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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

2008 saw the continued growth of academic achievement as indicated in NAPLAN test data and school assessments of student progress with outstanding achievement at Year 7 Level and continued raising of levels at years 3 and 5. The school environment speaks of the quality of learning experiences and relationships established as the school staff align their approaches to teaching and learning with the school vision. Each year since 2004, the school has made big leaps forward in implementing the excellent experiences designed for it by its parent and teaching staff community.

It is very gratifying to see how our students are responding to opportunities to be deeper thinkers, to take responsibility for their own learning as both independent and cooperative learners, to develop their own questions and research projects to investigate the essential learnings prescribed for all students in our State.

Their positive attitude to their education is something that we are all very proud of.

### Future outlook

With the new technology of this century, our school community is abreast of current educational initiatives and innovations but we also acknowledge the legacy left to us by the hard work of the founders of our school and, as such, are mindful that we too have a legacy to leave – a legacy of doing our best.

Over the next two years we will continue to effectively implement the strategies outlined in the *School Strategic Plan 2008-2010*, with a particular focus on:

- ≈ Continued development of inquiry, investigation and deep thinking in the context of Essential Learning inspired by the work of Reggio Emilia; 3 Way Reporting and The Culture of Thinking including Philosophy.
- ≈ Student responsibility for their own learning and behaviour in a context where their competence is recognized and valued
- ≈ Aesthetically pleasing and safe school environment
- ≈ Continue development of parent partnerships
- ≈ Articulation of school values and motto

Expansion of Sustainability as a core focus for school curriculum and environment

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Cannon Hill State School is a co-educational school with an enrolment of 274 students in Prep to Year 7. The diverse student population is drawn from a range of different cultural backgrounds. Our community is going through a period of change as many people move into the area attracted by its proximity to the city, mix of old and new residences and cool summer breezes, and wealth of established community services and facilities.

### Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Our curriculum is based on our values and the belief that students need:

- A deep understanding of sustainability for our planet (Sustainability)
- A deep understanding of the essential nature of community to human existence. (Community)
- A deep understanding of how to create and maintain a balanced life. (Balance)
- The learning and thinking capabilities to be life-long self directed learners.

School programs have been developed in all Key Learning Areas and are systemically updated in line with the release of new syllabi. **Distinctive curriculum** programs offered at the school are:

- Philosophy Lessons in Prep to Year 7
- Japanese Language Other Than English Program in Years 2- 7
- Early Years Focused Program in Years Prep – 3
- Student Leadership Program and Student Council- Year 7
- Autonomous Learning Centre in Years 6 and 7.

### Extra curricula activities

Students are involved in **extra curricula activities**, such as:

- Instrumental Music Program- Woodwind, Brass and Percussion - Years 5-7
- Interschool Sporting Program – Years 5-7
- School Choir – Years 3–7
- Student Council – Year 7
- Library monitor program – Year 6 & 7
- Tournament of the Minds
- Performing Arts activities – including Wakakirri in which Cannon Hill SS received Gold for use of Recycled Materials.
- Participation in GLC activities such as Common Thread and Wild Words.
- Visual Arts program and annual Art Exhibition.

### How computers are used to assist learning

The School **Computer program** provides students with opportunities to develop skills in using computers, software, the internet, digital photography and other technology across all key learning areas.

The classrooms and library are cabled to provide internet access to all rooms. Computers in each classroom and Interactive Smartboards enhance teaching and learning, offering diverse curriculum delivery.

## Our school at a glance

### Social climate

At Cannon Hill State School we aim to be identified by our love of learning, spirit of inquiry and enthusiasm for lifelong learning and by positive boundaries for behaviour. As our students develop a rich set of lifelong learning tools, they take responsibility for their own learning with enthusiasm and commitment.

In order to maintain a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment, all members of the school community need to conduct themselves in a responsible manner that recognises and respects the rights of others.

Following consultation with all members of the school community, the *School Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students* was developed and implemented in 2006. It contains strategies that promote appropriate behaviours, as well as consequences for unacceptable behaviour. It aligns with responsibilities and expectations outlined in *The Code of School Behaviour*.

Students have access to a range of supportive school programs, and activities, such as:

- Star Student Award
- Academic Excellence Awards
- Student Council (Year 7)

Lunchtime clubs eg guitar, environment and music clubs.

### Involving parents in their child's education.

Cannon Hill State School enjoys strong support from its community. Parents and Caregivers are provided with opportunities throughout the school year to be involved in school life.

