Introduction
St Joseph’s Primary School Lockhart provides a comprehensive educational program for all students based on the outcomes identified by the NSW Board of Studies. These courses of study address the educational needs of the students and provide the opportunity for each student to reach their fullest learning potential while encouraging ongoing life-long learning.

The school was organised in 2007 from Kindergarten to Year 6 each day in three composite classes. These were a K/1, 2/3 and a 4/5/6, each with a qualified full-time teacher. All staff consider their employment as a vocation and freely give their best each day for the students.

Support staff included two permanent part-time teachers, a clerical assistant and a cleaner.

The school principal and staff are assisted by a School Board and School Auxiliary and report to the Parish Council of St Mary’s Church Lockhart on a regular monthly basis.

1. The School

Vision Statement 2007
Everything has been created in Christ, through Christ and for Christ. For this reason, everything that is true and good in St Joseph’s is a sign of the mystery of Christ, and a way of proclaiming it.

St Joseph’s strives to help the children daily grow more conscious of the gift of faith, that they may grow to adore God the Father in spirit and in truth, especially through liturgical worship, that they may conduct their personal life according to the Gospel values proclaimed by Jesus Christ and his Church while developing their academic knowledge, physical attributes, social skills and personal aspirations.

(Our Vision Statement is linked to each policy and action at St Joseph’s School Lockhart)

Mission Statements 2007:
1. To promote the Catholic faith where human knowledge, enlightened and enlivened by faith, is shared by teachers, students, parents and religious.

2. To share responsibility with the Parish for growth in the faith of each child.

3. To promote respect for the family unit within the whole school community.

4. To offer educational experiences that will develop each child’s gifts according to needs - spiritual, emotional, physical, intellectual and social.

5. To provide an educational environment where leadership qualities of independence and initiative can be developed; basic skills of numeracy and literacy are taught as well as the other key learning areas as prescribed by the N.S.W. Board of Studies; an awareness of individual differences leading to equal opportunities for intellectual development and that each child is guided towards self discipline and personal responsibility.

6. To foster respect and cooperation among all members of the school community.

7. To develop a sense of citizenship, to foster an appreciation of Lockhart as a rural community and the part they play as children in its continuing development.

8. To provide resources and experiences where each child will gain an understanding and appreciation of life within the community and beyond the local area.

9. To be sensitive to the spiritual, emotional or physical needs of all students.

10. To present Christ to the students as a model to be followed, and to view their own personal development in the light of Christ’s own person and message.

11. To continue the liturgical initiation and education begun at home and in the parish, and to deepen each student’s acquaintance with the Church.

12. To promote in the growing youth a sense of security through encouragement of self-esteem and sound relationship with others and with God.

13. To create an environment which develops the full potential of each child.

14. To engender a spirit of enquiry and encourage the search for truth.
15. To provide students with the latest electronic resources available, with due regard for budgetary constraints, to research, organise, revise, publish and communicate in today's technological society.

Religious Education
Religious Education is integral to all that occurs at St Joseph's Lockhart. A daily time allocation is incorporated into the school timetable, with additional focus given to the teaching of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. The Diocesan Program “Sharing Our Story” forms the basis of the R.E. program.

The school worked in close rapport with St Mary's Parish of Lockhart, its Priest, Father Howie, the Parish Council and Parish Community. The school and parish mutually support each other for the benefit of the students and the future viability of the parish.

The Student Council of St Joseph's Lockhart provides support for the Pontifical Missions by raising funds through a variety of activities each year. The amount raised annually is significant, given the pupil population.

The school's Pastoral Care Policy is embedded within all school policies and treats all individuals with respect, dignity and Catholic values.

The Arts
Creative Arts, which includes visual arts, performing arts, dance, music and drama are timetabled weekly at the school and cross Key Learning Area boundaries. Extra curricular activities within the school and throughout the wider community also become the audiences for our learning experiences such as the Lockhart Show, Spirit of the Land Festival, Senior Citizen's Day, Day Care and Mission Day. School community members with expertise in the arts, assist as volunteers alongside the school staff with resource and program development, lesson delivery and skill development.

Sport
School sport is a timetabled weekly activity at St Joseph’s Lockhart. Sport is closely aligned with the Physical Education program at the school.

All students participated in sporting clinics for cricket and Australian Rules football in 2007. Inter-school competitions and educational experiences in cricket, netball & Australian Football also occurred.

