



PO address	PO BOX 404, COOROY QLD 4563
Phone	(07) 5472 2100
Fax	(07) 5472 2177
Email	admin@cooroyss.eq.edu.au
Website or Contact Person	www.cooroyss.eq.edu.au

Principal's foreword

Introduction

The 2008 school year continued to build on the many achievements of Cooroy State School. Our students engaged in a wide range of learning experiences within a highly supportive environment.

The following report highlights some of the school's outcomes for the year just passed.

The students and staff of Cooroy State School are actively engaged with our community. During May, our school centenary proved to be highly effective in further engaging the local and wider community and provided an event to showcase the school in a very positive light.

Future outlook

The future orientation for the school is indicated in our School Strategic Plan 2007-2009. This document indicates both strategies and specific targets to be achieved across the three years. In Term 4, 2009, a Triennial School Review will provide an opportune time to reflect on achievements and plan for enhanced opportunities at Cooroy.

Our curriculum will continue to take account of state, federal and international trends.

Our priorities:

- QCAR implementation
- Continued implementation of Early Years Curriculum
- Embedding of Smart Classrooms initiatives
- Literacy development
- Review of school literacy plan
- Review of school numeracy plan
- Continued development of our Special Education Program
- Enhanced 'Gifted & Talented' opportunities for students

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments currently is 561

Year levels offered are Prep to Year 7. We also have a Special Education Program with students.

Cooroy is a Coeducational school.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Our school organises the curriculum to deliver and report in the 8 Key Learning Areas using Trans Disciplinary Units of work to offer an integrated learning program to students.
- The units incorporate strong literacy focus. The school continues to offer our Teacher of the Arts initiative to focus on the five elements of Arts education.
- The goal of our learning program is to develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and processes which will develop each child to their maximum potential. School programs are reflective of Education Queensland syllabus documents and incorporate the elements of the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting framework.
- Students with special learning needs are supported by a comprehensive intervention program which is implemented by classroom teachers, the Support Teacher Learning Difficulties, Special Education teachers and a number of para-professional staff.

Extra curricula activities

- The school undertakes a number of school and community based activities to broaden the curriculum. Some of these include:
- School based
- Enhanced Arts activities including dance, drama, visual arts and instrumental music.
- Academic competitions – maths, english, technology and science through UNSW
- Academic extension programs for literacy
- After school sports programs
- Sport events participation in 12 different sports activities.
- Community based
- ANZAC ceremonies, local promotions, sporting organisations, Martial Arts programs, ASHC facility, Indigenous activities, Travel Safe, Waterwise, etc

How computers are used to assist learning

To operate effectively in today's society, students must be competent and confident in their use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as a tool for learning.

Computer technology is enhanced by the provision of pods of 3 or 4 computers (Prep to Year 7) and the provision of a computer lab in the Library Resource Centre. The teacher librarian undertakes computer assisted learning with all classes throughout the year and classroom teachers continuously use the technology to assist learning in the KLAs.

The school's network effectiveness is supported and maintained by a computer technician employed at the school for 3 days each week.

One teacher on staff acts as a Pedagogical Facilitator, providing enhanced professional development for teachers, providing them with expert knowledge of how to use computers for learning.

Our school at a glance

Social climate

The social climate of the school is very much directed by a school wide philosophy.

Our philosophy is reflected in the daily life of the school through:

- A caring and rigorous learning environment
- Focus on student self management and personal responsibility
- Development of supportive relationships between staff
- Distinctive leadership throughout the school.
-

A caring and supportive school climate remains a feature of the school. There is an 'open door' policy for all parents who wish to discuss issues and concerns with any of the class teachers or any of the administration members. Our responsible Behaviour Plan is designed to provide a safe and supportive learning environment. Its implementation is overseen by the school's Behaviour Support Team.

The school provides an extensive range of supportive programs for students including ,

- Student Management Plan that focuses on Self Management.
- Cooperative Religious Education programs with the local Ministers' fraternal.
- Human relationships education program provided by Family Planning Queensland and trained school staff .
- Circle Talking program, to enhance self-management, self assertiveness and problem solving skills.
- Seasons for Growth Program to assist children to deal with grief and loss.
- 'Bust a Bully' Program and on-going monitoring.
- Buddy classes and peer tutoring for students across the classes and year levels
- Case management , cross agency approach to assist students at risk of disciplinary absences
- Lunch time activities program.
- Lunchtime Activities Room for Kids [LARK Room]

Involving parents in their child's education.

