

Woolooga State School

Queensland State School Reporting

2013 School Annual Report



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Principal's foreword

Introduction

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Woolooga State School. This report is designed to provide an up to date snapshot of our vibrant learning community. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Woolooga State School celebrates the integral role Parents, Staff and the wider community all play in promoting a safe, challenging environment that not only achieves academic results but prepares students for their future.

As a school community we take great pride in the achievements of our students. Our latest academic results are available in this report. It is important to recognise that they are achieved through a school community working together. The school motto *Striving to Improve* is reflected in our practices. Our focus, to accept the challenge of catering for each child, drives our thinking and makes our commitment to providing a range of programs in the academic, sporting, music and social development fields. Our school programs are consistently reviewed to reflect children's changing needs and to recognise developments in education. This makes us a progressive, busy and vibrant school.

As a school community, we recognise and value greatly students' self-awareness and self-esteem. At Woolooga State School our Responsible Behaviour Plan stems from a backbone of strong values which are reflected in our many school events and most importantly in our day to day interaction with each other. We are proud of the programs and the staff that work at Woolooga. Our staff is dedicated and show the ability to provide and promote an excellent learning environment.

Parents are a feature of Woolooga State School. Our parent body is active in all aspects of school life. Parents are welcome to be involved in classrooms, school and P&C committees. This commitment and partnership between parents and school demonstrates to the students the importance of learning.

To our current parents who have placed their child into our care and to parents of our future students, I thank you for your trust. Working with you to educate your children is an honour and is indeed not taken lightly.

Stacey-Anne Bray
Principal

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School progress towards its goals in 2013

During the 2013 school year staff, students and parents continued development toward achieving our schools goals as detailed below:

- Getting Ready For Secondary School
- Parent and Community Engagement Strategy
- 100 year Anniversary Celebration
- Community Flood Recovery
- Implement the Australian Curriculum
- Implement a framework for the teaching of reading
- Target strategies to maintain and increase year 3 – 7 students in U2B
- Develop and enact a pedagogical framework based on asot or other approved framework
- Address T&L Audit priorities
- Implement the developing performance framework for all staff
- Review and follow recommendations from Internal Audit

Future outlook

Literacy & Numeracy

- Focus on lower school literacy including combination of phonetics/phonogram study, writing approach to reading and sensory motor approach to literacy.
- Whole school writing program based on 7 Steps to Writing program.
- Whole school comprehension program linked to NAPLAN expectations.
- Spelling program based on Spalding Writing Road to Reading approach. (Linking with C2C expectations)
- Define literacy and numeracy targets and communicate these to staff, students and parents.
- Set aspirational targets for all students as part of their Individual Goal Program which is negotiated between student, parents and teacher.

Staff

- Provide Professional Development to build staff skills in analysing, interpreting and recording data and skills in delivering C2C components and understandings.
- Increase staff knowledge of ICT's and computer uses.
- Continued development of all staff through implementing the Developing Performance Framework
- Developing Performance Agreements developed and enacted for all teaching staff
- Skills audit conducted to find gaps in individual and group skill sets to form basis for targeted Professional Development

School

- Implement and maintain a proactive behaviour program to encourage positive respectful behaviour towards Self, Others, the School and towards learning.
- Keep parents informed about changes to school, curriculum and student needs through newsletters, parade, emails and regular meetings conferences, displays and events.
- Maintain and improve school grounds to be inviting and safe as a learning environment.
- Continue to market and promote school in the local and broader community
- Continual development of strategies to embed Indigenous perspectives and awareness of Indigenous culture across the curriculum especially in relation to the local area.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Year levels offered in 2013: Prep Year - Year 7

Total student enrolments for this school:

	Total	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb – Nov)
2011	20	14	6	90%
2012	17	12	5	94%
2013	17	10	7	75%

Student counts are based on the Census (August) enrolment collection.

Characteristics of the student body:

Woolooga State School is a small, rural, co-educational primary school located within the Gympie Regional Council, approximately 20 kilometres from Kilkivan and 35 kilometres from Gympie. Woolooga State School provides education for students from Prep to year 7. These children come from the Woolooga community and surrounding districts. The majority of our students live on rural properties in the surrounding area.

Average Class sizes

Phase	Average Class Size		
	2011	2012	2013
Prep – Year 7	20	16	20

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2011	2012	2013
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	0	0	0
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0	0	0
Exclusions	0	0	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

The school has a broad curriculum that caters for the range of individual needs. We take full advantage of our multi-age classroom to ensure that all students are able to access the school's curriculum in a meaningful manner that will enhance the learning opportunities for them.

