

QUEENSLAND STATE SCHOOL REPORTING - 2010

Hamilton State School (1130)

	Postal address	PO Box 347 Hamilton QLD 4007
	Phone	(07) 3268 1985
	Fax	(07) 3868 4359
	Email	the.principal@hamiltonss.eq.edu.au
	Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the My School website and the Department's Right to Information site .
Contact Person	Mr Adam Brandt	

Principal's foreword

Introduction

Hamilton State School has a wonderful family atmosphere and community spirit. Parents, staff and our community network have an understanding and desire for equitable opportunity for all students who attend our school. While we are proud of our academic achievements, we believe that the curriculum of the school is more than the syllabuses. It incorporates all the activities, experiences and opportunities students are given. We are proud of the way we work together to encourage students to be independent, friendly, caring and respectful towards each other.

School progress towards its goals in 2010

In 2010, we achieved our goals of curriculum reform reflective of the Essential Learnings and Standards. We undertook a range of assessments to monitor student progress and learning. All our teachers completed in-depth professional development in literacy and in a range of other areas. Building community partnerships and links continued to widen the curriculum opportunities for students.

Our professional development and school activities reflected an environmentally conscientious school. We were an Active Travel School as a part of a Brisbane City Council initiative. Staff and students travelled to school in different ways, some walking, riding, or travelling by trains and buses to reduce the use of cars as a mode of transport. Also, staff attended workshops in Earth Smart sustainability, Science Spark Training and Sustainable school events.

Hamilton State School continued to promote the range of cultures within the school. 2010 was the first year that students, staff and parents travelled on its Japan Tour. Students from Japan were involved in a home stay program, which was a fantastic experience for all students. Furthermore, the Annual Multicultural Day was a success including events such as a traditional Welcome of Country, Queensland Police Drums/Pipe Band, African Drummer, Multicultural Buffet lunch and many artefacts displayed in the library.

This year included our first trip to Japan. This was a fantastic event supported by parents staff and students. It is aimed that this event continues to be offered to students in the upper school each year.

Future outlook

In 2011, Hamilton State School is specifically targeting the three areas of Reading, Numeracy and eLearning. Resourcing and staff professional development will target these areas. In each of the areas, the school is aiming to do the following:

Reading

We are aiming to lift the number of students who are in the upper two bands and have all students above the National Minimum Standard in Reading for the 2011 NAPLAN tests. We are targeting resourcing in the updating of student reading books and staff development in Reading and Comprehension.

The school aims to purchase Reading Eggs to support students at school and at home in reading. This program will allow students to learn reading at their pace, challenging them to continually improve through a multimodal web based program. This will be available for each student in Prep through to Year 3, and ESL students across the school to support in each students reading journey.

Posters are to be purchased throughout the school to immerse the students and create a classroom rich for learning, supporting each student throughout their daily lessons.

Numeracy

We are aiming to lift the number of students in the upper two bands and have all students above the NMS in Numeracy for the 2011 NAPLAN Tests. The staff will be trained in the implementation of First Steps. This will allow all staff to be teaching Mathematics in a similar way, using similar language, allowing continuity across the year levels.

To support each student in the school and at home, it is aimed for the school to purchase Mathletics. This online program can be used by the staff to target each students' individual needs in Mathematics, yet challenge students to excel in their strengths.

eLearning

The school is targeting funding to increase the infrastructure, Information Technology and eLearning opportunities in across the school.

17 low-voltage laptops have been budgeted to be purchased, adding to the current desktop computers to be placed in the new school library. This will allow each class and each student to access a computer for use in whole class lessons and increase the computer to student ratio. 3 Wireless transmitters will be installed in the new library, allowing for up to 90 laptops to wirelessly access the network. Furthermore, grant applications are in place to add 4 more Wireless transmitters in each of the classrooms and 38 more laptops to incorporate the growth of the school and increase learning with computers in every students' daily experience.

In 2011, we will be opening a new \$850,000 library in the school. This is an exciting event that will enhance student learning through an innovative learning centre for all students in the school. Furniture will target open learning spaces, a relaxed learning environment, rich with information technology.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Hamilton State School is a small, coeducational school catering for students from Prep to Year Seven. It is located in a quiet, tree-lined, suburban street in Hamilton, six kilometres from Brisbane's CBD.

