



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION**  
WILCANNIA-FORBES

# 2023

## ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT



### St Ignatius' Parish School

3 Meek St, BOURKE 2840

Principal: Mrs Una Taylor

Web: [www.wf.catholic.edu.au/schools/bourke/](http://www.wf.catholic.edu.au/schools/bourke/)

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## About this report

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St Ignatius' Parish School (the 'School') is registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and managed by the Catholic Education Office (CEO), Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes. The CEO as the 'approved authority' for the diocesan registration system formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act (1990), is responsible for monitoring the compliance of member schools in the manner that has been approved by the Minister of Education.

The Annual School Report (the 'Report') demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies and the CEO. Additionally, the Report complements and is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the School community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students.

The Report provides parents and the wider community with fair, reliable and objective information about educational and financial performance measures as well as School and system policies. This information includes summary contextual data, an overview of student performance in state and national assessments, a description of the achievement of priorities in the previous year and areas for improvement. Detailed information about the School's improvement journey is documented in the Annual Improvement Plan (AIP) which is developed, implemented and evaluated in consultation with key stakeholders.

Further information about the contents of this Report may be obtained by contacting the School directly or by visiting the School's website. Information can also be obtained from the [My School website](#).

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## Message from key groups in our community

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### Principal's Message

The 2023 school year has been a successful one for the St Ignatius school community. We have continued to strive to live out our vision of being a nurturing faith-filled community, inspiring flourishing, lifelong learners. The staff continue to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our students, facilitating opportunities to engage in developmentally and culturally appropriate learning activities. The school is supported by our local parish priest, Fr Oche Matutina. His gentle presence in our school and his contribution through his music, have helped foster a strong relationship with our local parish.

The school staff at St Ignatius are deeply committed to working with children, families and the local community to ensure successful wellbeing and learning outcomes for all of the children in our care. Our students have continued to benefit from high-quality teaching and learning activities, excelling in many academic, cultural and sporting arenas. In 2023 the staff have engaged in significant professional learning opportunities in preparation for the full implementation of the new K-10 English and Mathematics curriculum and this will remain a focus in 2024.

St Ignatius Parish School fosters an environment in which well-being is at the core of everything we do. We have strong relationships with our families and the wider Bourke community and engagement from these stakeholders has helped to build our inclusive culture and welcoming environment. Our students are consistently challenged to achieve to a high standard and the staff at St Ignatius are committed to continual improvement of our students and of ourselves. It has been a pleasure to lead the St Ignatius community in 2023 and I am very proud of our achievements this year.

### Parent Body Message

The St Ignatius P&F committee has been extremely busy in 2023, running fundraising events throughout the year to raise money for the school, for playground improvements, resources, camps, activities and more.

Some of the things P&F have paid for this year include!

- A new school hat for every Kindergarten child.
- Grade 6 graduation dinner meals & decorations.
- Wushka online book subscription for every student.
- Excursions – this year \$50 was paid off each student's Lake Keepit camp fee and also paid \$6600 for the buses.
- Multiple purchases of decodable readers for classroom and home reading use.

- Magnetic Whiteboard for the staff room.
- End-of-term hotdog & drink days for students and lunch platters for teachers.

The P&F look forward to supporting the school with the following ideas in 2024 :

- Contributing to the costs of levelling the last uneven part of the schoolyard and straightening the fenceline.
- Renovating the vegetable garden, repairing the watering system, adding steel edging and crushed gravel to beautify the area.
- Replacing the old timber benches with more modern alternatives.
- Providing financial support for planned excursions and associated bus costs.
- Hosting social activities for students and families such as karaoke and BBQ dinners.

Major events planned for 2024:

- Easter Colour run – March 29th Good Friday
- Bourke Show - May
- Louth Races food stall – August
- 2024 Ball
- School Fete – celebrating 100 years of the Mercy Convent – September.

The current P&F committee mainly consists of grade 4, 5 and 6 parents. The committee is keen to see parents from the younger children's classes join the committee in the hope of being able to hand over, over the next year or two, how things have been done in the past and how annual events are organised.

