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Principal's foreword

Introduction

I am very proud to welcome you to our school. Kingston State School is a co-educational, state school catering for students in prep to year 7. We have a student population of approximately 570. All children are supported in their learning by a group of dedicated, professional teachers and ancillary staff.

Our core business at Kingston State School is learning. Children who attend our school need to be ready to learn every day. They are as capable as any other children in Australia and I have very high expectations for them. It is also my very firm belief that learning to read is the most important thing we do and reading skills are explicitly taught in every classroom, everyday. As Principal of Kingston State School, I also have high expectations around student behaviour. High quality learning takes place when behaviour is good. As such, high standards of behaviour are acknowledged through Principal's Morning Tea, on school assemblies and phone calls home to parents.

Our school acknowledges that the home is the major influence on a child's life and encourages parents to develop co-operative relationships with staff members during the period of your association with the school. Parents are always welcome to visit the school to discuss children's progress with me, the Deputy Principal, Mr David Teale or class teacher. As Principal of the school I have an open door policy and am happy to speak to parents and carers at any time.

During my time as the Leader of Kingston State School, I look forward to working with Parents and Carers, Staff, Students and the wider community to ensure that our students receive the best education.

Mike Sawbridge

Principal

Kingston State School

Future outlook

Our goal at Kingston State School is to ensure that all students achieve above National Benchmarks in all areas of Literacy and Numeracy by 2011. We have set the bar high and our goal is aspirational. However, we have a strong and strategic plan to achieve our targets.

We are also working towards improving the school environment with support from: State Government Funds (State Schools of Tomorrow Project); Federal Government Funds (Building the Education Revolution); and school funded projects. These projects will also ensure that we are able to transform Kingston State School into a school for the 21st Century. We look forward to our students being educated in modern digital learning spaces and teachers using a range of digital pedagogies.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Kingston State School is a co-educational school situated in the Logan District. The school adopts an inclusive approach to education and caters for students from preschool to year 7. Enrolments include 73 prep children and 490 students who are enrolled in Years 1 to 7. Kingston students come from 34 different cultural backgrounds. 33 students have a specific disability and access our vibrant SEP and over 60 students have been appraised.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Developing students' English and Mathematics is the major curriculum focus at Kingston State School. The following Key Learning Areas are also part of our core curriculum and strong linkages are made to real life situations:
- Science
- SOSE
- The Arts
- Technology
- Health and Physical Education
- Music
- Languages Other Than English
- ICTs are used to assist children's learning across the curriculum. Examples include typing a story, using PowerPoint to give a presentation, create a graph with Excel or using interactive online resources to develop and enhance student knowledge and understanding. Programs are also used for remediation across all levels. Programs are used for assessment in English and Mathematics and to track students' progress. Kingston students become skilled in Internet usage for research. Appropriate protocols are learnt. Our school website provides the community with a snapshot of our school and examples of our children's work.

Extra curricula activities: In addition to core curriculum there are a number of extra-curricular offerings at Kingston State School.

- Interschool sport was undertaken in Rugby League, AFL, Soccer, Touch Football and Netball. Our school won the senior AFL premiership and contested both junior and senior finals in Touch Football. Several students competed at District, Regional and State level in both Team Sports and Athletics. Athletics and Swimming are taught as part of the curriculum. Junior and Senior Athletics Carnivals were held.
- Kingston students in years 4-7 were also offered the opportunity to participate in the School Camping Program.
- A Photography Club was in operation with students submitting relevant articles to local newspapers.

Our school at a glance

- An Active After Schools Program was conducted at the school to improve student health and well being.
- Student teams competed in the Optiminds competition.
- Senior and Junior Choirs performed publicly and Instrumental Music is offered to students. Senior and Junior Ensembles as well as a Drumming Group operated within the school.
- The multi-cultural composition of our school population ensures there is keen interest and community involvement in events. The school has Indigenous, Samoan, Cook Island, Maori and African dance troupes.
- A range of activities is offered during lunch breaks including computing, art & drawing classes, skipping, basketball, scrabble and chess.

How computers are used to assist learning

Kingston State School follows our school-developed 'ICTs for Learning Agreement', an annual document to guide our future direction in ICT infrastructure, as mandated by Education Queensland. The School ICT Committee has developed and implemented an ICT Student Learning Scope and Sequence, which outlines student skill development from Year 1 to Year 7. Students and staff have access to many ICT devices including scanners, digital cameras and video cameras. Electronic whiteboards and mimeos are used to extend the use of ICTs, and increase children's interaction with technology. A range of software is available to our students on our curriculum network, catering for specific student needs, interests and learning abilities. Each class has access to a laptop computer, in class computers and a computer lab for class skills lessons, as well as lunchtime computer club activities. All curriculum computers are networked and have access to the Internet, Intranet and email. Computers are being upgraded and replaced to comply with EQ standards and SSOE. Teachers with high levels of expertise developed and delivered a Community Computer Skills Course, instructing parents and community members as well as staff in ICT usage. There is a school website and Staff Intranet.

