

Annual School Report for 2011



ST MICHAEL'S
COLLEGE

...a friendly learning Catholic community



Distinctive Information

School

St Michael's College
Jondique Avenue
MERRIMAC Q 4226

Profile

Years 8 – 12 Coeducational Secondary School
Student Population: approximately 793
Established 1985

Curriculum Offerings

- Years 8/9 – Middle Schooling
- Year 10 preparation for Senior Schooling
- Extensive range of Academic and Vocational Education Subjects leading to OP, further training, apprenticeships, traineeships and employment
- Years 11-12

OP (Authority Subjects) include:

Accounting
Ancient History
Art
Biology
Business Communication & Technologies
Chemistry
Drama
English
Graphics
Home Economics
Information Technology Systems
Legal Studies
Mathematics A, B and C
Music
Physical Education
Physics
Study of Religion
Technology Studies

include:

Business – Clerical
Creative Arts – Visual Art
Early Childhood Studies
English Communication
Hospitality Practices
Manufacturing
Pre-Vocational Mathematics
Recreation Practices
Religion and Ethics
Tourism
Workplace Practices

Co-Curricular Activities

St Michael's College offers a range of out-of-classroom activities designed to enrich the curriculum and to extend the students' mental, physical, spiritual and emotional development.

These activities could include such things as Social Justice Groups (Interact, St Vincent de Paul, Rosies), Social Activities, Pastoral Days and Cultural Activities including Choir, Band, String Ensemble, Dance, Tournament of Minds, Tropicarnival, Public Speaking, Inter-School Debating, Science, Mathematics and English competitions. St Michael's College Air Cadet Squadron 232 assembles each Wednesday at 5pm for parade. Activities include service knowledge, aviation, field craft, drill and ceremony.

The College offers a wide range of Sporting Activities. As many sports as possible are offered to the students. Teams are formed if there is enough student interest and adequate adult supervision is available. Competitive inter-school sport teams that have operated include swimming, athletics, cross-country, rugby union, rugby league, touch football, hockey, netball and basketball. Some of these also operate as Inter-House competitions. St Michael's is a member of the Association of Gold Coast Colleges (AGCC) sporting competition.

Those students skilled in these and other sports are given the opportunity to try for selection in District, Regional, State and National teams. At times during the year students will be given the option to select from a range of recreational and sporting pursuits.

Staff Development Priorities 2010/2011

- Student Protection
- Middle Schooling – Philosophy & Pedagogy change for implementation of NSSCF rollout
- I.T. – increased levels of literacy for staff and students
- Development of Charism of St Michael
- Development of Junior/Middle School Work Programs
- Assessment Instrument Review
- Reporting Review
- Implementation of laptop rollout

School Climate/Support Services/Pastoral Care Programs

- Warm, welcoming, friendly community
- Distinctive Pastoral Care Programmes
- Retreats and Reflection Days
- Qualified, full-time counseling staff
- Campus Minister offers on-going support
- Support from Griffith University
- "Wrap around" process for students with special needs or 'at risk'
- "Well-being for girls" Program
- "Asteros" wilderness Program for boys at risk
- Learning Support
- Responsible Behaviour Room
- Career and Pathways Advisor
- Peer Tutoring
- Behaviour Support Framework

Strategies for Engaging Parents

- P&F Meetings
- Welcoming BBQs
- Communal Masses
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Weekly Newsletter
- Tuckshop
- Information Evenings
- Working Bees
- Parent Forums
- School Board
- Social Gatherings e.g. Race Day, Trivia Night, Sports Days
- Information Evenings
- Parenting Programmes
- Orientation Evening

Professional Engagement

Teacher Qualifications

Doctorates	4%
Masters Degree	20.0%
Bachelors Degree	72.0%
Diploma	2%

Expenditure on Teacher Participation and Professional Learning

The total Budget for Staff Professional Learning this year was \$25,000. This was from funding provided by Brisbane Catholic Education and the school's internal Budget.

