

Biloela State School

Queensland State School Reporting

2013 School Annual Report



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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This report provides an overview of the achievements, developments and challenges for Biloela State School during the 2013 school year. The report is written in three sections; our school at a glance, our staff profile and student achievement.

Our school at a glance details the school profile, curriculum offerings, school climate and parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school. This section also describes how parents are involved in their child's education.

Our staff profile outlines the composition of the staff at Biloela, teacher qualifications, expenditure on professional development, staff attendance and retention.

The section about student achievement provides information on student attendance and student achievement on systemic measures in years 3, 5 and 7.

As well as being published on the school website, this report is presented to the P&C Association at their July meeting. It is also published as part of the school newsletter and provided as a hardcopy, available in the foyer at school.

Queensland State School Reporting

2012 School Annual Report



School progress towards its goals in 2013

The Biloela State School foci for 2013 are as follows:

Key priorities	Results
Explicit teaching	All classroom teachers capably implemented the C2C for the teaching of English, Maths and Science. Adjustments were made as necessary Principal and English Curriculum Leader participated in Explicit Instruction Network meetings and Professional Development. All teachers engaged with Explicit Teaching through Professional Development sessions with regions Pedagogical coach
Reading and Comprehension Skills	Biloela's achievements in reading comprehension remained positive, reflecting a sustained whole school focus on reading comprehension strategies. 32.4% of year three students achieved in the upper two bands of the NAPLAN testing in reading. Year 5's participated in project 600 with 85% achieving above national minimum standards.
Teacher use of student data in a planned manner	PAT-R and PAT-M systems implemented electronically trialed for 4-7's; Analysis of data used by teachers for planning and student goal setting
Closing the Gap in Academic and attendance areas.	Indigenous parents and community members participated in Biloela Indigenous Advisory Group meetings; Parent liason officer employed, Indigenous teacher aides employed. PACE worker worked closely with school and families to share school initiatives and successes.
Improve all students' achievements, attendance and engagement in learning	Student attendance improved from past years of 91% to 92.9% in 2013. School means in all NAPLAN areas improved from previous years.

Queensland State School Reporting 2012 School Annual Report



Future outlook

Key areas for improvement in 2014 are:

- **Spelling** - Focus on teaching of spelling, Spelling rules explicitly taught, goal setting
- **Core Priority - Reading & Numeracy U2B** – School targets, student goals, project 600 extended learning activities, high order thinking skills
- **Teaching Practice** – Explicit Instruction, Know your learners, Student and class goal setting
- **Closing the gap between the attendance and outcomes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous students** – Quality explicit teaching practices, Indigenous learning plans, Indigenous Parent liaison Officer, Biloela Indigenous Advisory Group.
- **School Wide Curriculum Plan** – Review current school curriculum plan, Align to latest ACARA documents for each KLA, Embed School pedagogical framework
- **Attendance** – Kids Matter School, Indigenous parent liaison officer, school celebrations for attendance, goal setting and knowing our learners

School Profile

- **Coeducational or single sex:** Coeducational
- **Year levels offered in 2013:** **Preschool - Year 7**
- **Total student enrolments for this school:**

	Total	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb – Nov)
2011	384	176	208	89%
2012	380	177	203	87%
2013	376	170	206	93%

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

Characteristics of the student body:

- Biloela SS is an inclusive school, where we challenge and support a diverse student population from Prep to 7, including Indigenous students, students with disabilities, students of migrant families, gifted students, and students with a wide range of learning, social/emotional and medical needs. The mobility rate from year to year remains at about 20%, with many families moving to other locations for work. MySchool website shows that 54% of our students are in the bottom quartile for the Index of Community and Socio-educational advantage.
- Of our entire student population approximately 13% of our students identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The school also has 16% of students that speak English as a second language. Our school is resourced with Special Education Programs and approximately 16% of our students are diagnosed with a disability. Biloela State School offers an Early Childhood Development Program for children who are aged birth to pre-Prep and have low incidence disabilities.
- Average Class sizes

Phase	Average Class Size		
	2011	2012	2013
Prep – Year 3	24	21	22
Year 4 – Year 7 Primary	27	23	26
Year 7 Secondary – Year 10			
Year 11 – Year 12			

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2011	2012	2013
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	12	17	15
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	1	1	0
Exclusions	0	0	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

In addition to the standard curriculum provide by all Queensland state schools, our school also provides:

