

Queensland State School Reporting – 2011

Hamilton State School (1130)



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Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the My School website and the Department's Right to Information site .
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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This report is designed to provide a summary of the progress made at Hamilton State School during 2011. It also contains information about what makes our school unique – the exciting and engaging teaching and learning, the multi-age learning environment, the social skills, the 'family-like' supportive learning environment and the dedication and commitment of all staff. The content of this document meets both the QLD Govt. and Aust. Govt. annual reporting requirements for schools.

School progress towards its goals in 2011

With key priorities for 2011 to lift results in literacy and numeracy, and enhance eLearning opportunities at the school, we targeted our resourcing to enhance these areas. I would like to highlight the many achievements we have done to achieve these goals.

- We made improvements to our literacy, numeracy and Science Programs to ensure improvement in outcomes for all of our students, and this was verified by our improved results in the Curriculum Audit in 2011. Hamilton State School received a result of 6 Highs and 2 Mediums on the Curriculum Audit, which demonstrated our commitment to improve each students' learning outcomes.
- Purchased approximately \$9,500 of reading books to enhance guided reading for all students and abilities across the school. Funding for these purchases were school based and supported through the P&C.
- Purchased online software to be used at school and home in Mathletics and Reading Eggs. These multimodal online programs have been used to support students at their level where they can progress through the levels and activities at their own pace and needs.
- Professional development opportunities were undertaken by staff in the Australian Curriculum (English, Mathematics, Science), First Steps Mathematics (12 hour Course), Reading, and eLearning.
- Purchased 17 low-voltage laptops to double the curriculum computers in the school.
- The P&C supported the school by seeking funding to purchase 7 more low voltage laptops. The networked computers have over tripled for student use to have enough computers for each student in a whole class lesson.
- An Assessment agenda for Hamilton State School was created, targeting English and Mathematics achievement standards for students in P-7.

Outcomes from this included:

- 100% of students in year three, five and seven met the NAPLAN National Minimum Standard (NMS) in



reading and numeracy in 2011.

- ELearning opportunities have increased for every student in the school with access to online learning in mathematics and reading, and access to a networked computer during class.
- Increased resources in English and Mathematics for all students in the school.

We have been very fortunate to have a new Library/resource Centre completed this year. With approximately \$30,000 of new fittings and furniture, wireless Internet connectivity, break out rooms and large teaching spaces, we have a modern evolving facility to enhance teaching and learning opportunities for all students. The Official Opening will occur in 2012.

The staff and students were able to personally see Queen Elizabeth II at Brett's Wharf for several minutes before her cruise along the Brisbane River. It was a great spectacle seeing the students waving their flags and showing their support for the start of Her Majesty's visit to Brisbane. Four students were privileged to hand the Queen flowers and briefly talk to her – a moment I am sure they will remember for the rest of their lives. The school should be very proud of their behaviour and how they presented themselves in the community. I was very pleased with the efforts of all staff and parents for their response at short notice to give the students a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity to see the Queen!

The students of 5/6/7 organized a Fun Run to raise money for their camp and the P&C. This was a fantastic event with some students running up to 10km. This event qualified the school to enter the CUA Community Care Grant for \$5,000. The community, parents and students got behind the school and we were awarded the winning school, with the most votes in our area. The school now has \$5,000 to upgrade the bitumen area to create a new multi-purpose play area.

After much work, live internet sessions and learning the 'website language', the new website went live. Features of the website for parents are the News, What's Happening, Newsletter and Document sections. The new look website is a work in progress and we are hoping more pages and documents are added to utilise its potential to inform and be a document library for current and new parents. Please visit www.hamiltonss.eq.edu.au to view our new website.

This year was the first year of trialing Instrumental Music in the library via the program Elluminate Live. Students in year 4-7 have had 30 minute lessons with an instrumental music teacher online with Teacher Aide support. Students use the school laptops to see and hear the teacher giving them the lesson. It is great to watch. This trial has been offered again in 2012 due to its success.

Future outlook

In 2012, Hamilton State School is specifically targeting: reading and numeracy; differentiation strategies; implement the Australian curriculum in English, Mathematics and Science; and embed a school culture of high expectations – of every child learning in every classroom, every day by supporting all learners in the school.

Community Partnerships remain a strong focus for the school. It is hoped that through strong community partnerships, our school community will grow. Though the Quadrennial School Review process, the goals of the next four years at Hamilton State School will be outlined. A committee of staff, parents and community members will be set up to review the previous Three Year Plan and plan for the next four years.

We will continue to review current programs and policies to ensure we continue the many successes Hamilton State School has achieved in 2011.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: **Coeducational**

Year levels offered: **Prep - Year 7**

Total student enrolments for this school:

Total Enrolment	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2011 – Nov 2011)
92	53	39	93%

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.

Class sizes – Proportion of school classes achieving class size targets in 2011

Phase	Average Class Size
Prep – Year 3	20.8
Year 4 – Year 10	25
Year 11 – Year 12	N/A
All Classes	21.8

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	2
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0
Exclusions	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0

Our school at a glance

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, Essential Learnings for the five Key Learning Areas of Study of Society and Environment, The Arts, Music, Health and Physical Education and Languages Other than English (Japanese) and Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics and Science.

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.

