

SCHOOL RENEWAL PLAN

2008 – 2012

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL: PRIORITY 1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION and EVANGELISING MISSION

St Mary's will be a community that makes a difference to each member, and to our world, through authentically living, teaching and celebrating the mission of Jesus.

Our Goals for 2009:

We intend to:

- Further develop the quality and effectiveness of learning and teaching classroom religious education.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for faith development and growth in spirituality for students, parents and staff.
- Develop the religious life of the school through recognising the charisms of our founders and the faith backgrounds of our students.
- Strengthen staff, parent and parish community understanding and support for the school's Catholic identity and role within the mission of St Mary's Parish.

Our Actions for 2009:

We intend to

- Encourage a "praying" and celebrating community at St Mary's.
- Investigate the charisms of the founding religious orders of our school.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for development of knowledge about Catholic celebrations and rituals for students, staff and parents in our celebrations of significant holy days and liturgical seasons.
- Strengthen the relationship between the school, the Parish and the wider community by joining with the Parish community in the weekend celebration of the Eucharist once a month and organising for classes to celebrate the Eucharist with residents of St Mary's Hostel monthly, on a rostered basis.
- Invite the Parish Pastoral Associate to speak with the students prior to celebrating Mass or a liturgical celebration.
- Provide staff inservice that promotes elements associated with the charisms of the founders of our school with the view to incorporating those elements into the prayer and ritual within the school.

- Review the Evangelisation and Faith Formation (1.2) component in the Internal Review process.
- Continue to focus on the life of Mary in our teaching and learning of religion by highlighting the significant Marian feast days providing resources, including ICLT, for the teachers to incorporate in their planning.

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL: PRIORITIES 2 & 6

TEACHING AND LEARNING INCORPORATING ICLT

St Mary's will provide active and engaging teaching and learning experiences that allow all students to achieve to their potential through experiencing success in their learning.

Our Goals for 2009:

We intend to:

- Strengthen the continuity of teaching and learning approaches to enhance the engagement of all students as they journey through our school.
- Develop inclusive, comprehensive and quality curriculum, assessment and reporting processes.
- Use data and evidence-based processes to inform learning and teaching in order to improve student performance.
- Plan for and resource the integrated use of technology in classrooms.
- Continue to develop online processes that enhance communication within our school and our school community.
- Develop intra-school moderation practices that support and enhance the ongoing development of competency of teacher judgement.

Our Actions for 2009:

We intend to

- Inservice all teachers and school officers working in classrooms in First Steps Reading.
- Develop a First Steps Reading focus group to guide its implementation into our classrooms.
- Arrange for a group of teachers to develop an overall school plan for Terms 1-4 for the teaching of the Number strand of our Maths program to ensure continuity of learning across the school.
- Set in place a process to monitor our progress in the implementation of the Maths program, and to address difficulties and needs especially in the Number strand.

- Invite Eva de Vries to assist us in addressing difficulties and needs arising out of the implementation of our school Maths program.
- Provide resources linked to the school Maths program.
- Investigate the use of Scootle in the school to assist with the inclusion of ICLT into teachers' planning.
- Focus on the Arts curriculum by engaging specialist teachers in Drama, Dance, Visual Arts and Music.

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL: PRIORITIES 3,4,and 5

PASTORAL CARE

St Mary's will embrace programs and strategies that promote a welcoming, caring and supportive school environment for students, parents, staff and parish members, and that strengthen partnerships and relationships between our school, parish and the wider community.

Our Goals for 2009:

We intend to:

- Develop whole of school procedures and programs for student protection, personal and social development and behaviour support.
- Further develop school strategies to support the contemporary needs of students at risk.
- Implement classroom practices that are responsive to the strengths and needs of all learners.
- Provide pastoral support to all members of the St Mary's community.
- Provide professional learning to support staff members' professional growth and to enhance school strategic priorities.
- Ensure a safe, productive and healthy workplace.
- Effectively partner with our parent community in school improvement processes.
- Develop collaborative partnerships with Catholic schools in the Ipswich area.

Our Actions for 2009:

We intend to

- Continue to review of the current provision for Learning Support at St Mary's.

- Utilise data from all stakeholders and current research to develop and implement our whole school Student Behaviour Support Plan.
- Review the components 3.1, 3.4, 4.1, 5.1 in the Internal Review process.
- Seek parental input into Internal Review process.
- Work collaboratively with the School Board to develop a Relationships Policy.
- Support beginning teachers through the mentoring processes in place in the school.
- Develop Teacher Learning Teams throughout the school to share expertise and to collaboratively develop resources to address planning, teaching and learning and assessment throughout the school.
- Acknowledge achievements of staff and students through liturgies, assemblies, the newsletter, local press and at Staff Meetings and Awards Night.
- Invite specialist practitioners to speak to staff on issues relevant to their professional development..
- Continue close association with the P & F in order to collaboratively enhance school resources.
- Acknowledge the assistance of our parents/carers in the classrooms and all areas of school life at the assembly and end-of-year morning tea.
- Continue with our community involvement in
 - the ANZAC dawn service at Woodend
 - supporting the Ipswich Hospice Care, St Vincent de Paul and Caritas
 - the organisation of the Maths Team Challenge competition for our District
 - Student Leadership team Induction Day
 - inviting RAAF, Church and civic representatives to participate in our school ANZAC service.
- Promote relationships with our school families through Grandparents' Day, Parent Information Nights, Fete, Orientation Day.
- Participate in the CTJ process with Catholic schools within the Ipswich area.
- Support St Mary's and St Edmund's Colleges by welcoming work experience students into our school.
- Participate in the Ipswich Catholic Primary Schools Swimming Carnival.
- Organise a class and staff buddy system within the school.

BROAD STRATEGIC GOAL: PRIORITY 7 and 8

ORGANISATION, ADMINISTRATION AND RENEWAL

St Mary's will put in place measures that will assist us to be a self-renewing, well-managed Catholic school that is open and transparent to the wider community.

Goals for 2009:

We intend to:

- Ensure resource planning is aligned with school strategic renewal plans.
- Manage our school's financial resources in order to provide high quality Catholic Education.
- Comply with government reporting regulations.
- Create an environment where renewal and quality improvement are continuous.
- Promote and encourage environmental sustainability in policies and practices.

Actions for 2009:

- Complete the install data projectors in some teaching areas within the school.
- Engage with the Federal Government's *Building the Education Revolution* initiative to upgrade existing facilities to enable the students to engage with twenty-first century pedagogy.
- Become independent in the provision and support of Information technology in the school.
- Promote our school in the wider community through the media.
- Participate in the CTJ process with schools throughout the Ipswich area.
- Support St Mary's and St Edmund's Colleges and the local TAFE by welcoming work experience students and adults into our school.
- Continue with a the tradition of celebrating School Year Opening Mass with staff from St Mary's and St Edmund's Colleges.
- Review the components 1.2, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 in the Internal Review process.