

Strategic Improvement Plan 2022-2026

Kangaroo Valley Public School 2256



School vision and context

School vision statement

Our vision

For our core values of Respect, Responsibility and Learning and our school motto of Happiness Through Helping, to underpin all our staff and student practices. We endeavor to embed a whole school approach to growth mindset and student wellbeing across all aspects of school life.

We strive for our students to be curious and creative, understand that learning is life-long, think critically, connect with their environment, recognise and acknowledge the connections to country where their learning takes place upon and have a broad cultural awareness.

School context

Kangaroo Valley Public School is a small school striving for excellence and one that provides quality education in a nurturing, community-focused environment. It is situated in a picturesque small rural village surrounded by farms and lush bushland, 2 1/2 hrs south of Sydney and 20 kilometres west of Bomaderry NSW and within the Shoalhaven municipality.

The school is an integral part of the village and draws students directly from the Kangaroo Valley area. The school currently has 82 students. Our school staff are passionate and committed to continually improving their practice and supporting all students throughout their time at Kangaroo Valley Public School, creating a welcoming and supportive learning environment. The school has maintained four classes for the last 10 years and considering current historical enrolment patterns, we anticipate maintaining the same number of classes for the next two years. As a bush fire affected school community, we will carry a staffing entitlement of four classes up to 2023.

Our school supports students to strive for excellence in academic, sporting, community, and cultural endeavours. Our staff and students have access to a range technology resources to enhance learning. The school can provide inclusive educational practices across K-6 to support all our students.

Our school has valuable and established partnerships with the community and the Shoalhaven Small Schools Network. Our Northern Shoalhaven Community of Schools effectively collaborate to enhance teaching, learning and leadership in all schools.

The parents and carers of Kangaroo Valley Public School are active participants with an effective P&C that not only raises significant funds to assist with school resources but has a significant and valued voice within the school. There is significant community involvement through local initiatives and partnerships with businesses and organisations.

Through our situational analysis we have identified the need for a continued emphasis on embedding quality teaching practices in literacy and numeracy. Using high impact teaching strategies, we will provide opportunities to improve teacher practice and ensure students achieve expected growth and attainment in their learning.

We also identified the need for increased student and community engagement and wellbeing. There will be a strong focus on whole school community communication and knowledge, whole school wellbeing (facilitated through local environmental initiatives and student voice), understanding and use of effective practices and strategies to support wellbeing for all and building connection with the Shoalhaven Small Schools Network.

Strategic Direction 1: Student growth and attainment

Purpose

To maximise student learning outcomes in reading and numeracy and build strong foundations for success, developing and refining data driven teaching practices that address the learning needs of all students.

Improvement measures

Reading growth

Achieve by year: 2023

An increase in Check-in Assessment mean scaled score for Reading in Year 3 and 5 for 2023 compared with Year 3 and 5 in 2022.

Numeracy growth

Achieve by year: 2023

An increase in Check-in Assessment mean scaled score for Numeracy in Year 3 and 5 for 2023 compared with Year 3 and 5 in 2022.

Effective Classroom Practice

Achieve by year: 2026

Improvement in the element of Effective Classroom Practice to the level of Excelling as measured by the School Excellence Framework.

Data Skills and Use

Achieve by year: 2026

Improvement in the element of Data Skills and Use to the level of Excelling as measured by the School Excellence Framework.

Initiatives

Effective Classroom Practice

In Reading and Numeracy, we will embed the What Works Best elements of Collaboration, Use of Data to Inform Practice, High Expectations and Explicit Teaching into daily teaching and learning programs. Through collaboration, these elements will be embedded into teaching practice by:

- creating a shared understanding of assessment, quality teaching and effective learning programs.
- ensuring a rigorous analysis of data to inform individualised teaching and learning and student learning goals.
- ensuring effective assessment through consistent teacher judgement.
- providing professional learning opportunities to share and gain expertise in evidence-based teaching practices.

Success criteria for this strategic direction

The school uses embedded and explicit systems to:

- use regular formative assessment to understand students' strengths and areas for improvement, and provide a variety of meaningful learning opportunities that cater to individual learning needs.
- use a range of data from different types of assessment to plan, modify and deliver lessons to meet the learning strengths and needs of students, and to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of lessons.
- prioritise professional learning in effective use of data and put systems and structures in place to record data that has been collected.
- draw on the collective expertise of teachers within the school and the small schools network through regular discussion and peer review of programs, assessments and interpretation of data.

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. The analysis will guide future directions.

NAPLAN, SCOUT, Check In Assessment, learning conversations, data analysis, teaching and learning programs, assessment schedules, student work samples.

The evaluation plan will involve;

- regular review of these data sources to provide clarity towards Progress Measure and Improvement Measure achievement.
- ongoing professional discussions within staff meetings.
- regular staff meetings to reflect on the progress of learning conversations, learning sprints and the strategic direction.

Strategic Direction 2: Wellbeing

Purpose

In order to support the wellbeing of all students so they can connect, succeed, thrive and learn, there is a strategic and planned approach to wellbeing, involving students, staff and community.

Improvement measures

Wellbeing

Achieve by year: 2023

Improvement in the percentage of students reporting positive Wellbeing (Expectations for Success, Advocacy and Sense of Belonging) at school to be at or above the lower bound system negotiated target.

Attendance (>90%)

Achieve by year: 2023

Improvement in the percentage of students attending school 90% or more of the time to be at or above the lower bound system-negotiated target.

Achieve by year: 2026

Improvement in the element of Wellbeing to the level of Excelling as measured by the School Excellence Framework.

Initiatives

Connect, Succeed and Thrive

We will effectively deliver targeted support, early intervention and prevention to best meet the needs of all students to ensure school connectedness and improved student engagement. We will achieve this by:

- collaborative structures to develop, implement and evaluate student's individual learning and support needs and plans, promoting positive student attendance, engagement, learning and development.
- planning and implementing targeted programs in response to identified needs with consistent positive behaviour support.
- ensuring inclusive practice and wellbeing is embedded throughout all school activities supported by culture, policies and everyday practices.

Success criteria for this strategic direction

- Implement evidence-based change to whole school practices, resulting in measureable improvements in wellbeing and engagement to support learning.
- All students can access and fully participate in learning, supported by reasonable adjustments and teaching strategies tailored to meet individual needs.
- Early and sustained interventions and transitions are in place for targeted groups and students identified as requiring additional support.
- Inclusive learning and support for students with complex behaviour based on flexible and evidence based approaches.

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. The analysis will guide future directions.

School Excellence Framework Self-Assessment, Tell Them from Me, SCOUT, NAPLAN, PLAN2, student IEPs and PLPs, work samples, Learning Support Team data and parent/carer focus groups.

The evaluation plan will involve;

- regular review of these data sources to provide clarity towards Progress Measure and Improvement Measure achievement.
- ongoing professional discussions within staff meetings.
- regular staff meetings to reflect on the progress of learning conversations, learning sprints and the strategic direction.