

School plan 2015-2017

Lowesdale Public School 2429



School background 2015–2017

School vision statement

At Lowesdale Public School we strive to provide an extensive range of learning experiences and opportunities within a practical and flexible curriculum that will engage and motivate all students to discover, learn and build their knowledge to be successful, confident and discerning life-long learners.

Through the education process we aim to engage the students in learning which will assist them to cultivate the 21st Century learning skills of critical thinking, communication, creativity, collaboration and problem solving, and to use their knowledge wisely.

As well as knowledge and skills, at Lowesdale Public we endeavour to assist the students to develop personal values and attributes such as honesty, resilience, empathy and respect for others, and a commitment to the national values of democracy, equity and justice.

School context

Lowesdale Public School is a PP6 school located 18km north of Corowa on the Riverina Highway. The school is surrounded by farming land. In 2016 there are 20 students from 13 families. The school aims to provide “Quality Education in a Rural Environment”. Programs are tailored to suit the learning needs of individual students within a safe, happy school environment. Students are encouraged to become responsible and enquiring learners. Lowesdale Public School is part of the Bangerang Learning Community which also incorporates schools from Corowa, Mulwala and Savernake. The school receives strong support from the parent body and wider community.

School planning process

The process to develop this plan has included:—

- School Principal attending DEC professional learning sessions to prepare for the coming changes with the RAM and School Plan
- opportunities to collaborate with other small schools were particularly sought
- Surveying students, parents and staff to consider what is done well at Lowesdale Public School, what could be improved, and any additional elements that could be added
- The information gathered was collated and discussed with staff
- The School Plan was drafted then presented to staff and parents for final approval.

School strategic directions 2015–2017

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

Building Wisdom and Strength of Learners LEARNING

Purpose:

To build the foundational skills and attitudes for learning which will enable the students to continue to learn throughout life by providing learning experiences which are personalised, relevant, engaging and challenging.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2

Building Wisdom and Strength of Teachers TEACHING

Purpose:

To build capacity in staff and develop teacher quality through accessing professional learning opportunities, coaching and mentoring to build teacher capacity to meet the needs of individual students.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3

Building Wisdom & Strength through Connections CONNECTING

Purpose:

To strategically build connections with families, community organisations, businesses and the Bangerang Learning Community to access intellectual, physical and / or other resources not available within the school to broaden educational opportunities for increasing student outcomes and teacher quality.

Strategic Direction 1: Building Wisdom and Strength of Learners LEARNING

Purpose

To build the foundational skills and attitudes for learning which will enable the students to continue to learn throughout life by providing learning experiences which are personalised, relevant, engaging and challenging.

Improvement Measures

All students learning journals reflect inclusion of How2Learn language

Growth in all students learning referenced by the literacy and numeracy continuums

People

Students

Students understand what level they are at and can set goals to improve their learning. Students will be engaged with teaching and learning programs that are meaningful and relevant, accepting responsibility for efforts in the learning process.

Staff

Develop teachers' understanding of where students are at in their learning in order to develop individualised programs. Build staff capacity in quality planning of differentiated learning programs, teaching, assessing and reporting in all KLAs

Parents/Carers

Inform parents of the learning activities being undertaken within the school and purposes of each program in encouraging the students to be life-long learners. Parents will have the opportunity to support their child's learning through a practical understanding of the curriculum.

Leaders

Lead the professional learning of teachers and demonstrate exemplary teaching practises.

Processes

Professional Learning to promote student learning, especially HOW2Learn.

Develop high quality assessment, data recording, planning and programming to meet the individual knowledge and skill development needs of the students, assisting teachers in developing differentiated programs.

Evaluation Plan

Collection and analysis of PLAN data.

Rubrics and work samples collected and analysed (each term with teaching programs)

Collection and analysis of student reflections –oral and written to gauge student engagement, lesson relevance and level of challenge. (each term)

Practices and Products

Practices

- Teachers are able to plan and differentiate programs to suit the needs of students based on assessment for, as and of learning. Students setting learning goals.
- Teachers use HOW2Learn strategies to stimulate student engagement and to provide feedback.
- Students reflecting and reporting on the achievement of their own learning and leadership goals.

Products

- Students demonstrate high engagement in the use of 21st century skills in their learning.
- Student reflection diaries are used to monitor their growth.
- Individual student achievement is increased at or beyond stage expectations on the Literacy and Numeracy continuums.

Strategic Direction 2: Building Wisdom and Strength of Teachers TEACHING

Purpose

To build capacity in staff and develop teacher quality through accessing professional learning opportunities, coaching and mentoring to build teacher capacity to meet the needs of individual students.

Improvement Measures

Growth in evidence informed pedagogy by all teachers

Improved staff skills to plan, implement and assess for student learning

People

Students

Students learn to make relevant judgements about their own progress using rubrics, the continuum and HOW2Learn metalanguage.

Staff

Reflecting on professional development needs and targeting professional learning opportunities that will deliver quality teaching for students

Parents/Carers

Regularly updated on training undertaken by staff and the purpose of the Professional Learning

Community Partners

Sourcing professional development in conjunction with BLC schools

Leaders

Lead the professional learning of teachers and demonstrate exemplary teaching practises.

Processes

Developing professional learning opportunities with the Bangerang Learning Community (BLC) to attract skilled presenters and to maximise collegiate sharing opportunities

Engaging in professional learning to assist teachers to personalise/ differentiate learning.

Evaluation Plan

Collection and analysis of teaching programs each term

Analysis of Performance Development plans

Collection and analysis of observation data

Practices and Products

Practices

- Professional development opportunities provided at local level to enhance skills in classroom pedagogy
- Teachers will direct their own professional development as guided through their own goals.

Products

- All teachers will have increased professional engagement and collaboration in school and with wider learning communities and is reflected in their learning goals.
- Teachers are able to plan and differentiate programs to suit the needs of every student based on assessment as, of and for learning.

Strategic Direction 3: Building Wisdom & Strength through Connections

CONNECTING

Purpose

To strategically build connections with families, community organisations, businesses and the Bangerang Learning Community to access intellectual, physical and / or other resources not available within the school to broaden educational opportunities for increasing student outcomes and teacher quality.

Improvement Measures

A wider range of educational opportunities offered to students.

An increase in student, staff and parents' satisfaction and engagement with the school.

People

Students

Students need to be resilient and willing to participate in new learning experiences.

Staff

Develop the capacity to source professional development in areas of need

Parents/Carers

Provide parents with the knowledge of programs that are available and their worth.

Community Partners

Developing links with other organisations within the community

Leaders

Principal and BLC leaders collaborating to plan and develop professional learning and cross school opportunities

Processes

Sporting connections – source specialist coaches or skill development programs for tennis, lawn bowls, cricket, gymnastics, netball, NRL, AFL, and swimming; accessing the Physically Active Sports Portal as it is developed

Music connections – offer individualised and small group lessons with music tutor, and utilise Musica Viva program to increase exposure to a variety of musical styles

LOTE connections – utilise online language programs, other school language teacher or community member able to teach another language

Bangerang Learning Community connections: – provide additional curriculum activities, such as sport or creative arts programs, through activity days

Evaluation Plan

Monitor opportunities being offered to students and how many are engaged with them.

Analysis of P&C meeting attendance and minutes to gauge community engagement with the school and its initiatives

Collection and analysis of student reflections –oral and written to gauge student engagement and level of challenge of activities. (each term)

Practices and Products

Practices

- Music program functioning and supported by families
- Greater variety of skills and knowledge of different sports developed
- Students learning the basics of a language other than English

Greater connections with other schools in the area

Products

A diverse range of learning opportunities is delivered for students.