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School Report for 2016





Contextual information

GGLPS was founded in 1987 in the then, new subdivision of Wynn Vale. Sited amongst old vineyards, Golden Grove Lutheran Fellowship (now church) and the school offered Christian education to the new and developing community.



The school was established, along with Wynn Vale Primary School, under an agreement with the State Government which saw a shared campus arrangement. This arrangement exists to this day, with both schools successfully sharing the library and canteen facilities (located on the Wynn Vale campus).

GGLPS is one of 80 systemic Lutheran schools in Australia that has God's Word and worship at the centre of life. Through the Lutheran faith we share a history of schooling in Australia spanning 175 years. GGLPS is a member of 'Connected Schools', an alliance of northern suburbs Lutheran schools and kindergarten. Our students have the opportunity through this relationship to experience the richness of Lutheran education from kindergarten through to yr 12.

An International Baccalaureate (IB) school, GGLPS has been accredited to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP) since 2015. Through the PYP students develop an understanding of important concepts, acquire essential skills and knowledge, develop attitudes and learn to take socially responsible action. Along with the Australian Curriculum, the school has developed a strong curriculum which is significant, meaningful and challenging to the students. We aim to develop students who can contribute positively and effectively to their local and global community.

While we acknowledge the past and the strong foundations which have been laid, we also look to the future to ensure that our teaching and learning programme is contemporary. Our use of learning spaces, furniture, teaching methodology and technology reflect current educational thinking but any changes are implemented after rigorous research and thought about the effect that it will have on the teaching and learning program.

Plans, which will be implemented in 2016, are developed for the refurbishment of classrooms and learning spaces.

During 2016 the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) was completed with funds from the school and a grant from the Commonwealth Government. This area proved invaluable during wet and also hot weather.

School Council have determined that the school population will not exceed 350 students. This will ensure that the strong community feel that currently exists will remain and that GGLPS will be a place where, *'everybody in our school matters'*.

The P. & F. and Class Carers are a strong support to the school and during 2016 held such events and activities as: MOT (Middle of Term breakfast), stalls for mother and father's day, 'Showdown' evening, Christmas picnic, meal and care support for families.

A unique school known throughout the broader community as a smaller, caring school with a strong academic programme, GGLPS is sought out for enrolment by a broad and diverse range of families.

Strategic Directions

During 2016 School Council, in its governance role, discussed at length the strategic directions of the school. As part of this discussion the school's Mission statement was reworked to read:

To provide a program of education which is comprehensive and contemporary, embeds lifelong values, and encourages global citizenship, within an inclusive Christ centred community.

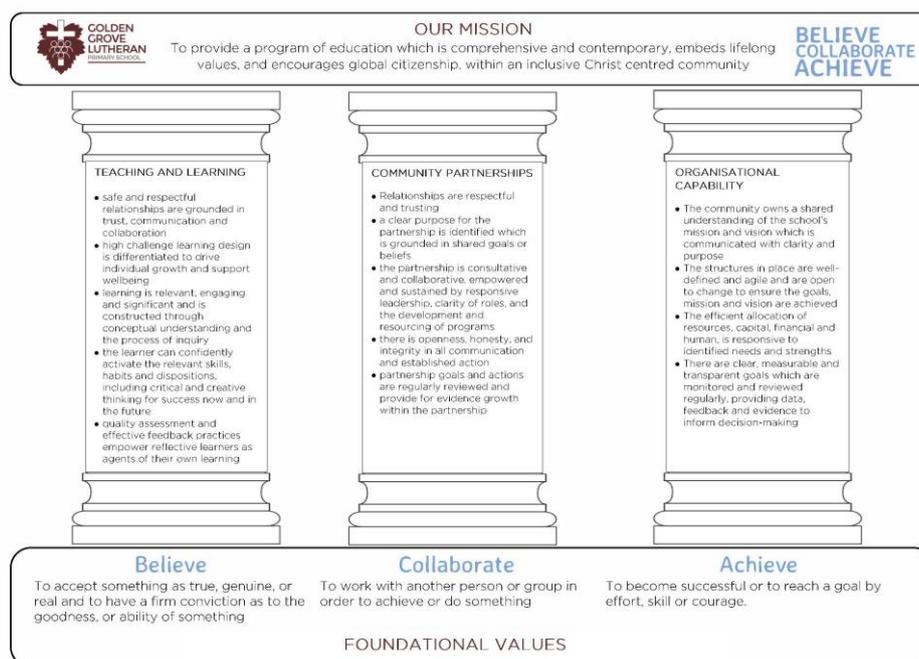
The foundational values of the school were formalised in the following three words:

