

# Darlington State School

## Queensland State School Reporting

### 2014 School Annual Report



Postal address	2744 Kerry Road Darlington 4285
Phone	(07) 5544 8137
Fax	(07) 5544 8271
Email	the.principal@darlingtss.eq.edu.au
Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the <a href="#">My School</a> website and the <a href="#">Queensland Government data</a> website.
Contact person	Claire Roberts

## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

This report is designed to provide a summary of the progress made at Darlington State School during 2014.

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 2014

Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar are the major focus areas for the school development during 2014. 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 in 2012, set the strategic plan for the school until 2016.

Through the school improvement agenda, the continuation and refinement of the IGAP (Individual Goal Attainment Program) has been well received and has supported personalised student learning. Teachers have continued to find motivational techniques to focus student learning and have improved communication avenues through greater community involvement in the school.

### Future outlook

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

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)
2012	16	6	10	88%
2013	15	7	8	100%
2014	23	9	14	58%

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		
	2012	2013	2014
Prep – Year 3	9	7	14
Year 4 – Year 7 Primary			9
Year 7 Secondary – Year 10			
Year 11 – Year 12			

### School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2012	2013	2014*
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	0	0	0
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0	0	0
Exclusions <sup>#</sup>	0	0	0

Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0
----------------------------	---	---	---

# Exclusion is an abbreviated title which reflects suspensions with recommendations for exclusion, which may result in an exclusion or be set aside through an appeals process.

\* Caution should be used when comparing 2014 data with previous years SDA data as amendments to the disciplinary provisions in the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, passed in late 2013, created a time series break.

## 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

Guitar and Piano tuition

Tennis coaching

Swimming lessons

Cross Country training and athletic training

Playgroup

### 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.

## Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

Performance measure			
Percentage of parent/caregivers who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	2012	2013	2014
their child is getting a good education at school (S2016)	100%	100%	100%
this is a good school (S2035)	100%	100%	100%
their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	100%	100%	100%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	100%	100%	100%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school* (S2003)	100%	100%	100%
their child is making good progress at this school* (S2004)	100%	100%	100%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best* (S2005)	100%	100%	100%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work* (S2006)	100%	100%	DW
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	100%	100%	100%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	100%	100%	67%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	100%	100%	67%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	100%	100%	DW
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	100%	100%	67%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	100%	100%	67%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	100%	100%	100%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	100%	100%	100%

Performance measure			
Percentage of students who agree <sup>#</sup> that:	2012	2013	2014
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	100%	100%	100%
they like being at their school* (S2036)	100%	100%	100%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	100%	100%	100%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	100%	100%	100%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	100%	100%	100%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	100%	100%	100%
teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	100%	100%	100%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	100%	100%	100%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	100%	100%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	100%	100%	100%
their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	100%	100%	100%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	100%	100%	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	100%	100%	100%

**Performance measure**

Percentage of school staff who agree# that:	2012	2013	2014
they enjoy working at their school (S2069)		100%	100%
they feel that their school is a safe place in which to work (S2070)		100%	100%
they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)		100%	100%
students are encouraged to do their best at their school (S2072)		100%	100%
students are treated fairly at their school (S2073)		100%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school (S2074)		100%	100%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)		100%	100%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)		100%	100%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)		100%	100%
their school is well maintained (S2078)		100%	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)		100%	100%

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

# 'Agree' represents the 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.

### 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. In 2014, the school began a playgroup with the support of some very dedicated mothers. The group meets on a weekly basis and encourages new families in the valley to participate.

### 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.

Years	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2011-2012	11,571	0
2012-2013	16,926	0
2013-2014	13,929	0

The consumption data is compiled from sources including ERM, Ergon reports and utilities data entered into OneSchool by each school. The data provides an indication of the consumption trend in each of the utility categories which impact on the school's environmental footprint.

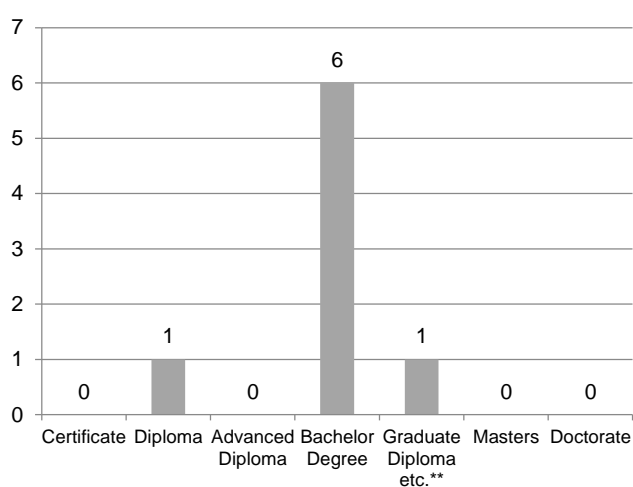
## Our staff profile

### Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2014 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff*	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	8	6	0
Full-time equivalents	3	2	0

### Qualification of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff *
Certificate	0
Diploma	1
Advanced Diploma	0
Bachelor Degree	6
Graduate Diploma etc.**	1
Masters	0
Doctorate	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>



\*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 2014 were \$5000.00.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Pedagogical practices and improvement

School based reading program

Australian National Curriculum

Assessment and data collection

Behaviour management

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2014 was 100%.

Average staff attendance	2012	2013	2014
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.	97%	95%	98%

### 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 2014 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 webpage.

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

## Performance of our students

### Key student outcomes

Student attendance	2012	2013	2014
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	96%	95%	93%

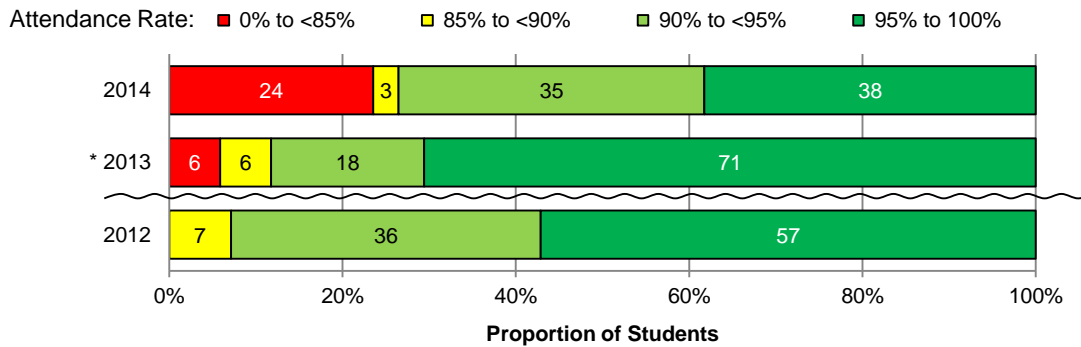
The overall attendance rate in 2014 for all Queensland Primary schools was 92%.

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
2012	95%	98%	94%	99%	DW		95%					
2013	99%	DW	99%	97%	93%	DW	DW					
2014	90%	97%	95%	96%	92%	90%	88%					

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 after 2012 to that of previous years.

### Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DETE 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 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 celebrate days when all students attend school.

### 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.

#### 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 whose NAPLAN results 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 able to access NAPLAN data. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.



**Achievement – Closing the Gap**

No Indigenous children attended Darlington State School this year.