

2007 School Annual Report



Queensland
Government
Education Queensland

State Schools Shaping the Smart State

Our school at a glance

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Our School Annual Report 2007 summarises the performance of our students and the satisfaction of staff, students and parent body in the way that we meet the educational needs of our school community.

As you will discover, the academic performance of our students remains consistent with, and in several instances better than, the State mean, and places us in a good position to meet future State and Federal education targets.

We are continuing to refine our curriculum and teaching practices to individualise our programs and ensure that we have the necessary resources, staff and facilities to give every student at our school the best possible opportunities for success.

2007 saw the exciting introduction of the Prep Year to our School Community. Well trained and enthusiastic staff utilising new and refurbished classrooms ensured success. Students and parents responded very positively to the program and we all enjoyed the happy, responsive preps in their supportive, language rich environment.

During 2007 we have continued to focus on literacy and numeracy as our main priority whilst at the same time using new technologies including Interactive Whiteboards, Pocket PC's, Lego robotics and IPODS to engage and enable more effective teaching and learning strategies in all areas of the curriculum.

Funding provided by the State (School Community Development Fund) and Federal government (Investing in Our Schools) was used to enhance our facilities in 2007. We were able to double one of our undercover spaces which was a priority given the student population growth in the past few years. Our beautiful school has the Canungra Creek running on our western border with a stunning bank area owned by the school. We have had an Amphitheatre constructed on this site which will be used for School events and performances. Our Computer lab, Resource Centre, Staffroom and parts of the office area have also been airconditioned. In consultation with our P&C, a Uniform Shed was constructed to cope with the need for additional stock due to the growth in numbers of students.

The dedication of our staff and support of our Parents and Citizen's Association, School Community and local businesses has enabled us to achieve a strong level of community satisfaction. Without their support we would not be able to achieve nor offer the variety of opportunities that our students currently enjoy. We try to live the saying 'it takes a whole village to educate a child'.

To complete the education of our students, we have committed heavily to reinforcing positive values and behaviours in our students. Values education is specifically taught to our students on a weekly basis and actively encouraged and reinforced in all classes, during playtimes and on parade. We as a staff believe that it is our behaviour towards students, parents and each other that provides positive role modelling for the students and that reinforces the values we teach.

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As our motto encourages we are constantly reflecting, reviewing and assessing our performance to ensure that we continue to 'Aim High'.

Regards,

Colleen Murphy

Principal

Future outlook

Our commitment to 'Aiming High' and providing the best learning outcomes for every student is demonstrated through our ongoing reform of curriculum and pedagogical practices to meet the individual needs of all of our students. The assessment of students to identify and report student achievement and development, as well as to inform curriculum offerings and practices continues to guide our future direction. This inclusive culture is also being further formalized as we embed our framework for Gifted and Talented Education. We now have 1 full time Teacher Advisor Education Adjustments(TAEA) to support students with disabilities.

Our primary focus will continue to be on the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy. Constant review and upskilling in innovative practices, programs and technologies will keep us striving for excellence in these areas.

Due to our location amongst significant national parks in the Gold Coast hinterland, our curriculum will also maintain a strong focus on our local environment. We will continue our regeneration work on our beautiful creekbank using school based resources as well as applying for more funding support through our local council and Landcare.

Our social environment and welfare structures will ensure we remain consistent in providing a safe, supportive and caring environment that encourages every student to reach their full potential.

School Profile

Canungra State School is situated in a small, picturesque, rural town in the Gold Coast Hinterland. Canungra stands as the gateway to Lamington National Park and in the foothills of the National Parks of Tamborine Mountain.

Canungra State School is a co-educational school with a growing student population. In 2007 the primary school reached 373 students from Years P-7. Our mobility can be primarily attributed to the movement of Defence Force families, although a growing number of families are starting to move to Canungra as a lifestyle choice due to our rural location and proximity to the Gold Coast.

In the 2007 year, we offered 15 classes (12 single classes and 3 composite class). This included 2 Prep classes. The attendance rate at Canungra averages at 95% with the majority of absences due to illness and family reasons.