Our “Special Sports” program utilised the facilities and human resources of the Lockhart community to widen the students’ experiences in squash, dance, touch football, parachute games and lawn bowls.

“Learn-to-swim” in 2007, operated through the Department of Sport & Recreation, was supported by almost 100% of the school student population.

A school sporting house competition is in operation at the school, with awards in Cross Country, Athletics and Swimming. Team sports, interdependence and the “Aussie Spirit” are encouraged while developing the skills, gifts and talents of individual students with opportunities provided for them to compete at carnivals, trials and competitions at Deanery, Diocesan, State and National Events.

School Initiatives
The school’s “buddy system” supports new enrollees, especially Kindergarten students. Visits by the preschool children and an orientation program support our positive school environment. A transition program was also begun this year where the children who will be beginning Kindergarten in 2008 have been spending one morning per week in the K/1 classroom for the last half of Term 4. This has been very successful for all those involved.

Photographs are also available on the school “server” for students to publish reports and Power Point Presentations.

The Student Council members are drawn from across the school population and serve for one school term every 2 years. The school captains and Year 6 cohort are permanent council members for the calendar year. This forum provides an opportunity for students to propose, discuss and present ideas, suggestions and requests to the appropriate
adult group of staff, school board, school auxiliary or parish council.

The school, through its School Renewal Framework applies for community and governmental grants to assist with the ongoing development of the school. In 2007, we were successful in receiving a Community Water Grant from the Federal Government to the value of over $36000, we have prioritised our needs for the next round of ‘Investing in Our Schools’ grants which will be available in the first half of 2008 and we received $3000 for a Literacy and Numeracy grant from the Catholic Schools Office for spending on resources and extra teacher time in this area.

Our “Special Sports” program is an initiative in its 4th year of operation and continues to provide valuable experiences and community involvement.

School Policies
St Joseph’s School Lockhart has in place current policies which cover all Key Learning Areas, Cross Curriculum Perspectives, school administration and management procedures, child protection procedures, staffing protocols, information, communication and technology access guidelines, assessment and reporting to parents requirements, student welfare, discipline and norms of behaviour, complaints procedures and grievance protocols for staff, parents and students.

The school policies link with the Vision & Mission of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga and the Catholic Schools Office by direct written inserts in the hard copy policy documents and electronic links through the Diocesan intranet systems. These can be found at the following address – www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au. A parent information booklet is supplied to each family and is updated annually. Full written policy documentation is available in the school office on request.

School Council

CHAI RMANS REPORT

2007 has been a very successful year for our school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Board for their hard work and support throughout 2007. We have achieved a lot this year and have had great support from our parents. We are often calling on parents for your help and I thank all who have contributed.

Our centenary next year is taking shape and will be a very exciting event for our school. In addition the centenary will be a major fund raising event for 2008 enabling us to contribute more funds into maintenance and improvements to our school. With your support we hope to make our centenary a huge success.

I thank Charina and the school Auxiliary for their work throughout 2007.

During the year we have applied for several grants and have been approved the following;

Community Water Grant - for watering our oval and gardens, due to start over the school holidays.

Investing in Schools Grant - for upgrading our computer system, musical instruments and refurbishing our toilet block, due to start in early 2008.

Thank you to Debbie who has done a wonderful job as acting principal. She has certainly risen to the challenge in Derek’s absence. Our thoughts are with Derek and we wish him a speedy and healthy recovery.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the teachers for your hard work, time and effort throughout the year. Your commitment to the students is reflected by good results and the positive attitude that they show.

Marg, thank you for your tireless work and organisation skills.

We welcome Fr. Howie this year to our parish and look forward to his continued contribution to the school.

In closing I would like to congratulate all our students for their efforts in 2007. I know you all work very hard to keep our school standard high, you do your parents proud and we have a great culture at St. Joseph’s. Keep up the good work.
Wishing everyone a restful and happy holiday and look forward to 2008.

Peter Ryan

Chairman

School Auxiliary
It is a great time to be part of St Josephs with a number of projects completed and some still in the works. The Government grants have come at a welcomed time and have really given the school a face lift. St Josephs is really going ahead and with the implementation of the Water Grant, the school should really start to look good.

It is a credit to our school that when the Auxiliary or Board need help with working bees, cooking, tree planting, car parking or an unexpected event that pops up, many parents are there to help. This makes taking on an Executive position on the Auxiliary or Board that much easier.

No school is a success without wonderful teachers, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all teachers involved for keeping our children motivated and on target to have happy and fulfilling primary years.