Many hands make light work and it is also a joy to work alongside the other friendly members of the P&F and raise money for our beautiful school and students. It really is a rewarding experience and interested parents and friends are encouraged to become members.

This year two long-standing members will move on from St Ignatius and we acknowledge the contribution they have made over more than 15 years to the school community.

The Parents and Friends Association would like to acknowledge the dedication of the teachers and school staff at St Ignatius and thank them for the excellent work they do each day in providing a high-quality Catholic education for the children of Bourke. The P&F look forward to continuing to work closely with students, staff and families to build a vibrant learning community.

### Student Body Message

2023 has been a great year at St Ignatius. We have achieved many things and worked hard with our teachers. This year at St Ignatius there has been a lot of work done on the playground. The new grass area and the renovation of our football oval have made us very

happy. We are able to use these areas during PDHPE time and also at lunchtime. They feel cool and relaxing, not like when there was just a lot of bitumen.

Some highlights of the school year were the Lake Keepit excursion, the rugby union gala days, using our chrome books to research festivals, the karaoke night for Caritas, marching at the town ANZAC Day ceremony and our end-of-year Christmas concert. There are always lots of things happening at St Ignatius inside and outside of the classroom and we are often challenged to step outside our comfort zone. We are proud of our school and think it is a good place to learn and grow.

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## School Features

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St Ignatius' Parish Primary School is a Catholic systemic co-educational school located in Bourke. The school caters for students in Kindergarten to Year 6 and has a current enrolment of 105 students. The school currently has 5 classes, organised into cross-stage learning groups. The school has 5 classroom spaces, a library/intervention space, a school hall and the SPOT, a designated space for facilitating in-person or telehealth counselling, speech and occupational therapy sessions.

The school is well equipped to facilitate 21st-century learning with technology embedded into every classroom through the use of personal Chromebooks for every student and interactive whiteboards across the school. Students have opportunities to participate in numerous co-curricular activities such as ICAS assessments, cultural days and choir, as well as CWA public speaking competitions and rugby gala days.

St Ignatius has been built on strong religious traditions, on land donated by Mr Joseph Becker in the 1870's. In 1881, the Sisters of St Joseph commenced work until 1890, followed by the Sisters of Mercy in 1891 who remained present at the school until 2005. Between 1988 and 2004, the Marist Brothers took over the Leadership of the school, which has led to strong relationships with Marist secondary schools. Since that time, lay principals have continued to build on the foundations of the religious who have worked before them.

As a school community, we strive to live the values of love, hope, peace, openness, truth and community, following the example of Jesus and our patron, St Ignatius of Antioch.

St. Ignatius uses a Positive Education model that is built upon the work of Positive Psychology. A brief description of this, positive psychology is a scientific approach to studying human thoughts, feelings, and behaviour, with a focus on strengths instead of weaknesses, building the good in life instead of repairing the bad, and taking the lives of average people up to "great" instead of focusing solely on moving those who are struggling up to "normal" (Peterson, 2008). Positive psychology focuses on the positive events and influences in life, including Positive experiences (like happiness, joy, inspiration, and love). Positive states and traits (like gratitude, resilience, and compassion). Positive institutions (applying positive principles within entire organisations and institutions). As a field, positive psychology spends much of its time thinking about topics like character strengths, optimism, life satisfaction, happiness, well-being, gratitude, compassion (as well as self-compassion), self-esteem and self-confidence, hope, and elevation. These topics are studied at St. Ignatius in order to learn how to help our learning community flourish and live their best lives. As part of our vision, the staff also undertake ongoing professional development in Trauma-informed care.

The school has an active and supportive Parents and Friends Association, working alongside the school to support the Catholic ethos, promote the school in the wider community and undertake fundraising opportunities such as a colour run, annual ball, catering and karaoke night.

