

SOUTHPORT FLEXIBLE LEARNING CENTRE

Annual Report 2019

Our school at a glance

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School Profile

Coeducational
Catholic
Year 7 – 12
74 Enrolments (as per August census 2019)

Southport FLC is a co-educational Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition. The philosophy of the Southport FLC draws on the spirit and vision of Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA). Our learning community has a clear commitment to social justice and stands in solidarity with disenfranchised young people of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds.

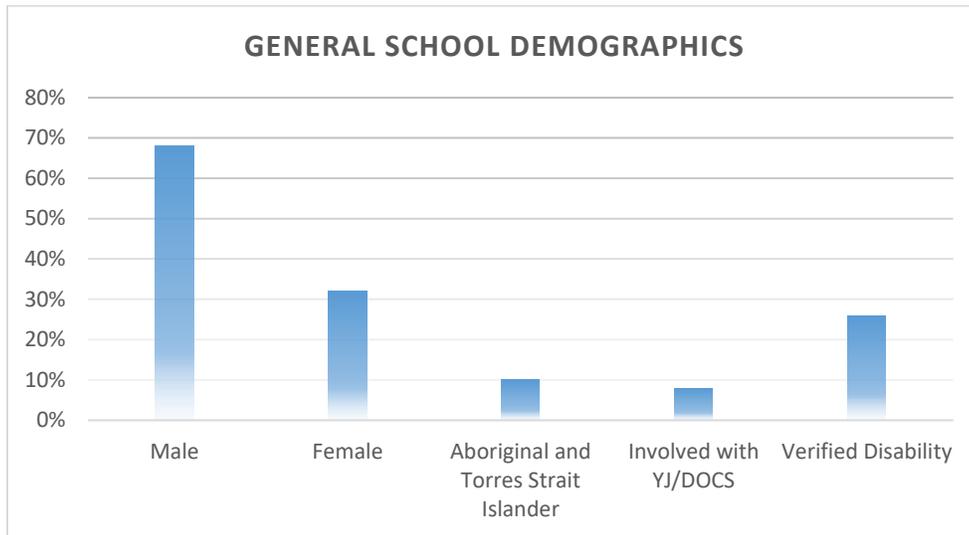
The school is conducted in accordance with the philosophy, principles and touchstones of EREA. Southport FLC commenced operation as a registered non-state school in 2018 and is part of a national association of over 50 mainstream schools and flexible learning centres.

The philosophy also has a practical focus, based in the application of four core principles of *Respect, Safe and Legal, Participation and Honesty* among all involved at the Southport Flexible Learning Centre. This is evident in the ways the organisational culture and practices are shaped through the application of these principles. In essence, the principles establish a *common ground* among staff, young people and parents. This collective forum offers the means to resolve conflict, negotiate learning, recognise rights, responsibilities and consequences as they are modelled and explored. This occurs both within the group, as individuals and as members of the broader community.

Characteristics of the student body:

Southport FLC works with young people who are vulnerable and experience a complexity of inter-related needs placing them at risk of disengaging from education. Some of the complex factors include mental health concerns, learning difficulties and behavioural issues, all of which make achieving in mainstream education a challenge.

Southport FLC's enrolments in 2019, general school demographics consisted of:

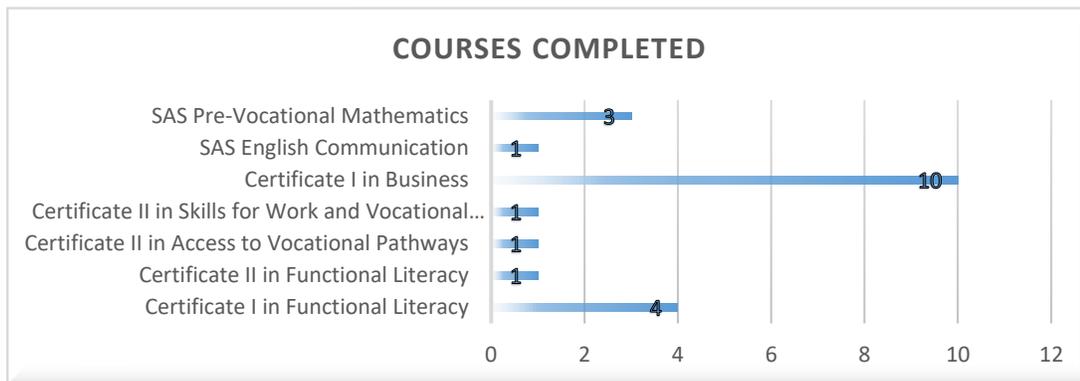


The young people who attend Southport FLC live across the entire Gold Coast city, from as far north as Ormeau and as far south as Eleanora. Southport FLC provides bus pick-ups from key locations that link with the public transport system, this enables support to be offered to as many young people in the region as possible. Southport FLC maintained a large waitlist of young people from across the Gold Coast in 2019.