Key priorities for Professional Learning were:

- Staff development of IT pedagogies
- Aligning Units to the Australian Curriculum
- Middle Schooling and Enquiry based learning

Average Staff Attendance for the School

Average attendance rate of staff – 97.4%

Proportion of Teaching Staff retained from the previous year

89.6%

Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	92.8%
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Year 8 Attendance Rate	94.2%
Year 9 Attendance Rate	92.7%
Year 10 Attendance Rate	88.0%
Year 11 Attendance Rate	88.56%
Year 12 Attendance Rate	88.13%

92.8%

Attainment and Achievement – Year 12

Apparent Retention Rates Year 10 to Year 12	
Year 12 Student Enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort	83%

Year 12 Outcomes

- Number of students awarded a Senior Statement – 144
- Number of students awarded a QCE at the end of Year 12 – 124
- Number of students awarded one or more VET qualifications – 95
- Number of students who are completing or completed a SAT – 18
- Number of students who received an OP – 97
- Percentage of OP eligible students with OP 1-15 – 65%
- Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification – 94%
- Percentage of QTAC applicants receiving a tertiary offer – 97%

Characteristics of the Student Body

St Michael's is an inclusive school which caters for students of high academic ability and also for students who need support in the classroom. Students have the opportunity to study both academic and vocational subject and are presented with multiple pathways to tertiary education and the work force. Students are from our local feeder schools which draw students from as far as Gaven in the north, Currumbin in the south, Tallai in the west and Broadbeach in the east. Our students add to our motto of a "friendly, learning, Catholic community". We expect our students to uphold the Charism of St Michael and its six Pillars which are: Respect, Dedication, Justice, Protection, Courage and Integrity.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist Learning

We provide contemporary learning environments that offer flexibility and opportunities for collaboration, independence and connectivity to global resources through anytime, anywhere learning and supported by access to portable technologies. All students have a MacBook which acts as a valuable tool for staff to use in the classroom. Work is presented on class Wikis which enables access to staff, students and parents internally and externally.

Value Added

Enrolment growth continues at St Michael's. The school has an enrolment of over 800 students and continues to provide a quality Catholic Education for the Central Gold Coast Region.

Completion of the new Resource Centre has provided a contemporary learning facility for our students. The Resource Centre is an IT hub for our school which compliments the newly constructed IT Help Desk. St Michael's continues to be an exemplar school for IT, proudly offering every student a laptop and contemporary teaching pedagogy from our staff.

Future construction of a new Administration/Staff/Student Reception building will enhance services for students, staff, parents and the local community.

The college continues to embed the "Charism of St Michael" into the educational, cultural, sporting and spiritual life of the school.

At St Michael's we look forward to exciting times ahead in education, confident in the knowledge we have the resources, teaching staff and pedagogy to embrace contemporary teaching and learning.

Vision and Values Statement

*Our Mission is to Nurture Life-Long Learners
in a Friendly, Harmonious, Catholic Community*

Vision:

A Community of Faith

The way of Jesus guides all in our school community to live in right relationship with God, one another, the wider community and all of creation. We are called to grow in understanding of our Catholic beliefs and traditions, develop spiritual awareness and to live and promote gospel values.

A Community of Learning

We aspire to develop each individual's potential to become a self-directed and responsible learner of the twenty first century. Through encouragement to strive for excellence and provision of contemporary programs, we promote lifelong learning that nurtures the spiritual, social, emotional, intellectual and physical growth of all.

A Community of Care

We support, encourage, challenge, affirm and protect one another. We actively pursue harmonious relationships, which respect the safety and dignity of each individual and strengthen the bonds between all those within our community. We embrace justice, compassion and wisdom to build life-giving relationships in our community.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2011

- **Religion, Spirituality and Evangelisation**
- **Student Learning Outcomes**
- **Student Support and Pastoral Care**
- **Staff Support**
- **Partnerships and Relationships**
- **Resourcing and Facilities**
- **Information, Communication and Learning Technologies**
- **Renewal and Quality Assurance**

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Religion, Spirituality and Evangelisation*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ **Expansion of a Charism Committee to develop the introduction of the Charism of St Michael's**
- ✓ **Planning for the embedding of the Charism in 2012 into all aspects of College life:- leadership qualities, behavior management etc.**
- ✓ **Continuation of Weekly Mass in the College Chapel with Chaplain Fr Peter Gablonski**
- ✓ **Staff engagement in BCE *Prayer Fire Program/Catching Fire Program***
- ✓ **Participation in Parish activities including the introduction of the Parish Youth Ministry Co-ordinator working closely with students**
- ✓ **Student participation in Retreats, RE Reflection Days, and Social Immersion Days**
- ✓ **House participation in the support of Catholic agencies – Caritas, Catholic Missions**
- ✓ **Student and staff involvement in practically supporting *Rosies***
- ✓ **Professional development of staff in theology and faith enrichment**
- ✓ **Promotion of the BCE *Blue Apple* – the new Religious Education Program**
- ✓ **Encouragement of students to participate in the RCIA Program**
- ✓ **Continued support for the work of the Campus Minister**
- ✓ **Application for the re-appointment of a College Pastoral Worker with National Chaplaincy Funding Grant**
- ✓ **Adoption of the six pillars of St Michael's – Respect, Justice, Integrity, Dedication, Protection, Courage**

