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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Welcome to Allora P-10 State School. Our school prides itself on being a safe, engaging and rewarding educational facility where our students can learn and grow in a caring and supportive environment. To parents – I invite you to become actively involved in your child's education. This can be achieved through participation in our Parents and Citizens' Association, various parent and student activities or as a classroom helper. Our school tuckshop also welcomes your assistance.

We have high expectations in our facilities and programs; in ourselves as educators and most importantly in our students. At Allora P-10 State School, we unashamedly set high standards for our students. This ranges from academic study to participation in sport and the performing arts, to citizenship, conduct and dress code.

Our school motto: "*Always Our Best*" emphasizes the importance we place in participating and achieving to the best of our ability in all facets of school life. In our school our students are always commended for 'having a go' and striving to find the best in themselves.

To ensure our school remains a supportive and positive environment a high level of conduct is expected from our staff and our students at all times. Our school community is made aware of The Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and The Rights and Responsibilities of all members of our community. Our Current Responsible Behaviour Plan For Students is inline with Education Queensland Policy and ensures that our students are striving for their best in behaviour and achievement.

Like the majority of state schools across Queensland, we have adopted a Student Dress Code which means that it is an expectation of students to wear the full school uniform as specified in the Student Dress Code information sheet.

We are a school community proud of our heritage and traditions whilst looking forward to ensuring our students are equipped with skills for life long learning and contributing. Our curriculum, rich in innovation and creativity, reflects the dedication and commitment to this blend of respecting our past and looking forward to our future.

As a team we will be working hard with your children to help them reach their fullest potential during their time at Allora State School Prep –Year 10 Campus.

Future outlook

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS (2009-2011)

- To maximise results for all students
- To ensure seamless transitions for students at key educational junctures
- To upgrade and maintain facilities meeting educational & safety standards
- To continue effective links with the school's community, like-schools, Warwick SHS, QSA and business partners
- To progress our focus on Literacy aligning this with EQ'S Literacy Framework in addressing our school's NAPLAN Action Plan.
- To progress ICTS throughout the school in line with EQ'S ICTS for Learning Strategy
- Maintain focus on Middle Phase of Learning Strategy and progress Curriculum Pathways and QCAR
- Progress the management of student behaviour in our quest to maintain a happy and safe learning / working environment
- Action our Workforce Plan which aligns itself to the learning directions of the school
- To promote a healthy lifestyle by encouraging all students to play at least one sport and eat healthily

2009 PRIORITIES:

- Progress focus on Literacy Framework
- Continue focus on QCARF and Essential Learning and Standards
- Address our school's NAPLAN Action Plan.
- Review behaviour management practices.
- One School & MOE (develop competence)
- ICTS (Smart Classrooms initiatives)
- Smart Moves (Sporting Excellence School)
- Introduce Asian Studies initiatives through Intercultural Investigations (ICIS)
- Promote Green and Healthy School initiatives

Our school at a glance

School Profile

- Allora P-10 SS is situated in the Warwick Shire, just off the New England Highway between Warwick and Toowoomba. Our school provides an exceptional educational program to students from the town and surrounding rural area.
- Total student enrolments: 228
- Year levels offered: Prep – Year 10
- Coeducational

Curriculum offerings

We have established a distinguished modules-based curriculum '**Pathways to Success**' for Years 6 to 10 focusing on student engagement in the middle years. Modules offered include interest based subjects (agriculture – 'Grow Your Own', The Arts – 'Lights, Cameras, Action'), cross curricular 'School Musical - Henry' and Vocational Education ('Pathways to Success' which focuses on SET Planning & Senior Phase). This is achieved through partnerships with businesses and TAFE). Throughout the campus, we've prioritised Literacy, Numeracy and ICTS as key learning areas.

Our students engage in ICTS in every part of their curriculum. Computers are not taught as a subject as such, but are an integral part in every aspect of the teaching and learning process. Computers are used in classrooms as a research and communication tool (Internet and Email), to publish work (Microsoft Word and PowerPoint), to design work (Graphics, Art), to plan curriculum pathways (Student's Bank of Learning Credits / Majors), and to track progress (academic, behavioural).

Extra-curricular activities offered at our school range from additional instrumental music programs (IMP) in guitar and piano to complement Education Queensland's IMP, to a broad range of sporting opportunities including participation in the "Bronco's Coca Cola Cup" for Football and Netball. We also combined KLAS into our school musicals integrating a range of curriculum areas (Art, Drama, Music, Catering and Manual Arts). In 2009, students will have the opportunity to be part of a school choir and experience Fanfare as one of their first public performances.

Computers are used for whole-of-class activities, group activities and individual access through two well equipped computer rooms, in individual classrooms and those in the Library. However, technology encompasses more than computers. At Allora SS ICTS are embedded in the curriculum and used for online learning , research and publishing.

Social climate

The social climate of the school is supported through a variety of initiatives including a Student Support Committee, Student Council, Chaplaincy Committee and Chaplain, two part time Special Needs Teachers, Modified and Individual Education Programs to support student learning and engagement, Social engagements throughout the school calendar year including annual excursions and school community celebrations / ceremonies.

