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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Keebra is proud of its 'Personalised' Future Pathways Curriculum which has strategically positioned our school and has allowed us to differentiate ourselves in the community. It recognises the individual needs of our students and equips them for life after school. It supports our significant emphasis on academic achievement and achieving personal best performance across all aspects of school life. Our Future Pathways Curriculum allows young people to follow an Academic Pathway to University and further study or a Vocational Pathway to employment or further training. The Partnerships we have established to complement our Pathways are highly valued. These include our Universities, Business, Industry, Registered Training Organisations and Wests Tigers NRL Club. The personalised approach we offer our young people provides support and guidance to follow an appropriate Pathway within an environment of care. Our special programs, for example Sports Specialisation and Plus Pathway, which form part of our Future Pathways Curriculum have encouraged over 40% of our enrolments to pass at least one school to attend Keebra Park SHS

Future outlook

Key strategic developments over the next 2 years:

Be influential in developing aspects of the emerging National Standards and the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (QCAR) Framework initiatives;

Further address the emerging imperatives of the Federal Education Agenda relating to testing (NAPLAN) and reporting;

Extend our prominence as a significant school of choice for both domestic and international secondary school students;

Embed practices around Senior Education Training Plans and attainment of the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) as a vehicle for academic excellence;

Build on the relationships with our primary feeder schools such that students see Keebra as a desired school of choice;

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school:	681
Year levels offered	Year 8 – 12 Coeducational

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum includes:

Plus Pathway in Year 8 and 9, where students complete 3 years of Science, Maths and Technology in 2 years leading to acceleration through Yr 10, 11 and 12 including University study while at school.

8 KLAs utilised as organisers of the Middle Phase Curriculum plus Manual Arts and Home Economics.

Technology across the Curriculum from Yr 8 to Yr 12.

Sports Specialisation in the areas of Rugby League for boys and Touch Football for Girls. Sports Specialisation is a subject offered in the Senior Phase, with Middle Phase students accessing it through Health and Physical Education.

A Vocational Pathway for the Senior Phase involving Work Experience, School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships with emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy is promoted. Ten Authority Registered Subjects are offered in Creative Arts, Early Childhood, Hospitality and Tourism, Information & Communication Technologies, Furnishing and Recreation. A majority of subjects have modules embedded which lead to a Certificate Qualification either at school or later with a RTO.

A strong academic tradition exists for the 30% of students who go on to Tertiary Education. 22 Authority Subjects are offered in the areas of English, Humanities, Technology and Business, Mathematics, Science, The Arts, Physical Education, Graphics and Home Economics.

Extra curricula activities

- Academic Competitions (International English competition for schools, National Geographic Australian Geography Competition, Australian Mathematics Competition, Australasian Computing Competition, Australian Financial Literacy Assessment, Rio Tinto Big Science Competition, Royal Australian Chemical Institute National Chemistry Quiz, CSIRO Crest Awards)
- Cultural Competitions (Tropicarnival, Gold Coast Drama Festival, Spotlight on Dance Education)
- Sporting Competitions (Rugby League: 13 Years Broncos Steve Renouf Shield , 14 Years Broncos Michael Hancock Cup, 15 Years Broncos Powerade Kevin Walters Cup, Open A Broncos Powerade Allen Langer Trophy, Arrive Alive Cup, Open B Struddys Sports Level 2 Competition, Open C Gold Coast Titans Cup. Netball: Vicki Wilson Cup, Touch: SQBD Mixed Champions)
- Band (Various Ensembles), Chess Club, Cultural dance groups

How computers are used to assist learning

Technology across the Curriculum is a major focus and the ratio of students to computers in 2008 was 3.8 to 1. Information & Communication Technology (ICTs) are well used within the school and their use is embedded across all subjects. Computers are sited across the school in hubs (in most teaching blocks), in 3 Network Laboratories and in the Library. Internet connections are available in all teaching blocks, with wireless connectivity available throughout most of the school.

Our school at a glance

Social climate

Keebra Park State High School community is proud of the safe and caring environment it provides. It is a small school nestled in Australian bushland near to Southport CBD. 'Keebra' is an indigenous word which means 'a place of happy people'. Staff are very committed to providing a range of curricular and additional activities to encourage our students to experience success and enjoyment from participation. The school is committed to improving learning outcomes for all students and providing opportunities which will prepare its young people for life after school. We are proud of and value the partnerships we have with parents, students and the wider community and believe 'Yes, you can at Keebra'. Year Coordinators and Home Group Teachers have daily contact with students to provide care and support. Student Support Services are offered by Guidance Officer, Youth Support Coordinator, Youth Pathways Officer, Aboriginal Liaison Officer, International Coordinator and School Nurse. The 'Reach' program and the National Safe Schools Framework form the basis of the care program.

The degree to which Keebra Park State High School provides a safe, supportive and caring learning environment is borne out in the 2008 School Opinion Survey data. This survey shows that 92% of parents agree that their child is safe at this school and 83% of parents agree that their child is treated fairly at this school.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents are encouraged at all times to have personal contact with school staff and the Administration. Regular Newsletters, personal communications, Parent Interviews and Parent Information Evenings are scheduled to encourage parents to be involved in their child's education. The school has a strong belief in creating a welcoming environment for Parents as part of our supportive school environment. Parents are actively encouraged to participate in the education of their children. The Parents & Citizens Association provides parents with a venue to interact with other parents and to work with the school staff to develop initiatives within the school.

Our Staff Profile

Qualifications of all teachers	
Highest Level of Attained	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate / Masters	0
Bachelor Degree	38
Diploma	8
Certificate	0

A 3D pie chart illustrating the distribution of staff qualifications. The largest slice is dark red, representing Bachelor Degrees (38). A smaller yellow slice represents Diplomas (8). The other two categories, Doctorate / Masters and Certificate, both have zero counts and are not visible in the chart. A legend to the right of the chart identifies the colors: blue for Doctorate / Masters, dark red for Bachelor Degree, yellow for Diploma, and light green for Certificate.

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$17 098.19.
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Supportive School Environment
 - Curriculum and Pedagogy
 - Student Support
 - Leadership
 - QSA initiatives
 - Literacy
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 81 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 95% 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 83 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Year 9.

Domain	Measures	Year 9
Reading	Average score for the school	536
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 78 %
Writing	Average score for the school	516
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 68 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	550
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 81 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	535
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 77 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	550
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 85 %

Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.

91 %

Performance of our students

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008	
Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	129
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	0
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	84
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	82
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	31
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	56
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	50 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	83 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	88 %

Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

Value added

Opportunities exist for students to undertake Vocational Education subjects as part of the school curriculum and attain VET certification. School-based Traineeships and Apprenticeships allow students to complete nationally accredited Certificate II and III, with on and off the job training. Over fifty students participated in Certificate courses offered through Gold Coast TAFE and school based traineeships and apprenticeships.

Complementing the academic and vocational performance of our students were numerous programs and activities in sport, leadership and cultural dimensions with excellent student achievements.

Five Year 12 students received early admission offers to tertiary institutions as a result of excellent achievement in our school-to-university programs. Nineteen students gained direct entry into TAFE.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The most pleasing aspect our 2008 achievements, is not just the high level of student academic and vocational outcomes, but also the positive relationships between parents and staff, as well as the quality teaching and learning relationships that exist between students and staff that provide a excellent learning climate for our students.