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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Windaroo State School has had a very successful year with outstanding results across the school as demonstrated in our data from Students Parents and Staff.

Our academic results are pleasing, but we are focused on improvement for all students across the school.

We have made major achievements in facilities improvements this year which have been planned to contribute to the positive image of school for children and have made a real difference for the whole community. The completion of the main covered area extension has been a major achievement.

The installation of water tanks and irrigation to our ovals has ensured a safe active play space for children.

Our Prep enrolment is very strong with 100 students enrolled in our school for 2008. The creation of our early years precinct and training of additional Prep teachers has been very successful.

We have a positive happy and family orientated school. We believe we are a school family with strong values and our continued focus will be on improvement for our children.

Future outlook

Windaroo State School will continue to focus on the implementation of the Literacy Review 2007 and the new Math Syllabus and teaching approaches that our work with Natural Maths has strengthened. While excellent results have been achieved across curriculum areas a continued focus on Literacy and Numeracy is central to student outcomes.

Our outstanding science program continues to grow and provides quality science education.

Our major curriculum focus areas continue to be:

- Technology
- ICT
- Literacy and numeracy
- Science
- Healthy and active children

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Windaroo State School is a coeducational Band 10 Primary School, opened in January 1992, incorporating Education Queensland's latest rendition of its P.S. 88 design. A range of modular relocatable buildings subsequently appeared in response to rapid enrolments. Existing building styles allow for individual and team teaching activities, which focus on a raft of effective learning and teaching practices targeted to meet student need.

Our school offers a curriculum from Prep to year seven.

A Special Education Program also operates in the school to support students with low incident support needs.

Our enrolment has reduced with the introduction of the Prep year. In 2008, 100 students commenced Prep and have exceeded our expectations with excellent outcomes and participation. Our new Prep facilities' have been excellent and the focus on developing an early years continuity plan has enhanced this transition.

Our current enrolment consists of 869 primary students.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Windaroo State School provides a curriculum across the Eight KLA with an emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy. In addition our offerings include;

- Extensive sports program
- Boys and Girls pedagogical teaching to cater for learning styles.
- Science specialist program from Prep to year five.
- Innovative links to Windaroo Valley State High School with technology and environmental science.
- Options programs in the middle years including activities such as; Golf, archery, cooking, mural painting...
- Computers and ICT's are an integral part of our school curriculum with all classes having access to our network and regular use of our whole school computer lab. Technology is updated yearly and innovative technology is part of all school curriculum.

Extra curricula activities

- Extensive sports programs exist for a range of disciplines to enable students to develop skills and work as part of a team. This often including outside school hours training.
- An excellent instrumental music program offers students the ability to enhance their musical skills and knowledge.
- Student Leadership Programs such as Big Buddies offers student leaders the chance to formally train and practice their leadership skills with younger students.

How computers are used to assist learning

Computers are used in all classes and grades to improve students ICT learning and knowledge. The ICT teacher and HOC work directly with classes and teachers to enhance skills and best practice knowledge and practice.

A computer lab provide the opportunity to work with whole class groups and the interactive whiteboard and portable version enable teachers to use current best practice hardware to enhance learning.

A number of classes had interactive whiteboards installed this year and have modelled their use for other classes. The installation in the Library and Computer Lab has further made access possible for the whole school.

Our school at a glance

Social climate

Windaroo State School has a warm and positive school climate. Our belief in our school family, strong values and an extensive pastoral care program has assisted in the maintenance of this climate. Programs such as Big Buddies, Student Council and peer tutoring programs have been highly successful.

Our School Surveys indicate that 91% of students believed that they were getting a good education at Windaroo State School. This was supported by parents and caregivers with 79% believing that they are getting good educations at Windaroo State School.

When asked if they felt this was a good school 95% of parents agreed.

The Triennial school review focus on behaviour management by staff, students and parents endorsed current programs as effective and identified additional rewards to further embrace the positive tone of the school. The introduction of values wrist bands has further enhanced our school tone and climate and focuses students on our school values.

Involving parents in their child's education.

As a school family we seek many opportunities for parents and caregivers to be involved in school life.

A major feature is the regular sharing of culminating activities for units of work with parents and caregivers. Weekly parades are well attended as are our interschool sports games and athletics carnivals.

