

# Mackay Central State School

## 2008 School Annual Report

### School Details

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### Principal's Foreword

#### **Introduction**

Mackay Central State School is a co-educational 'New Basics School'. The new basics are clusters of essential practices that students need if they are to flourish in 'new times'. Mackay Central has an excellent team of dedicated, experienced and caring staff. We value and celebrate our students' differences and their cultures. Our aim is to provide all students with the opportunity to achieve their full potential within a caring and supportive learning environment and our staff work closely together towards this goal within the framework of our innovative New Basics Curriculum. Our school aims to provide a high quality education that assists our students to love learning, develop judgement and a sense of responsibility, understand the past and prepare them to embrace the future.

We aim to provide equality of opportunity so that all children are able to participate in educational activities and experiences, gain skills and achieve fully and equally in the community.

We also aim to equip our students with the skill and knowledge they will need in the future to enable them to contribute to a socially, economically and culturally vibrant society.

#### **Future Outlook**

##### Learning:

- Continue to implement 'Wave' program and introduce a Wave number component.
- Continue to Improve reading results across years 2-7
- Improve numeracy results across all year levels.
- Increase year 5 results to above state and like schools average.. (improve on last year's)
- Continue Implementation of Go Maths as a sequential, developmental maths resource across whole school.

##### Schools:

- Increased involvement of parent community (including indigenous) in school decision making.
- Improve student survey results
- Completion of playground equipment upgrade (\$150,000 Investing in schools)
- Completion of Tech room facilities upgrade. (\$19,500 Community Development Fund)

##### Workforce:

- Increased access to learning and development opportunities for all staff based on needs and wants, especially for support staff.
- Increase access of volunteer staff (CDP, Skills and Training, TAFE student trainees) to learning, teaching and community initiatives. This provides a two way support base both for the trainee and for the school.

# Mackay Central State School

## *Our school at a glance*

### **School Profile**

Total enrolments:	201
Year levels offered:	Prep-7
Structure:	Co-educational

### **Curriculum offerings**

#### ***Our distinctive curriculum offerings and Extra Curricula Activities:***

Students are offered a rich variety of academic, cultural, sporting, life and social skills at Mackay Central State School. Participation in such activities enhances student confidence, builds resilience and develops skills such as teamwork – all vital qualities if students are to maximise life's opportunities.

Activities include:

#### ACADEMIC

- National and Local academic competitions – Technology, English, Maths;
- Enhancement through Rich Tasks.

#### CULTURAL

- Music – instrumental, choir, Eisteddfod entries; Visiting Orchestral and Band Performances
- Rock Pop Mime, Drama and Visual Arts performances;
- Attendances at Queensland Art Council performances; and local theatre performances
- NAIDOC celebrations; Cultural Days.
- Participation and Performances in the Strut Festival

#### SPORTING

- A mix of inter-house and inter-school – Swimming, Athletics, Hockey, Touch Football, Cricket, Vigoro, Basketball, AFL, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Soccer;
- A weekly sports club provides opportunity for students to learn specific skills in different sports.

#### SOCIAL AND LIFE SKILLS

- Camping program;
- Life Education activities;
- Student Council.
- Senior Citizens community volunteer program

Parents, in the Opinion Survey, reported a level of satisfaction with the variety of school activities at 83.3%

Students reported their level of satisfaction at 78.7%

#### ***How computers are used to assist learning:***

1. Meetings occur between Head of Curriculum and teachers to plan the teaching, assessment and implementation of Rich and Integrated tasks ensuring full integration of ICTs
2. Students utilise digital folios to display their achievements to the school and wider community
3. Graduating students publish and were presented with a CD of their digital portfolio
4. Appropriate hardware and software is utilised throughout the lab and classrooms
5. ICT resources in class and lab utilised by each class daily as an integral part of curriculum
6. Laptop computers are utilised by staff and students to incorporate ICT into planning, teaching and assessment
7. Each class now has a data projector, trolley, wireless keyboard and mouse and a screen.