Once again, thank you to all the parents who have helped in any way this year. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead and celebrating the Centenary of St Josephs.

Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and happy and productive 2008.

Charina Bushell

President

2. Information on Key School Programs

Curriculum Focus
In 2007, a Curriculum Review in English was conducted by personnel from the Catholic Schools Office, Wagga Wagga. In 2008 there will be further Curriculum Reviews for other Key learning Areas, HSIE and PDHPE.

Staff have undergone varied professional development in curriculum based areas in 2007 including Reading Recovery training, BST Primary writing marking and setting up a school based writing project.

Programs to Support Learning
Reading Recovery forms an integral part of the daily learning support structure at the school. A staff member who was training in Reading recovery delivered this program daily in 2007.

Access to current technology and electronic learning is provided at St Joseph's Lockhart through student-based work stations based in each learning area, library and multi-purpose room on a ratio of almost 1 work station to 2 students. Students have personal accounts, monitored access, support and web protection. Procedures, policies and written parental consent are in place to block offensive material and unauthorised browsing of the world wide web. External infrastructure support is provided by the Catholic Schools Office.

Equity Programs
Australian society is comprised of people with a diverse cultural background. The school has a responsibility to provide experiences which develop knowledge about other cultures, countries, heritages and languages in a positive way. St Joseph's Lockhart provides experiences for students to gain a fuller understanding of their own ethnic background and history, while providing all students with an appreciation of cultures and languages different from that found in their own extended family and local community.
Programs to Support Students
St Joseph’s Lockhart has programs in place and continues professional development for staff for students with varying needs.

The Life Education program is highly valued and supported at our school. Student leadership is encouraged at our school through the Student Council as an entity. Student councillors are elected by their grade peer group each term. Our school also holds elections each year for school captains and sports captains.

Respect and Responsibility
Our whole ethos at St Joseph’s is based on respect for others and the children taking personal responsibility for their actions.

A Values Education Forum was held in 2007 to enable the staff to consult with the parents of the school in order to promote values education in the school environment as part of an effective schooling program. As a result of this forum, teaching resources were able to be purchased to support this.

Student Achievement
Statewide Tests and Examinations
The table below indicates the percentage of students who have achieved national literacy and numeracy benchmarks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basic Skills 1998 to 2007
Our school has participated in BST Literacy and Numeracy since 1998 and in BST Writing since 2001. The school monitors the BST Trend Data each year and uses that information to inform its learning and teaching practices for the upcoming year. In 2008, a national testing program will be implemented.

Staff Achievement
In 2007, staff have completed training in a number of areas including Reading Recovery, Anaphylaxis Shock training, Chemical Safety, Occupational Health & Safety, Child Protection, Workers Compensation, reporting to parents, update emergency first aid requirements, religious education syllabus construction, school website upgrading and BST Primary Writing marking.

3. School Renewal

Progress of the School Renewal Framework

School Improvement Targets
School improvement targets for 2007 were to:
- Review the English Policy for Curriculum Review in 2007, continue the development of reporting to parents, implement Values Education forum & National Safe Schools Framework, focus on student-centred teaching & learning excellence, maintain accreditation in child Protection; Harassment; Duty of Care & First Aid Update, continue ICT professional development, accommodate a CSU Internship, promote excellence in Literacy & Numeracy, BST & BST Writing Analysis for all staff, train a teacher in Reading Recovery, increase Literacy and Numeracy assessment and resources in the classroom, upgrade our school website to become interactive, celebrate the opening of the “Investing in our Schools” Program which had an expenditure of $46000, paint the library and administration block, develop a maintenance plan for 2007-2010, develop a technology upgrade plan, apply for the third round of Community Water Grant funding and begin the organisation of plans for the celebration of St Joseph’s School Centenary in 2008. All these items were completed in 2007 or have been listed for completion in the School Renewal Framework Annual Plan for 2008.

St Joseph’s School SRF 2008 Vision Statement
To provide faith development to the parish school community whilst encouraging excellence in academic learning for today’s children who are tomorrow’s adults. To nurture, love and extend each child towards achieving their full potential through Jesus Christ's love.
Mission Statements
To promote the Catholic faith among teachers, students, parents and religious.

To share responsibility with the Parish and the home for growth in the faith of each child.

To present Christ to the students as a model to be followed, and to view their own personal development in the light of Christ's own person and message.

To promote respect for the family unit within the whole school community.

