



CATHERINE  
MCAULEY  
COLLEGE  
MACKAY

# Catherine McAuley College Mackay

2023 Annual School Report



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Rockhampton

# **Catherine McAuley College, Mackay**

Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton

## **Principal**

Mr Jim Ford

## **Address**

239 Nebo Road  
West Mackay QLD 4740

## **Total enrolments**

264

## **Year levels offered**

Years 7 and 8  
Opened in 2022 with Year 7 cohort only  
Years 7 to 12 in 2027

## **Type of School:**

Co-educational Catholic Secondary College

## **School Overview**

### **Catherine McAuley College (CMC) Mackay**

Established in the classic heritage setting of the former 'Sugar Research Institute' in Mackay, our Catholic Secondary College builds on a tradition of innovation and intellectual endeavours. Our culture is one of service and belonging. We value learning for both students and staff, the courage to do what is most difficult and compassion communicated in the Works of Mercy. Our students will have the capacity and optimism to lead a changing world with insight and humility.

More information on our school can be accessed from [myschool.edu.au](http://myschool.edu.au)

## **Curriculum Offerings**

### **Distinctive Curriculum Offerings**

Comprehensive rotation of all students through a suite of offerings in the curriculum areas of Technologies, The Arts and Languages. Spanish Language is a unique experience for students at the College. Students progress to the middle years with a firm grasp on their preferred elective areas.

### **Extra Curricula Activities**

CMC now offers a much-expanded extra-curricular experience. Instrumental Music Tuition in Piano, Voice, Drums, Guitar, Strings and Brass. The College Concert Band has started rehearsals. Drama, Choir, and Dance teams are also in rehearsal. Sporting activities include Netball, League, Hockey, Futsal and Basketball. Many CMC students compete at the Representative level in sport.

### **How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning**

All students are issued with a new Chromebook computer (with protective case and charge unit). All class teachers coordinate the learning experience through Google Classroom posts. Students submit work electronically and make extensive use of online curated learning resources such as Style in Science, Education Perfect and Writers Toolbox. Textbooks are still appreciated but are in interactive electronic form.

## **Social Climate**

### **Strategies to Promote a Positive Culture**

Pastoral Care/House Groups meet daily. Guided by their House teacher, students gather in their Year level specific groups for 30-min, and this generates an invaluable opportunity to run programs on Wellbeing, Leadership, Careers, and activities that chaperone students into a sense of belonging. The culture of the College is created through the systemic pastoral experience.

### **Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Strategies**

The College promotes and makes good use of an anonymous online reporting system available to all students. Called 'STYMIE' the program gives all students an optionally anonymous voice and data would indicate they appreciate and are willing to use it.

### **Strategies for involving parents in their child's education**

The College has a formal representative group in the form of an advisory Board. They oversee all aspects of College function including budget, staffing, policy, and mission/vision. A less formal Parent Engagement Group (PEG) gives impetus to fundraising and social events. Both groups meet monthly. There is also a Uniform Committee which meets twice a term.

On several occasions each year, 'Student Led Conferences' (previously known as parent/teacher interviews) take place. The student being central to the conversation helps with commitment and communicates to parents that they are in partnership with the College.

## Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Solar panel installation in the initial College build ensures low season demand for electricity is largely covered. The College is situated in a high rainfall area, but landscaped areas are on a regulated watering system. Recycling and Reef Guardian initiatives are in place for environmental consciousness of our students. 'Care for our Common Home' is a persistent theme.

## Characteristics of the Student Body

Our student body reflects the ethnic diversity of the population that settled in the Mackay region. The number of students identifying as Indigenous has steadily built along with the larger group prevalence of students with Maltese and European backgrounds.

### Average student attendance rate (%)

The average student attendance rate was 92.32%.

### Management of non-attendance

Class Roll marking at the start of every lesson with follow-up by student administration officers checks ensuring there is little/no truancy. Family vacations during term-time can have a significant impact on attendance statistics in the Junior grades. Full attendance expectation is regularly communicated to parents/guardians and students and built into our periodic awards scale.

### Year 10 to 12 Apparent Retention Rate

N/A - Our College is building to Year 12 in the Year 2027. At present (2023) we have Year 7's & 8's in attendance.

## Staffing Information

### Workforce Composition

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-Teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	39.00	29.00	0.00
Full-time equivalents	38.11	19.24	0.00

### Qualifications of all Teachers

Qualification – highest level of attainment	Percentage of staff with this Qualification
Doctoral / Post-doctoral	
Masters	8%
Bachelor Degree	92%
Diploma	
Certificate	

### Major Professional Development Initiatives

All staff have been comprehensively trained in The Responsible Thinking Process to enable school-wide consistency. In addition, all new staff in particular are trained in The 7 Habits of highly effective people and its application to student leadership.