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## Student Profile

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### Student Enrolment

St Ignatius' Parish School caters for students in Years K-6. Students attending this School come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities. The following information describes the student profile for 2023:

Girls	Boys	LBOTE*	Total Students
58	47	3	105

\* Language Background Other than English

### Enrolment Policy

The [Enrolment Policy](#) applies to all school enrolments within the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese. School authorities manage local enrolment processes and procedures in a manner consistent with the rationale and guiding principles articulated in this Enrolment Policy and accompanying procedures. It aims to:

- Set direction for school procedures and practices for enrolling students into Catholic primary schools within the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes.
- Establish a common, consistent approach in enrolment practices.
- Assist the system of Catholic schools to:
  - provide schooling, where possible, for children of Catholic families who seek enrolment
  - cater for the individual needs of each child equitably within the constraints of the available teaching and material resources
  - encourage parents enrolling their children in Catholic schools to give support to parish and school life, especially in education in faith.

### Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for 2023 was 84.80%. Attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group						
Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
82.30	83.60	83.20	84.10	83.60	88.20	88.60



## Managing Student Non-Attendance

Regular attendance at St Ignatius' Parish School is essential if students are to maximise their potential. The School, in partnership with parents, is responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, School staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

School staff, under the Principal's leadership, support the regular attendance of students by:

- Providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students' sense of wellbeing and belonging to the School community
- maintaining accurate records of student attendance
- recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance
- implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise

The Principal is responsible for supporting the regular attendance of students by ensuring that:

- Parents and students are regularly informed of attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance
- all cases of unsatisfactory attendance and part or full day absences from School are investigated promptly and that appropriate intervention strategies are implemented
- documented plans are developed to address the needs of students whose attendance is identified as being of concern
- the Director of Catholic Education or designated Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes Schools officer is provided with regular information about students for whom chronic non-attendance is an issue and for whom School strategies have failed to restore regular attendance.

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## Staffing Profile

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### Staffing Profile

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2023:

Total number of staff	10
Number of full time teaching staff	0
Number of part time teaching staff	10
Number of non-teaching staff	9

### Total number of teaching staff by NESA category

Teachers at St Ignatius' Parish School are either accredited as conditional, provisional or proficient as defined by the NSW Teacher Accreditation Act 2004. Accreditation at the levels of Highly Accomplished and Lead teacher are voluntary. The number of teachers within the Diocesan Schools System (systemic schools) at these levels is as follows:

- Conditional 13 teachers
- Provisional 11 teachers
- Proficient 197 teachers
- Highly Accomplished 1 teacher

Additionally, there are approximately 2 teachers who are currently actively engaged in the submission process at the higher levels of accreditation. Teacher status at individual schools can be sourced directly from the School.

### Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including whole school staff days, subject-specific in services, meetings and conferences and a range of professional learning programs provided by the Catholic Education Office (CEO).

St Ignatius' Parish School takes responsibility for planning, implementing, evaluating and tracking of its staff professional learning and individual staff members take responsibility for their ongoing professional development. During the year all teachers have been involved in professional learning opportunities related to improving student outcomes.

## Summary of professional learning at this school

**Day One** - Compliance, SALT training, 2023 Annual Improvement Plan Goals

**Day Two** - Religious Education Spirituality Day with Dr Dan White

**Day Three** - Staying the Course - revisiting the work of Lyn Sharratt and the 14 Parameters

**Day Four** - Mathematics with Professor Peter Sullivan

**Day Five** - Curriculum reform Day 1 CSNSW Symposium

**Day Six** - Curriculum Reform Day 2 CEWF English and Mathematics Syllabus

**Day Seven** - Curriculum Reform Day 3 Data analysis and unit planning

**Day Eight** - Good to Great Schools Australia modules and CPR training

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## Catholic Identity and Mission

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Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Wilcannia Forbes operate under the leadership of the bishop and in partnership with parents, priests and school staff. St Ignatius' Parish School constitutes a key component of the Church's mission of evangelisation and catechesis. The diocesan Religious Education program, Educating in Christ emphasises the kerygma (proclaiming the essential message of Christ), mystagogy (linking the sacraments with the Scriptures), appropriate moral formation, and prayer. It uses a modified Montessori pedagogy and pays close attention to the developmental stage of each child, accompanying each one as they pursue their own personal relationship with Christ.

