

TEACHING AND LEARNING AUDIT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - PAYNE ROAD SS

DATE OF AUDIT: 28 AUGUST 2012



Background:

Payne Road SS is a primary school with a student population of 280, located in the Brisbane suburb of The Gap. Students attend in classes from Prep - Year 7. Payne Road SS provides a friendly, family like environment for its students.

Commendations:

- In response to the previous audit recommendations, the school has developed an explicit and coherent curriculum plan, which guides the enacted curriculum in all classrooms. This plan is supported by a comprehensive assessment schedule which outlines the data to be collected by teachers of all classes. OneSchool has become the primary repository for data, however, some data is stored centrally on the school's server and is available to all staff members from that location.
- The school has initiated a series of special purpose days that ensure clear understanding of the school targets, consistency in curriculum planning and consistency of teacher judgment. The data day is the first of these, with all teachers meeting with the administration team to review student progress and establish targets. Information from this day is then used in the subsequent planning day. Finally, time is provided for student work to be moderated at the end of each term.
- Teachers are taking the opportunity to visit each other's classroom to observe teaching practices and provide collegial feedback.

Affirmations:

- The tone of the school reflects a school wide commitment to purposeful, successful learning with classrooms calm and organized and students engaged in learning activities.
- A strong collegial culture has been established. Teachers have an overt and shared commitment to the improvement of teaching, and openness to critique by colleagues. Staff morale is high, with teachers expressing high levels of satisfaction with the working relationship between teachers and the administration team.
- All teachers are successfully implementing the Curriculum into the Classroom (C2C) resources which have been adapted to suit the context of the school.
- The school physical environment is well maintained and clean, providing an inviting learning environment for students. The state of the buildings and grounds reflects the respect shown by students to their school.

Recommendations:

- Refine and clarify the school improvement agenda to include clear linkages to school targets and timelines. Ensure the school targets are couched in terms of specific improvements sought in student performances, aligned with statewide improvement priorities.
- Develop and publish a clear pedagogical position to ensure consistent application of evidence based strategies (demonstrated through research and practice to be highly effective) across the school.
- Develop and implement a coaching/mentoring process.
- Build a culture where timely (daily) feedback to guide future student actions, is a key element of the school's push for improved teaching and learning.