Formation experiences to clarify the key features of a Catholic school is an **ongoing priority** for the whole school. A major effort goes into induction of new staff with the growth of the College from year to year. Building a culture of both belonging and learning is the overarching priority.

The percentage of teacher participation in professional development was 100%.

### Total funds expended on Professional Development

The total of funds expended on teacher professional development was \$40,500.

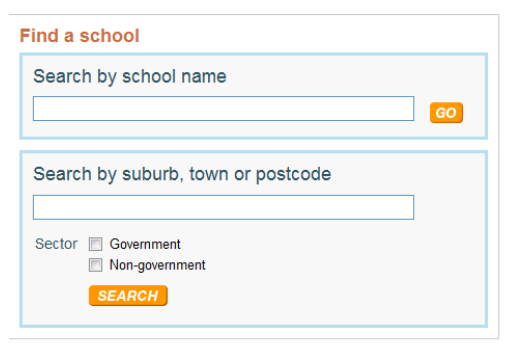
### Average Staff Attendance and Retention

The average staff attendance for the school year, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave for periods of up to 5 days, was 92.89%.

Percentage of teaching staff retained from the previous school year was 97.50%.

## School Income

School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au). (The School information below is available on the My School web site).



The screenshot shows a search interface titled "Find a school". It contains two search boxes: "Search by school name" with a "GO" button, and "Search by suburb, town or postcode" with a "SEARCH" button. Below the second search box, there are radio buttons for "Sector" with options for "Government" and "Non-government".

## National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Results

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for Years 7 and 9 are available via the My School website at [www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au).

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

## Key Student Outcomes and Value Added

PAT Maths and PAT Reading tests are undertaken at the start and end of the calendar year. Nature of tests have changed to adaptive making results not comparable. The end of the Year 2023 with a consistent testing methodology provided data on the year of growth for Year 7's and Year 8's. Results for each reporting period are in terms of A to E for effort, behaviour and academic achievement. Generally, effort and behaviour are excellent, highly skewing toward A in a cohort. Academic results show a pleasing profile with minimal E's and students working to ability.

### Year 12 Outcomes

- NOT APPLICABLE AS YET



<b>Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2023</b>	(Data are available to schools from the QCAA and QTAC secure website using your existing security code)
Percentage of Year 12 students who received a Senior Education Profile (SEP)	NA
Percentage of Year 12 students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)	NA
Percentage of Year 12 students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA)	NA
Percentage of Year 12 students awarded a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification	NA
Percentage of Year 12 students who undertook a School-based apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT)	NA
Percentage of ATAR eligible students disclosing to college an ATAR of 60.00 to 99.95	NA
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admission Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a university offer	NA

## **Strategic Improvement: Progress and Next Steps**

### **Strategic progress and goals in 2023**

#### **GOALS**

- (1) Catholic Identity: Deepen the understanding of religious life of the College
- (2) Teaching & Learning: Build student capacity to engage in the learning process
- (3) Pastoral Support & Wellbeing: Improve student wellbeing and readiness to learn
- (4) Leadership, Partnership & Resourcing: Building professional partnerships amongst staff.

#### **PROGRESS**

- (1) Formation training plan developed. Catholic perspective in subjects identified
- (2) Routine reflections on academic data. Formal meeting procedure and minute taking
- (3) Clear presentation standards. Training for staff. Resilience program adopted
- (4) Developed partnerships with outside agencies. Staff training agenda.

### **Strategic priorities for 2024**

#### **Intended Priorities For 2024 Under The Four Domains**

- (1) Establish and maintain a clear Catholic Identity for the College
- (2) Quality Unit alignment processes Q.U.A.P. Develop specific pathway subjects
- (3) Consolidate wellbeing program and ensure staff buy-in
- (4) Implement agreed staffing and resources plan to optimal effect.

The College has progressed into Year 9 elective subjects with a model for Year 10 curriculum in place. A draft suite of senior subjects and Year 10 partnerships has been developed. Parent and student communication is a vital aspect of promulgating opportunities available.

### **Parent, teacher and student satisfaction with the school**

Enrolment demand is very high and growing. Board meeting minutes attest to high morale and satisfaction that the College environment is affirming and continually seeking to improve. Student surveys are conducted on a regular basis with parent satisfaction data gathered in 2023. In our first year of operation (2022), staff reviewed the National School Improvement Tool Domains to identify where immediate improvement may be required. NSIT was revisited in 2023 to ensure College processes are informed by the national benchmarks.