### **Prayer, Liturgical Life and Faith Experiences**

Every morning the school community gathers to share a morning offering at assembly, classes pray The Angelus at noon and daily Christian meditation is a feature of our practice. Throughout the year, liturgies and masses were held every Friday during term time as well as on Feast Days, particularly for Easter and Christmas. On the Feast Day of our Patron Saint, the school gathered to celebrate our faith and our dedication to becoming like the person of Jesus Christ, through the example of our Patron Saint, Ignatius of Antioch. The school also participated in a number of social justice initiatives this year including Karaoke for Caritas and Socktober, raising funds for those less fortunate.

### **Parish Partnerships**

Father Oche Matutina has been very supportive of the school and has made a significant contribution through his music and by providing weekly mass for classes. The school community looks forward to a continued positive relationship with the parish and priest. Monthly children's masses were scheduled for the first Sunday of the month and were well attended. This year, the St Ignatius students were prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation and the school choir were involved in singing at these celebrations. To further the goal of bringing students into closer intimacy with Christ, St. Ignatius staff continued to implement the diocesan Religious Education Curriculum in all classes throughout the school.

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## Curriculum, Learning and Teaching

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St Ignatius' Parish School provides an educational program based on, and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses for primary education. The Key Learning Areas (KLAs) are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology (S&T), Human Society and its Environment (HSIE), Creative Arts (CA) and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE). In addition to this, the School implements the Diocesan Religious Education syllabus. Staff members strive for continuous improvement of teaching and learning in all facets of the curriculum.

In 2023, St Ignatius' Parish School engaged in the NSW Curriculum Reform. Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes, provided professional development opportunities aligned with the new curriculum standards in English and Mathematics for all staff.

St Ignatius' Parish School is committed to providing quality education that strives to meet the needs of every child. The curriculum is underpinned by Catholic values and the Diocesan Statement of Faith and Mission.

During 2023, the focus for Professional learning has been based around familiarisation and implementation of the reformed K-6 English and Mathematics Syllabus. All staff participated in extensive professional learning opportunities, including a state-wide CSNSW symposium and system-wide professional development days. Developing our partnership with Good to Great Schools Australia, in order to implement explicit direct instruction programs such as Spelling Mastery across the school, has also been a focus in our teaching and learning cycle. Direct, explicit instruction now forms a large part of the literacy and numeracy block. There is a focus on staff working collaboratively in both Stage teams and as a whole school team for the improvement of professional practice and student learning.

Well-being and Trauma Informed Practice remains a priority for the staff. Throughout the year the leadership team and staff, in consultation with Psychologists and outside specialists, have continued to work on behaviour management strategies that support the Restorative Justice approach. Further in well-being, the "Ready To Learn" routine has continued across the school including the breakfast program, "Get Moving", identifying what is making us happy, writing in Gratitude journals and taking "brain breaks" as needed.

## Student Performance in Tests and Examinations

### NAPLAN

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of NAPLAN is to provide information to parents and teachers about the achievements of students in literacy and numeracy. The test provides a measure of the student's performance against established standards and against other students in Australia. Each year the results are analysed by the school to inform teaching with a view to improving student performance.

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards with 4 levels of achievement to give teachers, parents and carers clearer information on how students are performing:

- Exceeding: The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- Needs additional support: The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

The percentage of student achieving at Exceeding and Strong proficiency standards in NAPLAN at St Ignatius' Parish School for 2023 is reported in the table below.

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
		School	Australia
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Grammar and Punctuation</b>	23%	54%
	<b>Reading</b>	39%	67%
	<b>Writing</b>	54%	76%
	<b>Spelling</b>	46%	61%
	<b>Numeracy</b>	31%	65%

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
		School	Australia
Year 5	Grammar and Punctuation	56%	64%
	Reading	56%	74%
	Writing	50%	66%
	Spelling	44%	69%
	Numeracy	44%	68%

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## Pastoral Care and Student Wellbeing

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### Pastoral Care Policy

The School's pastoral care and student wellbeing policies guidelines and procedures are informed by the [Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy](#).

The Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy aims to provide a framework for the policies, programs, resources and practices implemented at system and school level with the purpose of supporting and enhancing the wellbeing of students, and all within its school community. It refers to the overall climate of care that exists within a Catholic school.