Learning Choices:

2019 saw an increase in both staff and young people numbers. This enabled an increase in the learning choices on offer at Southport FLC. A combination of VET and QCAA courses were provided, including Certificate I in Access to Vocational Pathways, Certificate I and II in Functional Literacy, Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways, Certificate II in Hospitality, Certificate I in Business, SAS Pre-Vocational Mathematics and SAS English Communication. A total of 17 young people completed entire certificates in 2019, with 28 gaining a statement.

The breakdown of courses achieved:



Continued engagement with external Registered Training Organisation's, saw young people engaged in the following:

- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care- 2 young people (1 completed, 1 ongoing)
- Certificate III in Hospitality- 2 young people (ongoing)
- Certificate II in Retail- 2 young people (1 completed, 1 ongoing)
- Certificate II in Horticulture (ongoing)

2019 included a significant event, the celebration of the first Year 12 student to leave with their Year 12 Queensland Certificate of Education.

Learning opportunities for all young people included core learning, programs in life skills, sports, careers and adventure-based learning. Additional elective subjects were offered once all schooling was occurring on the new school site, this included Music, Gym, Geek Club, Manual Arts, Cooking, Art and Gardening. Young people were invited to attend camping trips each term.

A Beyond Borders program commenced in 2019 which involved a group of young people who showed interest in this program. The activities of this group culminated in a 10-day Indigenous Immersion trip to Alice Springs and Uluru and included termly camps of two or three days. A group of young people also had the opportunity to participate in the South Passage sailing trip, both on day sails and the extended 3-day program.

Extra-curricular activities:

Southport FLC continues to run holiday programs during term breaks for any young person that would like to attend. This involves a selection of learning opportunities at Southport FLC and outings around the community. This has included cooking classes, cinema trips, beach BBQ days and other activities both onsite and offsite. The intention is to create opportunities for engagement during times where some young people may feel more isolated.

The introduction of the Beyond Borders program has required the group involved to participate in early morning hikes once a week and to participate in additional after school activities, including Bunnings Sausage Sizzles and other fundraising activities.

Social climate:

2019 marked a year of increased student and staff numbers, which enabled an increase in the programs offered. This included:

- Daily working agreements and discussions involving all young people, around the 4 principles
- Consistent lesson structures focusing clearly on student outcomes
- Development of VET course offerings, to include Certificate I and II in Functional Literacy and Vocational Pathways, Hospitality and Business
- Continuation of check-in and check-out processes that focus on how young people and staff are feeling each morning using the Rebooting Education model of a whole brain approach to learning.
- Daily gratitude practice with an opportunity at the end of each day to share something that everyone is grateful for.
- Staff training around wellbeing using the Rebooting Education program, Headstrong and Strengths based programs.
- Continuation of counselling sessions through Ted Noffs and an onsite visiting psychologist who provides sessions at school to individual young people
- The continuation of a consistent and regular timetable for all young people
- Regular support meetings between staff, parents/carers and young people to enable them to have a voice around their learning and behaviour
- A stable staff team contributing to stronger community relationships

Parent/Caregiver, student satisfaction with the school

All parents and carers of enrolled students at Southport FLC in 2019 were given a satisfaction survey to give feedback on how they believed the school was going and requesting input on possible areas for improvement. Those that responded gave extremely positive feedback. When asked how helpful and friendly the staff were, respondents scored an averaged 9.6 out of 10. When asked how their young person had grown or benefitted from attending Southport FLC, respondents averaged 9.2 out of 10.