### **Social climate**

Mackay Central is geared towards student needs. We have a chaplain at the school three days a week. We also run a breakfast program on four mornings a week. We have a significant population from the Kids in Care program and as such provide strong support for those students incorporating an afternoon homework program. Many cultural events are held in the school with our variety of cultures totalling 14.

38.3% of students reported satisfaction with the behaviour of students at this school.

86.7% of parents reported satisfaction with the behaviour of students at this school.

# Mackay Central State School

*Our school at a glance*

## **Involving parents in their child's education**

At Mackay Central we actively encourage involvement of all parents and carers in all aspects of the education of their children. Parents participate through

- \* attending whole school planning meetings at the end of each year
- \* attending class parent teacher interviews
- \* volunteering in the school as parent readers, breakfast club helpers, art and craft tutors etc.
- \* attending class meetings held by teachers to discuss initiatives and gather ideas and support for their students' social, educational and cultural development.
- \* being involved in our school community and seeing the school as the hub of our community.

## **Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school**

93.3% of parents expressed satisfaction that their child is getting a good education at school.

Students reported their level of satisfaction at 87.2%

Parent responses to the Opinion Survey question about this being a good school indicated a level of satisfaction at 96.7%

87% of staff members reported that they were satisfied with the morale in the school.

## **Value added**

A strong focus on literacy in recent years has led to significant improvements in literacy results especially in the lower school and in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student results. In 2008 our indigenous students achieved similar to like schools throughout Australia and 'above' in spelling.

School support for our students is done on several levels. Mackay Central uses several tools to help us monitor the effectiveness of our support programs. These tools include, the Neale Analysis, P.M. Benchmark Levels and the Salford Sentence Reading Test (SSRT)

Of the students working on the P.M. Benchmark Levels students from 2007 to 2008 improved on average 4 levels which is quite significant given they were learning support children.

The Neale Analysis of Reading Ability similarly shows improvements in our year 6 to year 7 progression (07-08) of around two years in both accuracy and comprehension.

The SSRT for the whole school showed excellent results in the lower school with students from year 2 to year 3 and students from year 4 to year 5 each having an improvement sentence reading of over a year in more than half the cohort.

## **Student attendance**

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 89.2%

# Mackay Central State School

## Our Staff Profile

### Qualifications of all teachers and school leaders

Highest level of attainment

Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school

Doctorate

Masters

Bachelor degree

80

Diploma

20

Certificate

### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$13279

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

\* Literacy training

\*ESL training

\*Maths Syllabus

\*QCAR consolidation and QCAT trials.

\*New Basics Moderation and training for all new staff.

\*Cross Cultural Training.

We also Utilized Professional Development Survey to ascertain areas of need and wants.

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 100%

### Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate in 2008 was 97%

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

92% of staff were retained by the school from the end of the 2007 school year for the entire 2008 school year.

# Mackay Central State School

## Performance of our students

Please note that as information published in the tables below must maintain the privacy of individual students, data may have been withheld, especially for cohort sizes less than five. In these situations the 'Value Added' section at the beginning of this report provides a narrative in regards to student performance. Similarly, District Special Schools and Outdoor Education Centres may (or will) not have information to publish in these tables.

## 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:	61.5
Writing:	88.5
Number:	80.8

### Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar & punctuation and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 Literacy and Numeracy Tests (NAPLAN)

		Yr 3:	Yr 5:	Yr 7:	Yr 9:
<b>Reading</b>	Average score for School:	310	432	480	
	Average score for QLD:	371.1	466.1	528.1	568.2
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard 2008	69	76	88	
<b>Writing</b>	Average score for School:	345	430	489	
	Average score for QLD:	391.8	468.9	522.7	555.3
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard 2008	85	76	84	
<b>Spelling</b>	Average score for School:	315	456	507	
	Average score for QLD:	366.7	462	528	567.8
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard 2008	72	88	84	
<b>Grammar and Punctuation</b>	Average score for School:	285	432	482	
	Average score for QLD:	370.4	476.6	518	563.2
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard 2008	76	76	84	
<b>Numeracy</b>	Average score for School:	318	414	496	
	Average score for QLD:	367.9	458.2	539	570.7
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard 2008	70	76	92	