Social climate

Our school has a vibrant atmosphere. Students are cared for by a range of staff, including a pro-active Chaplain and an excellent Guidance Officer. There is a strong culture of learning which is consistently reinforced by all staff. Parents express a high level of satisfaction with the social climate of the school (School Opinion Survey 2008). In 2008, 80% of our students indicated that they were happy to go to Kingston. We are confident that in the coming years, Parent and Student satisfaction with the social climate at Kingston State School increases as we fully implement School Wide Positive Behaviour Support, improve learning outcomes and the physical environment.

Our school at a glance

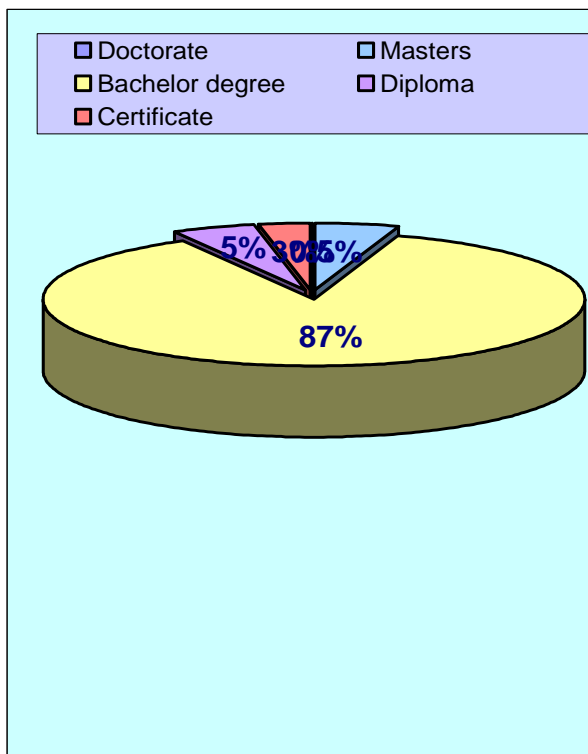
Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents are informed termly, through Principal's information sessions, about what is happening at Kingston State School. They are also invited to assist in classrooms to enhance the learning experiences and we are fortunate to welcome many parents, especially in the early years of schooling. Written reports are sent home twice each year and parents also have the opportunity to engage in a parent/teacher interview twice each year.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	5
Bachelor degree	87
Diploma	5
Certificate	3



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$53,241
- The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
 - Implementation of New Mathematics Programme
 - Implementation of QCARF
 - First Step in Mathematics
 - Essential Skills for Classroom Management
- 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 was 95% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 75% 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 89.6 %.

Student Performance

Key outcomes Domain	Measures		Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school		316.4	420.2	461.2
	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	72.6 %	60.6 %	74.1 %
Writing	Average score for the school		349.3	442.4	454.2
	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	77.6 %	81.7 %	66.2 %
Spelling	Average score for the school		328.8	439.9	490.5
	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	76.2 %	73.2 %	81 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		324.8	446.9	449.5
	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	78.6 %	77.5 %	65.8 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school		340.5	437.7	483.5
	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	76.2 %	85.7 %	86.2 %

Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	75.0%
Writing	80.3%
Number	77.6%

Value added

Analysing how individual students are progressing and learning is a very important component of our work at Kingston State School. During the first half of 2009, the school leadership team has looked closely at how best to track individual student performance. We have identified key aspects of student work from which we will gather data at certain times during the school year. The school leadership team will then look at data with teachers so we can determine how much value we are adding to each child's education.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parents are generally very satisfied with our school. Evidence for this is provided by the 2008 School Opinion Survey. Our parents marked higher than the State Averages on the following indicators:

- With what children are learning at Kingston State School;
- The school keeps parents well informed on how students are progressing;
- With opportunities to discuss with staff what children are learning;
- The school is responsive to our inquiries.

Data from 2008's school opinion survey also suggests that students are generally satisfied with all aspects of schooling. Our students marked higher than the State Averages on the following indicators:

- That you are getting a good education at this school;
- With the computer technology skills you have learned at this school;
- With the activities you do in your classroom;
- That you know how well you are going with your schoolwork;

Performance of our students

- That the teacher explains clearly what to do in your schoolwork.

Staff satisfaction with school improved significantly in 2008, after scoring below State Average in 2006 and 2007 in many areas. While staff did not score above state average, the scores did not fall below either.