



# Wallabadah Public School Annual School Report 2013



## School context

Wallabadah is a caring, community based K-6 school. The community takes great pride and interest in the school. The students come from a rural background and enjoy a variety of outside school activities.

Wallabadah Public School students, teachers and parents have nurtured an atmosphere of cooperation, encouragement and pride in the school. This atmosphere enables each child to achieve their best and successfully meets the school motto of "Excellence in Learning"

## Students

In June Mr Jackson started as relieving Principal at Kootingal P.S. so Mrs Vicky York replaced Mr Jackson until December 2013.

Teaching staff in 2013 comprised of:

Vicky York: Principal/Class Teacher

Bronnie Saunders: Class Teacher

Elizabeth Roseby: Librarian/Release Teacher



*Year 3 students working in new classroom*

## Principal's message

I certify that the information in this report is the result of a rigorous school self-evaluation process and is a balanced and genuine account of the school's achievements and areas for development.

It is a matter of privilege and immense pleasure for me to be a part of Wallabadah Public School for 2013. I would like to congratulate our students and staff on a very successful year of teaching and learning at Wallabadah Public School. I am very proud of the fact that all our students, regardless of their ability, have been given every possible opportunity to be challenged, achieve success and feel valued at school.

At Wallabadah, we aim to provide a high quality education and a diverse range of programs which cater for every child's needs. Our school also nurtures and supports students with their emotional and social well-being.

During the year, our students accepted academic, sporting and cultural challenges. Some absorbed themselves in enrichment activities and entered the Multicultural Speaking competition, ASCA, the Premier's Spelling Bee and debating; some joined the CAPERS choir; some participated in sporting clinics; others represented our school at zone and regional sporting level sport; and many students learnt dance and drama skills and had the courage to perform in front of audiences for perhaps the first time. There are way too many outstanding achievements to mention here, but I would like to acknowledge the work of the students and staff in raising the profile of these learning areas in our school. And again a huge thank you must go to the staff for sharing their expertise with students and for organising and giving our students the opportunity to shine. One of the interesting things I have discovered in my years as a teacher is that everyone is good at something.

Some people are good at particular subjects, some are good at sport, some make great actors or excellent speakers, some people know how to get along with others, some are good at making things and some make great friends.

Teachers everywhere recognize the important contributions parents make toward a child's success in school. There is no question about it – success at school begins at home. Parents are the single most important variable in a child's schooling. One of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the school and parents who work together for the best interest of the children. The close partnership between home and school is one of the greatest strengths of Wallabadah Public School. I'd like to say thank you to all the parents and community members who have supported our school throughout the year; as volunteers, on excursions and of course those in P&C who have worked tirelessly to raise funds for our children and supported us in so many ways. We are indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated group of parents working in the best interest of our school.



Thank you to the staff - Mrs Saunders, Mrs Roseby, Mrs Godden, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Kemble and Mr Towse – who go above and beyond to make sure every student has the opportunity to shine.

Thank you to the parents for your support, ensuring your children receive the best every single day; and thank you to the children, for making it a pleasure to come to work every single day.

Vicky York  
Relieving Principal



*Mrs Roseby working with an Infants child in class*

### **P & C and/or School Council message**

What a great year it has been for the Wallabadah P&C !

We started off the year with our AGM in March and a new committee was elected. A big thanks to the Executive committee, Meagan Hall, Mandy Smith ,Jeff Nankivell and to all the other members for great team work this year . All of our fundraising efforts have exceeded our expectations with lots of volunteers and hard work .

Our major event was the horse sports, which proved to have been a great day with all involved eager for next year ! Hopefully this will be a ongoing event for the P&C for years to come . A big thanks to Vicky Hawthorne, Mandy Smith and Mandy Reedy for the huge effort of organising this event .

It will be with great sadness that we farewell some families from the school this year that have been major contributors to the Wallabadah P&C .Andrew and Helen Makeham, Rory and Belinda Sherwood ,and Brian and Nikki Robertson. The memories of you all are with high regard of your involvement within the P&C .