Each year some 150 parents receive recognition for assisting in the classroom with children's learning . This is one indicator of how extensively parents are welcomed into the learning environment of the school.

In week 3 each year , parents are invited to a meeting with the teacher to hear the class teacher's plans and intentions for the year's work . This includes a yearly overview to keep parents informed of all major events for the year , and also how parents can assist in their child's education.

Parent education programs are conducted throughout the year and included topics such as oral language development ,assisting with reading, numeracy ideas for parents and such like programs . Similarly programs such as Health , Human Relationships Education and Behaviour Management programs are offered for parents

The flow of formation is assisted by the use of newsletters, letters home ,interviews, phone contact ,reports and the use of the school website

Parents are invited to be involved in the school through a number of initiatives

Academic engagement opportunities

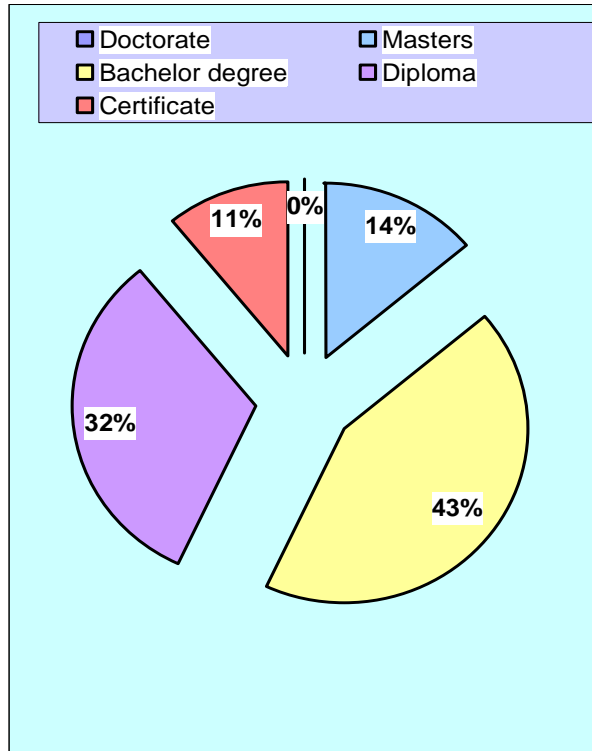
Our school at a glance

- Completing a Learning Profile for each child to assist the teacher to better cater for needs of each student.
- The Reporting Process to inform parents about student progress .
- Extensive Volunteer network.
- Focused interviews with parents about student development.
- Parent information sessions/newsletter articles about parenting for educational success
- Parent Perception checks to monitor social outcomes for children.
- School life engagement opportunities
- An active P&C Association with its various sub committees contribute to school based
- School Council Activities.
- School Social and Sporting events.
- Classroom and extra curricula activities.
- Parades, presentations and special events.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	13
Bachelor degree	40
Diploma	30
Certificate	10



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$13 325 .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Year 1-3 Literacy Training
 - QCAR
 - Literacy & Numeracy
 - First Steps Maths
 - ICT – Whiteboard
 - Special Education Skills
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 83%.

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, 91 % 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, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	358	459	527
	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	85%	79%
Writing	Average score for the school	371	467	534
	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%	86%
Spelling	Average score for the school	347	450	516
	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	81%	86%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	358	467	514
	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	79%	86%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	351	433	538
	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	84%	84%

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	80%
Writing	79%
Number	88%

Performance of our students

Value added

Generally the academic performance of our students continues to be of a high standard.

Throughout 2008 there has been a remodelling of the intervention program provided to students. A gifted and talented program has also provided opportunities for students beyond accessing regular programs.

In 2008, Cooroy students from Years 3,5 & 7 participated in the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy. Year 7 students achieved results similar to national averages in reading, writing and numeracy.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

In August 2008 samples of students and parents completed the School Opinion Survey. The following results were noted.

92% of students indicated that they were satisfied they were getting a good education.

69% of parents and carers were satisfied their children were getting a good education.

78% of parents and caregivers were satisfied that this is a good school.

89% of teachers were satisfied with morale in the school