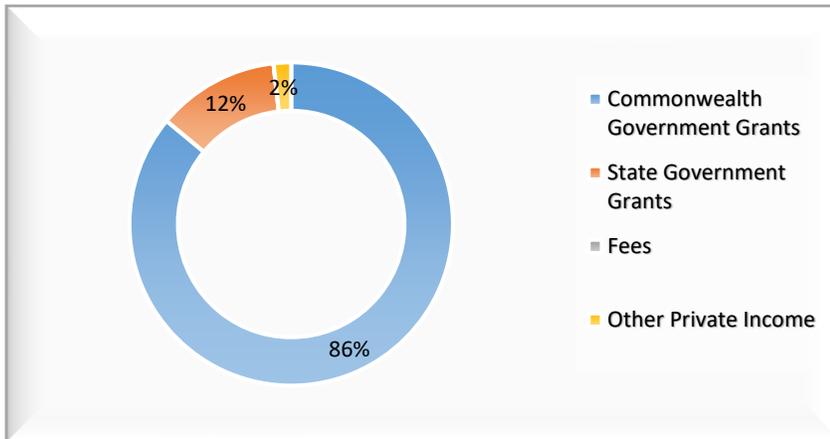
Southport FLC was described as:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| • Supportive | • Friendly | • Fantastic | • Very nurturing |
| • Encouraging | • Reliable | • Welcoming | • Practical |
| • Understanding | • Amazing | • Very progressive | • Adaptable |
| • Helpful | • Awesome | • Underpaid | • Patient |

Strategies used for involving parents in their child's education

- Daily texts sent to parents/carers detailing plans for the day
- Regular communication by phone, email, text message and meetings (at school, home and in the community)
- School Facebook page updates
- Regular invitations to celebration days, including end of semester BBQs
- Information sessions about opportunities on offer, such as employment service opportunities and curriculum information
- Stakeholder meetings involving parents and agencies involved with the young person and their family

School Income broken down by funding source



Our Staff Profile

Staff Composition, including Indigenous Staff (network will complete)

	Teachers	Youth Worker	Support	Indigenous
Headcount	6	4	5	0
FTE	6	4	2.5	0

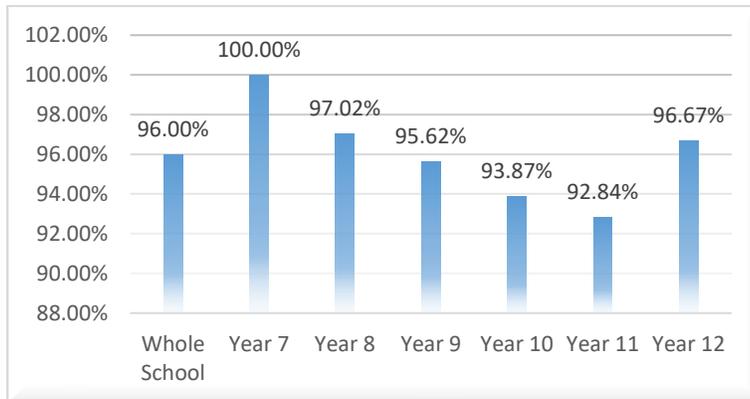
Qualification of all Teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of teaching staff
Certificate	0
Diploma	0
Advance Diploma	0
Bachelor Degree	4
Graduate Diploma	1
Masters	1
Doctorate	0
Total	6

Expenditure on staff professional development	\$9,406.59
Average staff attendance (periods of leave up to 5 days)	6.87%
Proportion of staff retained from previous year	74%

Performance of our students

Average Student attendance



Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

The school follows a Daily Attendance Procedure that guides the practice of staff in reporting, tracking and communication with parents/carers/independent young people around daily attendance. The key aspects of the procedure include the entering of attendance into the TASS class roll, the use of a messaging system to parents/carers/independent young people when a young person's attendance is unknown (unexplained attendance) and phone calls as applicable. The school further continually tracks unexplained attendance which includes a provision of sending transition and un-enrolment letters to parents/cares/independent young people if their young person has had long term consecutive unexplained attendance (no school engagement). In addition the school uses a data analytics tool called Power BI to easily visualize daily attendance/absences.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results

Southport Flexible Learning Centre did not have any young people that participated in the NAPLAN testing.

Year 10 – Year 12 student retention rates

25%

Year 12 Outcomes

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement	1
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement	0
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education	1
Number of students awarded one or more unit of competency in a VET qualification	29
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications	14
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship/Traineeship	6
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or have completed a SAT	0
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre applicants receiving a tertiary offer	0

Next Step Data

Fewer than five responses to the 2019 Next Step survey were received from students who completed Year 12 at Southport Flexible Learning Centre. Consequently, information on the post-school destinations of Year 12 completers from 2018 is not available for reasons of data confidentiality.