



YIDARRA
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE
SCHOOL COMMUNITY
2020

This Annual Report provides the school community with fair, reliable and objective information about school performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education.

The Report also outlines information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance to the school community during the year and the achievements arising from the implementations of the School's Annual Action Plan.

The Report demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies, the school community and the Catholic Education Office of Western Australia.

Yidarra Catholic Primary School is pleased to publish the following information regarding the school performance. Further information about the school or this report may be obtained by contacting the school.

School Contact Details:

Marsengo Rd,

Bateman WA 6150

Ph: 6 332 2699

Email: admin@yidarra.wa.edu.au

Website: web.yidarra.wa.edu.au

1. CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Yidarra Catholic Primary School is a co-educational Catholic Primary School catering for students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6. The school serves the community of St Thomas More Bateman and has a very strong and close relationship with the Parish. At Yidarra we provide our students with an education that prepares them for life with opportunities for deep learning, in order for them to develop appropriate social, emotional, spiritual, physical, cognitive and creative skills. Our school fosters confidence, independence and lifelong learning. Enabling students to develop their potential in an environment embedded in gospel values.

Our school has a well-balanced curriculum with a focus on establishing a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy skills, as one of the keys to successful, lifelong learning. Intervention and extension programs ensure the needs of every child are met. Our curriculum offers students the opportunity to strive for excellence, develop resiliency and provides academic programs that stimulate and challenge each child.

The school has a well-resourced Early Childhood Centre and offers a number of specialist programs including science, music, physical education, Indonesian and Digital Technologies. The music program includes the opportunity for children to receive tuition in musical instruments and to participate in a school choir. A dedicated and professional staff work in partnership with parents and community members to provide a stimulating and enriching learning experience for all children.

The pastoral care of the students lies at the heart of all that the school does and is demonstrated through school policies and programs. Inclusion of before and after school care helps to meet the needs of the children and their families. The school has a strong and supportive parent community, and an active Board and Parent and Friends' Association.

2. TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The teaching staff of Yidarra Catholic Primary School hold the necessary qualifications required by the Catholic Education Western Australia. All members of the teaching staff are TRBWA (Teacher Registration Board WA) registered. All staff have a Working with Children clearance and have completed training in Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Abuse legislative requirements. The teaching staff qualifications in 2020 were as follows:

QUALIFICATIONS	NUMBER
Master Degree	5
Bachelor Degree	21
Diploma	1

3. WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

TYPE OF STAFF	NUMBER
Teaching staff	27
Non-teaching staff	23
Male staff members	5
Female staff members	45
Indigenous staff members	0

4. STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

YEAR LEVEL	ATTENDANCE RATE
Pre-Primary	94.45%
Year 1	94.18%
Year 2	94.28%
Year 3	94.90%
Year 4	93.73%
Year 5	93.35%
Year 6	93.38%

The average attendance rate for the whole school for 2020 was **93.50%**

THE PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH NON-ATTENDANCE:

- Electronic recording of attendance/absence is conducted using the SEQTA attendance system.
- The school contacts parents early each school day via text message to follow up unexplained school absences, requesting parents to make contact with the school to explain a student's absence.
- Parents are requested to send a written note to acknowledge the days that their child was absent.
- Prolonged periods of absence are brought to the attention of the Principal by the child's class teacher. This is then followed up by a member of the Leadership team.

5. NAPLAN INFORMATION:

Due to the COVID -19 pandemic, NAPLAN assessments were not administered in 2020.

Therefore, no data is available for this year. Previous NAPLAN information is available at

<http://www.myschool.wa.edu.au>.

6. PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

Parent Satisfaction

Based on anecdotal discussions with the Principal, feedback at Parents and Friends and School Advisory Council Meetings and specific principal/parent meetings, parents express a high level of satisfaction with the school and the learning programs implemented. The high demand for places in the school and strong enrolment trends also indicates that the school is highly regarded.

Student Satisfaction

Results from previous school well-being survey of students, data indicates the vast majority of students enjoyed coming to school, participating in the learning program and being a student at Yidarra Catholic Primary School.

Staff Satisfaction

Teacher satisfaction at the school is generally high. This is evidenced with the feedback received from all staff through surveys, anecdotal responses at staff meetings, term and end of year reviews, and individual staff interviews with the Principal. The considerable length of time many teachers have been at the school is evidence of staff satisfaction. This is further supported with the characteristic that there is generally very little movement of staff from one year to the next.

7. SCHOOL INCOME

Financial information is available at <http://www.myschool.wa.edu.au> .

8. ANNUAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The school staff have successfully collaborated to achieve the goals that were set in the 2020

Annual School Improvement Plan. School Improvement Plan – Key Goals for 2020:

- Making Jesus Real philosophy will be introduced in the entire school community. **Achieved**
- Increase the Aboriginal cultural awareness of the community. **Achieved**
- Increase student centred pedagogy through future focused learning shifts of practice. **Achieved**
- Improve vocabulary within the writing context for all students within the year. **Achieved**
- Increased Student achievement in the areas of Measurement and Geometry. **Achieved**
- To develop curriculum and planning in the Early Years to promote each child's agency in their learning using authentic inquiry-based learning. **Achieved**

PART 2: ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Yidarra Catholic Primary School Advisory Council Chair's 2020 Report Dr Benjamin Grant

2020. What a year. If we ever hear the terms 'social distancing', 'we are monitoring the situation closely' and 'you should get tested', it will be too soon.