- Lexia Reading Program
- Special Education Program from birth to Year 7, including Callide Cluster Schools
- Primary Connections (Science Program)
- Extension/Gifted Program
- ESL Program (English as a Second Language)
- Instrumental Music Program
- Visual Arts program
- EarthSmart School
- Homework Club

Extra curricula activities

- Choir – Senior and Junior: Community performances by Music department
- Eisteddfod – Music, Speech and Drama
- Computer Club
- Active After School Sport
- Callide Valley Show entries
- Recycling program, in conjunction with Banana Shire Council
- Central Valleys Sport Events (Rugby League, Soccer, Netball, Touch Football, Swimming, Cricket and Athletics)
- Anzac Day March and Services
- Camps: Year 7 Leadership Camp and Year 6 camp
- Class excursions supported by REAP (Remote Educational Assistance Program)
- Competitions – APSMO (Australasian Problem Solving Maths Olympiads), UNSW (University of NSW) – English, Maths, Science
- School Discos
- Under 8's day
- ESL extension
- LABS on LEGS – fun physics, body works
- Drama workshops facilitated through Bilo High
- Australian Mathematics competition through Bilo high school
- Persuasive speaking comp
- Year 5 sport mentoring with year 10's Bilo high
- Premiers reading challenge
- Book week
- Harmony day
- Multicultural day
- NAIDOC
- CQ careers trailer
- Rotary careers market
- Adolescent development talk
- Indigenous performance
- Indigenous Healthy Eating Program

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

- During 2013 interactive whiteboards were installed in all classrooms
- Student assessment included presentations using components of Microsoft Office – Word, PowerPoint, and Excel.
- Educational Software continued to form part of classroom activities – to practise and reinforce knowledge and skills.
- Teachers, including teachers of the Special Education Program, integrate the use of ICTS in all aspects of teaching and student learning across all Key Learning Areas.
- Lexia reading program was a whole school focus with certificates presented on parades
- Project 600
- ipads
- Listening posts
- Cameras to track student progress and for students to record learning episodes
- Easi-speak and Easi-View
- Infrastructure allows every class access to access several classroom computers which they can use for their school work, projects and homework.
- Students further have access to access specific resources and programs through Education Queensland's web based Learning Place.
- Teachers also have access to a wide range of network based literacy and numeracy software which is used daily to enhance learning in the classroom.

Social climate

To support students' emotional and social growth, "Focus Forty", a whole-school social skills program, and the program, Friends for Life, targeted classes and small groups of students. These were conducted by class teachers and the school's Chaplain. The school also enrolled in the Kids Matter Program.

Formal processes to identify need and support allocation occur through Student Support meetings. These are attended by teachers, administration, Guidance officer, Behaviour Management Guidance Officer, Learning Support Teacher, and Head of Special Needs. Close links also exist between Education Queensland District staff including Advisory Visiting Teachers, Behaviour Management itinerant teachers and community service agencies such as Anglicare, Chaplains, Department of Child Safety, Disability services, Community Resource Centre and others.

Behaviour Parades were held at the end of each term to publicly recognise positive behaviour throughout the school. Students were recognised by 'Student of the Week Awards' on Parade. The school contacts to before parade allowing them to witness the student receive an award. Parents are encouraged to share in their child's learning journey through parent information sessions, interviews, attendance in class for events and presentations at the completion of units of work.

Our Bullying Response Strategy is articulated in our Anti-Bullying Policy. Students are explicitly taught anti-bullying messages through our Virtues Program. Incidences of bullying are taken seriously and referred to the admin team for investigation. Referrals to our guidance officer, behaviour support teacher and chaplain may be instigated, as well as behaviour logs and mediation sessions as appropriate. All incidents are recorded in the 'OneSchool' Database.

The P&C held discos each term for all students in the school. These allowed students, staff and parents to mix in a social context.

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

At Biloela State School we are committed to involve parents in their child's education. We believe that through greater knowledge of and participation parents will gain greater appreciation for all of the aspects of the school.

Parents' and students' level of satisfaction as expressed in the Opinion Survey showed a strong achievement in how they view the school and its educational programs.

97% of staff are satisfied that they have a good working relationship with other staff and 95% are happy working in the school.