The school caters for Students with Disabilities who have been ascertained in a variety of categories. These students receive support from a visiting Guidance Officer and Teacher Advisors Education Adjustments. Individual Education Plans are in place and in some cases, Teacher Aide support is also provided. Students with Learning Difficulties are seen by the Support Teacher: Learning Difficulties in conjunction with Class

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Teachers.

The students come from a range of socio-economic backgrounds but predominantly those of a middle socio-economic standing.

The school draws its student enrolment from the growing Canungra Township, surrounding small acreage developments, and the Canungra Army Base-Kokoda Barracks.

Curriculum offerings

Curriculum at this school is organised about the eight Key Learning Areas (KLAs) for both the writing and the delivery of school programs.

The Essential Learnings and Standards have been used to develop integrated units based around five organisers:

Natural World	Personal World	Changing World	Amazing World	Democratic World
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Literacy and Numeracy are embedded across the Curriculum.

The Canungra Community has a rich history and a unique natural setting. Our School Community has a beautiful creek which forms part of our school grounds. Threaded through our Curriculum Organizers as listed above, we aim to ensure that students who attend our school have the opportunity to become 'experts' on their Community. *It is this focus that creates our Distinctive Learning Community.*

ICT's are integrated throughout the curriculum and students are exposed to and interact with leading technologies in robotics, computer programming and wireless technologies in file sharing on pocket pc's, as well as developing computer skills in formal lessons on a weekly basis. All units of work include activities using these computer skills. Interactive whiteboards are also in use within the school.

Student results against Key Learning Areas are reported to parents and students using a combination of:-

Written Reports

Face-to-face Interviews

Samples of Student work and achievement.

Written Reports are provided by class teachers twice yearly - towards the end of each school semester. Oral Reporting takes place either at the end of Semester 1 or the start of Semester 2. Further face-to-face reporting/dialogue occurs as a result of need communicated either by teacher or parent and at a time and a place deemed convenient to both.

Extra curricula activities

Canungra State School offered a variety of extra-curricular activities in 2007 including; Active After Schools Community Program running 2 afternoons per week, interschool sport once per term against Canungra and District Primary School Sport Association members, choir, instrumental music, gardening club, lunchtime computer access, chess club, student council, school based sporting competitions in soccer and AFL and school discos.

Social climate

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Our school at a glance

The staff at our school are dedicated professionals who pride themselves on the care and diligence they provide to the students and parents of our community. This is reflected in the school opinion data collected in 2007.

One significant achievement in 2007 was the successful continued involvement in the Nerang Alliance of Schools. The establishment of a Nerang Alliance Literacy Team (NALT) led to combined literacy based staff meetings which will continue to occur in 2008. The August '07 Professional Development Day which involved all staff, teaching, non teaching and ancillary staff was another success. We had a productive and positive Prep-Year 3 Continuity Day at the end of Term 3. The involvement of our senior students in the Playground Leaders Program, the continued implementation of the Values Education Framework and the success of our Year1-7 Student Council are also proud achievements which contribute to a positive, happy and safe learning environment for our entire School Community.

Ongoing review of our Behaviour Management Plan and efficient tracking and monitoring of behaviour incidences also creates a consistent and fair approach to behaviour management leading to a decrease in behavioural incidences. We ensure that opportunities for positive acknowledgements of appropriate behaviour choices are a regular occurrence.