This year we have also seen a change in our classrooms with Chris Jackson going off to relieve at Kootingal public and Wallabadah seeing a new

face in Vicky York . Thank you to Vicky for holding reins in Chris's absence and we wish you all the best next year at Hillvue Public.

To all the staff and parents have a great Christmas and holiday break .

Cheryl Bray  
President Wallabadah P&C



### **Student representative's message**

This year, as school captains we have enjoyed having the chance to go all the way to Sydney to the National Young Leaders Day where we saw famous people who told us about good leadership skills. We also enjoyed ringing the bell (even though late sometimes). Being a mediator has also played a big role in school and now with only a few weeks to high school we hope those skills of sorting out problems will help us through.

We'd like to say a great big thank you to all the teachers; Mrs York, Mrs Saunders, Mrs Roseby, Mrs Godden, Mrs Musgrave, Mr Findlay, Miss Osland, Mrs Tanner, Mr Jackson, Mr Ramage, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Davison and Mrs Kemble for teaching us throughout the past seven years of Primary School.

We hope Wallabadah Public School will stay as good as it has always been.

Have a good holiday everyone and thank you!

Lia Robertson and Sasha Mackay (Captains)

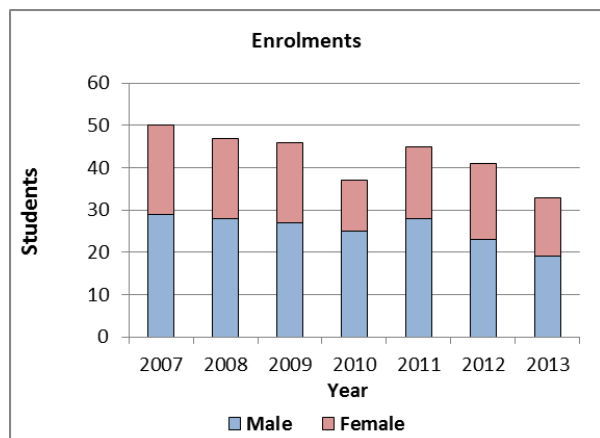


## Student information

It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all students be consistent with privacy and personal information policies.

### Student enrolment profile

Our enrolment throughout 2013 remained stable at 35 for most of the year. We regularly monitor the enrolment situation and promote the school in the local and wider community.



### Student attendance profile

Our attendance rates have continued to be well above State and Regional averages for the past five years.

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
K		97.6	96.1	95.7	95.3	95.2
1		95.0	94.2	97.8	95.3	95.2
2		94.3	96.2	98.1	98.9	95.6
3		95.6	92.4	95.9	97.9	99.4
4		92.5	97.0	93.1	96.7	96.1
5		93.6	94.6	94.4	95.8	98.7
6		94.1	94.8	95.8	93.3	97.3
Total	92.6	94.4	94.8	95.2	95.6	96.5

### Management of non-attendance

Our school regularly monitors student attendance. We strive to make Wallabadah an enjoyable learning environment in which to learn. Letters are sent to parents when student attendance rates fall below 85%. Home school liaison officers are kept informed of attendance rates that are of concern.

## Workforce information

It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all staff must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies.

### Workforce composition

Position	Number
Principal	1
Classroom Teachers	1
Teacher Librarian	.4
Casual Teacher National Partnership	
School Administrative & Support Staff	2
Total	5

The Australian Education Regulation, 2013 requires schools to report on Aboriginal composition of their workforce.

There are no staff members who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.



### Teacher qualifications

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Qualifications	% of staff
Degree or Diploma	2
Postgraduate	
NSW Institute of Teachers Accreditation	

## Financial summary

This summary covers funds for operating costs and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, building and major maintenance.

Date of financial summary	30/11/2013
<b>Income</b>	\$
Balance brought forward	32999.23
Global funds	54647.90
Tied funds	71242.48
School & community sources	11931.29
Interest	1689.56
Trust receipts	1082.50
Canteen	0.00
Total income	173592.96
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	3098.51
Excursions	4051.39
Extracurricular dissections	4459.04
Library	2050.99
Training & development	2767.05
Tied funds	51011.17
Casual relief teachers	4742.23
Administration & office	14003.71
School-operated canteen	0.00
Utilities	9954.39
Maintenance	1443.69
Trust accounts	1082.50
Capital programs	0.00
Total expenditure	98664.67
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>74928.32</b>

A full copy of the school's 2013 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council and/or the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.



