

(Insert School Name)

Blenheim State School

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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

Blenheim State School continually moves forward with current educational innovations, which are strategic initiatives of Education Queensland. The implementation of Prep and preparation for the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework were two examples of this in 2007. In our small school, students are provided with individual learning support in a family-like environment. This creates the capacity for huge improvement in students' learning outcomes.

### Future outlook

The IDEAS program has been the central force in creating the school's vision statement *Climbing high – in quest of success, Strength Persistence Achievement*. Upon completion of the IDEAS process we shall be actively promoting our new Vision Logo through re-badging items such as the school newsletter, handbook and school entrance sign. Our values (Respect, Relationships, Responsibility, Care and Compassion, Doing Your Best) will be the basis of everyday discussion of what acceptable behaviour looks like. Pastoral care of the students will be enhanced by the addition of a chaplain to the school staff for one day per fortnight in 2008.

**2007 School Annual Report**

# Our school at a glance

## School Profile

Blenheim State School is a coeducational school near Laidley in the Lockyer Valley. With an enrolment in 2007 of 31 students, the school offered primary education from Prep through to Year 7. In 2007 the classes were grouped as follows: Years P – 4 and Years 5 – 7. This provided greater opportunities for the individual needs of students to be catered for. Blenheim is a Band 5 school with a teaching principal, specialist music and physical education teachers, learning support teacher and guidance officer.

## Curriculum offerings

### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Middle Phase of Schooling curriculum offered  
Early Phase of Learning play based learning experiences combined with traditional teaching  
Low student to staff ratio  
Yearly excursion/incursion programme linked to curriculum studies  
Strong ICT programme including an Interactive Whiteboard  
Religious Education lessons available

### Extra curricula activities

'Clubs' one afternoon per week. Students chose which club they wished to participate in each term. Clubs involved activities such as Sport, Art, Drama and Gardening.  
Participation in the A. B. Paterson College Maths Modelling Challenge – member of winning team  
Annual musical presentation  
Tennis lessons  
Participation in Under 12 Ipswich Schools Rugby League competition

### How computers are used to assist learning

Our computer to student ratio of 1:2 is better than that recommended by Education Queensland (1:5). Through the school's wireless internet access and bank of laptop computers, the use of computers is embedded in learning tasks in Literacy, Numeracy, Technology and Integrated Studies. The students use interactive programs to enhance their engagement with learning activities and are often required to present assessment tasks in a digital document produced by a program such as Microsoft Word, Publisher, PowerPoint or Photo Story.

## Social climate

Blenheim State School is a welcoming, friendly campus. This is validated by the following data from the 2007 School Opinion Survey.

Question	School Mean	State Mean
Parents: Satisfied that their child is happy to go to this school.	3.33	3.19
Students: Happy to go to this school.	3.58	3.19
Staff: Satisfaction with staff morale.	3.17	2.98

## Involving parents in their child's education

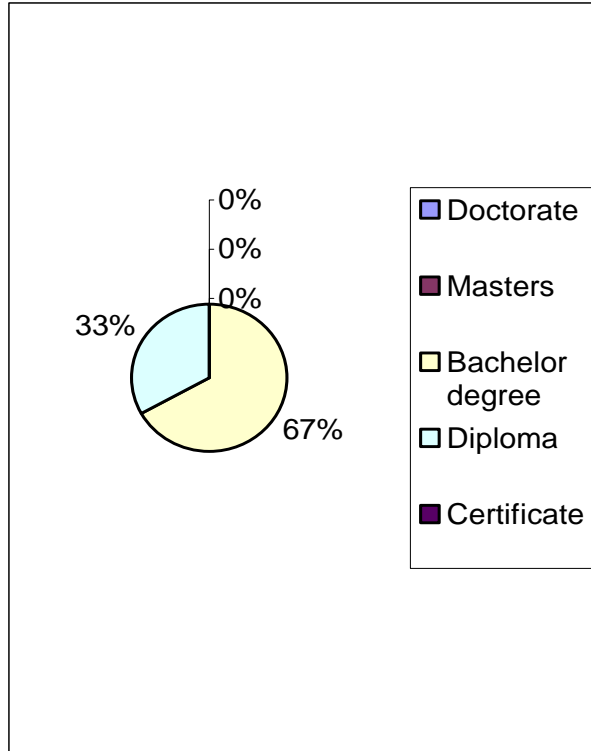
Parents assist in the provision of quality education for their children through participation in the P&C Association, the IDEAS School Management Team, assistance with learning activities, fundraising, working bees, transporting students for excursions and organisation of special events such as District Cross Country Trials and School Sports Carnivals.



## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	67
Diploma	33
Certificate	0



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

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$3,547 from school funds and \$2,598 from other sources. The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
  - Alignment of assessment, curriculum and reporting
  - ICT
  - Science
  - Gifted and Talented Framework
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100 %.

### Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2007.

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

- From the end of the 2006 school year, 64% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

# Performance of our students

## Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was 97%.

## 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	481	674	697	
	Average score for Queensland	527	606	672	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	75%	100%	100%
		2006	100%	78%	73%
Writing	Average score for the school	503	544	710	
	Average score for Queensland	523	600	681	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	75%	100%	100%
		2006	100%	100%	100%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	535	563	661	
	Average score for Queensland	521	588	648	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	100%	100%	100%
		2006	100%	89%	67%



## Other Key Outcomes

### Value added

Blenheim State School has the added value of being a peaceful, attractive and well maintained school in a rural setting with the local hall immediately across the road. The hall is used throughout the year by the students for educational programmes such as Arts Council performances, annual musical performance and awards presentation night. The P&C Association also uses it for fundraising ventures. Having two important community facilities in such close proximity creates a strong community bond. The school multi-purpose court is used by community members on weekends for social tennis games. Students love to use the new playground equipment with rubber soft fall, which increases their fitness.

The quality learning programs at Blenheim State School have contributed toward many students demonstrating an improvement of up to three times the state average (based on Year 3, 5, 7 Test data).

Visitors to our school often comment on its beautiful grounds, well behaved students and quality resourcing.

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

The 2007 School Opinion Survey showed that 86.7% of parents and 89.4% of students are satisfied that Blenheim State School is a good school. 100% of teachers are happy working at the school.