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Student Learning Outcomes*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ Significant Review of Learning and Teaching conducted in the College with the establishments of the Learning Enrichment Committee
- ✓ Induction for students for the introduction of 1:1 laptop program
- ✓ Adoption of the Australian Curriculum in Years 8, 9, 10
- ✓ Continued support for engaging students in the Middle Years
- ✓ Seamless Transition Program for students in Years 7/ 8
- ✓ Engagement with the BCE learning Framework
- ✓ Engagement by staff and students with QCAR and QCAT
- ✓ Successful results for Year 9 in the NAPLAN testing – above state average
- ✓ Attendance by staff at the QSA, Senior Schooling and QCEC curriculum Conferences
- ✓ Increased use of data to inform curriculum planning and decisions and to track student progress and additional surveying of students
- ✓ Life Choices for Year 12
- ✓ Mapping of the Core Curriculum Elements across subjects
- ✓ Development of the Teaching and Learning Strategy (TLS)
- ✓ Use of website for exam timetables and study plans
- ✓ Ensuring the successful outcome for Year 12 students in the issuing of the Certificate of Education
- ✓ Next Step Data revealed a high percentage of 2010 Year 12 students achieving their first preference post school destinations
- ✓ Participation by students in the annual English, Mathematics, Science, Information Technology and Financial Literacy Competitions
- ✓ Development of the online booking form for Parent Teacher Interviews, subject selection and SET plans
- ✓ Refinement of the Reporting and Parent Teacher Interview Processes
- ✓ Continued sharing of best practice and data with the primary feeder schools especially in the use of IT and the move of Year 7 to secondary in 2015
- ✓ Working with Mighty Minds to support Year 12 students in the preparation for the QCS test
- ✓ Continued Rewriting of Middle School Programs to incorporate the Essential Learning framework and laptop enhancements
- ✓ Successful trips to Japan in September and planned trip to France in 2012
- ✓ Continuation of the instrumental music and performance program with the Performance Co-ordinator

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Student Support and Pastoral Care*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ Development of the Pastoral Support Co-ordinator in the supervision of the Pastoral Care Program
- ✓ Continuation and refinement of the successful Vertical House structure

- ✓ **Combination of the Horizontal House Program with the Vertical House Program – ensuring students have a house identity as well as a year level identity**
- ✓ **Support of student leadership in the College – increased size of leadership groups**
- ✓ **Successful Student Leadership Conference conducted**
- ✓ **Increased opportunity for Year level gatherings in 2011**
- ✓ **Excellent support provided to students by the four House Co-ordinators**
- ✓ **Development of Committees into the Student Leadership structure**
- ✓ **Growth in the effectiveness of Student Support Services in supporting all students**
- ✓ **Successful Parenting Program conducted by Dr Jeff Kemp**
- ✓ ***Asteros* Program for boys at risk conducted across a number of local Catholic Schools**
- ✓ **Promotion of the sun safety policy by having a compulsory school sports hat**
- ✓ **Introduction of Horizontal Program which looks at Study Skills, Risky Behaviour, Career Awareness and Time Management**
- ✓ **Promotion of sport and physical activity for enhanced well being of students**
- ✓ **Co-operative networks established with outside agencies e.g. Griffith University to support students**
- ✓ **Ski trip to New Zealand very well supported and highly successful**
- ✓ **Enrolment Application Support Program (EASP) for students with needs at enrolment**
- ✓ **Adoption of the “Restorative Justice” program for students**
- ✓ **Promotion of the Bronze, Silver and Gold Award System for positive behaviour**

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Staff Support*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ **Continued enhancement of work spaces and working environments with new staff and administration building due to be completed December 2011**
- ✓ **Encouragement of a variety of professional learning opportunities for staff**
- ✓ **Induction Program implemented for new staff**
- ✓ **Increased access for staff to Information Technology facilities – rollout of Apple laptops to all staff**
- ✓ **Continued Provision of staff uniforms for support staff**
- ✓ **Provision of opportunities for staff social interaction**
- ✓ **World Teachers Day celebrated – teachers awarded 20 Year Service Awards**
- ✓ **WHS procedures updated and enacted**
- ✓ **Successful ET 5 & 6 applications validated during the year**
- ✓ **Significant number of staff engaged in BCE leadership development and successful Programs – Aspiring Leaders, Out of the Box**

- ✓ Successful lunch time sport and fun staff/student challenges – staff organised
- ✓ Continued development of staff IT capabilities
- ✓ IT Pedagogical change continued by E-Learning Co-ordinator
- ✓ In-service on possible development of St Michael's Charism and Catholic spirituality
- ✓ Staff development of the six pillars of St Michael's