## School performance 2013

The school and our students have achieved "great things" throughout 2013. There have been achievements at a high standard academically, on the sporting field, creatively and in community service endeavours.



## Academic achievements

### NAPLAN

In the National Assessment Program, the results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10.

The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in these assessments.

Year 3: from Band 1 (lowest) to Band 6 (highest for Year 3)

Year 5: from Band 3 (lowest) to Band 8 (highest for Year 5)

No students in Years 3 or 5 last year fell below the minimum standards in either Literacy or numeracy.

The *My School* website provides detailed information and data for national literacy and numeracy testing (NAPLAN).

Click on the link <http://www.myschool.edu.au> and enter the school name in the *Find a school* and select *GO* to access the school data.



## Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3

NAPLAN results were no surprise to the school in 2013. Due to our numbers comparisons could not be made with the state and previous years, however children achieved Band 3 in Writing, and Grammar and Punctuation and Band 4 in Reading.

### Year 3 NAPLAN Reading

Reading						
	School		SSG		State DEC	
Average score, 2013	401.3		418.4		418.7	
Skill Band Distribution						
Band	1	2	3	4	5	6
Number in Bands	0	0	1	0	1	0
Percentage in Bands	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0
School Average 2009-2013	4.6	4.6	31.8	22.7	18.2	18.2
SSG % in Bands 2013	2.1	11.5	17.8	25.9	18.2	24.5
State DEC % in Bands 2013	3.5	11.2	17.3	24.3	17.7	26.0

## Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3

As we only had two students in Year 3 comparisons could not be made with the state and previous years, however the children achieved Band 3 in Numeracy.



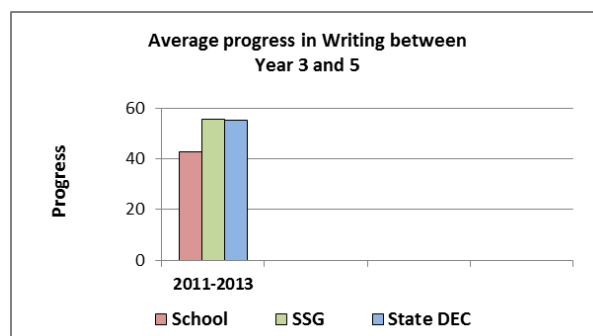
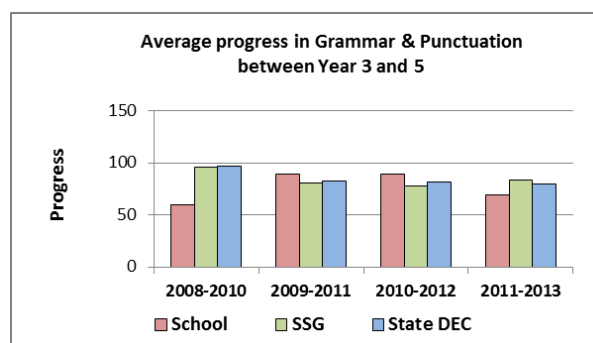
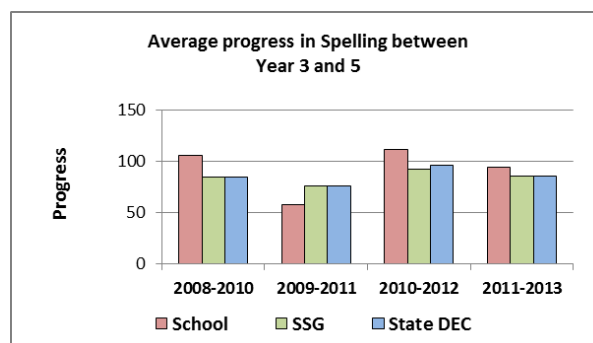
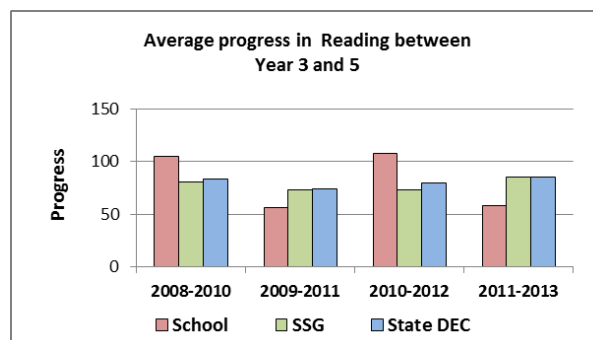
### Year 3 NAPLAN Numeracy

