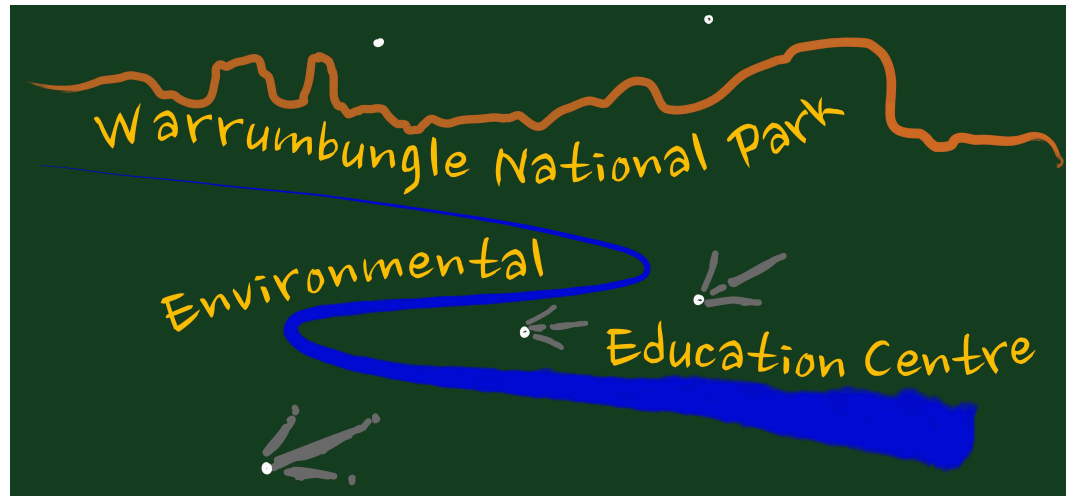


Strategic Improvement Plan 2021-2024

Warrumbungle National Park Environmental Education Centre 5732



School vision and context

School vision statement

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

School context

Warrumbungle National Park Environmental Education Centre (WNPEEC) is a Department of Education 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 built on collaboration with the following partners: EZEC, Warrumbungle Hub Schools and Western Plains Network of schools, local Government agencies, local community networks and Local Councils.

Some community consultation also highlights that schools are acquiring bookings that do not align strongly link to the curriculum and support and strengthen classroom learning outcomes and/ or the school's improvement initiatives. WNPEEC will continue to move forward from the view that we are an excursion centre and instead we are a program enhancement centre that focuses on learning programs delivered in the right place, at the right time for the right educational outcomes.

Through the situational analysis, we have identified two focus areas for school improvement planning for 2021 - 2024.

1. Empowering Learners
2. Strengthen Partnerships

Groundwork will take place to review our teaching and learning programs to identify the future scope of support in an ever-changing educational landscape to best empower learners for today and beyond. Collaboration with our community of schools and other partners will be of focus to identify and implement a choice selection for K-12 delivery on site and offsite. These partnerships will be targeted to identify possible strategies for a wider range of formative assessment tools, data use in planning and timely reporting to confirm that students learn what is taught. WNPEEC staff will deliver professional learning designed to support teacher capacity building for Environmental education, Sustainability education, wellbeing and learning in the outdoors.

Strategic Direction 1: Empower Learners

Purpose

To develop students environmental knowledge, skills, values and attributes in creating environmentally literate citizens.

Improvement measures

Target year: 2024

Excelling in the delivery of all programs to offer the best opportunity to build confidence, knowledge, wellbeing and attributes in creating environmentally literate citizens - 95% positive feedback in the highest WNPEEC Student and Visiting Staff survey bracket.

Target year: 2024

Increase the percentage of authentic study bookings aligned to local school teaching and learning scope and sequences and to assist client schools improvement measures and initiatives to above 95%. (currently around 60% of K-12 bookings are authentic to local school scope and sequences and provide support for client school initiatives)

Target year: 2024

Excelling in positive and respectful relationships which is evident and widespread among students and staff and promote student wellbeing to ensure optimum conditions for student learning in all aspects WNPEEC delivers.

