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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Wilston State School was established in 1920 and is located on the north side of Brisbane approximately five kilometres from the City Centre. The school services the communities of Wilston, Grange and Alderley. The district is a well populated residential suburb catering for people in the predominantly middle socio-economic brackets.

Our staff and community are determined that all students reach their academic, physical and social potential now and into the future.

Vision

Traditional values and progressive thinking for excellence in education for all students.
"Proud Traditions and Innovative Futures"

Mission Statement

To provide a quality public education that encourages and enables success for all students now and into the future.

Statement of Values

At Wilston State School we are committed to the following core values:

- a caring, supportive and safe learning environment
- student success
- dignity and worth of all individuals
- excellence in teaching and learning
- a love of learning
- continuous improvement
- home, school, community and industry partnerships
- recognition and reward
- high standards in behaviour, scholarship and appearance, and
- environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Philosophy

At Wilston State School we are dedicated to the provision of high quality education for all students. We offer a professional and supportive learning environment where the genuine concern, commitment and enthusiasm of staff enables students to become:

- effective communicators across a wide range of contexts, now and into the future
- moral and ethical citizens who display a deep understanding of self, society and culture
- enthusiastic, lifelong learners able to work independently and with others
- confident and happy individuals with the ability to be resilient, self-improve and be self-disciplined
- critical thinkers who use appropriate strategies to extend, create, adapt and innovate, and,
- efficient information seekers able to gain, organise and utilise information from a variety of contexts.

The success of the school is supported by a strong sense of community and achievement. A strong sense of school identity exists within the local community which supports every aspect of school life.

The Wilston State School Parents' and Citizens' Association is active and supportive and assists the school to provide

the best learning opportunities for all students. The Wilston State School Parents' and Citizens' Association operates a swimming club, a before and after care, and, vacation care facility, a school tuckshop and a uniform / book shop.

Enrolments

The total number of students from Preparatory to Year Seven enrolled at Wilston State School as of 30th June 2009 was 784.

School enrolments have gradually increased in recent years and a master planning process exists to cater for the additional facilities required for the projected student enrolment growth. An enrolment management plan serves to support the managed enrolment growth and provide service to students who reside in the equidistant catchment area. For details of the Enrolment Management Plan for Wilston State School see the website :

www.education.qld.gov.au/schools/catchment/wilston-ss.html .

Future outlook

Student achievement data is consistently well above the state and national averages for years 3, 5 and 7 students. The school goal is to further improve the impressive academic achievement of students. This will be done by providing a relevant curriculum, academic rigour, innovation and opportunities for all students to achieve their potential. The school will continue to provide many extra curricula opportunities for students to develop their individual strengths and talents.

In 2009 Wilston State School will focus on the school priority areas of literacy, numeracy and information communication technology.

In 2009/ 2010 the school is committed to work closely with the P&C to ensure that the facility projects organised under Building the Education Revolution meet the requirements of this community.

The school has a future projected student enrolment of 850 in future years.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Wilston State School has a total student enrolment of 784. (Data Source: 2009 Census)

Wilston State School offers a co-educational program for students from the Preparatory Year to Year Seven.

Curriculum offerings

At Wilston State School we strive for academic excellence from the Preparatory Year through to Year Seven.

Our school-based curriculum programs are based on the Queensland Studies Authority's (QSA) Queensland Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCARF) with our emphasis on the alignment of curriculum, assessment and reporting.

Our curriculum is essentially organised under three areas: English, Mathematics and Integrated Studies. These curriculum programs are structured around the Essential Learnings and Standards and in the Preparatory Year, the Early Years Curriculum Guidelines.

Our curriculum programs enable our teachers to plan units that meet the unique needs and interests of their students while providing them with multiple explicit learning opportunities to achieve the essential learnings at each juncture. Our programs foster negotiated yet rigorous learning contexts in which students can actively engage and construct their learning.

Embedded in and integral to all of our curriculum programs is the explicit teaching of and meaningful use of literacy, numeracy and information and communication technologies (ICTs). This multi-disciplinary approach to the teaching of these key skills enables students to effectively access, utilise and evaluate information, develop new understandings and communicate with others in a variety of ways necessary to participate in our society in the 21st century. By engaging in real-life and life-like learning contexts our students are supported to achieve to their potential and demonstrate their learning in contexts which build a 'love of learning'.

Specialised school-based personnel support students with library, classroom music, instrumental music, health and physical education, learning support and languages other than English. Advisory visiting teachers provide support for students with identified needs including: Hearing Impairment, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Impairment and English as a Second Language.

Our school at a glance

Extra curricula activities

Wilston State School provides any extra curricular opportunities for students to develop their learning and life opportunities.

These include:

- Student Leadership Program
- Choirs
- Symphonic Band
- Wild Catz Jazz Band
- Strings Ensembles and Quartets
- Swimming Club
- Demonstration Skipping Team
- Chess Club
- Annual Speaking Competition
- Science Competition
- Mathematic Olympiad
- International Competitions and Assessments for Schools, conducted by Educational Assessment Australia, ICAS.
- City Cluster of State Schools High Achievers Program
 - Inter school sports
- Representative Sports – City District, Metropolitan North Region, and Qld State Level

How computers are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are integral to teaching and learning across all areas of the curriculum at Wilston State School.

Students are explicitly taught to utilise Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) as a means to access, manage, evaluate, and communicate information to develop new understandings and ideas and effectively participate as lifelong learners in the 21st century.