		School		SSG		State DEC	
Average score, 2013		365.1		396.8		399.7	
Skill Band Distribution							
Band	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Number in Bands	0	0	1	1	0	0	
Percentage in Bands	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	
School Average 2009-2013	0.0	4.4	34.8	30.4	21.7	8.7	
SSG % in Bands 2013	2.8	8.6	24.8	31.0	21.9	11.0	

State DEC % in Bands 2013	3.5	9.7	22.7	27.8	23.0	13.3
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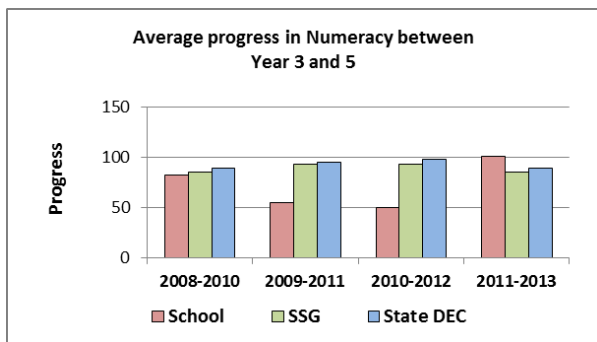
## NAPLAN Year 5 - Literacy

Over the past few years we have supported this Year 5 cohort in Literacy providing programs in Spelling and Reading as well as employing staff to reduce class numbers. Results in Literacy is as follows.



## NAPLAN Year 5 – Numeracy

Results in Numeracy were very pleasing with the majority of students falling in Band 6 and 7.



## Other achievements

Wallabadah Public School has had another very successful year. Children have achieved at a high standard on the sporting field, academically, creatively and in community service endeavours.

## Academic Achievements

The knowledge, enthusiasm and creativity of our staff inspires our students to achieve at a high level in all Key Learning areas.

## Live Life Well @ School

In 2013 Wallabadah Public School committed to improving the well-being of students. A health fitness day was organized to promote healthy living amongst the children. "Sip and Crunch" and Health promotions will continue into 2014.

## Public Speaking

The Annual Multicultural Public Speaking competition was held in Tamworth in Term 3. Two Wallabadah students, Henry Saunders, Yr 5, and Lia Robertson, Yr 6, were Stage 3 finalists. Both children spoke with confidence and conviction in Prepared and Impromptu speeches, achieving an excellent standard of achievement.

The Wallabadah Public School debating team consisted of Jock Barnett, Emily Cronin, Lia Robertson and Henry Saunders. The children had an even amount of wins and losses against schools in the Tamworth District and the Small Schools competition. They also competed in the Tamworth Eisteddfod. They are to be commended on their perseverance and attitude towards such a highly skilled discipline.

Australian Speech and Communication exams were held at Wallabadah P.S. in Term 3. Joey Reedy, Joshua Hall, Sienna Cronin, Sasha Mackay, Emily Cronin, Henry Saunders and Lia Robertson were all well prepared participants. Adjudicator Mr Paul March from Sydney was amazed at the

talent that was witnessed in the exam room. Awards received were: Achievement – Joey Reedy, Studio medals – Emily Cronin, Sasha Mackay, Lia Robertson. Centre Medal – Henry Saunders. Henry was awarded a High Distinction and has been invited to perform at The Kings School in Sydney in 2014 at the Presentation Ceremony.



Debating team Henry Saunders, Ben Hawthorne, Emily Cronin, Jock Barnett, Lia Robertson, Andrea Makeham with Mrs Saunders.

