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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Welcome to Garbutt State School's Annual School Report for 2008 to parents/caregivers and the school community.

This report covers the key focus areas of Learning, Schools and Workforce and gives a clear indication of our successes and areas of improvement for 2009.

Future outlook

Garbutt State School underwent a Triennial School Review in 2008. A thorough evaluation of our key focus areas of Learning, Schools and Workforce was carried out during this process.

Strategic Directions 2009 to 2011 will be:

Learning – A whole school approach to the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy within an inclusive curriculum to improve learning outcomes for all students.

Student Services – An individual case-managed approach to student services capitalising on available resources.

Community – To further develop the Smart & Strong ethos within the Garbutt State School Community.

Workforce – Align the Garbutt State School ethos of being "Smart and Strong" with staff capacity and wellbeing.

BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED STRATEGY – EQ Initiative 2009 to 2011

SCHOOLWIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT – Implementation 2009 to 2011

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school: 133

Year levels offered: Prep – Year 7

Coeducational

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Organisation of Core Curriculum

We endeavour to ensure that every student reaches his or her potential in intellectual, physical, social, emotional and moral development.

Literacy and Numeracy are the main focus areas and that Prep and Primary School provides the fundamental building blocks upon which Life-long Learning is constructed.

From 1999 to 2001 Garbutt State School received three National Awards from the Federal Government in recognition of the excellence in teaching of literacy.

Our curriculum is based on the syllabus documents provided by Education Queensland focused on our values of identity, self-concept and informed by our comprehensive knowledge of the individual needs and interest of each student and the school community.

Key Learning Areas include:

- English
- Mathematics
- SOSE
- Science
- Health & Physical Education
- LOTE German Years 5 to 7
- The Arts
- Technology

The emphasis given to each curriculum area is relative to the age, abilities and prior learning of the students. Teacher planning uses outcomes from the Key Learning Areas to create integrated units of work. Information Technology, Literacy and Culture permeate across all year levels. Drug Education is included in integrated units of work through the use of Health and Physical Education outcomes. Students are involved in sport at school and at interschool level.

The work of students is regularly assessed and the achievements of students reported to parents who are encouraged to be active in the school and informed about classroom initiatives.

Intervention programs are in place to support students identified from the Diagnostic Net process and the Year 3 and 5 Tests. Students identified as needing intervention in the early years are provided with support when necessary. The Support Teacher - Learning Difficulties assists with the learning needs of other students requiring intervention. In-school tutoring is also available through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tutorial Assistance Program for identified students.

A well-established Cultural Studies Program has operated within the school since 1997 funded through the Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives Program. This program has seen changes since 2004 and now a resource person is available to assist teachers with embedding cultural studies in their unit planning.

Community cultural events like NAIDOC Day, Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week attract community participation and are significant events in our calendar year.

A scholarship funded by Queensland Airports Limited, exists for 1 graduating year 7 student each year attending high school.

Productive Pedagogies

Garbutt State School has a high degree of success in implementing pedagogies of recognition of difference, supportive classroom environment and connectedness. The area of professional development and implementation, focus on the area of intellectual quality while at the same time continuing and improving on our successes in the other areas.

Assessment

In order to ensure effective assessment practices Garbutt State School's whole school approach means that teachers:

- plan for assessment at all stages of curriculum planning and implementation
- provide clear information to students and parents about how assessment and reporting will occur in school;
- ensure that students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they know, understand, and can do, in a variety of ways:
- engage students in authentic assessment
- focus on Criteria Based Assessment

Teachers then determine how well students are achieving in relation to the eight Key Learning Areas. Key learning outcomes and core learning outcomes from strands are the basis of assessment. Assessment processes incorporate diagnostic, formative and summative across the eight Key Learning Areas.

Reporting

The school's reporting practices are planned and reviewed in consultation with the school community. Reporting reflects on the needs of individual students and takes a variety of formats and purposes depending on the performance or achievement being reported including:

- Oral
- Electronic
- Written

Teachers report to parents orally in Term 1 and formally using the state-wide report card at the end of each semester. This also incorporates reporting regarding the Diagnostic Net in Years 1, 2 and 3. QCAT in Science was moderated and reported for students in Year 6.

Extra curricula activities

- Garbutt Bombers AFL Club
- Garbutt State School Leaders camp for Years 6 & 7 students
- QCWA Country of Study Prep to Year 7
- Artist in residence projects
- Townsville Airport's Scholarship to the value of \$1000 for each year of High School
- Ngarku Undanu Dancers

Our school at a glance

How computers are used to assist learning and teaching

Computers are an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Teachers use computers for planning units of work, record-keeping, as a teaching-learning strategy and accessing school and Education Queensland documents.

Teachers have also received a personal laptop from Education Queensland as part of the Smart Classrooms strategy.

Students use computers to access the library catalogue, using learning software, word processing, power point demonstrations, the internet and emailing.

Social climate

Supportive School Environment & Behaviour Management Program

Garbutt State School's Supportive School Environment and Behaviour Management Program are based on the School's Mission Statement "To foster Honesty, Learning, Consideration and Fun" with rights, responsibilities and consequences.

