



St Bernadette's Primary School, Sunshine North

School Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda

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| Meeting title | School Advisory Council meeting |
| Date and time | Thursday 5th March 2026 at 6:30pm |
| Location | Staff Lounge |
| Attendees | Brendan Gill, Heidi Chapman-Foehn, Nelly Sammartino, Radhika Denkanikota, Fr Silvio, Natalie Azzopardi, Gorgina Attard |
| Apologies | Kylie Cassar, Linh Nguyen, Tuyet Nguyen, Milda Gauld |
| Resources | |

Agenda/Minutes

| Item | Description | Minutes |
|------|---|---|
| 1. | <p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>Welcome to new members</p> <p>Acknowledgment of Country</p> <p>Prayer</p> | <p>Welcome</p> <p>Welcome to Natalie Azzopardi and Gorgina Attard</p> <p>St Bernadette's School community acknowledges Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the Traditional Custodians of lands, waterways and skies across Australia.</p> <p>We thank you for sharing and caring for the land we learn, play and gather on.</p> <p>We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we share our friendship and kindness as we commit to work for reconciliation.</p> <p>PRAYER FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY</p> <p>Gracious God, as we continue our Lenten journey, Help us to be people of HOPE. God, you are with us. Help us to be people of LOVE. God, you are with us. Help us to be people of COMPASSION. God, you are with us. Help us to be people of JUSTICE. God, you are with us. Help us to be people of COURAGE. God, you are with us. St Bernadette - pray for us. GOD LOVES US - LET US LOVE GOD</p> |



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| 2. | <p>Previous minutes Any business arising.</p> | <p>Minutes of Previous Meeting Moved by: Radhika Denkanikota, Seconded by: Fr Silvio ACTIONS:</p> |
| 3. | <p>SAC Info</p> | |
| 4. | <p>Topics of discussion for the SAC</p> | <p>PRINCIPAL'S REPORT</p> <p>Catholic Identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beginning of Year - Ash Wednesday - Sacraments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eucharist - June 13th and 14th - Confirmation - Thursday 10th September - Reconciliation - Tuesday 10th November - Feast Day and 70th Anniversary - Parish 70th Anniversary Day - Sunday 27th September <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2026 School Fees \$1600 Levies \$380 - School is in a good financial position <p>Enrolments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently 341. Preps 48 - Prep 2027 enrolments open - School Tours - well attended - Able to take all the families within our parish <p>Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New staffing for 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel Powell returning 2 days a week Year 3 - Joanna Pereira - part-time classroom Year 1 - Huong Lamont - part-time classroom Year 3 - John Maguire - full-time Year 5 - Alicia O'Brien - full-time Year 2 - Ashleigh Cahill Student Wellbeing on Parental Leave - in process of replacing <p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inquiry Units Term 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preps - Happy, healthy and safe - 1/2 - How do I grow and change over time? - 3/4 - What makes an effective community - 5/6 - Who decides, and how? <p>Action: Parking - Fr Silvio has asked to mention how people are coming in through the exit rather than the entry. He has asked to mention this in the Newsletter - to enter only through the entrance not the exit</p> |



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Compass/Seesaw

Compass new reporting, attendance, admin program. Most parents have logged on to Compass. Excursion/camp notes will begin being sent out this month. Parents will still receive a report twice a year on Compass - no longer on Nforma, as Compass has this feature included.

Compass will be sending notifications about student absences etc.

Parents have mentioned how Compass is convenient and easy to use.

Camps 2026

- Year 5/6 Camp Adanac April 22-24
- Year 4 Camp Doxa July 29-31
- Year 3 Camp Sunnystones October 13-14

Staff Development Days for 2026

- Wednesday 28th January (Professional Development for staff)
- Wednesday 26th August (RE Catholic Identity)
- Wednesday 2nd December (Preparing and PL for 2026)

Time in Lieu Days for 2026

- Monday 2nd November
- Wednesday 16th December
- Thursday 17th December
- Friday 18th December

Radhika mentioned - Afterschool Care - is an issue when we have school closure days. MACS is going to be taking over from Camp Australia and we will ask to provide care for families on school closure days. Sunshine North is no longer coming to our School for Camp Australia

School Improvement Agenda / Annual Action Plan

School Improvement Plan

Goals

- *To improve student achievement in Mathematics, particularly **fluency** in addition and subtraction facts (partitioning of numbers up to ten) in Year 1.*
- *To improve student achievement in Writing, particularly sentence structure in Year 2.*
- *To develop and embed a whole school pedagogy of best practice through evidence-based instruction.*
- *To develop all students to be animated and activated agents of their own learning.*
- *To improve engagement in Religious Education (RE) for students in Years 4 - 6*

Family School Partnerships/Home/School Partnerships

- Year 1/2 Parent Information Night

Parents have mentioned that it is still relevant to meet the new teacher and new learnings.