## Sport

Wallabadah continues to have a strong involvement in all Quirindi Zone, North West Regional and State Carnivals.

The school can pride itself on the wonderful sporting spirit and participation at all carnivals.

Our Annual school swimming carnival is always a wonderful way to start the school year. This is a chance for every child to "Have-a-go" and to be part of the school spirit. Our House captains Ben, Sasha, Andrea and James were a great support to their team mates.

Congratulations to Henry, Lia, Ben, Sasha and Emily who competed at the North-West Regional carnival.



The Wallabadah Race Course is always a terrific venue for the school Cross Country! We appreciate the community members that always

prepare the track for the children. All children that compete were champions and should be very proud of themselves.

Special mention to Sasha McKay, competing at North-West level and to Wyatt Smith achieving a Top 20 spot in the NSW State Carnival.

The Athletics Carnival was had in the typical winter's rainy and windy day! Lots of war cries and ballgames were enjoyed and the march past was fantastic!!

Everyone was running, jumping, throwing and cheering each other on. All the right ingredients for a perfect day!

Throughout the year we had NSW Rugby League Clinics with Zac Russ. He taught the children many new skills and had a lot of fun!

We had numerous children trial for Quirindi Zone teams in netball, soccer, cricket and tennis.

Wallabadah participated in the "Werris Creek Olympics". Every child was nominated into a team, combining with many small schools. Lots of Gold medals were Won!!

Our Learn-to-Swim School was a great success with all children being motivated to learn new strokes and improve on what they already knew.

To finish on a high note.

Thank you and congratulations to all involved in the 2013 Sports calendar. A great year!

Bronnie Saunders



## Significant programs and initiatives

At our school students learn in a stimulating and challenging environment and are encouraged to reach their full potential.

### Aboriginal education

We currently have two Aboriginal students enrolled at the school, and aspects of the Aboriginal culture are taught across the curriculum to all years. The school uses funds to support teaching and learning.

## Multicultural education

The staff, students and parents acknowledge Australia as a multicultural nation. The teachers incorporate the multicultural content and perspectives through the Human Society and It's Environment units. Harmony Day was held at school with an African Cultural day. Children learnt about dance, art music and dress.



## Respect and responsibility

Our students prosper in a safe, inclusive and nurturing small school learning environment that develops respect, understanding and responsibility. We have an effective welfare and discipline program with a focus on social skills, decision making and citizenship. Our Stop, Think, Do program provides opportunities for students to participate in the management of the school and develop leadership skills. Children wear their uniform with pride.



## School planning and evaluation 2012–2014

### School priority 1

#### Outcome for 2012–2014

*Our school will have a consistent and professional approach to Quality teaching. The school is seen as a place of excellence in literacy where all students are challenged and engaged, taught by professionally competent teachers engaged in seeking ways to improve student learning outcomes.*

#### 2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Maintain the percentage of Year 5 students achieving Greater Than or Equal To Expected Growth in NAPLAN Reading 2014 at 81% (2013 – 80%).

#### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Employment of SLSO's to support staff in the provision of an effective and quality teaching and learning program for all students
- SLSO will assist staff to implement differentiated instruction
- SLSO will support staff in data gathering to ensure timely and accurate feedback to staff member and students.
- SLSO will support the teaching principal to ensure resources and materials are developed to address student needs
- Actively conducting Learning walks.
- Revise Professional Teaching Standards measuring own performance against 7 elements
- Promotion of technology as an important learning tool for students to further develop skills in Literacy.

### School priority 2

#### Outcome for 2012–2014

*Our school will have a consistent and professional approach to Quality teaching. The school is seen as a place of excellence in numeracy where all students are challenged and engaged, taught by professionally competent teachers engaged in*

*seeking ways to improve student learning outcomes.*

#### 2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Increase the percentage of Year 5 students achieving Greater Than or Equal To Expected Growth in NAPLAN Numeracy 2014 by 20% Min( from 2013- 30 %).

#### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Employment of SLSO's to support staff in the provision of an effective and quality teaching and learning program for all students
- SLSO will assist staff to implement differentiated instruction
- SLSO will support staff in data gathering to ensure timely and accurate feedback to staff member and students.
- SLSO will support the teaching principal to ensure resources and materials are developed to address student needs
- Actively conducting Learning walks.
- Revise Professional Teaching Standards measuring own performance against 7 elements
- Promotion of technology as an important learning tool for students to further develop skills in numeracy.

### School priority 3

#### Outcome for 2012–2014

*To be recognised as a “Small school with BIG opportunities”, engendering a culture of being a “caring family” A school with professionally competent teachers engaged in seeking ways to improve student learning outcomes.*

#### 2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- To increase the number of online training hours undertaken by the school's learning support team from 2013 baseline figure.
- Increased circulation of our newsletter within the wider community

### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Leadership and management ensures that opportunities are available for every student.
- Expectation that teachers are professional, accountable and meet the needs of students through strengthening their own teaching skills & approach.



### Professional learning

Professional development is seen as an integral part of the School Plan. Resources are utilised ensuring that activities are worthwhile and that they are reflected in the School Plan.

Staff value opportunities to share ideas with other teachers in their Stages, therefore meetings with our neighbouring schools are considered valuable. It is envisaged that stronger links will be forged with Willow Tree P.S. in Professional Development opportunities such as fortnightly Staff meetings.

This year most of the Professional Development was done with regard to the implementation of English in 2014 and it was done either out of school hours or during Release time.

### Professional Development included:

- Instructional leadership meetings
- English curriculum
- Disability Standards
- Every Student, Every School conference
- Small Schools Conference
- Principal conferences and meetings

Two Staff Development days were held at Werris Creek and Willow Tree Schools for implementation of English syllabus.

### Parent/caregiver, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2013, the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school.

Their responses are presented below.

All parents felt Wallabadah was a happy and safe school where class activities are interesting and engage students in learning.

95% agree that Wallabadah is a school where parents and carers are encouraged to be involved in their child's learning and where teachers and families work in partnership to support student learning and information about the school's programs and activities is regularly communicated.

100% of parents agree that our school is a place where positive relationships exist between the school and wider community and the wider community actively supports events to celebrate the schools achievements.

Students felt that their teachers are fair to them and care about their education and progress.

08% of students interviewed enjoy school, what they do each day in class and generally have a lot of fun at school.

Parents felt that promotion of the school through the local paper was very effective. Feedback from the community about our student learning experiences and the extra curricula activities children were involved in was also favourable.

Areas for improvement

Technology in the classroom.

Increased parental support in school events.





## Program evaluations

### Curriculum

#### Background

All areas of Human Society and it's environment are taught at Wallabadah Public.

#### Findings and conclusions

Human Society and it's environment is taught in all classes each week. Parents felt well informed about the teaching of HSIE through regular contact with class teachers either informally or at Parent Teacher interviews. One parent mentioned that they liked to see student work printed in the Wallaby Newsletter. All parents expressed a desire to assist and support the school in HSIE and saw that their children were developing many new skills and strategies through their studies.

Staff enjoy teaching HSIE in the classroom and feel that the resources support their endeavours. From our class discussion in Term 4 Teachers noted that students felt happy being involved in HSIE experiences and see it as an important study, particularly learning about current events. One senior child said *"I particularly like BTN because it explains what's happening in the news in a way I understand"*

## Future directions

The evaluation of Human Society and it's environment has identified some areas of action.

- Revise and update resources in units.
- Create links with outside organisations to support work done in the classroom. Eg Online museum links, Powerhouse website and Antarctic website.

## About this report

In preparing this report, the self-evaluation committee has gathered information from evaluations conducted during the year and analysed other information about the school's practices and student learning outcomes. The self-evaluation committee and school planning committee have determined targets for the school's future development.

Vicki York	Relieving Principal
Bronnie Saunders	Staff Member
Cheryl Bray	P&C President
Nikki Robertson	Parent Representative
Jaimie Barnett	SAM
Christopher Jackson	Principal

## School contact information

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Parents can find more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the report and have the opportunity to provide feedback about the report at:

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/high-performance/annual-school-reports>



