

Strategic Improvement Plan 2021-2024

Bolwarra Public School 1286



School vision and context

School vision statement

At Bolwarra Public School "every students matters every day", our teachers are committed to the provision of high quality educational programs that foster growth academically, socially and emotionally.

Students at Bolwarra Public School are known, valued and cared for by all members of the school community. It is the goal of Bolwarra Public School that every student leaves Bolwarra with a quality education and ready to seek out success in the world around them.

School context

Bolwarra Public School has a student population of 430 students, in recent years the total enrolment number has fallen due to a tightening of the school enrolment policy. The community of Bolwarra value the extra curricular and sporting opportunities offered, traditionally making it a school of choice for non-local enrolments. In 2019, a major capital works program was completed that included the construction of 10 classrooms, a multi-purpose room, library, administration building and courtyard. At the completion of the project the school was invited to participate in a 1:1 technology device trial and pedagogy trial. After extensive consultation and investigation the school decided to implement iPads throughout the school. The school's technology philosophy is "Create not consume", with students and staff using their iPads to enhance their learning.

Expectations for students are high at Bolwarra Public School, student performance regularly exceeds state averages with the school committed to improving learning outcomes for all students. Through Explicit Instruction the school sets the goal of a years growth for a years learning all students. There is a gap between performance in Literacy and Numeracy, school resources are being utilised to improve student performance in Numeracy, with professional learning for teachers and data analysis supporting this initiative. The successful model implemented for Literacy improvement will be mirrored for Numeracy through classroom EI practice, whole school assessment and intervention.

Students are supported with a wide range of extra curricular activities including the performing arts through dance and choir groups; sport through school PSSA teams, Sports in Schools coaching and SRC run competitions; gifted and talented programs through debating, public speaking, DaVinci decathlon and Maths Olympiad. Student performance in these areas has been recognised through state level participation and success.

The school's pedagogy focus is built on Explicit Instruction, with the school part of two professional learning networks to support its implementation and other schools. In 2020 the school was recognised as a T4L All Star school by the Department's Technology for Learning Directorate and continues to work closely with Apple Education Australia and Apple Specialist teachers.

A focus within the school is providing all students with support based on their level of need. "Fair is getting what you need to be successful not everyone getting the same", this statement drives intervention and support throughout the school. Significant professional learning and support for staff will be provided to identify student need and develop plans of support. There has been a significant increase in students receiving individual funding support, the school works closely with Departmental personnel to help students and staff. These funds provide for support for students within the classroom and playground with plans developed in consultation with parents. Support for Indigenous students is offered through personalised learning plans, intervention programs where appropriate and extension opportunities. Increased consultation with our community is a key driver to supporting Indigenous students, a goal is to set up a Junior AECG in 2021. The percentage of ATSI students attending Bolwarra Public School has increased gradually in the last three years.

School vision and context

School vision statement

School context

Resources provided to the school to support students are expended within the year. Key programs include Explicit Instruction, InitialLit Program, Speaking in Colour cultural program, PAX, PBL.

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment

Purpose

At Bolwarra Public School student assessment data is regularly used school-wide to identify student achievements and progress, in order to reflect on teaching effectiveness and inform future school directions.

Improvement measures

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of students achieving in the top 2 NAPLAN bands for Reading to be trending upwards towards the system negotiated upper bound target of 61.3% from the baseline.

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of students achieving in the top 2 NAPLAN bands for Numeracy to be trending upwards towards the system negotiated upper bound target of 48.9% .

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of students achieving expected growth in NAPLAN for Reading to be trending upwards towards the system negotiated upper bound target of 79.6%.

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of students achieving the expected growth in NAPLAN for Numeracy to be trending upwards towards the system negotiated upper bound target of 72.3%.

Initiatives

Data Driven Practices

All teachers at Bolwarra Public School will engage in significant professional learning to ensure that assessments are developed, sourced and used regularly across stages, and the whole school, to help promote consistent and comparable judgement of student learning, monitor student learning progress, and identify skill gaps for improvement and areas for extension.

All teachers at Bolwarra Public School will analyse summative assessment data to identify learning progress of individual students and student cohorts. All teachers will use summative data to identify student learning and validate formative assessment practices.

Personalised Learning

All teachers at Bolwarra Public School will engage in significant professional learning that will demonstrate exemplary practice and high expectations, and lead colleagues to encourage all students to pursue challenging goals in all aspects on their education.

Teaching and learning programs at Bolwarra Public School will show evidence that they are adjusted to address individual student needs and ensure that all students are challenged and all adjustments lead to improved learning. All teachers will involve students and parents in planning to support learning and share the expected outcomes.

Success criteria for this strategic direction

Teachers clearly understand, develop and apply a full range of assessment strategies - assessment for learning, assessment as learning and assessment of learning - in determining teaching directions, monitoring and assessing student progress and achievement, and reflecting on teaching effectiveness.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

Question:

Are teaching and learning programs meeting the needs of all students?

Data:

School Assessment Policy - NAPLAN, Check In Assessments, PAT, Best Start, Phonics Screening, Fluency - WARP & WARL, Comprehension, Success Criteria, IFSR, Initialit.

Individual Education Plans - goals and adjustments.

Individual goals for all students; including a Literacy, Numeracy and Wellbeing goal.

Teaching programs, Talented and Gifted programs, surveys, PLAN2, Progressions, Work Samples, A-E Assessment samples.

Analysis:

Analysis of data demonstrates:

- ongoing analysis through short sharp assessments that inform teaching and student progress that is embedded into the teaching and learning cycle.
- evaluation of whole school, stage and class trends.
- leadership team regularly reviews the use of data, aspiring to reflects a year growth for every child?
- classroom teachers regularly use data to identify trends in their classroom and inform and teaching.

