

Strategic Improvement Plan 2021-2025

Greenethorpe Public School 2070



School vision and context

School vision statement

Our vision is for students to be engaged and excited to come to school, where teaching is individualised, challenging and provides rich learning experiences.

At Greenethorpe Public School each student and staff member continues to be; a resilient learner, a problem solver and collaborator.

School context

Greenethorpe Public School is a small rural school, situated on Wiradjuri land, between Cowra, Grenfell and Young. Our current enrolment is 15 students, with 13% identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Our staff are committed to the pursuit of excellence and the provision of high-quality education for every student.

Our school is part of the Cowra Small Schools Network, where staff work with other teachers to develop teaching skills and knowledge and students participate in activities such as sport days, curriculum days eg Science and Technology and Indigenous education. Indigenous education and celebrations in the small school network include Indigenous dance groups, special guests, performers and Indigenous Elders from the surrounding community.

In recent times, Greenethorpe Public School was a part of the Young Small Schools Network. We continue to have connections to Young Small Schools through the participation of the Phillip Shield sports day each year.

Our school provides a range of extra-curricular opportunities to increase the students engagement in the wider community and to support ongoing personal development. This includes concerts, performances and sports such as regular swimming and tennis lessons.

Greenethorpe Public School has an active Parents and Citizens group that regularly fundraise to provide extra learning opportunities for students. Examples of this include: providing funds for bus trips for school excursions. The Parents and Citizen members regularly communicate with the school through meetings and ongoing contact with the school principal. Parents are regularly consulted with on school matters such as the situational analysis and strategic improvement plan.

Through our situational analysis and external validation, we have identified the need for an emphasis on:

- an increased use of data and evidence-based teaching
- informative, ongoing assessment
- collaboration with other schools
- increasing systems that ensure student wellbeing is monitored

These focus points will ensure students achieve, or exceed, expected growth in learning.

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment

Purpose

We strive to maximise learning outcomes for every student and build strong foundations for academic success. We will further develop and refine evidence-based teaching practices in reading and numeracy. Students will collaborate to set learning goals with teachers to increase ownership of their education.

Improvement measures

Improved reading outcomes

Increase % of students achieving growth in reading

Achieve by year: 2024

Increase the percentage of K-2 students achieving or exceeding expected growth in the sub-element Phonic Knowledge and Word Recognition of the National Literacy Learning Progressions.

Improved numeracy outcomes

There is a whole school focus on demonstrating growth in numeracy to improve the achievement levels of all students.

Achieve by year: 2024

Increase the percentage of 3-6 students achieving or exceeding expected growth in the sub-element Additive Strategies of the National Numeracy Learning Progressions.

Initiatives

Use of Data and Evidence-Based Teaching

Reading and Numeracy Strategies

- Regularly collect and analyse data in numeracy and reading to monitor student progress and plan for future learning activities
- Monitor and reflect on the progress of every student to identify gaps and inform next steps in learning
- Use data to inform or adapt student learning goals to ensure all students are challenged and successful
- Use data to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching practice
- Staff systematically participate in structured lesson observations with other small schools to improve teaching practice
- Staff regularly participate and become leaders in professional learning networks to increase teaching skills and knowledge in research-based teaching practices with a focus on reading and numeracy.

Assessment

Reading and Numeracy Strategy

- Active participation in professional learning for all staff in the assessment of reading and numeracy strategies
- Use a range of assessment strategies to provide timely and relevant feedback to students
- Use a range of assessments to provide students with opportunities to reflect on their progress and to inform future learning goals
- Teachers seek and act on feedback, taking responsibility for their own professional growth and learning

Success criteria for this strategic direction

- School-wide improvement in teaching practice is embedded, including partnerships with other schools, professional development and staff leadership opportunities
- Teaching and learning programs across the school show evidence that they are adjusted to address individual student needs, ensuring that all students are challenged and all adjustments lead to improved learning.
- The school has processes in place to support teachers' consistent judgement of assessments.
- The whole school community demonstrates aspirational expectations of learning progress and achievement for all students, and is committed to the pursuit of excellence.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

The school will use the following data sources to regularly analyse the effectiveness of the initiatives in achieving the purpose and improvement measures of the strategic direction. This analysis will guide the school's future directions:

- NAPLAN data
- Check-in data
- Essential Assessment data
- Literacy and numeracy PLAN2 data
- internal and external data
- Student work samples

The evaluation plan will involve:

- review of student data every 5 weeks to provide clarity around whether students are on track for achieving the intended improvement measures
- regular professional discussion around the School Excellence Framework elements and themes and their relationship with our school plan

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

- term by term review and triangulation of data sources including quantitative and qualitative, internal and external data to monitor student progress
- deep analysis of the data to guide future school planning to provide ongoing improvement to maximise student learning outcomes

Strategic Direction 2: Innovation through Collaboration

Purpose

To develop a culture of high expectations through partnerships between staff, students, parents and carers, **where focussed collaboration builds confident and resilient learners.**

Improvement measures

Attendance

There is a whole school focus on improving attendance to strengthen student sense of belonging, engagement and outcomes.

Achieve by year: 2027

Attendance

- Achieve an increase of 1.1% in the attendance rate, from 85.2% in 2023 to 86.3% in 2027.

Initiatives

Wellbeing

- Establish school procedures to monitor attendance
- Establish whole school structures and systems for wellbeing programs
- Initiate strategies to build a positive learning environment in the classroom characterised by supportive relationships and regular contact with each student
- Further establish partnerships with parents/carers to develop strategies that support the wellbeing and attendance of students

Success criteria for this strategic direction

- Systems are in place that ensure student absences are monitored and addressed.
- Implemented measurable systems to monitor improvements in student wellbeing and engagement in partnership with parents and carers
- Teachers, parents and the community work together to support consistent and systematic processes that ensure student absences do not impact on learning outcomes.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

The school will use the following data sources to regularly analyse the effectiveness of the initiatives in achieving the purpose and improvement measures of the strategic direction. This analysis will guide the school's future directions:

Data sources:

- student attendance
- student wellbeing
- internal surveys
- community feedback
- student conferencing

Analysis of the data will determine future directions for collaborative partnerships and student wellbeing practices

The findings of the analysis will inform future directions for collaborative partnerships.