

Darlington State School

Queensland State School Reporting

2013 School Annual Report



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Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the My School website and the Queensland Government data website.
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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This report is designed to provide a summary of the progress made at Darlington State School during 2013. It also contains information about what makes our school unique – the exciting and engaging teaching and learning, the multi-age learning environment, the social skills, the 'family-like' supportive learning environment and the dedication and commitment of all staff. The contents of this document meet both the QLD Govt. and Aust. Govt. annual reporting requirements for schools.

School progress towards its goals in 2013

Reading, Spelling and Punctuation and Grammar remained the major focus areas for the school development during 2013. NAPLAN results and internal data indicated a major improvement in the reading and punctuation and grammar outcomes for students. The completion of the Quadrennial School Review has set the strategic plan for the school over the next four years. The continuation and refinement of the IGAP (Individual Goal Attainment Program) has been well received and supported personalised student learning.

Future outlook

2014 will focus on the relentless attainment of improvement in student outcomes in the fields of spelling, punctuation and grammar and reading.

This will be achieved through the refinement and improvement of curriculum programs that will be recognised being of a National standard. The development and implementation of a pedagogical framework will support the teaching practices and strategies used by teachers at Darlington State School.

Attendance at Darlington State School during 2013 averaged at 95% however the school's attendance goal for 2014 is 98%. The continuation and refinement of the IGAP program which individualises the learning for students will remain a major part of the schools focus.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Year levels offered in 2014: Prep Year - Year 7

Total student enrolments for this school:

	Total	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb – Nov)
2011	15	8	7	100%
2012	16	6	10	88%
2013	15	7	8	100%

Student counts are based on the Census (August) enrolment collection.

Characteristics of the student body:

Darlington State School has a range of student backgrounds including horse breeding, dairy and beef farming families to urban community members closer to the city.

Average Class sizes

Phase	Average Class Size		
	2011	2012	2013
Prep – Year 3	14	9	7
Year 4 – Year 7 Primary	0	7	7
Year 7 Secondary – Year 10	0	0	0
Year 11 – Year 12	0	0	0

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2011	2012	2013
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	0	0	0
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0	0	0
Exclusions	0	0	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0

Our school at a glance

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

As well as offering all the Key Learning Areas, Darlington offers;

Artist in Residence Program

1:1 laptop to student ratio

Personalised learning programs

Organic Gardening Program

Extra curricula activities

Instrumental Music

Multiple sporting opportunities

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning. ICT is the platform used to provide a differentiated curriculum. Students use a balance of technology and explicit teaching to research, record, investigate and demonstrate knowledge.

Students use a mix of inquiry based research, web based sites and multi-media applications to enhance their learning opportunities.

Social climate

Darlington offers a modern education in a traditional setting. Our school community is like one big happy family where students support each other. Our main focus is on the development of self-belief and confidence in an effort to support our students' holistic development. We have a very active P&C whose role in our school is fundamental to student success. Our School Opinion survey indicates our school climate is above State Benchmarks. Our school prides itself on three expectations for everyone: Be safe; Be respectful; Do your best.

Our school at a glance

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

Staffs, Parents and Students were satisfied that Darlington State School is a good school. Our results have shown an increase in most areas from 2012– 2013..

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of parents/caregivers who agree that:	2012	2013
their child is getting a good education at school (S2016)	100%	100%
this is a good school (S2035)	100%	100%
their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	100%	100%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	100%	100%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school* (S2003)	100%	100%
their child is making good progress at this school* (S2004)	100%	100%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best* (S2005)	100%	100%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work* (S2006)	100%	100%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	100%	100%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	100%	100%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	100%	100%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	100%	100%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	100%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	100%	100%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	100%	100%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	100%	100%

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of students who agree that:	2012	2013
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	100%	100%
they like being at their school* (S2036)	100%	100%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	100%	100%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	100%	100%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	100%	100%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	100%	100%
teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	100%	100%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	100%	100%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	100%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	100%	100%

Our school at a glance

their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	100%	100%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	100%	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	100%	100%

Performance measure

Percentage of school staff who agree that:	2013
they enjoy working at their school (S2069)	100%
they feel that their school is a safe place in which to work (S2070)	100%
they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)	100%
students are encouraged to do their best at their school (S2072)	100%
students are treated fairly at their school (S2073)	100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school (S2074)	100%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)	100%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)	100%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)	100%
their school is well maintained (S2078)	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)	100%

* Nationally agreed student and parent/caregiver items were incorporated in the School Opinion Survey in 2012.

Percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement. Due to a major redevelopment of the surveys (parent/caregiver and student in 2012; staff in 2013), comparisons with results from previous years are not recommended.

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child's education

Darlington encourages parent volunteers in most aspects of the classroom. Our Healthy School vision relies on the support of P&C and parent volunteers. Parades, newsletters, parent interviews and program information encourage parent involvement in student learning both at school and at home.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Data is sourced from school's annual utilities return and is reliant on the accuracy of these returns.

