


SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2007

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Principal's Foreword

Introduction

The purpose of the School Annual Report is to provide our school community and other readers with information about our school, covering highlights and achievements during 2007 as well as the key areas for our efforts during 2008.

During 2007, Yandina State School continued to provide a stimulating learning environment that fostered academic and personal growth of students. This Annual Report identifies our highlights, key achievements and key student outcomes. Priorities for 2008 are also mentioned in this report.

The role played by all members of the school's community – staff, parents and other community members – are all an integral part of our students' lives.

New initiatives in 2007 included:

- Implementation of the Prep Year of Schooling
- Completion of upgrade of the administrative section, the library and teaching block B through Investing in Our Schools and Tomorrow's Schools grants
- Implementation of the school's Responsible Behaviour Plan
- Commencement of a community playgroup at the school
- Provision of new computers to enhance student access
- Development of the integrated curriculum
- Appointment of a school chaplain
- Review of the school's report format
- Review and confirmation of the school's P-7 camping program
- Implementation of the peer mediation program

Future Outlook

In 2008, the school will focus on the development of specific areas to provide a quality education for our students. These include:

- A major curriculum focus during 2007 was the implementation of the Queensland Studies Authority Essential Learnings and Standards within the Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCARF)
- Teachers and teacher aides attended professional development workshops in order to gain knowledge and skills to ensure our curriculum offerings are of the highest quality. Our Head of Curriculum, Mr Bruce Taylor, will continue to lead the adoption of the QCAR Framework and the modifications to our curriculum plan into 2008
- Implementation of One School as a tool for reporting and monitoring students' progress
- Technology will continue to be a major aspect of school planning in three areas: support for students' learning, PD for teachers to gain awareness and confidence in using technology and using technology in the day-to-day operations of their classroom. To this end, all staff will work towards achieving their ICT Certificates as part of their professional learning
- Funds will be allocated to enhance the current ICT resources
- Smart Moves will be implemented during 2008 to raise the physical fitness of the students
- Continuation of intervention programs for students with learning difficulties
- Implementation of a Gifted and Talented Program to extend more capable students, especially in Music
- Improvements will be made to the aesthetic appeal of the school grounds and facilities
- Resources across all curriculum areas will be improved, particularly in Mathematics

School Profile

The school caters for both male and female students from Prep to Year 7. The total enrolment as at July 2007 was 280. With this number of students, the school was staffed by 12 full time equivalent classroom teachers, five specialist teachers for Music, Physical Education, Italian, Instrumental Music and Library as well as a Guidance Officer, a Behaviour Support Teacher and a Speech and Language Pathologist. A Learning Support Teacher is based at the school to provide assistance to teachers and students.

The school chaplain also provides pastoral care for students and their families.

Curriculum offerings

The curriculum for all students from Prep to Year 7 at Yandina State School has been organised into units of work that integrate the eight Key Learning Areas—English, Mathematics, Science, Study of Society and the Environment, The Arts, Health and Physical Education, Technology and Italian. The teachers review their units each term to ensure they provide the best possible learning experiences for the children. Major consideration is given to the special needs and learning styles of individual students.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school encourages students to participate in a variety of extra curricular activities that meet their interests and aspirations. These include:

- Instrumental Music Program
- Dance Academy (with a qualified dance instructor)
- Social and personal development programs (including Program Achieve, Life education and puberty awareness)
- Voices on the Coast
- Learn to Swim program for students in Prep to Year 5
- Surf Awareness Program for students in Years 6 and 7
- King of the Mountain schools' relay
- Choir
- Academic competitions (including Mathematics, Science, Computer Technology)
- Maths tournament
- Speaking contest
- Japanese cultural visit
- Sports skill development programs by regional coaches
- (eg Auskick, Rugby Union, Cricket, Golf, Soccer)
- Gross motor program for students in Prep to Year 3
- After school training in softball and netball with our local clubs
- Although not provided by the school, soccer and martial arts clubs are available close by

HOW COMPUTERS ARE USED TO ASSIST LEARNING

The school has three air-conditioned computer rooms located in various sections of the school to enable all students to have ready access to computers. In addition, each classroom from Prep to Year 7 has at least three computers to provide learning support and extension activities. The school has begun to upgrade its network of ICT resources by purchasing data projectors for classroom use. The use of computers is an integral part of the learning process so that the students learn to use these resources as an effective tool for learning and for presenting their work to others.

The results of School Opinion Surveys provided by our parents and students indicate a high level of satisfaction with the school's curriculum. Their overall satisfaction of both groups is above the state average.

Satisfaction With Curriculum		
Cohort	Yandina	State
Parents	3.05	2.99
Students	3.11	3.01

The school opinion Surveys also indicate a high level of satisfaction with the teaching processes that are used at our school. The parents' ratings for Effective Teaching and the students' ratings for Pedagogy are as follows:

Satisfaction With effective Teaching and Pedagogy		
Cohort	Yandina	State
Parents	3.08	2.93
Students	3.17	2.95

School and Social Climate

The development of our school climate is a major focus and during 2007 a number of strategies were implemented to maintain and improve the climate of the school.

