

# Gaven State School

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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

Welcome to Gaven State School's Annual Report for 2008. My name is Phillip Carleton and I have been appointed Principal of the school in 2009. I have taken a strong interest in the data presented in this report and in the views of the parents, staff and the community about our school. Through a parent survey and a School and Community Meeting, we have identified a number of goals for the school to achieve over the next 3-5 years. The academic performance of our students, particularly on the National Literacy and Numeracy Tests will always remain a strong focus. However the importance of learning in the social/emotional, cultural and sporting fields is also of critical importance. The provision of a supportive learning environment with zero tolerance for harassment or bullying will be the foundation upon which the above learning opportunities will be based.

### Future outlook

#### Statement of Purpose

The Gaven State School Community is dedicated to providing a supportive and challenging learning environment, which maximises educational opportunities and outcomes for all students in reaching their full potential. Gaven State School is committed to:

- ✦ promoting the best interest of students by nurturing a commitment and dedication to life long learning.
- ✦ achieving the best quality outcomes possible by preparing students to lead responsible and productive lives.
- ✦ demonstrating accountability within the vision of Education Queensland by maximising communication, participation and a sense of community.

#### Key Strategic Priorities for 2009 And Beyond

- ✦ Implementation of the school curriculum framework within the Queensland Curriculum Assessment and Reporting agenda (Assessment tasks, moderation, recording and reporting) and the P-12 Curriculum Framework.
- ✦ Use of available data to reflect on practices and implement classroom action plans.
- ✦ Embed ATSI Perspectives in the school's Curriculum Framework
- ✦ Implementation of revised Literacy Plan based on the Professional Development package for Teachers
- ✦ Implementation of the Mathematics Syllabus
- ✦ The creation of a connected learning community within a digital culture.
- ✦ Health & Fitness (Safe and Healthy Schools' Program)
- ✦ Educational Adjustment Program (EAP/ESP)
- ✦ Inclusive Education/Gifted Education/Partners For Success
- ✦ Implementation of the Responsible Behaviour Plan/Code of Behaviour
- ✦ The development of leadership capabilities within the school staff.
- ✦ Implementation of the Developing Performance Framework with all staff.
- ✦ Promotion and Marketing of school
- ✦ Implement Values Education across the school

# Our School at a Glance

## School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school:	602
Year levels offered:	Prep – Year 7
Coeducational or single sex	Coeducational

## Curriculum offerings

### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Teachers from every grade level have developed fully integrated units of work based on the Essential Learnings and incorporating each of the Key Learning Areas.

In addition, each class teaches a Whole School, Grouped, and Skills Based Literacy and Numeracy Program. Every unit is created using technology software and includes: essential learnings, assessment, resources, activities, global outcomes, a technology focus, a community focus, a thinking focus and culmination activity.

Culmination Days occur 4 times per year, at the end of each unit of work. Parents and friends are encouraged to come to the school to participate in a showcase of the achievements of children during the term. This is an ideal opportunity for parents to monitor the effectiveness of our approach to education and the extent to which students have been engaged.

Gaven State School recognises the value of sport and encourages all students to participate in the range of physical activities available to students. The fostering of sporting activity has contributed significantly to the successes in 2008 of team events and individual achievements.

A Values Program has been implemented across the school based on the Bounce Back Program. Students perform aspects of this Program on Junior and Senior Assemblies.

### Extra curricula activities

- ✦ Camps – Year 4 Numinbah Valley; Year 5 – Currumbin Farm School; Year 6 – Currimundi Outdoor Recreation Centre; Year 7 – Maroon Outdoor Education Centre.
- ✦ University of NSW Competitions.
- ✦ Kaleidoscope Challenge.
- ✦ AB Paterson Public Speaking Competition.
- ✦ The Great Debate.
- ✦ Gold Coast Readers' Cup.
- ✦ Premier's Reading Challenge.
- ✦ Japanese Speaking Competition.
- ✦ Robotics.
- ✦ Life Education and Relationships Education (Year 7).
- ✦ Anzac Day Ceremonies.
- ✦ Cross Country, Athletics and Swimming Carnivals.
- ✦ Jump Rope for Heart.
- ✦ Walkathon.
- ✦ Gaven State School Art Show and Artist in Residence Program.
- ✦ Instrumental Music Program.
- ✦ Wipeout Waste.
- ✦ Waterwise Program