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)	95%	100%
this is a good school (S2035)	95%	100%

Our school at a glance

their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	95%	97%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	90%	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%	97%
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)	95%	100%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	95%	100%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	89%	93%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	95%	100%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	100%	100%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	100%	96%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	76%	93%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	95%	100%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	100%	97%

Performance measure *(Nationally agreed items shown*)*

Percentage of students who agree that:	2012	2013
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	97%	96%
they like being at their school* (S2036)	98%	96%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	89%	87%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	97%	96%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	100%	99%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	95%	96%
teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	96%	97%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	91%	86%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	91%	88%
student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	77%	77%
their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	99%	96%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	94%	92%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	99%	96%

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%

Our school at a glance

they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)	85%
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)	96%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)	85%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)	92%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)	100%
their school is well maintained (S2078)	96%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)	88%

* 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.

Involving parents in their child's education

We appreciate the support of parents in working with us as a united team to ensure each student achieves to his/her full potential. Open communication is the key to this partnership, with regular opportunities to meet with teachers and the administration team. Contributing to school activities likes of transport, coaching for interschool sport, participating as classroom helpers, walkathon, Discos, tuckshop and being involved in formal structures including P&C.

The school continued to participate in “The Ready Readers Program” training volunteers and parents in assisting students with reading. From the training parents have been encouraged and taken up the opportunity to join classes and the schools junior reading program.

The school has the Biloela Indigenous Education Advisory Group which meets each month and hold community BBQs each term. BIAG provides the opportunity for indigenous members of the school and local community to be involved and share ideas for the development of the school.

School also holds a ESL mothers group each Thursday morning where mothers of ESI students are able to meet and find out what is happening in classrooms/school. English lessons are also provided to strengthen English understanding. Pre prep students are also introduced to the school program and exposed to English as a language.

We value and acknowledge the work of parents at our annual Volunteers Morning Tea as well as giving parents regular opportunities to be informed about and to share in their child's learning and the life of the school through newsletters, assemblies and learning celebrations. Our supportive P&C actively fundraise to enhance school resourcing.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

In 2013, Biloela State Primary School continues its commitment to the Earth Smart Science, School sustainability scheme. We have made progress under this project in the areas of Education, Environment, Community and Economic. Under each of these areas the schools main goal was to minimise the amount of water, electricity used by the school, decrease the amount of waste produced and increase biodiversity.

Education

This area focuses on increasing teachers understanding of Education for Sustainability and linking this with the Australian Curriculum and C2C units. This was achieved through professional development provided by members of the community, professionals and fellow staff members.

Environmental

Education for Sustainability was included in school policy documents, planning and curriculum. The schools SEMP (School Environmental Management Plan) increased staff and community awareness around our commitment to sustainable practices. Class groups displayed the ways they can and do minimise wastage of water, electricity, as well as decreasing the level of waste our school produces.

Social

Strong partnerships were developed with the community last year when writing and implementing our SEMP. The Banana Shire Council has been the main contributor to the schools ability to perform projects to add to their commitment. The council provide the school with support and materials to complete Clean up Australia day and Plant a Tree day. The school community each year also participates in Earth Hour and Energy Safety week.

Economic

School installed rainwater tanks on all buildings supplying water for drinking, toilets and irrigation. Classrooms that have been fitted with air conditioners all have timers to turn them off during breaks. All light bulbs with low energy bulbs. Students are energy conscious and turn off lights, fans and computer monitors when they have finished.

	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2010-2011	140,709	2,043
2011-2012	31,216	4,324
2012-2013	151,239	4,856

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.

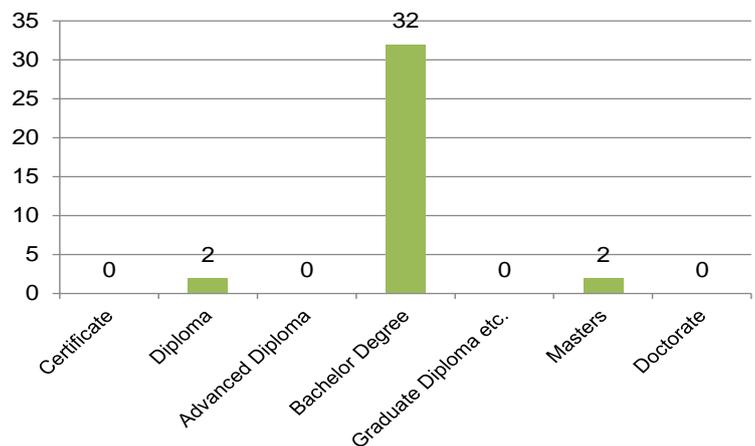
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2013 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff *	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	33	18	<5
Full-time equivalents	29	12	<5

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff *
Certificate	0
Diploma	2
Advanced Diploma	0
Bachelor Degree	32
Graduate Diploma etc.	0
Masters	2
Doctorate	0
Total	36



* 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 \$ 24000 .

