


QUEENSLAND STATE SCHOOL REPORTING - 2010

Grantham State School (1051)

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

At Grantham State School we aim to provide high quality education which meets the diverse needs of our student population, through the development of social, emotional, physical and intellectual understandings. Our purpose continues to be to provide a safe and supportive environment. We have an underlying belief that all children can achieve well and we work towards empowering them to become useful members of their community in the future.

The following report, therefore, contains generic school information as well as specific information relating to the achievement of our student cohort as well as staff profiles.

Our focus at Grantham State School is on "Learning Innovation in Supportive Classroom Environments". 2011 we are strong, proud and resilient.

School progress towards its goals in 2010

Grantham State School has made significant progress towards meeting the goals set in 2010. The work put in during 2010 has resulted in significant changes for the school in 2011.

- National School Pride – Enclosure of Early Years Veranda completed in May 2010. This included a new wet area, enclosure of the veranda, secure locks and doors on each end, and painting of internal and external walls on the veranda. School grant included the building of a sandstone retaining wall around the sand pit to ensure safe access to the sand pit area.
- National Solar Schools Grant- solar power to school to decrease cost of electricity consumption across the school. Electrical upgrade May 2010 allowed new power grid to be utilised across the school.
- Bus Run successfully started in January 2010.
- NAPLAN individual improvement plans for children in Years 4 and 6.
- Through marketing of school and implementation of bus run student enrolments have risen to 72 resulting in an additional teacher being allocated to the school. The Grantham State School is on target for a fourth teacher in 2012.

Future outlook

Grantham State School provides educational services to students within the township of Grantham and surrounding areas. The school offers a multi-age learning environment. It consists of three class offerings- Prep/1, Year 2/3/4 and Year 5/6/7. In 2012 our numbers are predicted to increase to a fourth classroom teacher. Curriculum is developed according to the needs of the individual learners and incorporates real-life experiences. The school aims to prepare students to be life-long learners and problem solvers. Specialist teachers provide Music, Physical Education, LOTE (German) and The Arts.

Key strategic directions 2010 and beyond:-

Implement Smart Classroom Strategies - Improve student access to digital technology. In 2011 the school has purchased 10 additional desktop computers and 6 laptops. The school has also strategically incorporated wireless technology in all classrooms to enable a wireless learning environment across the whole campus.

Local context priorities for 2011:

- Improving student access to literacy and numeracy resources across the school. Our aim is to focus on improving literacy and numeracy standards across the school. We do this by employing specialist staff to work with children on individual improvement plans developed by class teachers, AVT specialists, GO, Speech and BST teachers. A whole school NAPLAN strategy is in place to improve literacy and numeracy results across the school for children above, below and at national benchmarks. We focus on every child at every band.
- Purchase hands on Mathematics, Science and English teaching materials to be used in classrooms across the school to engage and excite students about learning in these key learning areas. Develop and implement Reading Program for the whole school.
- Engage students and staff in working digitally across the curriculum – focusing primarily on English, Science and Mathematics. Provide enrichment for high achievers & implement the Grantham State School Gifted and Talented policy.
- Investigate options for enclosing and furnishing our new drama facility in 2012 and beyond. Investigate options for creating a mural/ artwork around our new building.
- Establish numbers on bus run from Placid Hills and Helidon.
- Building the Education Revolution (BER) Grant - Construction completed on the Library that was funded through the Federal Government. Purchase of furniture and equipment within the BER grant for use within building was purchased to enhance learning.
- National Solar Schools Grant - solar power to school to decrease cost of electricity consumption across the school. Electrical upgrade May 2010 allowed new power grid to be utilised across the school.
- Website renewal to improve the school site including weekly updates, newsletters and curriculum integration.
- Continue to market the school through newsletters, school sign, brochures, a school handbook, open nights, and parent information nights. Our school is a fantastic place with dedicated staff and students. All relevant information is updated regularly on our website.
- Implement school EATSIPS Plan.
- Achieve Student Attendance Targets- certificates for students at the end of each term.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

- Coeducational or single sex: 71
- Year levels offered: Prep- Year 7
- Total student enrolments for this school:

Total Enrolment	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2010 – Nov 2010)
71	38	33	70%

Characteristics of the student body:

We currently have three coeducational multi-age classes- Prep/1, 2/3/4, and 5/6/7. Our numbers have been increasing every year with a predicted fourth classroom teacher in 2012.

The program offered in Prep/1 is designed to provide the best possible learning opportunities for all children in the group. The staff support play-based learning and real-life learning experiences. It is our aim to support the children as they progress in all areas of their development as individual members of our school and the wider community. Parents who wish to place their child/ren on the Prep waiting list for future years may do so by contacting the school.

Our Year 2/3/4 class has small numbers to ensure that we can focus on each child as an individual, and focus on developing essential literacy and numeracy skills through the middle years of primary school.