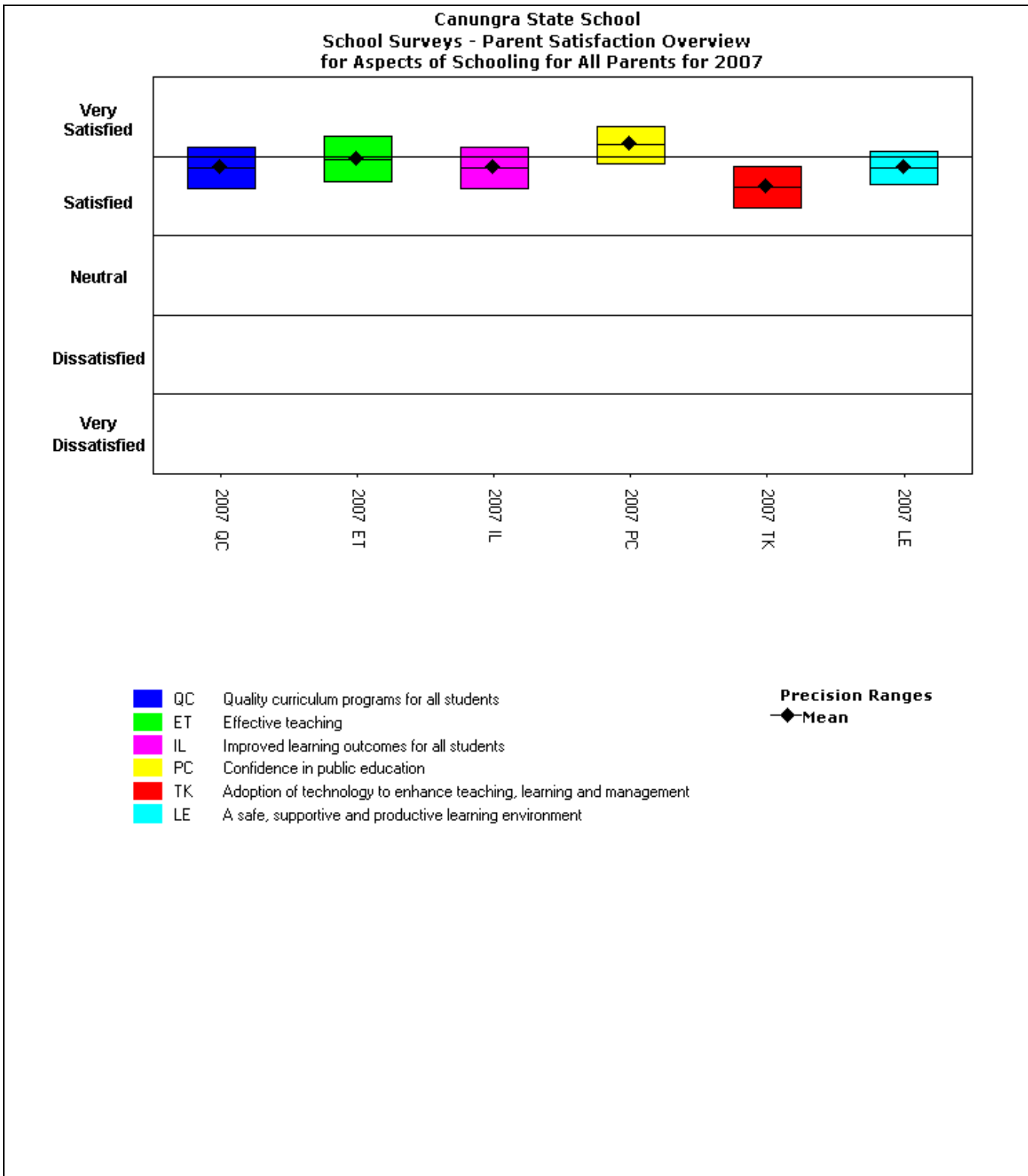
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Our school at a glance





Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child's education.

The community in and around Canungra is a very diverse one. As Canungra is relatively isolated the small community works together to provide a network of support for the school and the community at large. Support at the school comes from such agencies and organisations as the school P&C Association, the Police, Ambulance, the Defence Forces, the Rural and Urban Fire Brigades, Sporting Associations, the Lions Club and RSL Clubs, the Canungra and District Progress Association and our local Business Community. They each contribute in their unique ways to enhance the learning opportunities of the students of the school.

Our School invites and encourages parental and community involvement in our school life. Through our various communication channels- Parent Handbook, weekly newsletter, our annual Open Night, individual interviews, our weekly Parade, P&C meetings, class communications and via our students we endeavour to invite and include parents and the wider community in school and class activities.

Our School Watch Committee consisting of Year 7 students delivers our newsletter and meets with local community members and businesses on a weekly basis. Student representatives are also part of the Moriarty Park Committee and the Canungra Show Society.

Parent/Volunteer training is offered throughout the year in Support-a-Reader/Writer/Maths Learner/Talker. These adult training programs have been at no cost to participants.

The students who reside in Canungra and attend the school are offered a wide range of co-curricular and extra curricular activities. Apart from school based programs, the Canungra Township has a wide range of activities for primary aged children. The following list is not exhaustive.

