

DISCIPLINE AUDIT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – HIGHFIELDS SS

DATE OF AUDIT: 10TH OCTOBER 2014



Background:

Highfields State School is a primary school located in the Darling Downs South West region. The Prep -7 school provides education programs for 886 students. The Principal, Warren Merchant, was appointed in 2009.

Commendations:

- The school behaviour expectations of Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner are visible throughout the school and are known by all the staff and students.
- All class teachers have developed and displayed a Classroom Behaviour Plan that clearly outlines expectations for behaviour and learning, acknowledgment, correction, crisis and restitution plans.
- The principal and school leadership team are driving an explicit and positive approach to managing student behaviour and enhancing student engagement.
- All staff have engaged in professional development on the Essential Skills for Classroom Management. This is monitored and reinforced through the use of an effective feedback and coaching model.
- Teachers have developed innovative and creative ways to provide immediate feedback to the students with their own personal approach to displaying and rewarding positive behaviour.

Affirmations:

- The *Rethink Room* provides opportunities for students who have displayed inappropriate behaviours in the playground to debrief with a member of staff and learn more effective strategies to successfully re-engage with peers.
- The *Responsible Play Space* provides opportunities for students to learn and practice social skills in a supportive environment.
- Parents speak highly of their interactions with the Administration and teachers at the school and are proud of the reputation of the school in the community.
- The whole school assemblies are a celebration of individual and student achievement which fosters a strong sense of connectedness, engagement and community.
- The Junior Secondary Action plan includes opportunities for successful Year 6 and 7 transition into secondary school. The school is currently hosting the leadership team from Highfields SSC and the Principal regularly communicates with the community through the school newsletter.
- The school website and newsletters are informative and are used to communicate relevant information regarding student achievements.

Recommendations:

- Continue the work of the Behaviour Committee to review and monitor the effectiveness of the behavior process systematically across the school to ensure its effectiveness in enhancing a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment that focuses on student engagement and the development of a culture that enhances learning.
- Consider developing a set of school wide lessons to explicitly teach students the expectations for behaviour. A school wide focus for the week would reinforce school expectations for both students and parents.
- Consider how the suite of data concerning behaviour, including the behaviours of learning can be enhanced in OneSchool, with the express purpose of highlighting any emerging patterns or themes concerning student engagement.
- Develop school wide processes for the regular review of data on OneSchool to inform the explicit teaching of appropriate behaviour, identify emerging trends and to monitor the effectiveness of school programs and procedures