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

All teachers in the school were involved in a mentoring program with regions pedagogical coach where they worked in the classroom to improve explicit instruction. Teachers also engaged in a range of professional conversations aimed at analysing data and developing individual, differentiated programs for students.

In addition staff attended a wide range of specialized PD in a range of areas including Leadership, Assessment and First Aid. In particular our long association with the international OUR Education Network continued and provided coaching and leadership master classes to a range of staff in the school.

The Principal, Matt Sahlqvist was invited by the region to take part in an invitational Executive Leadership Program with QELi. Principal was also selected to mentor two aspiring Band 7 and 8 principals.

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

Average staff attendance	2011	2012	2013
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.	96%	96%	95%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 93% 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.

Our staff profile

Find a school

Search by school name

GO

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government

Non-government

SEARCH

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

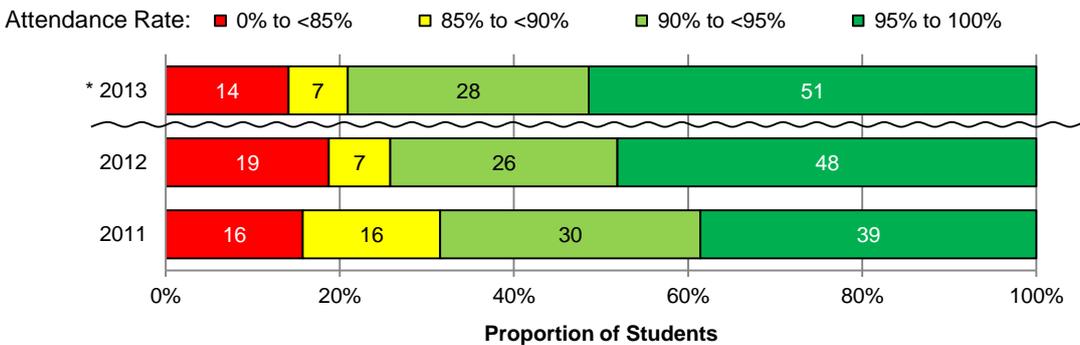
Student attendance	2011	2012	2013
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	91%	91%	93%
The overall attendance rate in 2013 for all Queensland state Primary schools was 92%.			

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	90%	91%	91%	92%	91%	92%	90%					
2012	90%	90%	90%	93%	93%	90%	94%					
2013	92%	93%	92%	93%	93%	95%	93%					

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.

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.

Should a child/ren be absent from school, parent/carers are required to contact the school by note or phone to state the child's name and the reason for the absence. School Rolls are marked twice daily at approximately 9am and 12pm. OneSchool Rolls are monitored by the office every Wednesday and Friday. With electronic Roll Marking for Prep – 7 students with poor attendance are marked in the principals Attendance Alert list in OneSchool.

Administration will view all unexplained absences each week and will contact teachers if further clarification is required. Administration search for obvious patterns and absences which may raise concern. Any on-going and / or unexplained absences are followed up by phone call from the teacher or administration.

Chapter 9 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 is about Compulsory schooling. Part 1 Division 1 explains the parents' obligations.

Section 176 "Obligation of each parent" of the legislation states:

(1) "Each parent of a child who is of compulsory school age must –

(a) ensure the child is enrolled at a State school or non-State school; and

(b) ensure the child attends the State school or non-State school, on every school day, for the educational program in which the child is enrolled; unless the parent has a reasonable excuse."

Any students who arrive at school after 8:50 are required to sign their name in the late book in the office.

If a child/ren are collected during the school day they are required to sign the early departure register in the office. This register is vitally important in the event of an emergency so the school is able to account for all.

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.

Performance of our students

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

Biloela State School's Indigenous data indicates that the Gap between Indigenous and Non Indigenous students in Year 3 and 5 has shown strong improvement in all areas. Year 5 data indicates that indigenous students outperformed non indigenous students in writing.

The school has been successful in minimizing the gap in attendance between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous students. In 2013, Indigenous attendance rate dropped increased by 8.4% from 81% in 2012 to 89.4% in 2013, Non-Indigenous attendance was 93.5% in 2013. In 2013 there were 14 students identified as attending school less than 85% out of 49 students. This gap is largely attributable to transient families relocating and taking excessive time to enrol at a new school.

In terms of retention, the number of indigenous students attending Biloela State School has decreased from 51 in 2012 to 49 in 2013.