

School plan 2018-2020

Warrumbungle National Park Environmental Education Centre 5732



School background 2018–2020

School vision statement

WNPEEC Vision Statement

shaping environmental citizens through meaningful connections in, about and for the environment

Environmental and Zoo Education Centres' (EZEC) Network Vision Statement

leading environmental education to empower learners for a sustainable future

School context

Context

The Warrumbungle National Park Environmental Education Centre (WNPEEC) is a Department of Education and Communities school located near Coonabarabran in the Warrumbungle National Park.

Our programs aim to inspire young people to experience and connect with the natural world and encourage the development of positive behavioural changes towards its protection.

Our school achieves this through the provision of high quality field work and environmental and sustainability education programs for school students K–12 at excursion locations within the Warrumbungles, surrounding areas or at sites near or within schools.

The capacity of **our teachers** and those within our local schools as leaders in environmental education are developed through the provision of high quality professional learning programs.

Our school is in close collaboration with the following partners: EZEC, Warrumbungle Hub, Office of Environment and Heritage and the Western Plains Network of schools.

School planning process

Local Community of Schools Principals and Teachers – Received an on–line evaluation of WNPEEC on how we were viewed in the local school community.

WNPEEC teacher clients – All teachers who had booked a program during the past two years received an on–line evaluation of the program they have undertaken at WNPEEC

WNPEEC Staff all collaborated on the school vision and initial three year planning process during staff development and planning days.

School strategic directions 2018–2020



**STRATEGIC
DIRECTION 1**
Empower Learners

Purpose:

To develop students environmental knowledge, skills, values and attributes in creating environmentally literate citizens. This is accomplished through providing engaging and stimulating learning programs and by developing the capacity of Centre staff and those in our networks as learners, teachers and leaders in environmental and sustainability education



**STRATEGIC
DIRECTION 2**
Strengthen Partnerships

Purpose:

To extend and strengthen partnerships with our networks and communities through effective communication and a culture of collaboration. The impact of these relationships drives the provision of authentic, relevant and unique experiences, which enable students to be confident and creative environmental citizens.

Strategic Direction 1: Empower Learners

Purpose

To develop students environmental knowledge, skills, values and attributes in creating environmentally literate citizens. This is accomplished through providing engaging and stimulating learning programs and by developing the capacity of Centre staff and those in our networks as learners, teachers and leaders in environmental and sustainability education

Improvement Measures

1. Increased student understanding and ability to be environmentally literate and numerate.
2. Increased staff capacity in using evaluative-thinking to assess impact of teaching and learning of student improvement.

People

Students

Effectively use knowledge and values to assess and make decisions that have positive impacts on sustainability and the environment.

Identify appropriate technological applications to develop understanding.

Staff

Understand and implement the sustainability crosscurriculum priority into teaching and learning programs.

Collaborate with EZEC and client teachers to develop programs and assessment to meet the needs of the student and school.

Use evaluative-thinking skills on to reflect and monitor on the impact of learning programs.

Engage with relevant contemporary environmental research to inform teaching programs.

Leaders

Lead the professional learning and curriculum programs.

Develop explicit systems and structures for professional learning and evaluation.

Processes

Collaborative Program Development

Collaborate and consult with EZEC and client teachers to develop teaching and learning programs and assessment that meets the needs of students within the focused curriculum area promoting creative, critical, inquiry-based and higher order thinking skills.

Professional Learning

Build teacher capacity through professional Learning: to enhance delivery of quality teaching and learning programs that support the sustainability cross curriculum priority: and their evaluative thinking skills to reflect and monitor on impact of learning programs.

Evaluation Plan

Targeted pre-visit and post-visit surveys.

Anecdotal evidence of program quality

Student work samples

PDPs

Lesson observations

Program Evaluations

Staff Meeting Minutes

Booking and visitation data

Practices and Products

Practices

All lessons and assessments are systematically planned as part of a coherent program that has been collaboratively designed in partnership with client schools to best suit all student needs.

All teachers demonstrate a contemporary knowledge of environmental education, using evidence-based teaching strategies and evaluative thinking to reflect and monitor the impact of all programs

Students will have the inquiry based skills and knowledge to be active decision makers for the benefit of their environment.

Products

Inquiry based programs focused on contemporary environmental content that have been evaluated and monitored for impact on student learning.

Diversity of programs that flexibly meets students' needs in regards to leadership, creative thinking, problem solving and wellbeing.

Explicit systems and structures for ongoing staff professional learning and reflection on environmental and sustainability education practice to improve teaching and learning.

Strategic Direction 2: Strengthen Partnerships

Purpose

To extend and strengthen partnerships with our networks and communities through effective communication and a culture of collaboration. The impact of these relationships drives the provision of authentic, relevant and unique experiences, which enable students to be confident and creative environmental citizens.

Improvement Measures

1. Increase the number and quality of programs developed in collaboration with other schools and partners.
2. Increased promotion of WNPEEC achievements.
3. Increase the number of professional learning and program development across the Warrumbungle Hub.

People

Staff

WNPEEC & EZEC

Use the requisite knowledge and skills to collaborate across, the EZEC network and with teachers in order to drive a state-wide improvement agenda for environmental and sustainability education.

Leaders

Initiate collaboration with government and non-government partners and implement programs that align strategic directions.

Community Partners

Engage, collaborate and implement programs that align strategic directions.

Processes

Building and Extending Partnerships

Develop and implement processes to support collaborative practices/projects with new and existing partners.

WNPEEC Promotion

Strengthen promotion and achievements of the WNPEEC and partners within the local community, EZECs' and beyond.

Warrumbungle Hub

Build upon the foundations of the Warrumbungle Hub to provide professional learning and promote innovative practice.

Evaluation Plan

Ongoing commitment of WNPEEC Programs

EZEC meetings. EZEC Annual Conference and EZEC Principal Conference attendance.

Number of partnerships and programs.

Partnership meeting minutes e.g. Western Plains, AECG, Warrumbungle Hub, Landcare etc.

Practices and Products

Practices

Sustainable collaborative partnerships with EZECs, state and local government organisation and non-government organisations, to develop environmental educational programs.

Extensive collaboration with the local community in providing a greater awareness of sustainability and the local environment.

Leaders across the Warrumbungle hub identify expertise and trial innovative practices and evaluate and assess impact.

Products

The Warrumbungle Hub professional learning community which is focused on innovative practice and sharing of resources (memorandum of understanding)

The WNPEEC is recognised as a centre of excellence in the delivery in supporting students in environmental education and its responsiveness to meeting the needs of its community.

Milestones:

Leading-edge inquiry based Geography and Science Programs

Environmental STEM

Student Leadership and Wellbeing Programs

Community Citizen Science Water Quality

Duke of Edenborough