Some examples include:

- using email to communicate with others
- accessing the internet to research and communicate with others
- participating in on-line projects relevant to classroom learning
- creating websites, movies, DVDs, claymations
- manipulating images and text to communicate information using a variety of applications appropriate to the task e.g. Excel, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint.

Social climate

Wilston State School has a supportive and caring school social climate. Students are supported by class teachers who identify their individual needs and plan to provide opportunities where students are challenged in a supportive, safe environment.

The School Behaviour Plan provides strategies that promote positive reinforcement of appropriate student behaviour and defines clear strategies to support all students. This plan is further supported by a comprehensive Social Skills Program which explicitly skills students to positively engage in a range of social situations. A consistent approach is ensured through common classroom teaching, the active involvement of students sharing these messages at school assemblies and via the weekly school newsletter. The school supports an anti-bullying approach and incorporates a number of proactive strategies including chill out room, buddy classes and supported lunchtime activities. A strong student leadership program operates in the middle school to enable students to actively contribute towards maintaining a positive social climate in the school.

A strong and comprehensive school leadership development program in years six and seven and, a buddy class program, also enables students to actively contribute towards maintaining a positive social climate in the school.

Our school at a glance

The Student Support Network meets regularly to identify support for specific students referred to them by school staff. The Religious Education Program, and close links with the local churches, support the pastoral care for students and supports the active community life at Wilston State School.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents are actively involved at Wilston State School. Parents form a strong volunteer base to support school functions. The school has a Parent Liaison Coordinator and each class is supported by a volunteer Parent Liaison Representative who acts to welcome new families and support the communication of the many class and school activities.

The school has a weekly newsletter and each class publishes regular class newsletters. Regular assemblies also are a school highlight.

Parents are regularly informed about their child's learning progress through the opportunity to attend two interviews each year, or as required. Informative summative student reports clearly communicate student progress each semester.

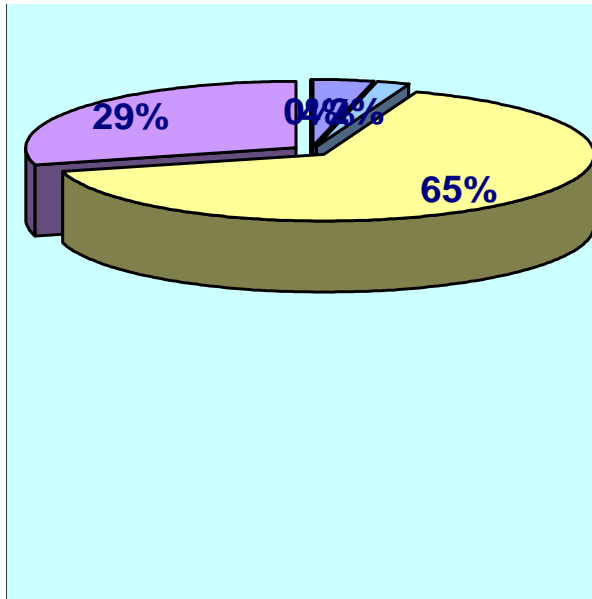
Parents are invited to attend workshops and guest speakers which support them through increased knowledge and skills in specific areas. e.g. Support-a-Reader, Support-a-Writer, mathematics, class parent meetings.

The Wilston State School Parents' and Citizens' Association is active and welcoming. Each year they host a welcoming event where families meet and socialise. The Wilston State School Parents' and Citizens' Association has sub-committees which support the Wilston Crocodiles Swimming Club, Wilston Kids Care (Before, after and vacation school care, tuckshop and a uniform/ book shop). The association holds a biennial fete and a biennial art show. The association generously supports the school each year by providing a substantial financial donation to the school to support curriculum enhancement for all students.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Doctorate	2
Masters	1
Bachelor Degree	36
Diploma	16
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$32 388.96.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows: Curriculum planning, teaching and assessment, literacy professional development, gifted education, Information Technology, City Cluster moderation of assessment.

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 89 %.

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, 85 % 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 2009 was 96 %.

Key outcomes

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.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	440	510	586
	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 97%	96%	99%
Writing	Average score for the school	428	506	556
	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 95%	97%	99%
Spelling	Average score for the school	412	487	558
	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 95%	97%	97%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	435	515	579
	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 98%	97%	97%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	434	494	612
	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 97%	98%	100%

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	76%
Writing	90%
Number	90%

Performance of our students

Value added

Wilston State School students consistently achieve well above the state mean in the Year 3, 5 and 7 tests in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

Wilston State School provides many extra curricula opportunities for students to develop their unique gifts and talents. The school is proud of a renowned instrumental music program, combined schools Jazz Band and choirs.

Selected students participate in the City Cluster High Achievers program in year six and seven which supports excellence in Mathematics, Science and English. Identified year 5, 6 and 7 students are able to access the Young Scholars program offered through the Queensland Academies.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The 2008 School Opinion Survey indicates that 78.3 % of parents are satisfied that their child is happy to go to this school. 86.9 % of parent responses indicate their child is safe at this school. This is above state mean. Parents indicate that they are very satisfied with the behaviour and discipline at Wilston State School. This is above the state mean.

The 2008 School Opinion Survey identifies that 68 % of students are satisfied that Wilston State School is a good school. Students responses indicate that they feel safe at school, and, that they are satisfied with the behaviour of students at this school.

Staff surveys for 2008 showed a high level of appreciation for the staff student relationships that exist within the school.

Professional development opportunities rated above state mean and teachers felt their efforts in the workplace were worthwhile.