



2025 St Catherine' Catholic College Board Annual Report

Celebrations

Board discussions across 2025 included student enrolment updates at each meeting.

St Catherine's Catholic College enjoyed a further increase in enrolments from 2024 to 2025. From a State census declaration of 694 students in February 2024, the school population has grown to around 740 students as of February 2nd 2026. With the increase in students, there has been a commensurate growth in staff requirements.

The Principal reports to the Board detailed significant events held each month.

The professional development week for staff ran successfully, and included an opening mass for staff at the parish church, a Walk on Country led by Robert Congoo, a parent and Traditional Owner, and 'Launch Day'. The first of several whole-College gatherings was held in February with the Opening liturgy and commissioning of College leaders.

Other whole-school events included an ANZAC liturgy, a NAIDOC week liturgy and the Catholic Education Week mass that concluded the week-long events commemorating 100years of the College. The highlight was the Centenary Community Picnic, which saw a wide range of current college staff and students interacting with returning students and staff in a relaxed setting. The Board notes the success of this community event.

The Year 12 cohort completed their studies with subject outcomes that matched or exceeded expectations. Several students received early offers for university places. ATAR results available to the College depend upon student assent to College viewing. However, analysis of ranks available compared well to 2024's outcomes.

Another successful event was the College musical, The Music Man, which ran across three nights at the PEC. The work of our Media, Marketing and Events coordinator resulted in significant sponsorship which allowed for a community showcase while minimising College funding.

The secondary staffroom refurbishment was completed over the 2024-2025 Christmas holiday. This accommodates the larger staff necessitated by the student enrolment increase. Also completed in 2025 was the St Francis Hub, sometimes still known by its working name, which explains its purpose: 'The Wellbeing building'. This accommodates a Responsible Thinking Classroom; an inclusive education space, the College Guidance Counsellor's office, and a meeting room which provides Zoom connection. The building has released into the timetable allocations the classroom previously devoted to such work.

At each Board meeting time was allocated to inspection of College finances and it was noted that the College Business manager has navigated College expansion exceedingly well, meaning that cash reserves could reduce the building loan. Careful management of restricted funds means that repayments above the minimum have been made for the loan.

Students participated in a great range of co-curricular activities, from debating and Lions Youth of the Year competition, to music showcases - including at the 100th events, sport opportunities, Reef Guardian work, Readers' Cup, and Be Kinder day to name a few.

PRIMARY CAMPUS (PREP - YR 6)

P: 07 4945 1414
96 Renwick Road, Proserpine Qld 4800

SECONDARY CAMPUS (YRS 7 - 12)

P: 07 4945 1630
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Challenges

Monthly Principal reports always contain staffing updates. The national teacher shortage has affected the College's capacity to attract and secure staff to fill vacancies. The Board discussed how members may support the College and made practical suggestions (accommodation is often a concern). Some key staff departures in 2025, where teachers moved because of partners' work positions, left the staffing position somewhat precarious. We secured a number of 'Permission to Teach' (PTT) staff: these were people who were studying, either towards a first degree or towards a Masters of Education after completing a first degree. PTT is a designation from the Queensland College of Teachers, signalling that these staff are not yet fully qualified. Careful mentoring - and thanks are extended to mentors - helped these staff with elements of planning, assessment and reporting (three expectations of teachers.)

The Board inspects the Risk Assessment of the College. This includes, but is not restricted to, such risks as reputational risk, loss of Catholic Identity, and risks to quality learning and teaching. Regular reviews of such aspects at a College leadership level and the attendant response was reported to the Board. An example was the instigation of a 4D Classroom observation 'sweep' because the precondition for school improvement of ensuring an orderly learning environment appeared to be at risk.

The Board sought figures relating to student suspensions. St Catherine's has a clear student behaviour management policy. In addition the Gospel value of Justice informs response to student actions and certain actions precipitate immediate suspension for the purpose of providing time for reflection.

Board activity

Board formation was held in February 2025 with current members in attendance. An AGM was held in March at which two Board members were elected, according to the newly-approved Board constitution (ref. website).

During 2025 the Board contributed to the review of the bullying policy and a review of the College Uniform Policy. The Bullying policy and the revised Uniform policy were both supported by the Board and published.

Board consultation also included proposals for improvement of Primary carpark arrangements. It was reported that members held concerns for safety and community perceptions were affected by the Renwick Road congestion (online posts in community forums). College efforts to mitigate congestion were ultimately vetoed by council, but a response that has allowed extra bus queuing space was provided by council. St Catherine's has, with Board support, instigated a 'no right turn' period and has improved signage. Longer-term proposals were discussed at Board meetings and a grant application to support work was submitted by the College Business Manager.

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