Initiatives

Highly effective teaching practices

Improve effective teaching practice through a focus on explicit teaching practice, content knowledge, inquiry based learning and clear evaluative methods.

- Establish collaborative support for teacher performance development, across EZEC and partner school collaborations and evidence-based programs and lessons.
- Effective partnerships in learning with other teachers, community and students, means students are motivated to deliver their best and continually improve.
- Review and improve the use of formative data sources, monitoring and reflecting on teaching effectiveness and student wellbeing.

Increased student wellbeing Learning Environments

Continue to develop diverse learning environments. This will be improved by creating a timely, safe, relaxed, stimulating, meaningful, engaging and encouraging environments. This will be supported by current research and also the employment and capacity building from other teachers and professionals.

Success criteria for this strategic direction

- Teachers collaborate to share curriculum knowledge, data, feedback and other information about program progress and expertise which meet the learning needs of all students.
- Students demonstrate increased engagement and interest while working with WNPEEC.
- The school uses embedded and explicit systems that facilitate professional dialogue, collaboration, teacher observation and the modelling of effective practice.
- Increased student driven environmental practices and awareness initiated in their own schools and while on excursions.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

Question: To what extent have opportunities for access to enrichment and support improved an integrated approach to quality teaching, curriculum planning and delivery to empower learners?

Data: These data sources will be collected and analysed by relevant teachers, leaders and teams:

- teaching programs
- lesson/program observations
- Targeted pre-visit and post-visit surveys (student, teachers and community)
- Performance and Development Plans
- School Excellence Framework self-assessments
- professional learning evaluations
- Anecdotal evidence of program quality - Student work samples
- Staff Meeting Minutes
- Regular gathering of data for analysis, reflection and

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

reporting from client schools.

Analysis: Data is analysed and triangulated regularly to determine the extent to which the purpose and improvement measures have been achieved.

Implications: Rigorous analysis of the data to determine impact will guide both ongoing implementation as well as future school planning to provide continuous improvement, ensuring students grow in their 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.

Improvement measures

Target year: 2024

WNPEEC is recognised as excellent and responsive by its community of schools because it uses best practice to embed a culture of high expectations, and effectively caters for the range of client schools demands.

Target year: 2024

90% of schools rebook programs with WNPEEC annually

Target year: 2024

WNPEEC is excelling in whole school and/or inter-school relationships by providing mentoring and coaching to support an ensure the ongoing development and improvement of all WNPEEC teachers and client school staff.

Initiatives

Collaborative Practices and Professional Learning with EZEC and local School Communities

WNPEEC staff will lead strong, collaborative partnerships with:

- NSW EZEC network
- local and non-local school communities
- other government and non-government organisations
- Aboriginal community members

to increase knowledge and expertise, resources and quality education opportunities to enhance student engagement in learning.

Professional Learning

- WNPEEC Staff attend professional learning
- WNPEEC delivers accredited professional learning
- WNPEEC delivers elective professional learning

Success criteria for this strategic direction

WNPEEC staff actively continue to build relationships with new and existing schools and also government and non-government organisations that may assist in the development, delivery and evaluation of learning.

WNPEEC staff collaborate with staff in other schools to share and embed good practice through the delivery of high quality professional learning in sustainability education.

Evaluation plan for this strategic direction

Question: How can the WNPEEC determine that its systems and processes for strengthened partnerships have been successful?

Data: These data sources will be collected and analysed by relevant teachers, leaders and teams:

- school visitation data
- number of partnerships
- quality of collaboration
- teaching programs
- client relevant school data
- other partnership relevant data

Analysis: Data is analysed and triangulated regularly to determine the extent to which the strengthened partnerships improvement measures have been achieved.

Implications: The impact of these relationships drives the provision of authentic, relevant and unique experiences, which enable students to be confident and creative environmental citizens.