The new and dynamic challenges of a once in a generation pandemic, coupled with continuing need to effectively and efficiently run a school and continue to develop our children was simply unprecedented.

COVID 19 has become a way of life, causing a daily risk analysis and a need for constant planning and contingency strategies, to ensure the welfare of our children remain a priority.

When COVID 19 truly hit in MARCH, the Advisory Council's priority was to support Principal Costin and the leadership group, empowering them to make sure they had all the resources they needed. We think we got it mostly right, and luckily due to an already exceptional IT system and forward planning from our school, our school started ahead of the curve.

So before I speak to the year 2020, I as School Advisory Council chair, and my fellow Advisory Council team, would like to formally commend, recognise and thank the exceptional level of effort from the leadership team, and all the teachers and staff, to get the school ready for online learning as per the state directives, keep it functional, and keep our children moving forward safely. Thank you Yidarra staff.

The School Advisory Council's function is to advise, where appropriate, with respect to the constitution, and provide financial oversight where needed and provide support in the areas of facility management, marketing and technology practices.

As always, the Yidarra School Advisory Council has 10 members, including 6 elected, with one nominee each from the P&F and Parish, along with Father Phong and of course, Principal, Carmel Costin.

In 2020, there was a change in the composition and intent of Catholic school boards, along with the implementation and change to Catholic education governance.

This year also saw the change to Catholic Education Stewardship, with the incorporation of Catholic education. The Catholic Education Western Australia Limited (CEWA Ltd) came into effect on 01 Jan 2020, and along with it, a paradigm shift in strategy and governance. The school board would now be referred to as the School Advisory Council, with the School Board constitution being updated to better align with CEWA's new governance structure. Most notably to reinforce our school community, the advisory council is not involved in the daily operations of the school.

Furthermore, to my mind, the change sought to further recognise the importance of the school Principal and has continued to empower them to make more strategic and financial decisions, through discussion with the now School Advisory Council.

In 2020, the School Advisory Council comprised of Myself, Ryan Menezes, Stephanie Vahala Julia Daker, Karen Harney and Ed Kucharski., James Shadbolt, Terry Southam, Carmel Costin and Father Phong.

Furthermore, I wish to thank Julia Daker, Karen Harney and Ed Kucharski, whom have worked tirelessly on the School Advisory Council, and will not be returning, as their journey continues with other schools now. I wish them every success in the future.

The School Advisory Council met monthly via video conference or in person when permitted, to discuss important school issues in the areas of financial governance, facility management, marketing and technology practices.

In the area of Financial Governance, I will simply defer to Mr Ryan Menezes to his report, and advise that the school, in trying times, has been financially responsible.

In the Area of Facility management, among many achievements:

- Upgraded air conditioning via government grant
- Upgraded power boards and RCD checks
- Fire extinguisher inspections
- Repairs to the undercover areas
- Gas heater upgrades
- Bore reticulation upgrade
- New photocopiers

In the area of Information Technology, among many achievements:

- A comprehensive IT strategic plan
- Ongoing iPad updates and purchasing
- Integration of the Seesaw platform
- Alignment of our network to work better with Corpus Christi's IT system
- Further robotics and coding resources

In the area of Marketing, most notably

- Working with the amalgamation process
- A new website was launched

In 2020, the school also embarked on the amalgamation with Corpus Christie College, with the intent of creating a school that caters from Kindergarten to year 12 (K-12).

Noting the substantial existing partnership between the two schools, and potential benefits of a K-12 school, a consultation process was approved by CEWA early in the year and tasked with the possible amalgamation of the two schools, mandating appropriate consultation with school leadership, parish communities and the Diocesan Bishop.

This process started in early 2020 and continued throughout, culminating in a report to the Executive Director CEWA after many key meetings with all stakeholders in key areas of Catholic Identity, Education, Community and Stewardship.

What you can be sure of, is the process was considered, thorough, and that all parties have had a voice, and indeed concerns heard. The outcome will hopefully be one cementing our two schools into a wonderful scholastic destination for families seeking a holistic Catholic education, and development of their children. Standby, with more to come in 2021.

To the P&F, thank you for a wonderful year. Thank you for your tireless fundraising and continual contribution to improving our school.

Thank you to the greater school and parent community. We have a fantastic school, and as always, I challenge our parent group and community to get more involved in our school, and I challenge you to have a greater impact in your children's learning environment. Don't sit back, make this the year the one that you demonstrate commitment through actions. We have never needed your influence more.

And Lastly, I would like to again thank the school leadership team, led by Principal Carmel Costin, and supported by Vice Principal's Rosemary Paparella and Nik Hofmeester, and the teachers and staff, for your continual devotion to improving the lives and futures of our children.

We look forward to 2021.