Our Upper Years class is comprised of children from Year 5 to Year 7. Children in our Upper Years class have great opportunities to develop their leadership skills as they work towards becoming school leaders in Year 7.

Class sizes – Proportion of school classes achieving class size targets in 2010

Phase	Average Class Size	Percentage of classes in the school			
		On or under target	Under Target	On Target	Over Target
Prep – Year 3	21	100%	100%	0%	0%
Year 4 – Year 10	17	100%	100%	0%	0%
All Classes	20	100%	100%	0%	0%

Our school at a glance

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	2
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0
Exclusions	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Specialists - The Arts (drama, dance, media), Physical Education, Music, Choir, Piano & Instrumental Music and LOTE- German.
- Sporting competitions between Caffey District Lockyer Small Schools.
- Smart Classroom Strategies to integrate ICT's. Interactive whiteboards in all classrooms. Wireless technology in all buildings. Great ratio of computers to students.
- Excursions connected to Key Learning Areas and curriculum programs.
- Tallebudgera School Camp for students in Years 6 & 7.
- School Socials / discos each term.
- Year 7 School leaders participate in a range of leadership activities.
- Comprehensive digital technology program including Wii, interactive whiteboards, digital microscope, digital video , still camera and scanners. We have an ICT club that runs each week at lunch time.

Extra curricula activities

- Term 1 and 4 Swimming Program for all students.
- Project Club - Upper Years.
- Arts Council performances.
- Anzac Day March.
- Remembrance Day Ceremony.
- Lockyer Districts Under 8's Day – Grantham State School Coordinates.
- Year 7 Graduation evening.
- Open night highlighting student achievement and incorporating drama performances.
- Excursions.
- Transition Programs with Lockyer Districts High School.
- Weekly Choir.
- Gardening Club.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Our students gain access to computer and other digital technology on a regular basis. The school has colour printing facilities which students can access. The school has purchased interactive whiteboards to use within each of our classrooms. In 2010 the school focused on utilising our current resources by purchasing a Wii

Our school at a glance

and software to use on our interactive whiteboards. We also use our interactive whiteboards to access Austar and educational programs offered free to educational institutions. In 2011 the school has purchased 1 networked printer, 10 new desktop computers and 6 laptops. In 2011 the school overhauled the wireless network purchasing 5 new access points. Previously the school only had one access point, this is a significant improvement. The school constantly upgrades the software for children to use within the classroom. In 2010 the school purchased Rainforest Maths to be used across all year levels to improve numeracy resources across the school. Children have excellent access to ICT's at Grantham State School.

Currently the school has a comprehensive ICT program that is integral to children's learning. Staff at the school are specially trained, with classroom teachers attaining their ICT Pedagogical Licence or working towards their ICT Certificate. Students have access to computers in their classrooms. The school also runs an ICT club at lunchtime for those children who are interested in learning new skills with ICT's. Classroom teachers also use the ICT equipment as a reward system for exemplary student behaviour.

Social climate

Grantham is a small school and, as such, is able to foster a climate of cooperation between school and home. Members of our education community are supportive of our initiatives and our P&C Association works closely with staff members in order to provide for the needs of our student body. A feeling of mutual respect exists between home and school.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The results of the 2010 School Opinion Survey indicate that parents and students are generally very satisfied with the education of the students at Grantham State School. The staff members are all very satisfied with their involvement in the school.

Performance measure	Result 2010
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school	71%
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school	67%
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child's school	76%
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives	90%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school	100%

Involving parents in their child's education.

At Grantham we value parental involvement in their child's education. The following strategies are employed in order to keep that involvement alive:

- Phone calls to inform parents of positive and/or negative events in their child's education.
- Items in the newsletter recognising students of the week, student achievement in academic, artistic

Our school at a glance

- and sporting challenges and Behaviour Management levels.
- Invitations issued for parents to join classes on excursions, to help as volunteers in the classroom or to attend special events, i.e. Under 8's Day, Arts Council performances, Drama presentations and Sports days.
- Letters and certificates sent home to parents in recognition of student achievement or involvement in school based activities.
- Letters sent home requesting parental support for students making inappropriate choices.

Parent involvement through P&C fund raising activities.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

During 2010, Grantham State School students participated in a number of environmental projects in helping to reduce our environmental footprint. Projects included:

- Planting native trees and plants to offset carbon.
- Greening Australia – planting native plants/trees and attaching breeding boxes.
- Recycling – cardboard, paper, food scraps for composting, targeted litter less lunch breaks.
- Reducing electricity output through fitting solar roof panels.
- Changing to energy saving light bulbs.
- Fortnightly water audits - town water usage.
- Installation of additional rainwater tanks to new school BER Library.