Extra curricula activities

Sports Clinics (AFL, cricket, rugby league)

Tennis coaching before and after school throughout the year

Interschool Sport (Athletics, Cross Country)

Instrumental Music for students in years 4-7

Japan Study Tour (for upper school students)

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

The school has 38 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.

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 2011 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,

Our school at a glance

which was used throughout the classes. Parents and staff are supportive of this program and successfully sought community funding for this project.

In 2011, Hamilton State School received a High in the Teaching and Learning Audit for 'A Culture that promotes Learning', the second 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 2011
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school	83%
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school	86%
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child's school	96%
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives	92%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school	95%

DW – Data withheld

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

Our school at a glance

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

The enrolments increased and the new building was utilised by staff and students. With added enrolments in the school, this had an effect on most areas of consumption. Students and staff utilised recycling bins, worm farms, and turning off electrical equipment as a part of each of our roles in reducing the schools carbon footprint.

Environmental footprint indicators, 2010-2011

	Electricity KwH	Water KL
2011	25,611	208
2010	19,530	303
% change 10 - 11	31%	-31%

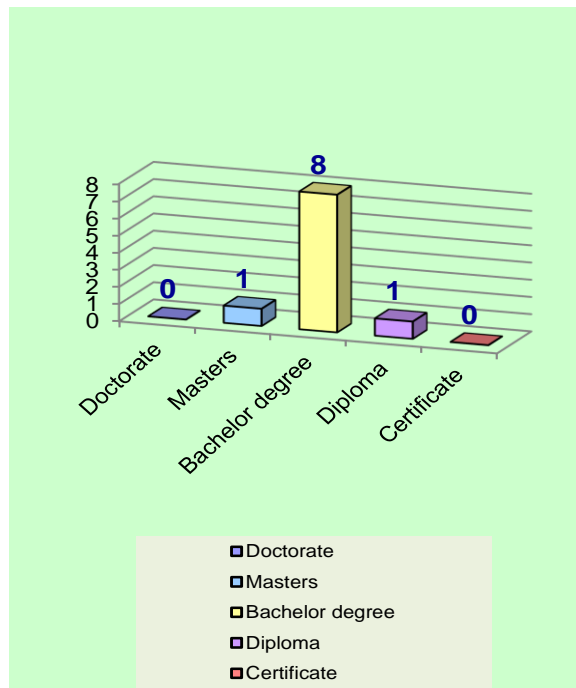
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	10	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	1
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2011 was \$4727.21.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Australian Curriculum workshops

Our staff profile

Reading workshops

First Steps Mathematics – Measurement. All teachers.

First Aid and CPR Training. All Staff

Japanese Workshop. Japanese Teacher

Queensland Association of State School Principals – Brisbane North. Principal

Science Spark Training – 4-7 teachers

Embedding ICTs.

Implementing the National Curriculum.

Student Free Days – working with other small schools.

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2011 was 100%.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2011.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 96% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2011 school year.

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

Performance of our students

Key student outcomes

Student attendance - 2011

The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage) in 2011 was 92%.

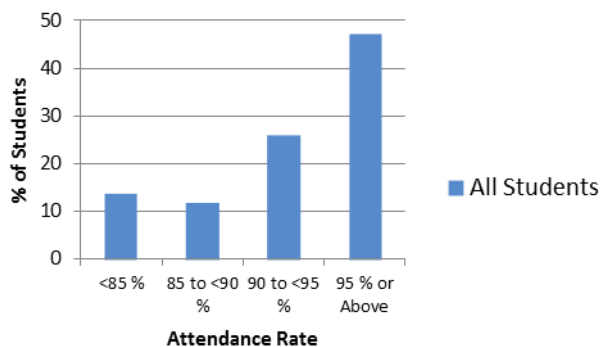
The overall attendance rate for all Queensland state Primary schools over the same period was 92%.

Student attendance rate 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
85%	90%	93%	89%	95%	93%	95%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



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.

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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.

Excessive student absence is followed up with parents in line with SMS-PR-029 which includes parents

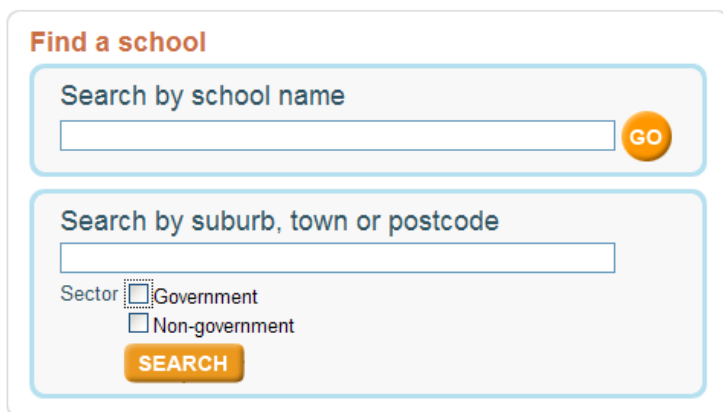
Performance of our students

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.

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/>.

To access our NAPLAN results, 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**.



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 yellow "GO" button. The second section is "Search by suburb, town or postcode", which includes a text input field, a "Sector" dropdown menu with two options: "Government" (selected) and "Non-government", and a yellow "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.

Performance of our students

Achievement – Closing the Gap

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students perform close to or above our non-Indigenous students. Attendance rates are also close to the attendance rate for non-Indigenous students. We will continue to work closely with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to ensure the continued engagement of students.