

# School plan 2018-2020

Urbenville Public School 3316



# School background 2018–2020

## School vision statement

Our vision at Urbenville Public School is to support students to become life-long learners by enabling them to acquire and articulate knowledge and skills in all key learning areas. We endeavour for students to participate and contribute to the global world and to be successful adults in the 21st century.

We believe that:

- Education is the shared responsibility of parents, teachers and students.
- Students achieve their potential in an atmosphere of cooperative endeavour.
- Honest communication, in a climate of mutual respect, is conducive to effective learning.

Urbenville Public School strives to ensure that all students, regardless of ability, develop their talents and capacities – socially, emotionally, spiritually and academically. We promote an environment, which fosters the values of respect, integrity and cooperation.

Through the provision of quality teaching and learning we provide the students with the opportunities to achieve personal excellence.

“We are ever aiming higher in our work, our friendships and our lives”.

## School context

Urbenville Public School is located in Urbenville (population 200) in Northern NSW just thirty kilometres south of the NSW/QLD border and one hundred and fifteen kilometres northwest of Lismore.

Three strategic directions were developed after the consultation process.

Firstly, it is a necessity that all students are working at or above their expected year level in all areas of literacy. There is also a strong need for students to be socially and mentally ready for school and to be capable of meeting the expectations of learning in a school setting.

Secondly, there is a responsibility for our school to continue to be valued and at the heart of its community. Urbenville Public School is loved by its community. A huge majority of the town’s citizens were either schooled here or have sent their students to the school over the years, which has created an interested and enthusiastic ownership by the town. All are keen to know what is happening at the school and newsletters are always in high demand at the local shops and bowling club. Special school events and assemblies can attract in excess of sixty attendees of our parent and local community members. Strengthening relationships with the local community, making the school accessible and welcoming local knowledge and skills is crucial in the continued success of our school.

Thirdly, due to the closure of local industry and lack of employment opportunities in Urbenville, it is imperative that students are given ample opportunities to experience the world beyond our town. Students need to be competent and confident in the world of the 21st century to be active and successful adults.

## School planning process

Urbenville Public School has an incredibly dedicated and hard-working P&C with parents who give so generously of their time to assist whenever needed at school. Parents and community members were consulted on what direction or changes they would like see at Urbenville Public School in the coming years.

# School strategic directions 2018–2020



**Purpose:**

There is a need for increased literacy levels for all students at Urbenville Public School. Students who are not achieving at or above their expected year level in literacy will struggle to achieve success in all key learning areas. As a small school, it is imperative, that staff are targeting learning to meet the needs of our individual students to give them the very best chance at school and in their future lives. Students in the early years of school will need intensive phonics, reading and writing programs to build a strong foundation to set them up for future success at school.



**Purpose:**

Urbenville Public School is not only geographically in the centre of Urbenville, but it is the heart of our town. Not only are the parents and families of students involved and interested in our school programs and events, but the wider local community also want to be a part of our school. Urbenville Public School will work towards strengthening family and community engagement in order to produce positive educational and social effects on all of our students. Through a strengthened degree of mutuality and responsive dialogue between key stakeholders a commitment to joint action can be forged in order to deliver more educational opportunities and learning experiences for our students.

# Strategic Direction 1: Support literate and successful students.

## Purpose

There is a need for increased literacy levels for all students at Urbenville Public School. Students who are not achieving at or above their expected year level in literacy will struggle to achieve success in all key learning areas. As a small school, it is imperative, that staff are targeting learning to meet the needs of our individual students to give them the very best chance at school and in their future lives. Students in the early years of school will need intensive phonics, reading and writing programs to build a strong foundation to set them up for future success at school.

## Improvement Measures

All students to achieve increased literacy levels and to be working at or above expected growth at their stage and Learning Progression level with particular focus on the learning needs of Aboriginal students.

Parents of Indigenous students report that the school values their identity and culture.

An improvement in phonics and reading in all students to ensure a strong base for the rest of their schooling.

## People

### Students

Students will be involved in intensive daily literacy programs such as: Jolly Phonics, home reading, spelling and writing to enhance their success in all key learning areas.

Students work towards understanding their learning goals, how to achieve them and being able to recognise their strengths and areas of improvement.

### Staff

Staff are actively targeting literacy programs and teaching strategies to meet students' individual needs and goals.

Staff continually review and reassess data to inform teaching practice ensuring that explicit teaching and high expectations underpin pedagogy.

