

## Our school at a glance



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### Principal's foreword

#### Introduction

2008 saw Surat State School implement a suite of school programmes through the QCAR auditing process and localization into the school context of district programmes. These have formed the basis of the school alignment planning initiatives. This was coupled with Professional development for the teachers in Alignment Planning, Comprehension strategies and several sessions on moderation with schools in the Roma cluster of schools. Aides were also inserviced in Maths and Comprehension strategies.

It was pleasing to note an increase in performance against state results in the first (National) NAPLAN Tests conducted in May.

#### Future outlook

The school will continue to strive to maintain progress towards a complete set of Unit Plans to inform Teacher planning on a two year rotational basis to take into account the multi-age setting of the school.

Teacher Pedagogy will continue to remain a strong focus, to be aligned to the plans developed.

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

In 2008 Surat State School was part of the Warroo Shire in the town of Surat. The town was the administrative centre of the Warroo Shire with some 500 residents populating the area. Council elections in 2008 caused the Warroo Shire to join with several other councils peripheral to the Roma Town Council to form the amalgamated Roma Regional Council.

Situated on the banks of the Balonne River, Surat lies 80 kilometres south of Roma on the Carnarvon Highway.

Surat State School is a Band 7 school offering an education to students from Prep to Year 10 in a Co-educational environment. The student population in July 2008 was 80 students with multi-age classes existing throughout. The student population is drawn from both town residents and nearby properties, with two bus runs operating for families out of town.

In 2008 the staff consisted of a Principal, eight full time Teachers ( including a Head of Curriculum) and a part time Support Teacher for Learning Difficulties. A Specialist Instrumental Music Teacher supported by P.C.A.P visited each week from Roma. Other support staff also travelled from Roma, including a Guidance Officer, Special Needs Teacher, Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist and School Nurse. The school also has a very experienced Support Staff Group.

### Curriculum offerings

Due to limited staff numbers and specialisation, Surat has been limited to offering the standard Key Learning Area subjects, with the opportunity for year 10 students and special circumstance Year 9 students engaging in traineeships and apprenticeships. There was one year ten student engaged in a traineeship in 2008.

#### Extra curricula activities

- Active After schools program – students spent an hour after school twice per week developing skills, knowledge and fitness in fun activities. These activities were very well attended due to supervision by committed staff and parents
- Arts Council Performances – a variety of genres visited the school to perform for the students throughout the year.
- P.C.A.P. Instrumental Music Program – an instructor travelled from Roma one day per week to instruct the students in clarinet, saxophone, flute, percussion and trumpet
- NAIDOC Week - the local Surat Aboriginal Corporation facilitates activities to celebrate aspects of indigenous culture with the students
- School Camps – The School Camping Programme was developed with implementation to occur in 2009
- Intra and Inter School Sports
- ANZAC Day Celebrations – The students developed a meaningful presentation for parents and the community, presented at school prior to ANZAC Day, with students also engaging in the Town celebrations.

## **Our school at a glance**

### **How computers are used to assist learning –**

Teachers embedded activities requiring engagement with computers into all aspects of classes in both primary and secondary. Each classroom has access to four computers for everyday interactions, while a lab provides opportunities for whole class engagements.

### **Social climate**

In 2008 a School Chaplain was appointed to the school through the efforts of a committed chaplaincy committee. After his induction, he has worked on a number of programmes to assist students in their social behaviours. Parent satisfaction in areas of discipline and social climate have seen significant improvements. Student satisfaction in most areas was still very positive, though the behaviour of students perception showed a poor result.

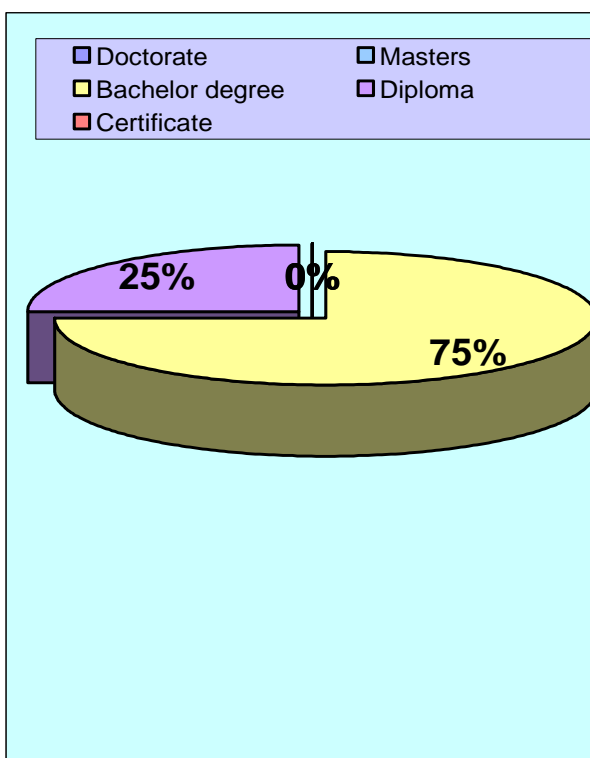
### **Involving parents in their child's education.**

One of the strengths of the Surat State School is the committed parent body. The school has provided a number of opportunities for parents to be involved in their children's education. Frequent communications to parents has kept them abreast of progress. A strong weekly newsletter provides comprehensive communication. Parents are actively involved in sports coaching and are registered providers in the Active After School Communities activities. There are also many occasions where parents are invited to the school to participate in theme activities.

## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	9
Diploma	3
Certificate	0



### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$11235 .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:  
Comprehension strategies for teaching and non teaching staff.
- Moderation of student assessment
- Alignment Planning
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 88 %.

### Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 98% in 2008.

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 90 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 92 %.

### Key outcomes

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.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	370	372	492	636
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	80 %	33 %	89 %	80 %
Writing	Average score for the school	404	357	501	615
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	90 %	33 %	89 %	80 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	366	383	488	613
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	90 %	33 %	78 %	80 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	337	413	472	620
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	90 %	67 %	89 %	60 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	359	428	494	565
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	80 %	67 %	100 %	80 %

## Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	82
Writing	100
Number	100

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

2008 saw slight fluctuations in the satisfaction rating identified by parents and students with student satisfaction up to 87%, while parent satisfaction ratings were down to 72%. There was a 75% satisfaction rating by parents that it is a good school.