

St Patrick's Catholic School, Katanning School



Annual Report 2023

The following information is a Federal Government requirement and pertains to the 2023 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 3rd 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 5th 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 21st Century government funded project. St Patrick's School is currently a composite school catering for children from Kindergarten through to Year 6. In 2021, there are currently 124 children (Kindergarten to Year Six) attending the school with a staff of 21, comprised of 11 teachers (full-time and part-time) and 10 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, Assistant Principal 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 Advisory Council, 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.

2023

School facts

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

School staff

Teaching staff	8
Full-time equivalent teaching staff	6.5
Non-teaching staff	7
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	4.7

School links

School website

St Patrick's School



Sector, system or association website

Catholic Education Western Australia

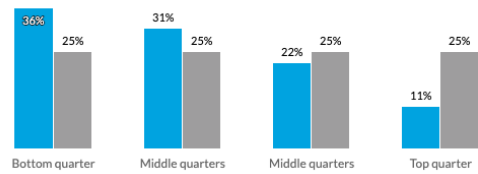


Student background

Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA)

School ICSEA value	980
Average ICSEA value	1000
School ICSEA percentile	37

Distribution of Socio-Educational Advantage (SEA)

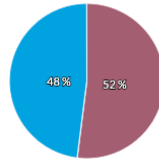


■ School distribution ■ Australian distribution
Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100

Students

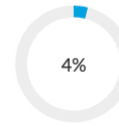
Total enrolments: 82

Boys	39
Girls	43



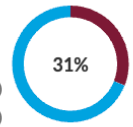
Full-time equivalent enrolments: 82.0

Indigenous students



Language background other than English

Yes	(31%)
No	(69%)
Not stated	(0%)



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

Teacher Standards, Qualifications and Workforce Composition

St Patrick's Catholic School employs 15 staff. Collectively, the qualifications held by staff and the numbers of teachers who hold these qualifications are:

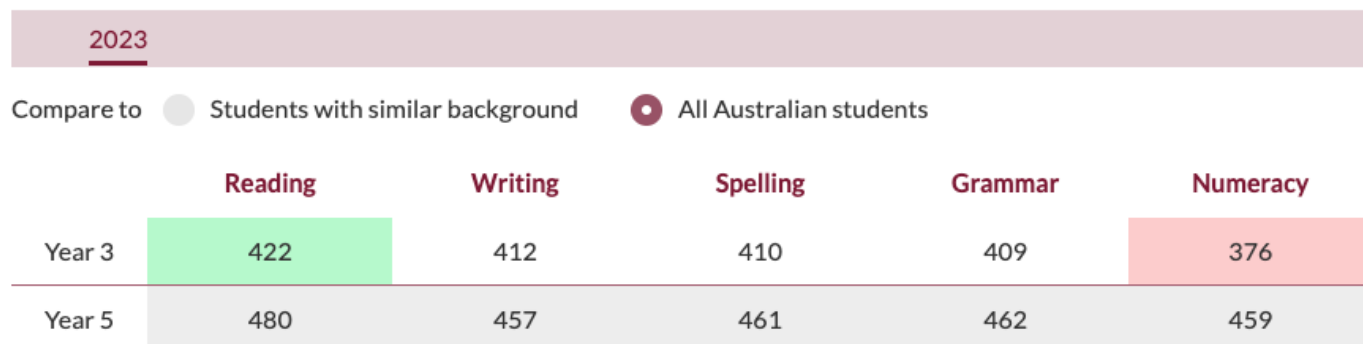
- 2 Diplomas
- 7 Bachelors Degrees
- 1 Graduate Certificates
- 1 Masters Degree
- Staff composition: -
 - 2 males, 13 females,
 - 5 non- teaching staff, 8 teaching staff
- 2 cleaners/grounds (1 female, 1 male)
- 0 Indigenous staff

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 2022 is shown in the following table.