The environment is designed to be safe and inclusive, one that promotes academic rigour. A high priority is given to building and maintaining positive and caring relationships between staff, students and parents, and the wellbeing of all.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the CEWF website or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy was reviewed in 2023 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

### Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy

The School's policies and procedures for the management of student behaviour are aligned to the [Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy](#). Policies operate within a context that all members of the school community share responsibility to foster, encourage and promote positive behaviour and respectful relationships.

The policy aims to promote a safe and supportive learning environment to maximise teaching and learning time for all students. It supports the development of students' pro-social behaviour based on respectful relationships and clear behavioural expectations. The dignity and responsibility of each person is promoted at all times along with positive student behaviours while ensuring the respect for the rights of all students and staff.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the [CEWF website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy was reviewed in 2022 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.



## Anti-Bullying Policy

The School's Anti-Bullying guidelines and procedures are based on and informed by the [Anti-Bullying Policy](#) and is aligned to the Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy and other related wellbeing policies and guidelines. All students, their families and employees within Catholic education have a right to a learning and work environment free from intimidation, humiliation and hurt.

Anti-Bullying policies support school communities to prevent, reduce and respond to bullying.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the [CEWF website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Anti-Bullying Policy was reviewed in 2023 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

## Complaints Handling Policy

The School follows the [Concerns and Complaints Handling Policy](#). A distinctive feature of this policy is to ensure that complaints are addressed in a timely and confidential manner at the lowest appropriate management level in order to prevent minor problems or concerns from escalating. The expectation is that complaints will be brought forward and resolved in a respectful manner recognising the dignity of each person concerned in the process.

The policy recognises that a number of more minor or simple matters can be resolved without recourse to the formal complaint handling process but rather, quickly and simply, by discussion between the appropriate people.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the [CEWF website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Concerns and Complaints Handling Policy was reviewed in 2023 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

## Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility

In 2023 St Ignatius had a number of initiatives that promoted respect and responsibility. The student leadership team, including school captains and house captains, were rostered on a rotating roster to coordinate the borrowing and returning of sports equipment during lunchtime play. They were tasked with distributing the equipment as well as following up on any missing items or damaged goods.

A recycling program run by the Year 6 students, where they provided a large yellow bin and made signs to encourage students to put their poppers and water bottles in the recycling bin was also very successful in promoting responsible community participation. The students

raised almost \$70 by using the return and earn program in the local community and planned to use the funds to purchase plants for the school vegetable garden.

The phrase 'Safe, Respectful, Learners' was repeated daily at assemblies and examples of what this looks like in our school setting were identified every week. Students identified as displaying these qualities were acknowledged at the fortnightly whole school assembly. This phrase was used repeatedly when discussing behavioural expectations and managing challenging behaviours by all staff.

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## School Improvement

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The focus for St Ignatius' Parish School and the Catholic Education Office, together, is system improvement and capacity building to deliver on wellbeing and learning for all students within our Catholic community. All Wilcannia-Forbes systemic schools engage in an annual cycle of school improvement. The Annual Review and Planning Cycle: Developing the Annual Improvement Plan assists and supports schools in this endeavour.

St Ignatius' Parish School undertakes an internal review (self-assessment) which is context-specific, evidence-informed and outcomes-focused. The Annual Improvement Plan is the output of the internal school review and targets priorities for improvement in two domains: Mission and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching.

Practices are systematically evaluated for their effectiveness in producing desired improvements in student learning and performance.

### Key Improvements Achieved

#### **Annual School Priority One for 2023:**

**To strengthen connection and engagement between School, Home and Parish**

#### **Reason for priority 1:**

- Little to no student attendance at weekend mass
- No parishioner attendance at school mass
- Feedback suggesting social media priority
- Parish Priest, Principal and staff observation and discussion

#### **Steps taken to achieve priority 1:**

- Monthly Children's Mass 1st Sunday of the month - advertise in the Newsletter, on the school calendar, social media posts.
- Add Mass times and locations to the weekly school newsletter
- Invite parishioners to come to school mass through the parish bulletin
- Hold a grandparent's Mass during NAIDOC week - the theme "For the elders' relates to all older people in our community.
- Visit Rivergum Lodge Nursing Home in Terms 2 & 4
- School sharing parish social media notifications to keep the parent community informed.
- Parent feedback is sought at the end of each term via Compass. Goals are set for the following term based on responses.
- Review and update the Communication and Participation Policy

