

Advancing Partnerships

– Parent and community engagement in action

Gaven State School

Key theme: The Principal's knowledge of students and families makes a difference.



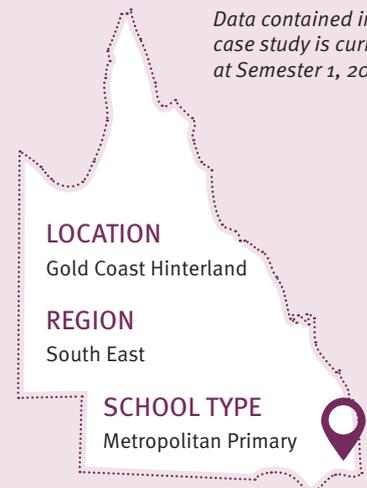
Achievements

- Increased student enrolments – up from 616 in 2014 to 681 in 2018
- Increased student attendance – up from 92.7% in 2013 to 93.2% in 2017
- Improved student behaviour and achievement – students in Years 1 to 3 demonstrated improvements in behaviour, English, mathematics and science from 2013 to 2017.

Strategies

- The principal and leadership team ensure they are visible around the school to build relationships and encourage parents to talk with them about any issues before they become major issues.
- Partnerships with parents are built through multiple forms of communication including fortnightly electronic newsletters, emails, Facebook and a digital noticeboard. Teachers are encouraged to use digital platforms to share students' work. There are regular school tours led by the principal and dedicated physical spaces for parents outside classrooms.
- Staff are encouraged to interact with any parent who comes within five metres of them on the school grounds.
- Positive talk about the school is used to build school culture and community belief in the quality of the school.
- Parents are encouraged to meet with their child's teacher and maintain regular communication. This is supported by class meetings, parent-teacher evenings, parent-teacher-student interviews, and parents being welcome at school assemblies. Parents are also invited to help in the classroom to see how their child learns.
- Parents are encouraged to get involved through the P&C and activities such as tuckshop and fundraising. The school personally invites parents to meetings which tends to increase attendance.
- The school aims to build the capacity of parents to contribute to their child's school learning through involvement in workshops on topics such as reading and the Speech Sounds Pics program.
- School and Community meetings – with parents, staff and community members – are held every three years to drill down into key issues and develop constructive strategies to make improvements.
- Through the school, community collaboration occurs with a range of local organisations, including those that provide therapeutic, behavioural and other supports for students, parents and families. There is a mobile Pop-Up Library funded by the State Library of Queensland, and Koala Joeys – a pre-Prep program for children from birth to five years of age.

Data contained in this case study is current as at Semester 1, 2018.



STUDENT ENROLMENTS

681

INDIGENOUS ENROLMENT

3.5%



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY ENROLMENT

6.0%

INDEX OF COMMUNITY SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGE (ICSEA)

991



Advancing Partnerships
– Parent and Community Engagement Framework



Queensland
Government