Advancing Partnerships
– Parent and community engagement in action

Warwick Central State School

Key theme: Creating learning opportunities through collaboration.

Achievements

→ Increased student attendance rates – up from 87.8% in 2013 to 90.2% in 2017
→ Increased Indigenous attendance – up from 80.7% in 2013 to 85.5% in 2017
→ A reduction in Student Disciplinary Absences – from 2.8 incidents per 1000 per term in 2013 to no incidents per 1000 per term in 2017
→ Improved student achievement across key learning areas – in all year levels (except Year 1) from 2013 to 2017
→ Improved staff attendance – up from 95.9% in 2013 to 96.3% in 2017.

Strategies

→ The visibility of the leadership team (e.g. at school drop-off and pick-up times) plays a crucial role in building a connection with the community.
→ The P&C Association works closely with, and supports, the leadership team. Student representatives provide ideas at P&C meetings.
→ All staff are encouraged to greet and chat with any parent who is within three metres of them on school grounds.
→ Breakfast mornings and open classrooms are held each term so that parents can see how their child’s classroom operates.
→ All parents are welcome at the weekly assembly and can stay on to discuss what’s happening in the school with the principal over a cup of tea.
→ Monthly newsletters and regular information sessions incorporate topics such as behaviour management, literacy and numeracy, and combatting cyberbullying to help develop parents’ skills to support their children’s learning and wellbeing.
→ Teachers contact parents with positive news about their child. Staff phone parents inviting them to attend assembly when their child will be receiving an award.
→ Parents are invited into classrooms as volunteers and as experts to share their knowledge.
→ The school is a member of the Southern Downs Cluster, which is a group of schools that work closely together to develop and implement programs that support and encourage students to reach their potential.
→ The school connects with its local community to provide students with opportunities to develop and apply their knowledge and skills. For example, a relationship with the Hermitage Research Facility based in Warwick, allows students to develop their skills in key areas of the Australian Curriculum: Science.

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