### **Status of priority 1:**

- Achieved

### **Annual School Priority Two for 2023:**

**St Ignatius staff will effectively use evidence-based assessment processes and the resulting data to drive the teaching and learning cycle.**

### **Reason for priority 2:**

- Current student assessment profiles reveal inconsistencies
- Graduate and early career teachers require professional learning to use data effectively
- Data is not the underlying driver of teaching and learning
- The current suite of assessment include all of the below however there is inconsistency in delivery of the assessments and the use of the resulting data:
  - ACER - PAT
  - NAPLAN
  - ESTA-L
  - DIBELS / Screeners and Progress monitoring
  - MAI
  - Essential Assessment
  - Student learning goals

### **Steps taken to achieve priority 2:**

- Create and adhere to an evidenced-based assessment schedule
- Monitor the growth of each student from the beginning of the year, mid-year and end-of-year data at designated staff meetings
- Use the data to develop individual learning goals for each student with family input.
- Links in teacher class program to evidence of adherence to assessment timeline
- Record anecdotal notes to support the formal data gathered
- Use standardised assessments and associated reports: DIBELS, ESTA-L Screeners, ACER - PAT to inform teaching/learning sequences.
- Reflect on and discuss the longitudinal data to track progress across the school and create the next steps
- Facilitate a whole school writing stimulus with moderation by all staff x 4.
- Schedule a minimum one staff meeting per term dedicated to whole-school data analysis, planning and goal-setting
- Have class anecdotal notes recorded in our assessment folder
- Ensure each student knows their goals and the steps they will undertake to achieve them

- Ensure time is allocated once per term to discuss goals and alter accordingly. Teachers make adjustments in the teaching/learning cycle to support the goals to ensure success.
- Delve deeper into the ESTA-L data from previous years and compare to current data to discover trends

**Status of priority 2:**

- Achieved

**Priority Key Improvements for Next Year**

**Annual Priority One for 2024:**

**To promote a vibrant Catholic identity and active mission**

**Reason for priority 1:**

- One of the strategic focus areas for the Diocese has been identified as Catholic identity and mission and in partnership with the wider parish students, families and staff need to be guided, encouraged and supported as they continue to deepen their relationship with Christ.
- We see our community as a place of hope and transformation where we can offer opportunities to actively live and celebrate our Catholic faith.

**Steps taken to achieve priority 1:**

- Students and staff participate in social justice activities such as Karaoke for Caritas, Socktober
- Religious Education Coordinator and staff work in close collaboration with the Parish Priest and parish to deliver appropriate preparation for the Sacraments
- Plan professional learning opportunities for all staff based on Catholic identity and mission
- Plan school choir performances at key community events and at the nursing home.

**Annual Priority Two for 2024:**

**To authentically and effectively implement the new K-6 English and Mathematics syllabus at St Ignatius by engaging in targeted professional learning.**

**Reason for priority 2:**

- Implementation of the new curriculum for English and Mathematics K-6 is mandatory in 2024

**Steps taken to achieve priority 2:**

- Contextualise and use the units of work provided by CEWF to teach the required English and Mathematics curriculum.
- Participation in 3 staff development days across the school year focused specifically on the implementation of the new syllabus
- Participation in teaching sprints

**Annual Priority Three for 2024:**

**Students and staff will develop Gratitude, Mindfulness and Empathy as well as Emotional Literacy through participation in The Resilience Project**

**Reason for priority 3:**

- A proposed building project will see much change in 2024.
- Students and staff will be challenged to adapt to changing learning and teaching spaces. Keeping in mind the lived experience of many within our community change and loss can be very difficult.
- A strategic approach to this exciting, yet challenging period of change is essential to support the wellbeing of all community members.

