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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

Ballandean State School has a proud reputation for meeting the diverse educational, social and emotional needs of the children who are enrolled at the school. The school caters for children from both urban and rural properties from an area that encompasses Stanthorpe through to Wallangarra.

Situated on the New England Highway, approximately 19 kilometres south of Stanthorpe, the school will celebrate its centenary in 2009.

The aim of the school is to help prepare the children for their futures in a family orientated, small school environment. Children are encouraged to be responsible for their learning and behaviours. The curriculum offered at the school combines innovation with good old fashioned teaching and learning opportunities. In this manner the children are exposed to a range of learning situations and environments that we believe will help them reach their potential as lifelong learners.

Ballandean State School has an experienced and motivated staff who endeavour to provide meaningful and relevant learning for the children in their care. The school enjoys a high level of support offered by the local community.

### Future outlook

The future outlook for Ballandean state school is bright and positive.

The school phased in the preparatory year of education in 2006 and is now well placed to offer an excellent educational program for children in their early years. Ballandean State School has also been involved in the trialling of the QCAR (Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting) framework and is enthusiastic about the potential that this initiative has – as it relates to improved teaching and learning, improved accountability and improved outcomes for children.

Our school is working to provide facilities that will meet the learning needs of the children. It is anticipated that the extension to a classroom will be completed by the end of July. Additionally, the construction of a

multi purpose learning space has enabled the children at our school to become involved in a science and technology / robotics program. Ballandean State School children will also continue to be at the forefront of authentic education about the environment and sustainability through the programs and opportunities offered by the school.

We care about our kids and aim goal is to

*“Prepare our children for their futures”*

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Ballandean State School is a coeducational school that currently has 89 enrolments. It offers educational within a multi-age setting for year levels Prep to Yr.7

### Curriculum offerings

#### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- 8 Key Curriculum areas
  - English
  - Math
  - Science
  - SOSE
  - Health and Physical Education
  - The Arts
  - Technology
  - LOTE (Italian)
- Environmental education
- Strings Tuition (Violin / Cello / Guitar)
- Performances (Pageants for Easter and Christmas, school theatrical performances)
- Participation in National and International competitions and Assessments

Our curriculum is planned and taught in the Key Learning Areas with Technology and use of Information and Communication Technology being integrated in a natural and authentic manner across the key curriculum areas.

#### Extra curricula activities

- Children are invited to attend a camp or outdoor learning function every year in the grades 4 – 7
- Children are invited to participate in inter school spots – including activities that are held outside of school hours
- Participation in the Granite Belt Eisteddfod is optional from year to year.

#### How computers are used to assist learning

Computers and other technology is used to enhance and complement the planning, teaching and learning in all curriculum areas in a meaningful and authentic manner. Children who have an interest in use of computers are encouraged to explore and develop their talents.

The school uses the GBCoSS (Granite Belt Community of State Schools) end of year 7 checklist as a guide to computer and information technology education.

## Our school at a glance

### Social climate

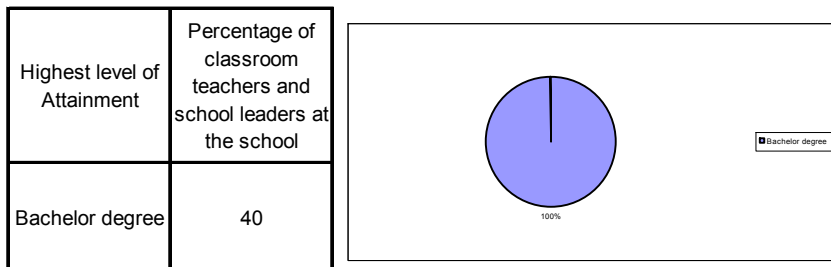
Ballandean State School endeavours to meet the academic, social and behavioural needs of each child. The school places emphasis on children being responsible and accountable for their behaviour and learning in a supported environment. Our behavioural expectations are high, and we provide continuous support for children and families as they strive to meet the expectations. Our small school environment leads to a supportive atmosphere for learning. We engage with the wider community of professional support networks to meet the needs of our children.

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

Parents are welcome and encouraged to be involved in the education of their children. We hope that through the involvement and support parents, children feel secure and safe to learn how to be socially competent citizens in our society.

## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers.



Many of our staff have double degrees. Three of our staff members are early childhood trained. Many of our staff have also received recognition in other areas (community based - 'Miss Ring 'n Rodeo'; 'Ms Yandina', 'Miss Ipswich High') which we believe complement the formal academic recognition that staff have received through attendance at University. Many of the staff at Ballandean State School also have training in areas not directly related to education (e.g. reflexology, Psychology - which again, adds to the essences of the holistic nature of education. Staff also has accreditation in sports – 1 x Level 1 Soccer coach, 1 x Level 1 Athletics Coach, 1 x Level 2 Baseball coach.

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

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2006 was \$5023.00 .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
  - Early Childhood Education
  - Literacy
  - Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting
  - Science in Education Queensland Mathematics in Education Queensland Assessment and Reporting
  - First Aid
  - Information and Communications Technology
  - Sensory Motor understandings
  - Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2006 was 100 %.

## Our staff profile

### Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2006.

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

- From the end of the 2005 school year, 100 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2006 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2006 was 89 %.

### Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	100 %
Writing	100 %
Number	100%

### Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests.

		Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	
Reading	Average score for the school	607	643	682	
	Average score for Queensland	535	608	679	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2006	100 %	83 %	88 %
		2005	100 %	100 %	88 %
Writing	Average score for the school	596	671	720	
	Average score for Queensland	522	627	696	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2006	100 %	100 %	100 %
		2005	63 %	100 %	100 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	610	646	665	
	Average score for Queensland	529	599	653	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2006	100 %	100 %	100 %
		2005	100 %	100 %	75 %

### Key outcomes in the senior phase of learning

### Other Key Outcomes

#### Value added

Ballandean State School has produced some high quality academic and social outcomes for

# 2006 School Annual Report

## Performance of our students

the children at the school. These outcomes reflect the child centred teaching philosophy and associated strategies employed by our staff. Our school endeavours to cater for the wide range of demonstrated abilities and personalities of our children. To do this we offer a range of learning experiences – both within and outside the classroom and with in and outside the school grounds. Our learning outcomes are not only measured by point in time test data, but more so by improvement trends which are available over time. Our school looks forward to the continued implementation of the Early Learning Years Curriculum and the introduction of the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework and will use these drivers to continue in our aim to prepare our children for their futures.

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

Parent, student and staff satisfaction levels have been maintained at a very high rate for a number of years.

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

All data from the School Opinion Survey process for 2006 indicated that our school was above both 'state benchmarks' and 'like schools benchmarks' in every area.