Total student enrolments for this school:

Total Enrolment	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2010 – Nov 2010)
79	48	31	81%

Characteristics of the student body:

Our small school has a rich multicultural mix of students, which reflects our current society. We often have over ten different ethnic groups represented at our school at any one time. This assists in the active awareness and appreciation of other cultures and social organisations. There is a positive response by parents in participating in cultural activities, which supports the involvement of racial harmony and mutual respect. In 2010, 18% of the school population spoke English as their second language.

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	20	100%	100%	0%	0%
Year 4 – Year 10	21	100%	100%	0%	0%
Year 11 – Year 12					
All Classes	20	100%	100%	0%	0%

School Disciplinary Absences

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

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Our curriculum program emphasizes quality student outcomes and lifelong learning (our motto is Learning for Life) and incorporates the Early Years Curriculum Guidelines and Essential Learnings for the eight Key Learning Areas of English, Mathematics, Study of Society and Environment, Science, The Arts, Music, Health and Physical Education and Languages Other than English (Japanese).

Our distinctive curriculum offerings include extension programs at Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre, Choir (who toured local Aged Care facilities), Raw Art Workshops, Arts Council, and swimming lessons in Term One and Four.

Our school at a glance

Extra curricula activities

Sports Clinics (AFL, cricket, rugby league)

Tennis coaching before and after school throughout the year

Interschool Sport (Tag League, Athletics, Cross Country)

Instrumental Music (offered through Nundah State School)

Choice Afternoons (chess, robotics, craft, drama, sport, cooking, etc)

Japan Tour (for upper school students)

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

The school has eighteen networked computers with internet access (security filtered) available for student use in classrooms and within a computer lab in the library. Four interactive whiteboards are in use in every classroom of the school. Learning activities are structured and sequenced to integrate information technology (including digital cameras, digital microscope, video cameras) with curriculum tasks. There is also ample opportunity for individuals and groups to experiment and access programs of their choice. Increasingly, in our school the use of computers and digital technology enables diverse learning experiences by catering for multiple intelligences and varied learning styles.

Social climate

Our aim is to provide a supportive school environment where all members feel safe, are valued and have the opportunity to learn in a positive, socially just environment. Our school has a positive family atmosphere. This is partly due to the size of the school, but also to programs and parental support. Our buddy program continued to be successful in 2009 (students from the upper school work side by side with Prep-2 students for a session each week).

Whole school activities provide ideal opportunities for all age groups to interact and support each other. Fruit Bat in the mornings (staff and students meet informally before school to eat fruit before each day begins), Arts council performances, Discos, our annual Pet Show, Interhouse sporting events, such as swimming and athletics carnivals, are all excellent times to develop positive social climate.

In 2010 our Chaplaincy program continued. This was in conjunction with Northgate and Hendra State Schools. We have a mentor model in place. Our chaplain visited once a week and is a support person who acted as a coach in providing mentoring to students. She liaised with teachers, other staff and parents to best support our children. We continued to use the *Virtues* program and this was incorporated into our whole school approach. Our chaplain implements initiatives that improve the well being, participation and achievement of our students. The chaplain and a staff member trained in the *Friends for Life* program, which was used throughout the classes. Parents and staff are supportive of this program and successfully sought community funding for this project.

In 2010, Hamilton State School received an Outstanding in the Teaching and Learning Audit for 'A Culture that promotes Learning', the highest achievement score on the four point scale. This is an amazing result for any school and is a credit to the supportive nature of parents, staff and students in our school.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Performance measure	Result 2010
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a	63%

Our school at a glance

good education at school	
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school	91%
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child's school	93%
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives	86%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school	100%

Involving parents in their child's education.

Our school's atmosphere is friendly and welcoming. We invite parents to school and classroom events. Parents are appreciated as swimming coaches, reading tutors, tuckshop helpers, P&C members, officials on sports days and in their various capacities as the major contributors to their children's education. Staff encourage parents to take up opportunities to learn more about resilience, how to help with reading, how student work is moderated and to how to provide just the right amount of support for homework. Parent teacher interviews are held twice a year, however parents are free to make appointments with teachers to discuss progress at any time.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

The enrolments increased with a new Prep building added to the school. This moved our classes from three to four. With added enrolments in the school, this had an effect on most areas of consumption. Staff attended Earth Smart professional development and these practises were passed onto the students. The school was involved in Active Travel, a local government initiative to reduce the consumption of traffic around school area. This program worked very well in the school with every Wednesday an Active Travel day.

