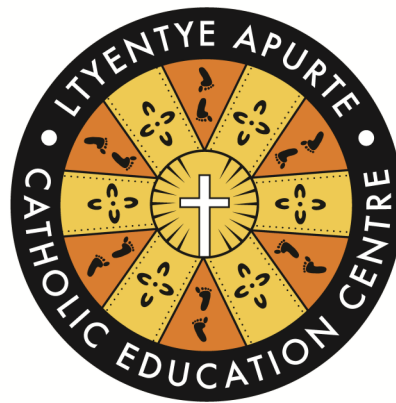


Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School

Santa Teresa



LTYENTYE APURTE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School is situated in Santa Teresa, an Aboriginal settlement of 550 people belonging to the Eastern Arrernte people. The Indigenous people speak fluent Arrernte and use English as their second language.

The community is located 80kms southeast of Alice Springs, in semi-desert country. Temperatures are extreme, ranging from -2 to 46 degrees and there is year round access via an unsealed road.

The school at Santa Teresa community was founded as a Mission in 1953 by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the OLSH Sisters. The school is now known as Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School (LACS) and is administered by the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Darwin in partnership with the Community. 'Ltyentye Apurte' means 'clump of beefwood trees' in the Arrernte language.

There is a staff of 45 at the school, 30 of whom are Indigenous. With an enrolment of 132 students from pre-school to Year 11; the school has small class sizes and features specialist facilities including a community library, manual arts, visual arts, pottery and food technology. A VET Program is also offered to senior students.

The school buildings and staff housing have been recently refurbished and the well-resourced classrooms feature interactive whiteboards and computers to support student learning.

English is the second or third language of most students at the school and the Arrernte language and cultural program is a key part of the curriculum at LACS. Teachers work as a member of a teaching team in partnership with local Indigenous people and committed Arrernte assistant teachers and tutors.



LACS offers a modified Middle School and Senior School program. The school also has high student attendance rates (82%) and a successful literacy program showing significant student progress.

With a full-time curriculum support teacher and a school/community liaison officer, LACS also offers a nutrition program providing breakfast, morning tea and lunch for students.

The school hours are 8:30am - 3:00 during the winter with two 30 minute breaks; and 8:00am - 2:30pm and 1:30-3:00 during the summer with two 30 minute breaks. On Fridays school finishes at 1.00pm in winter and 12.30pm in summer.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

- ◆ Teachers work closely with an Indigenous assistant teacher who knows and understands the students, families and their relationships
- ◆ Both teachers and assistant teachers bring a range of skills in a spirit of active and mutual participation in the teaching and learning process
- ◆ All students learn using English as a second or additional language. Teachers are provided with introductory and on-going support for teaching ESL
- ◆ Religious Education is a key priority for Indigenous people in Indigenous Catholic Community Schools
- ◆ Professional Learning is provided for teachers to deliver school designated approaches to literacy and numeracy

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- ◆ Shire office and Government Business Centre
- ◆ Doctor attending clinic 4 days per week
- ◆ Annual sports carnival, horse racing and Finke Desert Race
- ◆ Football Club
- ◆ Famous Keringke Arts Centre
- ◆ Santa Teresa is a dry community- no alcohol

For more information

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