School Library and Canteen. In 1958, two additional rooms were added, facing Amherst St. 1966 saw the building of the Parish Hall.

St Patrick's School continued to grow rapidly, and the building of additional classrooms was completed and opened in 1975. A new classroom, a dedicated Multi-Purpose Room for the Arts, and a large Covered Area was completed in 2004. More recently, a new Library was built in 2011 as part of the Primary Schools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century government funded project. St Patrick's School is currently a composite school catering for children from Kindergarten through to Year 6. In 2020, there are currently 84 children (Kindergarten to Year Six) attending the school with a staff of 16, comprised of 10 teachers (full-time and part-time) and 6 non-teaching staff. The staff is hard working and committed to providing a high level of pastoral care and quality education to their students. The school's Leadership Team consists of the Principal, Curriculum Leader and Administration Officer.

There is a range of specialist programmes offered within the school. The school is very well resourced and boasts iPads, Apple TVs and large screens in all classes.

2018 saw a renewed focus on teaching and learning with the introduction of an explicit teaching agenda and improved literacy support, including MiniLit and MacqLit. This has continued into 2019 which saw the introduction of InitialLit in Pre-Primary and Talk for Writing across the whole school. Building community has continued to be a major focus too with many new initiatives started, including the building of another nature playground in the Early Years playground, and the introduction of Mini Stars; a 3-Year-Old parent involved playgroup.

There is a School Board, whose function and responsibility is to oversee the financial management and future planning of the school, and the Parents and Friends Association is the body through which parents can make a more formal contribution to the life of the school, through fundraising and the development of social networks.

## 2020

### School facts

School sector	Non-government
School type	Primary
Year range	PP-6
Location	Outer Regional

### School staff

Teaching staff	9
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	6.2
Non-teaching staff	5
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	3.9

### School links

School website

St Patrick's School

Sector, system or association website

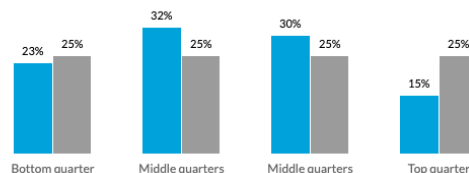
Catholic Education Western Australia

### Student background

#### Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA)

School ICSEA value	1016
Average ICSEA value	1000
School ICSEA percentile	54

#### Distribution of Socio-Educational Advantage (SEA)

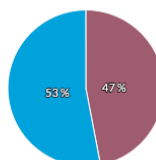


Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100

### Students

Total enrolments: 75

Boys	40
Girls	35



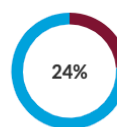
Full-time equivalent enrolments: 75.0

Indigenous students



Language background other than English

Yes	(24%)
No	(76%)
Not stated	(0%)



<https://www.myschool.edu.au/>

## Teacher Standards, Qualifications and Workforce Composition

St Patrick's Catholic School employs 16 staff. Collectively, the qualifications held by staff and the numbers of teachers who hold these qualifications are:

- 2 Diplomas
- 5 Bachelor's Degrees
- 1 Graduate Certificates
- 2 Master's Degree
- Staff composition: -
  - 2 males, 14 females,
  - 6 non- teaching staff, 10 teaching staff
- 2 cleaners/grounds (1 female, 1 male)
- 0 Indigenous staff

## Key Student Outcomes Student Attendance:

In order for students to reach their full potential it is important that they attend school regularly. Whilst it is the parents' legal duty to ensure their children attend school regularly, our staff as part of their duty of care monitor attendance each day. The Class Roll is marked via SEQTA every day. Unexplained absences are followed up promptly by staff. Parents are requested to provide a satisfactory explanation for an absence by means such as a written note, telephone call, SMS message or email to the school preferably on the first day of absence. The principal is made aware of sustained student absences or absences reflecting a pattern. In these situations, the principal or delegated staff member contacts the parent/guardian. Parents are encouraged to arrange medical and other necessary appointments outside school hours. Prolonged periods

of absence occur from time-to-time for various reasons. In these cases, students and their parents meet with the principal to discuss the leave request. The average student attendance rate for the school during 2020 is shown in the following table.

Kindy	Pre-Primary	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
85.09%	89.73%	90.89%	90.82%	87.03%	88.97%	89.39%	91.85%	89.22%

### 2020 NAPLAN Information

As NAPLAN was not administered in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no 2020 NAPLAN data can be presented in this report.

### Parent, Student and Staff satisfaction

St Patrick's Catholic School's focus on building community has improved the name of the school in the wider community in recent years. Staff morale is positive as they have engaged in evidenced based practices and been reinspired to challenge themselves within their profession. Parents are happy too and have been supporting our school in the wider community. The school seeks feedback from parents, students and staff in a variety of formal and informal ways. Data collected in 2020 provided much positive feedback, with parents, staff and students noting that communication is good, student behaviour is managed well, that the school is working well towards achieving its mission and is providing sound academic opportunities to our students.