To offer educational experiences that will develop each child's gifts according to needs - spiritual, emotional, physical, intellectual and social.

To provide an educational environment where leadership qualities of independence and initiative can be developed; basic skills of numeracy and literacy are taught as well as the other key learning areas as prescribed by the NSW Board of Studies; an awareness of individual differences leading to equal opportunities for intellectual development and that each child is guided towards self discipline and personal responsibility.

To foster respect and cooperation among all members of the school community.

To develop a sense of citizenship and foster an appreciation of Lockhart as a rural community both now and in the future.

To provide experiences where each child will gain an understanding and appreciation of life beyond the local area.

To engender a spirit of enquiry and encourage the search for truth.

To provide students with the latest resources available, with due regard for budgetary constraints, to research, organise, revise, publish and communicate in today's technological society.

POLICIES, CURRICULUM AND PROGRAMS
Update policies for Curriculum Review in 2008-HSIE and PDHPE
Support for developing Science & Technology policy to be reviewed in 2009
School Centenary 2008

LEADERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANISATION
School Promotion in the Community:
Catholic Education Week (Term 1 Week 10) - promotion
World Youth Day activities
Electronic Roll Marking continuation
Develop Role Descriptions and Duty Statements for Principal, REC, librarian.
CSO Support for:
* Administration training in ICT with SAS-2000 for Principal.
* SINA update training
* Child Protection; Harassment; Duty of Care & First Aid Update
* Anaphylaxis Shock update
* Workers Compensation in-service
* Principal's Attestation documentation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Teaching & Learning Professional Development as offered by the CSO
Reading Recovery Continuing Contact – Alicia
Literacy Learning & Teaching in the Classroom (LLTC) – if being offered

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES
Develop maintenance plan 2008-2011
Develop technology upgrade

4. School Overview

School Enrolment
Enrolment Policy
Enrolments are considered for all children after turning five years of age. Kindergarten enrolments are to be for the commencement of each new school year. An orientation program will be organised annually to assist in the process. No Catholic child will be refused a Catholic Education on financial grounds. Enrolments of non-Catholic children are accepted as long as there is sufficient accommodation for these children, the Parish Priest and Principal are in agreement with the enrolment, the pupil participates in all religious observances as allowed by doctrine and the proportion of non-Catholic pupils does not become so large as to affect the Catholic ethos of the school. Parents agree to the financial arrangements concerning school fees as determined at enrolment. Parents should be in agreement and sympathy with the philosophies and practices of the school before enrolment is accepted. Full details are available from the CSO’s policy which is available on the website – www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au
Student Enrolment Profile:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Indig*</th>
<th>LOTE*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Language background Other Than English

Structure of Classes

In 2007, St. Joseph’s Lockhart classes are established as a K/1, 2/3 and 4/5/6 composite groups. We operate a timetable that includes daily block teaching groups for English, Religion and Mathematics. These 3 classes are stage-based, being Early Stage 1 & Stage 1, Stage 1/Stage 2 and Stage 2/Stage 3 using Foundation Statements at each level.

Staff then specialise in the remainder of the KLA’s to deliver the mandatory learning experiences across the school week and population.

This initiative is strongly supported by the parent community. The methodology is reviewed by staff and stake holders annually.

Staff

Teacher Standards

The NSW government requires that this report detail the number of teachers in each of the following categories:

A) have teaching qualifications from a recognised higher education institution
B) have qualifications from a recognised higher education institution but no formal teacher education qualifications
C) have relevant successful teaching experience and appropriate knowledge but no formal teacher qualifications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Learning

In 2007, staff have completed training in a number of areas including Reading Recovery, Anaphylaxis Shock training, Chemical Safety, Occupational Health & Safety, Child Protection, Workers Compensation, reporting to parents, update emergency first aid requirements, religious education syllabus construction, school website upgrading and BST Primary Writing marking.

Teacher Attendance and Retention

The federal Schools Assistance Act 2005 requires that each school report on the average attendance rate of staff members in a given school. The end figure is determined by calculations including certain periods of absence due to sickness, personal carers leave, leave without pay, special leave and accident/workers compensation leave. An attendance rate of 96.4% was achieved in 2007 by staff at St Joseph’s Primary School, Lockhart.

Parent Involvement and Participation

Our focus is:

“20/20 Vision towards the Year 2020.”

Students commencing school for the first time in 2007 will continue along the pathway to Yr 12 in or about the Yr 2019. Being life-long learners, they will continue their education at University, College, TAFE or in-house within their occupation, profession or employment.