Kindy	Pre-Primary	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
85.02%	91.36%	86.98%	84.35%	88.08%	89.41%	90.34%	92.86%	88.55%

2023 NAPLAN Information



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 2023 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 2023

School	Number of Students
Katanning Senior High School	7
St Brigids College Lesmurdie	1
Great Southern Grammar	1
Aquinas College	1

School Income

The ACARA website 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). Each goal was either achieved, or rolled over into 2024. These included:

- **Engagement in Mass/Liturgy-** implement changes in our practice likely to create greater student engagement in Mass and liturgy.
- **Service-** as stipulated in our Evangelisation Plan, develop an increased focus on being witnesses to our faith through acts of service in our community.

- **Mathematics**- continue to work at increasing engagement and achievement in Mathematics, through further embedding strategies implemented in 2022.
- **Literacy**- continue to embed guided reading as a key instructional tool, with increasing use of data from running records to inform instruction.
- **ECE Focus**- Increase in effective communication and feedback provided to parents of early childhood students.
- **EAL/D Engagement**- facilitate better engagement and communication with our EAL/D families, so they feel more comfortable being engaged with the school, while also feeling that their culture is valued and celebrated.
- **Engagement of New Families**-with a number of new families joining our school, prioritise encouraging their active involvement and developing a sense of welcome and belonging for these families.
- **Aboriginal Education**- plan and commence a project that will require authentic engagement with the local Aboriginal community.
- **School Marketing**- identify ways to increase student enrolments through effective marketing.

School Community Report 2023

We have enjoyed another busy, but successful year at Saint Patrick's, with many achievements and much to celebrate. It has been very pleasing for us on the School Advisory Council to see the school make such great progress towards many of our strategic goals this year. One of our major goals has been to focus on growing our school by attracting as many Kindy students as possible each year, so we were delighted to see such a large Kindy group come through this year, under the new Kindy team led by the talented Mrs Gerri Kowald. On the SAC, we have also spoken at length about how we can ensure that St Patrick's develops its reputation as an outstanding school in our region- we are very satisfied that we have been able to take many steps in 2023 towards achieving this.

Key issues on the SAC this year have included the recruitment and retention of staff moving forward, as well as the long-term financial viability of our school. We have entered into conversation with CEWA on numerous occasions on both of these issues. While our funding for 2024 is not what we expected it to be, we are very confident that we will be able to work with CEWA on a solution for the future. It has been great to see all members of the SAC in support of the school implementing its own incentives to attract staff, such as the offering of leadership roles within the school, as well as generous housing assistance packages. We believe that these will continue to be vital in the coming years.

In recent years, it has been a pleasure to be part of the School Advisory Council, due to the wonderful mix of individuals making up our membership. At all times, we have been on the same page and worked together seamlessly for the good of our school. We have enjoyed efficient, but light-hearted meetings (and always a refreshment to follow). I particularly acknowledged those SAC members who will be completing their service this year- Penny Shackley, Natalie Nicholson and Linda Hewson- thank you for your great contributions to our council.

I would like to extend my thanks to the wonderful staff at St Patrick's who teach and care for our children so brilliantly every day. We, as parents, are very appreciative of what you do.

To the staff members 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 had a tremendous impact on St Patricks throughout your time here.

One of the great things about our school is the parent support that is evident throughout the year. A huge thank you must go to all our volunteers- whether it be attending meetings, working with our P&F, volunteering in canteen or with fundraising- every contribution matters and adds up to result in the great environment that all of our families enjoy.

I would like to also make a special acknowledgment to Mrs. Helen Robinson who does amazing work to not only assist the SAC, but in ensuring that our school operates like a well-oiled machine. Thank you for everything you do, Helen.

In closing, I hope you all enjoy the last few weeks of term, have a very safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year's break, and we will see you all back here in 2024 for another super year.

Regards

Andrew Bushell

School Advisory Council Chairperson.