Darlington State School has made a concerted effort to reduce its environmental footprint as it has always done. The solar schools program has been a major focus for the school. Environmental awareness has continued with the sustainable lifestyle programs gaining momentum within the school and community.

	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2010-2011	7,068	0
2011-2012	11,571	0
2012-2013	16,926	0

The consumption data is sourced from the validated utilities expenditure return which the school submits at the end of each financial year. The data provides an indication of the consumption trend in each of the utility categories which impact on the schools environmental footprint.

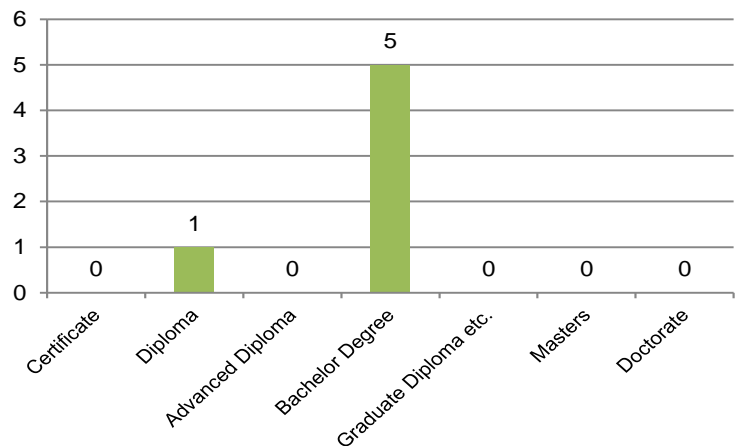
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2013 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff *	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	8	6	0
Full-time equivalents	2	2	0

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff *
Certificate	0
Diploma	1
Advanced Diploma	0
Bachelor Degree	5
Graduate Diploma etc.	0
Masters	0
Doctorate	0
Total	6



* Teaching Staff includes School Leaders

** Graduate Diploma etc. includes Graduate Diploma, Bachelor Honours Degree, and Graduate Certificate

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2013 were \$ 5183.46 .

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

1. Pedagogical practices and improvement
2. Australian National Curriculum
3. Assessment

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2013 was 100 %.

Average staff attendance

2011

2012

2013

Our staff profile

Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.

98%

97%

95%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 97% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2013 school year.

School income broken down by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the *My School* website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our income details, click on the *My School* link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following 'Find a school' text box.

Find a school

Search by school name

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government
 Non-government

Where it says '**Search by school name**', type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select **<GO>**. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the **Terms of Use** and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's *My School* entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting '**School finances**' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of income by funding source.

Key student outcomes

Student attendance	2011	2012	2013
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	93%	96%	95%
The overall attendance rate in 2013 for all Queensland state Primary schools was 92%.			

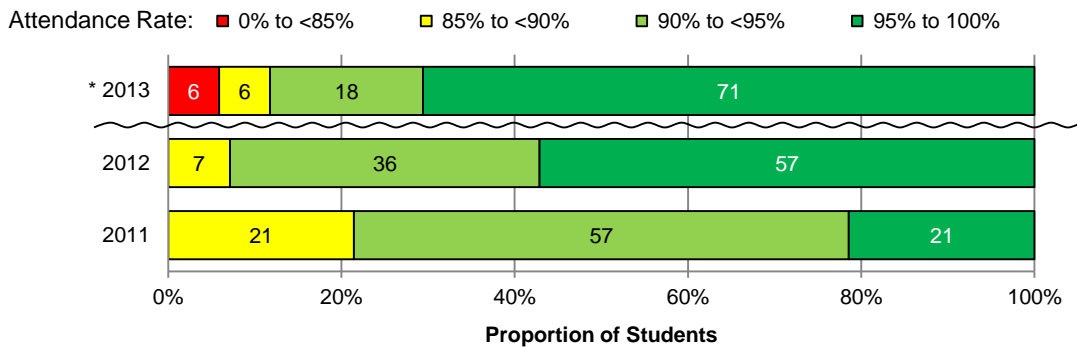
Student attendance rate for each year level (shown as a percentage)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
2011	95%	DW	91%		DW	95%	DW					
2012	95%	98%	94%	99%	DW		95%					
2013	99%	DW	99%	97%	93%	DW	DW					

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



* The method for calculating attendance changed in 2013 – care should be taken when comparing data from 2013 to that of previous years.

Performance of our students

Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.

School rolls are marked twice daily. Non-attendance of three or more days unexplained, is followed up with a phone conversation from the school. An attendance award is offered at the end of the year for the student with the best attendance record for the year. As part of our daily acknowledgement system our students earn money towards their end of term prize purchases. They are allocated wages for attendance. Our students have an excellent attendance record.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the *My School* link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following 'Find a school' text box.

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