With our parents being the children’s first teachers, we encourage their participation and feedback during their child’s time at school through attendance at meetings, helping at school activities, participation in school organisations and interviews, both formal and informal.

Community Use of School Facilities

School facilities are utilised by the wider community on a needs basis. Sporting facilities such as the school oval & netball court are used for training sessions, the multi-purpose room and classrooms for meetings and the piano for externally organised music lessons.

Community Satisfaction

The school community of St Joseph’s Lockhart has in place methods for gaining perceptions, feedback and expectations. These include written surveys to all families, face to face meetings with the Student Council, School Auxiliary, the School Board and the Lockhart Parish Council members as well as interviews with specific parents.

The following information has been provided to the school. It has been a valuable gauge for determining the level of satisfaction our community has with St Joseph’s Lockhart.
Parents
My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at St Josephs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students
I am usually happy at St Josephs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>66.6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff
I am usually happy at St Josephs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acting Principal’s Report to the School Community

At St Joseph’s School, Lockhart, we consider ourselves extremely fortunate for many reasons.

We are privileged at our school to have a wonderful group of children. They are a credit to their school, they work well at their endeavours, they proudly represent our school, they continually strive to do their best and they achieve many wonderful results. We, as a school family, are very proud of them.

The staff at St Joseph’s is a fantastic mix of experience, new ideas and creativity, with everyone being committed to delivering the best possible learning and teaching activities for the children.

In 2007, the staff at St Josephs saw a need to implement a writing project to focus on specific needs in this area. This project continued across the year and all staff were pleased with the results that were achieved by the children. We will be continuing this project in 2008 with a refocus according to the children’s changing needs.

Our parent community at St Joseph’s is very supportive. We always have willing parents who are ready to attend a meeting, complete a job, help in school-based activities or join a working bee. We really appreciate their assistance and encouragement.

St Joseph’s is very fortunate to have support from many other areas. Father Howie has been very visible at our school and has been assisting the teachers with regular visits to the classroom, helping with sacramental programs as well as offering school masses.

The members of the School Board and Auxiliary who have generously volunteered their time towards assisting in the smooth running of the school have been invaluable and I thank them enormously for their efforts.

Over the past few years, our school has been fortunate enough to receive a large amount of funding, particularly from the Federal Government. In 2007 this has continued with the successful application for a Community Water Grant to the value of $36000. This will provide a tank to catch rainwater which will then be used to irrigate the oval and front gardens.

We are also receiving almost $7000 as part of a Drought Assistance Grant.

Work has also begun in 2007 on prioritising our needs for the second round of ‘Investing in Our Schools’ funding which will be received in the first half of next year.

During 2007 we were fortunate to have Sussan Ley, Member for Farrer, attend the opening ceremony of our initial ‘Investing in Our Schools’ grant which was spent on upgrading our outdoor facilities as well as adding to our technology and musical resources.

We also received $3000 from the Catholic Schools Office in Wagga as part of a Literacy/Numeracy grant which was spent on teacher time for small groups with particular needs as well as teacher resources and class readers.

Lockhart is a wonderful district and offers many opportunities for the children to share their experiences and showcase their achievements. Participating in the inaugural Southern Riverina Choral Festival was a highlight of our community participation. Other examples include the Lockhart ANZAC Day march, the annual football/netball carnival at Yerong Creek, the Rand cricket competition, Swimsafe classes at the Lockhart pool, the local ‘Spirit of the Land’ Festival and the Lockhart Show.
At St Joseph’s School, Lockhart, we are very fortunate to have a wonderful school and a great school community and I thank you for all the support you have given to me this year. We continue to wish Derek well in his recovery.

May you all have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Debbie Sheather

Financial Statement Summary

This data shown below is a summary of Diocese of Wagga School System income and expense and includes income and expense of all system schools.

The total income and expense of the school, that is included in the above, is shown below.
About This Report

This report was generated using all available information available from the school. This includes the SRF 2007 & SRF 2008, the school policies, records, weekly newsletters, surveys and reports to and from the school and wider community as well as from data supplied by the Catholic Schools Office Wagga Wagga.

The report was written by the Acting Principal, Debbie Sheather in December, 2007.

It will be presented to the Parish Council of St Mary's Lockhart, the school community of St Joseph's Primary School Lockhart with the full knowledge of the school staff and the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

A copy will be tabled at the next meeting of all stakeholder groups.