As part of this process the school's strategic directions were set under the following three pillars:

- Community partnerships
- Teaching and learning
- Organisational capability

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The amalgamation of these three elements are illustrated in the following graphic:



An annual School Improvement Plan (SIP) was written to address the strategic directions. Further information can be found in reference to the SIP on the school website. This plan is the focus of monthly School Council meetings.



Teaching and Learning

Enrolment: At the August census in 2016 our school population was 264, reflecting an average class size of 22 students per class. The gender composition of the student body was 132 females and 132 males.

In accordance with the strategic directions of School Council and the decision to work towards operating the school with two classes at each year level, the following class structures were used in 2016:

- two classes of Reception
- two classes of year 1
- two classes of year 2
- two classes of year 3
- three classes of year 4 / 5
- one class of year 6

2016 was the first year in which year 7 was not offered at GGLPS.



Curriculum: The curriculum at GGLPS addresses the requirements of the Australian Curriculum. This was delivered using the framework and pedagogy of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme.

Reporting: While parents are invited to discuss their child's progress at any time, the school formally offered voluntary parent/teacher interviews in terms 1. Student's work and progress in their learning was recorded in a student portfolio, which was available at the end of each term and two reports at the end of each semester. 2016 saw the introduction of the 'Student Led Conference' (SLC), where students reflected on their learning with their parents. This reflection included the completion of learning engagements which were part of the class teaching and learning programme.

Reporting to parents included the five point scale as outlined in the Australian Curriculum guidelines. It is our belief that our reporting to parents must be objective, quantifiable and honest, while being constructive and supportive. Our reporting processes were presented in ways which parents could understand and relate to and we encouraged parents/caregivers to communicate frequently and as the need arose.



NAPLAN: In 2016 GGLPS conducted the NAPLAN tests across years 3 and 5 (yr 7 ceased to be offered at GGLPS in 2016). The results of these are as follows (the percentages indicate the number of students who are reaching the national minimum standard).



2016 results

	Numeracy	Punctuation & Grammar	Reading	Spelling	Writing
Yr 3	100%	100%	98%	100%	100%
Yr 5	100%	97%	100%	100%	100%

2015 results

	Numeracy	Punctuation & Grammar	Reading	Spelling	Writing
Yr 3	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Yr 5	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Yr 7	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Camping programme: Camps were held during 2016. These ranged from a sleepover at school for year 1 to an Aquatics camp for students in year 6 at Victor Harbor. All students in the school were involved in the camping programme - except Receptions who had a BBQ at school.

General: The school continued to achieve high levels of success in a variety of areas – sporting, cultural and academic. The school offers specialised curriculum lessons in:

- Japanese
- Physical Education
- Music
- Art



The school has an intentional focus on numeracy and literacy and monitors student progress, offering learning support through the use of such programmes as 'Multilit' and 'Minilit'. This support is managed by the Learning Support coordinator.

GGLPS is an intimate and caring community where students are recognised as being intentionally created and uniquely gifted by God. Students participated in a wide variety of 'co and extra-curricular' activities including excursions/incursions which related to their learning, debating / public speaking, and various SAPSASA carnivals at the local, regional and state level. Students were also given the opportunity to be involved in the local chess competition, Connected Schools Enrichment programme, and various national and academic competitions (eg. Literacy, IT).



Student Attendance

During 2016 the school had 189 contact days.