**Steps taken to achieve priority 3:**

- Partnership with The Resilience Project initiated
- Run the Inspire Professional Development sessions
- Teaching of The Resilience Project Modules for all classes K-6
- Staff and student wellbeing prioritised and budgeted for.

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## Community Satisfaction

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The opinions and ideas of parents, students and teachers are valued and sought. Their suggestions are incorporated into planning for and achieving improved outcomes for students. This year, a variety of processes have been used to gain information about the level of satisfaction with St Ignatius' Parish School from parents, students and teachers.

### Parent satisfaction

In a parental survey, all respondents strongly agreed (36%) and agreed (64%) that St Ignatius Parish School, helped their child to develop knowledge and understanding about Catholic tradition, whilst 55 % of parents strongly agreed and 41% agreed that St Ignatius Parish School provided opportunities for parents to be involved in school life and activities.

Parents were asked if their child was challenged to maximise their learning, 31% of parents strongly agreed with this statement, whilst 69% agreed. Most respondents strongly agreed (55%) or agreed (41%) that St Ignatius Parish School meets their child's individual learning needs.

36% of all parents surveyed strongly agreed that the school effectively communicates to parents about activities and events, whilst 64% agreed with this statement. A further 41% of parents surveyed strongly agreed and 50% agreed that the school provides appropriate information about their child's progress.

Most parents strongly agreed (55%) or agreed (40%) that St Ignatius Parish School provides a safe and supportive environment for their children. 55% of all respondents strongly agreed that teachers are genuinely interested in the welfare of the students, whilst the remaining 45% agreed with this statement.

### Student satisfaction

Eighty-seven per cent of students at St Ignatius Parish School strongly agreed or agreed that the school helped them in developing knowledge and understanding of the Catholic tradition.

Eighty-seven percent of students surveyed also stated that they were always or often proud of their school. Most students believed that their teacher encouraged them to do their best in school activities, to understand their rights and responsibilities at school.

60% of students feel safe at St Ignatius Parish School, whilst all students stated that they were offered a range of sporting and curriculum choices. Many students (60%) understood who they could approach for help if needed at school.

## Teacher satisfaction

All staff surveyed enjoy working at St Ignatius Parish School, they classified the school as an extremely safe (71%) and very safe (29%) working environment, that fosters and encourages collaboration between fellow teachers and support staff.

Most staff agreed that the school gave the right amount of attention to Standardised Testing and the expectation for student growth was extremely to very reasonable.

All staff felt that the school cared about their professional growth, with 86% of respondents extremely satisfied and 14% moderately satisfied with their teaching experience at St Ignatius Parish School.



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## Financial Statement

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Consistent with the NESAs requirements, financial income and expenditure for St Ignatius' Parish School in 2023 is shown below. This School Financial Information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth Government in the Commonwealth Financial Questionnaire.

<b>Recurrent and Capital Income 2023</b>	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants <sup>1</sup>	\$2,058,450
Government Capital Grants <sup>2</sup>	\$0
State Recurrent Grants <sup>3</sup>	\$556,851
Fees and Private Income <sup>4</sup>	\$375,262
Interest Subsidy Grants	\$0
Other Capital Income <sup>5</sup>	\$20,357
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$3,010,920</b>

<b>Recurrent and Capital Expenditure 2023</b>	
Capital Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	\$15,363
Salaries and Related Expenses <sup>7</sup>	\$2,303,995
Non-Salary Expenses <sup>8</sup>	\$280,325
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$2,599,683</b>

### Notes

1. Commonwealth Recurrent Grants includes recurrent per capita grants and special purpose grants.
2. Government Capital Grants includes all capital grants received from the Commonwealth and State Governments.
3. State Recurrent Grants includes recurrent grants per capita, special purpose grants and interest subsidy grants.
4. Fees and Private Income include Archdiocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income.
5. Other Capital Income includes building levy fees and capital donations used to fund Capital Expenditure.
6. Capital Expenditure includes expenditure on School Buildings, and Furniture and Equipment.
7. Salaries and Related Expenditure includes all salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation and workers compensation insurance.

8. Non-Salary Expenses include all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenditure covering resources, administration, operational expenses, utilities, repairs and maintenance.

END OF 2023 REPORT