## Our School at a Glance

### How computers are used to assist learning

At Gaven State School, each unit of work which is undertaken by students contains a Technology Focus. The use of Information and Communication Technologies is integrated into the everyday learning experiences of our students. To enable this focus, the school has two Computer Laboratories, Interactive Whiteboards located in every classroom and a number of computers based in each of the classrooms. All computers are networked to enable access to both the school's server and the internet to support students in their learning. All students are required to have an Internet Agreement signed by themselves and their parents to enable access to the World Wide Web. An Information and Communication Technology Teacher has been employed 3 days per week to support the students in the achievement of technology outcomes.

### Social climate

A comprehensive Behaviour Management Policy is in place and is reviewed and updated by staff and parents on an annual basis. The behaviour management team implemented a "Blue Zone" within the school in 2005 for students to be actively involved in clubs and /or to pursue hobbies and interests.

The Student Council is a pro-active group highly involved in environmental issues and student welfare. A variety of activities including Discos, Dress-Up Days and team activities are promoted throughout the course of the year. Programs focusing on the development of student leadership and responsibility for self continued to be delivered in 2008 across the student population, with the Values/Bounce Back Program being effectively implemented during the course of the year. Students performed items on weekly assemblies to reinforce the values taught in class.

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

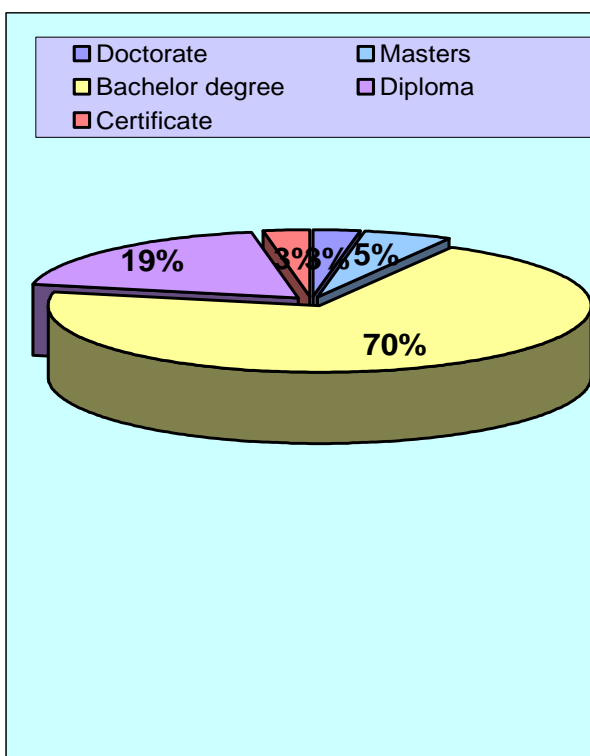
Gaven State School reports formally two times each year to the parent community taking the form of written reports. Culmination days are held at the end of terms 1, 2, 3 and 4. Interviews are arranged at the convenience of parents and teachers. Partnerships between home and school are encouraged through:

- ✦ Fortnightly Parent Newsletter
- ✦ P & C contribution to the newsletter
- ✦ Community Advertising
- ✦ Community Notice board
- ✦ Parent-Teacher evenings early in the school year
- ✦ Formal written reports at the end of each semester
- ✦ Presentations at School Assemblies
- ✦ Sports Days
- ✦ School Fete

## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	1
Masters	2
Bachelor degree	26
Diploma	7
Certificate	1



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

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$10,920.59. or 14.9% of core grants. The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- ✦ English and Literacy Training
- ✦ Essential Learnings and Curriculum Audit
- ✦ Bound for Success
- ✦ One School – Reporting and Social/Behaviour records
- ✦ Asthma Friendly School Workshop
- ✦ Values Education/Bounce Back Program
- ✦ Prep Reflection and Continuity Planning
- ✦ ICT Certificate and Pedagogical Licence

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 84 %.

