In October 2015 our OSHC program was assessed by the Department of Education and Training and we can proudly say that we achieved “Exceeding” in our overall rating.

Our program offers your children many exciting and different learning opportunities and activities. Our program’s philosophy was developed in collaboration with all who are actively involved in our program; that is children, families, committee members and educators. Upon consultation with all stakeholders, it was clear that our program’s main goal was to achieve and create a ‘home away from home’ atmosphere and hence we aim to provide a welcoming and nurturing environment, which appeals to all children, families and educators.

Our qualified & dedicated educators work diligently to plan, create and implement a positive learning environment for the children. Our educators are continuously improving and extending their learning by attending professional development sessions.

As an OSHC program, we are guided by the ‘Early Years Learning Framework: My Time, Our Place’. The framework provides broad direction and guidance for school age care educators in creating settings to facilitate children’s individual interests, choices and the importance of learning through play.

Our Planning initiates from the ideas, needs, interests and curiosities of the children, families and educators of our program, while at the same time developing self-identity and social competencies. Some of the great and exciting activities we had in 2016 were science experiments, nature walks, and exploring traditions, cultures and foods from different countries, such as Mexico, Croatia and Italy, just to name a few.

We strongly encourage healthy eating, keeping fit and sustainable practices in our program. We achieve this by our Healthy Eating Amazing Race and working in collaboration with the school, being a part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation.

Homework Club is offered and encouraged on Tuesdays and Thursdays, supervised by an educator working towards Bachelor of Education. A quiet area is available at all sessions allowing children the opportunity to do their homework.
To enhance children’s learning, we also invite special visitors to the program. This helps broaden children’s knowledge of their community and world around them. Some of the visitors in the past have included Indigenous Leaders, Wheelchair sportsmen, Police Officers, Ambulance Officers, and First Aid Training for children.

At OSHC we hold a Mother’s Day, Father’s Day/special person’s dinner and our very exciting and fun Family Christmas Party, which is held in November. The OSHC community enjoys coming together to celebrate these special occasions. At OSHC we celebrate children’s birthdays to enhance a sense of belonging and self-identities. The Children’s Committee is very significant as this allows the children to have more of a chance to help us plan for learning experiences and fun activities. We value their opinion and ideas highly and greatly appreciate their participation.

At our service we provide both a nutritional breakfast and afternoon tea daily. The program is run in the hall and parents are required to sign children into and out of the program. Children are dismissed to their classrooms at 8.40am and Prep children are accompanied by an educator to and from their classrooms during term 1, 2 and 3 to ensure that they remain confident and feel safe enough to become familiar with their new surroundings. This helps the children to develop a sense of security within our program. In Term 4 we allow the preps to gradually learn their way to and from class.

We also operate on pupil free days from 6.40am to 6pm. This includes Breakfast and snacks. Parents must provide lunch. Fun activities are always planned for the day.

On Early dismissal days the program operates from 1pm to 6pm. We include a special lunch and fun activities for the children to enjoy, for example a disco, a magician or jumping castles.

In response to the needs of our school community we are excited to announce that our OSHC program has now extended to run a Vacation Care Program. We offer a fun filled and exciting school holiday program, available to all our children at St Francis of Assisi. A fully accredited vacation care program will be running first, second and third school term holidays and the last
week prior to children commencing the new school year. This program will operate from 6.40am to 6.00pm.

Finally, our Service would not survive without the unwavering endorsement and nurturing hand of our school’s leadership body consisting of; Parish Priest Father Anthony, our school Principal Mark Basile, our Deputy Principal Grace Lucic, the school nurse Helen Donegan, and all the staff and teachers at St Francis of Assisi.