All students are involved in our school music and all year 4-7 students are involved in interschool eisteddfod.

Leadership is a highly valued skill that is nurtured throughout the school. Our upper school is involved in leadership activities such as community events and leadership workshops throughout the year. The school leadership roles ensures that the students are involved with and instrumental in decision making and implementing projects throughout the school.

Extra curricula activities

School Cluster Days: These days bring together small schools from the surrounding districts to participate in specific subject activities including; Science, Leadership, Sporting and fun events, the Arts and Technology.

Premiers Reading Challenge

Guitar Classes

Mural Art Classes

Gympie Music Eisteddfod

School Excursions: Woolooga State School participates in school excursions that are relevant to the curriculum and enhance learning for all students. The school also invites interesting people and events to the school where possible.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

The use of ICTs is embedded into the daily pedagogical practice of all of our staff.

ICTs are used for whole of class, group and individual activities. Our LOTE lessons have been conducted using Web Conferencing and though Blackboard with BSDE. As a result, our students and staff are using the tools available to us to engage with not only the content of our lessons but also with peers at various schools around Queensland to develop both our understanding and to gain an insight into the points of view of others outside of our local community.

Social climate

Woolooga SS adopted their Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students in 2011, this lead to the development a set of school rules, that staff and students abide by in order to continue to develop and maintain our schools already positive social climate.

Our focus is a positive reinforcement model rather than a punitive model of managing student behaviour. Students are rewarded when they display behaviours that demonstrate our schools three rules (*Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner*). This has seen a dramatic increase in the instances of positive behaviour noticed by staff.

The School Opinion Survey (2013) results indicate that Parents, Students and Staff are

Satisfied with the social climate of Woolooga State School as indicated below:

100% of parents are satisfied with the behaviour of students at the school.

100% of students feel they are safe and treated fairly at this school.

100% of staff feel that the student behaviour is managed well and the students are treated fairly.

Our school at a glance

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

Our parents as a whole are satisfied with our school. Implementation of a comprehensive and cohesive curriculum has seen an increase in the percentage of parents satisfied with curriculum delivery.

Our student body is mostly happy to attend our school and are satisfied that they are getting a good education at Woollooga State School.

Staff morale at our school is similar to like schools. All staff are mostly satisfied that they can access professional development opportunities and this allows our school to foster an environment of mutual respect and professional learning that impacts positively on student learning outcomes.

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of parents/caregivers who agree that:	2012	2013
their child is getting a good education at school (S2016)	100%	88%
this is a good school (S2035)	86%	100%
their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	100%	75%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	100%	100%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school* (S2003)	100%	75%
their child is making good progress at this school* (S2004)	86%	63%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best* (S2005)	100%	100%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work* (S2006)	100%	100%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	100%	88%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	100%	100%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	100%	100%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	100%	100%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	100%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	100%	100%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	100%	100%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	100%	88%

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of students who agree that:	2012	2013
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	100%	83%
they like being at their school* (S2036)	56%	83%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	89%	100%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	100%	100%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	100%	100%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	100%	100%

Our school at a glance

teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	100%	100%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	100%	83%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	89%	83%
student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	67%	83%
their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	100%	83%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	100%	83%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	78%	83%

Performance measure

Percentage of school staff who agree that:	2013
they enjoy working at their school (S2069)	100%
they feel that their school is a safe place in which to work (S2070)	100%
they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)	100%
students are encouraged to do their best at their school (S2072)	100%
students are treated fairly at their school (S2073)	100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school (S2074)	100%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)	100%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)	100%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)	100%
their school is well maintained (S2078)	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)	100%

* Nationally agreed student and parent/caregiver items were incorporated in the School Opinion Survey in 2012.

Percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement. Due to a major redevelopment of the surveys (parent/caregiver and student in 2012; staff in 2013), comparisons with results from previous years are not recommended.

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child's education

At Woolooga State School we believe that it is vitally important that the parents be actively involved, not only in their own child's education, but in the school as a whole. In 2013 some of the strategies we employed included:

School Newsletter

Parent & Teacher interviews

Parents and Citizens Association

Student centred activities at school e.g. Parade, Speech Nights, Under 8's Day, NAIDOC Week, Harmony day

Regular culminating events where students share and display their work for parents and the community

Parent volunteers in the classroom

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Data is sourced from school's annual utilities return and is reliant on the accuracy of these returns.