- Year Prep Parent Information Night



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Facebook/Instagram

- Parents have shared that it is good to see everything happening in the school

Child Safety

- Any issues
- [MACS Promotion - 11 standards in 11 months](#) - highlighting the 11 standards during 2026
- Concerns about a couple of students leaving the school in the morning after being dropped off. Brendan will mention to the whole school about not leaving the school grounds after being dropped off.

General Business

- Changes to Parent Helpers in 2026

Found that with Explicit Teaching students need to be in the classroom during the teaching and miss out on the learning if taken out by parent helpers. We will still appreciate having parents on excursions and whole school events.

Major Events - 3 year plan

2026

- Christmas Carols
- Book week - Parade and activities
- End of Year Mass followed by assembly @ 9:15am

2027

- Arts Show (Term 3) - visual art, creative writing, performances
- Family Christmas Mass (evening) followed by supper in the Hall.
- Last day of school will be an assembly only for farewells.

2028

- Production (Beginning of Term 4)
- End of Year Mass followed by assembly @ 9:15am

Student Representative Council

While class voting for class representatives reflects the real-world political system, perhaps students could present their speeches to a different class, with that class voting based on the strength of their speech and campaign. (Kylie Cassar)

I also suggest that the same student not hold the role two years in a row. This would create opportunities for more students to experience leadership and to develop confidence through persuasive speaking. (Kylie Cassar)

Parents at the meeting mentioned that is challenging as they are voting for the student to represent their class not the other class. We understand this but it is challenging.

Perhaps a child can be elected more than once in their school time here but not in consecutive years.

- Others

Fr Silvio mentioned that students from St Bernadette's were given leadership roles at CCCCs which is pleasing to see.



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| | | <p>Homework Parents mentioned that students in Year 5 are getting homework which is good to see. Given back with feedback from the teacher has been great.</p> <p>Minecraft Education:</p> <p>Meeting closed:</p> |
| 5. | Questions | |
| 6. | <p>Close</p> <p>List of actions and deadlines.</p> <p>Next meeting:</p> | <p>ACTIONS:</p> <p>Meeting Dates for 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Thursday 5th March- Thursday 28th May- Thursday 20th August- Thursday 12th November <p>Meetings will start at 6:30pm with dinner</p> <p>Meeting closed:</p> |

TERM DATES AND IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

| | |
|--------|--|
| Term 1 | Tuesday 27th January to Thursday 2nd April |
| Term 2 | Monday 20th April to Friday 26th June |
| Term 3 | Monday 13th July to Friday 18th September |
| Term 4 | Monday 5th October - Wednesday 16th December |

CAMPS

- **Year 5/6 Camp** - April 22-24
- **Year 4 Camp** - July 29-31
- **Year 3 Camp** - October 13-14

NO SCHOOL - PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Monday 9th March - Public Holiday - Labour Day
Monday 8th June - Public Holiday - King's Birthday
Thursday 25th June - No School - Learning Conversations
Tuesday 3rd November - Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup

Victoria's Child Safe Standards

Plain
language
summary

1

Your organisation welcomes Aboriginal children. You support them to express their culture and to enjoy their rights. You don't allow racism.



2

Child safety is important to everyone at all levels in your organisation. You document how you find, avoid, and stop risks of child abuse or harm.



3

Your organisation supports children to know their rights to be safe from abuse, informed, and involved. You help them to talk openly and take part in decisions that affect them.



4

Your organisation tells families and the community about what you do, and how you keep children safe from harm and abuse. You help families to have a say and to take part in decisions that affect their child.



5

Your organisation understands that every child is different and has different needs. You make sure that they can get the information and help that they need.



6

Staff know what they must do to keep children safe from abuse and harm. They record, report, and share information about child safety when they should. Staff who work with children have had the background checks they need.



7

Children and their families know how to make a complaint and what happens when a complaint is made. Your staff know how to respond properly to complaints.



8

Your organisation trains and supports staff to keep children safe from abuse and harm. Your staff know the signs of child abuse and harm and what to do if there are issues of abuse and harm.



9

Your organisation makes sure children are safe when they use your services, settings, and activities. This includes when children are online.



10

Your organisation checks and improves the ways you keep children safe from abuse and harm.



11

Your organisation has written policies about how you keep children safe from abuse and harm. They are easy to understand, and all staff follow them.



For more information,
contact the Commission for
Children and Young People
www.cyp.vic.gov.au



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