



CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS IN St JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, WAROONA**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

St Joseph's School, Waroona, along with all Catholic, Independent and Government schools in Australia, collects Student Background Data (SBD) on behalf of the Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA). Data collected are for calculating the Index of Socio Educational Advantage (SEA) model that determines schools that qualify for special assistance. Collected student background data include the following:

- the sex of your child;
- the country of birth of your child;
- Aboriginality, or other ethnicities;
- your occupation and educational qualifications (in very broad terms); and
- the main languages/dialects spoken at home by yourself and your child.

This information may have been provided by parents and guardians when the child first enrolled at (Name of School). If there were changes to your situation or the data is not accurate, please complete the attached form and return it to the school by Wednesday, 9 February.

Collected information will be confidential and used for its intended purpose only. All data is used anonymously, and no individual person or school will be identifiable and linked with the results.

Capturing languages and dialects spoken at home is important for recognising and celebrating the richness and diversity of culture of students at St Joseph's School, Waroona and to provide them with relevant support (if required) and to ensure a culturally and linguistic responsive environment and resources. It is important for the school to identify:

- students who speak another language or dialect as well as parents/guardians who speak another language or dialect at home, as this indicates that the student has a Language Background Other Than English (LBOTE). Dialects include dialects of English such as Pakistani English, Singaporean English, Ugandan English, etc.
- students who speak Aboriginal English. Aboriginal English is the name given to the various kinds of English spoken by the majority of Aboriginal students from urban, rural and remote areas of Australia and is a powerful vehicle for the expression of Aboriginal connection and identity.

We appreciate your support and cooperation to achieving this outcome through our data collection.

If you have any questions regarding the data requested, please feel free to contact us to discuss. We may be contacted through 9782 6500. For more information regarding the data collection, you may refer to the following link:

<https://www.acara.edu.au/reporting/data-standards-manual-student-background-characteristics>.

Michael O'Dwyer