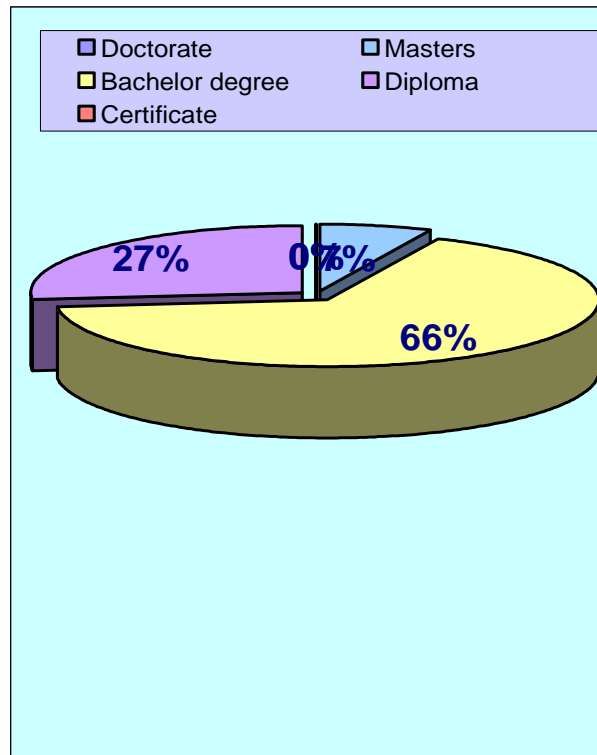
Formal processes such as P&C and our school Council enable parental involvement in the formal decision making of the school and have been highly successful.

Our Opinion Survey indicated that 95 % of parents surveyed believed that this was a good school.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	2
Bachelor degree	20
Diploma	8
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$22,702.32 The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Literacy and Numeracy
 - Natural Math and mentoring with Anne Baker
 - Crossing Cultures
 - Literacy Training for Teacher Aides and Early Years teachers
- The involvement of the teaching staff in formal professional development activities during 2008 was 92%
- All staff participated in Pupil free day professional development and training. In addition staff attending outside school activities shared and reported their learning at school. The Head of Curriculum had a significant role in training and development with staff.

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, 98 % 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 95 %.

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
Reading	Average score for the school		374 Result	463 Result	515 Result
	Average score for Queensland		371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	87 % Result	86 % Result	92 % Result
Writing	Average score for the school		408 Result	460 Result	504 Result
	Average score for Queensland		391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	91 % Result	88 % Result	89 % Result
Spelling	Average score for the school		366.7 Result	462 Result	528 Result
	Average score for Queensland		366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	90 % Result	88 % Result	83 % Result
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		370.4 Result	476.6 Result	518 Result
	Average score for Queensland		370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	89 % Result	90 % Result	90 % Result
Numeracy	Average score for the school		370 Result	441 Result	524 Result
	Average score for Queensland		367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	91 % Result	90 % Result	94 % Result

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

Performance of our students

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	81 Result (%)
Writing	86 Result (%)
Number	90 Result (%)

Value added

Our school adds significant value to the lives of our students academically and socially. Major initiatives in our school support the positive learning climate. These include

- Big Buddies
- Student Council and leadership programs
- Option programs in the middle years
- Instrumental Music
- Imaginative Play programs
- Chaplaincy
- Rewards Room
- Sporting Programs- extensive support for a wide range of sports.
- Values Program
- Extension Math Program
- Technology
- Attractive school grounds and facilities.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Our school has a very strong community support and is seen as a desired school for local families. Many families outside of our school catchments wish to enrol in our school. An enrolment management plan gives priority to Windaroo families and a waiting list operates when there is insufficient capacity.

Parent support in the school is very supportive with many parents regular volunteers in the school. Weekly assemblies are also well attended by the community and class presentations provide the opportunities for students to share their work and talents. 95 % of parents indicated that they think this is a good school.

Student and staff relationships are very positive and our teachers go well beyond what is expected to make our school a special place for students. 91% of students indicated that they think they are getting a good education at Windaroo State School.

We have a very active and supportive staff who work to take on new professional development opportunities to improve student outcomes. 91% of staff indicated they were satisfied with access to professional development. 87% of staff indicated that they were satisfied with staff morale. Our very low staff turnover is a strong indication of the high performance of Windaroo State School staff.