These included:

- Introduction of the chaplaincy program – a chaplain has been appointed to the school two days per week.
- Introduction of peer mediation as a method of enabling the students to take responsibility for dealing with their interpersonal relationships where appropriate.
- A student council, comprising elected representatives of the student body, provides feed back and suggestions to the teachers and administration in order to enhance the social life of all students whilst at school.
- Student leadership positions – school captains, sports captains, library monitors.
- Reading buddies,
- Close ties with the local high schools through academic visits,
- Outside School Hours Care,
- A camp program that develops healthy friendships and life long social skills,
- Caring teachers and support staff,
- High expectations of behaviour

In the Annual School Opinion Surveys to Parents, Staff and Students, the following levels of satisfaction with the school's learning climate were indicated as follows:

Satisfaction With Learning Climate		
Cohort	Yandina	State
Parents	2.95	2.85
Staff	3.23	2.98
Students	2.70	2.84

The positive behaviour of our students also helps to maintain a good school climate. Our parents and students have indicated that they have a high opinion of the way our students conduct themselves.

Satisfaction With Student Behaviour		
Cohort	Yandina	State
Parents	2.76	2.46
Students	2.27	2.18

Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents and other community members have a variety of opportunities to become involved in our school, including:

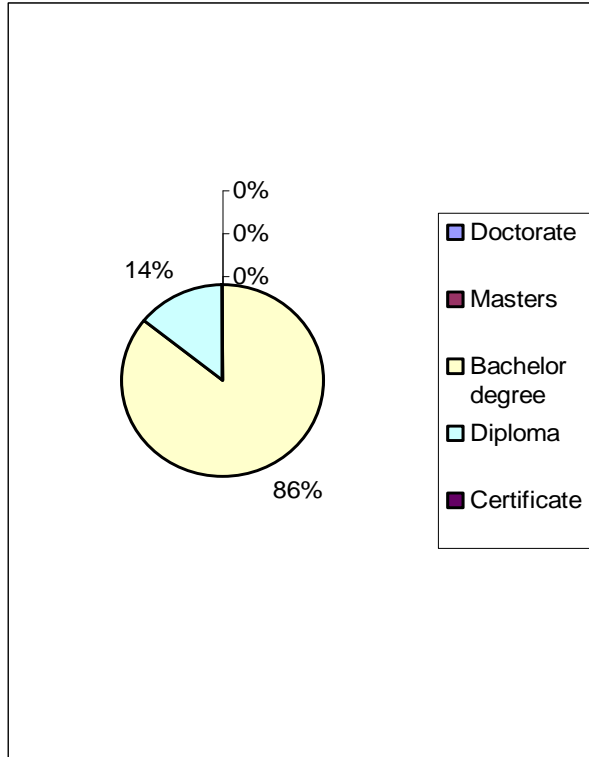
- P&C Association activities – shared decision making, fundraising and tuckshop
- Learning assistance programs – Support-A-Reader and activity groups
- Parent interviews and information sessions
- Sports days
- Parent information sessions – for prep and primary classes
- Staff and student parade presentations
- Regular newsletter and media communications – featuring students' successes and school events
- Camps and excursions – supervision and assistance
- Grounds development – gardening groups
- School support for community groups – Children's hospital and retirement village
- Community participation in ceremonies – ANZAC Day
- School banking assistance
- Resource centre assistance
- Visits to our school by community groups– emergency services and local sporting identities
- Weekly playgroup for local families
- Displays of school activities in our local community

The results of School Opinion Surveys provided by our parents indicate a high level of satisfaction with the school. The rating for school-community relations is above the state average.

Parent Satisfaction With School-Community Relations		
Cohort	Yandina	State
Parents	3.15	2.94

Qualifications of all teachers.

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



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$19 121.
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Framework Training (curriculum)
 - Prep Year Training
 - Responsible Behaviour Strategies
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100%

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2007.

Our staff profile

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2006 school year, 91% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was 93%

Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

		Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading		79.5%
Writing		97.4%
Number		84.6%

Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests.

		Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	
Reading	Average score for the school	519	584	684	
	Average score for Queensland	527	606	672	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	95.6%	74.2%	96.9%
		2006	97.1%	84.1%	78.0%
Writing	Average score for the school	527	592	709	
	Average score for Queensland	523	600	681	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	97.8%	83.9%	100%
		2006	91.4%	100%	97.6%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	495	563	651	
	Average score for Queensland	521	588	648	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	91.3%	80.6%	77.4%
		2006	97.1%	80.0%	61.9%

Other Key Outcomes

Value added

Year 2 children who are identified as requiring additional support in the Year 2 Net are provided with an intensive intervention program in term 3 each year. This program is co-ordinated by the Key Teacher and implemented by trained teacher aides.

Over the past three years, the results of our students in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net have been better than the state average and also better than "like schools" (the group of schools similar to our school). As a result, a relatively small percentage of students in Year 2 are "caught in the net".

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Performance of our students

It is pleasing to see that in most areas of the data our students are close to or slightly above the state average. Numeracy results in Years 3 and 5 signal a need for close monitoring of those groups so that support may be provided where required.

Year 7 students demonstrated strong results in both Literacy and Numeracy when compared to state averages.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

There is a high level of satisfaction with the school across all sectors of the school community. The overall satisfaction ratings of students, parents and staff are above the average ratings for the state - as indicated by the following figures from the 2007 School Opinion Surveys:

Overall Satisfaction Ratings		
Cohort	Yandina	State
Students	3.05	3.02
Parents	3.01	2.90
Staff	3.03	2.85