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

- evaluation of effectiveness of data collected and its purpose.

Implications:

The findings from the analysis will inform:

- Future directions and budgeting
- School resourcing
- Annual reporting

Strategic Direction 2: Focus on the Whole Child

Purpose

At Bolwarra Public School there is a strategic and planned approach to develop whole school wellbeing processes that support the wellbeing of all students so that they can connect, succeed thrive and learn.

Improvement measures

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of student attendance to be trending upwards towards the system negotiated upper bound target of 89.3%.

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of students reporting expectations for success, advocacy, and sense of belonging at school to be trending upwards towards the system negotiated upper bound target of 94.7%.

Target year: 2024

School self-assessment as measured against the School Excellence Framework will demonstrate uplift towards excelling in the elements of Wellbeing and Behaviour.

Initiatives

Positive Classrooms

At Bolwarra Public School, staff professional learning will enable all classrooms and other learning environments to be well managed within a consistent, school wide approach. Well planned teaching takes place, so that all students engage in learning, with minimal disruption. All teachers model and share a flexible repertoire of strategies for classroom management and promotion of student engagement and responsibility for learning.

At Bolwarra Public School, emphasis will be placed on developing positive respectful relationships that are evident and widespread amongst students and staff and that promote student wellbeing to ensure optimum conditions for student learning across the school.

Focussing on the Whole Child

Teachers at Bolwarra Public School will focus on developing a school wide, collective responsibility for student learning and success, which is shared by parents and students. Planning for learning is informed by holistic information about each student's wellbeing and learning needs in consultation with parents/carers.

The whole school community will demonstrate the aspirational expectations of learning, progress and achievement for all students and will be committed to the pursuit of excellence. Effective partnerships in learning with parents and students will mean that students are motivated to deliver their best and continually improve.

Success criteria for this strategic direction

There is a school wide collective responsibility for student learning and success which is shared by parents and students. Planning for learning is informed by sound, holistic information about each students wellbeing and learning needs in consultation with students, parents and carers.

Teachers, parents and community work together to support consistent and systematic processes that encourage attendance and maintain student learning outcomes.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

Question:

What is the evidence base that has informed whole school practices?

Is every student known, valued and cared for?

How are holistic practices implemented and do they demonstrate teacher understanding of the student?

Do student learning plans and goals reflect student voice, teacher knowledge and parent consultation?

Data:

Tell Them From Me Survey

Individual Education Plans and Personalised Learning Plans

Learning Support Team Requests

Teacher programs - student adjustments and accommodations

School PBL data

Student wellbeing meeting minutes

Strategic Direction 2: Focus on the Whole Child

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

Student attendance data

Inclusion data

Student Individual learning goals

Analysis:

Analysis of data demonstrates:

Student plans reflective of individual needs

Team approach to students needs and plans evident of meeting the needs of the whole child

Learning Support reflects proactive responses that encompasses the whole child

Link between high student engagement and attendance is evident

Staff confidence in identifying and meeting the needs of the whole child are reflective of evidence based practice.

Implications:

The findings from the analysis will inform:

- Future directions and budgeting
- School resourcing
- Annual reporting

Strategic Direction 3: Future Ready - Ready to Thrive

Purpose

At Bolwarra Public School the school culture is strongly focused on learning, the building of educational aspiration and ongoing performance improvement throughout the school community.

Improvement measures

Target year: 2024

School self-assessment as measured against the School Excellence Framework will demonstrate uplift towards excelling in the elements of Coaching & Mentoring and Expertise & Innovation.

Target year: 2024

Tell Them From Me survey results for intellectual engagement - "students who are interested and motivated" trends upwards above the State average of 78.

Target year: 2024

Staff response in the Tell Them From Me survey in relation to Technology increases to the school negotiated target of 8.5.

Initiatives

Innovation in Teaching & Learning

At Bolwarra Public School, all technology will support learning and will be expertly integrated into lessons by teachers. Administrative staff are expert users of available technology and systems.

Bolwarra Public School will use research, evidence based strategies and innovative thinking in designing and implementing a school plan that successfully delivers ongoing, measurable improvement, student progress and achievement.

All teachers will lead and support colleagues within the school to select and use ICT with effective teaching strategies to expand learning opportunities and content knowledge for all students.

Bolwarra Public School will identify expertise within its staff and draw on this to further develop the professional learning community. Areas for development in teacher expertise are identified and addressed.

All teachers will engage in significant professional learning to support and trial innovative or evidence-based, future-focused practices.

Success criteria for this strategic direction

Teaching staff demonstrate and share their expertise within their school and with other schools. All teachers have expert contemporary, content knowledge and deploy effective teaching strategies. The school trials innovative practices and has processes in place to evaluate, refine and scale success.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

Question:

Are teachers fully utilising contemporary teaching strategies including technology to engage students and deliver outcomes?

How do teachers demonstrate their ability to implement the school philosophy of "create not consume"?

How do we share this knowledge within the school and the wider community?

What innovative practices has the school trialled? What was the positive impact on student outcomes?

Data:

Apple Technology Survey

Tell Them From Me Survey - student engagement

Student work samples and parent feedback via SeeSaw

Student Voice Forums

Parent engagement data - SeeSaw

School Budget resourcing

Analysis:

Analysis of data demonstrates:

Teacher expertise and confidence in the effective use of

Strategic Direction 3: Future Ready - Ready to Thrive

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

innovative teaching practices, including technology.

Student surveys reflect an increase in engagement, student voice and ownership of work.

Community understanding and advocacy from school programs.

Implications:

The findings from the analysis will inform:

- Future directions and budgeting
- School resourcing
- Annual reporting