### Post School Destinations - Year 6 Destination Schools 2020

School	Number of Students
Katanning Senior High School	12
Great Southern Grammar	1

### School Income

The ACARA website [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au) hosts the My School profile of Australian schools. Visiting this site gives further comparative information including financial data.

### School Improvement

The school had a number of goals as outlined in its annual School Improvement Plan (SIP). These included:

- Social Justice – each class was challenged to engage in a social justice project as part of our 'Reading the Signs of the Times' initiative. Each class had great success with their projects.
- Aboriginal Education – The school had a goal of increasing the number of Aboriginal student enrolments. This goal remains a work in progress.
- Staff Growth and Development – All staff participated in a Growth and Development process which allowed them to self-reflect on areas of strength and areas for growth; before setting goals to achieve.
- Talk for Writing – All staff were trained in the delivery of the Talk for Writing program. Staff were supported in the implementation through professional development, lesson demonstrations, observations and feedback.
- Intentional Teaching Practices in the Early Years – Early years staff were encouraged to reflect on their teaching practices and ensure that all planned activities were purposeful and that the learning intention was clear and able to be communicated with all. They were supported in their practice by the Great Southern Network.

## School Community Report

Well 2020 has definitely been a year to remember. It has been a quiet year from the perspective of board meetings etc, but that is only due to the fact that we were unable to hold meetings at various times throughout the year due to extenuating circumstances. The year started in a reasonable fashion, not withstanding the imminent long service leave of our principal for term 4 that we had to plan for.

All of this was of course thrown into turmoil with the Covid-19 pandemic that has hit the world. During the small period of lockdown at the end of term 1 and start of term 2, I thought the school handled a very difficult time organising home schooling programmes and the like very well. Of course, there would have been obstacles along the way, but having spoken to parents from other schools, not just locally, but around the state, I believe our staff and school community did very well during this period.

Of course, we then had the resignation of our principal Andrew Gammon, as of the end of the year, but as term 4 was his long service leave, we started the interview process in term 3, and I thank Andrew Bushell and Father Gerome for their help through this process. Mr Brett Wilkie was appointed principal starting in January 2021, and I believe will fit extremely well into our school and the Katanning community. We were also fortunate that CEWA appointed a stand in principal for us in term 4 in Mr Ben Priest, and he and his family have been with us throughout term 4. I'd like to thank Ben for his input into the school, and for uprooting his family for such a short period. We hope you have enjoyed your time here, and if we can find any way of enticing you to stay on for longer, we'll look into it. I did send an email out to the school community upon Andrew Gammon and his family leaving, but would just like to further thank Andrew, Christina and family for their time here in Katanning. Andrew was a breath of fresh air for our community at a time we really needed it. He fitted in seamlessly with the whole Katanning community as well. He made many positive changes in our staff and students lives, that will hold them all in good stead for their future developments. We wish the whole Gammon family well in their time in Donnybrook.

I would like to extend my thanks to the wonderful staff at Saint Patrick's that teach and nurture our children every day. We are very lucky to have you as part of our children's lives. To the teaching staff and families that may be leaving at the end of this year, we wish you all the very best in your future endeavours. You have all made a positive mark on St Patricks throughout your time here.

Once again, a huge thanks must go to the often undervalued, and unsung people in our school community – the volunteers. A special thank you to my fellow board members, Davina Davies (Secretary and P&F rep), Sheldon Kowald (treasurer), Tania Edwards, Linda Hewson, Pat Kennedy (Parish Rep) and Andrew Bushell, along with Andrew Gammon and of late, Ben Priest, and of course the glue that holds everything together in Helen Robinson. Your support throughout the year has been exceptional.

As this is my final report and final duty as a member or chair of the school board, I'd like to thank all of the board members over the past 5 years I have been on the board. It has been a privilege to see the growth in the school over this time. Whilst there have been many challenges over this time, there has been many great initiatives that I'd like to think I had a part, albeit a miniscule one, in some of the progress the school has made. I am sure, with the make up of the board, and with Brett Wilkie joining us, this progress will continue. I remember in my first time doing my speech to get onto the board, following Trump's campaign in the U.S., I used the slogan 'Make St Pat's Great again'. I believe we have now got a great school. We just need to capitalise on our greatness, and attract as many new families to our great school as we can.

Finally, I hope we all enjoy the last few weeks of term, have a very Safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Years break, and we will see you all back here to kick off a new year in 2021.

Regards Simon Kerin Board Chair