

DISCIPLINE AUDIT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WIDGEE SS

DATE OF AUDIT: 5 NOVEMBER 2014



Background:

Widgee SS is located approximately 25 kilometres west of Gympie, in the North Coast education region. Established in 1892, the Prep – Year 7 school currently provides educational programs for 41 students from the local community. The Principal, Ruth Machen, was appointed to the position in 2014.

Commendations:

- The Principal and teaching staff are driving an explicit and positive approach to managing student behaviour.
- The Principal and school leaders have accepted personal responsibility for ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment. They demonstrate a conviction that student engagement and regular attendance are keys to improved student learning.
- The school has developed a set of positively stated school wide expectations: *Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful* and *Be a Learner*, which are well known by the students and enacted in classrooms.
- Student leaders articulate and reinforce the rule for the week at school assemblies.
- The Principal and staff members are committed to developing and refining school wide practices associated with behaviour management and student engagement.
- There is a strong sense of wellbeing at the school among staff members and students, with the students speaking fondly of a caring school and caring teachers.
- Parents, staff members and students speak highly about how the Principal has had a positive impact on student engagement and behaviour.

Affirmations:

- A high level of community engagement is evident, with large numbers of parents attending and supporting the school's scheduled events, such as assemblies and Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C) meetings.
- The school has developed creative and effective strategies for acknowledging appropriate student behaviour including the highly valued student of the week award.
- Overall student behaviour is of a very high standard and adopted strategies are working successfully.
- The Junior Secondary Action plan includes opportunities for a successful Year 6 and 7 transition into secondary school. These include information sessions for parents and planned transition days for students.

Recommendations:

- Review the data collection and analysis process to ensure that both inappropriate and positive behaviour incidents are recorded in OneSchool in order to allow a legitimate analysis of the data to occur. Provide professional development for all staff members to enable data to be entered into OneSchool in a consistent and meaningful way.
- Review the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students (RBPS) to ensure effective processes and systems are established and implemented consistently across the whole school to ensure its continued effectiveness in developing a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment that focuses on student engagement and the development of a culture that enhances learning.
- Consider aligning elements from the school's pedagogical framework with the RBPS to establish consistent learning and behaviour routines across the school to ensure high levels of engagement and high expectations for all students.
- Continue to develop processes to closely monitor attendance and routinely engage with families to increase student attendance and engagement in learning.
- Communicate the behaviour focus for the week in the school newsletter to enable families to reinforce the school's expectations at home.
- Consider implementing a school wide program to explicitly teach students the expected behaviours and to enhance student wellbeing and resilience.