Our school at a glance

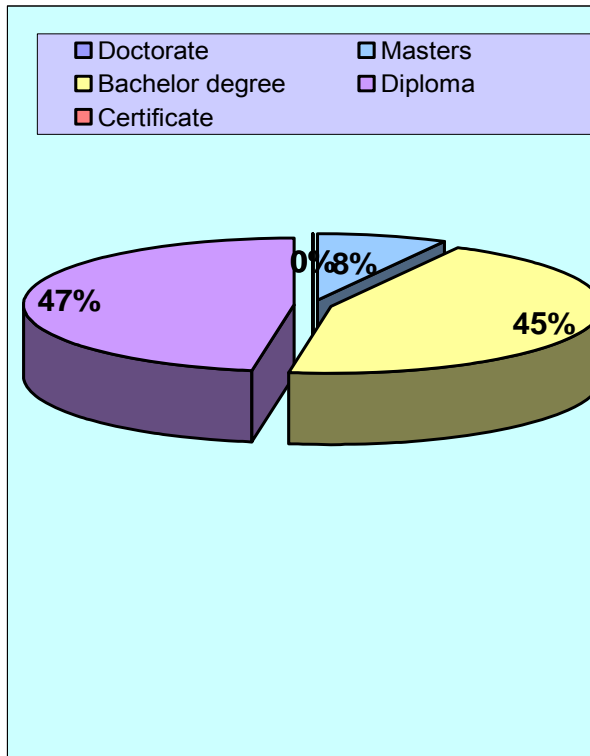
Involving parents in their child's education

Our parents and wider community actively participates in the life of the school through our Parents and Citizens Association, Religious Education, classroom helpers and voluntary tutoring in reading. Our school actively participates in the community by staging musical and theatrical performances, supporting established community events and providing resources for local events. Individual teachers host back to school evenings, whereby they invite the students and their parents to dinner at school and then showcase the work occurring in and outside their classrooms.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

| Highest level of attainment | Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Doctorate | 0 |
| Masters | 3 |
| Bachelor degree | 17 |
| Diploma | 18 |
| Certificate | 0 |



Additional reporting (e.g. names and qualifications of individual teachers or staff) is at the school's discretion.

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$23,840.00
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - First aid and Resuscitation
 - QCAR – Assessment Immersion
 - Functional Grammar
 - ICT Pedagogical Licence
 - Self / Stress Management
 - Sports' Coaching Certificates
 - Subject specific QSA modules
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 100%

Our staff profile

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2007 school year, 100 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 93 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

| Domain | Measures | | Yr 3 | Yr 5 | Yr 7 | Yr 9 |
|-------------------------|--|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Reading | Average score for the school | | 367 | 452 | 509 | 581 |
| | Average score for Queensland | | 371.1 | 466.1 | 528.1 | 568.2 |
| | For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. | 2008 | 89 % | 82 % | 96 % | 100 % |
| Writing | Average score for the school | | 343 | 463 | 502 | 542 |
| | Average score for Queensland | | 391.8 | 468.9 | 522.7 | 555.3 |
| | For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. | 2008 | 78 % | 83 % | 96 % | 92 % |
| Spelling | Average score for the school | | 342 | 462 | 500 | 554 |
| | Average score for Queensland | | 366.7 | 462.0 | 528.0 | 567.8 |
| | For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. | 2008 | 79 % | 90 % | 96 % | 96 % |
| Grammar and Punctuation | Average score for the school | | 363 | 459 | 510 | 573 |
| | Average score for Queensland | | 370.4 | 476.6 | 518.0 | 563.2 |
| | For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. | 2008 | 95 % | 83 % | 92 % | 92 % |
| Numeracy | Average score for the school | | 341 | 454 | 511 | 580 |
| | Average score for Queensland | | 367.9 | 458.2 | 539.0 | 570.7 |
| | For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. | 2008 | 84 % | 86 % | 92 % | 100 % |

Performance of our students

| Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| | Percentage of students not requiring additional support |
| Reading | 91% |
| Writing | 87% |
| Number | 91% |

Value added

Our school prides itself on providing a distinctive approach to sport. Our students are exposed to a wide variety of sporting opportunities and supported through coaching and organised lunchtime activities. In 2009, our students both primary and secondary age, successfully competed in the district Broncos' Cup Inter-School Competition for Rugby League and Netball. We also had a number of students represent our school, district, region and state in their chosen sport.

Many of our students entered the National English, Mathematics and Science Competitions organised by the University of NSW. Of the 20 students who participated in the English Competition, 2 received Distinctions and 8 received Credits. Of the 33 students who participated in the Mathematics Competition, 6 received Distinctions and 14 received Credits. Of the 28 students who participated in the Science Competition, 1 received a High Distinction, 2 received a Distinction and 10 received Credits. In 2009, we will involve Year 5 to 7 students with above average abilities in Mathematics in the Maths Olympiad. This will provide an extra opportunity to extend students in this area.

In 2008, the school became part of the Asia Education Foundation's Leading 21st Century Schools: Engage with Asia Project. Here we investigated imbedding Asian perspectives into our curriculum to enhance our students becoming Asia literate and futures orientated.

Performance of our students

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

School Opinion Survey Results (2007) show high levels of satisfaction amongst our parents and students. For example:

92.2% of students were satisfied that **Allora SS is a “good school”**.

86.8% of students were satisfied that they were **safe at Allora SS**.

97.4% of students stated that they were **getting a good education at Allora SS**.

93.3% of parents/caregivers were satisfied to very satisfied that **Allora SS is a good school**, which is a significant increase to previous years!

93.3% of parents stated that their child was getting a **good education at this school**.

86.6% of parents were satisfied to very satisfied, that their children were **happy to go to Allora SS**.

96.8% of staff maintains that **staff and community relations are good** in this school.

100% of staff states that this school is a good place in which to work!

96.8% of staff claims that there is a **good team spirit** amongst the staff at this school.

100% of staff stated that they have good access to quality professional development.

As evidenced from the above sample of the School Opinion Survey, 2008 was a very positive year for our school community and exceeded the targeted performance indicators for Destination 2010.

We pride ourselves on working closely with our students, their parents and with each other, to gain the best possible outcome for every student enrolled in our school. **“Always our Best!”**