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Partnerships and Relationships*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ Continued strong relationships fostered with the local Parishes including the introduction of the Youth Ministry Co-ordinator
- ✓ Fostering of strong relationships with other local Catholic Secondary and Primary schools and Colleges and State schools especially in preparation for the Year 7 move in 2015
- ✓ Successful Year 6 Visitation Program by Catholic Feed Schools in Terms 3 and 4 continued
- ✓ Successful Orientation Program for new students in Year 7/8
- ✓ Very strong links with Griffith and Bond Universities
- ✓ Students engaged in Griffith GUEST Program
- ✓ Member for Mudgeeraba Ros Bates visit to P & F meeting
- ✓ Positive and supportive relationships with Local, State and Federal members
- ✓ Close working relationship with the Parents and Friends Association
- ✓ Positive relationships with the Catholic Parents and Friends Federation
- ✓ Further development of and College support provided to the 232 Air Force Cadet Squadron based at the College
- ✓ Successful College Board in operation
- ✓ Continued Vocational Education and Training involvement
- ✓ Enhanced relationships with community providers of traineeships and apprenticeships to students
- ✓ Support of local St VDP Chapter by way of Christmas hampers donated by Pastoral Classes
- ✓ Annual support of Legacy Foundation on ANZAC Day
- ✓ Increased visitation of students to local Aged Care Homes to provide gifts and entertainment
- ✓ Recognition from Apple for the innovative procedures of St Michael's
- ✓ Establishment of relationships with Apple as exemplar school in Brisbane Catholic Education
- ✓ Successful relationships with Smartskill/Braemar TAFE – Cert III – Tourism, My Other Mum – Cert III – Child Services, Brisbane North Institute of TAFE – Cert II Furnishings

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Resourcing and Facilities*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ **Completion of the Multi Purpose Centre (MPC) construction**
- ✓ **Construction of 7 classrooms and new Resource Centre extension to A Block completed Semester 1 2011**
- ✓ **Refurbishment of Student Reception, Administration and Staff areas – completion December 2011**
- ✓ **Continued enhancement of MPC – sound, lighting, stage preparation – stage enhancement includes screens for students to display their IT work at assemblies and other gatherings**
- ✓ **Application of Solar Panel installation**
- ✓ **Strong basis formed for becoming a much more sustainable school community in terms of policies, practices and procedures and application for a Trade Training Centre on sustainable industry**
- ✓ **Welcome support of the Board and P&F Association input in discerning the needs of the College**
- ✓ **P&F Association’s generous contributions to major purchases in the College**
- ✓ **Improvements to landscaping and gardens in the College to continue throughout the building phase into 2012**

- ✓ **BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL** *Information Communication and Learning Technologies*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ **Website completed and functional Term 1 2011**
- ✓ **Continued embedding of ICLT in the Learning and Teaching Process**
- ✓ **Installation of data projectors**
- ✓ **Professional development provided to staff to further develop IT skills in the classroom especially in the development of wikis and blogs**
- ✓ **Laptops for all staff upgraded**
- ✓ **Improved wireless connectivity**
- ✓ **Significant developments in the ICLT Strategic Plan – establishment of IT Curriculum Committee and IT Infrastructure Committee**
- ✓ **Online P/T Interview bookings/SET plan interviews/subject selection**
- ✓ **Refurbishment of Com 2 to establish a Help Desk area for student laptop queries**
- ✓ **Continued employment of IT technician to support IT staff**
- ✓ **Continued work on new Learning Management System**
- ✓ **Newsletter available in electronic form with parent notification**

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL *Renewal and Quality Assurance*

Significant Achievements for 2011

- ✓ **2012 will see the end of our Strategic Renewal Cycle and will require external review**
- ✓ **Internal Review of 6 components of the SRF successfully engaged in**
- ✓ **2010 Recommendations acted upon in 2011**
- ✓ **2011 Internal Review Recommendations to be enacted in 2012 and beyond**
- ✓ **Data has been used more to report to the wider community on school performance**
- ✓ **All stakeholders engaged in the SRF goal setting and Review for 2011**
- ✓ **Review of ET 5 & ET 6 positions in the College to provide feedback on annual performance**
- ✓ **Review of School Officer roles and responsibilities continuing**
- ✓ **Successful OH&S BCE Audit conducted**
- ✓ **All Government Reporting successfully completed**
- ✓ **Adoption of new Strategic Renewal Framework 2012-2016**
- ✓ **Principal reporting to Board and P&F using the SRF priorities**