### Parents/Carers

Parents are encouraged to build strong partnerships with teachers working with homework and home reading goals.

Build the capacity of Aboriginal parents, carers and community members to actively engage and participate in education and embed principals of cultural respect.

All parents are welcomed and encouraged to participate in school events and classroom activities to build better relationships between home and school.

### Community Partners

Active interactions with residents at the

## Processes

Daily routine of current research-based intensive literacy activities to target improvement in all areas of English.

Regular testing, assessment, feedback and reviews of content taught to inform future teaching and ensure that individual targets are being met.

## Evaluation Plan

Have students improved in English outcomes? Are Indigenous students working at or above their expected year level in literacy? This will be assessed through NAPLAN, PLAN, regular testing, benchmark levels, classroom observations and writing samples.

Does data show that students are working at or above expected year level in their reading, writing and spelling?

Are teachers taking responsibility for monitoring data and changing practice accordingly to best meet student needs? Teachers will do this through observations, collegial conversations, feedback.

Do results of parent, staff and students surveys reflect awareness of success gained?

## Practices and Products

### Practices

Students are more self-aware of their learning and achievements gained and can work towards improvement in areas of need.

Through the utilisation of Jolly Phonics, Spelling Matters, Home Reading program and individualised learning plans, students are working towards achieving above or at expected outcomes.

### Products

Students will gain confidence from learning in a supportive and productive environment.

Students are achieving at or above their expected year level in literacy continually striving for self-improvement and success.

# Strategic Direction 1: Support literate and successful students.

## People

Aged Care Home about their experiences in life and building confidence by reading frequent to different audiences.

Stronger links with the local Aboriginal Education Consultation Group (AECG) and outside agencies that enable collaborative planning and decision making to benefit the school community.

## Leaders

Priority given in the school budget for funding programs, trainings, staffing and planning time to ensure that improvement measures are targeted.

The school Principal, through the PDP process, will ask school staff to address this Strategic Direction in their own professional goals to ensure the entire school team is working towards supporting students to be as successful as they can be.

# Strategic Direction 2: Strengthen family and community engagement

## Purpose

Urbenville Public School is not only geographically in the centre of Urbenville, but it is the heart of our town. Not only are the parents and families of students involved and interested in our school programs and events, but the wider local community also want to be a part of our school. Urbenville Public School will work towards strengthening family and community engagement in order to produce positive educational and social effects on all of our students. Through a strengthened degree of mutuality and responsive dialogue between key stakeholders a commitment to joint action can be forged in order to deliver more educational opportunities and learning experiences for our students.

## Improvement Measures

Increased attendance and interaction between community members and students at whole school events and involved in classroom activities.

Through PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) students feel safe and cared for at school and students feel empowered with independence, curiosity and skills for self-directed, life-long learning.

School to have positive working relationships with local services and community groups with regular planned interactions and learning experiences.

## People

### Students

Engage and participate in opportunities with members of the community and connect with those beyond their immediate family, friends and school family.

Students are more regularly engaged with the local community e.g.; Progress Society, Fire Service, CWA, SES and the Ladies Hospital Auxiliary Group.

### Staff

Create learning experiences and events to engage members of our local community. Prepare students with the confidence to question, listen and learn with community members at school and around town.

### Parents/Carers

Ensure that both parents and carers feel welcomed by the school and that they are aware of all that is happening in the daily routine of schools as well as special days, visiting the classroom, reading with students and attending events.

### Community Partners

Feel encouraged and welcomed into our school and aware of P&C meetings, whole school events and special days are happening so that they can come and celebrate with the students.

### Leaders

Continue with regular newsletters, school website and signage at school to promote all school events as they happen to the parents and the community.

## Processes

Invite and encourage community involvement and participation in school events.

Initiate connections with local service groups to come to school to inform students about their work and the services they provide.

## Evaluation Plan

Is the school more engaged with the community through its involvement with local services and wider school community?

Is there a greater attendance from community members at whole school events?

Are students applying what they have learnt from community experiences to become more aware of how to be a positive member of their school and town?

## Practices and Products

### Practices

Staff have encouraged and nurtured community members to be active in learning experiences and to connect with our school and students.

Students are engaged and aware of local services and how to contact them. They are also aware of how they are connected to their community and the part they play in their town.

### Products

Students go out into the community for visits to the Aged Care home and to local community groups. Students engage with community members in attendance at whole school events and festivities.

Increased attendance and involvement by our community in our school programs and events. Parents and carers are aware of what is happening at school each day as well as on special days of events.