Year	Total	Electricity	Sewerage	Waste	Water	Gas	Other	Electricity kWh	WaterKL	GasMJ
2010	\$7,238	\$4,691	\$1,317	\$0	\$729	\$0	\$501	19,530	303	0
2009	\$6,852	\$4,831	\$0	\$0	\$340	\$0	\$1,681	0	1,084	0
% change 2009 - 2010	6%	-3%	N/A	N/A	114%	N/A	-70%	N/A	-72%	N/A

Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous Staff

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	9	5	0
Full-time equivalents	5	3	0

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	1
Bachelor degree	8
Diploma	0
Certificate	0

The pie chart illustrates the distribution of qualifications among all teachers. The largest segment is Bachelor degree at 89%, followed by Masters at 11%, and Doctorate at 0%.

Qualification	Percentage
Doctorate	0%
Masters	11%
Bachelor degree	89%
Diploma	0%

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2010 was \$5,431.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Earth Smart - Environmental Education Workshop, Science Spark Training, Friends for Life – Social Skilling, BSM Workshop, First Aid for all staff, Hidden Histories, Regional Principal Days, Sustainable School Workshop.

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

Our staff profile

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2010.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the previous school year, 72% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2010 school year.

Performance of our students

Key student outcomes

Attendance

Student attendance - 2010											
The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2010 was 95%.											
Student attendance for each year level											
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
93%	95%	91%	96%	95%	96%	97%					

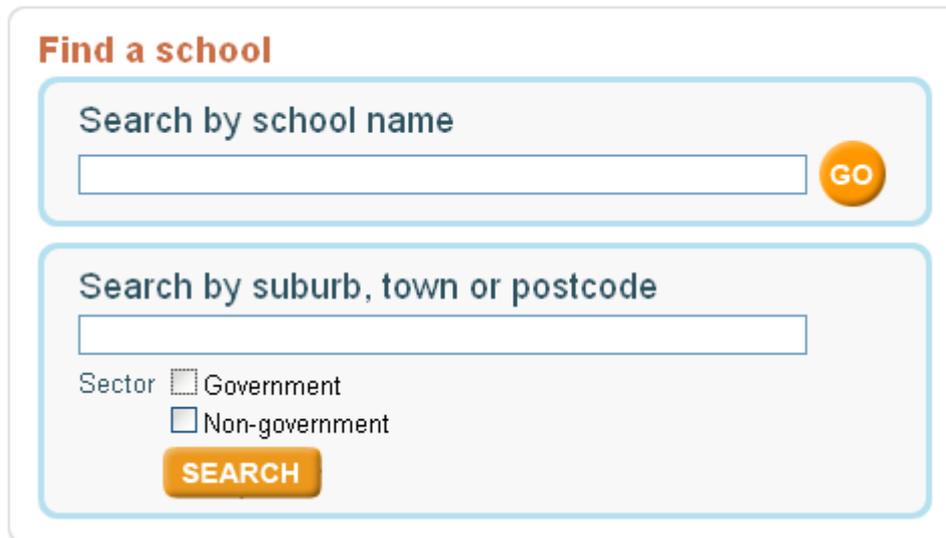
Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school	
<p>Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.</p> <p>Rolls are provided to class teachers weekly and returned to administration for recording on the School Management System (SMS). Rolls are marked by class teachers twice daily. Parents are required to contact the school, via phone call or letter to advise of an absence. Hamilton State School monitors student attendance on a regular basis. When no contact has been initiated by the parent, the school will contact the home to enquire as to the reason for absence. Teachers refer attendance issues at our focused individual tracking meetings.</p> <p>Excessive student absence is followed up with parents in line with SMS-PR-029 which includes parents meeting with the principal and Guidance Officer to discuss and resolve any concerns regarding non-attendance. Most parents at Hamilton State School are vigilant in reporting student absence hence it is in very rare cases that student attendance concerns reach this level.</p>	

Achievement – Years 3, 5, and 7

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.



The screenshot shows a search interface titled "Find a school". It contains two main search sections. The first section is "Search by school name", which includes a text input field and a circular orange "GO" button. The second section is "Search by suburb, town or postcode", which includes a text input field, a "Sector" label with two radio button options: "Government" and "Non-government", and a rectangular orange "SEARCH" button.

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

Due to confidentiality reasons, data within this section is being withheld. Hamilton State School aims to ensure all students in the school meet the National Minimum Standard in areas of literacy and numeracy.