Active After Schools Program

Canungra Fitness & Dance

AFL Clinics

Soccer

Rugby League

Scouts & Guides

Pony Club

Tae Kwon Do

Swimming Club

Camp Draft

Canungra Rodeo

Canungra Show

After school & Vacation Care

Discos

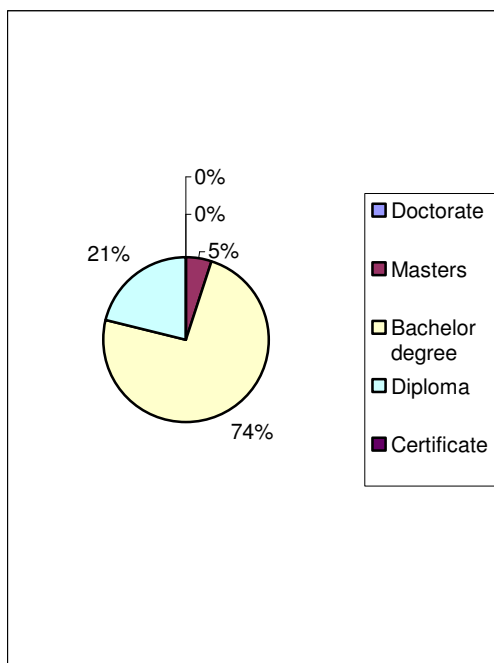
Our school at a glance

Qualifications of all teachers.

Canungra State School Staff have a variety of qualifications in areas including;

Education, Languages other than English, Library Management, Environmental Studies, Sports and Human Movements, Arts, Religious Education, Information and Communication Technologies and Psychology.

Highest level of Attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	5
Bachelor degree	74
Diploma	21
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$7,303

The major professional development initiatives in 2007 were as follows:

Curriculum and pedagogical reform in Numeracy and Literacy 'Go Maths' and 'Thrass', Essential Learnings
 Student safety and wellbeing; anaphylaxis, makaton communication systems and Responsible Behaviour Plan

Planning, Assessment and Reporting frameworks through planning days and cluster workshops

Individual student needs: Gifted and Talented Education and Gender Strategies.

ICT inservice: including the use and integration of multimedia devices.

Professional standards for teachers

The involvement of teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100%.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2007.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2006 school year, 90% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

Our school at a glance

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was 95%.

Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	66
Writing	66
Number	77

Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests.					
			Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school		549	603	674
	Average score for Queensland		527	606	672
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	98%	88%	93%
		2006	93%	89%	91%
Writing	Average score for the school		565	580	717
	Average score for Queensland		523	600	681
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	94%	98%	100%
		2006	93%	100%	98%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		570	576	655
	Average score for Queensland		521	588	648
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	94%	71%	95%
		2006	95%	95%	83%

Other Key Outcomes

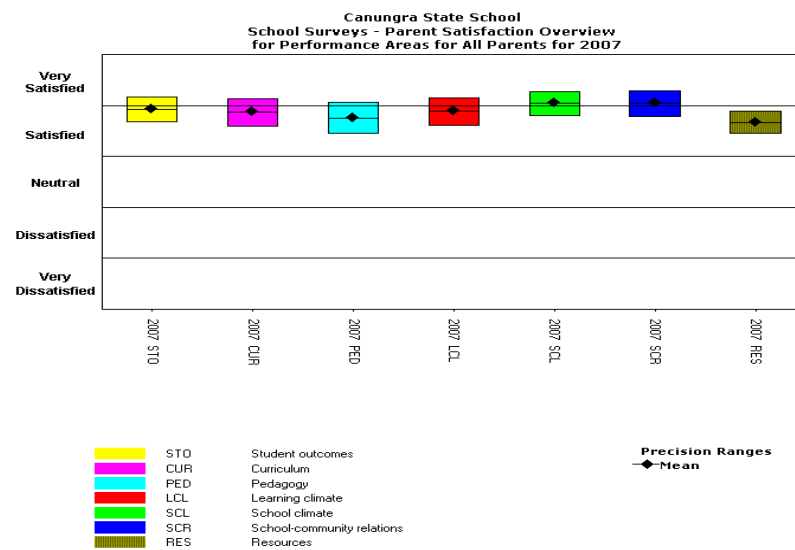
Value added

While we use the data collected by Education Queensland from Statewide testing, it is the collection of school based data focused on Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for students that will become one of the curriculum drivers in our school. It is this school based data collection that we will aim to use to inform curriculum implementation, teaching practice and assessment and reporting in the future.