Attendance across the year levels were as follows:

Year Level	Students	School days	Percentage of days attended
Reception	32	189	95.20%
1	47	189	94.30%
2	45	189	96.50%
3	43	189	95.70%
4	33	189	96.10%
5	36	189	95.60%
6	28	189	95.10%
Totals	264	189	94.43%

It is an expectation that parents telephone to report all absences. Where this does not occur the school sends an SMS as a part of the student management and enrolment system.

School Services

Bus service: The school continued operating two bus runs, linking with Endeavour College at Mawson Lakes. GGLPS students are able to access this service to travel to and from school. Due to the number of students accessing this service, a larger bus was purchased towards the end of the year to cope with the increase in expected demand in 2017.



GGOSH: GGLPS offers an out of school hours care service (GGOSH). This service is offered according to Federal government regulations (National Quality Standard) and is licensed for seventy students (the service also works with Wynn Vale PS kindy offering care to siblings of GGLPS students). GGOSH employs 11 casual staff and 1 Director.

As well as offering daily term care, GGOSH also offers vacation care. This is offered through a programme of onsite and offsite activities.

GGOSH has an average morning attendance of in excess of 25 and an average afternoon attendance in excess of 50 and is an integral part of the GGLPS school community being owned and operated entirely by the school.

Teacher Qualifications

GGLPS has a headcount of 20 teaching staff. This equates to 16.8 (Full Time Equivalent). The qualifications of the teaching staff are as follows:

Diploma	Grad Dip in Theology	Degrees (Bachelor, Masters)	Doctoral
5	11	13	1

Lutheran Support Officers (LSO)

GGLPS had a headcount of 9 staff (3.59 FTE) who directly offered curriculum support. The majority of this was allocated to support in the junior primary and the special needs programme. An allocation of LSO support was given to the library and with staff from Wynn Vale PS ensure the library is open during all school hours. In addition to this, a school chaplain is funded through the Commonwealth Government's National School Chaplaincy programme for 2 days (.37 FTE) a week.

Workforce Composition

As well as the support given in the area of curriculum and special needs by LSO's, there are 11 (4.40 FTE) non-teaching staff involved in administrative, cleaning, bus driving and grounds duties. In addition to these staffing numbers there are the permanent and casual OSHC staff.

In 2016 the gender breakdown across all GGLPS staff (head count) is as follows:

- Male: 18
- Female: 24

We do not currently employ any Indigenous staff members.

Sources of Income

The school's primary sources of income are Federal government grants, State government grants and school fees. The following graph summarises this:

School fees paid by parents	\$819,715	26%
Commonwealth recurrent grants	\$1,758,166	55.8%
State recurrent grants	\$433,885	13.8%
Other income - interest etc	\$138,214	4.4%
Total	\$3,149,980	100%



Satisfaction levels

During 2016 GGLPS participated in the 'Better Schools Project' survey coordinated by Lutheran Education Australia. This survey was completed by staff, parents and students. The analysis of this data provided GGLPS with information which was used by School Council as a resource in determining areas of celebration and areas that needed strengthening. These areas were addressed in the school's strategic plan.

Overall the feedback received was extremely positive and reflects a school which is connected to its community and stakeholders.

Staff, parents and students identified that the Christian ethos and values of the school were strongly evident and this impacted on all aspects of the school culture. The value of being an International Baccalaureate school, offering the Primary Years Programme was viewed as a strength of the school.

As well as this survey, the school actively sought feedback from parents on a wide range of issues. This data was collected through P. & F. forums, consultative groups, newsletter requests and adhoc comments from parents. This data has informed the way the school continued to address such areas as the PYP and canteen service.

Conclusion

It is a privilege to be able to offer a strong education programme within the context of a Lutheran environment to families of the northern suburbs. It is a responsibility which is not taken lightly and through data collection, reflection and strategic initiatives, Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School aims to support students and families, providing a well-balanced educational experience, equipping students to be positive contributors in the world in which they live.



Dr Shane Paterson
Principal
GGLPS

20th June 2017