Students and staff are increasingly aware of the methods undertaken to reduce our environmental footprint with the installation of solar panels. All staff and students are aware of water management due to our reliance on tank and creek water.

	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2010-2011	10,820	0
2011-2012	14,925	0
2012-2013	13,773	0

The consumption data is sourced from the validated utilities expenditure return which the school submits at the end of each financial year. The data provides an indication of the consumption trend in each of the utility categories which impact on the schools environmental footprint.

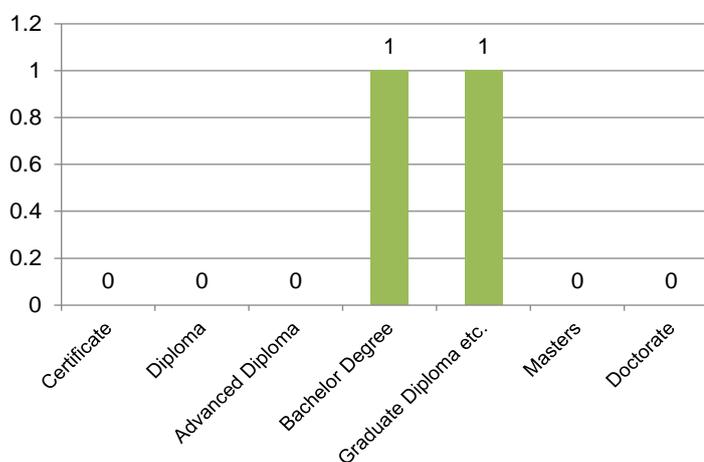
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2013 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff *	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	1	5	0
Full-time equivalents	1	2	0

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff *
Certificate	0
Diploma	0
Advanced Diploma	0
Bachelor Degree	1
Graduate Diploma etc.	1
Masters	0
Doctorate	0
Total	2



* Teaching Staff includes School Leaders

** Graduate Diploma etc. includes Graduate Diploma, Bachelor Honours Degree, and Graduate Certificate

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2013 were \$3143.00

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Literacy/Numeracy/Developing Performance Framework/One School/ASoT

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2013 was 100%.

Average staff attendance	2011	2012	2013
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.	96%	98%	94%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 100% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2013 school year.

Our staff profile

School income broken down by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the *My School* website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our income details, click on the *My School* 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 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 given access to the school's *My School* entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting '**School finances**' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of income by funding source.

Key student outcomes

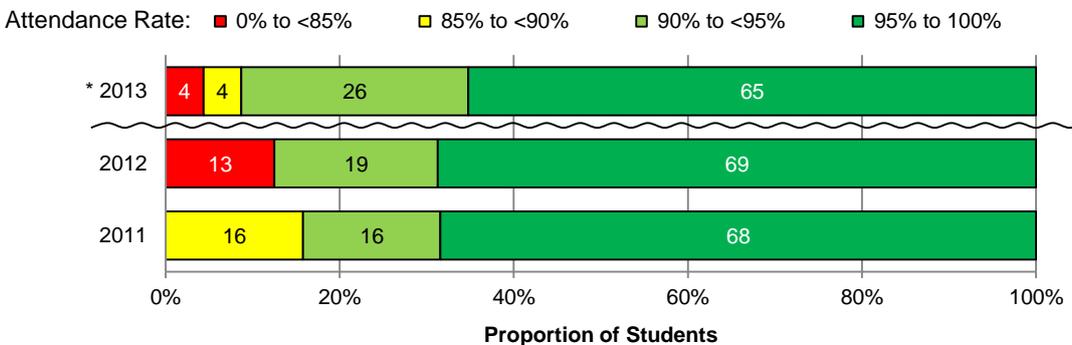
Student attendance	2011	2012	2013
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	96%	96%	96%
The overall attendance rate in 2013 for all Queensland state Primary schools was 92%.			

Student attendance rate for each year level (shown as a percentage)												
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
2011	95%		97%	97%	98%	DW						
2012	91%	95%		98%	DW	97%	DW					
2013	94%	95%	97%		99%	92%	97%					

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



* The method for calculating attendance changed in 2013 – care should be taken when comparing data from 2013 to that of previous years.

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.

At Woolooga SS it is the principal's responsibility to contact the family after 2 days of non-attendance if the school had not been contacted by the student's family.

Performance of our students

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 My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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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

Due to small numbers of Indigenous students at WSS in 2013 data cannot be reported here due to privacy concerns. We are continuing our work on Closing the Gap.