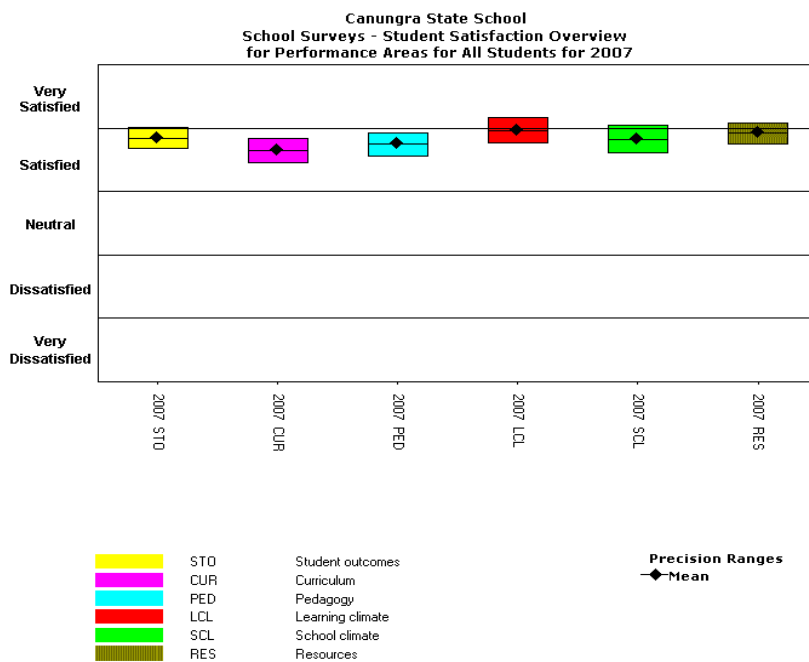
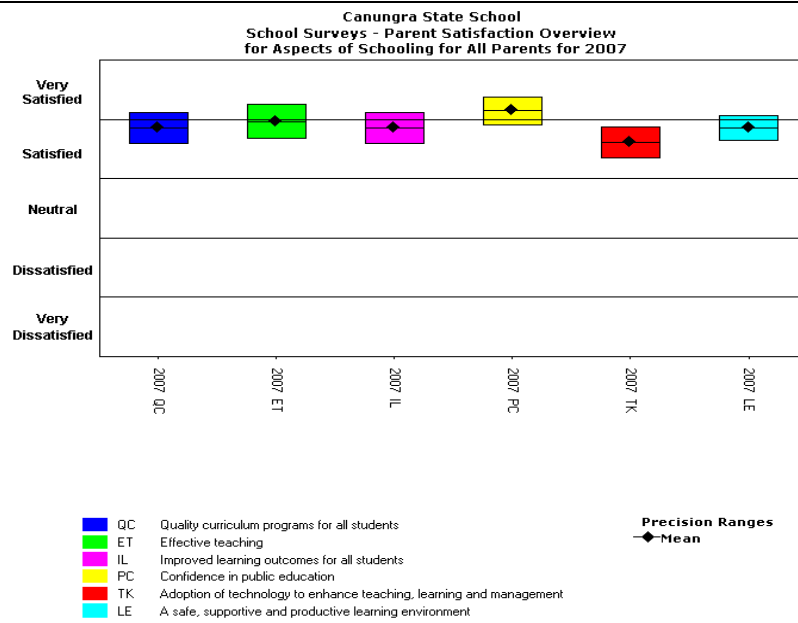
Our school at a glance

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The following graphs represent the satisfaction of parents, students and staff in all aspects of schooling and performance in 2007. Overall, these graphs represent the continued satisfaction of all stakeholders that Canungra State School is providing students with a good education. Our school performance as can be seen above, and below, is equal to and in many instances above the State mean and targets in the majority of performance areas.



Our school at a glance



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