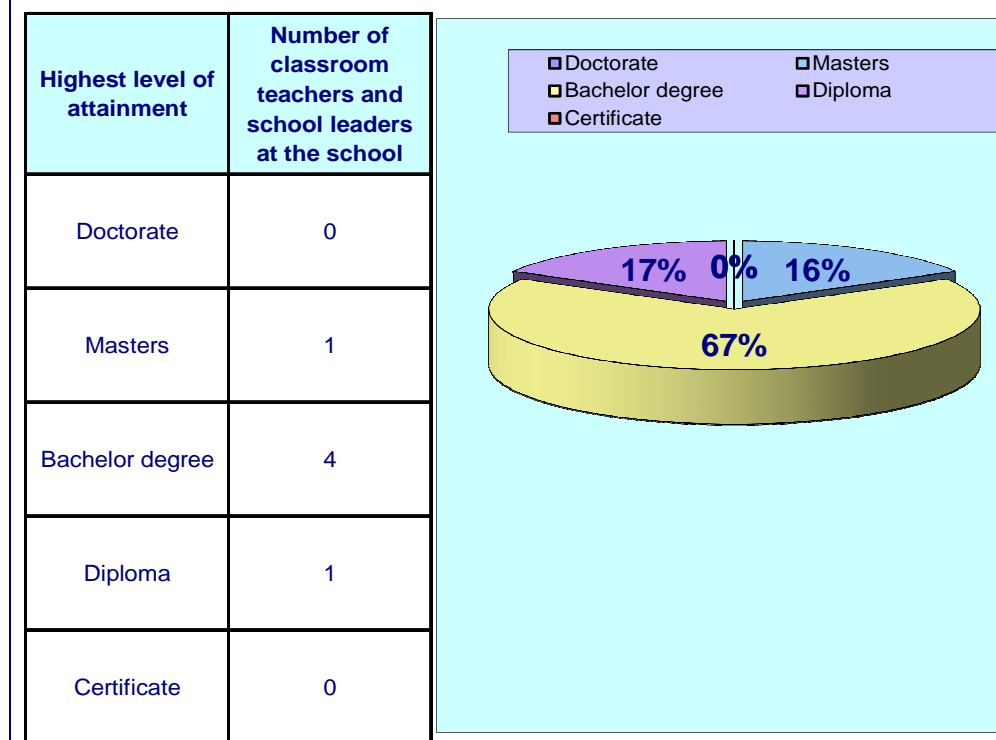
Year	Total	Electricity	Sewerage	Waste	Water	Gas	Other	electricity KwH	WaterKL	GasMJ
2010	\$8,942	\$7,178	\$0	\$695	\$1,069	\$0	\$0	37,284	164	0
2009	\$5,130	\$3,957	\$0	\$0	\$451	\$0	\$722	22,830	94	0
% change 2009 - 2010	74%	81%	N/A	N/A	137%	N/A	-100%	63%	74%	N/A

Performance of our students

Staff composition, including Indigenous Staff

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	7	5	<5
Full-time equivalents	5	3	<5

Qualifications of all teachers.



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2010 was \$13758

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Performance of our students

- Autism workshops
- CPR & First Aid
- Principal's Business Meetings
- Financial Training for Principal's
- Purchasing Policy Training
- Early Years Conference
- EATSIPS Training
- Prep Training
- Persuasive Writing
- Libcode- Library Training
- Positive Behaviour Workshop

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2010 was 100 %.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2010.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the previous school year, 97% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2010 school year.

Key student outcomes

Attendance

Student attendance - 2010

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2010 was 90%.

Student attendance for each year level

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7
89%	94%	95%	88%	92%	92%	64%

Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.

The school manages attendance rates on three levels.

- At the classroom level, rolls are marked twice daily. Teachers note unexplained absences and attempt to contact parents, particularly if the student is absent on consecutive days. Parents have been made aware that they are to contact the school by telephone or send a note with the student upon return to school, explaining the reason for the absence/s.
- Teachers report absences to administration. Administration keeps a record of names and unexplained absences, and attempts to contact parents.
- Administration sends relevant letter/s to parents, outlining above DET policies and processes.

Performance of our students

Achievement – Years 3, 5, 7, and 9

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.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the MySchool website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the MySchool link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following 'Find a school' text box.

Find a school

Search by school name

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government
 Non-government

Where it says '**Search by school name**', type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results you wish to view, and select <GO>.

Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the **Terms of Use** and **Privacy Policy** before being able to access NAPLAN data.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

Achievement – Closing the Gap

At Grantham State School we have identified the following goals:-

- Set up School structures to include ATSI perspective/activities in school culture.
- Recognise and implement ATSI Protocols and major events.
- Acknowledge and include ATSI Perspectives in school wide curriculum/pedagogy.
- All staff will be aware of, understand and participate as appropriate in professional development relating to indigenous perspectives and protocols.