Code of Behaviour: THE 5C'S

- Be Courteous
- Be Caring
- Use Common Sense
- Be Co-operative
- Show Consideration

These rules are for students, parents/ caregivers, staff and visitors to Garbutt State School.

Key Elements of this program include:

- SMART & STRONG
- A shared responsibility for all students, parents/caregivers, staff and visitors.
- Support for students, parents/ caregivers and staff
- Values Education/ Peer Support Program
- School Leaders & Trainee Leaders Program for Year 6&7 students
- Skilling of staff
- Resilience and wellbeing of students and staff
- Parent Liaison Officers are available to access all families on a needs basis.
- Celebration of achievements
- Adopt-A-Cop Program
- Reflective Quiet Room

Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child's education.

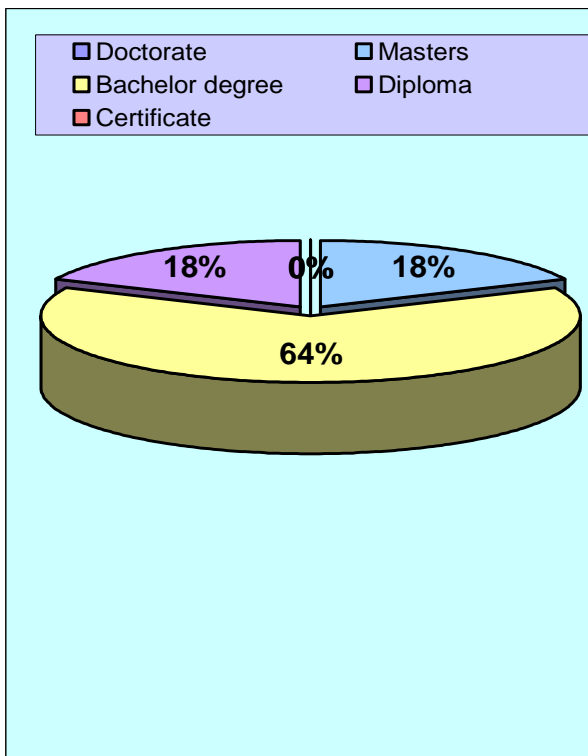
Well established partnerships exist between Garbutt State School and Parents:

- Garbutt State School Training Programs for parents and volunteers – Support A Reader Program
- Parent Liaison Officer Program
- Parent Room Program
- Parents are encouraged to participate in class and school excursions e.g. PSPI Programs
- Volunteers at school program
- Cultural and school events e.g. Meet & Greet, Family Disco's and BBQ's
- P & C Association
- Books In Homes Program sponsored by Xstrata Copper Pty Ltd

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	7
Diploma	2
Certificate	0



Our staff profile

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$10 000.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Literacy Training - Prep to 3
- First Steps Maths - Number
- Numeracy Project
- Differentiation Project
- Science Connections Project
- OneSchool Training
- Believe Achieve Succeed Project

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 90%.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% 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 88%.

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	273 Result	409 Result	434 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 44 % Result	71 % Result	50 % Result
Writing	Average score for the school	298 Result	410 Result	452 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 68 % Result	70 % Result	67 % Result
Spelling	Average score for the school	295 Result	405 Result	437 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 72 % Result	65 % Result	59 % Result
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	281 Result	390 Result	430 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 72 % Result	55 % Result	65 % Result
Numeracy	Average score for the school	315 Result	382 Result	464 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 88 % Result	52 % Result	81 % Result

Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	Result 46 %
Writing	Result 54 %
Number	Result 8 %

Value added

Corporate Data Warehouse, Individual Student Performance Summary Statements for 2008 Year 7 students indicate that the majority of students have made considerable progress in both Literacy & Numeracy over their Primary School years.

This data measures performance from Year 3, 5 and 7 Tests in relation to National Benchmarks and State Means.

This growth is attributed to a range of programs offered at Garbutt State School:

Students with Disabilities:

- Individual Education Plans

- Cluster Special Education Class Programs

Students with Learning Difficulties:

- Individual Learning Plans

Students In Care of The Department of Child Safety

- Individual Support Plans

Students identified in the Year 2 Net

- Individual Intervention Programs in Literacy & Numeracy

Students identified in Year 5 Test

- Individual Intervention Programs in Literacy & Numeracy

- Upper Primary Literacy Program

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Students:

- In-school Tuition Program for students in Year 4, 6 & 7

- English as a Second Language Programs for identified students in Year 1

- RIS Tuition for students from remote communities moving to urban areas

Gifted & Talented Programs & Extension Programs

- Identified students in all classes

Performance of our students

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parents - Result 90 % (target 84 %) – This is above the state mean & like school grouping

Students - Result 91 % (target 94 %) - This is above the state mean & like school grouping

Teachers - Result 90 % (target 100 %) - This is above the state mean & like school grouping

This information is gathered from the School Opinion Surveys conducted in 2008 and is available through the Corporate Data Warehouse, Education Queensland.