These opportunities include:

- Regular meetings of the Parents & Citizens Association
- Parent/Teacher Information Sessions at the start of the school year.
- Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews (3 Way Parent Meetings) at the end of Terms 1 and 3.

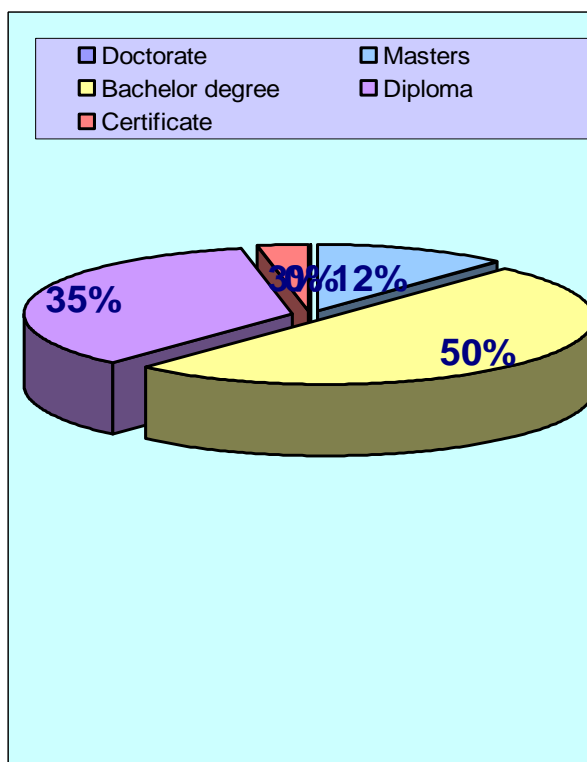
Parents are also encouraged to be a part of their child's learning by volunteering to help with curriculum activities within the classroom.

School Events throughout the year, such as ANZAC Day, Education Week Activities, NAIDOC Day, Under 8s Day, Sports Day, Swimming Carnival, School Disco and Best of the Year Celebration Night.

## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	4
Bachelor degree	17
Diploma	12
Certificate	1



### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$30 384.
- Teaching staff participated in some or all of the following opportunities throughout 2008.
  - Code of Behaviour Training
  - Crossing Cultures Awareness Training
  - Literacy and Numeracy Workshops
  - Information and Communication Technology Workshops
  - ReggioEmilia
  - Thinking Cultures
  - Leadership
  - Workplace Health and Safety
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 100%.

### Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

## Our staff profile

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 93% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 94%.

### Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5 and 7.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	346	456	546
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 74%	91%	100%
Writing	Average score for the school	374	457	529
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 82%	74%	96%
Spelling	Average score for the school	366	468	541
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89%	85%	96%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	385	478	548
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 94%	85%	96%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	368	448	547
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 94%	91%	96%

### Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	56%
Writing	82%
Number	69%

## Performance of our students

### Value added

Our Award Winning staff.

At the State School in Cannon Hill your child is taught by award winning teachers. Some of the prestigious awards won include:

- 2002 – Joy Pohlner (*Premier's Smart State Teacher Excellence – only 5 in Queensland*)
- 2004 Showcase, State Finalists (*with the Gateway Learning Community*)
- 2005 Showcase State Finalists (*GLC*)
- 2004 – Jane Leishmann (*Premier's Smart State, Computer Technology Innovators Award, only 5 in QLD*)
- 2006 – Rachel Korst (*Premier's Smart State Teacher Excellence – only 5 in Queensland*)
- 2007 — Rachel Korst, Sue Butler, Jane Leishmann, Gay Quelhurst and Narelle Arcidiacono. (*Regional Innovators Award*)
- 2007 – Jane Leishman – (*Investing in Schools Grant*)
- 2007 – Joy Pholner – (*Reggio Emilia Bursary*)
- 2008 – Sue Butler (*Teaching Excellence*)

Participation in The University of New South Wales Educational Assessments which give ratings to students across the entire country in 2008 were on a voluntary basis. The following results were achieved in Science:

3 Distinctions

1 Credits, and

8 Participation Certificates.

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Every year, a confidential School Opinion Survey is conducted with all Year 7 and 5 students, a random sampling of approximately 40 parents and all staff members (Teaching and Non-teaching) at the school.

Overall, students, parents and staff are generally satisfied with the school. Following are the 2008 results in the Destination 2010 target areas:

98% of students surveyed are satisfied that they are getting a good education from school. (3.9% neutral)

86.7% of parents and caregivers surveyed are satisfied that they are getting a good education from school. (16.7 neutral)

93.1% of parents and caregivers surveyed are satisfied that school is a good school. (20.7% neutral)