### Average staff attendance

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

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

From the end of the 2007 school year, 96 % 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 92 %.

## 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	357	457	501
	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 94 %	86 %	93 %
Writing	Average score for the school	372	475	517
	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 88 %	96 %	86 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	353	470	523
	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 87 %	93 %	93 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	352	470	499
	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 90 %	90 %	90 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	349	449	529
	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 89 %	92 %	95 %

## Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	69%
Writing	73%
Number	76%

## Value added

The school has a number of intervention programs targeted at the specific academic and social emotional needs of students. These programs have been highly successful in improving the outcomes of students across a broad range of target groups. These programs are as follows:

- ✦ Year 1 Intervention program and Speech Language Intervention which have targeted students identified as requiring extra support through the early childhood screener. These programs were supervised by the Learning Support Teacher and the Speech Language Pathologist and involved Teacher Aides working in specific areas of need with individual and small groups of students.
- ✦ Year 2 Diagnostic Net Intervention which targets students identified in the Year 2 Net as requiring extra support in the areas of Reading, Writing and Number. This program was supervised by the Key Teacher and involved Teacher Aides working in specific areas of need with individual and small groups of students.
- ✦ Even Start Tuition Program for those students identified by the Statewide Tests as requiring support in areas of Literacy and Numeracy. This program was offered one on one to these students with a tutor who is a qualified Teacher.
- ✦ Upper Literacy intervention Program targeted at Year 6 and 7 students requiring specific intervention in the area of Literacy.
- ✦ Indigenous Support Program for students with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background requiring specific academic support in Literacy and Numeracy. This program was supervised by the Deputy Principal and Learning Support Teacher and involved Teacher Aides working in specific areas of need with individual and small groups of students.

## Performance of our students

- ✦ The Learning Support Program offered by the Learning Support Teacher targets students identified as having a learning disability and focuses on supporting students with specific aspects of Literacy and Numeracy.
- ✦ The Special Education Program supervised by the Teacher Advisor Educational Adjustment (TAEA) and offered to students with an identified disability including – Intellectual Impairment, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech Language Impairment and Hearing Impairment. This involved the TAEA and Teacher Aides working in specific areas of need with individual and small groups of students.

The school also offers a number of extension or enrichment experiences for students: Some of these are:

- ✦ 39 students from Years 3 to 7 participated in the annual **University of New South Wales Mathematics competition** in the areas of English, Spelling, Writing and Mathematics.
- ✦ The **Kaleidoscope Challenge** was offered to a group of 10 talented Year 7 students in the area of problem solving, patterns and puzzles. Gaven State School won the South Coast event and in the process won the rights to host the event in 2009.
- ✦ Several classes and their Teachers participated in the **Griffith University Robotics Project** which involved staff from Griffith University teaching students and Teachers about Robotics and how the program can be utilized to extend students' learning.
- ✦ The annual **Art Show** was the culmination of the Artist in Residence program for 2008 was held in May. The event was very successful and culminated in a display of a selection of the art in the school library.
- ✦ The **Life Education Program** provided valuable information to students. Participants who attended the Parents Information Session asked many relevant questions and indicated that the need for the program was high.
- ✦ Gaven State School's **athletics team** competed strongly at the annual District Carnival finishing fourth in B Division.
- ✦ The annual **Great Debate** between Pacific Pines State School and Gaven State School was held in June. The research and preparation of all teams exceeded expectations resulting in a very high standard of debating. Gaven students were thrilled with the result; Gaven retains the trophy won in 2006 and 2007.
- ✦ The annual **interhouse swimming carnival** was conducted in December. The event was attended by many parents and the level of participation by students was high. For the fourth year running the winning house was Amaroo.

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

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school are high. According to the 2008 School Opinion Surveys the satisfaction levels are as follows:

- ✦ Percentage of students or parent caregivers satisfied that they are getting a good education at school:
  - ✦ Students: 88% (above state average)
  - ✦ Parents: 73% (Commensurate with state average)
- ✦ Percentage of parent caregivers satisfied that the school is a good school: 69% (A little below state average)
- ✦ Percentage of staff satisfied with morale in the school: 90% (Well above state average)