

St. Francis Xavier School Naiyu, Daly River



St. Francis Xavier School

St Francis Xavier School was established in 1956 by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, and is located in the picturesque Daly River region of the Northern Territory, approximately 220kms SW of Darwin.

The Naiyu Community at Daly River has approximately 500 residents from 10 different language groups. The main traditional language spoken at Daly River is Ngungi Kurunggurr, with the traditional owners of the land being the Malak Malak people. Although traditional languages are still used, the dominant language spoken today is Aboriginal English.

St Francis Xavier School caters for pre-school students through to post-primary education and currently has an enrolment of 75 students. The language of instruction throughout all year levels is English. As 95% of students attending the school are Aboriginal and from a language background other than English, there is a strong emphasis on the teaching and learning of English as a second language.

The school follows the Northern Territory Curriculum Framework, in addition to providing specialised learning programs focussing on Indigenous language and culture.

A Youth Re-engagement program is also being implemented at the school, which provides alternative programs for students who had previously left school and now wish to further their education.

The school consists of 6 classrooms, a computer lab, nutrition kitchen and a well resourced library. A basketball court and under cover area have recently been built and a new culture centre takes pride of place in the school grounds.

St. Francis Xavier School has also taken part in projects of national significance, including *Growing Our Own*, *Leading Aligned Numeracy Development* and *Strong Foundations*.

The school offers a nutrition program providing breakfast, morning tea and lunch for all students.



Teaching & 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
- ‘Learning Together’ sessions are on-site meetings where staff learn and plan in a cooperative group providing opportunities to develop teaching skills and to gain or share knowledge about cross-cultural situations and the school curriculum
- 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



Community Facilities

- Church
- Well equipped store - groceries, general items
- EFTPOS and ATM facilities
- Take away shop
- Shire office
- Police station
- Post Office – agency banking facilities
- Centrelink office
- Health clinic
- Daly River Inn hotel
- Creche
- Mechanical workshop and fuel outlet
- Next G mobile and wireless internet coverage
- Television and radio coverage
- Swimming pool and sport and recreational activities program
- Boat ramp
- Arts and cultural centre
- Annual Merrepen Arts and Sports Festival
- All weather airstrip
- Sealed road from Darwin
- Excellent fishing



Teacher Benefits

- Paid removal costs and storage costs for 2 years
- Airfares for you and your family
- Vehicle delivery costs
- Salary packaging
- Special teaching allowance for all teachers and a district allowance paid to employees with dependants
- Free health care and remote tax benefits
- Free housing in a range of 1-3 bedroom furnished units and houses with most contents provided
- Free electricity, gas, water and contents insurance
- Food freight costs reimbursed
- Special study leave arrangements and access to the Study Incentives Program
- Laptop computer supplied
- 10 days sick leave and 10 days personal leave per year
- Portable long service leave
- 1 day per term for private business
- 2 FOILS per year– travel and accommodation

